

MANAGER'S DESK FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020

WELCOME TO THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.

IN AN EMAIL I RECEIVED YESTERDAY FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS, I LEARNED THAT RADIO BROADCASTING TURNS 100 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR. THAT'S QUITE A MILESTONE. AND WE'VE COME A LONG WAYS IN 100 YEARS. ESPECIALLY IN REGARDS TO THE TECHNOLOGY USED TO BROADCAST AND RECEIVE RADIO SIGNALS.

THE FIRST RADIO NEWS PROGRAM WAS BROADCAST AUGUST 31, 1920 BY STATION 8MK IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN, WHICH SURVIVES TODAY AS ALL-NEWS FORMAT STATION WWJ. SPORTS BROADCASTING BEGAN AT THIS TIME AS WELL, INCLUDING THE RADIO BROADCAST OF A 1921 WEST VIRGINIA VS. PITTSBURGH FOOTBALL GAME.

INVENTOR EDWIN HOWARD ARMSTRONG IS CREDITED WITH DEVELOPING MANY OF THE FEATURES OF RADIO AS IT IS KNOWN TODAY. ARMSTRONG PATENTED THREE IMPORTANT INVENTIONS THAT MADE TODAY'S RADIO POSSIBLE.

ON JUNE 17, 1936, HE DEMONSTRATED FM RADIO TO THE FCC FOR THE FIRST TIME. ON JANUARY 5, **1940**, ARMSTRONG DEMONSTRATED FM BROADCASTING IN A LONG-DISTANCE RELAY NETWORK, VIA FIVE STATIONS IN FIVE STATES. FM RADIO WAS ASSIGNED THE 42 TO 50 MHZ BAND OF THE SPECTRUM IN **1940**.

SLOWLY, LISTENERS LEARNED THAT **FM RADIO** WAS CLEARLY BETTER FOR MUSICAL HIGH FIDELITY THAN AM BROADCASTS. **RADIOS** STARTED TO HAVE AN **FM** BAND INCLUDED WITH THE AM BAND IN THE LATE 1950S AND 1960S. BY THE 1970S, **FM** AUDIENCE SIZE SURPASSED THAT OF AM, AND THE GAP HAS BEEN GROWING EVER SINCE.

I'M SURE SOME OF YOU CAN REMEMBER THE EARLY DAYS OF RADIO WHEN IT WAS JUST AM RADIO. I HATE TO ADMIT IT BUT I CAN REMEMBER THAT. FM RADIO WAS NEW WHEN I WAS A YOUNG CHILD. I CAN REMEMBER PURCHASING MY FIRST TABLE TOP FM RADIO. AND BUYING AND INSTALLING AN 'FM CONVERTER' FOR THE AM RADIO IN MY CAR.

WRVM IS NOW IN ITS' 53RD YEAR OF BROADCASTING. AS YOU CAN SEE, WE STARTED BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN FM RADIO WAS JUST CATCHING ON. I HAVE HEARD FROM LISTENERS WHO TELL ME THEIR FAMILIES WENT OUT AND BOUGHT A FM RADIO JUST SO THEY COULD LISTEN TO WRVM.

THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR LISTENING FAMILY WRVM CONTINUES BROADCASTING TODAY.

OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS: WRVM, PO BOX 212, SURING WI, 54174

OR GIVE ONLINE AT WWW.WRVM.ORG.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME FOR THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.