



**VE3WE**  
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## **Hammond Museum of Radio Field Trip**

What a wonderful experience! We were greeted at the museum by Noreen Irwin-Hann and Larry Asp who were our gracious hosts. They opened the museum to us and took us on a guided tour.

They explained the various exhibits that ranged from early crystal, tube battery radios - to modern plastic cabinet consumer sets. There was a smattering of military gear from both sides of the various conflicts.

The cost of a radio was prohibitive to the average owner. There were groups that would share a radio and go in on financing ownership. At one time a radio was the centerpiece of living room and the ornate cabinetry on display was consistent with that of fine furniture.

Of particular interest was the fine collection of amateur radio gear. The early Collins, Hammarlund, Hallicrafters and National sets were very plentiful. In some cases complete model collections were on display. There were some proto-type pieces that are extremely rare since they never made it to production.

Most impressive was the detailed knowledge Noreen and Larry have about the origins, history and engineering details on the radios.

A section on Morse code offered a vast collection of keys especially "bugs". The spark gap transmitters were especially interesting when accompanied by photos of their installations on various ships and stations.

A very interesting QSL card was on display in the radio shack. It was from Bertie Walsh EG2IT who was due to operate the rig on the Titanic. He fell from the gangplank and broke his leg on the day of the voyage. Needless to say he didn't make the voyage and his life was spared.

The shack has an impressive layout three modern Kenwood transceivers on one wall. Another wall has an excellent display of five Collins stations.

**Scarborough Amateur Radio Club Inc.**

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There is so much to take in that one trip is not enough. The Hammond company is to be commended for their generous provision and maintenance of this wonderful museum.

Here is a group photo of our visit.



We had a couple of Hams from the Toronto club and my neighbour join in on the visit. It was nice to have some other club's members participate in our visit.

73 Duncan...



Vintage Superstation



Warm glow of tubes

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