PRINCETON ACM / IEEE-CS CHAPTERS MAY 2005 DINNER MEETING

From Vacuum Tubes to Vaporware: RCA and the Computer, 1940-1985





Alex Magoun

Always one of the bridesmaids to IBM in the commerce of computing, RCA and its technical staff nonetheless invented or innovated a variety of basic concepts and computer technologies. This illustrated talk begins with the world's first electronic clock and binary counting, and concludes with the world's first interactive video CD. In between, we will visit the Computron, the Selectron, ferrite core memory, the 501 and the Spectra 70, the Model Double Zero personal computer, the 1802 microprocessor, the Studio II, and their all-too-human inventors, champions, and detractors en route.

Alexander Magoun has spoken to, educated, and entertained a wide range of audiences on subjects related to David Sarnoff and RCA. Executive director of the David Sarnoff Library since 1998, he directs the exhibits, archives, website, programs, volunteers, and friends of this non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, study, and promotion of the history of innovation. He received the Ph.D. in history from the University of Maryland, College Park, and is revising his dissertation on the changing sound of the phonograph record for the Johns Hopkins University Press. Dr. Magoun is also writing a biography of television for Greenwood Press and is the author of a photohistory of the David Sarnoff Research Center and the RCA and Victor Talking Machine entries in the Encyclopedia of New Jersey.

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2005, 7:00 pm (cash bar at 6:00 pm)
Place: Good Time Charley's Restuarant., Route 27, Kingston, NJ
Information: Dennis Mancl (908) 582-7086, Jim Matey (609) 734-2868
On-line info: http://www.acm.org/chapters/princetonacm

<u>ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED</u> – please fill out the form below

Make my reservation for the annual ACM Dinner Meeting on May 19:	
Name:	Phone number:
Menu choice:	
Charley's Special Steak	
Chicken Marcello	
Stir Fry Vegetables	

Dinner includes hot hors d'oeurves, salad, baked potato, vegetable, house dessert, and coffee/tea Please make your reservation by May 6.

Send your check for \$25 per person and this form to: PRINCETON CHAPTER OF ACM Treasurer, P. O. Box 1324, Princeton NJ 08542