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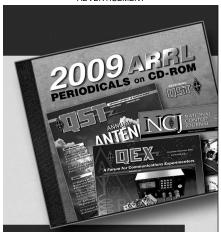
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**Title:** The 1937 Haynes RSR Clipper **Author:** John H. Dilks III, K2TQN

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### OLD RADIO

## The 1937 Haynes RSR Clipper

Historic "Radio Row" in New York City has been getting some press lately. One of the most interesting was on National Public Radio's feature, All Things Considered. The June 3 show titled: "Radio Row": The neighborhood before the World Trade Center, featured sound bites and interviews from the early days before it was all torn down in 1966. You can listen to the story and read about it on NPR. Find the June 3, 2002 All Things Considered show on their Web site at www.npr.org. Additional links, information and sounds may be found on my site, www.eht.com/oldradio/arrl/ index.html.

One of the men who helped make Radio Row in the early days was A. J. Haynes. Claimed as the earliest radio kit designer, in 1922 he designed the first regenerative kit called the "Haynes DX Circuit," and in 1924, the first Superheterodyne kit. He was an excellent writer. His circuits, articles and kits were in many of the early magazines.

His first RSR, "Regeneration-Super-Regeneration" receiver was in the June 1936 Radio-Craft magazine. Called the "Haynes R-S-R," it had an impressive tuning range covering from 2½ to 555 meters with four tubes and a rectifier. It featured band switching and separate fine-tuning for the 10, 5 and 2½-meter

bands. Priced at \$14.95 in kit form, less cabinet, and \$24.95 for a completely wired set with cabinet and speaker. The "Radio Row" company selling it was Radio Constructors Laboratories, at 136 Liberty Street. It was an ac-dc set.

An improved model, the "RSR Clipper" was in the April 1937 Short Wave & Television magazine. This set covered from 3 to 555 meters and had a similar circuit as above. One new feature was the big 6L6 Beam Power tube in the audio output, which they said, "produces excellent quality sound with low harmonic content." It also had a power transformer with an 80 tube as a full-wave rectifier. The most important new feature was the separate "Extreme" band spread tuning on the low bands, through 15 meters. One owner wrote in to say how valuable this was for "tuning the 20-meter band where stations are very crowded and hard to separate on a regular dial."

To use the RSR Clipper on the higher bands, the band switch was placed into the fifth position. Here the low frequency coils and main tuning capacitor were switched out. A jumper was removed and one of three supplied coils was installed. This allowed coverage from 10 to 3 meters. Homemade coils could also be used for experimentation. The band spread capacitor then became the high

frequency tuning control. Its size was small providing good station separation.

This model was sold wired, with cabinet, tubes and speaker for \$28.85. A kit was not listed at this time, although later on as sales dropped off, he offered a kit.

The RSR Clipper shown here was lovingly restored by my friend John Kelly, N3GVF (SK). (See my column in July 2000 QST.) John completely stripped the chassis and cabinet. He repainted it in its original black wrinkle finish, and then reassembled it using mostly vintage parts where practical. When I purchased it after his death, it looked like brand new. He also hand drafted the dials, paper labels and lettering. The detail on the main dial is extensive. In all, it must have taken him a hundred hours to complete. Look for this radio in my mobile museum.

#### **AUGUST HAMFEST**

I'm planning on taking the museum to the 52nd Annual Winchester Hamfest in Berryville, Virginia on Sunday, August 4, 2002, www.Vvalley.com/svarc/hamfest/. Last year I attended this hamfest for the first time and had a ball. It's well run and fun, has great food and you can find boat anchors everywhere. I'll be arriving on Saturday. Look for my call letters on my hat and say hello.

—K2TON



A. J. Haynes, a Radio Row pioneer, designed the Haynes R-S-R receiver.

