

You Know You're An Old D.J. When...

You remember:

First being hired by a GM who actually worked in radio before becoming GM.

Radio stations were no place for kids.

You excitedly turn the radio up at the sound of "dead air" on the competitor's station.

Sales guys wore Old Spice to cover the smell of liquor.

You were playing Elvis' number one hits... when he was alive.

Engineers could actually fix things without sending them back to the manufacturer.

You worked for only ONE station, and you could name the guy who owned it.

You remember when normal people listened to AM radio, and only "hippies" listened to FM.

Radio stations used to have enough on-air talent to field a softball team every summer.

You're at least 10 years older than the last two GM's who fired you.

You meant to return that record album to the DJ on the next shift, but he was fired before you got around to it.

You used to smoke in a radio station and nobody cared.

Engineers always had the worst body odor, not because they worked too hard, but because they just didn't shower that often.

You know the difference between good reel-to-reel tape and cheap reel-to-reel tape.

Religious radio stations were locally owned, run by an old Protestant minister and his wife, never had more than 20 listeners at any given time, and.... still made money.

You have a white wax pencil, a razor blade, and a spool of 3M splicing tape in your desk drawer - - just in case.

You know people who actually listened to baseball games on the radio.

You can post a record, run down the hall, go to the bathroom, take a crap, and be back in 2:50 for the segue.

The new guy you're training has never listened to an AM station. He couldn't even name one in his own home town if his life depended on it.

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You knew exactly where to put the tone on the end of a carted song.

You spent most of the time on Friday nights giving out the high school football scores.

And when they weren't phoned-in, you got really pissed off.

You never thought twice about drinking from the same bottle with another DJ.

You only did "make-goods" if the client complained. Otherwise, who cares?

You can remember the name of the very first girl that was hired in your market as a DJ.

Somebody would say, "You have a face for radio", and it was still funny.

You always had a screwdriver in the studio so you could take a fouled-up cart apart at a moment's notice.

Agents were people like James Bond and the Man From Uncle.

You would spend hours splicing and editing a parody tape until it was “just right”, but didn't give a damn how bad that commercial was you recorded. Hey, I can only work with what they give me, right?

You still refer to CDs as “records”

Dinner? Let's see what the last shift left for me in the refrigerator.

Your family thinks you're successful, but you know better.

You played practical jokes on the air without fear of lawsuits.

There were always at least a dozen porn magazines lying around the studio.

An extra hour of sleep was considered a day off.

You've been married at least 3 times, or, never married at all.

You answer your home phone with the station call letters.

You used to fight with the news guy over air-time. After all, what was more important: your joke about your ex-wife, or that tornado warning?

You knew how to change the ribbon on the teletype machine, but you hated to do it because “...that's the news guy's job.”

You had listeners who only tuned in for the news, and not you. You could never figure that out.

You know at least 3 people in sales that take credit for you keeping your job.

You remember when “Rock & Roll” wasn't a bunch of guys who look and sound more like girls.

You have several old air-check cassettes in a cardboard box in your closet that you wouldn't dream of letting anyone hear anymore, but, you'll never throw them out or tape over them. Never!

You can still see scars on your finger when you got cut using a razor blade and cleaned out the cut with head-cleaning alcohol and an extra long cotton swab on a wooden stick.

You still have dreams of a song running out and not being able to find the control room door.

You've never told a listener “Yeah. I'll get that right on for you.”

You have a couple of old transistor radios around the house with corroded batteries inside them.

People who ride in your car exclaim, “Why is your radio so loud?”

Going to a club and not getting paid to work seems like a waste of time.

You have at least 3 unopened CDs, 2 T-shirts, 22 bumper stickers, and 5 old cups in your car.

You have at least 19 pictures of you with famous people whom you haven't seen since, and wouldn't know you today if you bit 'em on the ass.

You wish you could have been on “Name That Tune” because you would have won a million bucks.

You even REMEMBER “Name That Tune”

You were half an hour late for an appearance and blamed it on the directions you received from the sales person.

You've run a phone contest and nobody called, so you made up a name and gave the tickets to your cousin.

You remember when people actually thought radio was important.

You know what an RCA BK5B is.

Class A Communications
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You are the proud owner of a Third Endorsed license and can do meter readings.

You ran those annoying EBS tests when the AP wire told you to.

Your first GM in that small town had a bad toupee, and the biggest client on the air was the Hair Replacement Clinic.

You could fall into that annoying "radio voice" that all pukers had at the drop of a hat.

People who knew you out of the business would always ask you say something in that voice at parties.

"Oh surrrre.. I remember youuu. We listened to you in the car when my parents used to drive me to school" The person saying this is now in their 40s.

You remember when Motown used to send their promotional 45s to the station, mono on side "A", stereo on side "B".

You actually understand what the term "45" refers to.

You know that "Cue Burn" has nothing to do with cleaning your ears.

When you first started in the biz, you were required by the F.C.C. to log meter readings every half hour. You **never** took meter readings. Ever.

You remember when the station got their first computer. It came from Radio Shack. No floppy disks. No hard drive. Data storage? On a cassette tape.



Have some to add to the list?
E-mail 'em to ClassACom@GMail.com