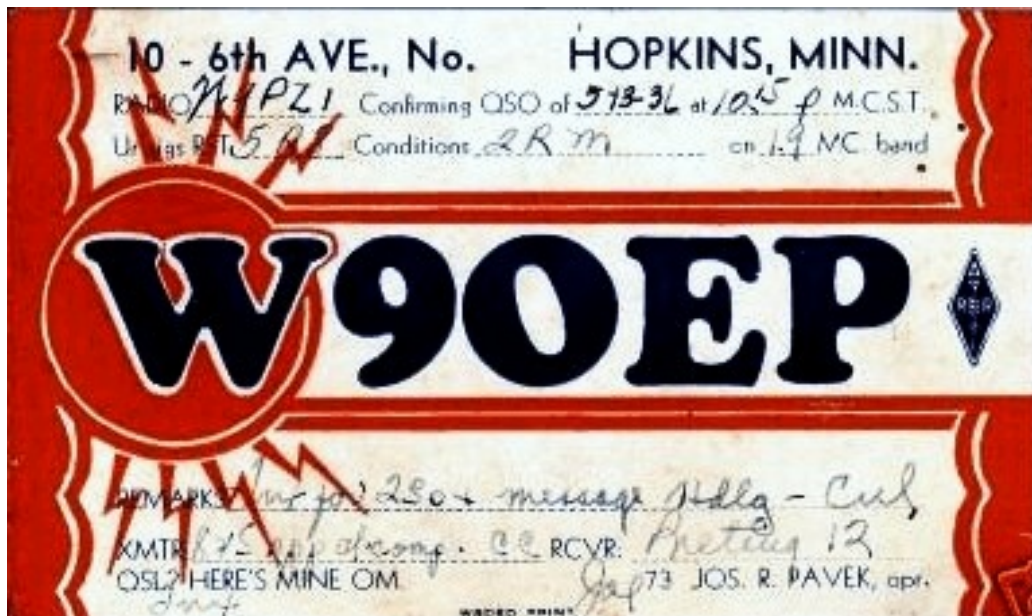


Radio Museums - One of the more popular and hands on style is over in Minneapolis. WØOEP (Old Empty Pockets) lives on at the Museum's Club Station. **Joe Pavék WØOEP *1908-1989*** was a devoted amateur radio operator, business man-inventor and collector. W9OEP prewar is featured.

Joe's collection started some time in 1946 while he was an electronics instructor for Dunwoody Institute. He was concerned about some of the beautiful radios being torn apart by the students as they learned their trade and decided to hold a few just to save from destruction. From that point on, he never stopped collecting.

Pavék eventually went on to start his own business, twin City Nut and Bolt Company on Harmon Place in Minneapolis. As his business grew, his territory expanded and he began to call on customers in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota.

As he traveled through these towns he soon discovered that if he got a haircut, he could find out virtually everything about everyone in town, including who had old radios. - Mr. Pavék stored his collection at his businesses on Harmon Place and later on Nicollet Avenue in Minneapolis. Some time in the seventies he began to look for an angel, someone to take over the collection, house it, staff it, and keep it open to the public. By 1984 he had given up and the whole collection was set to be sold at auction.



Earl Bakken stepped in, Earl is the co-founder of Medtronic and the inventor of the wearable pacemaker. Earl put himself through college fixing radios and television. Sharing Joe's passion for old radios Earl saw the potential for opportunities for education that the collection provided.

Mr. Bakken, Joe Pavék and Paul Hedberg of the Minnesota Broadcasters Assoc., together formed a non-profit organization that became the umbrella for the museum. The museum takes one back through time when wireless was king of mass communication. Founded by amateur radio historian Joseph Pavék, the museum is home to an impressive collection. Devoted to the preservation of audio and visual history, the museum features exhibits ranging from the earliest days of radio to the modern technology of today. With its unique collections of gadgets, the Pavék boasts one of the largest libraries of electronic literature under one roof. Joe expired in 1989 obtaining his life's fulfillment at age 81. Credit Pavék Museum page. W8SU 2008