

I am writing to the alumni of WTIC radio about a very rare microphone I was able to acquire through my hobby of collecting vintage microphones, and passion for learning about all types of vintage broadcast equipment.

Over the years I have bumped into three of these microphones in three different locations. The first microphone was found in Pomona, California in 2004, at a vintage telephone and radio swap meet. After speaking with the gentleman who had the microphone, it was deemed too costly an acquisition.

The second microphone that I'm aware of was found of all places on display at an Army/Navy store on the Berlin Turnpike owned by my friend Walter...

The microphone in Walter's possession was the microphone that was engraved to Bob Steele. Walter is a collector of military collectibles and other antiques. After many conversations it was also deemed too costly an acquisition.

The third microphone microphone was engraved to Leonard Patricelli from the staff of WTIC radio and was found on eBay nearly 10 years later. After years and years of waiting and watching, it's quite an honor to have actually acquired one of the three most significant microphones in Connecticut broadcast history.

I've been aware of these three very special chrome ornamental RCA 44 microphones for a long time. Bob Steele and Leonard Patricelli were each presented with one of these microphones. The third microphone was believed to be a display microphone or an in studio working mic... All three were used at some point together.

I actually feel really lucky to have found this microphone because of its unique history. This one is the best one because of its cosmetic condition and bears the engraving:

To Leonard J. Patricelli - "Pat" - From your staff at WTIC.

All three microphones wear the same chrome flags in ornamental coverings, and all three microphones have the identical chrome base. Each base is believed to have been custom chrome plated, as well as the ornamental surround flag. After extensive research and contacting some formal RCA technical staff, it is deemed that these these finishes were not available from RCA at any point.

So its unique sonic fingerprint & tonal richness are a reminder of the quality of WTIC Radio's sound, and its legendary broadcast history. It was with great passion and love for broadcasting that the staff would go to such lengths to present such a unique set of Ribbon Microphones as fine as this!

Toni R. Fishman CEO
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