

McMURDO SILVER MASTERPIECE VI

Bruce Kelley, W2ICE

59 Main Street, Bloomfield, NY 14469-9336

Of the three VIs in the AWA Museum, this model, the "Clifton," is outstanding in appearance. The VI, circa 1935-36, uses 21 tubes with a pair of 6L6s in the output. The set required a minimum of restoration and is an excellent example of a pre-World War II classic.

McMurdo Silver started his radio career in the mid-20s with John Marshall, and in 1933 founded a company carrying his name. The McMurdo Silver Co. went bankrupt in 1938 and it was bought out by the E.H. Scott Co. In 1948, Silver committed suicide with one of his antique guns.

Of particular interest to all at AWA headquarters is the fact that in his youth, McMurdo lived in Geneva not far from the museum. He was a close friend and neighbor of AWA member Cliff Daykin, W2AFE, with whom he spent many pleasant days target shooting. In addition to being an ardent gun collector, "Mick" in later years acquired a large collection of early radios and tubes. While consulting at the Ford Dearborn Museum, this writer identified many early pieces which he had donated.



A gem in the AWA Museum collection.