

A PHOTO HISTORY OF ATV MAGAZINES

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Nothing happens without some earlier effort. As Newton said, "If I've accomplished anything it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants who preceded me." Likewise ATVQ is a continuation of earlier work by myself as 7 year publisher of Amateur Television Magazine and others who preceded and followed. Here is a photo history and some comments about ATV magazines from the start.

If Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, were alive today, he would be a charter subscriber to ATV Magazine and operating ATV mobile!

That may shock some of you but think about it for a while. Here are some historical facts which might surprise you. Hiram was an inventor and scientist. Among his early works he built a gasoline powered vehicle with three wheels, invented the silencer for guns, and owned a company which produced electrical and aircraft components. Hiram is best known for his efforts to get Ham Radio back on the air after WWI and starting the ARRL. But Hiram was also a charter member, organizer and President of the Amateur Cinema League. With his interests in promoting use of higher frequencies (then 200 meters and down) later the short wave bands it is easy to conjecture that Hiram, with his interests and inventions in cars, electronics, HF and Cinema, would have combined those interests to become an ATV operator! That must be making the anti-ATV folks at the League turn white! But it's true!

Early television started on HF. Some of the earliest TV transmissions, using mechanical scanning systems such as the Nipkow Disk were transmitted over existing AM broadcast stations. Later experimental stations operated in the 2-6 MHz. region, transmitted live video up to 600 miles during daylight and further at night. One of the earliest documented TV stations was in Lafayette Indiana at Perdue University.

These "low resolution" transmissions gave way to electronic scanning and use of VHF frequencies. The first known ham TV operator/station was Mel Dunbrack WIBHD, who was given a special authorization to identify as WIBHD-TV. One of only a very few so licensed because the FCC did not have any rules governing TV transmissions when Mel began using his own home brew equipment in the late 1920's, fashioned after the systems used by Baird and others in the commercial TV experiments. No mean feat as devices to make and display TV images were not something you went to Radio Shack to buy!

Mel got the TV Bug early and got several of his friends to build receivers. To get activity started in Ham TV he put out a local newsletter, a single sheet, soliciting ham TV operation. To the best of my knowledge, this is the first effort to organize and publish an ATV newsletter. Mel is still active on ATV today and it's been his life long favorite mode.

FIRST ATV PUBLICATION June 1962 – November 1964

Commercially organized A TV publications started with another Mel. Mel Shadbolt W0KYQ of Dakota City, Nebraska and Wayne Green W2NSD, as respectively editor and publisher started ATV EXPERIMENTER and the first issue was June-July 1962.

The publication lasted three years and 18 issues, 17 of which are pictured on the following page, although all 18 issues are in my collection. Wayne Green was just starting his ham Publication 73 Magazine at this time and had ideas of several special interest publications covering RTTY, ATV etc. Mel Shadbolt eventually started a company called ATV Research, today known as Century 21, and still operates from 130 Broadway, Dakota City, NE. 68731.

In these early days, transistors had just become available (Remember the CK721, CK722, 2N35 etc?) and although you could buy a TV set, getting a camera was a little more difficult. Many of the early articles were concentrating on BUILDING your own camera, with articles on lenses, pick-up tubes, deflection coils, monoscopes, flying spot scanners and other early imaging devices. The first public service ATV activity noted was the March of Dimes fund drive. The activity was provided by the LaGrand, OR, ATV hams, Fred K7KRP and Marvin W7LWM, Vie W7ZTC. The signals fed into an early CATV system feeding 2800 homes.

Among other efforts documented was a petition Wayne Green W2NSD published in Vol 1 # 5, which asked the FCC to permit narrowband ATV (1 MHz. bandwidth) to be allowed to operate on 6 and 2 meters which were at that time largely vacant! The main resistance was from Columbia Broadcasting (CBS) which feared interference to channel 2 TV (on which there were a large number of CBS owned and affiliated stations).

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Early operations were crude by today's standards and required a good level of technical competence.

Everything was built from scratch or heavily modified. Early transmitters used a 6AF6 which might manage 2 watts on a good day. Having 60 watts from a converted military 420 MHz. transmitter was considered high power.

There are accounts and photos of early DX peditions to mountain tops and other portable stations. Listings in each issue provided a growing list of ATV stations in all pans of the country and Canada.

By Volume 3 #2 there was activity noted in every populous area of the US with NY, CA, FL, OH, IL, IN, MI, VA, PA, NJ, CT, TN, IA, TX, OR, WA, AL, NM, MT, MD leading the pack.

The magazine also showed the early VKR500 linear track VIDEO TAPE RECORDER, with, later, a user/builder report by Mel Shadbolt, the first documented home VCR owner! For those who only know VCR's as Beta or VHS, this first attempt at a home VTR was based on using high speed and long reels of 1/4" "audio" tape. By today's standards it was nothing to write about, but back in 1964, it was plenty good enough to even get a picture to record and playback.

At the end of three years many hams who would also become famous had appeared in its pages. Ralph Taggart WA2EMC, (now WB8DQT) later to be a pioneer in SSTV, digital and WX sat provided a low noise UHF preamp using 6CW4 nuvistor tubes. Vanguard Labs who today sell WX sat equipment, Denson Electronics, who's owner, Al Denson was an ATV'er sold industrial TV equipment to schools and business also advertised his goodies in ATV Experimenter. Others in early issues included Don Miller WSNTP and his wife Sue WSCNW (now WSYL) of Wyman Research today and an SSTV pioneer, Al Lipkin W3AEH, later to be part owner of A5 Magazine. Bill Parker W8DMR who also had articles in Radio Electronics on building your own TV equipment. SSTV was mentioned with OSCAR III, as Don WSNTP and Bob W7FEN prepared to make the first space relayed ham TV contact using SSTV.

Lastly, the FCC was noted to have changed their dual ID rules 97.87 (a)(2) which thus permitted a RTTY, ATV or FAX station to ID in its primary mode or CW ID including automatic station ID (using "reasonable CW speeds").

ATV Experimenter ended with a letter of explanation from its editor, Mel, explaining how despite thousands of hours, piles of magazine hand-outs and volumes of correspondence, the effort had failed to achieve an income level capable of sustaining publication.

A SECOND ATV PUBLICATION September 1967 – July 1970

You can't keep a good mode down!

The second commercial venture was A5 Magazine an effort by Donald Lxwine WB2UMF and Martin Balk WBSZW both of New Jersey. Eighteen issues were published, all pictured on the next page.

Technology advanced quite a bit during the three years between the end of ATV Experimenter in 1964 and the start of A5 in 1967. SSTV had gotten off to a good start and had advanced beyond the STA stages. OSCAR was a new exciting mode and the introduction of the first microprocessor IC. Video equipment was becoming available at reasonable prices and in some cases as surplus.

A5 concentrated on SSTV theory and operation. Although there was some coverage of FSTV. One cover photo showed a mobile ham TV station with an open chassis tube camera mounted on a tripod inside a convertible car. Another "new comer" broke ground in the July 1968 issue as HAM RADIO MAGAZINE made its debut.

Emphasis was still on home brew equipment including cameras, converters and modulators. Most were still using tubes although transistors started taking over by issue 12. This issue, July 1969, also featured an ad by a new company destined to become the premier source of ATV equipment, P. C. Electronics aka Tom O'Hara W60RG.

The first IC circuit was a utility amplifier based upon an RCA CA3020. Its purpose was to provide some video gain to make up for "low camera output and long cable losses." Readers were still treated to sources for home brew parts especially tubes, cameras and emerging video recorders.

The publications to this point were all in the older small magazine format of 8 x 5 inches. Most issues were 12-16 pages and no color was used. It was obvious these were no "QST"s but the amount of effort to even put out these little issues was far beyond the small income they produced. A5 ceased after the July 1970 issue (#18) and the authors, recently having obtained their FCC commercial radio telephone operators licenses, concentrated on college classes and life.

The first issue of the next publication alludes to the existence of an issue #19 by indicating it would be #20 under the old numbering system, but searches have not turned up any such issue. If anyone has an issue #19 copy and would like to send it to me or send a copy I would appreciate it.

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Yet another pair of hams attempt to bring ATV out of obscurity

A THIRD ATV PUBLICATION May 1972 – April 1974

With the popularity of SSTV rising quickly and three manufacturers producing SSTV equipment, ham TV was much better known by 1972. Although UHF operation was still not as simple and easy as today, at least you could buy cameras and equipment. SSTV was expensive to operate with special SSTV cameras and P-7 monitors, but work was afoot to generate solid state scan converters and new technology was present everywhere.

In May 1972, almost two years after the demise of A5, Ron Cohen K3ZKO and Al Lipkin W3AEH made arrangements to restart A5. By the second issue this had changed to A5 Amateur Television Magazine although nearly everyone who remembers the issues first hand, it remained A5.

Ron and Al are ham buddies in Philadelphia. They spent a great deal of time to produce a publication which had a more professional look and feel. Layout and art work improved. Only 12 issues were published but it was much more widely known to hams than previous efforts. The issues even sported colored paper covers and grew to as much as 44 pages.

The issues were printed and assembled in the basement of their homes. The appearance improved much over previous efforts. Circulation increased as well as the inclusion of “high class” ads from major ham equipment manufacturers. We saw the debut of RPT Magazine in the July 1972 issue. The emphasis was on modifying commercial FM 2-way equipment to ATV operation. The Motorola T-44, RCA CMU 15, Link 2375, and GE hardware from FM surplus dealers made it cheap and easy to get on ATV. A few simple mods and the addition of a video modulator made most of these earlier radios video transmitters. Plus you had the built in NBFM sound capability of the original radio!

The first sync generator on a chip, Fairchild 3261, made its debut. This single chip saved building a lot of electronics just to generate horizontal and vertical sync signals and also allowed easy gen-locking of video sources for the first time.

On the SSTV scene were the first color SSTV transmissions using field sequential techniques. Robot equipment had dominated the market with more from Venus Electronics. Don Miller WSNTP and others were busy experimenting with different color SSTV systems including the Land 2 color system and beginning to talk about other scan rates and schemes including “medium scan” and “sampledot” both forerunners of telco tv efforts.

The September 1973 issue noted the formation of an

ATV club in Canada and another in Washington, D. C. The latter, started by Terry WB4JFI, Mike WB4DVD, Paul WB4KCM and Bruce WB4YTU, was destined to be a major player in the future of ham TV. Also a new source of surplus equipment was being provided by a small company in Michigan, Communications Unlimited. Together, Metrovision ATV Club and C. U.'s owner WBSHEE (now KBSFOI would later lead the ATV charge in Washington to save the fast scan mode from the ARRL and government efforts to banish it to oblivion!

ATV POPULARITY WAS GROWING AND SO WERE ITS GROWING PAINS!

Power levels of some of the hardware started to become high enough that articles began to include warnings about the dangers of high voltage and UHF RF. It was now fairly common to use a 4CX250 or a pair in the K2RIW 440 MHz. design amplifier for ATV. This provided as much as 400 watts of video RF, more if you were brave enough to run the tubes to the limit. Printed was the concern for UHF energy being biologically harmful. Well, an RF burn always hurts! But the concern was also that just radiated power, either from the chassis or from the gain end of the array on the roof could be biologically harmful. Microwave ovens had just been invented which used the “water line” a resonant frequency of the molecule H₂O to cause molecular excitation (heating) and thus cook food. This caused early concern about other frequencies. The main worry was the human eye and cranium were susceptible at 450 MHz.

Robert Suding WBLMD wrote of his digital SSTV converter in the March 1974 issue. Also a landmark in technology was featured on the front cover, WR4AAG, the first licensed fast scan in-band ATV repeater! All the issues are pictured here, the first two on the previous page and the remainder on the following page.

Ron and Al also had booth or display space at hamfests all over the east and midwest. This public showing of ATV increased awareness and popularity of the mode greatly. But this also caused concern in Newington as the FM mode began to take over the VHF-UHF bands. The political wars were about to start and ATV was the “cannon fodder” the League was going to use to promote FM mode.

Ron and Al ended their efforts with a very late March 1974 issue and the magazine might of ended there except for yet another ATV fan and equipment dealer, Henry Ruh WB8HEE (today KB9FO)!! FM and FM repeaters were growing and repeater sub bands had been created to carve out spectrum for FM mode users.

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During the early 70's the FM mode grew quickly. Efforts to organize and slow the growth were made by the ARRL and the FCC by ways of new regulations which restricted FM repeaters. During 1972 and 1973 several new rules were proposed and put in place which restricted repeaters. The thought was that only FM mode would use a repeater! In 1973 Henry Ruh WB8HEE (now KB9FO) and 10 others kd by Wayne Green W2NSD assaulted the restrictive rules. This included testimony before the Commission in Washington. The Rules were proposed and promoted by the ARRL who feared growth of FM would cause chaos, neglecting, as usual, that hams are self regulating, even though it wasn't easy. Repeater councils and coordination groups formed and eventually most of the growth problems were ironed out without the help of the ARRL or the FCC. Just hams trying to co-exist. But an out growth of this was also the idea that repeaters could be used for other modes including ATV! The end result was we finally got most of the repeater ruler repealed and kt self rule and common sense take over.

THE FORTH ATV MAGAZINE January 1975 – February 1985

The publication of Amateur Television Magazine represented the longest continuous effort to produce an ATV only publication. It also provided a special interest group with yet another series of improvements in the quality of an ATV magazine and broke new ground in many areas.

In December 1974, Henry Ruh WBSHEE, then a subscriber of and an advertiser in A5 Magazine was worried that there had not been an issue since March. Contacting the former owners proved that they had indeed ceased publication and yet another ATV publication had died. Henry made arrangements to meet Ron and Al in a Howard Johnson's restaurant in Pennsylvania. The result of that meeting was that Henry would start a new publication and gain the rights to the name A5, the use of the A5 Logo, and the mailing list. Also the typewriter and home made saddle stapler changed hands. Ron and Al would be listed as contributing editors but in fact the effort was all Henry's

January brought the first issue which sported for the first time a glossy paper stock, and higher quality interior white stock. The cover featured a live photo of the WR4AAG ATV repeater with Bruce Brown WB4YTU, Terry Fox WB4JFI repeater builders. Subscribers of the defunct A5 were informed that their subscriptions would be honored even though none of the funds were available to the new publisher. The magazine was funded by Henry's electronic store business but this didn't last long as the recession soon forced the doors closed at CU. The lack of income the first year was particularly hard since there were also nearly no renewals, only some new subscriptions and the financial base was eliminated by May of 1975.

The new publication almost died again at that point but Henry went back to work in Broadcasting, first in Los Angeles, then Topeka, then Bloomington, IN. The magazine had sported new efforts to make it more viable as an entity in and of itself. These included a cartoonist who added humor to the publication from Henry's ideas, and an effort to remain at about 50 pages per issue on good paper stock. The last two issues of the year were printed and mailed at almost the same time and did not represent as good an effort as earlier issues of the year. But circulation was rising, and a lower cost printer had been found in Topeka.

The early days of "desk top" publishing were hard. There were no cheap home computers, printers or word processor programs. Everything was typed by hand, many timer over, in an attempt to rid as many typographical and spelling errors as possible. But still many got through. Typing 50 pages several times per issue was not fun.

Everything came back together in early 1976. Mailing was done by hand until the subscription list had grown to over 1000 at which time a commercial mailer was given the job. By November 1976 subscriptions had grown to 1699 and total circulation to 2100 per issue. Renewals and new advertisers had brought needed cash flow to the magazine and by January 1977 the personal subsidy of its financial operations had decreased to an annual tide it through level. Subscriptions were concentrated at the beginning of the year and there were not enough renewals for the last three issues to have a positive cash flow year round.

1976 Also started a couple of significant points in ham radio history. The preparations for the 1980 WARC were begun and Henry took active participation in the Washington, D. C. meetings. At the same time the FCC/ARRL were trying to eliminate ATV by rules changes at the same time that Bruce Brown was operating his ATV repeater on a continuing series of STA's.



You can never tell where Henry and ATV will show up. Here he is at the 1990 NAB convention with a couple of "public figures".

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Various forces came together in the late 1970's which allowed ATV to continue in the 450 MHz. band, allowed ATV repeaters to be permitted in the 450 MHz. band and above, and showed that ATV was alive and well and helped retain and gain UHF spectrum in the 1980 WARC effort.

Near constant efforts were made to achieve three objectives:
A) get the FCC to change the rules so that an ATV repeater could be built and operated in the 420-450 MHz. band anywhere in the country; B) prevent the ARRL/FCC from passing docket 20777 which would have eliminated ATV operations from the 450 MHz. band by bandwidth restrictions to only 35 KHz. maximum and; C) make a convincing argument that the ham bands should be saved from commercial interests, especially the 450 Mhz. band.

As history has shown, we did it! Not only did we not lose the 450 MHz. band, except for the A Line along the Canadian border, but we gained the 900 MHz. band, got three new HF bands, although there were losses in the SHF and microwave spectrum. Being a presence in Washington and having a reasonably decent magazine helped form an image of strength in numbers before the FCC and ARRL, who relied in part on ATV activity to justify the continuation of the 30 MHz. allocation at 420 MHz.

After some real knock-down battles between the various parties, ARRL, FCC, Bruce Brown, Metrovision, Henry Ruh, Amateur Television Magazine, we got the rules changed to allow ATV repeaters in-band on 420-450 MHz. A permanent rules change allowed ATV repeaters to operate outside of the allocated FM repeater sub-bands but not within the CW or weak signal sub-bands, or by local coordination efforts which were recognized to pre-exist in some instances, especially in southern California where ATV operated on 434 MHz.

The covers of these issues are shown on the adjacent pages. The magazine continued in the small format until a special WARC issue was printed in August 1978. But full color had arrived with the July 1977 issue, showing the inside of the WB9WWM (now KB9FO) ATV mobile operation. Again a full color cover to show full color SSTV came with the January 1978 issue.

Coverage now was good in both ATV and SSTV areas. Emphasis was still on build it projects and a regular SSTV column by Dave Ingram K4TWJ began. Dave would go on to write many ham technical books for TAB as well as for other, bigger magazines in the years to come. A fully type-set issue made things look good and material on many subjects was pouring in. All in all it seemed the age of ATV had begun. Amateur Television Magazine switched to the larger 8 x 11 inch format with the January 1979 issue. This provided much more room for diagrams, and the old method of typing on an 8 x 11 page then having it reduced to fit the 8.5 x 5.5 page was eliminated making reading a lot easier.

The magazine continued to grow in size and circulation as time passed and actually began to show a positive cash flow and modest profit which must have been a landmark in itself for ATV publications.

In 1979 a new SSTV'er, Mike Stone WBQQCD stopped by after a hamfest held in Bloomington, IN. He was mostly curious about the aluminum "Christmas Tree" on a 100' tower in the yard of WB9WWM/KB9FO that had among many other antennas: 4, 48 element J-Beam 4.50 MHz. antennas! Mike was a general class ham and had worked a little slow scan on 10 meters. He was shown the ATV shack of Henry's which was well equipped at the time with broadcast equipment. Mike would later begin to make regular contributions to the magazine on the topic of SSTV.

March 1980 issue of Amateur Television Magazine sported a full color cover, and for the first time a full color ad, part of a two page spread by Robot to announce their new 800 SSTV system. Mike WBQQCD also started as a regular SSTV column writer. Dave K4TWJ was also an SSTV column writer for this issue!

AWARDS FOR ATV OPERATIONS

Under Henry's editorial and publisher guidance, the magazine also was providing recognition to efforts by ATV'ers. It started with a story about Warren Weldon WSDFU's weather watching tower mounted camera and his ATV link to the National Weather Service in Tulsa, OK. This was sent to the White House. Jimmy Carter, President of the United States responded with a letter to Warren commending him on his efforts.

Having inherited some old pull-out image orthicon tubes I came up with the idea of a Good Image Award for public service. This became an annual award with the first going to Warren Weldon. Other recipients included the JPL for its N6V Viking probe video of Mars ATVISSTV efforts.

All the awards were to promote ATV activity, home construction and public service. Three areas still promoted by ATVQ today.

Another award was the Master Scanner award. It was a nice desk top plaque for outstanding technical articles published during the year. The first was awarded to Takao Yabana JABBZC for his \$100 solid state SSTV scan converter.

Also offered was the SSTV operator of the year. The first recipient was Dave Guthrie 5N0DOG of Logos, Nigeria. Dave later returned to the USA.

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In the summer of 1981, Amateur Television Magazine was sold to Mike Stone WEQQCD. The magazine had managed to show a modest profit and life's challenges were increasing for Henry as he quit his 6 year long job at Indiana University in order to seek fortune as a broadcasting consulting engineer and build his own FM broadcast radio station. With an increase in family responsibility with wife and son, and the increased demands of self employment, time for ham radio and the publication grew shorter and shorter. The decision to sell the business to Mike would later turn out to be the nadir of ham TV, but for a while it helped ATV and was the only alternative to ending yet another good ATV magazine venture, albeit on the upside for once.

A VERY FEW WORDS ABOUT SPEC-COM

With a publisher who had little else to do but promote the magazine and operate HAM TV, the magazine grew as expected. In 1982, as the FCC announced it would accept a rules change proposed by Hem-y Ruh KB9FO to allow SSTV in the general class portion of all HF bands, the magazine went to monthly publication. This was also in part necessary to support its publisher who had quit regular employment and was trying for the first time, to make a living off the income derived from an ATV publication.

The extra issues per year meant more advertising dollars per year, although partially eroded by mailing and printing costs. The publisher also began to offer a lot of subsidiary items, computer programs, SSTV audio cassette tapes, video tapes and booklets of collections of past ATV Magazine articles. These anthologies provided additional income and the extra work involved could have only been done by someone with nothing else to do.

Earlier issues under Henry had provided a complete TVRO series, way before any other magazine printed a word about satellite TV. Likewise, in 1982 and 1983 a new series of build it yourself TVRO articles appeared before the other media bothered with the subject.

Feeling the economic pinch of supporting his family, his ATV repeater, his ham radio hobby and publishing a monthly magazine, Mike came up with the marketing ploy of forming the USATVS. In January of 1983 it was cover material for the issue. Representatives were appointed by Mike, and some never knew it until they read about it in the magazine. The multi-page promotions began early and continued, espousing the virtues of this one man society and marketing arm of the magazine.

By 1984 the publication got farther and farther away from ATV/SSTV with articles on FAX, RTTY, satellite/OSCAR, and other modes. The creation and promotion and production of thousands of "Hamfest" board games was the economic turning point for the publication. Facing a huge inventory of the slow selling item, the pressure was on to make money with the publication. Expanded sales pitches for "USATVS buying service" and computer programs, tapes, cassettes etc. filled the pages. The amount of ATV material decreased and the other topics began to take over.

The last issue of Amateur Television Magazine was February 1985. The next issue was titled Spec-Com. It was explained that it would be a magazine to cover many special interest communications modes. Thus ended yet another ATV Magazine.

Enough said.

In early 1988 Bill WB8ELK and Henry KB9FO were contacted by several ATV'ers, a couple of ham radio magazine editors and some ATV equipment manufacturers asking if they would please start another ATV publication. Only after meeting for the first time at Dayton 1988 did ATVQ take form.



This is an off the air picture of air to air ATV. Henry KB9FO is flying the Cessna pictured. Tom W6OAG is flying a Piper nearby. The video is from Tom's ATV transmitter is received by Henry's ATV receiver in N11578. The reverse was also done for a complete 2-way ATV aircraft to aircraft QSO. Later Henry changed the Tail number of the Cessna to N73TV, for obvious reasons1.

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A new ATV publication, Amateur Television Quarterly Magazine, was born in 1988. A group of ATV'ers, manufacturers and other interested persons spoke informally throughout the Dayton hamfest. The result was the formation of ATVQ by Bill WBSELK and Henry KB9F0, in July of 1988. Our goal was and is today, to provide a high quality technical publication for ATV.

ATVQ, AMATEUR TELEVISION QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

THE FIFTH ATV MAGAZINE July 1988 -- December 2008

The first issues of ATVQ as the magazine quickly became to be known were published in the latter half of 1988. Issues were called Summer and Fall 1988 (Volume 1 #'s 1 & 2). Only a limited number of copies of each were printed and they were done as an announcement of a new effort to bring out a new ATV magazine. Proud owners can claim a first edition! These two starter issues were small format and only had a few articles each. Just enough to raise the issue of whether anyone had an interest in an ATV only magazine.

The response was a tidal wave of positive response. Advertisers quickly responded and subscriptions sold briskly. I had remembered the older FM mode magazines, FM, RPT, and others who had a much larger operator base, but couldn't attract enough subscribers. We were blessed with the immediate supply of complete sales lists from advertisers, ATV club rosters, and Bill and I went through our log books to make a mass mailing list. When done we had collected over 3500 known ATV'ers. This has since grown as more clubs sent in their entire membership rosters and requesting sample copies be sent to members.

And as they say, the rest is history! Pictured are the covers of all issues to date. Among other highlights, every issue has had a full color cover, many interior pages have been full color and we recently changed from newsprint to white stock for interior pages. Each issue has had improvements including changes in layout, photo work, and editing. The paid staff has grown to include regular typists to enter the contributed articles, a sales manager Pamela Dass formerly of 73 Magazine, and Dave Williams WBQZJP as photo editor.

ATVQ has had full color centerfolds for the April issues, and a concentration of high quality technical material from a number of sources. But the best has yet to come.

The growth and expansion of ATVQ, which included issues of 104 pages, 96 pages, also takes its toll in eating up material. ATVQ has budgeted on a 68 page format and is constantly on the search for new material. In case you didn't notice, ATVQ pays for technical articles! You also get the satisfaction of being published in the LEADING ATV magazine in the world! ATVQ's high quality full color issues inspire news stand sales at electronics outlets. These single copy sales generate new awareness and good images of ham TV operation. Our phone line message system 708 298 2269, helps ATVQ respond to readers inquiries and keep in touch with the ATV world.

PROMOTING ONLY A POSITIVE IMAGE FOR ATV AND HAM RADIO

Our ads in Tune In the World, 73, and previously in Ham Radio and CQ Magazine are a constant source of information to attract new ATV'ers. Not to forget great word-of-mouth by our loyal readers!

In case you hadn't noticed, Bill and I have now been to 49 states, 6 provinces in Canada and 5 foreign countries gathering ATV activity news and promoting ATV activity.

Of course, we invite you to visit our double booth at Dayton, #338, 339, and the Friday night ATV Party and Home Brew contest at the Holiday Inn and the Saturday night ATV party at the Rodeway Inn, just south of I-70/I-75 jct.

And despite the slings and arrows of outrageous editorials and distortions in Spec Com, ATVQ continues to grow, prosper and provide a positive image for ham TV and Ham Radio.

WRITE FOR THE LEADER, ATVQ! SEND IN YOUR ARTICLES AND NEWS TODAY!

Nothing beats being #1. Here at ATVQ we value your input. It's only by meeting our customers' expectations in quality, content, value, and accuracy, that we will continue to be #1. We listen to our readers and have made improvements and changes in response to that input. We want your comments and articles, news and ideas. ATVQ is YOUR magazine and will reflect the desires of its readers. Your help and participation as a reader, contributor or promoter is what makes ATVQ as good as it is and will make it even better with each issue.

Our thanks to everyone that contributed to ATVQ's progress and success over the past three years. We appreciate your continued support for the years ahead.

Bill WB8ELK and I do ATVQ because of our love for the Ham Radio hobby and especially ham TV. We both work full time jobs, Bill as editor of 73 Magazine and I as engineering manager for the world's largest video duplicator (100 million + copies a year!). A good portion of our spare "ham time" is used to put together each issue, service subscriptions and advertisers. We are happy to do this at no pay as a service to our ham radio hobby which has enriched our lives and family. We do this for the fun. Let us keep it that way.