

Powel Crosley Jr 8CR-W8GM *1886-1961* Another Buckeye – The Henry Ford of Radio! A list of firsts too long to mention - truly a wealthy pioneer. Our subject born in Cincy to Charlotte and Powel Crosley, an attorney. Educated locally, at College Hill then to Ohio Military Institute upon graduating in 1905. Attending U of Cincinnati, being obsessed with mechanics of automobiles. The mass production of autos employed by Henry Ford caught his attention and implemented by his brother, Lewis, when the two began manufacturing quality affordable radios in 1921.



Crosley an industrialist repeatedly played “Song of India” phonograph record over 8CR, his experimental 20 watt station at his College Hill home.

He asked anyone who heard his broadcast to mail (QSL) a postcard and heard from people as far away as Troy, Ohio. In 1921 Local auto parts producer Powel Crosley, moves his ham radio station

8CR transmitter from his home to the factory location and has same licensed under the letters WLW. - Crosley will organize his radio Corporation in 1923 and the station becomes the Voice of the Midwest’s pork and corn belt. He was issued W8GM in 1934.



Unfortunately, many people have never heard of Crosley, he developed many inventions that have changed our lives today.

We haven’t mentioned the Crosley Family influence and far reaching roll they played in WW II War effort, also the Cincinnati Reds baseball team, Crosley Field and Crosley appliances and the automobile, over 30 MPG.

It’s all there on Wikipedia.com give it a look. Below we post the winter home Powel built for his wife Gwendolyn in 1929 on a 63 acre Florida parcel called Seagate, a Sarasota Bay retreat.



Study if you will the history of “The Moon River” studio organ (3 manual pipe console Wurlitzer) of WLW radio broadcast fame and see what became of that famous gem. The Cincy Reds go on with new ownership, as well as WLW 700 radio. I doubt the Crosley quality built appliances will ever be equaled. Yet there are some nifty inventions today in the form of Radar and convection ovens plus plasma screen TV sets!

The Crosley “money back guarantee” paved the way - W8SU 2007