



## MT Special: Radio Buyer's Guide Issue

With the Christmas season just around the corner, many readers are considering what they'd *really* like to see under the tree. To help with this, *MT* offers a special Radio Buyer's Guide written by hams who have tested and reviewed radio-related products for many years.

**On Our Cover:** Some of the finest radios on the market. But which one is right for you? This issue will help you decide!

## C O N T E N T S

### Buying a Ham Radio Transceiver ..... 8

By Kirk Kleinschmidt NT0Z

Former QST assistant editor, current amateur radio columnist for Popular Communications, and a ham for 32 years, Kirk has handled, tested, and reviewed, more ham gear than most of us can imagine. Now, you get the benefit of his experience as he walks you through the purchase of your next amateur radio transceiver.

### MT's Guide to Buying a Used Receiver..... 11

By Bob Grove W8JHD

Bob Grove knows shortwave radios, he's been reviewing them for decades, and he's seen and used them all. If you're looking for a portable, table-top set or software defined radio, Bob tells you how to look for the best deal among all the great used models now on the used radio market.

### Expert's Guide to Buying a Scanner Radio..... 12

By Larry Van Horn N5FPW

Digital technology has put public service monitoring in a state of flux across the U.S. So, when it comes to choosing the kind of scanner that will be the most useful where you live, you could use a little expert advice. Nobody knows scanners like *MT*'s own Larry Van Horn. Listen up!

### Trends in Radio..... 13

By Ken Reitz KS4ZR

There's a whole world of radios that we use every day: Weather Radios, CB sets, FRS/GMRS radios and pocket-sized portable shortwave sets. Ken details the pluses and minuses of some of the most well-known brands. He also looks at trends among the major manufacturers so you'll know what to look for before you buy.

### Expert's Guide to Buying an Antenna ..... 15

By Bob Grove W8JHD

Bob has been designing and building antennas for HF, VHF and UHF for decades. He's used nearly every type of antenna made and now you don't have to "Ask Bob." He'll tell you!

### A Life in Service to Amateur Radio..... 18

By Harry Dannals W2HD

The former 5-time ARRL president, and past president of QCWA, reflects on a life of service to amateur radio that took him around the U.S. and the world representing American hams during his 10 year term. Harry helped forge policies and regulations that gave us, among other things, the WARC bands (30, 17 and 12 meters). He may not look like the kind of guy who would jump off a garage roof to swing from a rope on a tree but then, maybe you don't know W2HD.



Photo by Ken Reitz KS4ZR

## Reviews

Uniden BCD996XT  
21st Century Scanner  
Technology

