The First FADA Radio

In the early 1920's Frank A.D. Andrea (FADA) knew regularly scheduled radio broadcasting would soon be coming to the North East. He then set out to manufacture his own first crystal radio kit for amateur operators to assemble. With limited financing and only his young half brother and a machinist to help create and assemble the parts, they started to turn out a crystal radio set with the simple wood cabinet that you see here.

Once FADA started to build these first crystal radios, he put a “little add” in a local New York radio magazine. Soon he was inundated with orders. At the top of this first model’s production run FADA was turning out thousands of crystal radio kits a month!

The success of this first model provided the cash flow to expand the business and design new more stylish and advanced FADA models.