USER'S MANUAL



Quality Replacement Parts, Inc 9099 Bank Street, Suite B Valley View, OH 44125 1-800-742-0425

The RECEIVER CONTROLS are labeled as shown.

- T/S 1. ON/OFF Turns receiver on/off.
- S 2. RESET Resets sequence to beginning (High 1).
- S 3. SEQUENCE

Selects American or International target sequence.

S 4. NUMBER OF SHOOTERS - Sets the number of

shooters (1 to 5).

"DASH" arms International Skeet delay.
"DOT" changes International Skeet delay

to Bad Puller delay.

T/S 5. DELAY - Sets release time.

NONE

Instantaneous Release

NORMAL

.2 sec. delay (Corresponds to

reaction time of average puller)

S INT • BAD

Intrntnl Skt delay (0 - 3 sec.)

if Number of Shooters selected by "DASH"

Bad Puller delay if Number of Shooters

selected by "DOT".

T INT • BAD

IT • BAD Bad Puller delay on trap versions.)

T/S 6. LED(s) (Light Emitting Diode) - 2 LEDs on skeet version

show which target is being released (High/Low)

1 LED on trap version shows when target is released.

ACTUAL DIMENSIONS -- 6.25" X 3.5" X 1.75"

Now you are ready to check out THE VENTRILOQUIST. Use the sequence below:

RECEIVER

- T/S 1. Remove the receiver from case.
- T/S 2. Locate the battery compartment on the bottom of the receiver and remove the cover by pressing the latch toward the center and lifting up.
- T/S 3. Install two (2) nine volt batteries. Pay close attention to polarity (+/-).
- T/S 4. Replace cover.
- T/S 5. Extend antenna to its full 18 inch length.

TRANSMITTER

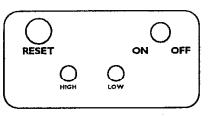
- T/S 1. Remove Transmitter from case.
- T/S 2. Locate the battery compartment on the bottom of the transmitter and remove the cover by pressing the latch toward the center and lifting up.
- T/S 3. Install one (1) nine volt battery. Pay close attention to polarity (+/-).
- T/S 4. Replace cover.

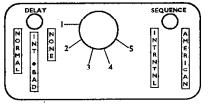
You are now ready to check THE VENTRILOQUIST'S switches.

TURN TRANSMITTER AND RECEIVER ON. (Low battery LED should flash momentarily when transmitter is turned on -- UP is on.)

TRAP

T 1. Push the PRESS TO RELEASE (PTR) button on the transmitter and the LED on the Receiver should light.





THE VENTRILOQUIST brings you an added dimension to your enjoyment of skeet and trap. You are now free to shoot when YOU want rather than when you can find a puller. You can practice at your own pace and practice that all important "mental side" of shooting which is so difficult when surrounded by the "socializing" which usually goes on at the range.

We know that you are anxious to "see IF it works". However, before trying THE VENTRILOQUIST you should "understand HOW it works.

THE LAST PAGE OF THIS MANUAL GIVES SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT WIRE-LINKED VERSION.

THE VENTRILOQUIST is available in a TRAP or SKEET version. Both versions consists of a transmitter, a receiver, and a microphone.

The TRANSMITTER attaches to the shooter's belt. The transmitter's microprocessor checks all sounds being sent through the microphone. When it recognizes the call for a target, a coded message is sent via radio waves to the receiver.

The RECEIVER is connected to the normal outlet for the release cord by a cable. (See separate Wiring Instructions on connecting THE VENTRILOQUIST.) The receiver's microprocessor checks all signals received. Upon receipt of a correctly coded message, the program in the microprocessor checks all switch settings and releases the appropriate target.

The standard lapel mic plugs into the body of the transmitter and may be clipped to your vest or shirt. (The throat microphone shown in the video tape is available only as an extra cost option.)

The TRANSMITTER and RECEIVER have controls which allow you to setup THE VENTRILOQUIST in the way which is most convenient for you. (T = TRAP, S = SKEET.) These controls are summarized below and explained in detail later in this manual.

The TRANSMITTER CONTROLS are labeled as shown.

- T/S 1. PWR(Power)
 Turns transmitter on/off.
- S 2. H(igh), L(ow), D(oubles), S(equence)
 Selects target to be released.
 (SKEET VERSION ONLY.)
- T/S 3. PTR (Push To Release)

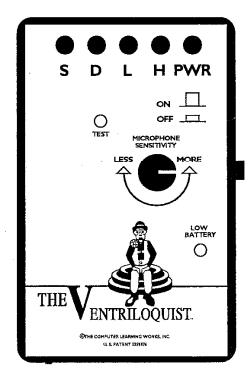
 Manual target release.
- T/S 4. MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY

 Sets minimum level of sound required to activate "voice" recognition program.
- T/S 5. TEST

 Flashes when "voice" is recognized and signal transmitted.
- T/S 6. LOW BATTERY

 Is lit when the battery is too low for effective operation.

ACTUAL DIMENSIONS -- 5.5" X 3.5" X 1.25"



WARNING!!!

The user of THE VENTRILOQUIST may inadvertently cause a target to be released or the device may fail or malfunction. Therefore:

ALWAYS

DISCONNECT THE RECEIVER FROM THE RELEASE CORD/OUTLET

TURN OFF THE TARGET THROWING MACHINE(S), AND

RELEASE THE ARM(S)

BEFORE:

LOADING A MACHINE.
ALLOWING ANYONE ELSE TO LOAD A MACHINE.
PLACING YOURSELF OR ALLOWING ANYONE ELSE TO PLACE THEMSELVES
IN THE FLIGHT PATH OF A TARGET.

NOTICE

The following statement is required for all FCC certified equipment.

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with Part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.

Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.

Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.

Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Users of The Ventriloquist are authorized under Part 15 of the FCC rules to use this device without a license. However, making any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer may void the user's authority to operate this device.

Copyright, 1992
The Computer Learning Works, Inc.
P.O. Box 866
Starkville, MS 39760
(601) 323-3542
1-800-445-3038

SKEET

S 1. Set the receiver switches:

NUMBER OF SHOOTERS to 1. (Use "DASH" indicator.)

SEQUENCE to AMERICAN.

DELAY to NORMAL.

- S 2. Press RESET on the RECEIVER.
- S 3. Press "H" button to select HIGH, push PTR button. The high house LED lights.
- S 4. Press "L" button to select LOW, push PTR button. The low house LED should light.
- S 5. Press "D" button to select DOUBLES, push the PTR button. Both LEDs should light.
- S 6. Push the RESET button on the Receiver and press "S" button to select SEQUENCE, Now push the PTR button twenty-one (21) times. The LEDs should light in the sequence of a round of American Skeet. By setting the Sequence switch to INTRNTNL, pressing the RESET button and pressing the PTR button eighteen (18) times, you can cycle through an International Skeet sequence.

NOTE:

The American target sequence is:

St. #1 H, L, D. St. #2 H, L, D. St. #3 H, L. St. #4 H, L. St. #5 H, L. St. #6 H, L, D. St. #7 H, L, D. St. #8 H, L, L.

The International target sequence is:

St. # 1 H, D. St. # 2 H, D. St. # 3 H, L, D. St. # 4 H, L, D. St. # 5 H, L, D. St. # 6 L, D. St. # 7 D. St. # 8 H, L.

Now adjust the SENSITIVITY of the mic.

T/S 1. Clip the lapel microphone to your clothing approximately 6-12 inches below your mouth.

T/S 2. Plug mic into jack on the side of transmitter.

TRANSMITTER

- S 3. Select a target by pushing a target selection button on the skeet transmitter.
- T/S 4. Adjust the SENSITIVITY by turning the knob counter-clockwise to the 3:00 o'clock position. (Indicator pointing at the base of the MORE arrow.)
- T/S 5. Call for the target with your normal call. -- The voice LED on the transmitter and the target LED on the receiver should light.

Using your normal call, position the mic at various distances from your mouth. After a few tries you should have no problem getting a release. If you have a loud call, the mic will be further from your mouth than for a soft call. A loud call when the mic is close to your mouth overpowers the microphone and the noise filter program rejects the call.

Very small adjustments with the SENSITIVITY knob may be necessary to find the setting which is best for you. A small adjustment toward the LESS sensitive position may be necessary if you wish to talk while shooting.

T/S 6. Once you have set the sensitivity level, place a reference mark on the case.

There are two voice circuits available in THE VENTRILOQUIST. The primary voice program is engaged when the unit is powered up in the normal manner. The alternate, more selective, voice program, is engaged by turning the transmitter off then holding down the PTR button and turning the unit on. REMEMBER—the primary program is engaged anytime the transmitter is turned on in the normal manner.

The primary program accepts a broader range of voices and will work fine under most conditions. The alternate program is more restrictive and may be necessary when shooting at a very active club.

HINTS FOR ADJUSTING MICROPHONE

We have found the following very useful in explaining how the voice circuit and the microphone adjustment works.

- The LAPEL microphone is position sensitive.
- This means that the microphone is much like your ear. If you are at a gathering where music is being played and you can't hear, you move closer. If the music is too loud you move further away. If you get too far away, you can't understand the words; and if you get too close the words are distorted so much that you can't understand.
- The microphone for the VENTRILOQUIST is much the same. If the microphone is too close to your mouth, the
 sound is distorted and the microprocessor will not accept it as voice. If the microphone is too far away from your
 mouth, the sound is not loud enough to trip the voice circuit.
- The minimum amount of sound that it takes to "trip" the voice circuit is preset inside the TRANSMITTER. This voice circuit must be tripped before the microprocessor will analyze the sound to see if it is voice.
- The MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY control is used to raise this minimum trip point.
 - 1. To keep normal conversation from tripping the voice circuit.
- 2. To "train" your voice to call in a clear distinct manner each and every time.

 Many people tend to call softer as they progress through a round. This makes it hard for the referee to hear and bad pulls are the result. By setting the MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY control tighter (less sensitive), you can "train" your voice to give clearer calls. It will help when it counts.
- The natural tendency when a target is not released is to shout. Shouting is counter-productive because it distorts the voice and the microprocessor will not accept it.
- Most users find they can release targets with the MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY control set at approximately the 3 o'clock position with the microphone attached on the left breast pocket (right handed shooter).
- Do not set the MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY control in the most sensitive position because it forces a delay of about 1 second for the PUSH TO RELEASE BUTTON. You must wait about 1 second between pushes of the button.

WHAT ALL THIS MEANS: If you do not have a clear distinct call, you will have to experiment with the microphone location until you find a location that will allow you to release a target with the MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY set to about the 3:00 o'clock position (Indicator pointing at the base of the MORE arrow.)

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

The easiest way to understand THE VENTRILOQUIST is to read the responses to the questions we answered in the process of developing THE VENTRILOQUIST.

- T/S Q.1. How far will THE VENTRILOQUIST transmit its signal?
 - A.1. All units are tested at 100 yards before shipping. Local conditions may influence the range. However, you should get consistent releases from 50 yards under all conditions. For this reason, you should always disconnect the unit before working around a target machine.
- T/S Q.2. Will I have trouble with interference?
 - A.2. The microcomputers in the transmitter and receiver have been programmed to ignore any interference.
- T/S Q.3. How long will the batteries last?
 - A.3. Under normal conditions, they will last about 5,000 targets.
- T/S Q.4. What do I do if THE VENTRILOQUIST fails to work as I think it should?
 - A.4. Call 800-445-3038 for help.
- T/S Q.5. What is the warranty?
 - A.5. THE VENTRILOQUIST is warranted to be free from manufacturing defects for a period of one year.
- T/S Q.6. Can I use another microphone?
 - A.6. THE VENTRILOQUIST is set up to use the microphone provided. Using another microphone may create problems and may void the warranty.

- T/S Q.7. Is THE VENTRILOQUIST weatherproof?
 - A.7. We have taken reasonable precautions to make THE VENTRILOQUIST resistant to inclement weather. However, you should not allow the transmitter or the receiver to get wet. You can place the receiver in a plastic bag with no reduction in effectiveness.
- T/S Q.8. Can THE VENTRILOQUIST be used in cold weather?
 - A.8. These units have been used extensively during the winter in cold states. No problems have been reported.
- T/S Q.9. Can THE VENTRILOQUIST be placed in the trap or skeet house?
 - A.9. We do not recommend this practice for safety reasons.
- T/S Q.10. Another shooter at my club has THE VENTRILOQUIST. Can we shoot on adjoining fields without interference?
 - A.10. Yes. However, one of you may have to change the field code setting on your transmitter and receiver. If this is necessary, please call 1-800-445-3038 for instructions on how to make this adjustment.
- T/S Q.11. Another shooter at my club has THE VENTRILOQUIST. Can we shoot on the same field using one receiver?
 - A.11. Yes. Both machines are capable of sending a common code. If you experience problems, call 1-800-445-3038. (Skeet Only) Set the NUMBER OF SHOOTERS switch on the receiver to the total number of shooters in your squad.
- T/S Q.12. How do I wire in THE VENTRILOQUIST?
 - A.12. See separate Wiring Instructions.
- T/S Q.13. Can I damage THE VENTRILOQUIST by connecting it incorrectly?
 - A.13. Damage is possible. However, if you exercise reasonable care in making the connections you are not likely to damage THE VENTRILOQUIST. If you have any questions about making connections call 800-445-3038.
- T/S Q.14. Will THE VENTRILOQUIST recognize only "PULL"?
 - A.14. THE VENTRILOQUIST will release a target each time it recognizes "voice" at the adjusted volume level. Be sure to use your normal call when making adjustments.
- T/S Q.15. Can I talk when using THE VENTRILOQUIST?
 - A.15. Yes, provided that you do not speak as loudly as you call for the target. THE VENTRILOQUIST is programmed to recognize "voice". The SENSITIVITY control is provided to set the level of "voice" recognized. A setting on the SENSITIVITY control which will require a strong "PULL" command will allow you to talk in normal tones.
- T Q.16. What if there are two or more of us who want to shoot trap?
 - A.16. You may use THE VENTRILOQUIST with a squad of shooters by voice releasing your own targets, and using the PTR button on the transmitter to manually release the targets for the remaining shooter(s). You may also use a transmitter for each shooter with a single receiver and voice release all targets.

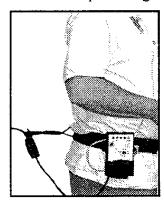
- S Q.17. What if there are two or more of us who want to shoot skeet?
 - A.17. You may use THE VENTRILOQUIST with up to (5) shooters by setting the NUMBER OF SHOOTERS switch on the receiver to the desired number, releasing your own targets by VOICE, and using the PTR button on the transmitter to manually release the targets for the remaining shooter(s). You may also use more than one transmitter with a receiver and voice release all targets.
- S Q.18. What do I do when I need to shoot my option?
 - A.18. You shoot your option by selecting the proper target on the transmitter (HIGH or LOW), shooting the target, and then selecting SEQUENCE.
- S Q.19. What do I do when I get a broken target?
 - A.19. As with the option, you select the proper target(s) on the transmitter, (HIGH, LOW, DOUBLES) shoot the target(s), and then select SEQUENCE.
- S Q.20. Can I program my own sequence?
 - A.20. No. THE VENTRILOQUIST is programmed to throw an American or International Skeet sequence. You may manually select any sequence of targets by using the target selection switches.
- S Q.21. Must I start THE VENTRILOQUIST at Station 1, High?
 - A.21. Yes. You cannot start a round anywhere except Station 1, unless you disconnect the release cord and step through the sequence to the point where you want to start.
- S Q.22. What if I accidentally release a target when the transmitter is set to SEQUENCE?
 - A.22. Use the procedure prescribed for the option. Select the target which was accidentally released, shoot that target, and then select SEQUENCE.
- T/S Q.23. How quickly can I call for a second target?
 - A.23. THE VENTRILOQUIST will not accept a voice signal for 2 seconds following the release of a target. This feature is designed to accommodate the target machine cycle time of approximately 2 seconds.
- T/S Q.24. I've heard that voice release systems are slow. Is this true of THE VENTRILOQUIST?
 - A.24 THE VENTRILOQUIST is capable of releasing target faster than a human puller. Because of this, we have provided a switchable delay option. This option allows you to select from three delay option: NO DELAY, NORMAL DELAY, and BAD PULLER DELAY.
- T/S Q.25. How do I activate the BAD PULLER DELAY?
 - S A.25. Use "DOT" on the Number of Shooters Switch to select the number of shooters and then set the DELAY switch to INT BAD.
 - T Set the DELAY switch to INT BAD.

WIRE-LINKED VERSION

The WIRE-LINKED version of THE VENTRILOQUIST links to the target machine via a 100 ft. cord rather than through a radio transmitted signal. The WIRE-LINKED version shown below features a custom belt and holster to secure the control unit. A stress relief strap connects the control cord to the belt to protect the unit from damage. This strap has a quick release clip which allows the shooter to disconnect the cord from THE VENTRILOQUIST without removing the belt and holster. Other features are explained below.

The CONTROLS are labeled as shown.

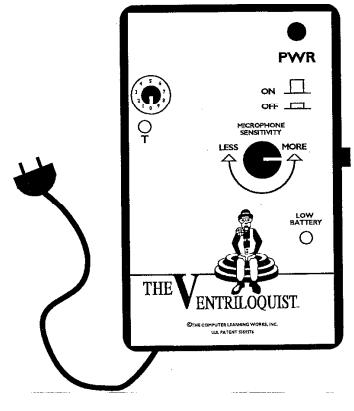
- T/S 1. PWR(Power) Turns unit on/off.
- S 2. H(igh), L(ow), D(oubles), S(equence) Selects target to be released. (SKEET ONLY.)
- T/S 3. PTR (Push To Release) Manual target release.
- T/S 4. MICROPHONE SENSITIVITY Sets minimum level of sound required to activate "voice" recognition program.
- T/S 5. T or H L Flashes when "voice" is recognized and relays are closed.
- T/S 6. LOW BATTERY Is lit when the battery is too low for effective operation.
- T/S 7. OPTION CODE SWITCH (not labeled) provides the options shown below. When used for trap shooting this switch would be set at "0", "1", or "2".

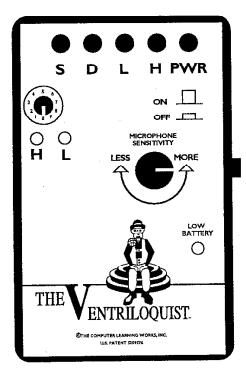


OPTION CODE SWITCH

- 0 = > American Sequence, 1 Shooter, Normal Delay
- 1 = > American Sequence, 1 Shooter, No Delay
- 2 = > American Sequence, 1 Shooter, Bad Puller Delay
- 3 = > American Sequence, 2 Shooters, Normal Delay
- 4 = > American Sequence, 3 Shooters, Normal Delay
- 5 = > American Sequence, 4 Shooters, Normal Delay
- 6 = > American Sequence, 5 Shooters, Normal Delay
- 7 = > International Sequence, 1 Shooter, International Delay
- 8 = > International Sequence, 2 Shooters, International Delay
- 9 = > International Sequence, 3 Shooters, International Delay

ACTUAL DIMENSIONS 5.5" X 3.5" X 1.25"





WIRING INSTRUCTIONS

First, a definition. The word **common** is used throughout this text to describe the voltage level (115VAC or ground) that is being switched. The use of this word is not meant to infer any particular voltage level, ground or neutral.

The cable on the SKEET version of the VENTRILOQUIST has three wires.

The black wire is connected to the high house relay in the VENTRILOQUIST.

The white wire is connected to the low house relay in the VENTRILOQUIST.

The green wire is connected to the common in the VENTRILOQUIST.

When wiring a plug to the VENTRILOQUIST, the black wire should be connected to the high house terminal, the white wire to the low house terminal, and the green wire to the common terminal.

THE CABLE ON THE TRAP VERSION OF THE VENTRILOQUIST HAS TWO WIRES. ONE IS BLACK THE OTHER IS GREEN. THE POLARITY OF THESE WIRES IS NOT IMPORTANT. THEY MAY BE CONNECTED IN EITHER ORDER TO THE TERMINALS OF THE PLUG.

There are two common ways that the release circuits on skeet fields are arranged.

In one scheme, 115VAC is switched (the common) through the release switch, to one terminal of the arm-release solenoid of the target machine and the other terminal of the solenoid is connected to ground(neutral).

The other scheme switches ground (neutral) to one terminal of the release solenoid and has the other terminal of the solenoid connected to 115VAC.

It does not matter to the VENTRILOQUIST which scheme is used. Whatever (115VAC or ground) is being switched is used as the **common**.

The terminals on your release outlet must be identified so that the correct connections can be made to the VENTRILOQUIST.

METHOD #1 -- The following is a step by step method of identifying the terminals of your release outlet so THE VENTRILOQUIST may be corrected correctly. (If you do not have some experience with electricity and access to an AC voltmeter we suggest that you avail yourself of the services of a competent electrician.)

- 1. Power up the field.
- 2. Set voltmeter for correct range to read 115VAC.
- 3. Read between the terminals of the skeet release outlet in a systematic manner until you find a pair that has no reading (0 volts). One of these is the high and the other is the low. The third terminal is the **common**. Mark the **common** in some manner.
- 4. Now, to determine which is the high and which is the low. Use a jumper to connect between the **common** found in step #3 and one of the terminals we determined to be the high and the low. A target will be thrown when this connection is made. Whichever target is thrown is the one assigned to that terminal. e.g. If the high house target is thrown, the terminal you connected to the common is for the high house machine and the other is for the low house machine. Jump between the other wire and **common** to throw the other target.
- 5. Connect the wires in the VENTRILOQUIST cord to a plug that matches your release outlet. Black to high/White to low/Green to common.

The plug fits in the outlet in reverse from the way it looks when your front view the outlet.

METHOD #2 -- This method requires your release cord and an ohmmeter or continuity tester.

1. Disconnect the release cord from the outlet, set the meter to read ohms.

- 2. Read between pairs of wires until you find a pair that show continuity. (If you can't find two with continuity go to method #3.) One of these is the high and the other is the low. The third is the **common**, mark it in some way.
- 3. Connect your meter between the common and one of the two wires found above.
- 4. Push the high button on the release. If the meter shows continuity then this is the high house wire, if the meter does not show continuity connect between the other wire and **common** and press the high button. The meter should show continuity. The wire that shows continuity with the button pressed is assigned to high house.
- 5. Connect the meter between the other wire and press the low house button, you should show continuity. This is the low house wire.
- 6. Press the doubles button you should have continuity. Connect the meter between the **common** and high wire and press the high button, you should show continuity.
- 7. Connect the wires in the VENTRILOQUIST cord to a plug that matches your release outlet. Black to high/White to low/Green to common.

The plug fits in the outlet in reverse from the way it looks when your front view the outlet.

METHOD #3 -- This method requires your release cord and an ohmmeter or continuity tester.

- 1. Connect meter between any pair of wires. Press the high button. Do you have continuity? NO, skip to step #7. Yes, go to step #2.
- 2. One of these is the common the other is the high. Mark both of these wires.
- 3. Leave one of the wires hooked to the meter, move the other meter lead to the third wire.
- 4. Press the low button. Is there continuity? No, skip to step #6 Yes, go to step #5.
- 5. The wire you left hooked up in step #3 is the **common**. The third the wire is the low wire and the wire you disconnected in step #3 is the high wire.
- 6. The wire you disconnected in step #3 is the common, the third wire is the low wire and the wire you left connected is the high.
- 7. Press the low button. Is there continuity? No, go to step #13. Yes, go to step #8.
- 8. One of the is the low the other is the common. Mark both of these in some way.
- 9. Leave one of these wires hooked to the meter, move the other meter lead to the third wire.
- 10. Press the high button. Is there continuity? No, go to step #12. Yes, go to step #11.
- 11. The wire you left connected in step #9 is the common, the third wire is the high and the one you disconnected in step #9 is the low.
- 12. The wire you disconnected in step #9 is the low and the third wire is the high.
- 13. The wires you have connected to the meter are the wires for the low and the high. Mark these wires in some way.
- 14. Leave one wire connected. Move the other meter lead to the third wire.
- 15. Press the high button. Is there continuity? No, skip to step #16. Yes, the third wire is the common, the other wire connected to the meter is the high and the wire you disconnected in step #14 is the low.
- 16. Press the low button. Is there continuity? NO, you or I one have screwed up. You should have continuity. The third wire is the common, The other wire connected to the meter is the low and the wire disconnected in step #14 is the high.
- 17. Connect the wires in the VENTRILOQUIST cord to a plug that matches your release outlet. Black to high/White to low/Green to common.

The plug fits in the outlet in reverse from the way it looks when your front view the outlet.

