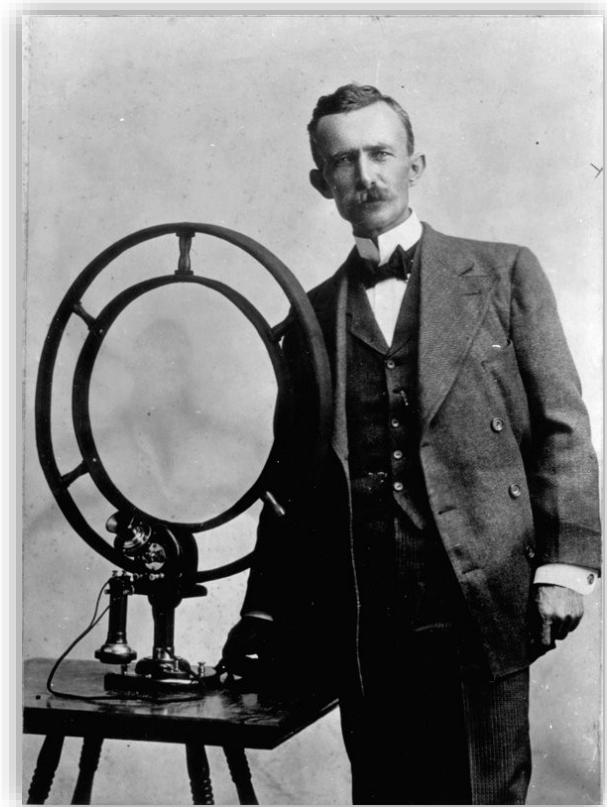


Kentucky Innovations



Nathan Stubblefield,
Courtesy of the University of Kentucky

Nathan Stubblefield

Nathan Stubblefield proved to be an innovator in communication technology when he delivered a wireless message to several of his neighbors in **Murray** in 1902.

Because of the early deaths of his parents, Stubblefield received little formal education. He became a farmer and later operated his own school. While engaged in these pursuits, Stubblefield began dabbling in inventions.

In 1886, Stubblefield helped create an acoustic telephone. His limited resources hindered his telephone business, so he turned to the emerging field of wireless communication. Stubblefield proved to be quite successful in demonstrating the advantages of wireless telephony, but he could not market his invention. He died of starvation in 1928, but his experiments in wireless telephony have led some to dub him the “inventor of radio.”

