



He's on the road to recovery. Keep Mike in your thoughts and

# OSCILLATOR

DELAWARE VALLEY HISTORIC RADIO

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC  
1999

Vol. 7. No. 11, November

## November Meeting

Our next meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Telford Community Center.

The business portion of the meeting will include nominations for all five board-of-director positions for the last year of the millennium. The election will be held at the December meeting. The board subsequently chooses the club's officers, so choose wisely.

The technical program will be an open discussion on Recapping Vintage Radios moderated by Ted Sowirka. Club members are expected to contribute to the discussion, so come prepared to share your hint and kinks and war stories.

## Date Set for Swap Meet

This year's DVHRC Super Winter Meet will be held March 4, 2000 at the Grimes Center in Havertown. Mark your calendars. The details will be forthcoming and should be essentially the same as last year. The event will start with the usual Friday-night setup session. Please volunteer. Event chairman Bill Overbeck is ready to accept table reservations. Give him a call, or see him at the meeting.

## October Meeting Notes

Reported by: Dave Snellman

Our October meeting was held at the usual place and time. We have no firm date for the Havertown meet yet.

Alice Tannenbaum shocked everyone as she informed the group that Mike Koste was very sick and in hospital in intensive care. Mike served the club in many capacities. He's been president, secretary and "Oscillator" editor – just to name a few. A "get-well" card was sent to him, signed by everyone attending the meeting. All wish Mike well and pray for his speedy recovery. The last report I had toward the end of October was he was out of isolation and off the respirator.

## COMING EVENTS

<b>Nov. 9</b>	<b>DVHRC Meeting, Telford</b>
<b>Nov. 12</b>	<b>NJARC Meeting, Freehold, NJ</b>
Nov. 26	Radio Auction Fairlawn, NJ
<b>Dec. 4</b>	<b>NJARC Swap, Heightstown, NJ</b>
<b>Dec. 10</b>	<b>NJARC Meeting, Freehold, NJ</b>
<b>Dec. 14</b>	<b>DVHRC Christmas Party</b>
<b>Mar. 4</b>	<b>Super Winter Meet IV</b>

prayers.

*As of 11/3 Mike is recuperating at home, 57 Tennis Ave., Ambler, Pa. He's doing much better, but still has a way to go to full recovery. I'm sure he'd appreciate hearing from his friends. - Ed.*

October's technical presentation was made by Charlie Class. Charlie's topic was soldering. In this day of "throw-away" technology repairmen don't do much of that anymore; however, in the antique radio world this knowledge is essential. Since 1965 Charlie has been "certified" at soldering – certified MIL-STD-2000 spec. It all starts with a good mechanical connection, a properly maintained iron (tinned) and some 60/40-rosin core solder. Learning how to solder is relatively easy; learning how to solder "good" takes a lot of practice. The presentation drew some good comments and questions. Thanks for a great presentation Charlie.

We have a new member joining our ranks. Welcome to Steve Goscinsky from Ringoes, New Jersey.

In this month's auction we had some stereo gear from KLH, Fisher, Nakamichi and Harmon-Kardon. Test gear from Simpson, Hickok and B & K. Lots of radios, SAMS Photofacts, paper and tools rounded out the auction. Please note that due to our treasurer not being present we didn't

## **THE OSCILLATOR**

Newsletter of the  
Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club  
P.O. Box 847  
Havertown, Pa. 19083

The *Oscillator* is published monthly by members of the non-profit DVHRC. Its purpose is to provide a forum to educate, inform, entertain, and communicate with collectors and preservers of vintage radio technology.

We welcome and solicit information relating to radio history or collecting. Submissions should be carefully researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on-disc (3-1/2" DOS/Win95) is particularly welcome.

Unless copyrighted by the author, material in this publication is available for attributed reproduction for nonprofit purposes. (For convenience, the editor can supply copy on-disc.)

Personal views, opinions and technical advice offered in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, nor is the organization responsible for any buying or selling transaction incurred.

To join: DVHRC dues are \$15 per year. The membership year runs January-through-December. Please mail to the club PO box above.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM

### **DVHRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dave Abramson Jim Amici Pete Grave  
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**COPY DEADLINE:** The 20th of each month.

collect auction commissions from everyone. If you haven't paid, please to so at our November meeting. If you already paid, thanks.

Well, speaking of November. It is nomination time for the club's Board of Directors. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the November meeting.

It's also time to start to think of dues for 2000. Dues can be paid at any regular monthly meeting or send your check to DVHRC, P.O. Box 847, Havertown, PA 19083.

Well that's about all for this month. See you all at the November meeting.

## **WOR Humorist Succumbs**

Jean Shepard, K2ORS, has died at the age of 78. He was on WOR-AM for 21 years, during which time he captivated a generation with his stories. People who missed the pleasure of his shows can find the same pleasant, avuncular narrator in his two books: "In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash" and "Wanda Hickey's Night of Golden Memories." He is survived by Schwartz, Flick, Bruner and all of the other wonderful characters he created.

Today, most people are aware of Jean Shepherd from the very successful movie, adapted from his stories, "A Christmas Story"

*I first heard Shepard in 1966 while riding in my Drexel roommate's Ford Falcon on a Friday night pizza expedition to a favorite spot in North Philadelphia. I've been a fan ever since. - Ed.*

## **Christmas is Coming!**

The annual DVHRC Christmas party will be held at the December meeting on 12/14. Once again a buffet dinner will be provided. Significant others are invited to attend.

In keeping with the holiday spirit, there will be a gift exchange. If you care to participate, bring a wrapped radio-related gift with a fair flea-market value of approximately \$10.

## **October Trivia**

Alton DuBois writes, "The radio apparatus is the "Wouffhong." The Royal Order of the Wouffhong award is given at the A.R.R.L. conventions to the Royal Brass Pounders. The "Rettysnitch" (a related device) was a weapon to encourage decent operating habits. By the way, this information comes from a copy of the 1926 A.R.R.L. handbook originally priced at \$1.00."

No one identified the young man in uniform. It's none other than Harry Houck, Major Armstrong's right hand man. They met during WWI.

# A 12-Volt Homebrew Regen

By Al Klase

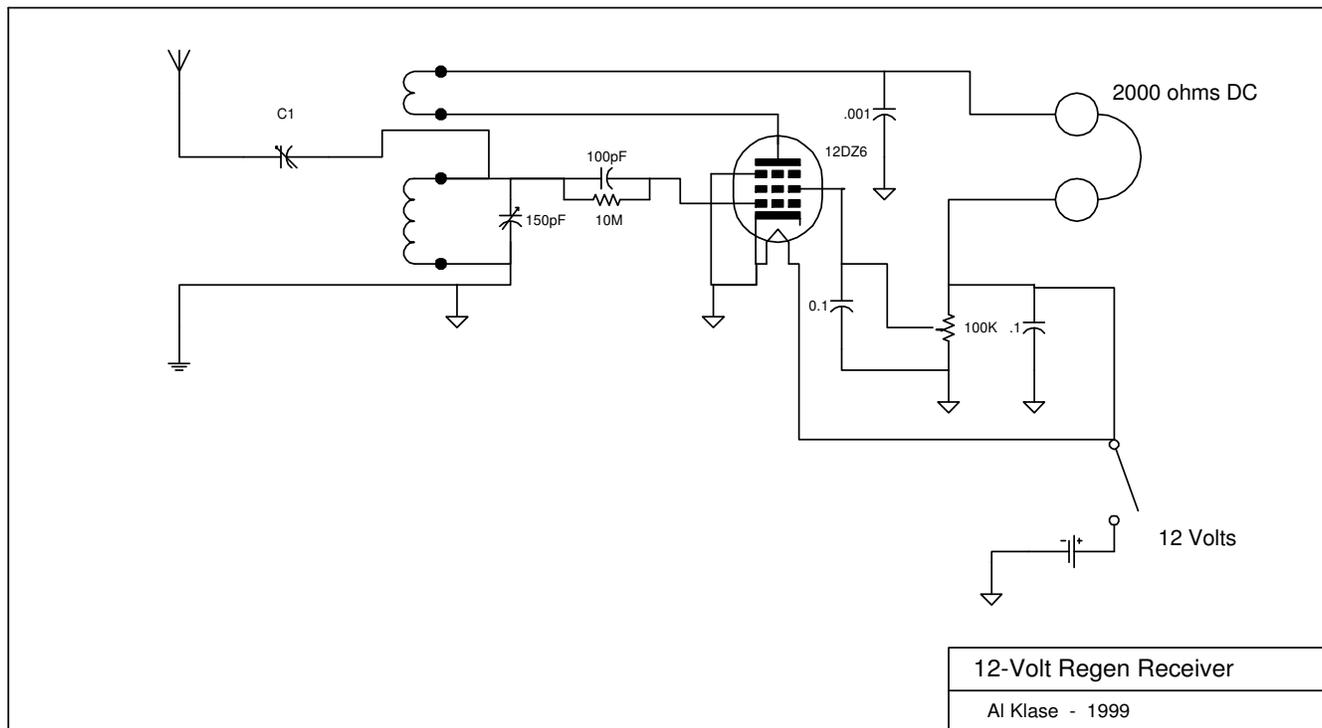
One of the perennial favorites among radio construction projects is the one-tube battery-powered regenerative receiver. If it's equipped with a short-wave coil, signals come rolling in from thousands of miles away. Such a radio requires only a handful of parts and a couple hours to build, but here, in the late twentieth century, appropriate high-voltage batteries are getting harder and harder to find.

A solution to this problem comes to us from the 1950's. A line of vacuum tubes was developed for use in auto radios that function happily with just 10 to 12 volts on their plates. These tubes are languishing in tube stashes everywhere, and are available from the usual purveyors for a dollar or two. Get a tube or two, round up a 12-volt gel-cell battery, a 12-Volt wallwart or cast-off computer power supply, and you're in business. Current consumption for a single tube will be about 200mA, mostly for the heater.

The 12-volt tubes have a couple of unusual characteristics. The most important of which is that they operate best with grid-leak bias. The cathode should be grounded, and the grid resistor should be a very high value, e.g. 10 megohms. Also, the screen grid is generally connected directly to B+. Their major shortcoming is that they cannot supply significant amounts of output power, but this is not significant in a set using headphones.

Some appropriate tubes for a 1-tube regen include: 12AC6, 12AF6, 12BL6, 12CX6, 12DZ6, 12EA6, and 12EK6. These are all pentodes with the same "7BK" pinout as the familiar 12BA6. For triodes, try 12AE6, 12AJ6, 12FK6, or 12FM8. These are similar to the 12AT6.

Here's the circuit I've been using. It's pretty much the standard hookup found in all the old books and magazines, so I'm not going to dwell on construction details. The grid-leak resistor has been raised to 10-meg. Regeneration is controlled by varying the screen-grid voltage, but the other schemes should work just as well.



There are a couple of "old Indian tricks" associated with these circuits: If it won't oscillate, reverse the connections to the tickler coil. If the set goes quickly from no regeneration to a loud squeal, remove some turns from the tickler. The antenna coupling capacitor, C1, is very important for proper operation. It should be variable. About 10pF maximum capacity is about right for short-wave operation. 50pF, or so, is needed for the broadcast band. This control allows you to loosen the antenna coupling if (when) the set won't oscillate, and also serves as a fine tuning control.

# TUBE SALES - ROCHESTER AUCTION

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## Abbreviations:

BB: Brass-base  
 BBT: Brass-base, tipped  
 FOK: Filament/heater OK  
 TOK: Tests OK  
 WU: Workingness unspecified  
 W: Westinghouse

## AMPEREX

7235A vidicons (2), used ..... 5  
 C-100A (for Collins), WU ..... 140  
 TCE4-3 HV rect. (like Machlett ML-100), clean, "good" ..... 60

## ARCTURUS (blue)

26, blue, FOK..... 10  
 50 (2), 57, 58 (3), TOK..... 45  
 145, WU..... 30  
 Various (4) plus Brightson (1), WU..... 90

## DE FOREST

DV2, WU..... 25  
 DV3, FOK..... 40  
 601 Vis-Ion, clean, WU ..... 160  
 Spherical audion, single-wing, w/ label, open..... 500

## EIMAC

50T, "good" ..... 20  
 152T, FOK..... 35  
 RX-21 (*mercury item*), FOK..... 5

## FOREIGN

AEG K6, FOK ..... 100  
 M-O Catkins (5 mixed) ..... 50  
 M-O S625, "first screen-grid tube," open ..... 60  
 Marconi DET25/VT104, WU ..... 30  
 Marconi PX4, crisp box (NIB?)..... 140  
 Marconi X81M (2), NIB..... 15  
 Mazda Micro (Fr.) '20s triode, 4-pin cer. base, WU ..... 20  
 Métal, WU ..... 65  
 Mullard 7475 (3); 2 in boxes ..... 10  
 Northern Electric R215A, NIB ..... 20  
 Petersen (Danish) med. power triodes (4), in crisp boxes, ..... 55  
 Philips/Mullard EC81s & EC82s (8), NIB..... 40  
 Philips/Mullard ECC88 & E88CC (4 NIB, 9 "good") ..... 50  
 Philips/Valvo W4243 UY-21, Wehrmacht, w/ box..... 20  
 Radio Technique triodes (2), NIB..... 110  
 Rogers REL7/4C27, new in funky mil. box, FOK ..... 13  
 STC 4282B (2), new in packing..... 20  
 Telefunken RS-239G triode, nice, WU..... 45

## GENERAL ELECTRIC

6AX4B (50), NIB ..... 20  
 809 (2), new + used/fair..... 5  
 8002, NIB ..... 55

## RCA

"Original Nine" steel-stamped metals on display base,  
 w/ color copy of intro. booklet..... 190  
 Submins, ca. 18..... 11  
 6L6G, "matched pair", NIB ..... 35  
 217C, used, WU ..... 40  
 807, porc. base, WU ..... 7  
 808s (2), WU ..... 10  
 833, used, FOK..... 13  
 845, BB, FOK..... 20  
 861/VT-19, al. base, "working," newish..... 55  
 874, NIB ..... 30  
 920, WU ..... 5  
 UV-200, BBT, WU..... 30  
 UV-201 (3) BB, FOK ..... 35  
 UV-201, "rainbow" getter, BBT, WU ..... 30  
 UV-201, BBT ..... 30  
 UV-211, FOK ..... 60  
 UX-199 (6), FOK ..... 30  
 WD-11 w/ socket, FOK ..... 40  
 WD-11, open ..... 11

## SYLVANIA

2A3 single-plate and 805 or 822, WU ..... 15  
 2A3, good ..... 20  
 VT-25/10Y, TOK ..... 50

## WESTERN ELECTRIC

102A, FOK ..... 24  
 102F (2), NIB ..... 40  
 205D, FOK ..... 145  
 211x, tipped, nicked, FOK..... 100  
 215As (2), FOK..... 19  
 216A, FOK (2 sales)..... 35, 55  
 216As (2), open ..... 35  
 216As (3), FOK..... 130  
 231D (4), NIB, & 271A, unboxed; FOK..... 110  
 272As (2), NIB (2 sales)..... 65, 120  
 274A, mil., NIB ..... 150  
 300B, TOK ..... 160  
 311Bs (2), NIB ..... 10  
 725A, newish ..... 15  
 VT-1 (4), FOK..... 120  
 VT-2, FOK (2 sales) ..... 50, 100  
 Boxlot: 205D (?), 231D, NE 239A, 262B, 297A; FOK ..... 280  
 "Rare tennis-ball," WU..... 140

**GENERAL**

2E25s (2), WU .....2  
 6B4Gs (4), RCA & Syl., NOS?.....60  
 50s (2), RCA and Cun., "S" bulbs, TOK .....120  
 80, "odd" (T9 bulb - modern), WU.....3  
 245s, W & De Forest/Crosley, "S" bulb, WU.....10  
 860, al. base, FOK .....20  
 1629/VT-138, Ken-Rad (8) NIB.....55  
 UX-201A (6), good emis. ....45  
 VT-14 ("VT-1H"), WU.....35  
 VT-25, al. base.....55  
 Amrad S-4000, WU .....30  
 Big-pin porcelain-base (5), WU.....55  
 Cun. C-301A, BBT, FOK .....30  
 Cun. CX-301A (3), FOK.....10  
 Daven AC-15, FOK .....15  
 Duovac Tune-A-Lite, clear/unspattered.....35  
 Federal F-7779, "good" ( loose pieces of grid inside).....30  
 Geissler, single, decorative form, modern.....100  
 Geissler, two on dual mount, decorative form, modern .....100  
 Kellogg 401 (4).....85  
 Magic eyes (4), "prob. OK" .....5  
 McCullough 401, FOK (2 sales).....16, 20  
 Moorhead "A," FOK.....50  
 Myers RAC-3 w/ socket, "new," each w/ box .....75  
 QRS Red Top (4), labels OK, FOK .....140  
 QRS Red-Top, FOK.....35  
 Radio Tube Corp. 200, w/ box.....30  
 RCA 7591s (3) and Toshiba 6G-B8 (2), crisp boxes .....100  
 RCA 860 & W WL-460, w/sockets, FOK.....25  
 Split-anode magnetron, 6" long dev'l., unbased,  
 w/ 1943 letter re same .....120  
 Taylor T-200, FOK .....9

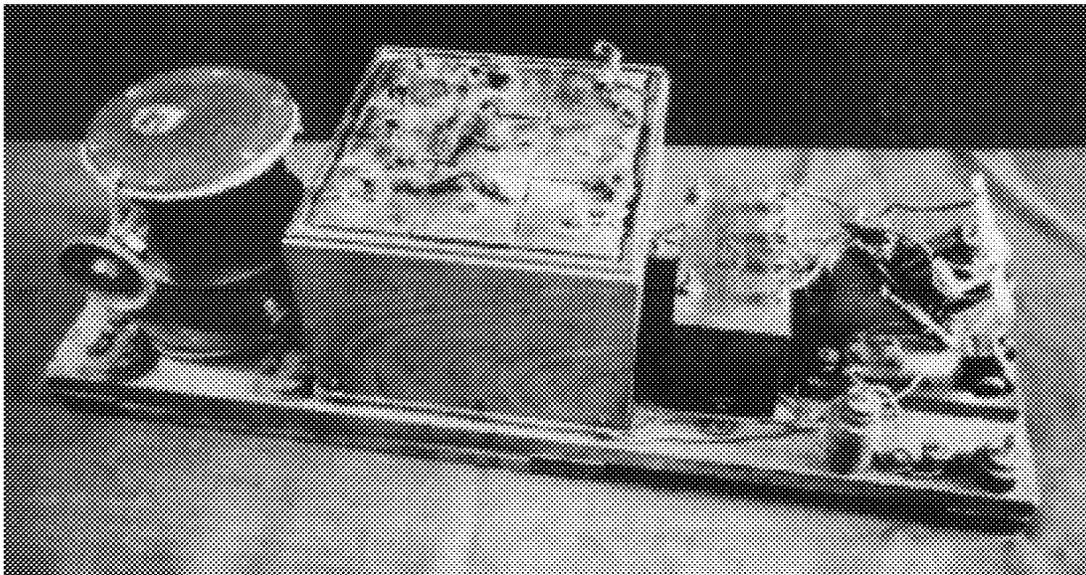
Tungar bulb (*mercury item*), small, WU.....1  
 Vac-O-Bub (?), BBT, spherical, carnival getter, FOK .....45  
 WE 215As (2), (Ray.?) 512As (3), NIB .....40  
 Weagant Valve, T4 bulb, 6" long, open.....70

**LIGHT BULBS**

Sylvania H400U high-pres. sodium, WU .....5  
 Lot of 5, tipped, med.-base, S17 and smaller, WU .....10  
 Mazda 1-kW, G40 bulb, WU.....10

**BOXLOTS**

"AC" types (6-401s, 403, 5-C373, C484), WU .....200  
 C-301A, RCA UV-200, UV-201A (2) BBT, FOK .....65  
 01A (BB); UV-199 (2) (BB); UV-199 (bkt); WU .....90  
 2K28 & 417A klys., unident. magnetron .....60  
 45s, ST-bulbed (9), VT-52 (2); WU .....110  
 Big-pin & sweep: 3 Xerox boxess .....20  
 Big-pin incl. Arct. 51 & 78: ca. 24 .....100  
 Big-pin: 5- & 6-pin, 43 total .....45  
 Big-pin: 27s, 42s, 859, 1/2 cu. ft. ....55  
 Caddy: 352 TV types .....25  
 Eimac RX-21 (*mercury item*), FOK; unident. VT-154, FOK;  
 GE VT-154; RX-120B, FOK; RX-177, FOK; 2K28.....19  
 Image intensifier, photomults., photocells, vidicon .....85  
 K-R 810, RCA 860, Ray. RK-65, 1 other; WU .....55  
 Mainly TV pulls, 1/2 cu. ft.....5  
 Metals, 1/3 cu. ft. ....20  
 Min. "pulls," 1/3 cu. ft. ....10  
 X-ray, small angled; Veeco ion gauge; RCA 3" CRT (906?)260  
 VT-2 in box, 7591, 6146, ca. 18 total.....350  
 W 806, dud; Eimac VT-129/304TL, WU; GE VT-154s  
 (1 loose, 1 boxed), WU.....23



Can anyone identify this device?

