



OSCILLATOR

DELAWARE VALLEY HISTORIC RADIO CLUB

OSCILLATOR FINANCIAL INDICATORS FOR FEBRUARY

Dow-Jones Industrial Average	6880.26
Winter wheat, Chicago Board of Trade.....	12-3/8
No. 2 heating oil, New York delivery.....	93.29
Pork bellies	16-5/8
2A3s, Tempe delivery	12.00

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Vol. 5 No. 2, February 1997

RED-ROCKET . . . OPERATIONAL-IMMEDIATE PRIORITY . . .

MARCONI TO SELL ARCHIVES

Hot off the wire (fiber): the Marconi Company (GEC-Marconi Ltd.) is about to auction off most of its corporate archives and, apparently, display items from its museum at Chelmsford. Christies' auction house in London will handle the sale. It will comprise about 1000 lots from 1897 up to WW II. The auction will include wireless equipment, both experimental and production, featuring two coherer receivers (one from 1900), an arc transmitter built by pioneer engineer H. J. Round, at least one Marconi Triple Tuner, etc.

Offerings will include rare early literature and papers, including the original copy of Guglielmo Marconi's British wireless patent and his personal logbook from the first transatlantic test (Dec. 1901: the famous "S"). There will be several lots incorporating "thousands" of Marconigrams related to the loss of the Titanic, including operator logs from the *Carpathia* and other ships in the area (*it gives me the willies to type this - LAS*) and the sinking of the *Lusitania*.

One can predict with confidence that this sale will make the Ford Museum / Dearborn auction of 1995 look like the junk cleanout that it mostly was. Christie's plans to publish a catalog in March, and to offer a preview of some of this material in the U. S. and Italy. They will hold preview sessions in London on April 19-23, and will conduct the sale on Thursday-Friday, April 24-25. We'll provide further details as the story unfolds. Meanwhile, basic information is available via the Christie's Web site, www.christies.com. We understand that A. R. C. plans substantial coverage of this event also.

Ya saw it here first. The Oscillator's agent network made it possible to break the news about the Dearborn auction; here we go again!



JANUARY MEETING NOTES

Mike Koste

Last month's pregame activity at the DVHRC Annex (the Hillside Tavern) indicated we were in for an excellent show of membership later in the evening. Fifty-two clubbers showing up in the dead of winter has to be some kind of record for a January meeting. Among those in attendance was our newest member, long-time collector Ray Chase from Plainfield, NJ.

DVHRC president Bill Overbeck updated the club on arrangements for the Winter Swapmeet and Auction. Road-trips to MAARC and NJARC to spread the word and recruit vendors have been encouraging. As of this writing, the auction involves at least two estates, along with numerous individual contributions. With nearly 100 tables available and interest running high, you're encouraged to make your reservations in advance. (Contact Dave Abramson at [610] 827-9757.) We'll again feature a "People's Choice" equipment contest and raffle a Philco Junior cathedral; hot food will be available; and the club table will be offering memberships, books, and tubes. [Be advised that the DVHRC Tube Program recently enjoyed an influx of fresh stock, including a wealth of two-digit big-pin types.] Bill also acknowledged your secretary's donation of eight additional Rider's manuals to the club library. We now boast Volumes 1-17.

January's "Show & Tell" gave Alex Voros the opportunity to show off an unusual German radio made by RCA, and Mike Tannenbaum presented a vintage Fada Neutrodyne three-dialer he's been working on. Coincidentally, Mike's Fada was procured at a DVHRC auction a couple of months ago. Preceding the auction, the group participated in a discussion of radio-related paper items. Overbeck displayed a number of interesting collectibles, including early editions of the Radio Amateur's Handbook, early Allied and Lafayette catalogs, 1800s newspapers dealing with electricity

THE OSCILLATOR

Newsletter of the
Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club
Post Office Box 41031,
Philadelphia, PA 19127

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" or 5-1/4" DOS) is particularly welcome.

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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 is \$10 per year. The membership year runs January-through-December. Please mail to the club PO box above.

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Ludwell ("Scoop") Sibley

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FLEA MARKET & AUCTION COMMITTEE

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LIBRARIAN & TUBE PROGRAM

Charlie Class

MEMBERSHIPS

Mike Koste

ARTICLES & MEMBER ADS

may be sent to the editor at 44 E. Main St, Flemington,
NJ 08822, (908) 782-4894.

COPY DEADLINE: The 20th of each month.

NEXT MEETINGS: Jan. 14, Feb. 11.

and telegraphy, and a Victor phonograph-record catalog from the turn of the century. In light of the loss of irreplaceable papers suffered by Ted Sowirka last September, the club shared suggestions and product information on paper protection and storage procedures.

Remember, instead of a February meeting, **we'll be touring Jay Daveler's collection and nostalgia shop in Lansdale.** (If you've familiarized yourself with Jay's radios only through the pages of *Evolution of Radio*, here's the chance to see his truly outstanding cache up-close and personal!) If we don't see you then, we urge you to support and attend the Winter meet & Auction in Havertown the following Saturday.

Directions to Jay's Davro Instrument Corp. are as follows:

From 309 Expressway: Take 309 north to Rte. 63 west, approximately nine lights (on Rte. 63) to Cannon Ave. (Seven-Eleven on corner) - make a right - go to 5th St. (do not cross railroad tracks) - Davro is on the left at the corner of 5th and Cannon behind the Cannoneers Club.

From Allentown - 309 South: Take 309 south to Broad St., Lansdale (Yum-Yum Donuts). Make a right turn onto Broad St. Go three traffic lights to 7th St. (Elm Terrace on corner). Make a right turn. Go to the end of the street - at the traffic light (Cannon Ave.), make a left turn - go over the railroad tracks to the first street on the right (5th St.). Davro is on the corner of 5th and Cannon behind the Cannoneers Club.

PA Turnpike: To Lansdale/Kulpsville exit (31) of the Northeast Extension. At the light make a left - at next light (Forty Foot Road), make another left. Go two lights; make a right onto Rte. 63. At the fourth traffic light, make a left (Cannon Ave.). Go to 5th St. Davro is on the left at the corner of 5th and Cannon behind the Cannoneers Club.

RADIO XVIII

Sunday, Feb. 23

Greater Boston Antique Radio Collectors is presenting this year's indoor flea market at the same place as last year, the Westford Regency Inn in Westford, MA (Exit 32 from I-495). Added this year: an informal dinner the night before. Tours of John Terrey's 600-item collection will be available. Admission is \$5 per head; tables are \$16. Full details are in the Feb. A. R. C., p. 41.

READERS' COMMENTS

GRILLE CLOTH

The article by John Okolowicz was great. I have done most of what he suggested on my own, on a console Philco that I picked up at a old farm-machinery barn. The grille cloth was covered with dust and dirt, including oil. It had been torn loose from the backing and was hanging loose. The area of the speaker was imprinted with a darker shadow of dust.

This set was a 1939 model, and the glue holding the cloth apparently had deteriorated so that the cloth was easily peeled off. I washed it in Fantastik solution and, rather than using tacks to stretch it on a board, used duct tape on the edges and smoothed it out to dry by laying it down on a cotton pad. It came out nice and clean. The oil stain was gone. The speaker area was still slightly visible but not bad.

I reglued it to the backing board and it looked OK! Repairing the cabinet and chassis is another story. I'd like to see more articles like John's - Alton DuBois.

ON THE HORIZON

Feb. 15	DVHRC indoors swapmeet-auction, Grimes Center, St. Denis' Church, Havertown
Feb. 23	GBARC Radio XXVII, Boston
March 1	NJARC indoors swapmeet, Hightstown
March 29	PARS/AWA-WV "Spring Fever" meet, Washington, PA (details next month)
April 24-25	Marconi archives auction, London
May 31	Central PA Radio Collectors swapmeet, Danville

AUCTION MATERIAL FOR HAVERTOWN

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>901. Freshman 5-F-5 Masterpiece three-dialer, built-in speaker, ca. 1925; good cond.; tube fils. OK.</p> <p>902. AK 84 cathedral AC set, ca. 1931; front exc., some blistering on sides.</p> <p>903. RCA Radiola III regen w/ WD-11 tubes, fils. OK, copy of book.</p> <p>904. Silvertone 7024 AC-DC table superhet, ca. 1935, brown bakelite</p> <p>905. Silvertone 4500A AC table TRF set, ca. 1936, ivory color, VG.</p> <p>906. Silvertone 6046 (battery) TRF set.</p> <p>907. Freshman Masterpiece, ca. 1924, probably kit-built, fils. OK on 3 tubes.</p> <p>908. Meissner 8C FM tuner, 1950s, VG cond.</p> <p>909. Emerson 625 AC table superhet, ca. 1935.</p> <p>910. Emerson 625 table AC superhet, ca. 1935.</p> <p>911. Philco 60 AC cathedral superhet, ca. 1933, exc. from front, some rust on chassis.</p> <p>912. RCA Radiola III regen w/ WD-11 tubes, fils. OK, usual light rust on dial pointer.</p> <p>913. Crosley 51 2-tube regen. receiver, VG cond., tube fils. OK.</p> <p>914. Crosley 51, VG cond. w/ type 30 tubes, fils. OK.</p> <p>916. Magnavox R3 Model D horn speaker, ca. 1924.</p> <p>917. Microphone, RCA 74B w/ stand, VG cond.</p> <p>918. AK Model E cone speaker, VG.</p> <p>919. Westinghouse Aeriola Sr. regen one-tuber, w/ BBT WD-11, fil. OK.</p> <p>920. Homebuilt battery TRF set, ca. 1925, in Sleeper cabinet, tube fils. OK; unusual square coils.</p> <p>921. AK 46 AC metal table TRF set, ca. 1929, good</p> <p>922. Batteries, oldie: No. 6 dry cells, 2 "B" batts., 1 "C" batt.; nice display.</p> <p>923. AK 40 metal AC table TRF set, ca. 1928, good</p> <p>924. Emerson BY233 bakelite mini-cathedral, VG cond.</p> <p>925. Lafayette AC table set, ca. 1934, claimed to be working, good cond.</p> <p>926. Ford spark coils (pair), for Model T car or small spark xmtr.</p> <p>927. Horn speaker, Music Master base and unident. horn, ca. 1925, VG cond.</p> <p>928. Music Master 100A battery three-dialer, ca. 1925, w/ 2 tubes having OK fils., VG cond.</p> <p>929. Arvin 441T "Hopalong Cassidy" metal set, foil exc., slight paint scarring on top.</p> | <p>930. RCA Radiola 16 cabinet (only), good cond.</p> <p>931. WE 10D horn speaker; horn VG, base rusty but restorable (nameplate OK).</p> <p>932. Tubes, big-pin types, boxlot of tested good.</p> <p>933. Tubes, big-pin types, another boxlot of tested good.</p> <p>934. RCA Radiola 17 AC table TRF set, ca. 1927, VG cond.</p> |
|---|---|

OTHER AUCTION MATERIAL PLANNED TO DATE

AK 37 w/ E3 speaker in highboy Pooley cabinet (1927)
 Army field radios, unident. (2)
 Arvin 568A
 Automatic 720 wood six-tube table set (1947)
 Box lot, Edison light bulbs
 Box lot, meters and small testgear
 Box lot, oldie telephone parts
 Box lots: hundreds of miniature tubes, ST-type tubes, S- and ST-types including "audio" types
 Emerson 505
 Film projectors (2)
 GE L-660
 Hallicrafters S-38s (2)
 Meters, 8" dia. 95)
 Philco 18-H highboy (1934)
 Philco 54-C wooden mantle-top (1932)
 RCA 143A "lunchbox" oscillator
 RCA AVR-5 aircraft receiver
 RCA TMV-132A universal bridge
 RCA TMV-97C test oscillator
 RCA Victor 77V1 record player
 Rider's vol. 12
 Silvertone Model 1 metal midget radio (1950)
 Sparton 69
 Stewart-Warner 62TC16 pushbutton table radio
 Telrad 18A frequency standard
 Tube checker, Burton & Rogers hand-held
 Tube testers, SigC I-177B, good (2)
 TV set, Admiral 19A11 bakelite-cased
 TV set, RCA 9TC247
 Utica 650 6-meter rig
 Vocaline JRC-400 460-MHz CB xcvsrs (2)
 Zenith 6S203 chairside
 Zenith 6S556, less speaker, otherwise good
 Zenith 10S669 "black-dial" console (1941)
 Zenith R5094

AND AFTER YOU'VE CAUGHT YOUR BREATH FROM HAVERTOWN, THERE'S:



New Jersey Antique Radio Club Antique Radio Swap Meet

Saturday, March 1, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM*
Hightstown Country Club, Hightstown, NJ



NJARC presents its Spring indoor swap meet with vendors displaying a spectrum of collectible old-time radios, military and civilian communication equipment, audio equipment, phonographs, and associated parts and literature. Ample on-site parking is available. Admission/parking is \$2.00 to help defer rental fee. Everyone is welcome! An old-time equipment contest is also planned. **Reservations are required to guarantee an indoor table; spaces are limited.**

Location: The Hightstown Country Club, near Exit 8 of the NJ Turnpike and just off Route 33. From the Turnpike, go east on Rte. 33 about 200 yards (past "Mom's Peppermill" restaurant); continue 1/4 mile to the first jughandle, and then come back west. After the first traffic light, bear right onto Monmouth St. (watch for sign), then 300 yards to the Country Club on the left. There is a Ramada Inn across the street.

Rates: NJARC members \$15/table; non-members \$20/table. Weather permitting, overflow vendors may purchase outdoor tables for \$15 (\$12 for NJARC members). Outdoor deposits will not be refunded due to bad weather.

Contacts: Marv Beeferman, 2265 Emerald Park Drive, Forked River, NJ 08731 (609-693-9430). Bill Overbeck, 29 Campbell Ave., Havertown, PA 19083-2424 (610-789-8199). Send a large self-addressed, stamped envelope with your check for table confirmation and contest categories.

Accommodations: Town House Motel on Rte. 33 (800-922-0622 or 609-448-2400); there is also a Ramada Inn across the street (609-448-7000).

For more information about NJARC, please contact Jim Whartenby at (908) 271-7701

*Vendors set up at 7:00; no early admittance!

WANT ADS

Free exposure for your desired or excess stuff! Unless requested otherwise, we'll run each ad for two months, and will send ads to NJARC's *Jersey Broadcaster* for double coverage.

WANTED: A few spirited individuals to help make our Super Winter Swapmeet a success. Volunteers are needed to assist with raffle ticket sales, auction hustling, selling books and tubes at the DVHRC table and helping out with the equipment contest. Contact Bill Overbeck, (610)-789-8199. For table reservations, call Dave Abramson, (610) 827-9757.

WANTED: Schematic for a Hallicrafters Sky rider Jr. Ralph Berglund, 109 Box Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003, (609) 429-2138. (2-3/97)

TUBE BLOWOUT (as it were): Now available for two bucks apiece from the DVHRC Tube Program: 24A, 27, 37, 41, 42, 58, 78, 80, 84/6Z4, 5V4, 6A7, 6C6, 6D6, 6F6, 6K7, 6Y6, 25Z5. Other, newer, types in stock. See Charlie Class at any monthly meeting, or stop by the club table at the Havertown Winter Meet & Auction.

WANTED: Phonograph-related items - top dollar paid immediately for Vogue Picture Records, wax-cylinder records, needle tins, Nipper, record cleaners, puzzles, advertising mirrors, pins, phonograph toys, posters, original advertising from Edison and Victor. Thanks! Bernie Seinberg, 714 Moredon Rd., Meadowbrook, PA 19046-1907, (215) 886-6124. (1-2/97)

FOR SALE: 500 tubes, \$100 for all. List available. Al Trapanese, (908) 870-9632. (1-2/97)

FOR SALE: Weller replacement tips: 17 long screwdriv-

er tips, # PTK8; 5 single flat tips, # PTCC7. New and in original package. Donald Rector, 443 Beaver St., North Wales, PA 19454, (215) 699-8050 eves. (1-2/97)

INVITATION: Browse our informative Web page, www.voicenet.com/~k2bn. A. G. Tannenbaum, PO Box 386, Ambler, PA 19002, (215) 540-8055. (2-3/97)

FOR SALE: The ever-handy reference Tube Lore gives 186 pages of insightful scoop on pretty near every kind of North American tube there is. Latest review covering it is by Marc Ellis in the Feb. issue of *Popular Electronics*. The book's available from the following hip sources: (A) the DVHRC book program; (B) our own A. G. Tannenbaum - see above for address; (C) W7FG Vintage Manuals, (800) 807-6146; (D) Antique Electronic Supply, (602) 820-5411; and (E) Antique Radio Classified, (508) 371-0512. Or, in a pinch, it's available from Ludwell Sibley, 44 E. Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822 for \$19.95 postpaid in the U. S. and Canada, \$24.95 by air overseas. (2-3/97)

FOR SALE: Panasonic RF4900 AM-FM 10-band receiver with service manual. Excellent condition, \$375 OBO. Ralph Berglund, 109 Box Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003, (609) 429-2138.

FOOD & DRINK: a good place to join fellow collectors for dinner before meetings is the Hillside Tavern, half a block uphill from the meeting site.

REPLACEMENT INSTRUCTION MANUALS

Bob Thomas, W3NE (ex-W3QZO)

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Restorers of broadcast radios are well aware that Rider, Sams and various specialist publications can usually fulfill their needs for schematics, parts lists, alignment data, and perhaps dial-cord stringing. However, achieving satisfactory results with restoration and subsequent operation of vintage amateur equipment demands more information than BC radios. The manufacturer's operation/maintenance manual, while not absolutely essential, certainly facilitates troubleshooting and adjustment of ham gear for optimum performance, and could avoid an FCC citation or inadvertent destruction of an expensive transmitting tube.

Used amateur gear is often unaccompanied by a manual, so we are fortunate that there are convenient sources for manufacturers' original documentation. But where does one go for this vital data? Several individuals have accumulated large numbers of manuals that they utilize as masters for copies offered for sale. However, in these days of nondescript "boatanchors" for sale at distress prices, one often belatedly finds that a replacement manual costs more than the equipment itself! However, the benefits of a manual usually make it a worthwhile investment almost regardless of cost. It should be added that some suppliers of instruction books also purvey a wide range of Rider, Sams, and manufacturers' radio-service data, as well as a variety of technical literature.

I recently identified several pieces of ham equipment that I had been putting off restoring for lack of manuals. They ranged in complexity from an Astatic D-104 amplified microphone to a Johnson Ranger transmitter, and included such rarities as a McMurdo Silver Votax VTVM, and an E. H. Scott Model SLR-H low-radiation shipboard receiver. Catalogs were ordered from five "mainstream" suppliers, specifically, Hi-Manuals, "Manual Man" Pete Markavage, Puett Electronics, A. G. Tannenbaum, and W7FG. All of these regularly advertise in amateur and vintage-radio magazines. My personal experiences and pertinent commentary on each supplier are listed below.

Hi-Manuals is operated by Al McMillan, W0JJK, who was employed by World Radio Labs for over 20 years. He acquired the WRL stock of manuals on the demise of the company, which explains his comprehensive coverage of Globe/WRL products. His catalog costs \$2.00, and you must order from the current edition. Most manuals are ham-related and include exotica from Howard, Micamold, TMC, and esoteric "garage" outfits whose gear is still floating around. Coverage of Hallicrafters receivers and transmitters is excellent - best of any supplier.

Manuals were delivered in two weeks by First Class mail. Quality is fair: lightweight covers and stapled pages replete with all of the original owner's scribbles, murky photographs and rampant Xerox "noise." Schematics are squeezed onto one page. Prices are highest of sup-

pliers reviewed, but this may be the only place that has that rare manual you *must* have!

Manual Man, a. k. a. Pete Markavage, is an affable, knowledgeable participant at major local hamfests. His 39-page catalog with about 2400 listings is available for two stamps. Pete has a good assortment of manuals for vintage ham gear, test equipment, and some consumer products. He is excellent for Eico, Hickok, and most front-line amateur equipment manufacturers of past and present fame. Heathkit manuals are strangely absent because of claimed "space restraints," but you are advised to inquire in the event Heath (the copyright holder) is unable to supply your needs; Pete stocks manuals for over 975 Heathkit models, so don't be put off by their absence from the catalog.

Manuals I ordered arrived in two weeks by Priority mail, an interval that would have been shorter had not Pete made a special effort to telephone me to clarify a question I had about a transceiver production variation. Two copies of the schematic are supplied, one reduced to a single page and another, full-size, on a fold-out. Pete cleans-up and often redraws parts of masters, resulting in spotless pages that are bound with a plastic multi-ring binder between heavy covers tastefully printed with original graphics, when available. Pete also sells reprints of old-time technical articles and catalogs. In a word (actually, two), Manual Man products are First Class.

Puett Electronics is, literally, a "mom-and-pop" operation, where shipments are liable to be delayed while a visit is made to see Cousin Jesse in Idaho. Their \$5.00 catalog lists thousands of items in random order! Just try to find out if they have a book for an Eico 145 Signal Tracer (they do: it's on page 30, between a Conn electronic organ and a Sprague capacitor checker). Puett products are oriented more toward broadcast radios than amateur apparatus. Besides conventional owner's manuals, Puett lists interesting booklets and catalog reprints covering components, test techniques, broadcast equipment and consumer items. Their specialty is E. H. Scott and McMurdo Silver literature - a cornucopia of advertisements, business correspondence, company newsletters, patents, and marketing-oriented technical tutorials. Finally, there is the "Puett Antique Radio Club." For \$15.00 a year you get 25 perks, including discounts, radio schematics, "search" schematics (you tell them about your unidentifiable radio and they come up with a diagram), O. T. radio program cassettes, and "much, much more."

Quality of Puett manuals is only fair. Covers over-emphasize Puett company information at the expense of clear identification of the equipment manufacturer and model. They have the effrontery to print schematics with one half on one side of a page and the other half on the

opposite side! That happened in two manuals I purchased; imagine tracing the circuit of an SX-28 front end with a schematic divided through the band switch! Some reproductions are not so great either, a fault they attribute to an outside duplication service. Puett is a good source for unusual items unobtainable anywhere else. With more attention to quality, they could be a *great* source.

A. G. Tannenbaum is the creation of none other than our own Alice (A. G.) and Mike Tannenbaum. They moved from Long Island to their new home in Dresher about two years ago. The 60,000 pounds of manuals and service literature they brought now reside at their business location, an attractive building in a residential section of Ambler, convenient to the Ft. Washington interchange of the PA Turnpike and Route 309. Their 80-page Issue 3 catalog lists over 4500 manuals, and is available free by mail or direct from Mike's hand at any DVHRC event. A. G. T. has, by far, more manuals than any other supplier. In addition to extensive listings of amateur manuals, the catalog covers test equipment, computers, military gear, and high-fidelity equipment. The latter category includes manuals for amplifiers, receivers, tape recorders, CD players, turntables, and equalizers produced by most major manufacturers, particularly Kenwood, for which there are over 350 listings. And that's not all; you can obtain copies of any Rider service notes and original issues of Sams Photofacts as well as miscellaneous service-related literature.

Manuals are furnished in heavy covers with plastic multi-ring binders and large fold-out schematics, but with residual markings from previous owners. There is a \$2.00 shipping charge unless they are hand-delivered, which is often possible. Vintage radio books, magazines and catalogs come and go at A. G. T., so it's worthwhile inquiring what's available if you are looking for material for your technical library. Although unrelated to our topic of manuals, it's worth noting the catalog lists a few of the many circuit components carried. There are no listings for numerous radios and communications equipment that continually pass through the premises, but latest inventory is available on their Web page. Finally, customers are invited to visit the Ambler office to browse specific

files for items of interest that might not be formally cataloged.

W7FG Vintage Manuals was mentioned recently in the *Oscillator*. His catalog listing about 2000 manuals costs \$.50. While vintage equipment from major manufacturers is well represented, there is nothing exotic by "fringe" manufacturers of yore. However, the catalog has excellent coverage of early Hallicrafters and Hammarlund products, and about 500 Heathkits. It also extends practically into the present with many "rice boxes," VHF power amplifiers, antennas, and auxiliary equipment. Military gear is also well represented.

W7FG's prices are generally lower than other suppliers reviewed here, but there is no sacrifice in quality or service. My manuals arrived in ten days by Priority mail. They are of excellent quality, with heavy covers and multi-ring plastic binders (even for a one-page instruction sheet!) and included a single-page reduced schematic and two large fold-out schematics - this is a guy who appreciates the value of a fresh schematic to save and another for soldering-iron burns. All pages of my manuals had been meticulously cleaned of original owner's doodles. W7FG is the only supplier with an "800" telephone order number. By the way, be sure to take note of that WATS number in the supplier list that follows!

SUPPLIERS of REPLACEMENT MANUALS

Hi-Manuals	A. G. Tannenbaum
P. O. Box 802	P. O. Box 386
Council Bluffs, IA 51502	Ambler, PA 19002
	Phone: (215) 540-8055
Pete Markavage	Fax: (215) 540-8327
"The Manual Man"	I/Net: K2BN@agtannenbaum.com
27 Walling St.	
Sayreville, NJ 08872-1818	W7FG Vintage Manuals
Fax/Voice: (908) 238-8964	3300 Wayside Drive
	Bartlesville OK 74006
Puett Electronics	Orders: 800-807-6146
P. O. Box 28572	Other: 918-333-3754
Dallas, TX 75228	E-Mail: w7fg@eigen.net
Phone: 214-321-0927	I/Net: http://eigen.net/w7fg

READERS' COMMENTS

TUBE - THE INVENTION OF TELEVISION

You needn't have been too concerned about including the notice about Fisher and Fisher's book TUBE in the last *Oscillator*. Thanks to your mentioning it there, I got a copy and can tell you it is very good. It is smoothly written, detailed, well organized, indexed and documented; and I have found only a very few minor errors. I think it will do for television history what Lewis' Empire of the Air did for radio history. I'm about 3/4 thru it, but I probably won't finish it today. It would be un-American and generally antirational not to watch the Superbowl.

Incidentally, here's how I got the book: I logged onto the Internet Sunday evening and went to www.amazon.com (the world's largest online bookstore). I found a citation for the book there; they gave me 10% (\$3) off list but charged me \$3.50 handling and delivery - totally reasonable, I thought. I typed in my credit-card number and address and the book was on my front porch Wednesday morning. Pretty good service, eh? - **David Kraeuter** (*Pittsburgh Oscillator* editor-emeritus)

FRANKLIN INSTITUTE HONORS TV HISTORY

Ludwell Sibley

The Franklin Institute held a charming ceremony on January 30 to celebrate two new contributions to television history: the book TUBE (see above), and the upcoming video "Big Dream, Small Screen." Co-sponsored by book publisher Counterpoint Press and the PBS TV series *The American Experience*, the event centered on a screening of the video produced by David Dugan.

"Big Dream, Small Screen" documents the vision and achievements of Philo Farnsworth, a Utah farm youth who conceived the basics of electronic television in the early '20s. Realizing that other TV developers were wasting their time with scanning-disc schemes, he persuaded financial backers to invest in development of camera tubes, CRTs, and everything in between. The result was a demonstration of electronic TV in 1935, in the very auditorium in Philadelphia where the video was shown!

Farnsworth's career was badly distorted by a patent suit with (who else?) Sarnoff's RCA, litigation that Farnsworth eventually won but at severe cost to his career. His patent portfolio totaled 165 by the end.

The video turned out to be quite well done, definitely worth watching for when it airs beginning Feb. 10. Artfully edited, it gives a straightforward development of the facts without undue romanticizing. It includes clips of the 1935 Franklin Institute demo and covers Farnsworth's painful collaboration with Philco that eventually led to the inventor's separate laboratory and own experimental TV station W3XPF.

As a dramatic surprise, organizers of the event had brought in Pem Farnsworth (wife, and author of 1989's Distant Vision: Romance & Discovery on an Invisible Frontier), Farnsworth's sisters Agnes Lindsay and Laura Player, and former lab chief Romilly Rutherford. Their presence added considerable immediacy to the affair.

The showing was followed with a short panel discussion featuring David and Marshall Fisher, authors of TUBE. This event packed quite a bit of history into two hours!

RESTORATION HINTS

RCA 100 SPEAKER

Alton DuBois

Some time ago, I acquired an RCA Model 100 speaker. It didn't work, so I set it aside until I had time. Several years went by until, the other day, I wanted a speaker to go with a Radiola 18. Checking the speaker leads showed an open circuit, so I took the case apart and found it needed more work than expected.

The leather cone support was completely shot and the armature was rusted-up, but the ultimate reason for the open circuit was that the lead wire was actually open in its middle, which was what led to the examination in the first place. I therefore proceeded to make repairs.

The way that most of these antique devices were manufactured, they are relatively easy to take apart to clean and repair, if you have the patience. I took apart the driver unit, first placing a magnetic "keeper" bar across the magnet to prevent magnetic shock when the parts were removed. The coil was OK but the armature was rusted to the pole pieces. This cleaned up easily. The rest of the case and the grille were clean.

Included in the case is a capacitor and a choke coil sealed in a wax-filled box. The driver winding and the choke are in series; the capacitor is in parallel with the driver winding.

The remains of the bad leather support pads were removed from the intact cone. I reglued a felt circle around the cone edge to replace the leather and remounted it in the frame. The speaker cord was replaced. The speaker now works fine with the Radiola 18.

I would recommend that anyone working on a similar unit mark all parts as to position in relation to each other, and also draw sketches. It's like a jigsaw puzzle getting them back together properly if you haven't noted their positions.





DELAWARE VALLEY HISTORIC RADIO CLUB

SUPER WINTER MEET - AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEB 15, 8 AM - 2 PM

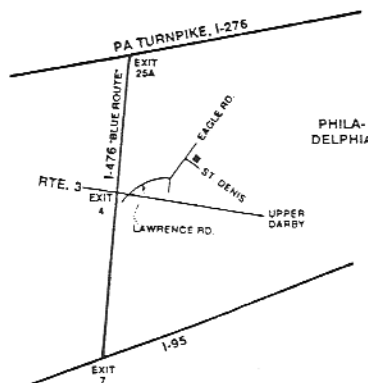
HAVERTOWN, PA

The Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club presents its all-indoors swapmeet/auction at the Grimes Center, St. Denis' Church, Havertown. Just west of Philadelphia, the site has easy access from the PA Turnpike or I-95. It is a large meeting hall with easy, ground-floor unloading from a generous parking lot. The auction is planned for noon, with multi-estate material and bring-ins; a partial list is available. Food and beverages available. Seller setup begins at 7:00 AM.

Directions: *From the PA Turnpike:* use Exit 25A (I-476 South) to Exit 4 (Rte. 3 East / Upper Darby). Take first left (Lawrence Rd.). At next light, go left onto Eagle Rd. At third light, turn right onto St. Denis Lane; head for Grimes Center on left. *From I-95:* Go north on I-476 to Exit 4 (Rte. 3 East / Upper Darby). Take first left (Lawrence Rd.) At next light, go left onto Eagle Rd. At third light, turn right onto St. Denis Lane; head for Grimes Center on left.

Rates: \$2 to buyers. For sellers, they are \$15 per table in advance, \$20 on the day of the event; extra tables \$3 less. Reservations are strongly advised - just send a check, payable to DVHRC, to 1649 Yellow Springs Rd., Chester Springs, PA 19425 by Feb. 10.

Contact: Dave Abramson, (610) 827-9757.



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MARCONI SELLS OUT! (P. 1)

DAVELER TOUR, FEB. 11 (P. 2)

HAVERTOWN MEET, FEB. 15!

