

All the Electrons that are fit to flow.



OSCILLATOR

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

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Show and Tell and the DVHRC Road Show

Meeting Notes

By Dave Abramson

The DVHRC began the new year at it's usual haunt in the Telford Community Center with around 30 members in attendance.

We welcomed a new member, Ross Phillips, a collector of plastic radios. And Greg Dottor, KB3CPF, a collector of consoles also joined us.

Mike Koste began with an announcement that the club would be making a donation to the Red Cross for the tsunami relief fund. The club would match all sales and commissions for the night and add a bit more for a nice round number. The total for sales was \$156, so the club will make a \$400 donation in our name.



Moving on to old business, the club has now added dial lamps to our collection of items for sale. The first group will be #44 and #47 lamps at \$1.25 per dozen. These will join the capacitors, tubes, line cords and club shirts at the DVHRC Radio Store. See Ted Sowirka at the meeting for your stock.

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Next Meeting Program

Membership Renewals
Bring your radios
for the library display
Telford Center
February 8th, 7:30pm

Meeting Notes continued from Page 1

The February meeting will not be a tube rescue as it had been for the past two years. Our stock is doing fine, but we would always welcome more donations, especially on some of the more popular numbers.

The "DVHRC Road Show" is about to get underway for it's first appearance of the season at the Southern Lehigh Public Library in Centre Valley, PA under the guidance of member Stan Sagar. Stan gave a short report on what will be happening. The display will be a time-line of radio history with samples from the eras that we collect. It will be housed in a glass showcase at the library designed for community use. The display runs from March through April. On February 28th at 7pm at the library, Stan and Mike Koste, representing the DVHRC, will give a presentation on the display and the radios represented.



The program for the evening was the ever popular "show and tell" and we got some fine items to look at.

Frank Johnson brought a Clapp-Eastham "Blitzen" crystal radio that he had been pursuing for a while. It was made from 1912 to 1915 and sold for the princely sum of \$33 with headphones. The loading coil on the side was an extra \$4.

Newsletter of the

Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club

P.O. Box 5053

New Britain, PA 18901

www.dvhrc.org

The Oscillator is published monthly by members of the non-profit DVHRC. Its purpose is to provide information on electronic, antique radio and communication with collectors and preservation of vintage radio technology.

We welcome and solicit information relating to radio history or collecting. Submissions should be on 8 1/2 x 11 inch sheet, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on discs should be in Word and pdf formats.

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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 transactions incurred.

To join DVHRC dues are \$20 per year. The membership year runs January - December. Please mail to the club P.O. box above. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Telford Community Building, Telford, PA.

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Material submitted is subject to acceptance and editing by the editor. A full page article is approximately 400 words. Please photos may be submitted for coloring. JPG files should be under 100K.

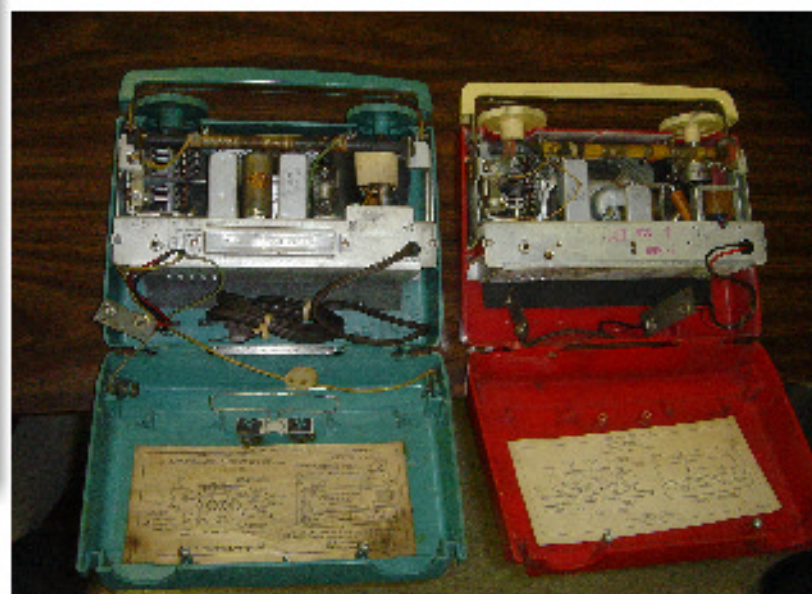
Following Frank was Don Rector with his Murdock spark gap condenser, a very early item in radio history. This beast would be the source for the spark in "spark gap"



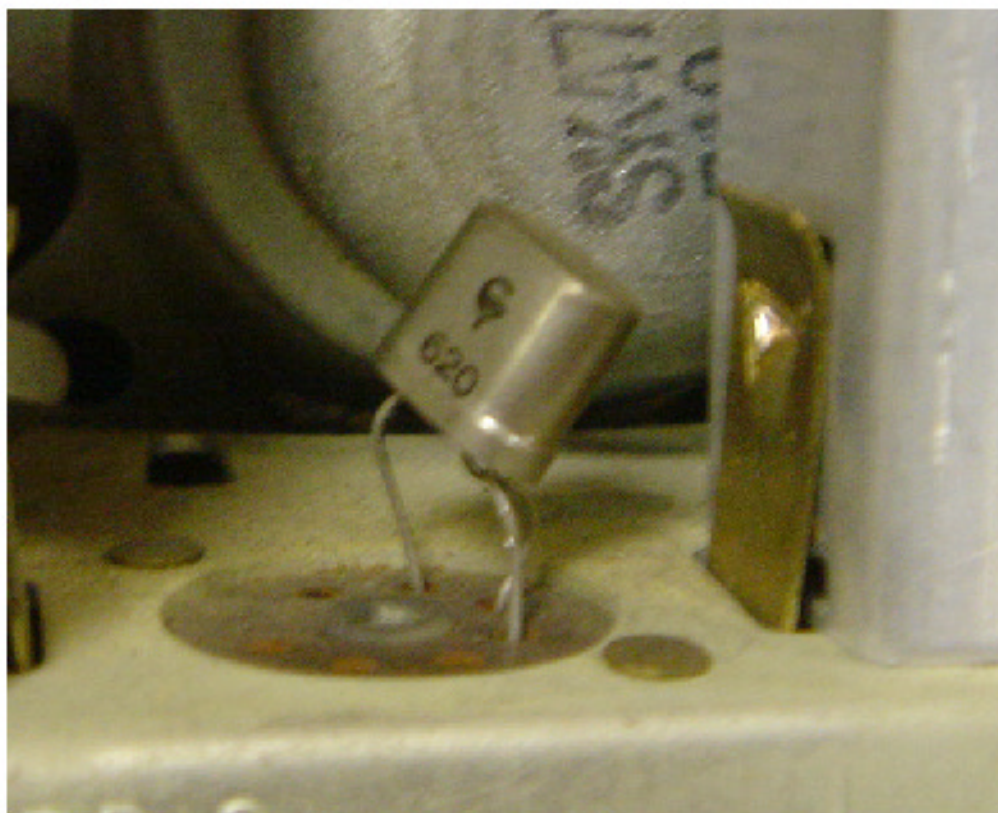
Mark Thierbach stepped up with a pair of Olympic plastic radios from the mid-50's. Identical on the outside, the inside was a major surprise. On the left is the tube version of this radio. On the right is the TRANSISTOR version of the same radio.



The chassis pan is identical with the 1954 version having it's usual set of tubes for a AC/DC set. The 1956 version with the white face, has transistors installed in the tube sockets. Just pushed through the pin holes and soldered underneath. All 4 of them.



There was a discussion of a Part 15 radion station in the Lansdale area and more discussion on a Zenith Stratosphere scam on ebay.



The auction had the final installment of the Skilton estate and the other usual suspects. Top dollar went for a RCA boat anchor.

The next meeting will be at the Telford Center on February 8th at 7:30pm

Historical Electronics Museum (HEM) – another visit

by Dave Snellman

I visited the Historic Electronic Museum many times before. I was in the Baltimore area on business recently, so I thought I'd drop in to see what was new at the museum. On previous visits I did not have a digital camera. This time I took the club's camera with me on the trip and have a number of good photos to show for it.

Here is a little background on the museum. The idea for the museum was conceived in 1973 when an employee of the Westinghouse Defense and Electronics Systems Center in Baltimore created a radar display titled "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" for the company's family day. From this, the idea for a museum to collect, save, and preserve selected hardware developed by the electronics industry.



In 1983, the museum was located in Airport Square and had about 2000 square feet of display space. The museum has moved and expanded over the years. Currently it occupies 22,000 square feet and is located at 1745 W. Nursery Road, Linthicum, MD.

The museum is open weekdays, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. It's closed on holiday. Their website is www.hem-us.org. If you plan to visit, allow yourself plenty of time to see all the exhibits and visit the library.

The museum is organized into ten different galleries, each with a theme. "Fundamentals of electricity and electronics" offers some hands-on exhibits that help the visitor to understand the basic building blocks of electricity and electronics. Next, the communications gallery looks at everything from the telegraph to radio to modern digital communications.



One highlight is a replica of a Marconi magnetic detector, complete with a Swiss music box mechanism to drive it. There is also a "hands-on" detector that allows you to listen to a local station.

There are three galleries devoted to radar. From World War II radar to Cold War radar to modern radar, these displays show the development of radar as well as demonstrating recent developments in radar technologies.



organization, is also highlighted.

The underwater electronics gallery displays SONAR and other underwater electronic devices. Examples of underwater cable and how it is laid are also on display. A nice model of a modern-day cable laying ship is there. It's interesting to learn in this day where "wireless" is all the rage, that cable is still being installed and used.

Electro-optical and space galleries round out the indoor displays. Examples of infrared technology are found in the electro-optical gallery and the space gallery shows technologies used in space exploration and travel.

There are several special displays. A fully functional amateur radio station is there. There is also a very nice replica of an early ham station on display. The museum's amateur radio group operates the ham station. From the array of equipment, they can communicate using almost any ham radio transmission mode – CW to amateur TV.

One new display in the works is a re-construction of an SCR-399. This is a radio transmitting-receiving station that uses a BC-610 transmitter and BC-312 receivers.

A later version used R-388 receivers. One is on display as well as many other vintage receivers, aka "boatanchors."

There are outside displays, too. Most notable is the SCR-270 radar unit. This is the unit that detected the Japanese invasion on December 7th at Pearl Harbor. The antenna for this system is seen from the road as you located outside

There are three galleries devoted to radar. From World War II radar to Cold War radar to modern radar, these displays show the development of radar as well as demonstrating recent developments in radar technologies.

An extensive display shows electronic countermeasures. Jammers, receivers, and transmitters are on display. You can see the varied technologies used to trick radar and to defend aircraft. The Association of Old Crows, a countermeasure



Japanese invasion on December 7th at Pearl Harbor. The antenna for this system is seen from the road as you get near the museum. Other parts of the 270 are on display inside. A "Hawk" missile radar unit is also located outside.



UPCOMING RADIO EVENTS

- FEB 20** RADIO XXVI, WESTFORD REGENCY INN, WESTFORD, MASS. (Info at aro@antique-radio.com or 866-371-0512)
- MAR 5** NORTH JERSEY HAMFEST, PARSIPPANY PAL BLDG., PARSIPPANY, NJ. (Info at hamfest@splitrockara.org, or Vincent Pisano, 866-457-6687)
- APR 9** JERSEY SHORE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY HAMFEST, OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH, SEASIDE HEIGHTS, NJ. (Info at WA2NDA@aol.com, or Ed Gencino, 609-971-2792)
- APR 10** STAR HAMFEST, SUSSEX TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, GEORGETOWN, DE. (Info at kblejh@yahoo.com, or Carl Davis, 302-684-8627)
- MAY 1** WARMINSTER ARC HAMFEST, WRIGHTSTOWN (BUCKS CO), PA. (Info at hamfest2005@k3dn.org, or Heather Leabman, KB3JUY 215-794-1360).
- MAY 13-14** KUTZTOWN RADIO MEET, RENNINGER'S, KUTZTOWN, PA. (Info at www.dvhrc.org)
- MAY 20-21** DAYTON HAMVENTION, HARA ARENA, DAYTON, OHIO. (Info at info@hamvention.org or 937-276-6930)
- JUN 9-12** MAARC RADIOACTIVITY, SHERATON COLLEGE PARK, COLLEGE PARK, MD. (Info at maarc.org)
- JUL 10** MID-ATLANTIC ARC HAMFEST, KIMBERTON, PA (Info at reservations@marc-radio.org, or Steve Maslin, N3ORH, 610-327-8666)
- SEP 16-17** KUTZTOWN RADIO MEET, RENNINGER'S, KUTZTOWN, PA. (Info at www.dvhrc.org)
- OCT 16** RF HILL ARC HAMFEST, SELLERSVILLE FIRE CO., SELLERSVILLE, PA (Info at kb3cez@ardl.net, or Charles Schmell, KB3CEZ, 215-538-7458)



<http://www.radioswapmeet.com>

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