The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Editor: Ludwell Sibley

Vol. 3 No. 6, July 1995

Spiffy new header by courtesy of ye Prez.

THE MONTHLY PREZ Mike Koste

Depending on where you woke up on the morning of June 25, one glance out the window could have changed your plans for the day. Other than the typical rush of early-morning buyers, we can only guess that the weather kept a lot of collectors away from Buckingham.

However, those who braved the possibility of showers are surely glad they made the trip. I can't begin to count the number of familiar faces with a look of ecstasy over a new "find." Sure, attendance was down by more than 50% from our last show, and the catering truck bailed out at the last minute. But, once the smoke cleared (or was that merely a horde of gnats?), we dodged the rain! Swapmeet VI entertained 38 sellers from five states; the stage exhibit was superb; six new members joined the club; and we managed to turn a humble profit. (A complete financial disclosure in the August Oscillator.)

NED BORGER was presented the People's choice Award for his fine Atwater Kent cathedral, and in out first-ever theme competition by club vote in the "Made in Philadelphia" category, congratulations to LEWIS NEWHARD for his AK grandfather-clock radio . . . a "Best in show" trophy well deserved.

In an ironic twist, a dumfounded JIM AMICI (who had performed the chassis restoration of our raffle radio) now has that same lovely Firestone Air Chief for his own. "At least I know it works," sez Jim.

JIM TROE is to be commended for manning the club table, selling books and raffle tickets, signing-up new members, distributing newsletters, and overseeing the contest entries - while working a table of his own at the same time! Thanks to BOB KUSHNERICK for lending a hand on parking details, and to BILL WADE, BILL OVERBECK, and TONY MOLETIERRE for the contest trophies.

Most of all, a major slap on the back for DAVE ABRAMSON, who coordinated the entire event, handling vendor registration, press relations, and publicity. In case you weren't aware, Dave spent 30 minutes on the air at WBUX the morning before Buckingham, plugging the meet and extolling the virtues of antique radio (and television) collecting. Thanks, Dave!

Remember, there's no July meeting and, if our paths don't cross at the NJARC meet and auction on July 15, have a safe summer!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

ED SKILTON of Conshohocken, PA became out 135th member at the June 13 meeting. Our Buckingham re-

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, August 8 and Sept. 12, 7:30 PM, at North Penn Amusements, 113 Main St. (PA Rte. 113), Souderton.

JOINING THE CLUB

Just send \$10 to DVHRC, Box 41031, Philadelphia, PA 19127-0031.

ADS & SUCH

Please send ads, articles, etc., to Ludwell Sibley, 44 E. Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822-1224, (908) 782-4894.

cruits include: GREG GORMAN (New Britain, PA), ERIC HAAG (Warminster, PA), RUSSEL LUSKY (Sicklerville, PA), CHAD MARSH (Pen Argyl, PA), ABE MOLKEN (Collingdale, PA), and GLENN SMOLLINGER (Norristown, PA). Welcome, one & all!

YET ANOTHER NEWSPAPER STORY

Radio collecting seems to be a "hot" topic among local newspaper editors. In addition to other recent media coverage of DVHRC members' collections (Dave Abramson and Daniel Schwartzman, for starters), Frank Hagenbuch in Williamsport and his co-collector Mike Heffner got written up on 2/3 of a page in the Sunday section of the local paper. The story is replete with *color* photos (those old-time tube cartons look great in color!).

Calabana (Calaba	
	ON THE HORIZON
July 7-9	MARC EXTRAVAGANZA '95, Lansing, Ml. Contact: Jim Clark, 517-349-2249
July 15	NJARC meet & catalog auction, Hightstown. Contact: Tony/Kathleen Flanagan, (908) 462-6638.
July 29	Central PA Radio Collectors meet, Williamsport. Contact: Frank Hagenbuch, 717-326-0932.
Aug. 12	NFWA Amherst Museum meet & auction, near Buffalo. Contact: Larry Babcock, 716-741-3082.
Oct. 1	Finkel auction, Kulpsville.
Oct. 7-8	Ford Museum auction, Dearborn MI (preview, Oct. 6).

MICHIGAN EXTRAVAGANZA - JULY 7-9

The Michigan club has another robust event coming up. Site is the Holiday Inn South/Convention Center in Lansing. Features include three days of outdoor flea market, four talks, a contest with 12 categories, social hour, and large auction (with six hours allotted to it!). Hotel number: 800-333-8123; special room rates for the event. Information contact: EXTRAVAGANZA '95, PO Box 585, Okemos, MI 48805-0585. Judging from the promotional flyer and Internet ad, and from reports of a local collector who attended last year, this is a well organized, substantial meet rivaling the other national events.

NJARC MEET AND AUCTION - JULY 15

The folks across the river are presenting another Hightstown event. See the enclosed flyer for details.

CENTRAL PA RADIO COLLECTORS MEET, WILLIAMSPORT - JULY 29

The next Williamsport meet will be outdoors, rain-or-shine, behind Trinity Episcopal Church at 844 W. 4th St., on Saturday the 29th. Admission is free; dealer spaces are \$8; no reservation needed. Food will be available. Fourth Street is reached via the Maynard St. exit of US 15 - US 220 - I-180. As mentioned in the March Oscillator, the county museum just down the street has an extraordinary display of classic "tinplate" trains. (See the June issue of A. R. C. for Larry Babcock's writeup of the first W'port meet.)

NFWA AMHERST MUSEUM MEET & ESTATE AUCTION, AUG. 12

The Niagara Frontier Wireless Association will present its annual outdoor meet at the Amherst Museum on Saturday the 12th. Features include a five-category equipment contest, two auctions (one including estate material), a talk by AWA's Bruce Kelley, and NFWA's 1995 radio exhibit in the museum. Refreshments will be available. Entrance fee: \$3 (spouses \$2); no extra fee to sell. To get there: from Exit 49 of the NY State Thruway, take Rte. 78 (Transit Rd.) north nine miles. (Transit Rd. is the local "motel row.") Turn west onto Tonawanda Creek Rd. and go west two miles to New Road. Stay on the south side of Tonawanda Creek in Erie County. This is a relaxed event in a spacious park setting, with the gates opening at 8:30 AM.

MEET REPORT - MAARC "RADIOACTIVITY"

The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club held its "second annual" RADIOACTIVITY on June 9-11 with 400 registrants including the usual stalwarts from DVHRC and NJARC. Located outside Baltimore at Timonium, MD, the event featured 2-½ days of flea marketing that peaked at 70 vendors on Saturday. The old-equipment contest offered eleven categories, including four related to the theme of the 50th of the Allied victory in Europe. Three presenters offered sessions: Ed Lyon on radio repair and restoration, Harold Cones with the Zenith Trans-Oceanic in WW II, and Ludwell Sibley on Axis vs. Allied electronics. To let participants recuperate between forays into the flea market, videos on historic electronic topics played continuously inside the hotel.

A novel aspect of the event was a three-hour museum tour by bus. It featured the new National Cryptographic Museum of the National Security Agency, and the Historical Electronics Museum supported by Westinghouse. (How the world has changed! Back in my youth, you couldn't even say "NSA" out loud, and now they welcome you to their museum! - Ed.) The Cryptographic Museum is small but focused: it has well-organized displays of crypto machines - British, Japanese, U. S., all the variants of the German Enigma - as well as a Cray cryptanalysis computer, modern "STU III" secure phones to try out, a recreated WW I radio intercept station, an exhibit on KGB headquarters, a piece of the notorious U-2 spy plane returned by our new Russian friends, etc. "DVHRC" encrypted on a four-rotor Enigma machine came out "EKCQT."

A social hour and buffet-style banquet on Saturday provided relaxation. In the auction on Sunday, Colonels Sam Cannan and Brian Belanger briskly handled about 250 lots. The material was not particularly "magic"; it did include several desirable cathedral and deco-styled radios and box-lots of interesting transmitting tubes.

MAARC's staff designed a particularly effective registration procedure: on signing-in, the attender got a preprinted auction bidder card, check-in register for auction sales, and all other tickets, etc. for the weekend. No further sign-in needed. This kind of "methods work" could profitably be copied by other clubs with complex events.

FINKEL AUCTION PLANNED

DVHRC member Arnold Finkel has asked that we pass the word on an auction that he will present on Sunday, Oct. 1, to disperse much of his collection. It will be held at the Holiday Inn at Kulpsville (at the Lansdale exit from the NE Extension of the PA Turnpike). Lots of Deco radios of desirable styles (mirror, Catalin, etc.) will be featured. More details as we get closer.

FORD MUSEUM - DEACCESSION SALE

Here's advance scoop on the - get this! - deaccession auction planned by the Ford Museum of Dearborn, Michigan. DVHRC's agent in Chicago provided the first warning that this was in the works. The dates are: preview, 3-6 PM, Friday Oct. 6; auction, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 7-8 (start: 10 AM). According to Sarah Lawrence at the museum, there are about 1800 radio items under consideration for sale. The auctioneer is Estes Auction Service of Medina, OH, whose sale results you routinely see in A. R. C. I've talked to Robert Estes, who has visited the museum to catalog the (major) items in the sale. An early announcement declares somewhat cryptically that there will be "all types of early radios, speakers, transmitters, receivers, amplifiers, tubes, spark items, early crystal sets . . . many . . extremely rare." A follow-up full-page ad in A. R. C. is not a lot more specific. A catalog, to be ready for "the major summer radio shows," should focus things in a hurry.

The museum's earlier radio material was inventoried, in part, by Bruce Kelley of the AWA Museum a few years

ago. The *OTB*, Feb. 1990, pp. 46-47, reports on the treasures in the back room. The holdings derive from RCA's donation, via its historian George Clark, of material from the radio department at least one old-time Navy yard; plus the McMurdo Silver collection.

Current word is that the auction material will include two spherical audions, early tubes of European origin, early telegraph material and numerous 20th Century keys (J-9 flameproof, Mecograph, WW I British and German made by Bunnell), early De Forest and Marconi wireless gear (e. g., Marconi 101 and 106 tuners), a Connecticut Tel. & Electric aircraft spark transmitter (BC-15?), etc.



Obviously this could be the most important auction sale in the history of radio collecting. Watch your hometown Oscillator for more details!

WANT ADS

Free exposure for your desired or unwanted stuff! Unless requested otherwise, we'll run each ad for two months, and will send ads to the NJARC News for double coverage.

FOR SALE: Edison Victor console, ca. 1930, and Philco chairside, ca. 1937. Ulrich, (908) 782-2665. (7-95)

WANTED: An RCA 6L7 of the steel-stamped, all-black (not inked) vintage. Have other early steel-stamped RCA metal tubes for trade - complete your collection of the "original nine" (5Z4, 6A8, 6C5, 6F5, 6F6, 6H6, 6J7, 6K7, 6L7). Also Johnsonburg (JRC) tubes - duds OK - and cartons. Ludwell Sibley, (908) 782-4894. (6-95)

FOR SALE: Three CW transmitters, 3 kW each, Federal Telegraph & Radio Corp. for Bureau of Ships: NAV-SHIPS TDN-2, -3, and -4 with 450TH tubes, cabinets 72" H x 10-½ W x 23" D, on wheels and about 270 lb. each; 2-5.2, 5.2-13.3, and 13.3-20 MHz. Good cond. Power supply, photos, and diagrams available. Asking \$1000 for the three units and prefer to sell all three at once. Gene Reynolds, W3EAN, 53 Marple Rd., Haverford, PA 19041, (610) 649-1447. (7-95)

WANTED: Complete manual for the above equipment. Gene Reynolds, as above.

FOR SALE: Booklet of 64 pages describes Federal Tel. & Tel's radio operation from the beginning in 1921 to its demise in 1929. Over 60 illustrations, including pictures of early Federal RF and audio amps, all early radios, and many Federal parts. The article and NFWA presentation by Dick Schamberger, Federal expert, are included. All Federal models are listed with the year/month introduced, price new, and brief description. Buffalo's first broadcast station, Federal's WGR, is covered. There are two pages of references for more info. This is more about Federal than exists in any other spot! Good-quality printing. Send \$4.95 + 1.00 S & H to Larry Babcock, 8095 Centre Ln., East Amherst, NY 14051.

FOR SALE: Farnsworth BK-85 radio-phono. John Kern, (215) 386-4491 (6-95).

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.

"ON" THE INTERNET

I haven't seen anyone point out the analogy between the Radio Craze of 1922-23 and the Internet Craze of 1994-95. The getting-started costs are roughly the same, in present dollars; the ongoing costs are comparable (costs for biweekly recharging of an A-battery, vs. costs for access time.) There's both pedestrian and elegant hardware available (then, poverty-stricken Radiola V vs. patrician Aeriola Senior; now, humble 286 vs. lofty Pentium). Both can absorb one's life - staying up all night to catch rare DX, vs. staying up all night to browse

radio-collector bulletin boards. And both involve arcane techno-stuff, as seen by an outside observer (1921's high-school radio genius is 1995's hacker.) The more it changes, the more it's the same . . . - LAS RESTORATION TIPS:

MORE ON RESTORING CLOCKS IN RADIOS Alton DuBols, Jr.

Regarding the article on repairing early clocks in radios in the May issue, here is some information that may be useful. Parts, rotors, and coils are available from S. LaRose, Inc., 3223 Yanceyville St., PO Box 21208, Greensboro, NC 27420, or Merritt's Antiques, 1860 Weavertown Rd., PO Box 277, Douglassville, PA 19518-0277. Send for their catalogs, or send an SASE to Tom Wining, PO Box 6319, Akron, OH 44312. These people are clock-parts dealers and repairers.

READER COMMENTS Alan Douglas

Hey, that piece on Herbach & Rademan [by Bob Thomas,W3QZO, last month] is great. I used to drop in to the Arch St. store occasionally, but never knew they had manufactured anything. Their prices were always steep for us college students. (I bought a lot more from Captain Joe down the street, or Selectronics [I think that was the name] which had an amazing stock of stuff.) Incidentally, M & H Sporting Goods was Moskowitz & Herbach; I have some catalogs from the '30s.

RESTORATION TIPS:

RADIO PUZZLER Mike Koste Herewith, the official answer to last month's puzzle. WALTERWITH NCHELL LOUGOSTELLO JOBPENNER BREALFAST EDNYNN ROOSEVELT MORTIMER CROSBY LALTENBORN FIRESTONE ESKIMOS GEORGEBURNS TONTO BARBOSOL WGRLDS DURANTE BABYSNOOKS ARMSTRONE

REMOVING A PHILCO CABINET BEZEL

Alton DuBois, Jr.

Trials and tribulations in removing the dial bezel from a Philco radio in order to restore its cabinet:

Manufacturers have the damnnedest ways of attaching parts to chasses and cabinets. Sometimes it takes a Sherlock Holmes, combined with a pushy-feely approach, to figure it out. I fussed and tried all kinds of approaches until I figured that maybe it was snapped on, so I gave it a pry to no avail, not wanting to damage the woodwork.

"Maybe it's screwed on," I thought, so I gave it a twist. "Eureka!" - it came off to reveal an inner plate held to the wood with four small screws, and the bezel had four tongues that slide under a beveled section of the backplate. Luckily, I had an old terry-cloth towel on the bench and the round glass that fell out didn't bounce and break. You gotta be careful on that one.

The chassis is in need of new filters. It has three big electrolytics that must be rebuilt, and the set will probably need some coupling and bypass caps and a general going-over. It's a pretty set with a mahogany cabinet and worth the \$15 paid for it at a garage sale. It's a Philco Model 37-630 table model.

PHILADELPHIA - AND PRODUCTION DATA FOR SIGNAL CORPS GEAR, 1940-1945 Ludwell Sibley

Browsing through an otherwise dry volume of military history in a used-book store, I recently chanced across a lengthy table of production numbers for Signal Corps radio and electronics equipment. (The source is R. Elberton Smith, The United States Army in World War II - The War Department - The Army and Economic Mobilization [Washington: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1959], pp. 18-20.) The table gives insight into why certain collectible items from WW II are scarcer than others today - not to mention giving the intended uses of some of the listed sets. The listing below has been adapted from the book's table by rearranging, adding "BC" numbers for the principal Basic Components of many of the sets, and providing notes of explanation.

These items have an added dimension in terms of Pennsylvania radio history: many of them were ware-housed in the Philadelphia Signal Depot (in the former Atwater Kent factory buildings), and the contract administrators for many of the sets were housed in the same depot. As a local electronic part of the Arsenal of Democracy, Philoo made large quantities of several sets (SCR-211 frequency meters, SCR-695 IFF sets, APS-15 radars, etc.). RCA in Camden made others, like SCR-518 and -718 radar altimeters.

The more common of these sets had a second career of their own: converted after the war into popular amateur transmitters and receivers. Famous examples include the AN/APS-13, BC-342, BC-348, BC-610, SCR-274-N, and SCR-522. These stayed in wide use into the early '60s.

GROUND RADIO EQUIPMENT

GROUND RADIO EQUIPMENT	C. Long range, 100 mi. and up
A. Short range, up to 25 mi.	Mobile sets, SCR-299, -399, & -499 (BC-342s, -610, -
Portable Sets:	614, -939) for division and corps HQ14,706 Famous sets that led to long-lived improved versions
SCR-194 (BC-222), early VHF set for troops 11,427	(AN/MRC-2, AN/GRC-26).
SCR-195 (BC-322), early VHF set for ground & air-	Morale receiver, R-100/URR, AM, 3 bands85,212
borne units9253	Developed from Hallicrafters RE-1 Sky Courier; also
SCR-300 (BC-1000) VHF "walkie-talkie" 88,040	known as Espey 581.
SCR-511 (BC-745) guidon-held HF "cavalry" set	AIR COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT
24,384	AN/ARC-3 set, 8 channels7349
SCR-536 (BC-611) HF "handie-talkie"206,753	SCR-274-N command set, components:
Combat losses for these small sets were huge, yet they remained in use well into the Korean war.	BC-453A receiver157,583
SCR-694 (BC-1306) HF AM-CW set23,732	BC-454 receiver161,875
Forerunner of AN/GRC-9.	BC-455 receiver145,848
Radio Sets 19 & 48, British, for Lend-Lease117,247	BC-457 transmitter145,926
The No. 19 was also made in Canada, and sold sur-	BC-458 transmitter
plus in the U.S. No. 48 was equal to SCR-300.	BC-459 transmitter
Vehicular sets:	BC-696 transmitter40,620 These are huge quantities, but do not reflect the
AN/VRC-3 VHF tank radio to talk with SCR-300 8667	Navy's large purchases of equivalent radios as its
SCR-178 (BC-186, -187, -188), early HF set for field	RAT, RAV, ARA/ATA, and AN/ARC-5 series.
artillery3137	SCR-287 (BC-348, -375), long-range liaison set
These primitive units, of ca. 1932 design vintage, are	102,508
highly collectible today.	"Every" B-17, B-24, etc. had an SCR-287 and -274N.
SCR-284 (BC-654) AM-CW command set 63,972 SCR-510 (BC-620), for armored force units 45,857	SCR-522 (BC-624, -625) VHF set198,398
SCR-608 (BC-683s, -684, -605) for ground troops	A U. S. adaptation of a British design, these were
11,878	also furnished to (and copied by) the Soviet Air Force.
SCR-610 (BC-659) VHF artillery-liaison set108,780	SCR-585 (BC-721), SCR-536 "handie-talkie" modified
RC-261 (RM-52, -53) remote-control set, for use with	for gliders
SCR-608, -609, -610, -619, and -62847,906	No wonder BC-721s are so rare vs. BC-611s!
BC-606 interphone control for various SCRs 608,746	RC-36 (BC-347, -366) aircraft interphone113,845
RC-99 (BC-367, -606, -739) interphone for tanks, etc.	WIRE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT
28,280	Telephone equipment:
B. Medium range, 25-100 mi.	EE-8 field telephone in leather case1,363,061
Portable sets:	Soviet-type field phone for Lend-Lease334,976
SCR-177 (BC-191, -312, -314) for ground and ground-	BD-71 portable field switchboard42,382
to-air use4627	C-114 loading coil to extend field-wire range .391,243
SCR-593 (BC-728), HF warning receiver for signals of	SB-18/GT light "emergency" switchboard15,611
SCR-543 (see below)55,371	Teletype equipment:
Vehicular sets:	EE-97 field teletype with generator set22,604
SCR-193 (BC-191, -312) AM-CW set	EE-98 teletype, used w/ commercial current4860
SCR-245 (BC-223, -312), AM-CW set for air or ground	TC-18 terminal set repeater for long lines5252
units11,513 SCR-245 was tried as an aircraft command set (too	TT-6/FG teletype (Bell Model 15), weather kbd7631 TT-8/FG teletype (Bell Model 19), weather kbd9185
heavy) before SCR-274-N was available.	
SCR-506 (BC-652, -653) tank or combat-car AM-CW	Wire Reels:
set17,272	DR-4, for 2000' twisted-pair field wire2,670,626 DR-5, for one mile of W-110 wire2,032,175
SCR-538 (BC-603, -604, -605), for mech and armored	DR-15, for Spiral-Four cable839,971
units40,097	Wire (quantities in miles):
SCR-543 (BC-669), AM command set for coast artil-	W-110-B, twisted-pair3,346,452
lery13,439	W-130, assault wire950,458
A land-based adaptation of a Hallicrafters small-boat	W-143, 2-conductor parallel179,548
radiotelephone.	W-1-T2, 1-conductor1,422,557

Poles, 25 to 45 foot wood	FIGHTER-CONTROL RADIOS, TRUCK-MOUNTED SCR-573 (BC-640s) transmitter
SCR-717 (BC-1007 et al.) surface-vessel detector	Navy used RC-103 also. RC-193 (BC-1023 or -1033), for marker beacons
Miscellaneous:	91,448
AN/APG-13, rangefinder for B-25 bomber nose gun 1529 AN/APS-13 tail-warning radar for fighters33,387 SCR-720 (BC-1142 et al.), air-interception radar.5107 AN/CPQ-1 proximity fuze889,101 It's not known whether this was the bomb or the ar-	Emergency transmitter: SCR-578 (BC-778) "Gibson Girl"
tillery-shell version of the proximity fuze, but the sur- prise is that it had an "AN" number. The "C" indicates "air transportable" - was it ever!	COUNTERMEASURES JAMMERS Radar: AN/APQ-2 and -9, airborne barrage jammer22,860 AN/APT-1 and -2 airborne low power13 561
prise is that it had an "AN" number. The "C" indicates "air transportable" - was it ever! AIR-DEFENSE RADARS SCR-268 (BC-406 et al.) gunlaying and searchlight control	Radar:
prise is that it had an "AN" number. The "C" indicates "air transportable" - was it ever! AIR-DEFENSE RADARS SCR-268 (BC-406 et al.) gunlaying and searchlight control	Radar: AN/APQ-2 and -9, airborne barrage jammer22,860 AN/APT-1 and -2, airborne, low power13,561 Radio: AN/ART-3, -7, and -11, barrage jammers against tank radios, etc