



# The Oscillator



“All the Electrons that are Fit to Flow . . . “

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

March 2012

## February Meeting Notes and Minutes

The theme for February's meeting was a members auction. As a result the minutes will be a little short this month.

Mike Koste called the meeting to order. After enlisting someone to help with the sale of 50/50 tickets, he announced that 2012 dues are due. Dues remain \$20.00 per year. The club does not pro-rate dues. For that you get the "Oscillator" - our monthly newsletter and so much more.

As of the club meeting, the balance in the treasury was \$7267.15.

February 4, 1992 was listed as the date of the first meeting of the DVHRC. That said, it appears with this meeting our club is 20 years old. No cake, or fireworks, but a round of applause for 20 great years!

There is a fine radio auction in Repaupo, New Jersey on March 12, 2012. Details can be seen at [www.ssauction.com](http://www.ssauction.com).

For members who are not aware, [www.auctionzip.com](http://www.auctionzip.com) allows you to search for auctions close to your zip code, and allows you to search for keywords in the auction's listing, such as 'radios'.

Auctioneers are well aware of this

website, and pretty much all auctions can be found there.

In late breaking news, the club was informed by the Borough of Telford that we had to remove all the club items we have had stored at the meeting site. The club is trying to work with the town to secure some on-site storage; however, in the meantime it is cooperating.

All the tube, capacitors, and other club items have been removed. Members needing tubes should email Dave Dean (see page 2 for contact info). Mike Koste will be bringing the capacitors to the March meeting. Further arrangements concerning them will be announced at the March meeting.

Next month, the theme of the meeting will be "Twins and Clones." Check you collections and look for radios that look like other sets or those those that are knock-off's of sets that are better known. Zenith Trans-Oceanics come to mind, as an example.

The members' auction got started after the refreshment break. All the items seemed to go - either as "buy-it-now's" or during the auction.

Next month's meeting will be Tuesday, March 13 at the Telford Community Center. Meeting time is 7:30 PM. - *Dave Snellman*

## Looking ahead

### March 13, 2012

Monthly Meeting at Telford  
Theme: "Twins & Clones" Radios

### April 10, 2012

Monthly Meeting at Telford  
Theme: "Color" radios

### May 8, 2012

Monthly Meeting at Telford  
Theme: Kutztown Prep

### May 11-12, 2012

Kutztown XXVI at Renninger's

## Member Radio Pictures for the DVHRC website

In 2011, your editor proposed a member's favorite radio page on the club's website, [www.dvhrc.info](http://www.dvhrc.info). To date, there has been just one submission. To make it worthwhile, a minimum of 5-10 members is needed.

What do you have to do? Two options:

1. Send the Oscillator editor ([saegers@ptd.net](mailto:saegers@ptd.net)) a digital image of you favorite radio along with a description and any other information.
2. Bring your radio to a monthly meeting where I will take pictures.

This is not meant to be a vehicle to sell radios, but rather a way to show-



**Delaware Valley Historic  
Radio Club  
PO Box 5053  
New Britain, PA 18901  
www.dvhrc.info**

*The Oscillator* is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club.

Articles on radio and television history and collecting can be submitted by the 25th of the prior month to the editor at saegers@ptd.net.

Personal views, opinions and technical advice do not necessarily reflect those of members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, nor is the DVHRC responsible for any buying or selling transactions.

Dues are \$20 per year and can be paid at a meeting or mailed to the above address.

### **DVHRC Board of Directors**

#### **President:**

Mike Koste  
215-646-6488  
gokmike@gmail.com

#### **Vice-President:**

Dave Dean  
610-933-0330  
dw.dean@verizon.net

#### **Secretary/Treasurer:**

Dave Snellman  
267-354-1395  
dsnellman@comcast.net

#### **At-Large members:**

Stan Saeger  
610-967-5340  
saegers@ptd.net

Walt Peters  
215-487-3602  
wpeters143@msn.com

off your favorite radios to the online world.

Hopefully, enough members will come forward over the next few months to make this happen.

## **Q-mart Store Closes**

Unfortunately, "The Brass People", a store in the Quakertown Farmer's Market has closed. "The Brass People" carried the Mohawk line of toners and lacquer, along with other refinishing supplies of interest to collections.

Its too bad to lose a local store that carried these products.

## **2012 Dues are Due**

Membership dues of \$20 for 2012 are payable now. Mail to Dave Snellman, (address to the right), or give to Dave at a meeting.

## **Whatever Happened to Channel 1?**

In North America, channel 1 is a former broadcast (over-the-air) television channel. During the experimental era of TV operation Channel 1 moved around the lower VHF spectrum, swapping places with an early allocation for the FM broadcast band.

Shared use between land mobile and television broadcasters was eventually found to be unworkable in this range, so in 1948 the FCC reallocated the channel's frequency range for public safety and Amateur Radio 6m band use.

Channel 1 was allocated at 44-50 MHz between 1937 and 1940. Visual and aural carrier frequencies within

the channel fluctuated with changes in overall TV broadcast standards prior to the establishment of permanent standards by the National Television Systems Committee.

In 1940, the FCC reassigned 44-50 MHz to the FM broadcast band. Television's channel 1 frequency range was moved to 50-56 MHz (see table below). Experimental television stations in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles were affected.

Commercial TV allocations were made by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under the NTSC system on July 1, 1941. Channel 1 was located at 50-56 MHz, with visual carrier at 51.25 MHz and aural carrier at 55.75 MHz.

At the same time, the spectrum from 42 to 50 MHz was allocated to FM radio. Several commercial and experimental television stations operated on the 50-56 MHz Channel 1 between 1941 and 1946, including one station, WNBT in New York, which had a full commercial operating license.

In the first postwar allocation in the spring of 1946, Channel 1 was moved back to 44-50 MHz, with visual at 45.25 MHz and aural at 49.75 MHz. FM was moved to its current 88-108 MHz band.

But WNBT and all other existing stations were moved to other channels, because the final Channel 1 was reserved for low power community stations covering a limited area.

While a handful of construction permits were issued for this final version of Channel 1, no station ever actually broadcast on it before it was removed from use in 1948.

When the FCC initially allocated

broadcast television frequencies, channel 1 was logically the first channel.

When the FCC initially allocated broadcast television frequencies, channel 1 was logically the first channel. These U.S. TV stations originally broadcast on the 50-56 MHz channel 1

W2XBS/WNBT (today's WNBC), New York City (1941–1946), reassigned in 1946 to channel 4

W6XAO/KTSL (today's KCBS-TV), Los Angeles, reassigned post-war to channel 2

W9XZV Chicago, 1939–1945?; Zenith's experimental station, billed as the first all-electric TV station in 1939. Later moved to Channel 2.

KARO, Riverside, California; never began broadcasting, no current VHF allocation

WSBE, South Bend, Indiana; never began broadcasting on channel 1, but was relicensed as WSBT-TV in 1952 on UHF channel 22.

By September 1945, additional stations temporarily granted construction permits to operate on channel one included:

W8XCT (WLW) Cincinnati, Ohio ultimately built on channel 4 as commercial station WLWT, later moved to channel 5.

W9RUI Iowa City, Iowa held an un-built construction permit,

W8XGZ Charleston, West Virginia, licensed to a chemical company, also held a channel one construction permit; there is no indication the stations ever got on the air.

In 1946, prior to cable TV and the invention of Public-access television channels, the FCC decided to reserve channel 1 for low-power Community television stations, and moved existing channel 1 stations to higher frequencies.

Community television stations covered smaller cities and were allowed to use less radiated power. None of these stations were built before the FCC imposed a freeze on all television station construction permits in mid-1948, and removed the channel one allocations.

From 1945 to 1948 TV stations in the U.S. shared Channel 1 and other channels with fixed and mobile services. The FCC decided in 1948 that a primary (non-shared) allocation of the VHF radio spectrum was needed for television broadcasting.

Except for select VHF frequencies in Alaska and Hawaii (and some overseas territories) the FCC-administered VHF band is primarily allocated for television broadcasting to this day.

The FCC in May 1948 formally changed the rules on TV band allocations based on propagation knowledge gained during the era of shared-user allocations.

The 44-50 MHz band used by Channel 1 was replaced by lower-power narrow-band users.

Channel 1 was reassigned to fixed and mobile services (44-50 MHz) in order to end their former shared use of other VHF TV frequencies. Rather than renumber the TV channel table, it was decided to merely remove Channel 1 from the table.

*This article is excerpted from wikipedia and as such, can be*

*reprinted or distributed. Any errors or omissions are the responsibility of the original authors.*

*The original article is at: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Channel\\_1\\_\(North\\_American\\_TV\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Channel_1_(North_American_TV))*