

All the Electrons that are fit to flow.



OSCILLATOR

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Vol. 15, No. 12, April, 2008

April meeting and Kutztown News

April Meeting (and Kutztown update)

By Dave Snellman

April 8, 2008 was the night of our meeting. This was the meeting before the May 2008 Kutztown Radio Show. We had a busy night: planning for Kutztown, a "show and tell," and a technical presentation.

On the planning side, we have special event Friday evening at Kutztown – the quality auction with Richard Estes as auctioneer. We need some extra "runners" and clerking help to make this event a success.

We also need to get all our normal show items in place. All the usual suspects were given their marching orders.

On to the show and tell... Dave Dean showed us a Hallicrafters SX-20, a nine-tube set.

Dave bought it at a prior Kutztown meet and has it working well.



Our technical presentation was given by Dan Schwartzman. The topic was high fidelity table top radios. Dan's presentation showed how early TRF receivers had a wide bandwidth; therefore, they produced better audio (fidelity.) As FM made the scene, thanks to Edwin Howard Armstrong with W2XMN in Alpine, NY, high bandwidth broadcasts were possible. This gave birth to the Yankee network, a series of FM stations along the east coast.

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Next Meeting Program

Show and Tell

June 10th, 2007

Telford Center, 7:30pm

*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 Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club. Its purpose is to provide information on vintage radio technology and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information. We welcome and solicit information on vintage radio history or technology. Submissions should be carefully researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on disk should be in Word and pdf format.

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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 at the Telford Community Building, Telford, PA.

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

In spite of RCA's desire to squash FM, it caught on. Many European manufacturers made sets as well as those by American companies.



Slope detection was used by European makers. Those who had license from Armstrong could use his FM detector.

As time passed and FM became more popular, Manufacturers like KLH made some very nice table-top sets. Even today, you'll find sets made by Tivoli, carrying on Henry Kloss's design ideas.



Our meeting ended with the usual auction which included some of the estate radios the club purchased. The lesser ones were sold and the better ones went to the Kutztown Friday night auction.

Kutztown Update

The Kutztown Radio Show and Swapmeet was held on May 9th and 10th at Renningers. The surprise of this year's meet was a quality action on Friday evening. This was held in the "White Room," located in Renninger's antiques building. Everyone appreciated the fact that we were inside – in a warm and dry environment. Richard Estes of Medina, Ohio was the auctioneer and the event was a real highlight. In less than two hours, radio related items (well, at least, mostly) brought in almost \$6000. AK breadboards, cathedra radios, consoles, tubes, radio literature, and other items made this a really nice event. The clerking went smoothly and everyone was out of the hall by 10 PM.

In spite of the rain and wind, the regular part of the event went well. Tables were full of treasures that changed hands – going home to new owners. The regular club action was held on Saturday at noon. As anticipated, it was a little smaller because of the Friday night's auction.

Still in the process of tabulating the results of the auction and the club's table activity. We'll report that next month.

Ed note-

Because of production problems, this issue is arriving late. I thought the inclusion of the Kutztown news gave reason to produce this issue rather than skip one. The June issue will follow.



Reflections on the Mark Stein Auction

We (Doris and I) had been reading about Richard Estes auctions held in Burbank, OH for some time and wondered what they were like. When we learned that much of the Mark Stein collection was going to be auctioned on February 23, 2008, we decided to make the trip out there for a first hand experience. We left on Thursday, planning to make it an easy trip by stopping along the way. However, when we heard on the car radio that snow was forecast for Friday we drove all the way on Thursday. Friday we awoke to about 4 inches of nice??, new, fluffy white snow covering the great outdoors... including our van. Thanks to my foresight, I had a brush and scraper packed. After digging the van out of the snow, we drove to the auction barn for a preview. WOW! What an array of radios! One seemed more beautiful than the next. We walked around, checking out tabletops, tombstones, some exquisite consoles, a couple of "Strads" and numerous Catalins in a glass cabinet. We learned that not all of the sets belonged to Mark. Typically for each auction some consignment sets are brought in by other collectors to be auctioned off with those from a large collection.

At some point Doris came over to me and excitedly said, "You won't believe the radio that I found. It's a desk with cubby holes just like my parents had when I was a child back on our farm in Minnesota. I've never seen another one like it. I need that!" "OK", I responded, wondering to myself what it would take to get it. The Red Lion desk/cabinet was in very good condition and included an AK radio. We originally planned to attend the auction in a "non-buying mode". However, now there was that AK desk to consider and a friend had asked if I would be a "proxy bidder" for some sets. But more on the bidding later. We continued our review of the radios and recognized many from the pictures in the Estes listing. The smaller radios were all set out on rows and rows of tables with some that apparently were considered more precious in cabinets near the front of the room next to the auctioneers stage. There were several prized Majestic consoles lined up on the other side of the stage. We saw a "MaeWest", several nice Stewart Warners, a few Climaxes and several attractive Emersons among the sets on display throughout the room.

Saturday morning we arrived back at the auction barn to join 30 or 40 others that were milling around among the radios, making notes on a variety of notepads. Each time a guy stopped to study the AK desk we secretly hoped he would walk away and not be interested. At about 0900 the selling commenced for what some referred to as "the junk"... low cost plastic sets, parts sets, coils, caps and "whatever". Most of those items were probably brought in by collectors other than Mark. Bidding stopped at \$2 or \$3 on many of the lots but a few went to 15 or 20 dollars.

Then it was time for the "Main Event". We joined the 75 or 100 others sitting in the rows of chairs facing the podium and many more potential buyers milling around the back of the room. Prior to going to the auction we had dreams of using the set of pictures from the Estes website we had printed to mark down the selling price of the sets. We immediately scrapped that idea when the selling began because the auction moved quickly and there was no relationship between the order in which the radios were sold and the list of pictures. However, Doris did note prices of several of the sets. Ray Chase was sitting in the front row with his wife and was furiously making notes. His listing of the prices should appear in a future ARC.

Shortly after bidding got underway we became aware of an impeccably dressed elderly man

Shortly after bidding got underway we became aware of an impeccably dressed elderly man sitting in the front row. He wore a tailored tan suit and a narrow brimmed tan hat. I referred to him as "The Hat". He apparently had "unlimited funds" because when a set came up that he wanted he smiled demurely and held up his card until any other bidders simply quit. He acquired the "MaeWest" for \$4100 and then ran an Air Castle, an oval shape with a mechanical clock, up to \$5000. That set is pictured on the bottom right of page four of the Estes list. "The Hat" surprised us again when an Emerson tombstone came for up which, as a proxy, I was authorized to go to \$700. He ran it to \$4600. Oh my. Some of the other pricey sets were the Majestic consoles. The 886 was purchased for \$4750 by a buyer bidding by phone from New York. The 776 brought \$1700 and the 666 sold for \$800. A Zenith 7S232 (Walton) not on the picture list sold for \$1400. There were many nice table tops or tombstones that sold for \$200 to \$500.



Now the scenario on the AK desk which we had learned was not part of the Stein collection. When it was put up for bid, Richard, the auctioneer started his chant with "This is a real nice AK radio and cabinet. Let's start it at \$500.... \$400.... \$300...." I raised my card. Then we held our breath as, in spite of repeated encouragement by Rich and other workers, no one else bid. As we all know, certain radios have a high sentimental value. We became the happy owners of such a set. AND, I am pleased that it is a working set with an ABRE-III battery eliminator and an

AK 35 with six good 01A's, installed in the large cubby hole in the center of the set. We considered the remainder of the auction rather anticlimactic. Bidding continued as we stood in line to check out, loaded our treasure and then headed back to our hotel. Sunday we drove home to arrive before another snow and ice storm. We considered that a successful trip.

Lowell Schultz



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ALDERFER RADIO AUCTION

Featuring the Collection of Dr. Melvyn Goldberg

Thursday, June 26, 2008 at 9:00 AM

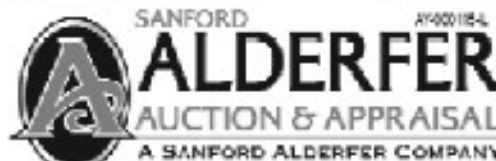
We will be offering nearly 100 lots of radios, radio parts, and radio accessories, with most dating from the pre-1930's to the 1960's. Radios include: Adler-Royal; Atwater Kent (3); Brand/Millen; Braun; Brunswick; Channel Master; Crosley (2); Crosley/Deforest (2); Dayfan; Elco; Federal (3); Fisher; FreedEisemann (2); Freshman (3); GE (4); Grebe, several Homebrews; Jewel; King; Marconi; Michigan; Mitchell; Mohawk; Motorola (3); Neutrowound (2); Nordenhauck; Philco (4); Phillips; Pilot; Portoproducts; Radiola (6); RCA & RCA Victor (4); Reception Radio; Rogers Majestic; Sentinel; Sony; Telefunken; Westinghouse; Zenith; more. ALSO: Amplion AR19 Wood Leave Speaker; RCA 103 Speaker (2); Empire Wood Cone Speaker; circa 1940 US Military Voltage Meter; Fleron Signaler; Signal electric Sounder; Crystal Set; Telegraph Keys; Earphones; Assorted Tubes; Tube Testers; Turn Tables; assorted Reference Books and Magazines; more. These radios will be sold in a separate ring and this sale will be worth the trip.

TERMS: Cash, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and acceptable check. 10% Buyer's Premium (20% to eBay Live Bidders). For further details contact Michael Ivankovich at (215)-393-3002. Certain lots in this Auction will also be sold on eBay Live Auctions. Visit our Web Site for photos and additional details.

Alderfer Auction Company

501 Fairgrounds Road * Hatfield, PA 19440

(215)-393-3000 * www.AlderferAuction.com



501 Fairgrounds Road, Hatfield, PA, 19440

DVHRC RADIO STORE

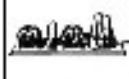
CAPACITY	VOLTAGE	<u>LIST PRICE</u>		<u>CLUB MEMBER PRICE</u>	
		QTY/25	EACH	QTY/25	EACH
.001	630v	\$7.20	.35	\$6.00	.28
.0047		\$7.50	.35	\$6.25	.29
.0068		\$7.60	.36	\$6.35	.30
.01		\$7.80	.36	\$6.50	.31
.022		\$8.30	.37	\$7.00	.33
.033		\$8.60	.42	\$7.25	.35
.047		\$9.00	.43	\$7.50	.36
.1		\$9.60	.48	\$8.00	.48
0.22		\$18.00	.86	\$15.00	.72
0.47		\$24.00	\$1.06	\$20.00	.96
1.0		\$31.20	\$1.50	\$26.00	\$1.25

ELECTROLYTICS:

		QTY/10	EACH	QTY/10	EACH
10	160v	\$6.60	.70	\$5.50	.64
22	160v	\$7.70	.90	\$6.40	.75
33	160v	\$10.10	\$1.30	\$8.40	\$1.01
47	160v	\$11.50	\$1.40	\$9.60	\$1.16
10	450v	\$9.00	\$1.10	\$7.50	\$1.10
22	450v	\$13.30	\$1.45	\$11.20	
\$1.20					
47	450v	\$21.60	\$2.50	\$18.00	
\$2.10					
100	450v	\$34.50	\$3.20	\$28.50	
\$3.85					

AND NOW AVAILABLE: LINE CORDS. DIAL LAMPS.

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