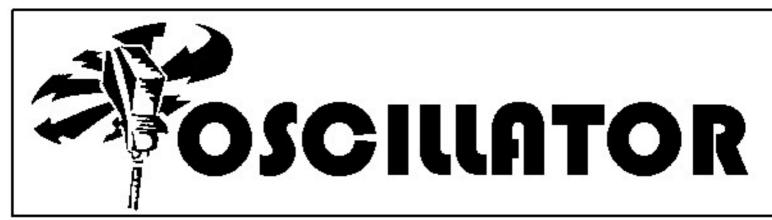
All the Electrons that are fit to flow.



The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Vol. 9. No. 7, October, 2001

# DVHRC Meeting Goes On!

DVHRC Meeting Notes - September 11, 2001 - submitted by Dave Snellman

What can one say? This date will live in our memory, not for the friendly camaraderie of a radio club meeting, but for the horrific attack on our nation. DVHRC officers and members salute the courageous efforts of the rescuers and mourn with those who lost friends or loved ones. God Bless America!

On a positive note, a hearty DVHRC welcome to a new member - Alan Simmons from Reading, PA. It was so good to welcome Al Klase to our meeting. We're all glad to see Al up and about after his accident. We also express our sorrow to Al at the recent loss of his wife, Nora, to cancer.

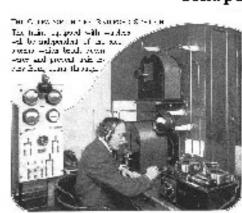
Ludwell Sibley, club member and noted tube authority, and his wife Marilyn were injured in a traffic accident while they were on their way to the AWA meet in Rochester, NY. As of this writing, Marilyn is out of the hospital and staying in a condo nearby to Lud's rehab center. Jerry Vanecek of the Tube Collector's Association was gracious enough to offer this to Lud and Marilyn until they can return home to Oregon. Lud is in rehab. He had two broken legs, as well as, damage to one hand.

Cont. page 2

# Inside the Oscillator

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Ray O'Vaque builds a better battery...positive and negative response!



Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club P.O. Box 847 Havertown, PA 19083

The Condition is published acceptly by acceptant of the occupy of a DVHRC. It's purpose is as provide a forum to educate, referm exercised and communicate with collectors and preserve and womeye radio rechanging.

We will consist and solver reference relating to radio bissory or collecting. Subservines about the carefully researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on discussional be to Word and type for consist.

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To job DVHRC dues a c \$15 po year. The created ship year runs because - December - Please continuits of the Orbits above - Message are beld the record Tuesday of the creatable. 7 30pc to the Telford Community Studiong, Telford, PA

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dtatu@worldnetatt.net.
(deadline is the 20th of each month)

# Meeting Notes continued from Page 1

The members signed cards that were sent out to Lud and Marilyn, wishing them a speedy recovery.

Al Klase announced that the Military Radio Collector's meet, scheduled for this weekend (9-15-2001) was is cancelled, due to military "lock-down" at Tobyhanna.

Of course we had to discuss the Rochester meet. Hotel problems, the proximity of the Muchow auction, and other things contributed to a smaller meet than last year. It still was a great chance to get together with other radio collectors. AWA will not be held at the Rochester site anymore. The hotel was deeded over to Rochester Institute of Technology and two-thirds of the rooms have been converted into college dorms. (nothing like the dorms I remember!) New locations rumored to be in Syracuse, NY, with Lancaster, PA also a possibility. Stay tuned.

Mike Tannenbaum and Pete Grave presented a "show and tell." Pete brought in a National HRO-600, a recent acquisition from Rochester and Mike gave us the low-down on it. It was the last of the line of receiver offered by National. It was a multi-conversion set, with a "nixie" tube read-out. Frequency range of the unit - audio to 30 mHz. From Fred Osterman's book, Shortwave Receivers, Past and Present, it sold new for \$2900 to \$5900, depending on configuration. It doesn't have the familiar HRO dial, instead it came with either the aforementioned nixie tube readout, a pin-wheel readout, or a four-channel fixed-frequency module. All in all a nice piece, not often seen.

Thanks to the effort of Charlie Class, the club library has a new home. It is located in a new cabinet at the Telford Community Center now. We'll have access to the Library at any meeting now. Thanks, Charlie.

That's it for this month. See you all on October 9, 2001 at the Telford Community Center.

Manaral submitted is subject to acceptance and change by the educing A full page and this approximately 400 wards. Princed photos may be submitted for scanning. JPO files should be under 100K.





# Classified Ads

For sale; 3 console B & W televisions from the 50's. Andrea w/doors, Sylvania Halolight in metal console cabinet, RCA blonde console. Call Dave Abram son at 610-827-9757. Best offers.

For sale - Small residual of a part-time radio-to repair business. One Zenifh picture tube (25VCNP22)

NOS. Various old style color coded caps. Transformers, chokes, dial cord, some miniature tubes, some transistors. Zenith Royal 755 Debuse in working order. Leather case in fair condition. \$50 for all. Call Frank Krider at 215-699-9646

#### Classified ad policy.

Ads will be accepted without charge from DVHRC members. Please edit them to a reasonables size to accomodate others. Ads will run per your instructions or until you notify the editor. All other ads at \$5 month or \$50/year. Contact the editor for artwork details.

## From the Parts Bin Dave Abramson, Editor

Last month, when I received the mailing labels from Dave Snellman, they had been culled down to the currently paid members. Much to my surprise, the number was only 66 active members. We have membership numbers issued that go past #200. Where did 130+ members go to?

Granted, some members may have lost interest in the hobby or have wandered off to do their collecting on eBay exclusively, but our club, any club for that matter, needs the institutional knowledge of its members to move the hobby forward. In other words, its not just about buying/selling/collecting, but educating, researching and sharing the knowledge.

And then there is the financial side of this problem. This newsletter is costing about \$1.10 per copy mailed. That is \$13.20 per year per member and the dues are \$15 per year. Not much of a cushion. We still have insurance and rental expenses and depend on the success of our events to keep us solvent. We do have cash reserves, but this erosion is troubling.

How do we turn it around?

ED



#### BUG-O-THE-MONTH

### Schematic on page 5

My vintage TV and radio collecting hobby has always been driven by a strong interest in the vintage technology, and in particular the challenge of tracking down the occasional quirky and/or mysterious bugs that you sometimes come across in repairing these old beasts. I am therefore writing this inaugural article in the hope that other club members will share their most interesting and/or bizarre problems in the coming months.

My bug-o-the-month entry was found in a 1966 Motorola AM/FM transistor radio that I had bought for \$1 at auction. As most people know by now, one of my favorite pastimes is finding something that's one step from the trash bin and bringing it back to life.

This one was pretty dirty, but when I cleaned it up and put in some batteries it actually worked great on FM, but on AM all I got was lots of noise. While playing with it, I realized that the "noise" was actually a badly distorted version of the FM stations as I tuned the dial, even though the switch was set to AM. When I looked inside, it appeared that some connections to the bandswitch(a 3-position slide switch AM/FM/FM AFC) had been messed with, so I assumed that someone must have accidentally cross-wired it.

Unfortunately, I didn't have a schematic. I grudgingly ordered a copy from an ARC contact for \$3.50; probably more than the radiois worth, but it was a challenge at this point!

When I got the schematic, I eagerly looked to see what the previous repairman had messed up. You guessed it - there was absolutely nothing wrong with the connections, and yet the radio still received garbled FM stations on the AM band! Since I am writing this article, you can also guess that I eventually found the problem. The important part of the schematic is shown in Figure 1. If you would like to try to figure it out yourself first, I've given a hint by putting a circle around the important switch section. One more hint - it's NOT a shorted switch; that would be too easy!

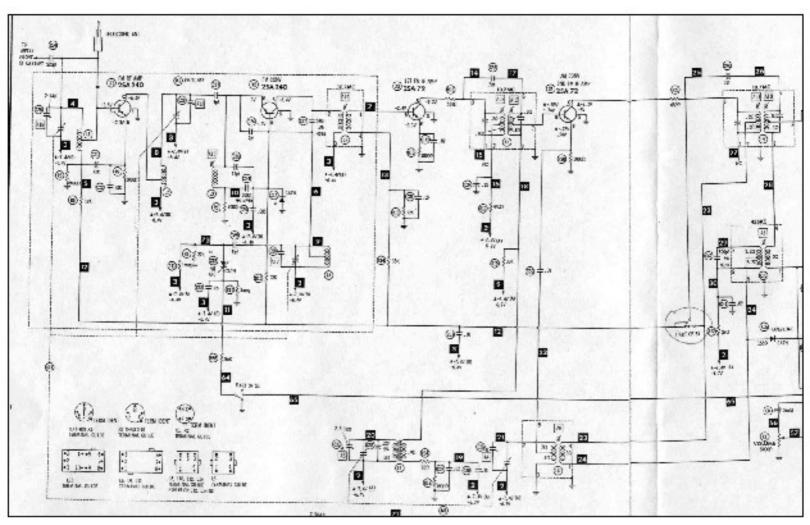
Here's what I eventually figured out - the wire labelled "12" in the schematic looks a LOT like an FM AGC line, since it goes to the base of all the FM front-end transistors, but in fact it isn't. When the circled switch is in the FM or FM AFC position this wire provides the forward-bias voltage from the power supply for the emitter-base junctions of the first 3 FM stages. In the AM position, this wire is just left floating, and since all 3 bases are returned to ground, these 3 FM transistors should be "cut off". Normally, radios would turn off the collector supply to the FM stages when in AM, but in this radio they apparently pulled this "trick" to turn off the FM front-end to save on switch sections.

In my radio, however, this line measured at 2.3 volts in AM position, even with no obvious voltage source! The old germanium transistors in the FM front-end had become leaky with old age and there was enough leakage through the reverse-biased base-collector junctions to slightly turn on all 3 stages, even with no base supply current! So, FM stations were leaking through all the way to the AM detector and messing up AM reception.

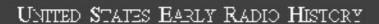
Since old germanium transistors are hard to find, and since these still had plenty of gain (despite the leakage), I fixed the problem by putting a 4.7K ohm resistor from line "12" to ground. This was enough to cut off the transistors again when in AM position, without loading down the power supply too much in FM. At least, it will work until the transistors get even more leaky!

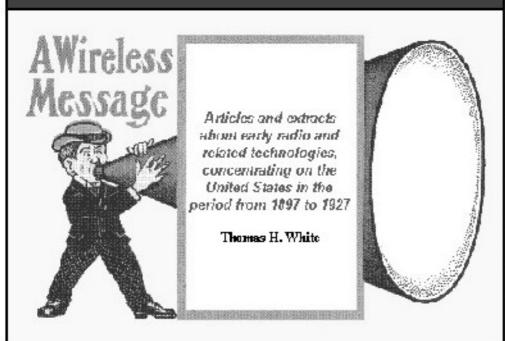
Don't forget the challenge - please send in your own favorite BUG-O-THE-MONTHS! - Mark E. Thierbach





# Website of the Month





Ted Sowricka passed along this site assembled by Thomas H. White. It is an endless collection of articles and treatises covering early radio history from the late 1800's to the late 1920's. Let the Oscillator know if you manage to read your way through all of the pages. There is technology of the times, evolution of broadcasting, and so many others that space does not permit. It is certainly one of the best contributions to the knowledge of radio history to be found, and it can be found at;

http://www.ipass.net/~whitetho/index.html





# Spanning the Airwayes for October

OCTOBER 16, 1921 The Newark Sunday Call publishes the first radio section in an American newspaper. Two days later, Billy Jones and Ernie Hare (later to become the medium's first big stars as "The Happiness Boys") make their first broadcast on WJZ, New York.

**OCTOBER 4, 1925** A Philadelphia manufacturer realizes advertising their product on a radio program can sell a lot of radios. Debut of "The Atwater Kent Hour" on WEAF and an eleven station pre-network hookup.

OCTOBER 26, 1926 The controversial "radio priest", Father Coughlin, makes his first commentary on WJR, Detroit.

OCTOBER 24, 1929 The first true big-time radio variety show hits the airwaves, "The Fleischman Hour" starring Rudy Vallee was the springboard for future stars like Alice Faye, Frances Langford, Wilton Berle, Joe Penrer, Phil Baker, and most notably, Edgar Bergen

OCTOBER 2, 1932 Burgess Meredith stars in the maiden broadcast of the daytime drama "Red Adams," which, through numerous format changes, evolved into the memorable "Pepper Young's Family".

OCTOBER 23, 1932 Premiere of Fred Allen's initial radio series, "The Linit Bath Club Revue."

OCTOBER 1, 1933 With 100 stations signed up, Ed Wynn's Amalgamated Broadcasting System signs on as the third retwork, only to go bankrupt and off the air two months later. (Incidentally, the call letters of it's New York flagship station, WNEW, stood for Network Ed Wynn.)

**OCTOBER 30, 1933** The first network broadcast of "The Romance of Helen Trent". (This classic soap stayed on the air for 27 years and over 7200 e pisodes!)

OCTOBER 14, 1934 Offering radio dramatizations of popular films, the pioneering anthology "The Lux Radio Theater" begins it's twenty one year run on the Blue network.

OCTOBER 12, 1937 Combine a prime time detective show with a touch of soap opera, and you'll hear "Mr. Keen, Tracer of Lost Persons".

OCTOBER 19, 1937 Crime stories centered around a major metropolitan newspaper! Edward G. Robinson stars as managing editor Steve Wilson in "Big Town". Two weeks later, the daytime drama "Stella Dallas" makes it's pre-network debut on WEAF, New York.

**OCTOBER 5, 1938** Film star Adolph Menjou hosts the initial radio broadcast of "The Texaco Star Theater. Fred Allen takes over October 2, 1940.





**OCTOBER 30, 1938** Martians land in New Jersey and Orson Welles laughs all the way to Hollywood....the infamous "War of the Worlds" broadcast on CBS. (See *DVHRC Oscillator*, 10/98)

OCTOBER 6, 1942 In a twenty hour "radiothon", Kate Smith is credited for selling \$2 million in War Bonds.

OCTOBER 27, 1942 Running concurrently with "Your Hit Parade," Frank gets a show of his own, simply called "Songs By Sinatra".

OCTOBER 8, 1944 Ozzie and Harriet Nelson celebrate their real-life ninth wedding anniversary with the premiere of "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" on CBS.

OCTOBER 5, 1945 Best known as a fixture on NBC-TV, "Meet the Press" was first heard on the Mutual radio re twork.

OCTOBER 20, 1945 Promoted as "the highest-paying quiz program in the World", "Break the Bank" joins Mutual's Saturday night line-up.

**OCTOBER 16, 1946** Bob Hope guest stars with Birg Crosbyon "Philoo Radio Time" as ABC takes a chance on the first pre-recorded retwork radio show.

**OCTOBER 13, 1947** The first telecast from the White House is made as President Truman addresses the nation of food conservation.

OCTOBER 27, 1947 Groucho Marx finally has a hit on radio with the ABC comedy quiz, "You Bet Your Life".

OCTOBER 15, 1951 The first telecast of "I Love Lucy".

OCOTOBER 2, 1953 Edward R. Murrow's celebrity interview program "Person to Person" fist airs on CBS-TV.

OCTOBER 19, 1953 Major Edwin Armstrong makes the first public demonstration of FM stere o multiplex transmission.

OCTORER 23, 1005 According to the ECC, US, radio etations now total 11, 987







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