

All the Electrons that are fit to flow.



OSCILLATOR



The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Vol. 11, No. 9, October, 2003

Kutztown...1, Hurricane Henri...0

KUTZTOWN DELIVERS...AGAIN!

Reported by Mike Koste

"Well, just as expected, this was the greatest show of the year. I sold more radios and made more money than any show I EVER DID. I also saw more good items to buy than anywhere else this year".

If you had to dilute September's Kutztown Radio Meet into a single a paragraph, nobody could have said it any better than DVHRC's **Dan Collins**. Member **Tom Lager** also offered his two cents:

"I thought it was a great show, rain not withstanding. The other so-called "big" meets are to far away for me and this one fills the bill perfectly. Picked up some parts and tubes I needed and a nice Schaub-Lorenz table radio. Thanks to the DVHRC for another great show".



We can all appreciate the applause, but let's not kid ourselves here: Contrary to the pre-meet publicity blitz, the pavilion at Renninger's is clearly not as "weatherproof" as we thought. The remains of Tropical Storm Henri threatened the better part of Friday and genuinely flung it's wrath Saturday morning.

Inside the Oscillator

Meeting notes.....	1
More notes.....	2
Kutztown can't.....	4
Kutztown pictures.....	5
Our advertisers.....	6
War of the Worlds.....	7
Advertisers.....	8



Newsletter of the
Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club
P.O. Box 5053
New Britain, PA 18901

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

We welcome and solicit information relating to radio history or collecting. Submissions should be carefully researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on discs should be in Word and jpg. format.

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Personal views, opinions and editorial advice offered in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, and its directors assume responsibility for any buying or selling transactions involved.

To join DVHRC dues are \$15 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. Printed photos may be submitted for scanning. JPG files should be under 100K.

Meeting Notes continued from Page 1

Though not as severe a storm as the one which plagued MAARC's Radioactivity earlier in the season, vendors and buyers alike realized there is little or nothing one can do to combat rain falling sideways. It seems only fitting that the one person who banged the drum loudest (yours truly) was the guy who ended up with six inches of water under his tables. (Poetic justice, I believe they call it.) So much for the bad news.

Believe it or not, the stormy weather actually worked to our advantage. The heaviest rains occurred when foot traffic was at it's peak. Since nobody wanted to leave the sanctity of roof, vendors were left with a



captive audience. Not wanting to make a mad dash for the parking lot, radio buyers and non-radio flea market shoppers remained undercover. And they spent money. (Case in point, it was the club's best financial showing in raffle ticket sales since Buckingham in the mid 90's....and tube sales were nothing short of remarkable.)

The Friday start and free overnight camping showed some encouraging gains over Spring. The early trading was calm and low-key compared to the usual frenzy seen on Saturday mornings. A number of quality items changed hands as they were being unloaded. By late afternoon, I couldn't help but sense an air of a national meet, greeting old friends I hadn't seen in years and becoming acquainted with many who came great distances to find out if everything they'd heard about Kutztown was true. A canvas of the parking lot shortly before dark confirmed my suspicions: Besides the locals you'd expect to see, license plates from Maryland, Virginia, New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Georgia, Florida, and Michigan! As it turns out, the Michiganders were set up right next door to Gobs of Knobs.

We became instant pals with **Dick Jones** who made the drive from the town of Milan (near Ann Arbor) with his daughter. Besides hooking him up with a knob that was missing from a Philco cathedral, the DVHRC treated the Jones' to steak dinners for having logged the most miles to swap radios. And in a bizarre coincidence, the winner of our restored Silvertone radio was (you guessed it): **Dick Jones!**

From a post-meet email, **Mark Stein** apparently returned to Baltimore on Saturday a happy camper:

"Many thanks again for your invitation and hospitality. I had a great time at the meet. Of course, my favorite part was shooting the breeze with all the familiar faces and meeting some new collectors. Financially, I did better than expected in selling books. I wish the weather had been better so I could have seen what the real turn out would have been. Given the good weather, it could have been a big buzz in the collector community.

I still think it will be and would be delighted to be invited to future events. I'll continue to endorse the DVHRC Renningers meet as the one to go to. Thanks again for a great meet and for the steak dinner!"



Mark was kind enough to contribute an autographed set of his Radiomania price guides to the DVHRC to raffle and they went home with **Tom Lager**.

While I haven't seen any official numbers from Renningers., there appeared to be the same number of sellers in attendance as the May meet, but utilizing more table and floor space. Sensing the last major event of the season, those vendors offered a seemingly more diverse selection of goods than in the past. It was refreshing to see so many parts being

offered. Battery equipment was in profusion. In fact, you couldn't swing a dead cat without hitting a Radiola III...there must have been at least a dozen of them for sale! **Al Klase** entertained everyone in attendance on "Radio Free Kutztown", broadcasting old time radio on a low power AM transmitter. Friday night's high-end hifi set up consisting of a pair of Voice of the Theater speakers driven by a couple of Canadian Northern Electric blocks actually had people pulling up lawn chairs to give a very serious listen.

Without the benefit of the estate items we had up for auction at the Spring event, a few of the leftovers made it to the block. The club benefitted handsomely from the sale of several of the Shickerling Tube posters and Radiotron hang tags. In the absence of **the Daves (Abramson & Snellman)**, both **Ted Sowirka** and myself surely have a greater appreciation for the hard work they put into the auctions. DVHRC's resident Colonel, **Pete Grave** gave a classic performance keeping order and the bids flying at a fever pitch.

As usual, between donations and consignments, there were bargains galore.

The DVHRC family grew by three over the weekend. Joining our ranks, **Richard Goodin** of Oswego, NY and **Stephanie Coles** who resides in Sciota, PA but commutes to work in Montgomeryville (!) We also welcome back our old pal **Bob Masterson**, now living in Westwood, NJ who returns to the club after an extended hiatus. (Ah, the lure of a steak dinner and free beer.....!)



As the Kutztown Radio Meet continues to gain momentum, an on-going concern has been the lack of volunteers to keep the event running smoothly. I'm more than pleased to acknowledge that this was not the case in September. Not only did we have adequate hands available at auction time, but during some periods of the meet we actually had two or more members manning the club table. The DVHRC deserves a collective pat on the back for helping to stage a successful swap meet, but extra special thanks go out to those who demonstrated *esprit de corps*: **Lowell Schultz, Charlie Class, Ted Sowirka, Tom Speigel, Bill Overbeck, Fred Saul, Ted Simmons, Bryan Irwin, Jiri Placek, Al Klase, Ned Borger, Dan Collins, Pete Grave** and the "forever young" **Jim Tree**, who not only showed up with a

vanload on Friday afternoon, unloaded, drove back to Lansdale and back to Renninger's with another load, unloaded and still managed to put in an hour at the club table Friday night! And, as always **The Staff at Renningers** who always make us feel welcome.

**Be sure to be at
the next meeting on
October 14th for a
full report!**



More Kutztown pictures



Dinner and a Detrola



What hurricane?



All photos courtesy of Ted Sowirka



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The sensational Magnaformer 8-8 receiver redesigned for A. C. all electric operation is a proven success. Unlike the usual A. C. circuits the Magnaformer electric uses heater tubes throughout with the exception of the output which may be a 112 or 171 power tube. This insures freedom from the usual source of A. C. line disturbances and makes possible an electrically operated receiver that is perfectly quiet and stable in operation. Uses 3 UX227 A.C. tubes and one power tube.

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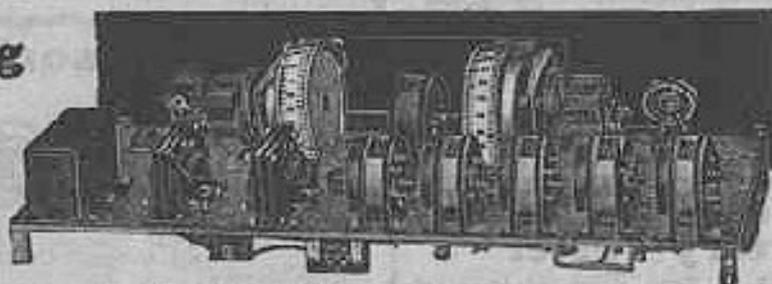
No. B7053 **\$76⁹⁵**
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1—9x25 sub panel	6.50
5—Magnaformer intermediate transformers	42.50
1—Tautcoupler	6.50
1—Remier universal drum dial	9.00
2—Remier .0005 condensers	10.00
2—Benjamin No. 9037 sockets	7.20
1—Benjamin No. 9044 socket	.50
1—Pair Benjamin sub panel brackets	12.70
2—Ferranti A.C. transformers	17.00
1—National tone filter	2.00
1—National No. 125 R. F. choke	5.25
2—Aerovox .00025 grid condensers	.80
1—Aerovox .0001 condenser	.40
1—Aerovox 1. mf. bypass condenser	1.50
1—Durham 9 meg grid leak	1.00
1—Valex No. 640 cable connector	2.50
1—No. 6 Jack switch	1.25
1—Frost 200,000 ohm variable resistor	1.75
1—Frost 510,000 ohm variable resistor	1.75
2—Frost 1704 tapped resistors	2.00
1—Tip jacks	.60
wiring diagram, screws, lugs, wire, etc.	2.00
Total List	\$131.50

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1—Bakelite sub panel 6x25	\$6.50
5—Magnaformer intermediate transformers	\$42.50
1—Tautcoupler unit	\$6.50
2—Remier .0005 condensers	\$10.00
2—Benjamin UX cushion sockets, 9044	\$4.50
1—Pair Benjamin sub panel brackets	\$12.70
2—Ferranti audio transformers	\$17.00
1—National tone filter	\$2.00
1—National R. F. choke 125	\$5.25
2—Aerovox grid condensers .00010 Eds	\$1.20
1—Aerovox .001 condenser, 40c	\$1.50
1—Aerovox 1 mf. bypass condenser	\$1.50
2—Durham 9 meg grid leak	\$2.00
1—Frost 200,000 ohm variable resistor	\$1.75
1—Frost 510,000 ohm variable resistor	\$1.75
2—Frost 1704 ohm resistors	\$2.00
1—Tip jacks	\$1.25
1—Frost 10 ohm rheostat	\$1.00
1—Valex No. 640 cable connector	\$2.50
1—No. 6 Jack switch	\$1.25
1—Frost 20 ohm rheostat	\$1.00
4—Frost slip jacks, 30c	\$1.20
1—Aerovox .0005 condenser	\$1.50
1—Valex tube connector	\$3.00
1—Durham 9 meg grid leak	\$1.00
2—2-in. right angle supports	\$1.00
1—1/2x1/2 block, 10c	\$1.00
1—wiring diagram, screws, wire, lugs, etc.	\$2.20
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