



The Oscillator



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

The Official newsletter of the DVHRC

FALL 2017

Kutztown XXXVII Review



One aspect of the success of our Kutztown Radio Meet series is the great volunteer effort by our club. There is much planning of details, with you, our faithful participants in mind, to fine tune, improve and innovate. Led by the DVHRC board and managed locally by Lewie and the Renninger family and employees, there are many hours spent to add to your enjoyment of this event. Some of the Ktown-37 innovations included informative flyers for attendees, signage and Saturday incentives in the way of prizes and awards. Saturdays will never be the same! We thank Jarret, Dave(s), Walt, Pete, and many club members who discussed these ideas at meetings, gave of their time at the club table and performed setup and tear-down; without them there would be no Kutztown.

The requirement to qualify for Saturday's cash prizes was you had to be there. Seems simple!



Above: Walt rewards happy winner just after lunch on Saturday.

Another award presented early Saturday afternoon was "Best Display". Criteria included display arrangement, eye catching effect, pricing info, variety of offerings and quality of items. Several club members made their rounds and found many nice displays. The one that really caught our fancy was shown by Robert Arner, who along with his wife Mary, displayed what looked like a radio shop with signage and quality pieces owing homage to the Lehighton, Pa. shop the family had been associated with. The goal of the Saturday innovations and prizes

was to give those who stayed a reward for remaining set up and to enable younger folks such as high school and college age (who tend to start their days later) as well as other Renningers antique shoppers, to witness the show.



Above: Robert and Mary Arner of Lehighton, Pa. were winners of cash award for best display. For full effect, please increase size of picture!

Below: Raffle Radio was a handsome 1932 US-Apex Superhet Cathedral with adjustable AVC won by John Begg of Silver Spring, MD.





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

Articles on radio and television history or collecting can be submitted by the 25th of month prior to quarterly issue dates of April, July, October and January to the editor at gdottor@yahoo.com.

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. Meetings held 2nd Tuesday of each month at Telford Community Center.

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The Friday night auction was again efficient and allowed us to later enjoy bonfire activities. Thanks to Pete, Dave, Stan and the runners who get a lot of exercise and lend their expertise to describing items- and of course, all the buyers and sellers. The star of the auction was the wooden Detrola bluebird style set fetching value above its consignor's expectation.



Above: DVHRC's Pete deals during the competitive bidding for the rare wooden Bluebird.

Below: This round Detrola "wooden Bluebird style" radio is either a model 105 or a model 5WG. They both use the same tube complement as follows: 6A7, 78, 75, 43 and 25Z5. The "official Detrola radio web page" shows the one shown below as a model 105. According to that web site, there are more Sparton Bluebirds around than there are "Detrola wooden Bluebirds." The design was probably influenced by Walter Dorwin Teague's design for Sparton.

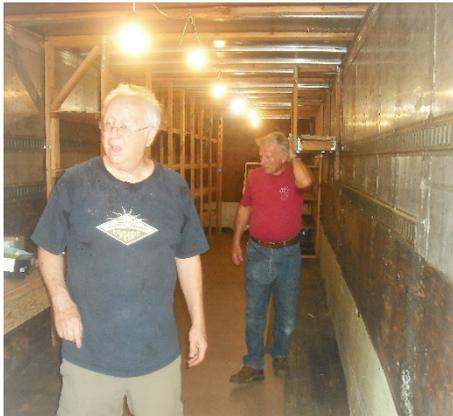


Above: Friday night's bonfire was especially large including this 3-stage array in order to fill an extra-deep hole and due to the accumulation of beyond-repair cabinets that had been stripped of their best. These structures which once housed equipment to covert the electromagnetic wavelengths are now converted to visible wavelengths as their spirit of radio is set free.

New DVHRC Storage Trailer

In August, a used trailer was identified by Charlie Adams to augment our Kutztown storage needs. After the unit was jockeyed into place (no easy feat) by a very patient driver, a work party was organized by Dave Dean to finish off the facility on August 19th. The new unit now includes a workbench, lighting and ample shelving. Electric lines were renewed, dust and dirt swept, floor coverings installed, and LED lighting tested along with stocking the shelves with the club's hollow state components. The trailer will be a great asset for Kutztown show storage well into the future. Many thanks to those making this possible including Dave, Charlie, Lewie, the Renningers organization and the

volunteers including Jack, Al, Fred, Walt, Wilbur, Greg, Mike Koste and Dave Kent among others behind the scenes.



Above: It's starting to get hot in here! Dave Dean planned and organized the August trailer installation party to clean and make ready this new storage facility and a focused volunteer effort had the project done by lunch. **Below:** Jack and Al say measure twice, cut once.



Tube Appeal

Dave Dean informs us that the club inventory of audio tubes, especially the rarer audio tubes such as 12AX7, 12AU7, 6SL7 and similar have been fairly depleted during the recent Kutztown radio meet. These vintage tubes will only become scarcer over time accordingly to following link from a commercial supplier: <http://www.audiotubes.com/12ax7.htm>. Dave asks that we examine our own tube inventories and

possibly donate any extras to the club inventory. Also, Dave and the club are extremely grateful for recent donations before K-town of many rarer tubes by Dave Snellman and Lowell Shultz already tested and boxed. Audio tubes are the tubes that contribute the most to club sales at meets. Please contact Dave Dean with your tube offerings and other related questions.

Museum Appeal

In case you missed a recent post to our DVHRC reflector dvhrc@mailman.qth.net, Dave Kent asked the following: *As we get older, what do we do with our collection of old Radios and parts? I don't want a profit or money - just want a nice home for my stuff-- my wife would not have any idea what to do with old radio stuff!!* Terry Skelton offered the following answer: *Donate to a museum, if you can find one that wants all your stuff and one that is owned by an organization rather than an individual and one that is well-funded enough to still be around in 100 years. This is especially challenging if you have broadcast equipment or recording equipment. To my knowledge there is no recording equipment museum in the country. I see this an obligation the AES (Audio Engineering Society) should take on. It takes a lot of money to create and run a museum. For those of us who participated in the middle years of these arts...too bad none of us became rich enough to endow a big museum. Too much gear goes into dumpsters every year.*

On a related note, Terry recently visited the Wings of Freedom Aviation Museum in Horsham. <http://wingsoffreedommuseum.org/> Terry was greatly impressed with the museum and was able to speak to manager David Tonkin asking about the possibility of military electronics displays. David related that such a display of aviation or other time pieces of commercial radio devices would be welcome either on a temporary or perhaps permanent basis. Terry has appealed to the club members who may have aviation or military electronics. Contact Jarret or Terry if you have items you feel suitable or with any other ideas on how to plan such a display. In the meantime, take your own visit of Wings of Freedom to envision what could be possible. Terry also invites us to view the Radio Broadcasting History site for a plethora of broadcasting publications both technical and programming oriented. It is an awesome site! <http://americanradiohistory.com/>

HT TELEGENIC

Sarnoff Compliments Truman

PRESIDENT TRUMAN is a fine subject for television, RCA and NBC board chairman David Sarnoff said Thursday following a call at the White House, because he "doesn't try to act or play Hollywood."

Gen. Sarnoff said he had viewed the President on TV as he delivered his Wednesday noon message to Congress. He congratulated Mr. Truman on his television demeanor.

Gen. Sarnoff recalled that he had suggested to the late President Roosevelt early in his administration that he should act before the microphone as though he were addressing three or four people. "Just be yourself," he had advised.

Upcoming Regional Events

Following are some excellent programs and a reason to have multiple club memberships in our region's clubs! Paste links into your browser to load. Most of what follows and even more hamfest events can be viewed via this website: [n2lvi delaware valley area hamfests](http://n2lvi.delawarevalleyarea.com/hamfests)

Hamfest- RF Hill Amateur Radio Club

Sunday, 10.15.17, 7AM to 1PM for general public, 6AM for vendors.

Indoor tables \$12 for vendors, outdoor spaces available \$8. VE testing begins at 10AM sharp.

Where: Sellersville Firehouse, 50 N Main St., Bethlehem Pike, Sellersville, PA. Contact Jim Soete, WA3YLQ at 215.723.7294. See website for details including flyer:

<http://rfhillarc.org/events>

The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club (MAARC) Radio Fall Fest

Sunday, 10.15.17 Flea Market gates open at 8:00 AM, Auction starts at 12:30 PM. Admission and Flea Market space is FREE!

Besides antique radios and TVs, will include novelty, transistor, boombox, military, tube guitar amps, restoration supplies and more! As club members can attest, not a bad drive from most Delaware Valley locations. **Where:** Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Address: 3789 Queen Anne Bridge Road, Davidsonville, MD.

See the MAARC website for details: <http://www.maarc.org/>.

NJARC Fall Swap meet

Saturday, 10.28.17, 8AM to 12PM, Cost: \$5; Vendors \$25 per table (non-members \$30). Vendor setup 7:00 AM, Walk-around auction starts at @ 11AM. Expert antique radio repair available. Where: Parsippany PAL, 33 Baldwin

Rd, Parsippany, NJ 07054, USA.

<http://www.njarc.org/#calendar>

NJARC Repair Clinic **Saturday, 11.18.17, 10AM to 5PM, Setup 9:00 AM, Opens 10:00 AM; reservations required.** Where: InfoAge Science History Learning Center, 2201 Marconi Rd, Wall Township, NJ 07719 Phone (732) 280-3000.

<http://www.njarc.org/#calendar>

The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club (MAARC) 5th Winter Fest **Sunday, 01.21.2018. SAVE THE DATE as there will be a special estate auction only event (no swap meet).**

Where: National Electronics Museum, close to the BWI Airport just south of Baltimore. More details to follow on the MAARC website.

2017 DVHRC Meeting Themes

Oct 10- High-End Radios

Nov 14- Decade- 1950's Radios

Dec 12- X-mas Party

Meeting of August 8, 2017

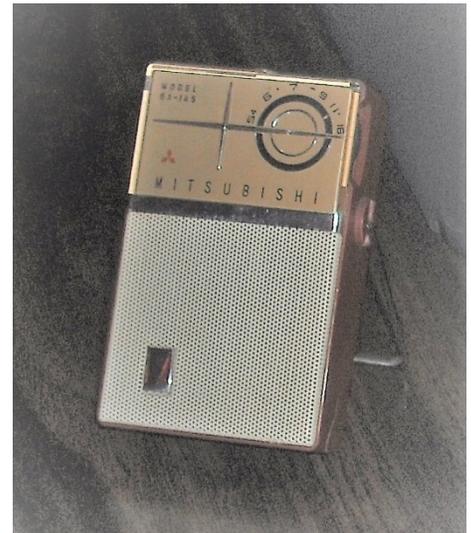
The theme of our October meeting was *Automobile Radios*. Pete Grave led discussion on history of car radios from the 1930's by Galvin Co. where the Motorola name was born, through the 50's.



Above: Pete's bulky vibrator-powered 1941 Chevy 5 band radio including SW also offered by Buick but not by other GM brands. Pete remembers listening to the BBC on a similar unit.



Above: Dave Snellman showed off a 1964 Sony TFM-95 FM MW unit. A special bracket allowed mounting in your car and used a switch to select car antenna. **Below:** Dave displayed a Mitsubishi transistor unit which was also the make of his previous car! He also showed a Realtone "Lincoln" model (not shown), his present ride.



Below: It's Alive! Bob Bennet used some old T.O. parts and various surplus to create this DX Delco machine he used at the last NJARC DX contest. Non directional antenna but great sensitivity.





Above: Lewie has a nice Mustang which is both a car and a radio built by Philco.



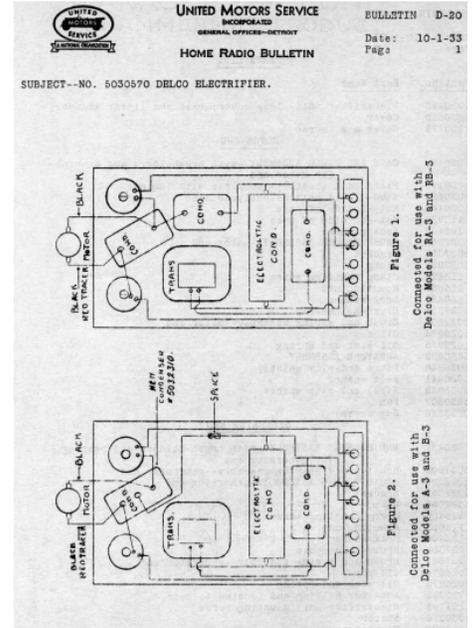
will attempt to get an audio transcript of this lively car radio discussion posted in the future.

Meeting of Sept. 12, 2017

With a somewhat art-deco theme, Jarret brought in a Delco Electrifier unit with a beautiful wooden case.



Above: The Electrifier was used with the Delco RA-3, the first in a series of radios designed and built by Delco in Rochester, NY. The model year is 1932. At the time, there were not any tubes that could deliver sufficient audio power with only about 30 Volts on the plate circuits. You needed voltages of 90 volts or better.... In this particular set the high voltage was to be provided by three large 45 Volt dry batteries wired in series. But if you wanted to run the radio completely from the Delco light plant, they had a far more interesting solution. That was a motor/generator set known as the Electrifier. **Below:** The Delco Electrifier, uncovered, showed the DC motor which ran off the Delco 32 Volt DC light plants. On the top of next column appears a home radio bulletin on the Electrifier product. Please magnify for better viewing.



Below: Rick and Fred discuss Philco at July's tailgate auction held in Telford. This auction always proves to offer great values.



Dude, you left me very little room here, so 73's and goodbye for now from DVHRC.