



The Oscillator

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



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DVHRC

SPRING 2024

In Loving memory of Lewie

It is with the deepest sadness that DVHRC announces the passing of Lewie Newhard, a long-time member of DVHRC and a great booster of our hobby.



His obituary stated: Lewis C. Newhard, 82 of Northampton, passed away peacefully on March 25, 2024. Born in Catasauqua, he was the son of Carl Hoffman and June Moreland. His love for radios commenced when he worked in a radio shop after school. Lewis was a Sergeant and served honorably in the US Navy in Vietnam. He was a technician at Western Electric, later Lucent Technologies for 41 years before retiring in 2001. He started the Kutztown Radio show with several of his friends within DVHRC. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him and will be lovingly

remembered by his partner of 30 years, Alice K. Wolf, daughter, Suzanne Grischott, and half-brother Al.

On the clear, blustery morning of March 29th, many of Lewie's friends and family gathered graveside to celebrate his life including a moving American Legion military rifle salute. Stories of Lewie were exchanged by those who knew him on the job, as a tech/assistant at his Kutztown Radio Store and as a life friend including many from Kutztown Radio shows and the extended radio community.

Lewie was a one-of-a-kind, with incredible knowledge stored in his brain, accessible at a moment's notice. He was a straight shooter and classic story-teller who always spoke his mind and truth. Many were mentored by this electronics genius who had a genuine interest in all of us who asked a question. There was no question too dumb to ask by newer club members. Lewie served on the technical advisory board of DVHRC in the earliest days. "Classic Lewie" can be found in the DVHRC Oscillator article of July 2001 on page 6 entitled "From Lewie's Bench". https://www.dvhrc.com/pdfs/July_2001.pdf



DVHRC produced a 2019 YouTube presentation by Lewie at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6K0O3DJa6u4>

It was late in 2023 that Ron Ramirez passed, and like Ron, Lewie was a proponent and admirer of most Philco radios. Lewie always told us of Philco's better design and components, especially transformers that made them the best and warned us against inferior brands. As the total eclipse will have occurred on Monday, 4.8.2024, coincidentally, it will have passed directly over Ron's home in Indiana and later that day, somewhat close to Lewie's home turf. That temporary darkness will be followed by the light these two have left as their legacy to the radio hobby. Many stories of Lewie will be shared at future Kutztown Radio Shows, an event he loved so much. He'll be there with us in spirit!



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

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.

DVHRC Board of Directors

President:

Jarret Brown / 610-704-0803
jpb205@lehigh.edu

Vice President:

Tom Spiegel
Adxymox62@netzero.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

Dave Snellman / 267-328-8857
dsnellman@comcast.net

At Large members:

Fred Saul / 484-357-6537
fsantiqueradio@dejazzd.com

Greg Dottor / 610-844-6326
gdottor@yahoo.com

It was also reported recently of the passing of DVHRC member Dave Dean's wife of 56 years, Mary Carmel Dean. Dave was a devoted and loving care-giver for her these past years. Please keep Dave and his family in your prayers as they grieve their loss. A link to Mary's obituary is provided below:
<https://www.klotzbachfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Mary-Dean-29#!/Obituary>

2024 Monthly Themes

The Board has proposed these themes for our Telford meetings. Access to these can also be found on our web page **Events tab**. *Images or associated documents from your flash drives can be projected on our big screen.*

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM except August's Tailgate at Renningers.

[Apr 9](#)- Kutztown XLIX Planning,
Theme: *Philco Radio Presentation*

[May](#) – No Monthly Meeting.

[May 10 & 11](#)– Kutztown XLIX
Antique Radio & Vintage Audio Show.

[Jun 11](#)- *How do you Display your collection.*

[Jul 9](#)- *Audio Gear.*

[Aug xx](#)- *Saturday Date TBD- Tailgate Swap Meet under the pavilion at Renningers, Kutztown 10AM.*

[Sep 10](#)- Kutztown L Preparation.

[Sep 20 & 21](#)– **Kutztown L 50th**
Antique Radio & Vintage Audio Show!

[Oct 8](#)- *Store Brand or Off Name Radios.*

[Nov 12](#)- *Setchell-Carlson Radios.*

[Dec 10](#)- Christmas Party at the Red Cedar Grille, Colmar.

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM except August's Tailgate at Renningers.

Some Housekeeping Notes

Web references herein may need to be copied or manually entered into your browser if they do not work by clicking [pdf link](#). Some links may be discontinued over time. We are always looking for a good story to publish, especially projects and technical fare. Please forward them to gdottor@yahoo.com.

Meeting of February 13, 2024

The theme was *Leatherette Radios*. Our samples were seen via Zoom online due to another weather emergency, this time, high winds and torrential rain! Mid-century kit radios such as Knight offered optional wooden cabinets covered with vinyl-impregnated cloth type leatherette.



Our examples here were on higher end sets of leatherette or leather. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_Leather

Many use auto or shoe leather products to spruce up or partially restore their leather or leatherette radio cabinets and several recommended products will be listed by name and effectiveness as witnessed by our members.



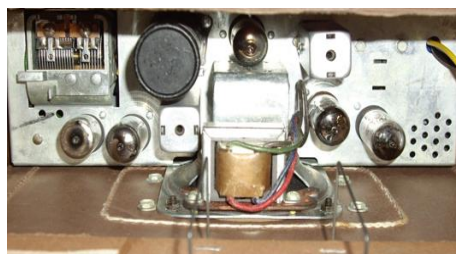
Above and Below: Terry Skelton showed us his Philips Antoinette Transworld de Luxe L6X38T aka the "James Bond" radio from the 1971 movie *Diamonds Are Forever*. It features 11 transistors and longwave coverage, plus AM, FM and SW. It has a captive ear "bud" on the back on a retractable spool. Terry has read that there are some weak points in electro-mechanical sections that can't be fixed once failed. A variety of antennas include 2 whips for FM dipole, fold up shortwave loop, AM ferrite bar and external ant. connections. Switchable AGC and Legs allow rotating set, for AM-MW direction finding. Of course, this is covered by a durable leatherette with some edge stitching as well. See demo at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ft9njzcAXA>



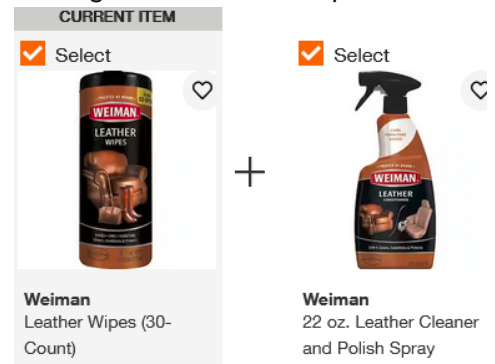
Above and Below: Dean Reonieri showed a 1956 Zenith Y506L Portable Radio 5-Tube AC/DC AM Radio with selenium rectifier. The original Cost in 1956: \$49.95 (\$571.72 in 2024 Dollars!). The radio was complete, but all of the cowhide case stitching deteriorated and the handle was missing. A local Plain folk (Mennonite or Amish) shoemaker came to the rescue and re-stitched the radio and made a handle for a modest fee. Dean was fortunate to have the old-fashioned type of social network to find this craftsman. With an RF section, this set is a strong performer in sensitivity and sound. This was early in the transitional period when transistor radio production had begun at Zenith with the 1955 Royal 500. https://www.radiomuseum.org/r/zenith_y506l_ch5y40.html



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6lCv-1OqKE>



There were several Zoom-arounds showing Zenith Trans Oceanics. (See also fall 2023 issue). It was shared that the brown leather T.O. casing was about \$20 more than the black stag case which was \$129 in the day limiting sales of the brown sets and estimates re that the black to brown ration of sales is about 4 to one if not a bit higher. Tom Lager has had great luck using shoe dyes and polishes on touching up spots and renewing the black stag leatherettes while shoe saddle soap or Kiwi Neutral seems to work on keeping the brown leather fresh. Some have used GoJo to initially clean a dirty T.O. as well. The following products were found to be good on leather in particular:



<https://www.homedepot.com/p/Weiman-Leather-Wipes-30-Count-91/205403351>



<https://byretreat.com/best-leather-restorer/>

Most leather cleaners are neutral; balms may have mink oil, etc. of various shades of brown or black, so be careful to test before use!



Above: Dave Snellman displayed this Westinghouse H602P7 lovingly restored by NJARC member Charles Blanding. Made in Metuchen, NJ, this 7 transistor was Westinghouse's first solid state radio offering. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f59b9S7SaIA>



Above: Dave Snellman showed several of the Zenith Lunch Box 700 series including this Royal 750 from 1957. It sold for \$79.95 then equating to \$600 in 2024 and was a well-made, durable and sensitive set. See link below for a sampling of this series made up through the mid-sixties. <https://radiojayallen.com/zenith-royal-700-series-the-lunchbox-radios/>

Below: Here is a more modern lunch box that offered selectable AGC for direction finding on 3 bands- LW, BC, and SW 2-5 MHz. Holding the handle will cause capacitance nulling problems for reception.



https://www.radiomuseum.org/r/zenith_royal_790y_super_navigat.html



Above: Dave Snellman zoomed a 1957 Regency T6, with six transistors. His EBay find played right out of the box! Many of these late 50's sets were solidly built, with germanium transistors prone to failure. See second link with a sadder version of set.

https://www.radiomuseum.org/r/regency_tr_6_tr6.html

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ecf0OvvYq1s>

Below: Borrowing from the "TR" nomenclature, Dave explained this was a really a Jewell Vanguard TR1 (4 transistor city radio) set, offered in thick leather casing in either black or tan. The second link below shows the TR1 appearing briefly beach-side in 1962's move "Whatever happened to Baby Jane". A look inside the chassis along with good in-depth analysis of componentry, PNP common positive explanation, and testing is provided by our pacific coast friend!

https://www.radiomuseum.org/r/jewelradio_jewel_all_transistor_van.html

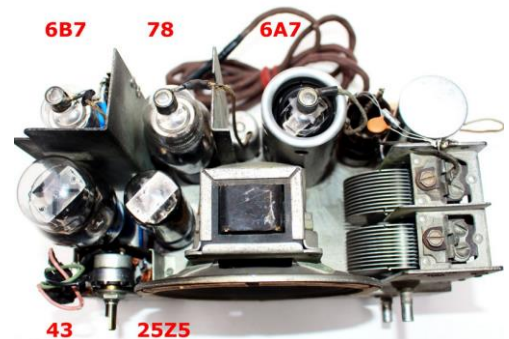
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAN2sgKn1IQ>



Above: Donna Accera showed a 1933 FADA super Fadalette model 106 of 1933. A depression era set, it sold for \$25, equivalent to \$500 now, aimed at families with modest means at the height of the great depression. Demand was highest for low cost, high performance and affordable radios at this time. This is a 2-band miniature receiver in a gold-embossed art-leather (leatherette) covered wooden cabinet, and came in four colors (burgundy red, ivory, deep green, Spanish brown). The chassis is in fact anything but cheap, "7-tube performance in a 5-tube set", all of which had just been developed. The radio has AVC (Automatic Volume Control), a long dipole antenna, and a resistive (175 Ohm) "curtain burner" line cord that dissipates half of the heat (30 Watt) outside the radio.

https://www.radio-antiks.com/IndexRadio-Antiks_Fada_106.htm

https://www.classicradiogallery.com/fada_hist_ory.html



Above: Tube lineup of Fada 106



Above and Below: Al Simmons shows his Majestic 7P420 aka “Mighty Monarch of the Air”. Included is an elaborate three-part antenna system: 1. rod antenna, extendable, 2. loop antenna, removable; 3. “Wave Ranger” = reflector to increase the signal. It features 7 tubes with an RF stage covering only AM broadcast band. The speaker grill is very impressive also offered in brown. http://wd4eui.com/Majestic_Mighty_Monarch.html



Above and Below: Keith exhibited his Philco 42-323T using a combination of walnut veneer, Tenite grill and leatherette sides on cabinet, giving his set a luxuriant look. It includes six tubes with RF section. Sales of this unit exceeded 10,000. http://www.tuberadioland.com/philco42-323_main.html



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. Also view regional hamfest events via:

https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/page:1/location.division_id:AT/model:Event

NJARC Swap meets and Repair Clinics TBA Check Website or better yet, join NJARC as a member! <http://www.njarc.org/meetings.html#swampmeets>

<http://njarc.org/clubprograms.html#workshops>

JD's Antique & Vintage Radio Electronics Auction(s) Saturday, April 20, 2024 Preview at 8 am, Auction starts 9. Jackson Mills Vol Fire Company Banquet Hall 465 N County Line Rd Jackson NJ 08527. View pictures soon, additions daily until day of auction. See pictures at: <https://www.gotoauction.com/companies/view/11278/JD-Auction-Services-LLC.html>

Friday, May 10, 2024 *at Kutztown 49* Preview 4:30 PM, Auction starts 5:30. Renninger's Farmers Mkt-White Rm, 740 Noble St., Kutztown, PA 19530. Stay tuned for more incl. auctions for many months in 2024! <https://jdauctionslc.com>

2024 Warminster Hamfest Sunday, May 5, 2024 Gates open 7AM. Bucks Community College, Lower Bucks Campus, 1304 Veterans Highway (Route 413), Bristol, PA 19007. <http://wp.k3dn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-warminster-hamfest-flyer.pdf>

Kutztown Radio and Audio Show XLIX (49) Friday, 05.10.24 through Saturday, 05.11.24 opens 7AM on those days; Vendor setup starts 12 noon Thursday. **Early buyers will not be permitted on Thursday without a dealer tag.** Free parking and free admission for shoppers. Auction is Friday 5.10 at 5:30 in white room, run by JD Auctions (see above), Preview at 4:30. Where: Renningers Farmer's Market, 740 Noble St., Kutztown, PA 19530. Antique radios, parts, and related items. Audio and Ham welcome. Tables, electric available. Dealer spaces 10' x 10' incl. table \$50, extra tables \$10. Exhibitor reservation advised: Phone M-Th 570.385.0104; F-S 610.683.6848. See links at: www.dvhrc.org and see updated **FAQ listing below.** https://www.dvhrc.com/Kutztown_101.pdf

AWA Shares

Each month there will be a well-researched presentation via Zoom including a question and answer session. It is free and you don't have to be an AWA member! AWA Webinar Wednesdays will be held the third Wednesday of each month and the next one on April 17, 2024 at 8 PM is entitled "Fraudsters and Charlatans, The problem of "Fake News" on the radio".. See link to participate in this & future shares! <https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/awa-shares/>

2024 AWA Spring Meet Saturday May 4, 2024.

The annual AWA Spring Meet, Flea Market & Auction will be held at Veteran's Park in Bloomfield, NY. This is just across the road from the AWA Museum, 6925 State Route 5, just east of the intersection of Routes 5 & 20 and Route 444. AWA will be operating a Museum Bargain Table and a large Museum Book Sale in the former AWA Annex building located in the park. As part of the meet, AWA will hold an Auction of duplicate and surplus items from the Museum's artifacts. See more details at: <https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/2024-spring-meet/>

MAARC RadioActivity 2024

Thursday, 06.13.24 5PM through Saturday, 06.15.24 5PM. Byzantium Event and Conference Center, 2747 Riva Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401. <https://maarc.org/event/radioactivity-2024/>

2024 AWA Annual Conference

Tuesday, October 1 to Saturday October 5, 2024. The theme will be The Innovators who Made Communications What It Is Today. It will be held at the RIT Inn and Conference Center, 5257 W Henrietta Rd, Henrietta, NY 14467.

Details will be made available at a later date via AWA website:

<https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/annual-conference/>

Other Club News:

DVHRC has been gifted a Radio Systems Millennium 18 channel studio console complete with power supply and manuals. We are looking for an interested member or other party to acquire for its intended purpose. Please let Jarret Brown know if there is interest for the use of this item that otherwise will be offered as a future auction item.



Occasionally, we reference stories in *RadioWorld*. Last January they published a story about college radio with Chuck Gloman, advisor of DeSales University station WDSR with contributions by Jarret Brown, who will also report about our hobby August before Kutztown 50 .

<https://www.radioworld.com/columns-and-views/guest-commentaries/what-makes-a-college-radio-station-work>

Some recent book publications include one by Marlin Taylor, a Philly area broadcast veteran known as father of the easy listening, beautiful music format. <https://www.collegeradio.org/radio-my-love-my-passion-an-interview-with-marlin-taylor/>

Another book to seek out is Radio Broadcasting: A History of the Airwaves Paperback by Gordon Bathgate.



Above: Greg Dottor's Philco 60 was a prop in a local student production of Annie.

Below: DVHRC wishes you a good spring and will be looking forward to Kutztown 49 in May. Lewie will be there in spirit wishing us to toast him from and to the Stratosphere.



**Are you Ready for Kutztown?
I sure am!! |**