



The Oscillator

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



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DVHRC

Club News Kutztown 49 was discussed in detail at the June 2024 meeting. The weather was a bit breezy and cool with persistent rain on Friday but as all were cloistered under the pavilions and in the White Room Friday for the PM auction, sales activity did not disappoint.



Above: At KTZ49, a misty morning led all under the tabernacle of vintage radio where many items were exchanged. **Below:** Walt Peters of DVHRC arrives in the dark, wee hours Friday and Saturday to establish and organize our club table and the Buy it Now display laid out for all to enjoy!



Please see John Hagman's photo essay of KTZ49 at: <https://john-h.smugmug.com/Kutztown-49-May-2024-Its-Raining-Its-Pouring>

Also, see RadioWild's YT Video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I23KXJFLI6k>

One sad note is that this was the first Kutztown event without Lewie Newhard in attendance as we lost him earlier this year (see Spring Oscillator). Lewie was the major catalyst for our Renninger's location which still seems like the best location and vibe to be had in the world of radio shows. His spirit was there with us and his centrally located Kutztown Radio Store table was well represented by Rick Mills, Justin and others from DVHRC. Drop Rick a line if you'd like to help out weekends at the store. A commemorative marker of permanence in Lewie's honor is planned for the future. Lewie's estate also donated his beautiful Philco 90 raffle radio, seen in the previous picture.



Big Plans for Kutztown 50!

DVHRC is eager for this coming fall event.

<https://www.dvhrc.com/docs/Upcomingshowinfo.pdf>

MID-SUMMER 2024

Of special note is that the raffle radio will be a well preserved and restored Zenith Walton model 7S232. Raffle tickets will only be available at the club table at Kutztown 50. Since this is the most desirable radio offered in our history, the pricing on tickets will be as follows: \$10 each or 3 tickets for \$25. We are looking forward to many chances sold on this beauty which could be yours on Saturday, September 21! It is important you stay until noon for the drawing since this large and pristine radio will not be shipped; thus the winner is urged to provide safe transport home.



http://oldradiozone.com/Z_7S232.html

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.

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2024 Monthly Themes

Here are the remaining themes for our Telford meetings. Access to these can also be found on our web page- **Events tab**. If you would like to make a presentation, please let us know as images or associated documents from your flash drives can be projected on our big screen! The club would love to hear about your adventures in the vintage radio hobby.

Jul 9- Audio Gear.

Aug 10- Saturday - Tailgate Swap Meet under the pavilion at Renninger's, 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 NEW VENUE! This time, we'll be at the Copperhead Grille in Center Valley just north of Coopersburg, PA. The official address is 5737 Route 378, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Tubes Needed for DVHRC Kutztown Inventory



Dave Dean and Mark Hilliard have been testing many tubes of late in preparation for Kutztown 50. The

club has been organizing and eliminating obsolete tube types. Some of the TV and obsolete stock may be offered as auction lots. This inventory review process continues with recounts and recording of changes in the database. During your summer appraisals, please be generous by donating these oft-sought and popular tubes to DVHRC's program as this is a fund raiser for the club and also for convenience of club members' restoration projects. Following is a list of the tubes the club is looking for.

Any and all Globe tubes,

Any high end audio tubes ,

Any "unusual" transmitting tubes.

5751	10
5842	12A7
6AQ8	2A3
6AZ8	45
6BD8	6Q7G
6DC8	6U7G
6BK8	85
396A	12AX7
417A	83
6072A	6SN7GT
EL37	1L6
6A3	50A1
6F5	6L6GC
6F6	6L6GAY
6L6GA	6L6GB

DVHRC is also seeking out another capacitor supplier with the recent passing of Joseph R. "Bob" Piekarz who ran Bob's Capacitors for many years. Supply chains for axial caps should continue to stabilize.

<https://www.hitzemanfuneral.com/obituaries/joseph-r-piekarz>

Meeting of March 12, 2024

The theme was *Green Radios* which was in tune with St. Patrick's Day. The radios varied in their makeup but tended to be in the mid-century modern era where vibrant colors, geometrics and jet/atomic age stylings heralded this modern age in America. The various greens tended mostly towards turquoise. Please note that lighting and photography may be somewhat inaccurate as compared to the human eye on sets captured.



Above: How many shades of green can there be? The number is infinite but paint and pigment manufacturers came up with distinctive names for each hue.



Above: Al Simmons shows one of his first restorations which was a 1951 Motorola 5R1 using 4 tubes and a selenium rectifier. Earlier versions of this style cabinet, the 5R15 used the 35W4 AA5 standard tube lineup. Al said that there was much cigarette nicotine to be cleaned in each of 84 indents (eighty-four, each with 4 inner surfaces) requiring much effort to clean to its current luster. Many cue tips were used to clean these dust and debris catchers leading to a real eye catcher. The simple geometric design is timeless and includes the "waveform" logo tuning dial of 50's Motorola's, signaling the atomic and space age of the mid-20th century.

Below: Dan Schwartzman brought in a French radio he picked up while in Paris. This "Francis" model of 1953 was produced by Radio J.S. (Joie et Satisfaction, Paris). This 4 band superhet sports the streamlined European look. Dan stated that this was purchased from a flea market when he had visited France with former member, Dan Luchanski, whose father, a native Frenchman, had operated a radio repair business there!
https://www.radiomuseum.org/r/radiosjs_francis.html



Below: Bob Seiwall's stable of Philco Transistone TH4's painted in vibrant colors always makes the cut on Kutztown Radio show photo essays by John Hagman. Bob prides himself in including exact reproductions of the back panels which are usually missing.



In the past this included having an industrial metal stamper fabricated for pressing out thick cardboard via his CAD

designed pattern, and reproduced labeling for the perfect backing of these AA5 locat- tubed sets.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upMzZF0av8M>

Contact Bob for tips on reproduction backing panels or better yet, buy a TH4 from him at Kutztown 50!



Below: Donna Acerra shows a 1956 Dumont RA-354 portable in a deep "hunter" green leather casing. It is a 4 tube + selenium rectifier in the time of transition to transistor sets. This set aka the "Beachcomber" has a nicely galvanized chassis to resist corrosion.



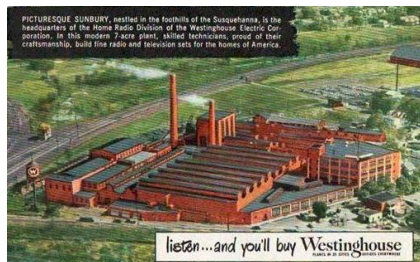


Allen Dumont developed an improved version of the Cathode Ray tube paving the way for commercial television among many other electronic innovations. His early life included overcoming polio. While bed-ridden for a year, his interest in radio was spurred on by his father. His experiences in manufacturing under Westinghouse and de Forest led to founding his own company to develop innovative products, especially in the area of television. Dumont would also become the 4th TV network that included innovative programs but which would later fail as a viable network in 1955.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allen_B._DuMont

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asy5suVjkY>

Below: Mark Thierbach displayed the Westinghouse H-125 (1945- 47), aka “Little Jewell” in pale green”. The radio is a tightly packed 6 octal tube set with an RF Amplifier stage. These sets were made at the Westinghouse Home Radio Division plant in Sunbury, PA.



<https://antiqueradio.org/Westinghouse-H-126LittleJewelRadio.htm>

<http://analogdial.com/H-126/H126PG5.html>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_sH0kfTExmM

Below: Dave Snellman showed his collection of green transistor radios. The turquoise 1958 Emerson Vanguard model 888 8 transistor set named after the US Navy pre-NASA Vanguard rocket and satellite of 1958.



Above: Looking head on, this is surely one of the strangest radio cabinet designs ever conceived- are those two long-stemmed bulbs encircling the tuning dial and volume dial supposed to be mushroom clouds? Cabinet is “Neverbreak”, made of Cellulose Acetate Butyrate. Powered by 4 AA batteries in a delicate holder, replacement battery holders are available from “Childhood Radio” via EBay.



Below: The 1961 Zenith “Royal 400” 7 transistor radio featured two toned lime green cabinet with matching speaker grill. Introduced as a lower-cost version of the Zenith Royal 500H, it featured the same large oval (off-centered) extended range Jensen speaker, although audio output was not as great as the 500H.

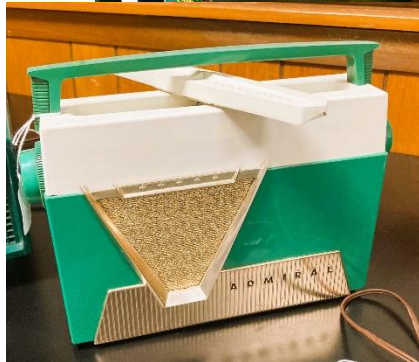




Above: The rear of the 1961 Zenith "Royal 400" highlights the two-tone lime green and convenient stand. This set retailed for \$39.95 in '61. **Below:** Dave also showed the Sony 1960 TR-84 8 transistor "Super Sensitive" radio employing a tuned RF stage. In awesome light lime to mint green, we've reported on this radio in past Oscillator issues too! Inner workings also shown. Notice the 3 gang variable capacitor and the battery holder of 3 C cells. It sold for \$54.95 in 1960.



Below: Monty Purviance has got 4 nice green sets lined up for your eye candy enjoyment. The first Admiral model is a 4 tube 1958 although other similar models had been transistorized by this time.



Below: Here is a two-tone Hallicrafters 612 from 1954 with an RF preselector stage using an additional 12BA6.



Below: An 1952 Emerson 850 4-tube and a rare 1954 Bendix 853C AA5 clock radio were shown by Monty.



Below: Terry Skelton shows a Zenith Royal 200. This 7 transistor model from 1958 featured a 3 1/2 inch speaker and retailed for \$45. This model's unique feature was its size. At 6 1/2 inches tall, it is larger than most other coat pocket styles and rivals the Emerson 888 series in that way. It's awkward size and fragile plastic case contributes to the fact that it is hard to find these without some kind of cabinet damage. Royal 200's were offered in brown, white, green, and coral colors with green and coral (shown below) being the hardest to find.



Below: Wilbur Gilroy recently acquired this beautiful green Catalin Emerson Aristocrat Model 400 tube radio, a rare find from the Art Deco era of the 1940s.



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 Summer Tailgate Swap

Meet and Ham Fest Saturday,

July 27, 2024 8 am to 12 pm.

Check contacts below. Vendor setup at 7:15AM. \$5 entrance fee. \$30 vendor fee (\$25 for members). Expert antique radio repair services available. Walk around auction (starts at 11:00 AM). **BRING YOUR OWN TABLES.**

Where: InfoAge Science History Learning Center and Museum, 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, NJ 07719.

Email: radiorich@prodigy.net (Rich) or vp@njarc.org (Sal)

www.njarc.org/directions.html#swapmeets

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 July 17, 2024 at 8 PM is entitled "Spy" Radio operations, Enigmas & CIA "Bugs". See link to participate in this & future shares!

<https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/awa-shares/>

Kutztown Radio and Audio Show

L (50) Friday, 09.20.24 through Saturday, 09.21.24 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. **The raffle radio is the famed Walton Zenith 7S232 so please do not miss Kutztown in September! Auction is Friday 9.20 at 5:30 in white room, run by JD Auctions. Consignments accepted at 2PM, 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 \$55, 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

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 via link below: <https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/conf-main-page/>

MARC (Mid Atlantic Amateur Radio Club) HAMFEST Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024 Vendor setup at 7:00 AM, Buyers 8:00 AM.

Admission fee \$10. Additional fees for Tailgate Space \$8/car parking space, Indoor \$10/table. Where: Kimberton Fire Co. Fairgrounds, 742 Pike Springs Rd at Firehouse Lane, Phoenixville, PA. See event info: <http://marc-radio.org/hamfest2.htm>

RF Hill ARC Hamfest 2.0 Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024 7 am to 1 pm.

Check contacts below. Vendor setup at 6:00 AM. **NO EARLY BIRDS!** Free Parking. Admission fee \$8. Vendor fees are \$10 outdoor (additional to entrance fee). **Where:** Upper County Campus of Bucks Community College, Blooming Glen Road, Perkasia, PA 18944. **Contact:** rfhillarc@yahoo.com or 215-399-7685 **Info Flyer:** <http://www.rfhillarc.club/hamfest/>

NMIH Armstrong Exhibit

It's never too early to put plans in motion so here's one for early 2025! Donna Acerra has told us of plans to commemorate Major Edwin Armstrong at National Museum of Industrial History in Bethlehem, PA beginning about February 2025. In advance of this display NMIH will need to find the following items, and we hope some club members might be able to loan possibly from their personal collections including the following:

- 1) Wireless Morse Key, c.1900-1910 (preferably Marconi-made).
- 2) Homebrew crystal radio, must be dateable to pre-1918 (we have an undated one)
- 3) Quaker Oats or Mother's Crushed Oats Radio Receiving Set made by Marquette Radio Corporation, 1921-1924
- 4) US Army Signal Corps radio transmitter/receiver c.1918 e.g. SCR-54, SCR-65
- 5) Radio "A" Battery for pre-1927 radio receiver (club member already offered to supply this item)
- 6) One of the following superheterodyne radios:
 - a) Silvertone 115 radio, or another
 - b) Silvertone (Sears, Roebuck brand) model, 1928-1939

- c) Sparton "Bluebird" or other mirrored front radio receivers (566, 1186, 517, 557, 558, 409-GL), 1935-1939
d) Emerson FC-400 "Patriot" radio receiver, 1940-1941
e) RCA Victor Little Nipper "La Siesta" Model 40X-53, 1939



These radios are indeed high-end- meant to capture the eye of the viewer. What better way to have your beautiful piece displayed for many to see! You may contact Donna via the club to arrange your temporary donation. More will be shared on this future exhibition. :

Baseball will never be as Immediate as on AM Radio!

kHz	station	team
660	WFAN	YANKEES
670	WSCR	CUBS
700	WLW	REDS
830	WEEU	PHILLIES
850	KOA	ROCKIES
880	WCBS	METS
1000	WMVP	WHITE SOX
1020	KDKA	PIRATES
1080	WTIC	RED SOX
1090	WBAL	ORIOLES
1100	WTAM	GUARDIANS
1120	KMOX	CARDINALS
1150	WDEL	PHILLIES
1140	WRVA	NATIONALS
1470	WSAN	PHILLIES
1500	WFED	NATIONALS

See last summer's article about the 20 second delay on FM and some-times miserable streaming exper- ience. So pull up a beer and see how many you can log!

The Boss Says

In his autobiographical book "Born to Run", chapter 8, entitled Radio Days, Bruce Springsteen paints a picture of his formative years and summer evenings in his Freehold, NJ childhood experience. Here is just a short excerpt that we too may share of those nighttime sightings of pulsing red lights and the towers that "wore" them.

My mom loved music, Top 40 music; the radio was always on in the car and in the kitchen in the morning. From Elvis on out, my sister and I shuffled out of bed and downstairs to be greeted by the hit records of the day pouring out of the tiny radio that sat on top of our refrigerator.

Through my mother's spirit, love and affection, she imparted to me an enthusiasm for life's complexities, an insistence on joy and good times and the perseverance to see the hard times through. Has there ever been a more comforting, sadder song than Sam Cooke's "Good Times"? It's a vocal performance steeped in weary self-knowledge and the ways of the world. "Get in the groove and let the good times roll...we gonna stay here 'til we soothe our soul.... if it takes all night long...."Slowly the musical sounds of the late fifties and early sixties drew down into my bones.

On warm nights, with the windows in our big sedan wide open, first we'd roll down Main Street, then on to the southwest end of town to the edge of Highway 33, where we'd make our scheduled stop at the Jersey Freeze ice cream stand.

Later, we'd ride the back roads to the north end of town, where scratching the sky in the fields bordering the Monmouth Memorial Home was the town radio tower. It had three bright red lights rising along its gray steel structure. As our radio glowed with the otherworldly sound of late-fifties doo-wop, my mother would explain to me that there in the high grass stood a tall

dark giant, invisible against the black night sky. The ascending lights were merely the shining red "buttons" on his jacket. We would always end our journey with a ride past the "buttons". As my eyes grew heavy and we turned toward home, I'd swear I could see the outline of the giant's dark figure.



Bruce's excellent book (ISBN 978-1-5011-4151-5) can be obtained wherever books are sold.

I can remember looking from my backyard Hanover Township home and seeing the flashing towers of the WKAP 1320 three miles distant with its multi-tower directional array and how they captivated my imagination, having received their signal on my Remco crystal set. As the cost of maintaining such an array and the value of the real estate where located made the property on MacArthur Road's miracle mile too valuable not to convert for its owners in a struggling business, many stations have been co-located. The ubiquitous cell tower now dulls the senses of what these earlier towers meant but like Bruce, we can point out these landmarks to others as well.



This is Gary Owens , the Boss of Burbank, via the Tower of Power, wishing you a Wonderful Summer!!!