



The Oscillator



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

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DVHRC

WINTER 2019

DVHRC Plans for 2019

In early January, the DVHRC board discussed plans and came up with the following initiatives:

1) DVHRC will continue to plan for a Field Trip to Info Age

<http://infoage.org> traveling via party bus and will determine a springtime or summer date on either a Saturday or Sunday. The bus would depart Telford Community Center at 10 AM and arrive at Info Age about noon.

We'd envision spending a full afternoon there since there is a lot to see with numerous museums open 1-5 PM. Return back to Telford should be by 7 PM. Other members living closer to Info Age may drive if more convenient; the address is 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, New Jersey, 07719. Consider possible dates for discussion at future meetings regarding this trip!

2) DVHRC may consider a repair clinic in the "triage format" possibly utilizing the Rennigers facility to spark interest in the hobby and show the use of testing and repair techniques.

3) DVHRC is planning for Kutztown XL, the 40th event in the series, as a really special event! A unique vendor giveaway, Bendix 526 catalin raffle radio, and newly designed apparel were among

items discussed.

4) Property management initiatives to seal the storage roof at Rennigers and moving Ottsville storage inventory will be accomplished as soon as spring weather conditions will allow. Stay tuned for invitations to participate in work parties to assist the club.

5) Other discussions included considering production of name tags produced for all club members.

2019 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.

Remember, images or associated documents from your flash drives can be projected on our big screen in lieu of dragging your items to meetings and physical pictures can be shared as well. Audio clips can be played. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM except July's Tailgate (7:00).

Feb 12- *Your First Antique Radio.* This is the first one that caught your eye and led to a lifetime hobby.

Mar 12- *Pocket Radios.* Not just portable sets but miniatures that actually will fit in your pocket.

Apr 9- Kutztown XL Planning, "I Would Never Sell This Radio". These are radios you would never part with.

May 14- "Open Category" Super Show & Tell. Post Kutztown Discussion.

Jun 11- *AM Transmitters & Transmitting Gear.* Can range from FCC part 15 BCB units to something larger. Xmtr demonstrations encouraged!

Jul 9- *Tailgate Auction. 7:00 PM*

Aug 13- *Phonographs.*

Sep 10- Kutztown XLI Planning, Theme: *Art Deco radio.*

Oct 8- *Repairing a Radio.*

Nov 12- *Decade- 1980's Radios.*

Dec 10- X-mas Party at Stove N' Tap

Meeting of November 13, 2018

The theme was *Radios of the 1970's*. Here are some great examples of that fun decade.



Above: Mark Thierbach displays proper handling of a Panasonic R-72 novelty AM radio. **Next Page:** shows how Mark got this on his arm. Panasonic really put the rad in radio in the 70's!



Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club
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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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Meeting of 11.13.18 continued- 70's sets



Above: Panasonic R-72 "Toot-A-Loop" pivots to allow tuning and placing on your arm.



Above and Below: Close-up of Mark's collection including round Panasonic R-70 "Panapets" which must be kept on a chain.



Above: Pete says there is something phony about this antique wall phone which is actually a wall hung transistor radio. This product of the 70's is harder to find than the common hollow state model made by Guild, the model 556- known as the "Country Belle" from 1956 shown below.



INFORMATION FOR THE OWNER
The Country Belle Radio
 MODEL 556
 5 TUBE AC-DC
 SUPERHETERODYNE RECEIVER
GUILD
 RADIO and TELEVISION CORP.
 INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

The Model No. 556 radio receiver is designed to operate from any 105-125 volt DC or 50-60 cycles AC power supply. The standard broadcast band of 540-1720 kilocycles is covered, including police calls.

INSTALLATION—The built-in FERRITE HI-Q GILBERTINA in this model should provide more than satisfactory reception, under normal conditions. It is non-directional. The Country Belle is designed to be hung on the wall. A screw or heavy nail is to be driven into a stud or firmly embedded in the wall to support a minimum of 20 lbs. A special hanger is provided on the back of the cabinet into which the nail or screw is to be inserted. For improved performance on weak signals and distant stations, or in steel reinforced buildings and other shielded locations, an outside antenna may be connected to the wire lead or terminal provided on the back of the receiver. No ground connection is required.

NOTE: On DC power supply, reverse the line cord plug to the supply outlet if no reception is obtained. Reversal of the plug may reduce hum and noise when the receiver is operated on AC.

OPERATION—After connecting the receiver to a source source of correct voltage, to put radio into operation lift the telephone receiver from the hook on the left side of the cabinet. Stations are selected by turning the crank handle. The dial is calibrated in kilocycles with the final zero omitted. Adjust intensity of sound with volume control. Read "80" as 800 kilocycles. To adjust the acoustic range of the receiver, rotate the TONE control for most pleasing response.



Above: Dave Snellman is ready to go fishing- for DX- with his array of excellent vintage Sony 70's multi-band portables shown below.



Sony ICF-111B
(1971-75)
"Sports 11"
AM-FM-SW
variations include WB/PSB



Sony TFM-8000W
(1975)
"Super Sensitive"
AM-FM-SW-AIR-PSB



Panasonic RF-788L
(1975-79)
"High Sensitivity"
LW-AM-SW-FM
variation - RF-085 - AM-FM-SW



Panasonic RF-016
(1978)
"Mister Thin"
AM-FM

Below: Dave Dean still loves his Zenith Royal 3000-1 Trans-Oceanic for its bold styling and superb audio. This radio was manufactured from 1962 to 1971. At the end of its production cycle in the early 70's, when the Royal 7000 offered improvements such as BFO and narrow selectivity, remaining 3000's could be had at reduced prices.



Above and Below: Mark Hilliard delights in the mod style and colors of this RCA Radio Clock from his youth with AM tuning on the right and FM tuning on the left. The 70's decade saw the rise of FM programming and listenership. In the 70's, were you a Righty or Lefty?

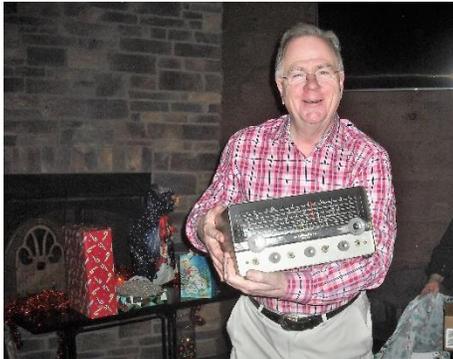


Below: Pete Grave showed a 1976 Watkins-Johnson WJ-8718A/MFP. MFP stands for Microprocessor Front Panel option which radically changed the nature of the WJ-8718 with numerous features not available on the plain version. The MFP adds keypad entry, 99 memory channels, search and scan functions. The functionality and ergonomics are very well thought out and the radio is a joy to use. This is extremely high end \$\$\$ used for government surveillance. Load link for more on WJ: <http://watkins-johnson.terryo.org/WJ-Receivers/MFP-option.htm>



2018 Christmas Party

DVHRC members and friends broke bread and gifts were exchanged once again at Lansdale's Stove N' Tap location, December 11th. Jarret thanked all for their hard work in creating DVHRC events and enlivening meetings and Tom Spiegel for his organization of this party. Full postings of pictures are on [DVHRC Facebook](#).



Above: Dave Abramson had himself a Halli Jolly Christmas. **Below:** The Radio Boca Wine Lady made another appearance, with Pete Grave, the recipient of this year's bottle.



Your voice is your personal radio, and when you try Radio Boca you are going to be turning up your volume and telling people all about it. The fruit for these wines are loud and dominating...one could say the personality of these Spanish wines are similar to Spanish people themselves- loud, expressive and always ready for a good time. Be it the over achieving Tempranillo, the lusciously crisp Verdejo, or the sparkling good root these wines are made to get people excited and talking about wine so turn up your RADIO. Wine speaks a universal language, like music, there are no boundaries or limitations so what's stopping you? Get yourself tuned in to Radio Boca wines- the only true Rock Stars in the wine world.

Some Housekeeping Notes

Web references herein may need to be copied or manually entered into your browser. Please offer any suggestions to improve this newsletter as well!

We are always looking for a good story to publish, especially projects and technical fare which are harder to come by. You may forward them to:

gdottor@yahoo.com

Tubes Needed for DVHRC Kutztown Inventory



Dave Dean has some types of tubes in very short supply. So in these winter months, be generous and clean up some of your old stuff by donating to DVHRC's tube program. Following are 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

Happy New Year - Time to Check Your Batteries!
For those of us with extensive portable collections whether hollow or solid state, and test gear, this would be a good time to check your batteries. Sometimes it is just one weak battery in the series but inspect for any signs of future corrosion. We've all heard the war stories on what can happen even in this day of advanced manufacturing quality standards!

beginnerZ

OK, so what's this all about? There may be some of us that are challenged by advanced electronic theory and best practices as they begin to rehabilitate their vintage radios and electronics. The author being one of those thought that a regular column on how to climb the ladder of knowledge and to offer those new to the hobby encouragement will be useful.

The DVHRC is always concerned about getting young folks into the hobby and it is our hope this can be a good starting point for that.

Here are some ideas to help you climb the ladder of radio knowledge.

1. Set goals as they pertain to your radio hobby and make it a priority in your life. There are so many things to do in life but make this a top priority. Mention that to someone you love and make yourself accountable to achieve it. **Start out with a simple project.** Choosing too complex an initial project can be frustrating, especially if someone is depending on you. There is a lot we can do with the right motivation!



2. Build mentor relationship(s) with those experienced in radio repairs who can show you the best practices in safely repairing your vintage electronics project. **Safety is key** with any project and any good mentor will teach you to respect potentially lethal voltages/

currents in certain radio circuits such as the All American Five (AA5). Join a local club such as the DVHRC who have plenty of experienced members who like to help you. Also, respect the mentor by taking good notes of what you've learned at each session. Attend your local club meetings and *bring your radio project to the meetings where problems can be diagnosed*. There are no stupid questions or problems too simple to ask about. Don't miss these opportunities!

3. Educate yourself via self-study of books on radio repair and have an introductory electronics text for DC/AC principles such as used in technical schools; many can be signed out from your local library if you like the hard copy. Regarding this book, set up a self-study-syllabus that is realistic and stick to that schedule. Also, there are many reasonably priced collections for this purpose available via the web and you should be in possession of some providing basic theory starting from an elementary level.



Consult your club members for books they would recommend. Whether hard copy or other media, such as the classic 1950's guide on CD shown above, there are many titles available. Jarret also

highlights new books available on Amazon at DVHRC club meetings.

In today's Smartphone and digital world, *YouTube posts* on this subject are out there in great number. Online searches provide many a series from those with good knowledge and the ability to provide demonstrations via this mode. You may review these anytime so bookmark your favorites on your devices.

Following are some entries from Bob Bennett, DVHRC and NJARC member, aka RadioWild, who has provided some beginners tips:

Soldering – Soldering options- point to point <https://youtu.be/Enqa6cm4EXk>

Tricky Troubleshooting Tips Part#1 Noise! https://youtu.be/tlpyH_1n51I

Tricky Troubleshooting Tips Part#2 my dial light does not work https://youtu.be/qlI_lqH1bs0

Tricky Troubleshooting Tips Part#3- Ballast Tubes <https://youtu.be/T3TOHjt7eBU>

Tricky Troubleshooting Tips Part#4-remedy: transconductance tube test <https://youtu.be/JUDZlxV3WhE>

Tricky Troubleshooting Tips Part#5 my speaker sounds bad, needs repair <https://youtu.be/LlijGXtPqZg>

As we go through time in this column, we'll draw upon good representative posts to help with the material covered.

Other resources can be found on the *DVHRC website* and member sites too. The *Links* page is a powerful resource that shows references, forum discussion on radio topics, other AR clubs, parts and equipment suppliers, and

personal pages. *Please let us know if any links should be added to this great resource.*

For example, a good beginner's resource can be found on DVHRC/Links/personal pages at: <http://saegerradio.com/downloads> provided by DVHRC's Stan Saeger showing plans for a radio chassis holder enabling a stable way to hold radio chassis when repairing and it can be varied for most sizes.

There are many subjects for beginners in the *back issues of the Oscillator* which you can download right off the website. This is your connection to the history of our club and the wisdom of its membership. Since most issues were not published on the web, an index of these subjects will be assembled for the spring 2019 newsletter. Here is an example of tips from a back issue. *June 1994- Ted Sowirko talks about carefully reforming capacitors, P.2*

Future topics will include best safety practices, work bench setup and test instruments for beginners, AA5 repair, plastics and painting, wood cabinetry, etc. Please make suggestions for beginners topics.

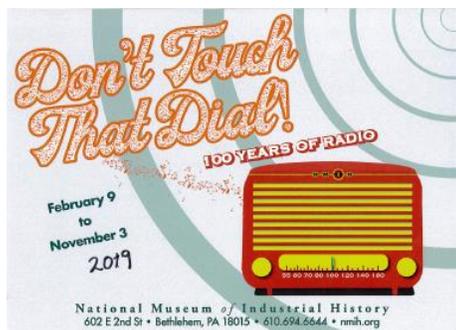
gdottr@yahoo.com

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.

NJARC 2018 DX Contest January 18-26.19 This issue is always late in publicizing this event but maybe you could jump in for some of these days of minimal QRM and good night time skip. DVHRC looks forward to hearing about the results at our Feb. meeting.

Please consider this event a good reason to join NJARC! You can see the details of this contest and some great MW DX references at: <http://www.njarc.ar88.net/contest.html>



National Museum of Industrial History, Bethlehem, Pa. "100 Years of Radio" Exhibit Begins Saturday February 9, 2019 running through Nov. 3, 2019. See special preview note below. The event coincides with the 100th anniversary of RCA. 100 Years of Radio will feature over 100 historic radios, components and ephemera. Visitors to this interactive exhibit will have a chance to listen to early broadcasts, see an Amateur Radio operator's station, test their knowledge of Morse code, and experience modern day innovations in the industry.



Where: 602 E. Second St., Bethlehem, PA 18015. NMIH phone # is 610.694.6644. nmih.org

Following is a link to acquire tickets for a Sponsor Recognition Reception and Exhibit Preview on Friday, Feb. 8, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dont-touch-that-dial-exhibit-preview-reception-tickets-53834473359>

NJARC Repair Clinic TBD typically 3rd Saturday- Feb., 10am to @4 pm-

check NJARC contacts below.

Our Repair and Restoration Clinics are held several times a year. These are all-day (10 am - 4 pm) events are conducted at different locations around the state, usually at our InfoAge headquarters in Wall Township. Some are conducted as "members only" events, and some are open to the public. Specific information about upcoming workshops is posted on the home page of this website and is announced in our newsletter The Jersey Broadcaster. Members are encouraged to sign up to bring a restoration project for evaluation. Club members with expertise in different areas of radio restoration volunteer their time to serve as instructors and problem-solvers. (Note: volunteers are requested to arrive at 9 am for setup.)

Reservations required. For those sessions open to the public: Please register ahead of time: email Richard Lee, president@njarc.org to reserve a one-hour time slot with an expert. The club will provide you with a comprehensive evaluation of your radio and recommendations regarding it's restoration and repair. Often, the problem is very simple -- so you might even leave with a working radio!

Where: InfoAge Science History Learning Center and Museum, 2201 Marconi Road, Wall Township NJ 07719. <http://www.njarc.org/#calendar>.

NJARC Spring Swapmeet TBD typically 3rd Saturday, March, 8 am to 12pm. Check contacts below. Vendor setup at 7:15AM. \$5 entrance fee. \$30 vendor fee (\$25 for members). Additional table \$20 reserved. \$25 day of event subject to availability. Where: Parsippany PAL, 33 Baldwin Rd, Parsippany, NJ 07054. president@njarc.org <http://www.njarc.org/#calendar>.

Hamfest-Warminster Amateur Radio Club (WARC) including EPA Section Convention Sunday, 05.05.19, 7am, vendors setup 6AM rain or shine. Where: Bucks County Community College's Lower Bucks campus, 1304 Veterans Hwy (Rte. 413) Bristol, PA. See website for details: <http://www.k3dn.org/hamfest/>

Kutztown Radio Show XL (40) Friday, 05.10.19 through Saturday, 05.11.19 opens 7AM on those days; **Special Anniversary show!** Vendor setup starts 12 noon Thursday. **No Early entry shoppers Thursday. Free parking and free admission for shoppers.** Where: Renningers Farmer's Market, 740 Noble St., Kutztown, PA 19530. Antique radios, parts, and related items. Audio and Ham welcome. Tables, electric available. Auction 6PM Fri. 05.10. Various vendor cash prizes! **Exhibitor reservation advised: Phone M-Th 570.385.0104; F-S 610.683.6848.** See links at: www.dvhrc.org to download circular or facebook.com/renningerskutztown

RadioActivity 2019 Thursday, 06.27.19 4PM through Saturday, 06.29.19. *RadioActivity* will be held at the Sheraton College Park North Hotel in College Park, MD. The theme will be SHORT WAVE RADIO. Subcategories to be announced soon. The Sheraton College Park North Hotel (formerly the Sheraton Washington North Hotel) is located off of Exit 29B (Rt. 212) of I-95 between Washington and Baltimore, at 4095 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Maryland, 20705. The hotel is on the southwest corner of the interchange. See their website for more to be released in near the future: http://www.maarc.org/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=icalrepeat.detail&evid=123&Itemid=109&year=2019&month=06&day=27&title=june-2019-radioactivity-in-beltsville-md&uid=7e1d5bcc0e8fd924b654791a2a7dc2bd.

Record players catch the attention of students, but are they worth the hype?

By Alyssa Hughes, Assistant Freeform Editor, The Keystone News, Kutztown University. *Vinyl vs. Streaming viewpoints of students born in the 21st century.*

A woman pulls a sheet away, revealing a wooden box. She lifts the lid and looks inside. She recognizes the object as a record player. Her *grandfather* used to play music on it when she was a little girl. She digs around the rest of the attic, looking for the records that go with it. She finds one: Elvis Presley.

She lugs the heavy player downstairs and plugs it into the wall in her living room. She brushes the dust off, pulls the record out of its casing and places it in the record player. She then takes the safety box off the needlepoint.

The woman moves the needle to the edge of the record and turns the volume up. The soft tones of Presley echo throughout the room. She realizes that the music sounds different this way. She watches the record spin as the needle moves closer to the middle.

After a few songs, the needle lifts itself. The record stops moving, and the music is no longer playing. She flips the record and resets the needle. It's inconvenient, she thinks, but the music sounds nice.

Music has been an important piece of people's lives for

decades. Whether it be jazz, rock, pop, country or another genre, almost everyone listens to music. If they don't, they have been exposed to it in one way or another. More recently, music has become a lot easier to gain access to. There are multiple streaming companies that fight for listeners. There are also CDs and the radio, both of which have become increasingly less popular with the invention of Bluetooth. One form of music playing that has lost popularity, but is possibly gaining it back, is the record player.

"I love records," says Shannon Poole, a junior at KU. "I've been using my record player for years. I buy almost every album I listen to on vinyl."



While record players had been popular in the 1900s, their popularity died out with the increase of technology. They have slowly become more popular in recent years, but according to KU students, other forms of listening are still more popular. Less than 40% of the KU students questioned said

that they have a record player in their home.

"Why would I want one?" asks Keri Quigley, a junior at KU. "It's easier for me to get music on my phone. Record players just take up too much space." According to a survey circulated to KU students, only 50% of those who said they own a record player said they use it. Only 20% of those said they use it often.

"I don't have it at school," says Poole. "It's too heavy to bring. But when I'm at home I use it nearly every day." Most people said they don't own a record player, and nearly 40% of those people said they would never purchase one.

"I listen to my music on the go," says Amanda Jimenez, a KU transfer student. "I don't feel the need for a record player."

Even though many of the people on the KU campus have never owned a record player, there are still a handful of people who prefer to use them. "*There's just something about hearing a song on vinyl,*" said Crystal Rizzuto, a KU senior. "I like it better than most CDs."

When asked if she owned a record player, Rizzuto admitted that she does not, but she said her grandfather has one. He used to play it for her every time she would visit. She said if she had the funds, she would buy one and listen to it often. "I really don't know what it is," says Rizzuto. "*But the music just sounds so much better.*"

For a lot of people, they prefer the sounds of a vinyl record rather than anything else. They feel as though it makes the music sound authentic. The soft scratching of the record just makes it sound better somehow. They also like vinyl because of the aesthetic. Record players are mesmerizing to watch and seeing the record spin around while also playing music appeals to multiple senses.

Even though it may seem as though vinyl is making a big comeback, it seems that comeback isn't happening on campus. Most people prefer to listen to music through other means.

"Spotify has all my music in one spot," says Jimenez. "It's smaller than a record player and it's less expensive than buying an album every time I want new music." Nearly 85% of the KU students who took the survey said they listen to their music through Spotify. Almost 50% said they use Pandora.

Ultimately, it seems as though KU students don't have a huge love for record players. They believe they are too bulky and aren't practical. They're cool though," says Quigley." *They're vintage and I think most people like the idea of older things.* But everything else is just easier." Walking around campus, nearly every person has headphones on or in their ears. It can clearly be seen that they are connected to a phone. Even if record players are making a comeback, new technology has them beat tenfold.

More Groovy Subjects from Vinyl Eyezz

Listed below are six record formats that did not last.

Edison Diamond Disk, 1912-29, ¼" thick shellac with up & down grooves (not lateral). Doomed by expense, lack of titles, and 1929 Stock Market Crash.

Pathe and European records, 1916- 30, shellac with diameters up to 20" with high RPM. Doomed by varying formats' compatibility.

Transcription Disks, 1928-59, Later ones on 33 1/3 RPM, wide groove high fidelity, used by radio stations to provide best sound, banded without continuous track to allow radio station announcers to stage programming breaks and cueing. Doomed by era of the DJ with multiple turntables + sources and advent of magnetic tape.

16 2/3 RPM, 1950's+, typically 7", could fit more on records due to slower speed, even used in Seeburg 1000 "Muzak" system but mainly for the spoken word; doomed by low fidelity, new tape formats like compact cassette.

Portable Pocket Disks, 1968-69, this short lived 4" format was a bust suffering from fidelity, 8 track and compact cassette competitors.

Quadraphonic Phono Records, 1971-79, wide groove format, this was technology to provide 4 channel surround-sound. Doomed by cost/benefit, perception and complex decoder equipment required with 3 competing standards. **SEE MORE AT FOLLOWING LINK:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruH5kLm1dy4>

Meeting of January 8, 2019

The theme was *What I Got for Christmas*. Bob Bennett has graciously supplied video of the proceedings on following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbiBNVx2l8c>

Following are some still pictures of the Xmas show and tell.



Above and Below: Dave Snellman gifted himself with a 1959 Sony TR84 Super Sensitivity radio in good working order.



Below: Jarret Brown got a Phillies Hat Radio with a phabulous phacsimile of the phamous Phillies Logo but amusingly different maybe to avoid copyright infringement. Unit from Pro Sports Marketing, Inc., the first name in radios.





Above and Below: Bob Bennett got a really nice 1957 Philco T70-124 all recapped and aligned. They play an interesting "Now you have it now you don't" version of their holiday gift exchange at the NJARC Christmas party and you may view the following Youtube video @20 minutes in to see how Bob procured this beauty.

Shenanigans!

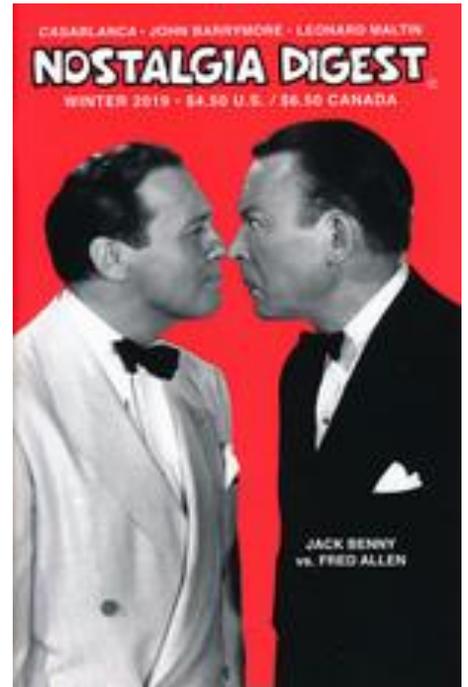
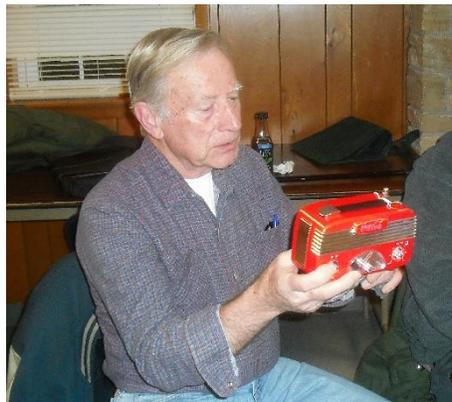
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bz5-SGKkoEs>



Above and Below: Tom Spiegle produced his own novel back lighted Philco Service Sign reproduction project. He'll let us know if they go into mass production.



Below: Fred received this nice Coca Cola novelty radio from his wife. Things go better with radios.



Nostalgia Digest & Resources

Nostalgia Digest Magazine is a 64-page quarterly publication filled with articles about the "Golden Age" of radio, television, movies, and music, written by those who lived it and those who love it! For more than 40 years, Nostalgia Digest Magazine has provided readers with an entertaining, educational look at life and popular culture during the first half of the 20th century (and sometimes beyond). Subscribe now!

Nostalgia Digest has a great resource site and a weekly show:

<http://www.nostalgia Digest.com/>



Nuts to winter, I'm moving to Cali real soon!