



The Oscillator



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

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DVHRC

WINTER 2026

Club Plans for 2026

At our January meeting on Zoom, President Jarret Brown, Dave Snellman and Greg Dottor reviewed initiatives for this year. They decided on themes for our Telford meetings. Please suggest themes for next year as well! Themes can be found on our website [Events](#) selection. *Your images, video clips & associated documents can be projected on our big screen at meetings*

[Themes leading up until Kutztown:](#)

[Feb 10](#)- Most Colorful Radios.

[Mar 10](#)- Radios from TV/ Film.

[Apr 14](#)- Adding a Bluetooth, Kutztown Planning,

Please note that weather cancellations are posted on the Reflector and the website <https://dvhrc.com/> by mid-afternoon. Zoom meetings may supplant cancelled meetings and download of the Zoom program updates may be required if you have not used lately. A link to such meetings will be included on the Reflector.

Being that this newsletter is only quarterly, it's always best to check the website and Reflector for the most current information. The Reflector is a most dependable

method for club communication full of hints and kinks, etc. We are thankful to those who optimize the Reflector for its best performance. In case you missed anything, you can access Reflector archives via Website [Contact Us](#) selection.

January 2026 Archives by thread

- Messages sorted by: [\[subject\]](#) [\[author\]](#) [\[date\]](#)
- [More info on this list...](#)

Starting: *Thu Jan 8 14:50:15 EST 2026*
Ending: *Tue Jan 27 14:50:21 EST 2026*
Messages: 9

- [\[DVHRC\] January Meeting](#) Jarret Brown
- [\[DVHRC\] JD's Antique Radio and Vintage Electronics Auction, Saturday January 10th!](#)
- [\[DVHRC\] CHRIS sponsored "Radio Repair for the Non-technical"](#) TrainBee
- [\[DVHRC\] CHRIS sponsored "Radio Repair for the Non-technical"](#) pffw at aol.c
- [\[DVHRC\] Downsizing](#) Frank Krider
- [\[DVHRC\] Test](#) Al Klase
- [\[DVHRC\] TEST](#) Al Klase
- [\[DVHRC\] 1933 Microphone Catalog](#) Al Klase
- [\[DVHRC\] car radios needed for museum exhibit](#) Donna Acerra

Last message date: *Tue Jan 27 14:50:21 EST 2026*
Archived on: *Tue Jan 27 14:50:49 EST 2026*



Above and Below: Trailer welfare check found a snow pile deposited there to clear the field for an upcoming agricultural equipment auction. All will be melted well in advance of Kutztown when these pavilions will come alive!



The *America On Wheels Museum* in Allentown (5 N. Front St.) is currently preparing an upcoming America 250 exhibit:

Independence and Innovation, opening on April 17th. They are seeking: antique car radios from 1970 or earlier (working condition not required), Vintage Child car seats from 1970 or earlier.

(Examples: Seat with a steering wheel, The Tot-Guard by Ford Motor Company and the Love Seat by General Motors - 1960s vintage). If you have-or know someone who has- any of these items and could be willing to loan them to the museum for six months, please contact Monica Ziobro, Museum Manager at manager at americaonwheels.org or call 610-432-4200 if you have any questions. They would like the item (s) by March 20th.

Thanks to those who have provided stories in the past and this editor is hoping for more of your stories throughout the year. I am working on a few stories such as the history of radio in weather communication (sorry- no groundhogs), history of electronics in musical instruments and "Highway 61 Revisited", a road tour up PA 61 ending in Sunbury, PA, once home to Westinghouse radio production.



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:

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Vice President:

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Adxymox62@netzero.com

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fsantiqueradio@dejazzd.com

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

2025 Christmas Party

DVHRC members celebrated last Dec. 9th at the Copperhead Grill; Coopersburg. It was agreed to retain this venue for 2026.

Below: Some sets and radio related gifts were received, reward for participation in the Xmas exchange!



Meeting of November 11, 2025

The theme for this night was "show and tell"- anything recently purchased, or working on.



Above & Below: Jarret Brown shows a rare 1955 Mohawk Midgetape 44 model BR-1 tape cartridge recorder. The seller's father was a State representative in Washington. This unit was used as a dictation machine but also by US Intel services such as the CIA. One of the tapes contains an interview with an Egyptian ambassador of the time. Jarret may find a way to reclaim audio of that tape. The unit had 2 batteries to run filaments, motor and several subminiature tubes. Later units adopted a transistorized amp. The unit listed at \$250 in 1955 with an optional amp/speaker for \$35. Mohawk was bankrupt by 1965. Here's an interesting item with several listed on EBay but which might also be found in a spy museum!

<https://www.cryptomuseum.com/covert/rec/mohawk/44.htm>



Above and Below: Mark Thierbach showed an uncommon type of recording tape produced with a paper backing instead of plastic usually backing the oxide side. The backing paper is white in color. Although not recommended for high fidelity recording it could be used for voice and lesser fidelity applications. This was produced about 1950- 1952 and according to the chart below, was similar in price to plastic based. An advantage to this version of paper backed tape is less shrinkage but a disadvantage is that paper backed tapes can become fragile as they age.

<https://oxfordarchival.com/about/f/paper-based-audio-magnetic-tape-%7C-what-is-this-format>

audiotape is now available in the following types:

	Length	Reel	Coating	TYPE NO.		List Price
				Oxide	Oxide In	
PLASTIC BASE	600 Ft.	5" Plastic	Black Oxide	640	641	\$3.50
			Red Oxide	650	651	3.50
	1250 Ft.	7" Aluminum (or Plastic)	Black Oxide	1240	1241	5.50
			Red Oxide	1250	1251	5.50
	2500 Ft.	Std. NAB Aluminum Hub Complete 10 1/2" Alum. Reel	Red Oxide	2550H	2551H	10.00
			Red Oxide	2550R	2551R	12.85
	3000 Ft.	Std. NAB Aluminum Hub Complete 14" Alum. Reel	Red Oxide	5050H	5051H	20.00
			Red Oxide	5050R	5051R	20.00
	1000 Meters (3300 Ft.)	Std. NAB Aluminum Hub	Red Oxide	3350H	3351H	13.00
	PAPER BASE	600 Ft.	5" Plastic	Black Oxide	600	601
Red Oxide				620	621	2.25
1250 Ft.		7" Aluminum (or Plastic)	Black Oxide	1200	1201	3.50
			Red Oxide	1220	1221	3.50
2500 Ft.		Std. NAB Aluminum Hub Complete 10 1/2" Alum. Reel	Red Oxide	2520H	2521H	6.50
			Red Oxide	2520R	2521R	9.35
3000 Ft.		Std. NAB Aluminum Hub Complete 14" Alum. Reel	Red Oxide	5020H	5021H	13.00
			Red Oxide	5020R	5021R	19.00

For special recording applications, Audiotape can be supplied in any desired width.

AUDIO DEVICES, INC.
444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.

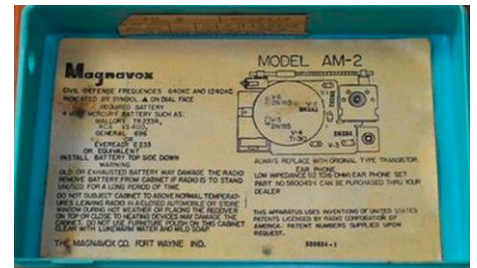
The original version of paper backed tape was produced in Germany in the late 1920's and 30's as a flexible, edit capable, cost-effective alternative to early wire recording and wax cylinders. Developed by Fritz Pfeleumer, it used paper coated with iron oxide powder as a recording medium, offering longer re-recordable, and splicable audio compared to 78 rpm discs or steel tape.

Below: Dave Snellman picked up several transistor sets recently. At last year's AWA flea market, Dave found a nice hand wired 1956 Magnavox AM-2 which also came in mint green, blue, etc. This was Magnavox's first "All-Transistor" AM radio and the cost was \$79.95 according to the Magnavox Greenville Tennessee plant historic website although the interior label shows the Magnavox Fort Wayne, IN corp. address. Behind that are a Bulova Comet from EBay and Sylvania 4PI9W previously owned by Charles Blanding- both sets of the early era with only 4 transistors.



<https://magnavoxhistory.com/showcases/1956-am-radio/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFrr4xssU8>



Below: Dave shows an unusual stacked 9 volt battery to fit the Bulova Comet. He recommended Klasse All-in-One for plastics.

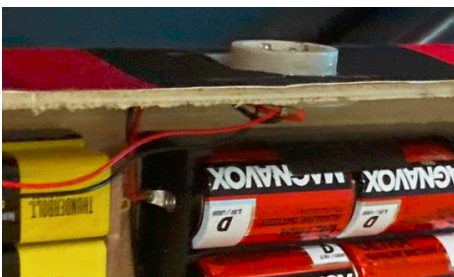




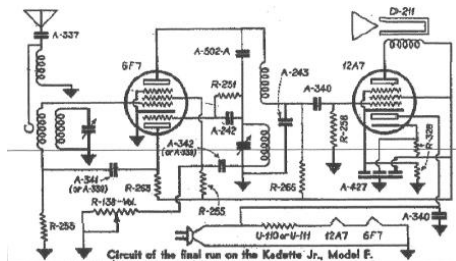
Above and Below: Tom Lager was busy fabricating a battery replica using a TO 600 series battery remnant in a recent Kutztown purchase. He carefully removed and flattened cardboard packaging, had a large scale scan made at Staples (larger area than flatbed printer scan) printed on poster paper. Then he made a box from 1/4 inch plywood, used original connector as a template to drill into a phenolic material to epoxy 4 older tube pins and found a pipe of correct size to accept TO battery connector and epoxied to inner phenolic plate. Inside is a battery holder with 6 D cells for filament supply and 10x 9V batteries series-connected for the 90 V supply.



Tom says it powers up his 500 and 600 series sets in good order. Others commented about TO's best performance on batteries, critical filament voltage of TO's and experiences using their sets during power outages when local electrical interference is minimal. There are other fabricators selling on the internet with modern adaptations using all D cells and a circuit board conversion for 90V.



Above and Below: Terry Skelton displays a Kadette model F "Junior", an AC DC T.R.F. set, one of the most innovative designs of the Depression era. Produced by International Radio Corp. of Ann Arbor, MI, the standard brown bakelite version sold for \$12.50 in 1932 with deluxe models with colors like Chinese Red, and Circassian Walnut offered at \$15. The unit uses 2-tubes- 6F7 (RF & Detector) & 12A7 (Audio Output & Rectifier). 4 schematic versions existed during its production.



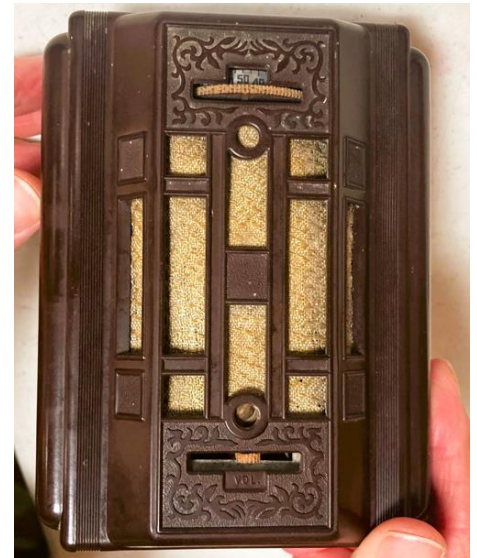
<https://radiophile.com/kadette.htm>



Below: At 4 inches wide by 6 inches tall, resembling a mini-console, and actually fitting a large pocket, these radios are not uncommon

but collectible. IRC existed from 1931-1940. They built some high tube-count radios and were taken to task legally for that marketing ploy as it did not add performance. Although sold off in 1940 due to competition, the remnant company succeeded in camera technologies later becoming Argus Corporation.

<https://antiqueradios.com/international-radio-corporation/>



Below: The power connection to mains was a highly resistive "curtain burner" having four connections to supply separate voltages for supply of filaments and the B supply side. The "Junior" was still marketed to children!



The world's sma
AC-DC radio
Follows, here is a be to hear all the games



Radio and Civil Rights

During black history month, here is a story of the former WBOX AM 920, which went off the air during 2025. An article from Jan. 5, 1966 *Daily World* (Opelousas, LA) recalls a 1964 advertising boycott.

Broadcaster Tells Of Klan Threats

Testifies Intimidation Drove Him from Bogalusa

WASHINGTON (UPI) --

A broadcaster told the House Committee on Un-American Activities today of intimidation by the Ku Klux Klan which drove him from Bogalusa, La.

Ralph Blumberg, 44, former owner of radio station WBOX in Bogalusa, said his troubles started in October, 1964, when he joined a small group of community leaders in efforts to maintain racial tranquility.

Blumberg said there were threats on his life and that of his family, gunfire at his radio transmitter, harassing telephone calls all-night long and the Klan's "most effective weapon" — an economic boycott.

He said telephone calls by the Klan to local businessmen reduced his advertisers from 75 to 6 by mid-1965. Thereafter, he sold the station and took a broadcasting job in New York.

His appearance before the committee marked the first substantial testimony from a Klan victim during a lengthy hearing on the Klan.

Blumberg said he "made a big mistake" by retreating from an editorial war with the Klan in hopes of winning back advertisers in early 1965. Most of them returned to the air, he said, but left again when the Klan renewed its campaign.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WBOX_\(AM\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WBOX_(AM))

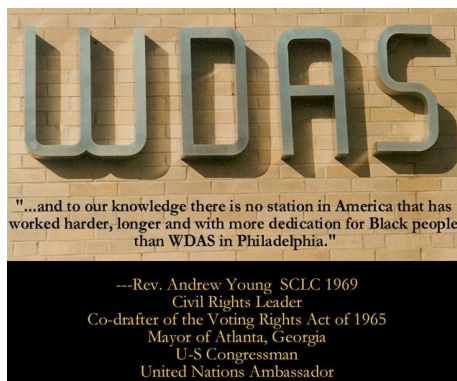
Further north, WDAS AM of Philadelphia had a plan to forward civil rights and this station had wide listenership by Philly's black community during the 1960's.



Above: Meeting at the WDAS studios around 1963 are, from left to right, Georgie Woods, Rev. Ralph Abernathy. SCLC; Ed Bradley, WDAS newsman and later of CBS News; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; WDAS general manager Bob Klein; and Philadelphia NAACP president Cecil Moore Esq. WDAS was an early supporter of Dr. King and provided extensive coverage of his civil rights activities. WDAS paid for 13 busloads of listeners to attend the 1963 March on Washington and included a WDAS staffer on each bus to act as captain. After Dr. King's assassination, the programming efforts at WDAS were credited with keeping Philadelphia calm while other cities reacted with violence. The above picture appears in the Philadelphia Radio book by Alan Boris, a local radio historian and the founder/director of the Philadelphia Radio Archives. He gives credit as well to the Bob Klein Archive and WDASHistory.org. Check out these excellent repositories of this station's (and other Phila. stations) history on the links below.

<https://wdashistory.org/>

<https://phillyradioarchives.com/>



[Here's a question from the editor:](#)

How do you use the [blue links](#) within the Oscillator? Feel free to offer any other observations we can discuss at a future meeting.

- 1) I am able to use links and often do to get more information.
- 2) I worry about loading unknown content to my browsing device and seldom do.
- 3) I try to download but many times nothing comes up, what's up with that?
- 4) It is way too much information so I usually pass them up.

Upcoming Events

JD'S Winter Record Show Sat., February 7, 2026 Renninger's, 740 Noble St, Kutztown, PA 19530 - White Room Begins 9 AM. Tables available for \$25. To register contact John at 609-947-9071 or email Kutztownradio@gmail.com

<https://jdauctionsny.com/>

NJARC Winter Repair Clinic Sat., February 21, 2026 Details TBD InfoAge Room 9032A.

See [newly designed website](#) for more.

<https://njarc.org/>

NJARC Spring Swap Meet and Ham Fest Sat., March 15, 2026 Parsippany Pal Building

<https://njarc.org/files/spring2026swapmeet.pdf>

Kutztown Antique Radio and Vintage Electronics Show LIII (53) Friday, May 8 through Saturday afternoon, May 9, 2026. **Sellers do not come on Thursday. Vendor setup starts 8 am Friday.** Hours: Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 7 am-3. **Auction is Friday, @ 5:30 in White room, Preview at 4:30.** Where: Renninger's 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:

<https://www.dvhrc.com/>

Kutztown FAQ listing

https://www.dvhrc.com/Kutztown_101.pdf

Regional Hamfests Insert search ranges:

<https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>

Meeting of Jan. 13, 2026

This winter meeting was themed "What I got for Christmas...or lately", always an interesting one.



Above: Jarret Brown shows a very nice Emerson model 574 "Memento", a battery powered jewel box set in burl walnut cabinet in immaculate condition. The cabinet did not have the Ingraham label but the Radiomuseum site has a picture in B&W with an Ingraham logo on one picture. Initially, the radio came without a picture. This 1949 4 tube chassis had cabinet variants such as the model 570 with black catalin and the 580 red or black leatherette. The unit has 3x D 1.5 volt batteries and a 67.5 V B supply battery. The hinged case when opened turns on the set.

Fun with AI: Jarret showed us how the picture was created, uploading a recent image of his wife and then applying AI prompts to create a 1940's Hollywood starlet image. Period hair styles and jewelry were patterned into the original, leading to the final product which now adorns the radio. Jarret used the ElevenLabs application for this and also experimented with voice cloning, training the software by reading 45 minutes of text into the app. He played an audio clip created after uploading a Word file which impressed. You can change inflection, emotion or even use various punctuations on the input parameters to change the tone but the initial trained reading style is most important. Pretty amazing stuff but this is only the beginning of such AI products. You can buy monthly use licensing and use credits which gives you a fair amount of capacity for smaller trials. A lively conversation of what this means for society ensued. Some of the younger generation are not as impressed for one reason or another and Jarret finds (our) generation may be more receptive to this tech! Many iconic voices of radio have been cloned such as Scott Shannon's of the True Oldies Channel or local personalities for radio time, temperature and news spot inserts to programs. Corporate radio might just deny they use it but AI voicing is everywhere and will only be increasing in use. Here's a few Elevenlabs tutorials.

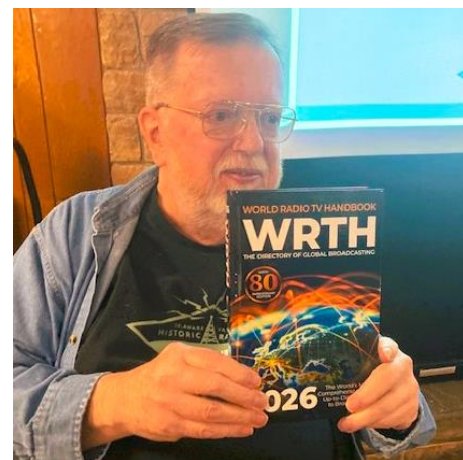
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdsf81ECwBE>

<https://elevenlabs.io/>

Below: Dave Snellman displayed NJARC Xmas party exchange gift. Previously, it was not good to be first as rules allowed subsequent turns to take gifts from others but this year they changed the rule so the first could reclaim at end. Dave ended up being first, losing the item to another but then "last" reclaiming this nice FNIRSI LC1020E 100kHz LCR Meter!



Below: Dave shared a view of the last printed version of the WRTH World Radio Handbook. Formerly, ¾ filled with shortwave stations and addresses to mail your QSL reports, and also addresses for BC band QSL'ing. The SW section is now the width of a thin magazine, a sad note of its decline. Many countries are FM only without AM stations which were shuttered by government edict as obsolete. The 2026 book is the 80th edition and future ones will be electronic only. Older editions are widely available and of nostalgic value.



Below: Mark Hilliard was gifted late 1940's and early 50's era radio advertising by his daughter-in-law's mother. Mark appreciated the 50's Motorola poster given his dad was a Motorola dealer! Next colorful ad was for a 1948 red Admiral Petite portable set with a loop antenna followed by a Red Admiral with a dipole antennae (if nature imitated radio). Less colorful radios for common General Electric AA5's but with a colorful ad featured 40's big band singer and radio personality Bea Wain.





Above: Dave showed a new in box RCA 100mW walkie-talkie he obtained from "Pete's graveyard". **Below:** Dave was gifted 1930's dial replica coasters. These can be obtained online from Quality Antique Radios.

<https://www.ebay.com/str/qualityantiqueradios>



Below: Ernest Allen bought a Teltape tape recorder at Kutztown. This unit was made in Western Germany and has only 2 transistors. Not to be missed is a demonstration of a working unit by the zany CassetteMaster.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2DqBICbqmE>



Below: Dr. Dan Schwartzman received a 1955 Granco model 730A gifted by his daughter. This model is an AM FM and came in a variety of bright colors from yellow to pink always with a two tone combo. The radio played strongly that night. Seymour Napolin was the main founder of Granco Products Inc., with plant at, 36-17 20th Avenue, Long Island City, NY. One of his engineers was Leopold Harwood doing research on: FM, UHF, receivers & tuners; stereophonics and multiplexing: high fidelity: MF car receivers, etc. Presumably Henry Fogel, responsible for the business end of Granco, hadn't renewed the insurance which is why the fire from ca. 1963 ended the company! We thought Granco might have been associated with W.T. Grant store but after reading above, maybe not...



Number of Tubes	7
Valves / Tubes	12BA6 12AT7 12BE6 12DA6 12DA8 19F8 35CS
Main principle	Superhet with RF-stage, ZF-IF: 455/10700 kHz
Tuned circuits	6 AM circuit(s) 9 FM circuit(s)
Wave bands	Broadcast (BC) and FM or UHF.
Power type and voltage	AC/DC-set / 105-120 Volt
Loudspeaker	Permanent Magnet Dynamic (PDyn) Loudspeaker (moving coil) - elliptical
Material	Bakelite or Plastics (type unknown)
from Radiomuseum.org	Model: 730P - Granco Products, Inc., Long
Shape	Tablemodel, with any shape - general
Notes	AC-DC Operated FM-AM Superheterodyne Receiver. Speaker: 5x7 inch.

Below: On a more miniature note, Terry Skelton presented several 7 transistor sets. One is the Diamond Micro imported from Hong Kong by Ross of Chicago. The other is a Sears model 7216 with a nice iridescent speckled blue front panel.



Below: Donna Acerra brought in a possibly useless Internet radio, a Grace model from @ 2008. Although this model may be outdated to work with new WIFI protocols, new Internet radios are still available and being sold. Read the article on the history of internet radio and while it exists, is no longer the “next big thing”.

<https://www.radioworld.com/tech-and-gear/are-internet-radios-still-a-thing>



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 [February 18, 2026, 08:00 PM Eastern Time](#) is entitled “What resistor types should you use in audio amplifiers?” presented by Bill Tomkiewicz, AWA Volunteer. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not get a confirmation e-mail by February 15th, please try again. Do not wait for the shares program to start on the 18th. See the following link to participate in this & future shares!

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

MeanWhile on the Medium Waves

I like to monitor the state of the AM broadcast band periodically from my Lehigh Valley location. I noticed that the WTKZ signal AM 1320 was not being transmitted for a while now but believe they should be from their co-located antenna site with AM 1600 in south Allentown. This is the main AM station supported by simulcast of "La Mega 101.7", their translator on FM. The AM 750 watt daytime signal (reduced at night) has not been heard for a while. I decided to call the station and spoke with a sales manager who was not aware of this. Maybe it's been too cold for an engineer to climb up on a tower lately and collocated transmission from one tower can be problematic. However, it seems as though it may not be a pressing issue if no one else except a radio geek reported it. Even so, with a sensitive receiver in my location, there seems to be a station to be heard on almost every frequency. It will be interesting to see when AM 1320 returns to the airwaves.

Auction Action

Here's what can transpire with an online auction. I was targeted by this particular auction most likely by the groups I subscribe to online for a local Lehigh Valley collection. Bids seemed rather low for someone's very nice collection with the exception of high end classic audio gear where some items exceeded \$500. Leading up to the final day of bidding process, many really nice vintage radio items were still at a reasonable level. Then as the

last 15 minutes played out, offers were flying by the minute-refresh on the HiBid app and I had too many items to follow and enter. Lessons learned is don't trifle with small incremental bids, just lay out the max and do not go after too many items at a time. In about five minutes my \$35 incremental bid was blown out of the water. Better yet, participate in our live Kutztown auctions run by JD Auctions where you have more control!

Bid History for 82 - Northern Electric Table Radio

Bidder	Bids	High Bid	Last Bid
vw****	8	120.00 USD	1/22/2026 6:31 PM
jo****g	6	110.00 USD	1/22/2026 6:30 PM
topbidpursuer378260	3	35.00 USD	1/22/2026 6:24 PM
k****	3	30.00 USD	1/22/2026 6:23 PM
Nu****W	2	27.50 USD	1/22/2026 6:23 PM
bc****2	1	5.00 USD	1/15/2026 9:24 PM



High Bid: 120.00 USD

23 Bids



Outbid



This is Gary Owens- It's been a long cold time and I have resorted to a space heater in the studio, just don't tell the boss! We all look forward to spring when we make more history but if I get ahold of Punxy Phil, he will be history too!