

# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

Autumn 1997

Volume 3 Issue 10



## MEETING/ ACTIVITY NOTES

Reported by Marv Beeferman and  
Marsha Simkin

Six guests, resulting in the addition of four new members, attended the September meeting and were treated to a diversified and sometimes sidesplitting show-and-tell session. We can always depend on the co-operation of our members to bring a unique flavor to these sessions and this month's examples were no exception. Among the notables:

- As a follow-up to last month's "Who Sank Lucy?" article, Bill Overbeck exhibited a "commemorative" medallion of the sinking of the Lusitania. As described in "The Great Liners" by Melvin Maddocks (which was also a part of Bill's presentation), 100 of these medallions were produced by a German metalworker playing on the theme that the British deliberately sent 100's to their death, full aware that the munition-carrying liner was fair game in time of war. One side showed the liner's decks packed with guns and a war plane and the other depicted a "skeleton" Cunard agent selling tickets to innocent passengers; "Profit before Honor" summarized the theme. As a result, British propagandists quickly pressed 250,000 impressions to whip up anti-British sentiment. Bill believes he has one of the original 100 cast iron medallions since cast iron cannot be pressed.
- George Shields displayed his fully restored 1948 Hallicrafters T-54 television. George explained that this 7", metal cabinet TV was produced for only 1 year and designed by Raymond



## MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of NJARC will take place on Friday, October 10, at 7:30 PM in the Grace Lutheran Church, corner of Route 33 and Main Street in Freehold. Contact Marv Beeferman at (609)-693-9430 or Jim Whartenby at (908)-271-7701 for directions. This month's meeting will include the results from and comments on our very successful swap-meet at the Freehold Armory. "Safe Restoration Techniques" (use of isolation transformers, working with AC/DC radios, etc.) will be John Ruccolo's presentation during our technical session.

Loewy (famous for the 1943 Studebaker and other art deco style cabinets). The TV featured random access tuning, a linear clip type tuner and channel 1 (the last year that the channel was offered). George appreciates this TV for its "logical" design, similar to that of a Hallicrafter communications receiver.

- Dave Sica offered an RCA 77-DX polydirectional microphone in pristine condition with its original box, cover and instruction manual. This high fidelity, ribbon type microphone was the mainstay of many TV and radio broadcasts and Dave still uses it in his video production business. Dave also included a Sanyo six-transistor Channel Master portable in his presentation which reminded him of a radio his grandfather had once given him.
- Ray Chase displayed a late 30's or early 40's 5-meter transceiver made in Maple Shade, New Jersey. This two-tube beauty was produced at the famous Haigis Labs Incorporated and acquired at the Communications auction in Rochester.
- Jon Butz Fiscina offered a potpourri of interesting items including a U.S. General Radio & TV 4-tube TRF "mini" cathedral, a Canadian farm radio, a molded chassis Zenith, a Pi-

lot Radio Corporation embossing stamp and an Italian ceramic tile picturing a cathedral radio. Jon said he he plans to incorporate the tile into a less important restoration project...his kitchen.

- Tube maven Ludwell Sibley held court with a Zahl tube developed at Fort Monmouth in 1943. This radar transmitting tube was a competitor of the Magnetron and was used in TPS-3 radar sets.
- Marty Friedman showed off a Philco 1941 Transitone, one of four radios that included a GE, Motorola and another Philco that a friend had rescued from the trash. Marty said it only took a short time and a few relatively simple fixes to return them to working condition. And if you ever wanted to know how to build a battery from the bottom up, cell-by-cell, talk to Mr. Friedman since the only description that gives justice to his 43-pound Philco battery-building lecture is "you just hadda be there!"
- Jim Fisher's Zenith tube advertising piece was visual testimony to Jim's taste in women...revealing. Lucky that many of our members are near-sighted.
- Don Baldwin offered a French-made Zenith turntable (which Don described as *(Continued on page 2)*)

**THE JERSEY BROADCASTER**, published a minimum of ten times each year, is the newsletter of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club (NJARC) which is dedicated to preserving the history and enhancing the knowledge of radio and related disciplines with special emphasis on contributions made by the state of New Jersey. Dues are \$15 per year and meetings are held the second Friday of each month at the Grace Lutheran Church, corner of Route 33 and Main Street in Freehold N.J.

Submissions are welcome in typewritten or diskette (5-1/4" or 3-1/2") form with formats in ASCII, WordPerfect, Word, etc. Photos in high contrast black and white are appreciated but color photos are acceptable. The Editor or NJARC is not liable for any buying and selling transactions or for any other use of the contents of this publication.

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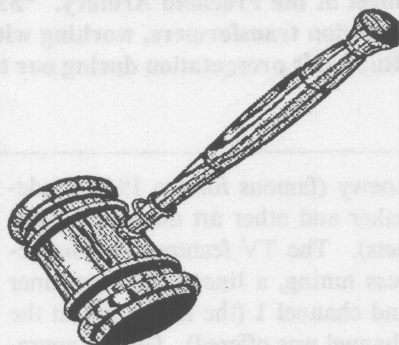
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in the shape of a toilet seat) where the cartridge angles for various speeds. Don would appreciate help in locating a replacement for the S9017 ELAC cartridge.

- Sal Barcindi chose an opportune time to acquire his first AK 40 which was shown to the club, on the heels of last month's *Broadcaster* AK 40 restoration article.
- Finally, Bernie Gindoff again amazed us with his creativity and craftsmanship when he presented club president Jim Whartenby with a solid walnut gavel, the handle in the shape of a carbon resistor, with appropriate color coding, and the business ends in



the shape of back-to-back 80 type vacuum tubes.

Thanks to all who contributed to a very enjoyable and jolly evening.

President Jim Whartenby announced that he probably would not be able to complete his term since he is planning to relocate to Arkansas. Jim and Ruth have worked tirelessly for NJARC and will be missed when they leave. In the meantime, they are still here and we continue to benefit from their hard work and many hours spent on behalf of the club. On a happier note, past president and club founder Tony Flanagan and his wife Kathleen helped christen our new swapmeet location by dropping by and saying hello. (Tony started the ball rolling on our move to the Freehold Armory.) Tony is recuperating from a recent close call and if his mischievous grin and twinkling eyes are any indication, he is well on his way to recovery. We all offer our love and support.

This month's issue features articles on the remaining topics of discussion, the club's Freehold Armory swapmeet and the AWA conference in Rochester, so we'll call it quits for now.

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### CONFESSIONS OF A RADIO JUNKIE

By Jim Whartenby

Quite a few miles have gone under the tires since my last column. Ruth and I have been to Maine, Arkansas, upstate New York, New Hampshire and of course several trips to Pennsylvania. Our tradition is to get to the destination as soon as possible, visit, then fleamarket and/or antique in the area. When we return, we take extra time to shop and see the sights along the way. In theory, the trip back home is suppose to be relaxing but it usually doesn't work out that way when you try to make the next stop before the store closes. We have discovered several interesting places where we find our bargains but, I have to admit, radios are getting scarce.

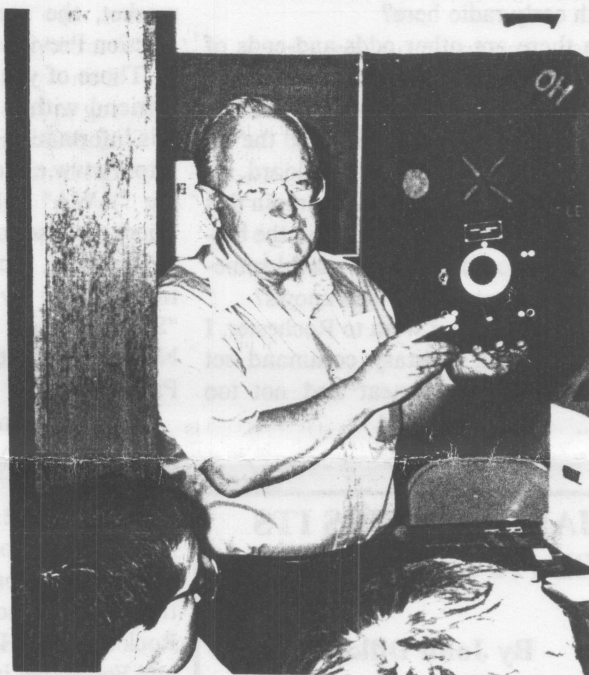
Perhaps you have noticed this too. What used to be somewhat abundant has now become less common. Even the ubiquitous transistor radio has become a challenge to find. What is going on? Can there be that many of us out there or have our collections become that big or have that many radio price guides been written? ( yes, Yes and YES ) In my collections, transistor radios make up more than half of the sets ( I make a distinction between transistor radios and transistor devices; of course, I collect both ). This is not to say that I am not up to the challenge; in fact, this makes a find all the more exciting. But what to do while you root out the next collectable radio?

Calculators are interesting. Remember your first one? Be honest, we all have had at least a couple over the years. The first four function calculators fell by the wayside when the scientific machines hit the market. Then came the programmable models and as time passed more and more functions were incorporated. You can judge the complexity of the calculator by the ratio of weight between the calculator and the users manual. It seems that the current top of the line models have manu-  
(Continued on page 4)

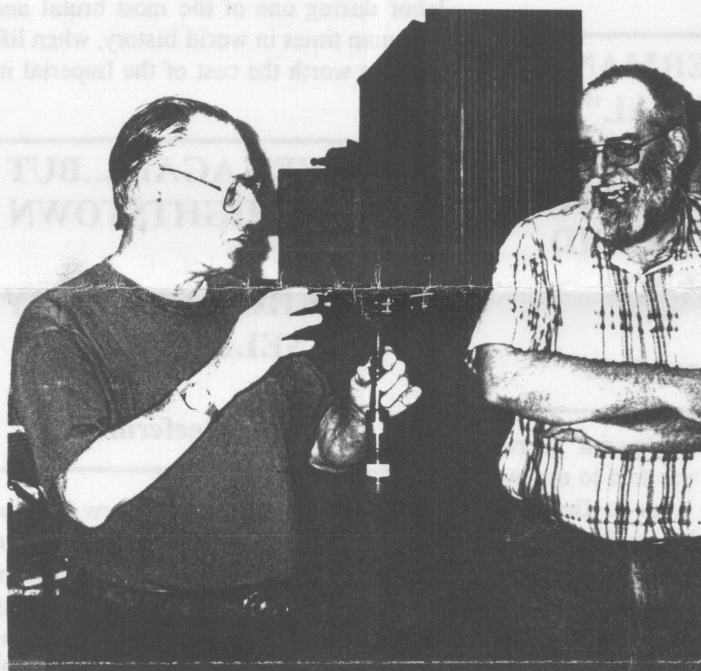




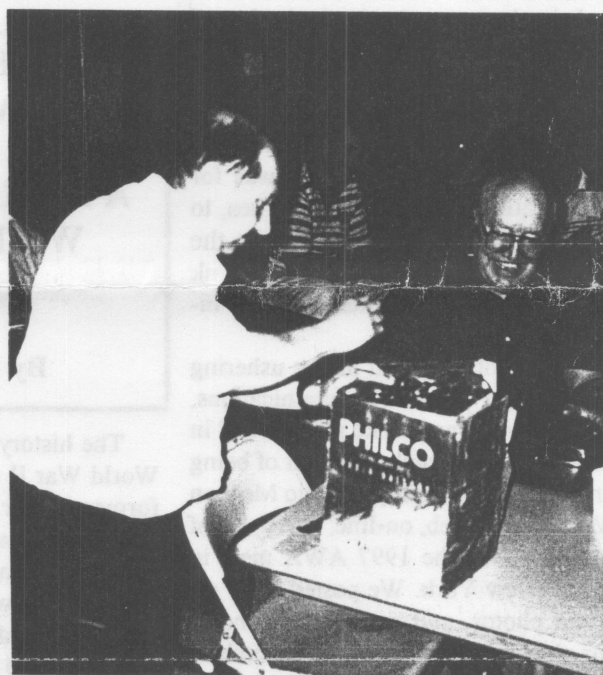
George Shields displays his  
Hallicrafters T-54 TV



Ray Chase's 5-meter transceiver



Bernie Gindoff describes his latest  
creation to an amused Jim Whartenby



Battery-building basics by  
Marty Friedman

als that weigh more than two or three times that of the calculator itself! Is there a parallel with early radio here?

Then there are other odds-and-ends of the hobby. The widgets that are half of something interesting. At the DVRA Ham Fest a couple of weeks ago, I found the attenuator that completes the Stoddard receiver I bought at Schooley's Mountain this spring. The wooden knob found in the bottom of a junk box that may be useful sometime in the distant future, who knows?

By the way, since I went to Rochester, I started collecting military command set dynamotors; they are neat and not too heavy.....

## NJARC WEAVES ITS WEB AT ROCHESTER

By John Dilks  
K2TQN

In the autumn of 1899, a 25-year-old Italian inventor named Guglielmo Marconi came to the United States determined to prove to a somewhat skeptical American public that both he and his invention were no flash in the pan. At the invitation of James Gordon Bennett, publisher of the *New York Herald*, Marconi was asked to report on the results of the America's Cup races, which were being held that year off of Sandy Hook, N.J. The idea was for Marconi, stationed on a ship out at sea, to send race results to a transmitter at the Twin Lights Lighthouse on the Navesink Highlands, which would then relay the information to the Herald.

Although not as global as the ushering in of a new era in mass communications, the NJARC Web Page broke new ground in a similar, if not unusual way; that of being the first to place an Antique Radio Meet on the Wide World Web, on-line, every day of the meet. It was the 1997 AWA meet in Rochester, New York. We posted daily reports and photos, and provided a window for our club members and AWA members who were unable to attend this year.

For those of you unfamiliar with computers and the "web", imagine an evening newspaper with color photos delivered to your home every day. Inside you find in-

formation about the day's activities. There are photos and short stories about the flea market, the equipment contest and an Auction Preview.

Those of you who have a computer or a friend with a computer, can still view this information at the following location: <http://www.eht.com/oldradio> and make the "AWA" selection from the menu. There are also some new stories posted after the meet, including the complete Auction Report by club member Ludwell "Scoop" Sibley. This web location is the New Jersey Antique Radio Club's Home Page.

While visiting the NJ club's web site, you will want to check out the "History of Radio" chapter, written by John V. L. Hogan in 1922. This is a well-written, first person report from someone who was a real radio pioneer. It includes information on and photos of Fessenden's Brant Rock Station. Hogan worked for DeForest and Fessenden in his early years.

Putting the AWA meet on-line was a "fun" project that I want to continue. Watch for it next year. It's set for the Wednesday through Saturday before Labor Day weekend, September 2 - 5, 1998. Or better yet, make plans now to attend!

## THE GERMAN "IMPERIAL"

### A BEAUTIFUL RADIO WITH A SORDID HISTORY

By Richard Brill

The history of the "Imperial" German World War II radio was told to me by its former owner who lives in Dortmund, Germany. Twenty-thousand of these radios were manufactured between 1937 and 1943. It was used by the Propaganda Ministry headed by the notorious Herr Goebels. The radio was delivered free of charge to all schools and "Nazi Centers" in Germany and conquered countries.

The Imperial could receive broadcasts from all German-run stations of the time including Warsaw, Danzig, Paris, Bel-

grade, Prague, Budapest, etc. "Radio London" was also included on the dial which actually originated from Berlin, making the masses believe that they were listening to broadcasts from London.

In 1944, when the German high command realized that they were losing the war, they did everything possible to block allied radio transmissions from entering the "Vaterland." Himmler and Goebels ordered that all Imperials be destroyed since, by a slight adjustment, the public could listen to Radio Free Europe and the BBC. Therefore, only a few of these radios are left today. The one you see pictured on page 8 is one of them, (unfortunately, the reproduced photo does not do it justice), saved in Germany by Germans and others who were willing to hear the truth from the free world...at the risk of their lives!

The Imperial pictured is a beautiful, mint condition table model radio with a mahogany cabinet, black and metal trim and original German tubes..AF3, AK2, AM2, AL4, ABC1 and AZ1. But unfortunately, its past reflects the broadcast of many Nazi lies and bears witness to the atrocities of one of the darkest eras of the 20th century. It is a piece made by slave labor during one of the most brutal and inhuman times in world history, when life was not worth the cost of the Imperial itself.

## WE MEET AGAIN...BUT NOT AT HIGHTSTOWN

### A FREEHOLD ARMORY SELLOUT

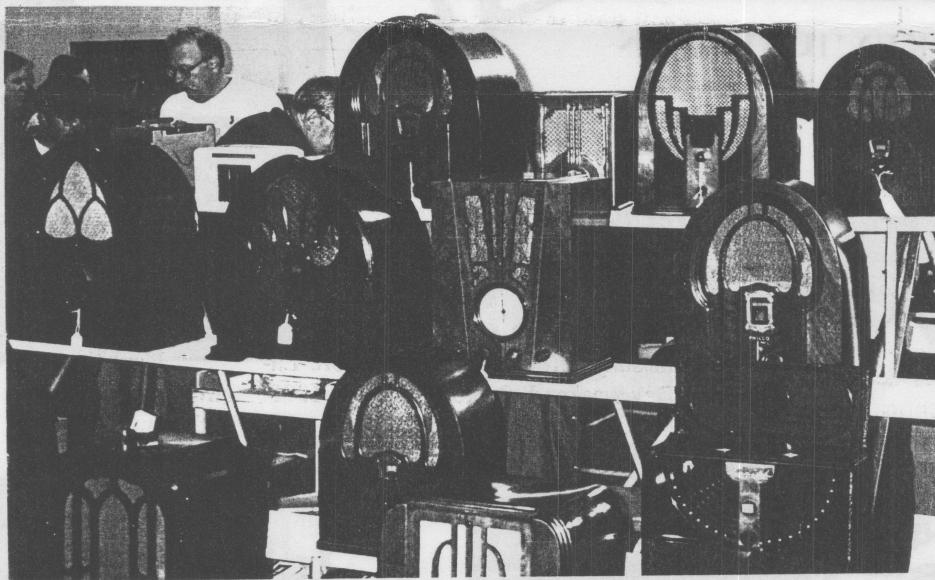
By Marv Beeferman

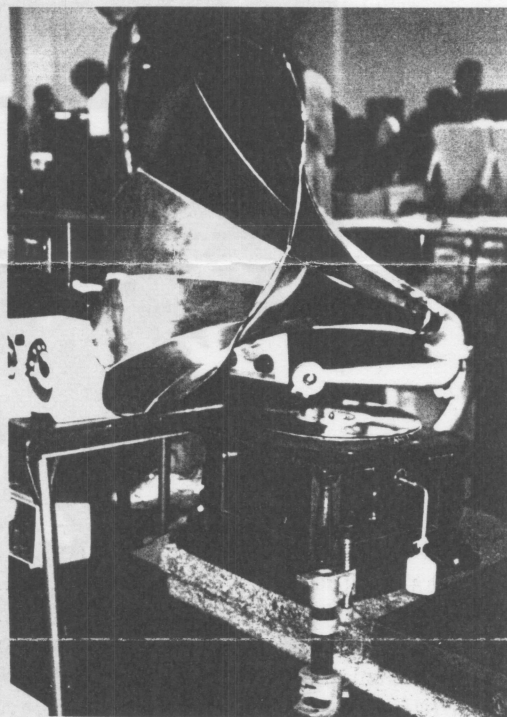
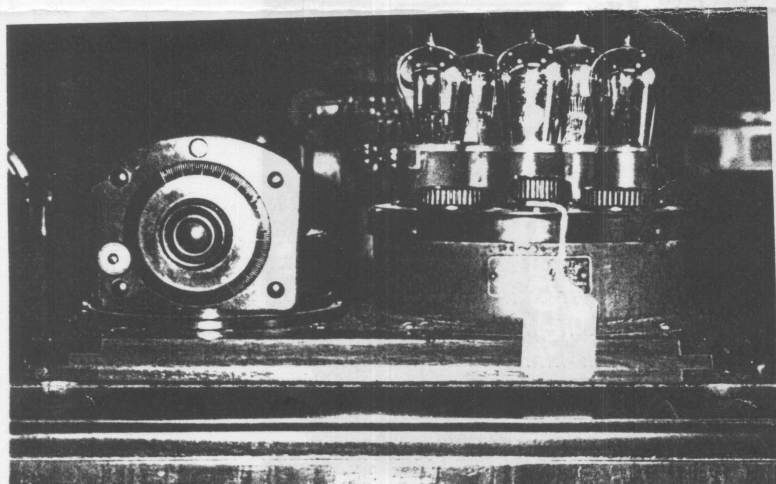
Excellent weather and a new location proved to be the successful combination that brought over fifty vendors to pack the Freehold Armory on September 27 for our end-of-season swapmeet. In fact, we might have been a little too successful since room started to become somewhat scarce. Usual startup problems associated with unfamiliarity with the logistics of the site presented themselves early in the meet but, all-in-all, based on the many



gracious compliments that the club received, it turned out to be a rewarding day. What originally was expected to be convenient truck-bay access to the drill floor became a little crowded; a water truck pickup to support the Monmouth Battlefield reenactment compounded the situation. Better traffic control is planned for the next meet. A more structured space layout is also planned and we are considering (as requested by some sellers) providing outside sales if permitted by the armory. Early in the meet, it was mutually agreed upon by the available Board members to suspend the parking fee since control started to become a problem and it was felt that the additional revenue was not worth tying up two or three members for the rest of the day. In fact, the goodwill achieved by this decision merits consideration for future meets.

Thanks goes to Sal Brisindi, Mario Volpe, Mr. and Mrs. Gary D'Amico, Marty Friedman and Jim and Ruth Whartenby. A special thanks goes to Ruth for her help in collecting rental fees, assigning spaces in the hectic first hour and manning the club table. Additional thanks goes to Mark Mittlemen who always seems to pitch in without being asked. Our thanks also goes out to Ludwell Sibley for manning the club tube table and offering encouragement when pre-registration got off to a slow start, and the Delaware Valley Historical Radio Club's Pete Grave who devoted significant time and energy (holding up those boat anchors) in conducting an impromptu "tailgate" auction at many of the vendors' spaces. In fact, moral support by the many DVHRC members who attended the meet was greatly appreciated.







## ROCHESTER REPORT

By Ludwell Sibley

AWA ran another successful Rochester conference on Sept. 3-6, aided by fine weather. The central theme this year was "Television," with a large demonstration of working mechanical and pre-1945 electronic TV gear, and the son of Britain's TV developer John Logie Baird as dinner speaker. Registrants totaled about 875, about the same as last year.

The usual NJARC members appeared and boosted the general vigor and success of the event. **Harry Poster** gave a presentation on the CBS color system. In the equipment contest, **Pete Grave** got a special award for his Amalgamated Wireless Australasia "HRO" receiver, while **Edith and Ray Chase** won first in their class for a comprehensive display of early TV literature. Their display consisted of many rare television books dating from the late 20's and early 30's. Ray's written commentary was excellent and found interest at all levels of expertise. **Al Klase** put up a portable

antenna mast in the flea market and charmed visitors with his best crystal sets ("Laboratory Standard" and "Modern Radio Labs No. 2"), getting four stations on 25 feet of wire. Our Web-pro **John Dilks** had an initial report with color pictures posted on the NJARC Web page at the end of the first day, continuing with updates and full **Sibley** auction results soon after.

All spaces sold out in the flea market. As before, the market boomed on Wednesday, faded the next two days, and was gone on Saturday. A moment of comedy occurred when a moving van drove in, bearing carton after carton of loose tubes from an estate. A gang of stimulated buyers crawled over the boxes on hands and knees, buying up dozens of 201As, 45s, etc. at bargain prices. As before, the prohibition on "items containing mercury" was not enforced, with Western Electric transmitting rectifiers glinting in the sun and 866As sold in the tube auction.

News of the hospitalization of Museum founder and curator Bruce Kelley dampened the Amateur Radio session a bit. More recently, Bruce has resigned as curator and Ed Gable, his assistant, has been in charge. Ed is a strong candidate for

permanent election to this post in November's AWA board meeting. NJARC extends "best wishes" to Bruce, now considerably recovered, and Ed.

The AWA awards program was mostly absent this year, with the two AWA Houck Awards, and the Tyne Tube Award, vacant for 1997. However, the politically "hot" ARCA Houck Award for Superheterodyne Receivers was finally reactivated and given.

Sales in the communication-gear and main auctions totaled above \$66,000, a new record. Auctioneers Ed Gable (comm) and Walt Buffinton (main) did their usual effective job on about 630 lots. There were numerous Federals and other high-value early receivers, but the usual lack of Catalin sets or high-interest transistors. The main auction featured a dozen surplus wireless and telegraph items being sold by the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. There was an unusual volume of collectible tubes this year, especially foreign types. Weirdest sale item was a 201A tube in a '20s "Diana" brand carton, labeled "in honor of Princess Diana." A spherical Audion, a nice one from the AWA Museum, set a new price record at \$1750.

The "top 25" auction items were:

Spark xmtr. on breadboard, w/ edge-wound coil, 1/4-kW xfmr., recently built .....	400
Lumophone (Nuernburg) Volksempfänger VE307dyn radio, VG .....	460
De Forest D-12 receiver w/ repro. loop, VG .....	500
Sonora "Sonorette" deco high-style bakelite set .....	500
L. M. Ericsson telegraph register, brass, w/ tape, copy of lit .....	525
Grebe CR-12 receiver, tubes, VG .....	550
Lowenstein rotary spark gap, 10" dia, 12" high casting .....	575
AK 10A breadboard, tubes, tags, VG .....	625
Watch fob, from 1921 ARRL Chicago convention, 1-1/4" cloisonné medal w/ ARRL logo on strap .....	750
Marconi xmtg. tube, '20s dual-tapered conical bulb, screw top connector, square base w/ pins, unk. cond. ....	800
Edison Kinetoscope projector drive mechanism, less shutter, fair .....	800
Bunnell Mascot var. cond., wood box, said to be ex-Edison Lab .....	800
WE SCR-59 aircraft receiver, WW I, VG, w/ UX-201As .....	825
"RCA Victor Radio" outdoor sign, 1' x 6' three-color enameled, minor chip, exc. ....	875
Crosley two-step amp. (for Harko Sr.), VG, NT .....	900
WE SCR-59 aircraft rcvr, WW I, less tubes, VG .....	1000
EKCO A-22 bakelite radio, British classic, VG .....	1050
Kennedy 220 receiver, dials need replating, else exc. ....	1050
RCA 4A(x) condenser mic, 7" sq. box, cord, less pedestal, VG .....	1400
RCA IP-501A receiver, working, VG, less buzzer cover .....	1400
Sparton 557 blue-mirror set, VG, repro knobs; works .....	1500
Federal 61 receiver, tubes, VG .....	1500
De Forest spherical audion, double-wing, good .....	1750
Paragon RA-10 tuner and DA-2 amp, VG, tubes .....	1750
Sparton 558 blue-mirror radio, repro knobs, small chips in front and side mirrors, else VG .....	1800

## CONNECTIONS

Free exposure for buyers and sellers! Unless requested otherwise, each ad will run for two months in both the *Jersey Broadcaster* and the *Delaware Valley Oscillator*. All buying and selling transactions are the responsibility of the parties involved.

## FOR SALE

BEST OFFER: Mikes: EV 660A, Altec 686A, Vega Model 10 Wireless, AKG D190M, Sony ECM 22P, 2-Shure 55 S-1's 2-EV 664's; RCA MI122987 PA amp (1950's), Rauland-Borg 1916 PA amp (1950's); RCA T2K transistor radio (late 50's); assorted 1A2 telephone equipment: phones, KSU's, cards, speakerphones, adapters, power supplies; American Concertone 6054R tube reel-to-reel recorder; extensive Commodore computer equipment; garage full of other "junkie." Michael Muderick. (610)-449-6970, Michael@Muderick.com

Tektronix oscilloscopes 535 and 547 with extra plug-in units and Scopemobile. Tektronic 575 transistor curve tracer. General Radio 805B RF generator, 1021P2 UHF generator. GE TV alignment sweep and marker generator set. Manuals for all. Other test gear and surplus equipment coming up for sale - stay tuned. Mark W. Hilliard, N3NBL, 921 S. Edward St., Allentown, PA 18103, 610-432-8089. (7/97)

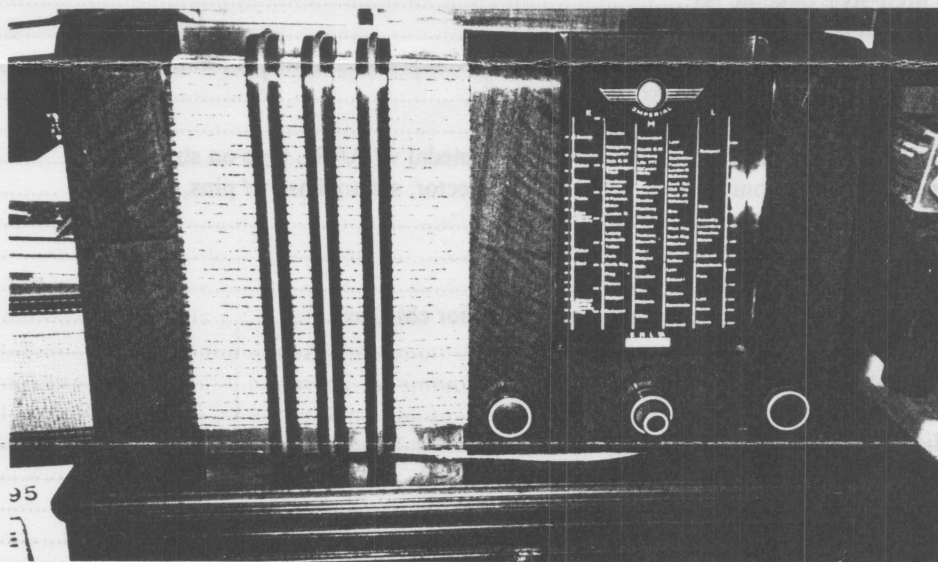
The ever-handly reference *Tube Lore* gives 186 pages of insightful scoop on about every North American tube there is. Reviewed by Eric Barbour in *Vacuum Tube Valley* as "an instant classic." The book is available from the following hip sources: (A) the DVHRC book program (B) DVHRC's A. G. Tannenbaum, 215-540-8055 (C) W7FG Vintage Manuals, 800-807-6146 (D) Antique Radio Classified, 508-371-0512 (E) Antique Electronic Supply, 602-820-5411 (F) Fair Radio Sales, 419-223-2156 (G) Angela Instruments, 301-725-8823 (H) Antique Radio Components, 916-878-1780 (I) Paul Washa, 612-472-3010, and (J) the Museum of Radio & Technology Bookstore (charleston, WV). Or...its available from Ludwell Sibley, 44 E. Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822 for \$19.95 post-paid in the U. S. and Canada, \$24.95 by air overseas. Clubs get a discount on multiple copies. (7/97)

Miniature short-wave radios: 1. 12-band AM/FM/MV/SW 1/9, very sensitive, takes 4 AA batteries, 5.9 to 26.6 MHz, with 6VDC power socket and earphone jack, cost includes shipping and insurance, \$40 2. 10-band AM/FM/MV/SW 1/7 real small, very sensitive, takes 2 AA batteries, has a 3VDC power socket and earphone jack, 4.75 to 18.06 MHz, cost includes insurance and shipping, \$35.00. 15% discount for NJARC and DVHRC members! Richard Brill, (732)-607-0299; FAX: (732)-679-8524 (10/97)

## WANTED

Buying European Radios! Grundig, Telefunken, Saba, Normende, Blaupunkt, French Radios, Polish Goplana, etc. Must be in mint or close to mint condition and in working order. No junkers, please! Richard Brill, P.O. Box 5367, Old Bridge, N.J. 08857 (732)-607-0299 Fax: (908)-679-8524) rgbent@aol.com

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