

The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

January 1999

Volume 5 Issue 1



MEETING/ ACTIVITY NOTES

Reported by Marsha Simkin
and Marv Beeferman

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A large crowd enjoyed the festivities of our annual holiday party in December. Eats gaiore was the watchword with cold cut platters, hot dishes and Marsha Simkin's "succulent shrimp" and vegetable lasagna filling empty cavities. The dessert table was laden with cakes, pies, cookies, a trifle, candy and Edith Chase's famous apple crisp. Many did not heed the warning to come hungry and there were plenty of leftovers for those wishing to party at home. In fact, enough meatballs were left to offer meatball subs at the next meeting, so plan to join us for an evening snack in January. Hats off to Marsha and Jerry Simkin, Phil Vourtsis and Marv Beeferman who joined forces to coordinate the event. Thanks also to those who helped with setup and cleanup; a few (but not all) who come to mind are Don Cruse, Dave Snellman, Edith Chase, Onalee Fisher and Shari D'Amico. Also, thanks to Jerry Simkin for manning the dues table and Phil Vourtsis for the festive music (of course played on a vintage record player).

Aside from the food, our 2nd Annual Radio Scavenger Hunt highlighted the evening. We had enough entries in each category to prove a significant challenge to our distinguished panel of judges consisting of Al Klase, Dave Snellman, Don Cruse and Mark Mittleman. Some of the winners included:



MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the NJARC will take place on Friday, January 8th 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 Phil Vourtsis at 732-870-7104 for directions. If weather looks like it may be a factor, call Phil or Marv after 3:00 on Friday to find out the status of the meeting. January's meeting will feature our popular "Show-and-Tell" session, so an interesting item or two and an anecdote describing their history or acquisition would be appreciated. If you care for a late "nosh," meatball subs (a carryover from the December holiday party) will be provided.

- Most unusual item in the shape of a radio that really isn't a radio - **Radio Pencil Sharpener (Marsha and Jerry Simkin)**
- Most unusual radio-related item used in the kitchen - **"Radio Brand" flour sifter (Marsha and Jerry Simkin)**
- Most unusual "wearable" radio-

Other winners included a "radio" laxative tin, a British dexterity puzzle, a die cut radio birthday greeting and an radio aerial deco tin. Only 2 entries were submitted for "The Case of the Possessive Radio Collector" puzzle so we'll continue it until January's meeting.

John Dilk's Mobile Radio Museum will be open to the public in the flea market area of the 1999 Dayton Hamvention on Friday, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Additionally, John is chairing a "Collecting old Ham Radios" forum on Saturday afternoon. He considers this a great opportunity to advance our hobby and make more hams aware of the Antique Wireless Association and its museum and other clubs and museums throughout the country. John says that the Dayton gang is very excited about this forum and is expected to have a large turnout.

He would appreciate hearing additional ideas from any AWA members and collectors who are anticipating attending and are interested in participating. Help is needed with audience Q&A's, passing out AWA membership applications, taking photos for the OTB and other publications, video taping, etc. With one AWA member



related item - **Radio-patterned undershorts (Phil Vourtsis)**

- Most interesting item, other than a radio, that marks a milestone in radio development or history - **Early radar tube (Edith and Ray Chase)**
- Most unusual, commercially produced crystal set (other than a novelty radio) - **Marv Beeferman**

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. The Editor or NJARC is not liable for any buying and selling transactions or for any other use of the contents of this publication.

OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND PROGRAM COORDINATORS**PRESIDENT/VIDEOS:**

Phil Vourtsis
13 Cornell Place
Manalapan, N.J. 07726
(732)-446-2427

VICE PRESIDENT:

Jim Fisher
344 Harrison Ave.
Manville, N.J. 08835
(908)-725-7476

SECRETARY/EDITOR:

Marv Beeferman
2265 Emerald Park Drive
Forked River, N.J. 08731
(609)-693-9430

TREASURER:

Sal Brisindi
203 Cannon Road
Freehold, N.J. 07728
(732)-308-1748

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

Dave Snellman
Box 5113
New Britain, PA 18091
(215)-345-4248

TRUSTEES:

Mark Mittlemen (908)-431-1324
Gary D'Amico (732)-271-0421
Tony Flanagan (908)-462-6638

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR:

Al Klase
22 Cherryville-Station Road
Flemington, N.J. 08822
(908)-782-4829

TUBE PROGRAM:

Gary D'Amico
84 Noble Street
South Bound Brook, N.J. 08880
(732)-271-0421

SCHEMATIC PROGRAM:

Aaron Hunter
23 Lenape Trail
Southampton, N.J. 08088
(609)-267-3065

CAPACITOR PROGRAM:

John Ruccolo
335 Butcher Rd.
Hightstown, N.J. 08520
(609)-426-4568

WEB COORDINATOR

John Dिल्s, K2TQN
(609)-927-3873
<http://www.eht.com/oldradio>

already signed up, John would also like to cover the early teens, 20s, 30s, 40s, military, tubes, paper, history, etc. Please contact John if you care to participate in any way.

With the knowledge that many of our members collect and restore military communication equipment, an article in the *New York Times* recently caught your editor's eye; it was titled "Aviation Treasures to Land at New Site." The article described the building of a huge annex to the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum at Washington Dulles International Airport, with room for objects that would never fit anywhere else, including the prototype space shuttle and an early model Boeing 707. The annex will not only show off objects but also the restoration process. However, at present, for every plane on display at the museum, there are three or more stashed away in an obscure complex of pink corrugated metal buildings crammed with biplanes, spaceship parts, surface-to-air missiles, kamikaze planes and gliders. It's called the Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration and Storage Facility located in suburban Maryland where restoration technicians arrest corrosion, replace old hydraulic lines, etc. so that a hundred years from now, people and historians can accurately view the technology of the time. The Garber center, named for its first curator, is open for tours every day but reservations must be made two weeks in advanced. I thought that this might make a great opportunity for a group trip for club members, perhaps requesting that the tour be customized to emphasize communication gear restoration techniques. In any case, it would be nice to see this gear in its original setting. If anyone is interested, please contact Marv Beeferman for a possible Spring reservation.

1999 DUES - Yes, it's dues time again, but for 1999 (not 1998 as stated in November's issue). Most members will show a "99" on their mailing label, indicating that \$15 is required for 1999 membership. Those with a "20" need not pay for this year. Let's make this year's response as prompt and painless as last year's with close to 100% renewal. Here's the address for your check to "NJARC;" I've printed it large enough so

you can cut it out and use it as a mailing label:

**MARSHA SIMKIN
10 AVALON LANE
MATAWAN, NJ 07747**

PARAGONS ON PARADE

By Marv Beeferman

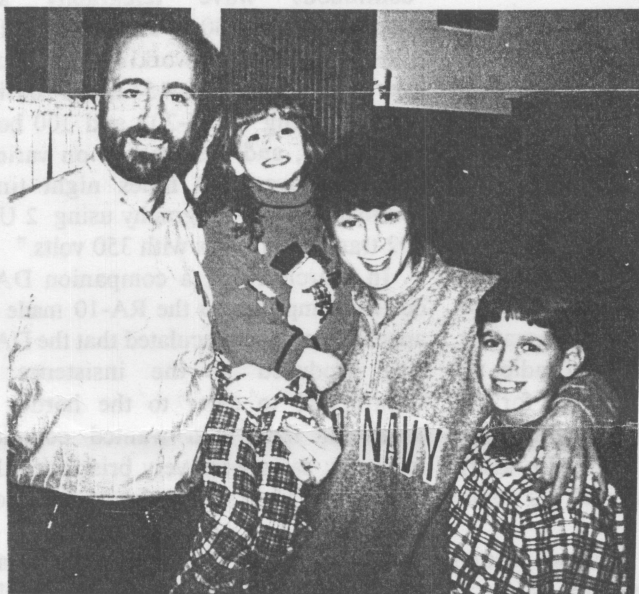
As promised, here's a follow-up to John Dilk's presentation on Paragon receivers that he gave at November's meeting, including some history of New Jersey's Adams-Morgan company and the development of their line of sets...Ed

The Adams-Morgan company started operation about 1910 in Upper Montclair, New Jersey as a mail-order business for wireless components. Its founder, Alfred P. Morgan, was a prolific writer with such works as "The Boy Electrician" (1913) and "Wireless Telegraph Construction for Amateurs" (1912 and later editions). He also wrote many pamphlets on wireless topics for Cole and Morgan and, for a time, a *Question-and-Answer* column for one of the Gernsback magazines. He also worked for DeForest and it has been said he obtained his first Audion for \$5 when DeForest needed money quickly to buy Tesla dinner. But the creative spirit for the Paragon line of receivers was not Morgan but rather another New Jersey man named Paul Godley and the impetus of a chance meeting with Howard Armstrong in 1914.

Two years prior, Godley was travelling up and down the Amazon River basin putting together a chain of wireless stations for connection with Bolivia and Peru as part of what hoped to be the first transcontinental communication across South America. In a 1986 interview, Godley described his experience as a "double dose of static."

(Continued on page 4)

PARTY TIME!



(Paragons on Parade...continued)

"In Brazil we could work successfully and handle traffic but about five hours a day on the average - between an hour or hour and a half after sunrise to eleven or eleven thirty or twelve o'clock noon. Then it was useless. You just had to shut down."

Upon his return to New York, Godley was taken as a guest to a meeting of the Radio Club of America and asked to tell about his experiences in Brazil. At the end of the talk, a tall fellow got up in the back of the room and said that he had copied one of Godley's stations (signed "MS") but couldn't tell where it was because of the language barrier (Portuguese). Godley cornered Armstrong at the end of the meeting and asked him the usual questions - where he lived, what type of rig he was using, etc. but the answers of "Yonkers, New York" and a "small antenna" did not sit too well. But not for long...

After being invited to see a demonstration of what was involved, Godley questioned Armstrong about regeneration's application to short waves. With Armstrong's answer came the birth of the Paragon receiver:

"He said: 'I haven't been able to get it to operate below about a thousand meters because of the characteristics inherent in the vacuum tubes I have been able to get, and moreover, I am only interested in the commercial application.' I said nothing. However, here was a challenge and within a matter of days I had Armstrong's regenerative circuit in operation, demonstrated it to him, and out of this came the Paragon receiver."

Godley immediately realized that the short wave regenerative circuit would be a boon to amateurs and the next step was to get into manufacturing. With \$5,000 of borrowed money, Godley invested in a one-third share of Adams-Morgan in 1915, turning a predominantly mail-order house into a radio manufacturer. In October 1916, the Paragon RA-6 was announced in QST for \$35. Soon, many of the better ham stations were using RA-6's as tuners only; the user had to provide the vacuum-tube detector and amplifier. Later on, Adams-Morgan would promote the RA-6 as being the first to effect the "First Trans

continental Amateur Transmission (California from New York: not pre-arranged)."

With Adams-Morgan busy with wartime contracts, advertising for the RA-6 ended in 1917. Godley joined American Marconi in Aldene, New Jersey for the duration of the war (he never worked directly for Adams-Morgan) directing receiver design. At wars end, RA-6 production commenced again but was immediately replaced by Godley's RA-10 which was announced in October, 1920. Originally a set made for the amateur, with the public embracement of radio, the RA-10 also became a receiver for the broadcast fan. Designed to operate from 1000 to 160 meters (300-1875 kHz), broadcast frequencies as well as many others were covered.

The RA-10 consisted of a two-section primary load coil, each at right angles to the main primary (no coupling). Two switches overlapped somewhat with one acting as a units (single turn) switch and the other as a tens (12 turns) switch for its first four taps, then adding primary loading on its remaining taps. The coupling secondary consisted of a rotor inside the main primary. The secondary load coil was placed next to the plate variometer so that regeneration on long waves is a combination of variometer and tickler action. Both load coils were switched out of the circuit for short wave (200 meter) reception.

Having not gotten along too well at the outset, by 1921, Morgan and Godley were very much at odds. While Godley was in Scotland for transatlantic tests for the ARRL, Morgan took the opportunity to buy out his silent partner Adams and acquired majority control of the company, reneging on an agreement that no partner would sell without notifying the others.

Up until this point, Continental Radio Corporation had exclusive distribution rights for the RA-10, with all advertising done by them. But the unchanging RA-10 began to fade from their ads and Adams-Morgan began to regret this exclusive agreement which prevented them from advertising.

November 1921 saw the introduction of their two-tube radiotelephone transmitter, the 2-5-U, as the RA-10 faded from ads. The 2-5-U was basically a 1-

tube modulated oscillator that gained favor with radio amateurs, providing both "continuous wave telegraphy and telephony" over 160 to 325 meters. The transmitter boasted working "telephone over a distance of 15 miles during daylight using 1 UV-202 and 100 bolts 'B' battery, and has worked on various occasions over 500 miles night time, continuous wave telegraphy using 2 UV-202 transmitter tubes with 350 volts."

In March 1922, a companion DA-2 detector-amplifier to the RA-10 made its appearance. It is speculated that the DA-2 was produced at the insistence of Continental to cater to the hordes of broadcast fans who wanted complete receivers; sales were very brisk with this unit until May when the radio boom collapsed.

In December 1922, Continental ads introduced the RD-5 and A-2, a somewhat simplified version of the RA-10/DA-2 combination that was split into a one-tube receiver and two-step amplifier which was more conventional at the time. In June 1923, to pep up the RD-5 and A-2 setup (RA-10 production had ceased by now), the 10-R one-tube RF amplifier, designed to match the RD-5, was available for \$40. However, many 10-Rs were also used with the the RA-10 as shown in contemporary photos of "high-class" radio installations. In either case, the primary inductance of the receiver became the plate coil for the RF amplifier. The grid was tunable only to the extent of the tapped coil arrangement.

Around July 1923, Godley's case went to court and as a result, he and Morgan settled their differences. Upon Godley's return to the company, a new series of three-tube regenerative receivers, the RB-2 and RB-2A, appeared at the end of 1923. A unique feature of the RB-2 was the ability to switch tube filament voltage via plug jumpers behind each tube, allowing the user to try various tubes. The same circuit was placed into a larger cabinet with doors and called the III and IIIA. Clever but not especially innovative, these sets were not successful and by May of 1924, the \$175 IIIA was selling for \$83.50 in some stores.

In the summer of 1924, Godley left Adams-Morgan for good. But the company reorganized in October with the

acquisition of new capital and the model Two, Three and Four were introduced. The Model 4 broke tradition by having a tuned regenerative RF stage and an untuned detector. But being real throwbacks to the older regenerative models, sales fell flat for this series and advertising disappeared by May 1925.

Adams-Morgan went into receivership on January 21, 1926. Attempts to reorganize as the Paragon Electric Corp. also failed with the abandonment of a new "1928 Paragon" line and concentration on components then being supplied to Westinghouse, Western Union and others.

After a June 1928 announcement that Paragon had become a test lab for manufacturer's servicing, nothing more was heard about the company.

References:

1. Radio Manufacturers of the 1920's, Vol. 1, Alan Douglas, "Adams-Morgan/Paragon"
2. Old Timer's Bulletin, June 1980, pg. 32, March 1983, pg. 6-8, June 1983, pg. 6-9.

3. Antique Radio Classified, October 1986, pg. 13

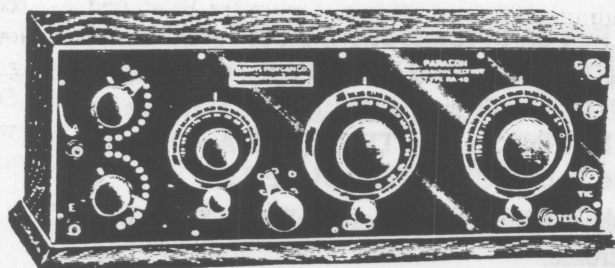
4. AWA Review, Vol. 1 (1986), "An Interview with Paul Godley"

5. Radio Age, Vol. 2, No.2 (March 1976), pg. 6, Vol. 5 No. 6 (June 1979), pg. 7

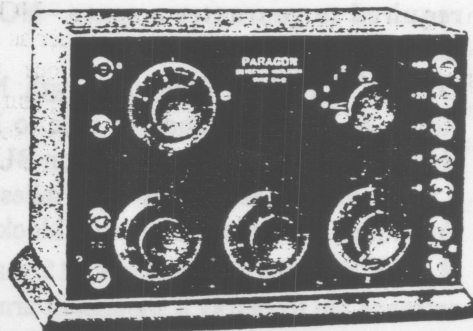
6. Antique Radio Gazette, Vol. 14, No. 4, pg. 17-18.

Regenerative Receiver

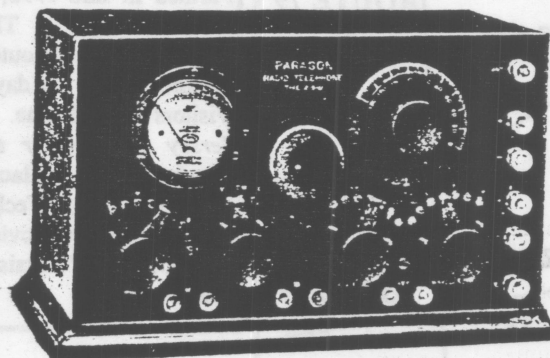
Paragon Type RA-10
Wave Length Range 160-1000 Meters



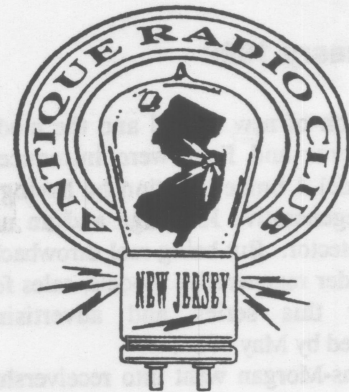
Paragon Detector-Amplifier Type DA-2



Paragon Radio Telephone Type 2-5-U



NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB



ANTIQUE RADIO SWAPMEET

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 8:00AM - 3:00PM*

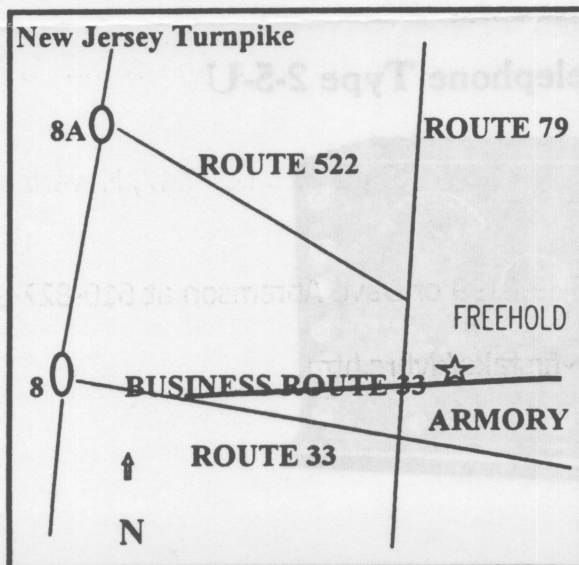
National Guard Armory, Freehold N.J.

NJARC presents its Spring all-indoor swapmeet in a spacious, new location with vendors displaying a spectrum of collectible old-time radios, military and civilian communication equipment, audio equipment, phonographs, and associated parts and literature. Convenient, ground level access for vendors; snacks are available. Everyone is welcome! **Reservations are required to guarantee a space.** **NOTE: Tables will not be provided; floor space is ample and clean.**

DIRECTIONS: From the North: N.J. Turnpike Exit 8A to Route 522 East; in Freehold, take Route 79 South for about 1 mile to BUSINESS ROUTE 33 (Park Ave.) East - the armory is about a block East of Route 79 on BUSINESS ROUTE 33. From the South: N.J. Turnpike Exit 8 to Route 33 East for about 10 miles; continue on BUSINESS ROUTE 33 (Park Ave.) through Freehold - the armory is about a block East of Route 79 on BUSINESS ROUTE 33.

RATES: NJARC members \$15/space; non-members \$20/space. There will be a \$2.00 buyer entrance fee to defray a significant armory rental increase.

CONTACTS/RESERVATIONS: Marv Beeferman, 2265 Emerald Park Drive, Forked River, NJ 08731 (609-693-9430). Phil Vourtsis, 13 Cornell Place, Manalapan, NJ 07726 (732-446-2427)



*Vendors set up at 7:00; no early admittance!

Formed in mid-1992, NJARC has a membership of approximately 150. The club meets at Grace Lutheran Church, corner of Route 33 and Main Street in Freehold, on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 PM. Visitors are welcome. The club publishes the monthly *Jersey Broadcaster* and has a program providing members with replacement tubes and capacitors at moderate prices. Technical, restoration and historical presentations are provided by members at each meeting. Contact Phil Vourtsis (732-446-2427) for additional information.

DELAWARE VALLEY HISTORIC RADIO CLUB
PRESENTS
SUPER WINTERMEET III

HAVERTOWN, PA

Saturday, February 6, 1999 – 8:00 AM till 2:00 PM

The Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club presents its all-indoors swapmeet and auction at the Grimes Center, St. Denis' Church, in Havertown, PA. Just west of Philadelphia, the site has easy access from the PA Turnpike or I-95. It is a large meeting hall with easy, ground floor unloading from the parking lot. The auction is planned for 11 o'clock. Food and beverages will be available. Seller setup begins at 7:00 AM. Buyers only admitted at 8:00 AM.

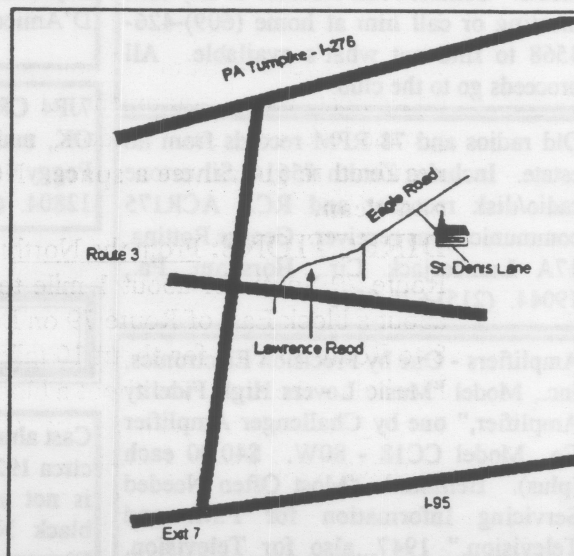
DIRECTIONS:

From the PA Turnpike:

- Use exit 25A (I-476 south)
- Use Exit 4 (Rte 3/Upper Darby.) Stay left.
- Turn left at the second light (Lawrence Road.)
- At the next light, go left onto Eagle Road.
- At the third light, turn right onto St. Denis Lane;
- Head for the Grimes Center on the left.

From I-95:

- Go north on I-476
- Use Exit 4 (Rte3/ Upper Darby.) Stay left.
- Turn left at the second light (Lawrence Road.)
- At the next light, go left onto Eagle Road.
- At the third light, turn right onto St. Denis Lane;
- Head for the Grimes Center on the left.



RATES: Buyers: \$3 at the door on the day of the event.

Sellers: the rate is \$15 per table in advance, \$20 per table on the day of the event. **THIS IS A SELLOUT MEET!!! RESERVE EARLY to guarantee a space.**

To reserve your space, just send a check, payable to DVHRC, to P.O. Box 847, Havertown, PA 19083. For confirmation, send SASE.

For information contact: Bill Overbeck at 610-789-8199 or Dave Abramson at 610-827-9757.

Check our website at <http://pw2.netcom.com/~firstake/dvhrc.htm>

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

Check out NJARC's capacitor program for those most commonly needed replacements. Contact John Ruccolo at any club meeting or call him at home (609)-426-4568 to find out what's available. All proceeds go to the club.

Old radios and 78 RPM records from an estate. Includes Zenith #5614, Silvertone radio/disk recorder and RCA ACR175 communications receiver. George Rottina, 17A Lumberjack Cir., Horsham, Pa., 19044. (215)-675-9055

Amplifiers - One by Precision Electronics, Inc., Model "Music Lovers High Fidelity Amplifier," one by Challenger Amplifier Co., Model CC18 - 80W. \$40.00 each (plus). Beitman's "Most Often Needed Servicing Information for F.M. and Television," 1947...also for Television, 1951. Both books, \$25 (plus). Elwood Hunt, 308 Georgetown Rd., Carneys Point, NJ, 08069. (609)-299-5259

Communications, military and test equipment. Send long SASE for revised list and lots of new items. Also: Zenith oval shaped console 9-S-263, 9-tube RobotDial w/motor tuning. In original showroom condition - \$995 - or best offer. Eveready battery set (uses type 240 tubes), good condition - \$100 -. Pair of ElectroVoice Aristocrat corner enclosures with University 312, 8-ohm, 25 watt triax speakers...sound is great, condition is good - \$300 -. Ray Chase, 1350 Marlborough Ave., Plainfield, N.J. 07060. (908)-757-9741. (12/98)

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." Available from Ludwell Sibley, 102 McDonough Road, Gold Hill, OR 9725-9626 for \$19.95 postpaid in the U. S. and Canada, \$24.95 by air overseas. Clubs get a discount on multiple copies. (3/98)

The NJARC tube program offers clean, tested, boxed tubes at very reasonable prices with availability at any club meeting (no dealers, please...not for resale). Proceeds go to the club. Of course, donations of radio-type tubes in any condition are welcome. See Gary D'Amico at the next meeting.

7JP4 CRT, good filament, screen looks OK, make offer. Alton Dubois, Jr., 67 Peggy Ann Road, Queensbury, NY 12804. (518)-792-3130.

WANTED

Cast aluminum lid for Eveready #2 radio, circa 1928. Good photo would help if lid is not available. Need two, four-inch black No. 488 dial knobs for Fried Eisemann NR-6. Alton Dubois, Jr., 67 Peggy Ann Road, Queensbury, NY., 12804. (518)-792-3130.

Help: Would the person who sold Marc Ellis the Philco 70 cabinet please contact him at PO Box 1306, Evanston, Ill., 600204-1306. ellis@interaccess.com, (847)-869-5016.

Looking for accessories for AN/GRC-9 field radio, especially front cover, whip antenna and power cord for DY-88 power supply. Al Klase, (908)-782-4829, skywaves@bw.webex.net

Howard Sams book "From CB to Ham Beginner" by J.A. Stanley. Richard C. Yingling, 2 S. Locke Ave., Yeagertown, Pa. 17099. (717)-242-1882

Need someone to repair a Philco 4654 Predicta TV. Ray Casper (609)-695-8312

Emerson AU-190 chassis; FADA 659 dial glass; Chelsea ZR-4 audio transformer; Sentinel 400 Television; Plastic CRT cover (front) for 17" Philco Predicta; Pilot TV-37 tuning knob (wood). Frank Johnson, 530 Elford Rd., Fairless Hills, PA 19030-3624. (215)-943-8295

Japanese tubes: UF134, UZ135, UF109A, UF111A, UY133A. Lewie Newhard (610)-262-3255

Sales literature, service manuals, and equipment for theatre sound/broadcast use by RCA Photophone, Century Sound, Motiograph, Altec, Western Electric, etc. Theatre catalogs by Jay Emmanuel Publications, Philadelphia. Scott Stillwell, 2328 Cambridge Circle, Hatfield, PA 19440. (215)-393-1833 Pager: (800)-717-9306

Chassis and speaker for Sparton 517B (Machine Age to Jet Age, pg. 187) or Sparton 527-2 (Machine Age to Jet Age II pg. 283). Joe Bentrovato, 84 E. Munson Ave., Dover, NJ 07801. (973)-361-7392

Would the individual selling a Marantz amplifier at the October NJARC swapmeet please contact Dave Sica at (732)-382-0618.