

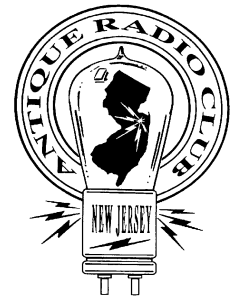


The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

June 2006

Volume 12 Issue 6



Reported by Marv Beeferman

THE ON-LINE BROADCASTER

The New Jersey Broadcaster is now on line. To date, 50 of your fellow members have subscribed, saving the club some \$900. Interested? Contact Marv at mbeeferman@cs.com

Last month's meeting featured the Mike Hammer auction with some nice items fetching reasonable prices. The highest bid went to a Grebe MU-1 w/chains in very good condition accompanied by a Music Master speaker, all for \$300. What your editor considered the buy of the night was a Western Electric 518W horn speaker for \$85. On May 24th, Phil Vourtsis and Steve Goulart picked up a 60 item collection which included may radios from the 1920s. Stay tuned for the details of this upcoming auction.

The response to our May repair clinic at the Sarnoff Library was very positive:

"Thank you for the lectures and easily understood answers to my questions on Saturday. I will work inside my Zenith with much more confidence now. Most of what the lectures contained are in books that I have seen at the library or that I have purchased & ready. You read them and walk away saying 'What now?' 'What now' on Saturday was the human touch, given by Mark, Phil and Al.

I want to thank Mark for explaining the schematics and the real life insides of my radio so well, and with such sincerity. When he spoke of the TransOceanic that



MEETING NOTICE

NOTE REVISED DATE

The next meeting of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club will start at 7:30 on Friday, June 9th, at the David Sarnoff Library in Princeton, NJ. Contact President Phil Vourtsis (732-446-2427) for directions. This month's meeting will feature a showing of more of the video that was professionally shot at our last Parsippany swapmeet: "Top 20 Tips for Collecting Anti que Radios." In addition, Dave Sica will present a brief report on his trip to the Early Television Convention.

he has, and the battery supply that he rigged, his eyes truly lit up.

Al's enthusiasm filters out to all of us when he was either presenting his lectures or leading a member through a schematic.

early vintage I worked on. Thanks to all that were there yesterday that helped with advice. You too Gary for your tips."

"I really enjoyed the repair clinic today. Thanks to all who made it possible. Thanks to Phil Vourtsis for help with my phonograph. And a big thanks to Al Klase for sharing his expertise in repairing radios and for taking the time to step through showing me how to align a radio. It was a blast gentlemen. I appreciated your efforts."

Some nice radios turned up for repair including an RCA 211, an Ecophone, a Zenith 10-S-567, a GE 515F, an Emerson CE-259 and an AK 46. Thanks to Gary D'Amico, Tom Provost, Walt Heskes and Phil Vourtsis for helping with these radios.

Congratulations to NJARC member and QST Contributing

Editor John Dilks, K2TQN, who has received the Marconi Memorial Award from the Veteran Wireless Operators Association "for his persevering efforts over the past 15 years in collecting, restoring, displaying and demonstrating the operation of vintage radio equipment." The award plaque goes on to read: "His published writings of radio history preserve the memories of all radio and wireless pioneers." VWOA President Alan Ehrlich, WA2GDQ, presented the award to John



NJARC President Phil Vourtsis lectures on radio circuit fundamentals at our May repair clinic.

Phil's sincere efforts to have all the members attending his lecture really understand a concept he has just gone over is truly commendable."

"I enjoyed yesterday's repair clinic very much. It felt good to come out and get down and dirty with my vintage AK. A big thanks to Al Klase for helping me understand the inner workings of this vintage AK. I'm used to working on AA5 radios mostly and this is the first real

THE JERSEY BROADCASTER 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. Dues are \$20 per year and meetings are held the second Friday of each month.

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

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on May 20 who has written the popular monthly "Old Radio" column for QST since January 2000. The VWOA was founded in 1925 to foster fellowship among wireless operators. Over the years, the association's ranks have included many broadcasting and communication industry executives and innovators, as well as thousands of Amateur Radio operators.

There were no candidates nominated for the June election. Fortunately, the "old-guard" has volunteered to continue in their present positions for the next two years. Two changes to the club's constitution will be considered by your Board to ensure a majority vote — an East (InfoAge) and West (Sarnoff) sergeant-at-arms and the addition of the web coordinator as a Board member.

The NJARC Summer swapmeet will be held on July 29th at InfoAge. Pricing will be similar to that of the Parsippany meet but it will be a bring your own table type affair. For more details, see page 8 of this month's *Broadcaster*. The Fall swapmeet is back at Parsippany on November 18th.

In the upcoming weeks, the club will be sending out final renewal notices for 2006 dues. Please try to reduce this mailing by sending a \$20 check to Marsha Simkin at the address at the left. If a "1/06" appears on your *Broadcaster* mailing label, our records show that your dues have still not been paid.

INFOAGE METAMORPHOSIS

Thanks to the hard work of Steve Gouart and Harry Klancer, the electronics shop at InfoAge is now available. There are currently four workbenches and the promise of enough test equipment to fully equip each bench. InfoAge's location in Wall Township might be easier for some members to get to for those currently geographically challenged by Sarnoff.

The "e-shop" will be an addition to the current repair clinics. Steve is planning to provide bench space, test equipment and tools with one-to-one expert assistance as the standard, increasing the availability of help for less experienced members. For now, repair sessions will be like those at Sarnoff; run off of extension cords and out of member's tool boxes. But, delighted with the results so far, InfoAge Director Fred Carl has promised additional power and lighting.

Once the shop is fully equipped, Steve is planning to make it available at least once (day/night) a week by appointment. Also, limited storage is available so that if a project is not completed in a night, it can be shelved for a later date.

The photos below provide a rough idea of the extensive work put in to create this new InfoAge resource.



THE FIRST CLOCK RADIO?

By Marv Beeferman

I purchased what might be considered one of the first "clock radios" about 15 years ago from Bruce Mager of Waves. It was displayed at one of our club show-and-tell sessions but it was only until recently that I decided to do a little research regarding its origins.

On the rear of the case is engraved "RADIO CLOCK CASE - INDIA IVORY CO." Printed along the bottom edge of the clock is also found "THE INDIA IVORY CO., PROVIDENCE R.I. The India Ivory Company manufactured miniature mantle, desk and table clocks encased in a celluloid material that was sometimes described as "French ivory" or "ivorine." They are easily distinguished by their classic design using pillars and columns.

Although not marked, the crystal radio is identical to a 1920s Beaver Baby Grand chassis with nickel-plated hardware. The set measures 2-1/4" X 3-3/4" and is of simple construction using a catwhisker detector and two tuning dials with taps to a coil in the rear. The Beaver Baby Grand appeared between 1922 and 1923 and was manufactured by the Beaver Machine and Tool Co. of Forest Hill, New Jersey. It came in various styles (four versions have been identified by collectors) with cases made from oak and molded hard rubber and prices ranging from \$7.50 to \$10.00.

This "clock radio" is something of a rare bird with very limited sightings. One version is said to have brass (or gold) colored radio hardware. Another example showed up in the old equipment contest at Radiofest 1992 in Elgin, Illinois.

References:

1. Maurice L. Sievers, "Crystal Clear," Vol. I and II
2. Antique Radio Classified, Vol. 9, No. 10 (October 1992)



The first "clock radio?"



The Beaver Baby Grand— note its similarity to the set in the "clock radio."



Interior of "clock radio" showing multi-tapped coil. With no antenna tuning, this set is designed to receive only a limited number of nearby stations.

NJARC MAY REPAIR CLINIC



Final preparations are made on a console to be auctioned at the InfoAge gala on June 3rd.



THE MIKE HAMMER AUCTION



This homebrew 3-dialer sold for \$100 with half the proceeds donated to the club.



A nice Radiola 3 with tubes and earphone sold for \$130.



Al Klase took on auctioneer duties as organizer Ray Chase looks on.



This Brandes "table-talker" speaker sold for \$35; the Western Electric to the right went for \$85.



THE 2006 EARLY TELEVISION CONVENTION

By
Dave Sica

The 2006 Early Television Convention was the fourth incarnation of this annual event for hard-core television collectors. Held at the Early Television Museum, the Convention consisted of a number of literally breathtaking demonstrations and exhibits in addition to a tour of Steve McVoy's museum which houses the most comprehensive early television collection in the world.

Once again, collectors converged on the museum, located in Hilliard (a suburb of Columbus) Ohio from all corners of the country and from other countries as well. One of the highlights of this year's event was a presentation by Don McLean who traveled from England to demonstrate and explain his restoration of the very earliest video recordings from phonograph records. They were first produced by John Logie Baird at the very dawn of television in 1927! Perhaps most remarkably, these recordings were apparently never viewed by anyone before McLean devised a system for playing them. Even their inventor, though he could record the signal, had no way to play them back!

Attendees were treated to a number of highlights at this year's convention.

- Alex Magoun, director of the David Sarnoff Library, gave a talk on "RCA and the Innovation of Electronic Television, 1923 - 1945".
- Peter Yanczer demonstrated a @-line Mirror Screw Receiver. The mirror screw, one of the less-familiar television scanning technologies, produced a remarkably viewable picture using completely mechanical means.
- At last year's convention, Alex discussed the dawn of television in Russia with the transfer of RCA's technology to that country. This year, Darryl Hock's presentation focused on the Russian TK-1 television receiver, the "export" version of the RCA's RR-359 1936 experimental model. Raising this session to the level of utterly extraordinary was the presence of Darryl's working

TK-1 displaying live pictures of the audience (via this writer's not-so-vintage camcorder) during his presentation!

- Cliff Benham brought the past into the present with his modern version of a Color Wheel NTSC Converter. Sporting solid-state electronics, a direct drive motor for nearly silent operation and a fresnel lens in front of a modern Sony black-and-white receiver, Cliff's color wheel produced nearly distortion-free color images.

- Chuck Azzalina displayed a bizarre recent find: a giant Dalto color projector from the fifties featuring a sizzling 40 thousand volts of high voltage with the appropriate amount of x-ray generation. (Good thing you're all done having chil-



dren, Chuck!)

Although the Early Television Museum focuses primarily on television receiver technology, many other museums include televisions as part of their exhibits. Presentations about two such places were included on the agenda:

- Brian Belanger talked about The Radio and Television Museum in Bowie, Maryland. Brian is curator of the museum.
- Dave Blewett discussed his TV Dinner Club Museum in Akron, Ohio, which features a large variety of television show nostalgia items.

An event not on the program, but eagerly awaited and enjoyed by participants, was the arrival of the "Azzalina Express." Chuck had collected a number of donations to the museum over the past year, enough to require a rented box truck, which he and I drove from Pennsylvania to the museum. Most notable among the contents were some artifacts from RCA's Lancaster plant. The first was a working 15GP22 CRT (just in case you didn't know, there ain't too many of

them around.) The crows gathered 'round as the tube was brought to life and declared "good"! Another item from Lancaster was a bizarre "flat panel" CRT, apparently intended as a last-gasp vacuum tube competitor to the emerging plasma and LCD technology. (Note: Guess who won - the tube never went into production.)

A Dalto projector and another giant monochrome projector helped fill up the truck (The Dalto, deemed by Chuck as just too darn big to keep at home, stayed at the museum.) Other donations included a Col-R-Tel color converter (donated by a New Jersey owner), a wonderful (even though empty) Jenkins television receiver kit box purchased for the museum at an NJARC swapmeet, and a "mystery" DuMont television monitor, donated by NJARC member Steve Goulart, all of which had been patiently living in my basement throughout the year awaiting delivery to the museum.

The event, always enjoyable, was even a bit more civilized this year, with displays at the museum but presentations and dinner at a nearby convention center. Attendance at past Early Television Conventions included an endurance test against the cold, damp spring weather, which despite Steve's best efforts successfully infiltrated the unfinished back area of the museum where the convention presentations were held. The elegant and functional Makoy center really helped make the presentations feel a lot more upscale, especially when topped off by a great dinner.

New items on display at the museum this year included a comprehensive collection of newspaper articles from the early days of television and early television advertising, an updated CRT display area and over a dozen new receivers.

As always, it's a thrill for a TV geek to be able to see himself televised live on a working scanning disc system, or in another part of the museum, to see the complete product line of prewar RCA televisions lined up, all running. Or, in yet another area, to be able to see the entire spectrum of first-generation color sets lined up and lit up.

With literally a thousand other things on display, although I've attended all four conventions, I still haven't managed to examine all the displays!



A "giant" Dalto color projector



NJARC member Steve Goulart's contribution



Peter Yanczer's 60-line mirror screw receiver.

This receiver produced a remarkably viewable picture using completely mechanical means.



Testing the 15GP22 CRT..."IT'S ALIVE!"
"IT'S ALIVE!"



"...it's a thrill for a TV geek to be able to see the entire spectrum of first-generation color sets lined up and lit up."



Darryl Hock's TK-1 set up to display live pictures of the audience..."raising this session to the level of utterly extraordinary."

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.

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.

Are you aware that NJARC now has a resistor program which includes many commonly needed replacements? Contact Walt Heskes at any club meeting for details.

Howard Sams volumes 1 thru 674 inclusive. All volumes from 1 thru 670 are in Howard Sams 3-ring hardback black binders — a total of 67 binders of 10 volumes per binder. All for \$99, local pickup only.
John Okolowicz, Ambler PA 19002.
Phone 215-542-1597 or email: john@grillecloth.com

WANTED

2006 DUES

Pushbutton assembly for a Stromberg Calson model 340 (1939). Nick Senker, 908-874-3611, n.senker@worldnet.att.net.

YOUR WANT AD HERE!

**NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB
SUMMER SWAP MEET**

**InfoAge Science-History Center - 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, New Jersey
SATURDAY, JULY 29th**

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM (or later) - Open to the Public - Vendor Set-up at 7:00 AM

A great old fashioned tailgate swap meet at what was once the 1914 Marconi Belmar Wireless station. Bring your own table, food and radios and relax in the picnic-like setting of this historic site. Take a tour of the Marconi "hotel" where the ghosts of the former age of wireless still roam the halls. Visit NJARC's Broadcaster's Hall of Fame radio exhibition at a cottage that once housed the station's chief engineer. Visit the site of Project Diana and its huge antenna that was the first to capture radar signals bounced off the moon. And much, much more...

A single space is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Additional reserved spaces are \$15 (\$20 non-members). There is a \$5 club donation entrance fee for buyers. For directions, visit www.infoage.org, our club website at www.njarc.org or "mapquest" 2201 Marconi Road.

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