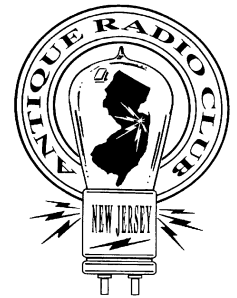


The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

January 2008

Volume 14 Issue 1



Reported by Marv Beeferman

THE ON-LINE BROADCASTER

The New Jersey Broadcaster is now on line. To date, 80 of your fellow NJARC members have subscribed, saving the club some \$1,400 per year. Interested? Send your e-mail address to: mbeeferman@cs.com
Be sure to include your full name!

From your Editor and Board and Directors, happy and healthy New Year wishes go out to all our members. Our December Holiday Party was a fitting conclusion to another great year for the NJARC. President Phil Vourtsis took the podium to summarize all of the club's 2007 milestones and activities and, in retrospect, we have a lot to be proud of. So,

The success of the party was the result of the hard work by many of our member volunteers. Gary and Shari D'Amico warmed-up our palates with an assortment of treats offered during the social hour. Then we sat down to tables in seasonal settings courtesy of Al Klase, soon-to-be Peggy Klase, Rick Weingarten, Jerry Dowgin, Dave Snellman and your Editor. A tasty buffet dinner, planned and arranged by Sal Brisindi, was a real crowd pleaser and the fact that there were minimum leftovers proves, although its taken us fifteen years, that we finally have the logistics figured out.

Entertainment was provided by Darren Hoffman, Dave Sica and Phil Vourtsis. Dave and Phil put their creative talents to work to produce a segment called "Greatest NJARC Show & Tell Moments" which caught many of us in a less than complimentary light. But it was all in good fun and a testimony to the humor behind those cold, sterile Bakelite exteriors.



MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the NJARC will take place on Friday, January 11th, at 7:30 PM at the David Sarnoff Library in Princeton, NJ. Contact President Phil Vourtsis at (732)-446-2427 or visit us at <http://www.njarc.org> for directions. This month, Al Klase will favor us with an informative program which he calls "Homemade Radio Hints and Kinks." Members are encouraged to bring in their own hints and kinks to supplement Al's presentation. We'll also be collecting dues for 2008 so please have your check or cash (\$20) at the ready.

The high point of the evening was the Mystery Grab Bag. We had an unusually large number of gifts to exchange which attests to the game's increasing popularity. A few of the more popular items that continually changed hands included a Western Electric speaker, a digital frequency meter, a sub-woofer, a nice little Casio hand-held TV and a wooden pushbutton and a white plastic kitchen radio.

for providing such a beautiful and historic setting in which to hold the climax to another great NJARC year.

With the new year, the first order of business is membership renewal. A "1/08" expiration date on your mailing label (honorary members with an "H" are exempt) indicates that 2008 dues are expected no later than March 2008. Renew at our next meeting or send a \$20 check (\$25 for joint membership) made out to "NJARC" to :

Marsha Simkin
33 Lakeland Drive
Barnegat, NJ 08005

Your internet address would also be greatly appreciated.

With the new year also comes some excellent news attesting to the commitment of our InfoAge volunteers. Ray Chase writes:

"A week ago Friday, Harry Klancer and I brought two carloads of radios from Tamaqua, PA to the museum. There were 34 radios, 7 speakers, 4 large boxes of misc. tubes and a couple of other items. Included was another AK 10 breadboard, a very nice Grebe MU-1, a Westinghouse WR-15 grandfather clock in good shape, an AK Keil table, a nice Crosley "Buddy Boy" cathedral plus others. Many are dirty but most are in good shape. In addition, was a huge collection of radio program material on CD's and cassette tapes. I'll ask Steve Rosenfeld to catalog them. There are more to pick up, but mostly larger radios, so maybe a truck in the spring. (There's more snow in PA). There are also



In conjunction with our December Holiday Party, the club also celebrated its 15th anniversary. The only remnant, being this photo, attests to our club President's good taste.

At the end of the evening, cleanup work was taken on by Phil Vourtsis, Richard Lee, Dave Snellman, Dave Sica, the Brisindi family, Alex Magoun, Nevell Greenough, Rick Weingarten, Aaron and Janet Hunter and Walt Heskes & sons (hope I got everybody).

Finally, the club would like to again thank our gracious host, David Sarnoff Library Executive Director Alex Magoun

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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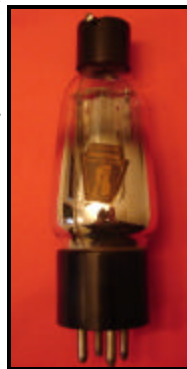
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radios from this same donor in his Hackensack, NJ home. Harry took many pictures of them for appraisal purposes and our records."

Finally, what did you get for Christmas? Ray Chase presented your editor with an RX-401 tube made by the Marvin company. Ray said that every radio collector named Marvin should have this tube; unfortunately, it can't be used in the Marv-O-Dyne radio that Ray located for me some months ago. This tube is unique in that it purports to be a Kellogg 401 with the filament connector on the top cap. Ray thinks it probably has type 227 internals dummied up on a four pin base as can be seen by the filament wires running down the sides of the tube.



Every radio collector named Marvin should have a "Marvin" RX-401.

Upcoming Events: January 19th, Radio Repair Clinic, David Sarnoff Library, 10

FREE RADIO REPAIR PARTS

By Dave Sica

Give yourself a present this holiday season - free radio repair parts - and help save the environment too! Read on and see why you'll never need to buy filter capacitors again for your AC/DC radio repair needs.

People are switching to compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) to save money; they're much more energy efficient than conventional incandescent lamps. Plus, they're supposed to last longer too. Although they do last a long time, they don't last forever and when they do burn out, don't toss them in the trash. Instead, help yourself to the free radio repair parts lurking inside.

The lamp consists of a fluorescent tube in a coiled shape to fit into the same space

as a standard incandescent bulb. Inside the base is a switching power supply to furnish the high frequency, high voltage needed to light the tube. Even after the lamp has burned out, chances are that most of the parts inside are probably still in fine condition.

It sometimes takes a bit of patience to pry the base apart, but once it's open, you'll see a small circuit board. Here's what's waiting for you on the board: some 1N4007 diodes, a few small capacitors (in the picofarad range), a couple of transistors, a few resistors, a small choke and a high voltage transformer. And the grand prize - an electrolytic capacitor just right for refurbishing the power supply of an All American Five AC/DC radio!

My lamps furnished me with five 1N4007 (1 amp / 1000 volts) diodes and a 22 mf / 200 volt electrolytic capacitor. You can also extract the other parts if you're so inclined. The fluorescent tube contains mercury so it should be recycled when you're done.

The capacitors are considered "high failure" parts so it's probably wise to test them before you use them; don't just assume your new "free" component is good. I've disassembled over a dozen of these assemblies and have seen fried transistors and transformers but have yet to see one unit that failed due to a bad electrolytic.

So celebrate the holidays by tapping into this source of free radio repair parts!



Switching power supply



Grab bag of parts

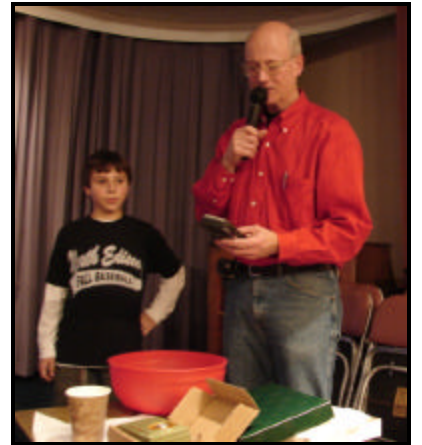
HOLIDAY PARTY—2007



Members enjoy the social hour as our host looks on.



Mystery grab bags...ready for opening.



The 2008 NJARC BCB DX Contest (18-27 Jan 2008)

In the 1920's and 1930's, some radio listeners would compete with each other for the reception of the most distant stations using the same receivers that that we now restore and cherish. We can recapture some of the excitement that the early DX'ers experienced in our own contest.

Official Contest Rules

THE OBJECT: To use vintage radios receivers to receive broadcast-band signals from the greatest possible distance. Performance will be judged by the total mileage for your ten best loggings during a 24-hour session. You will be competing against competitors using similar receivers.

ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open only to members in good standing of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club.

CONTEST PERIOD: The contest period will be from 12:00 Noon, local time at receiving location, Friday, January 18, 2008 through 12:00 Noon, Sunday, January 27, 2008.

SESSIONS: Contestants may submit logs for any two 24-consecutive-hour sessions (noon to noon) during the contest period. You may use only one receiver during a session. That means you may not "bird dog" the simple radio with a more complex radio. You may submit logs for two different receivers. They need not be in the same category.

FREQUENCIES: The Broadcast Band, as defined for the contest, will be from 530 to 1600 kilocycles. No stations on the new extended band, 1610 to 1710 kilocycles, will be counted since many early radios did not cover those frequencies.

RECEIVER CATEGORIES:

A - Crystal radios

B - Primitive tube receivers (homebrew also) -1 to 2 tubes plus power supply

C - 1920's Battery sets (homebrew also) -batteries or modern power supply is OK

D - Other tube radios sold for home entertainment.

E - Amateur, commercial, and military tube-type communications receivers.

F - Transistor radios introduced before 1970.

SPECIAL AWARDS will be given for the best performances by first-time contestants.

ANTENNAS: Anything you like.

LOGS: Submit a log for each of your contest sessions (maximum of two). Each log header should include contestant's name, address, phone number, category, and description of receiver and antenna. Please include your listening address if it is different from your mailing address.

Make a log entry for each station you claim to have heard. Stations must be positively identified. (This is being done on the honor system, and is a somewhat variable concept. If you hear Boston weather on what you know is 1030KC, then go ahead and log WBZ. However, just because you heard a signal on 1160KHz doesn't mean you heard KSL in Salt Lake City.) The contest committee reserves the right to disallow what it feels are outrageous claims. Each entry should include time, frequency, call letters, location, and optional comments. Although we're only judging your ten most distant loggings, submit as complete a log as possible. The committee may make special awards for most stations, most interesting log, etc. as it sees fit.

A **log sheet** is available at the club's web site (<http://www.njarc.org>) and will be provided at the January meeting. You may reproduce it or generate a similar one of your own. A station list, distance information and construction of a simple DX loop antenna can also be found at the club's web site.

Logs must be postmarked no later than midnight February 4, 2008.

SCORING: Distances to stations will be calculated by the committee and will be based on great circle distances from Freehold, New Jersey for listening posts within a 100-mile radius of Freehold. We will calculate mileage for other entries based on actual listening location. In all cases, please indicate your ten best loggings to make our job easier.

Special Rule #1: A contestant may claim only one of the Cuban time stations, Radio Reloj, regardless of how many are actually heard. All will be scored as 1279 miles (Havana).

Submit logs to: Tom Provost, 19 Ivanhoe Dr., Robbinsville, NJ 08691, tprovost@pppl.gov

Questions? Al Klase - 908-782-4829 al@ar88.net, Tom Provost - 609-243-2508, <http://www.njarc.org>

NJARC 2008 Homebrew Radio Receiver Contest

The 2008 homebrew radio contest will be held at the April meeting. Once again, the objective is to preserve the tradition of building your own radio receiver.

Category 1 - Primitive

The signal path of the radio may use no more than two tube functions or two discrete transistors. Solid-state diodes may be used for detection as in a crystal set or reflex circuit. Any convenient power supply may be used, and may contain additional vacuum tubes or semiconductors.

Category 2 - Beginner

Same rules as Category 1. Contestant has never before made a serious attempt at building a radio from scratch.

Category 3 - Open

Any recently constructed homebrew radio.

Category 4 - Vintage Reproduction

Faithful reproduction of 1920-1939 homebrew radios.

General Contest Rules:

1. The contest is open to NJARC members only.
2. Entry is limited to "scratch-built" radios as opposed to kits or modified production sets.
3. Entries must have been recently constructed by the contestant, and must be capable of receiving at least one station.
4. Contestants should be prepared to demonstrate their creations at the April 2008 meeting, and say a few words about the design and construction of their radio. Any visual aids or handouts to enhance the presentation are appreciated.
5. The membership in attendance will vote for the best entries in each category.

Questions: Al Klase - 908-782-4829 (al@ar88.net)

FALL SWAPMEET





Retired NJARC President Jim Whartenby and his wife Ruth.



Collecting Military Radios

A recent meet of the Military Radio Collector's Association (MRCA) near Gilbert Pennsylvania was referred to as a show-and-tell on steroids. However, as NJARC's Technical Coordinator Al Klase can confirm, this mantle conceals a very rewarding aspect of the radio collecting hobby. Yes, they may not be pretty on the outside, but inside is a wealth of history and technology. At the November meeting, we were treated to a sampling of Al's collection which was also exhibited at the Fort Monmouth open house a week before. Included were the AN/PRC-74B special forces radio, the "clandestine" Delco 5300 HF Transceiver, the CIA RS-1-AN/GRC-109 radio station, the AN/GRA-71 Code-Burst Keyer, the CMS Portable Radio Station and the AN/GRC-9 ("Angry Nine"). Photos from Al's talk and the Fort Monmouth open house (where the club also pitched InfoAge) are captured below.

