

# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

January 2010

Volume 16 Issue 1



Reported by Marv Beeferman

## THE ON-LINE BROADCASTER

The New Jersey Broadcaster is now on-line. To date, 97 of your fellow NJARC members have subscribed, saving the club over \$1900 a year. Interested? Send your e-mail address to: [mbeeferman@cs.com](mailto:mbeeferman@cs.com) Be sure to include your full name.

Happy New Year! Some personal inconveniences (and perhaps year-end burn-out) have resulted in a shortened version of the *Broadcaster* this month, but I hope to get back to a full version in February.

The NJARC 2009 Holiday Party was a huge success, attracting over 80 members and their guests. The Marconi Hotel, with a background of illuminated seasonal villages, proved to be a very comfortable setting for the evening's activities.

The social hour, hosted by Al and Peggy Klase and set up at the museum, was a real treat highlighted by some tempting delights - who would have thought that the club had so many paté fans? It also gave some members and their spouses and guests their first view of the progress we've made.

As usual, Sal Brisindi and Phil Vourtsis did another bang-up job in arranging a delicious buffet and the cake you see at the right. Darren Hoffman and Phil Vourtsis supplied background music including what is becoming a traditional NJARC standard, "Dominic the Donkey." Setup and cleanup help and incidentals were provided by yours truly, John Ruccolo, Richard Lee, Jerry Dowgin, Ray and Edith Chase, Rick Weingarten, Steve Goulart, Owen Gerboth and many others who I apologize for not recognizing.

Following diner, Ray Chase was



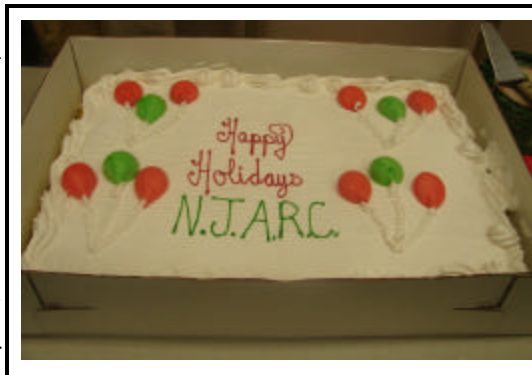
## MEETING NOTICE

The next NJARC meeting will take place on Friday, January 8th at 7:30 PM at Princeton's Bowen Hall (70 Prospect Ave.). Directions to Bowen Hall may be found at the club's website (<http://www.njarc.org>). This month's program will be, as described by president Richard Lee, an "antique radio movie night." We'll also be collecting dues for 2010.

awarded the Tony Flanagan Memorial Award; a follow-up article appears in this month's *Broadcaster*. Dave Sica provided the background material for many who never knew Tony by showing a video of his appearance on a local cable show dedicated to people's hobbies. Although Tony appeared a little nervous, his "man of few words" personality clearly showed through. For many of us early members, it was a nostalgic treat to once again "visit" with the founder of our club and the impetus for Ray's prestigious award.

finale to another year of radio collecting, especially when shared with our NJARC family. As summarized by the Executive Director of the David Sarnoff Library, Dr. Alex Magoun: "Just a word of WOW! On seeing, too briefly, the museum several years later, and at more length the Marconi Hotel into which so many of you have contributed time, skills, money, or connections to make a great place to visit. Great job!"

As reported by Ray Chase, at our last NJARC Board meeting, we decided on a large auction at InfoAge early in March subject to the availability of the well-known Estes auctioneers. A date was set for Saturday, March 6th with a snow date of March 13th. However, InfoAge has an opportunity to host a large event on March 13th that could produce a good income. Therefore, hold the date of March 6th (with the 7th as a possible snow date) for another InfoAge auction. As soon as a catalog is available, we'll publish it on the club's web site and in the *Broadcaster*.



The night's "entertainment," our Mystery Grab Bag, once again proved to be loads of fun. Some really nice gifts showed up this month which raised the "sniping quotient" to levels never seen before. A beautifully painted yellow-gray Philco and an Emerson in an Ingraham cabinet merited a lot of attention. Some of the photos in this month's *Broadcaster* illustrate the succession of temporary ownership. Thanks to Peggy Klase for additional photos that documented the evening.

It was a great evening and wonderful

Ray also reports that InfoAge is currently designated a WWII Living Memorial by Monmouth County and surrounding towns. InfoAge would like to be the official WWII Living Memorial for the entire state and recent discussions with the new governor's staff have been positive in this regard. It was suggested that the memorial should not just honor military personnel but should also recognize New Jersey industries that also made significant contributions to the war effort.

(Continued on page 6)

**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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## RAY CHASE HONORED WITH TONY FLANAGAN AWARD

By  
Marv Beeferman

At this year's NJARC holiday party, member Ray Chase was presented with the Tony Flanagan Memorial Award. The award is presented in memory of our club's founder and first president to an individual who exhibits a unique dedication to the promotion of the antique radio hobby, the preservation of radio communication history and the promotion of the public's awareness of radio development and history. Previous winners have been vacuum tube authority Ludwell Sibley and ham radio historian and QST "old radio" columnist John Dilks. The award, presented by club president Richard Lee, consisted of a personalized plaque and the addition of Ray's name to the club plaque that will reside in the museum at InfoAge.



The selection process was relatively easy this year since all those submitting nominations made Ray their choice. One submittal, read by Richard Lee during the presentation, seemed to sum up all the rest:

Ray has been a major impetus in making the InfoAge Science Center a reality and in preserving the history of the 1914 Marconi Belmar trans-Atlantic wireless station. With tireless energy, he has spent many hours contributing to the establishment of the NJARC Mu-

seum of Radio Technology as a permanent home for the National Broadcaster's Hall of Fame and as a memorial to New Jersey's rich radio history. He has also established a permanent exhibition of RADAR artifacts that could be directly and indirectly traced to work performed at Camp Evans. Many of these artifacts were scattered throughout the country and would have been lost to the scrap heap had Ray not made arrangements to gather them together at InfoAge.

With his extensive knowledge of the subject, Ray has lectured throughout the state on the history of radio. He has made presentations to numerous clubs, organizations and libraries and used artifacts from his own collection to illustrate his points. He has been a major contributor to Antique Radio Classified, keeping collectors up-to-date on latest auction activities and current prices. He has also contributed articles relating to radio and RADAR history to the NJARC Broadcaster and the InfoAge monthly newsletter.

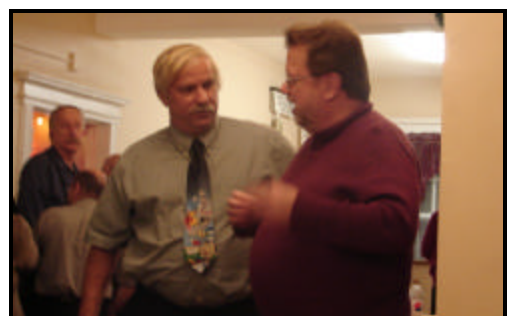
Ray is a radio enthusiast and preservationist in his own right. He specializes in WW II electronic equipment and early battery superheterodynes and also has an extensive collection of radio documentation and ephemera. He has ensured the preservation of radio collections of collectors no longer with us by making them available to NJARC members through the numerous auctions he has sponsored.

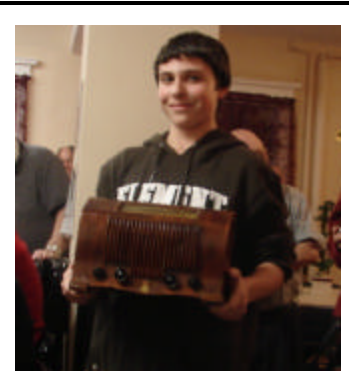
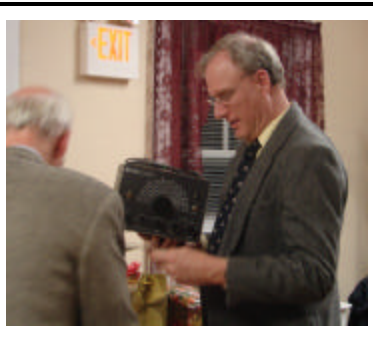
Ray has always made himself available to provide guidance to both new and experienced radio collectors. He has been an "elder statesman" of the NJARC in its efforts to meet its charter in preserving New Jersey's rich radio history.

However, not all acclamations were directed toward Ray. As posted by members John and Sherry Dilks on the NJARC Reflector:

"It was a honor to see Ray Chase win the Tony Flanagan award last night. He is a well-deserving recipient. As we all know, his trusty side-kick Edith goes everywhere with Ray and does everything with him. So congratulations also to the trusty sidekick. Behind every good man is a woman. (And when I say everything, I mean everything. Why just last night I saw her carrying two desert dishes back to the table. I think both were for Ray, but I don't know for sure.)"

NJARC 2009 HOLIDAY PARTY





## The 2010 NJARC BCB DX Contest - January 15-24

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 15, 2010 through 12:00 Noon, Sunday, January 24, 2010.

**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.
- G - "Light-Weight" (any radio weighing less than one pound (454 grams)).

**SPECIAL AWARDS:** 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 you listening address if it is different from you 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 has been provided for convenience. You may reproduce it or generate a similar one of your own.
- Logs must be postmarked not later than midnight February 2, 2009.
- Logs may be submitted as e-mail attachments.

**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 - 908-892-5465 al@ar88.net, Tom Provost - 609-243-2508

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.

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.

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.

By non-member: AK Model 55C in a 1929 Pooley cabinet. No reasonable price refused. Must be picked up in Margate City. Pictures available; extra tubes. Michael Seidman, 609-822-3373, mrhaj@verizon.net

WANTED

Rare or unusual wire recorders such as Soviet Type MH-61, WWII Signal Corps RD-15/ANQ-1, GE model 20N. Also wanted is an un-modified BC-652A with dynamotor. Contact Gary Berg, 24 Pat Road, Newburgh, NY 12550 bergg@hvc.rr.com

9002 and 9003 tubes for a BC-639 receiver. Rob Flory (robandpj@earthlink.net).

Zenith 8" electrodynamic/field coil speaker. Thomas Lee, Thomas V Lee @hotmail.com

**WANTED:** Radio repairmen and restorers. Run out of your own radios to work on? The club and InfoAge have received a quantity of radio donations, some of which would look good in our museum. Others will be set aside for traveling displays, trading or resale as fundraisers. Many of these radios only need a good cleaning and polishing and a minor electrical checkout. Take one or two home with you and practice your skills...even if you just want to clean them up. Contact Ray Chase at our next meeting, at 908-757-9741 or at enrpnr@erols.com.

(WWII Living Memorial...cont.)

To add more weight to our quest for this designation, it would be important to establish a list of New Jersey industries that made major contributions. Ray has a small list, and InfoAge Director Fred Carl has been thumbing through magazines of the period noting New Jersey companies who advertised during WWII. These are a good start, but perhaps there are others you can think of. Ray would appreciate any names that you might be aware of, where the companies were located and perhaps their manufacturing activities in general terms. He'll sort out duplications and advises not to forget institutions like Bell Labs, etc.

To get the ball rolling, here's some input that has already been posted on the NJARC Reflector:

"Let's not forget Eastern Aircraft, a division of GM. They were in Trenton; my former neighbor's mother worked there during the war, building TBM Avenger torpedo bombers. This was the Grumman TBF (TBM was the General Motors version) built in large quantities by GM when Grumman couldn't keep up with the demand from the Navy.

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I believe a company called Uddo and Taormina (spelling?) in Vineland, a forerunner of Progresso Foods, I think, produced K rations or C rations."

"Some items made by Lionel would be a nautical life saving device and I believe they also manufactured a ship's compass. As I recall hearing some years ago, the now gone GM plant in Ewing made parts for the Brewster Bomber."

"According to my dad, many Vineland-area clothing factories made uniforms during the war. Most were started (and staffed by) Italian immigrants...Torsini was one."

On another topic, Ray reports that the InfoAge NJ Historic Divers group is thinking of hosting "Movie Nights" where they will show feature films of sea disasters, etc. Perhaps we could come up with feature (or not so feature) movies that are radio related? For example, Woody Allen's *Radio Days* or the newly released story on the life of Orson Wells...can you think of others?

Ray may be reached at (908)-757-9741 or at raydio862@verizon.net.