

# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

October 2014

Volume 20 Issue 10



## MEETING/ ACTIVITY NOTES

Reported by  
Marv Beeferman

### The ON-LINE Broadcaster

The New Jersey Broadcaster is now on-line. To date, over 120 of your fellow NJARC members have subscribed, saving the club and your editor a significant amount of money and work. Interested? Send your e-mail address to [mbeeferman@verizon.net](mailto:mbeeferman@verizon.net). Be sure to include your full name.

John Dilk's "Old Transmissions and Voices from the Past" talk at last month's meeting was a real treat. Framing radio's history in the voices of the original personalities and pioneers of the past is a concept that only John could have brought to life. His tireless dedication to the hobby will bring him to NEAR-Fest XVI, New Hampshire's boat anchor hamfest, on October 10th for a repeat performance.



There is nothing like the immediacy of hearing radio history "right from the horse's mouth." Your editor, Ray Chase and Dave Sica had this opportunity by attending this year's Wall of Honor ceremony at InfoAge. The full story of the event and the accomplishments of some



## MEETING NOTICE

The next NJARC meeting will take place on Friday, October 10th at 7:30 PM at Princeton's Bowen Hall (70 Prospect Ave.) Directions may be found at the club's website (<http://njarc.org>). This month, your editor will offer a short presentation on some of the lesser discussed and measured characteristics of capacitors. In addition, we'll have a continuation of the auction of Dave Sica's "book haul" as described in the September *Broadcaster*.

present-day electronic pioneers may be found in this month's *Broadcaster*.

Thanks again to Dave Sica for providing some "light reading" for last month's paper auction. Dave will be repeating the auction for the third time at the October meeting. Last month also confirmed the relatively low cost of console radios. An American Bosch model 29 and Philco 90, both in good condition, were hammered down at \$10. Just goes to show you what might turn up at our monthly meeting.



American Bosch model 29

Dave Sica also reminds us that if you are interested in checking out the items from the estate of K2DEQ in Morris Plains as described in last month's *Broadcaster*, call Glenn at 973-255-8621 for an appointment. Dave also notes that back issues of the *Broadcaster* are available online. In addition to selected issues from 1995 to 2003, every issue from 2006 through this past August is now available via the link to "Library" at the top of the home page of [www.njarc.org](http://www.njarc.org). Enjoy catching up on your reading!

Member Edith Chase sends thanks to all who sent cards or inquired about her

recent illness. She says she's "pretty much on the mend now and back in the swing of things."

Get ready for another fun Holiday Party set for Saturday, December 13th. This year, scheduling conflicts have resulted in a move of the party's location from the Marconi Hotel to the Freehold Elks Lodge. The efforts of member Sal Brindini have resulted in a reduction in rental rates and will help significantly in holding down ever-increasing costs to the club. Please try to make your plans early and send in the registration form on page 7 of this month's *Broadcaster* as soon as possible. While you're at it, note the flyer for our upcoming swapmeet at the Parsippany PAL building on November 22nd.

Ray Chase reports that restoration plans are being made for Bldg. 9115 at InfoAge. The building was described in last month's *Broadcaster* as being used for the continued development of the SCR-270 family of radars. As a starter, 25 panes of glass need to be replaced; the originals were "chicken wire" reinforced and now are only custom made. Plain glass would cost \$375 while original or substitute glass would run in the many thousands. While options are being explored, any suggestions would be appreciated.

### Upcoming Events

Nov. 14 - Monthly meeting at InfoAge. Al Klase talks about the history of short wave.

Nov. 22 - Fall swapmeet at Parsippany PAL

Dec. 13 - Holiday Party at the Freehold Elks Lodge

**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 \$25 per year and meetings are held the second Friday of each month at InfoAge or Princeton University.

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

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## A SEPTEMBER REPAIR CLINIC

By  
**Marv Beeferman**

Attacking a radio repair problem on one's own has its advantages, especially while sitting (depending how lucky you are) behind the quiet and isolated surroundings of the basement or garage workbench. But once in a while, "you gotta get out" and there's no better place than one of the club's repair clinics. There's no better place to share your frustrations, alongside another NJARC member whose dealing with a tougher problem than the one that's taxing your brain. But better yet, it's a great place to gloat over your successes! In either case, a bagel, some coffee or a couple of slices of pizza takes the edge off and helps lighten the mood.

There wasn't a large turnout at the September session, but those who did show up made the day very pleasant and rewarding. Here's a few things that got done:

- Walter Heskes and Jules Bellisio worked on an RCA T7-5 table radio brought in by a couple who obtained it from the Manhattan basement of a friend. Replaced electrolytics solved the hum problem, the dial was cleaned and the tuning mechanism was lubricated.

Walt went on to work with Bob Bennett on a badly humming (didn't quite catch the tune) RCA 6-RF-9 AM/FM radio. Problems were traced to a bad 6AL5 and failed paper capacitors. The dial string was also repaired.

- Ray Ayling restored an Airline model 949A record player to working order by replacing 5 capacitors, lubricating the motor, cleaning the idler wheel and cleaning the controls.

- Member Ron Snyder and your editor started on a Fada model 740 table radio which I recognized immediately as being in my own collection. Other than needing a little lubrication of the tuning capacitor, it worked right out of the gate and played extremely well. We decided to leave it as-is, with the consideration that some wax capacitors would probably need replacement in the future.

Ron's Westinghouse H-156 was a different story, especially when the schematic was not available. We couldn't even get a sound from the speaker, and

with the power supply electrolytics looking very bad, we started with replacing them. When fired up again, we found that we had lost filament voltage. Time did not permit further troubleshooting and the radio will have to wait until the next repair session.

I did get some nice feedback from Rob Reifenheiser who I worked with on his Majestic 1250 at our June clinic:

"As you may recall, we did some successful testing and moved on to changing caps. After changing 15, I went to test the radio and there was no power. Since then I realized it was a problematic power switch. After applying some alcohol and giving it some exercise, it's now working. While I still have to change another 10 caps or more, I am getting some solid reception. I have more to do as it's acting like a train. So thanks for your support...I really appreciate it."

- Phil Vourtsis worked on two non-member RCA table model radios that needed a few tubes and recapping. He also fixed a bad connector on his Eico HF94A AM tuner.

- Jerry Dowgin and Al Klase dug into an Atwater Kent 627 cathedral. They fixed a shorted IF transformer and located possible incorrect wire routings on the 1st AF stage. They also reconstructed some poor grounds.

- Bob Bennett had it pretty easy...a replaced blown fuse was all that was needed to bring a Grundig model 87 back to life. A Zenith YA25 presented more of a problem; he'll work on it at home and deliver it to Kutztown.



**Phil Vourtsis**





Jules Bellisio, Richard Lee and Walt Heskes combine forces to work on a sticky problem.



Ray Ayling



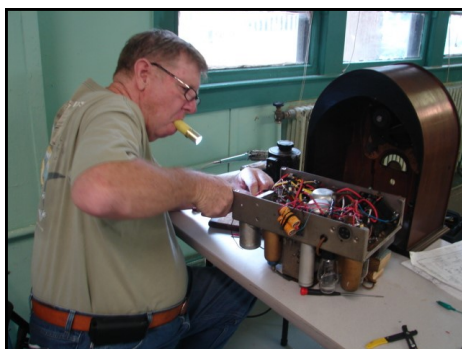
Another completed repair.



Bob Bennett



Ron Snyder proudly displays his Fada 740. The radio required no repairs other than tuning capacitor lubrication.



Jerry Dowgin and Al Klase attack numerous problems with an Atwater Kent 627 cathedral radio. Some poor ground connections were located and Jerry points to a fix that was constructed to solve the problem.



Walt Heskes completes work on an RCA T7-5 cathedral radio and the smiles on the faces of the happy owners confirm their satisfaction with Walt's efforts.

## INFOAGE HONORS WALL OF HONOR 2014 INDUCTEES

By  
Marv Beeferman

The InfoAge Wall of Honor recognizes the efforts of those pioneers whose major contributions to the advancement of science and engineering were performed at Camp Evans or at Fort Monmouth (in conjunction with research at Camp Evans). This year's inductees were John Cittadino, Robert Doto and John W. Marchetti. The reception was attended by member Ray Chase and your editor, with Dave Sica recording the event and Bob Pilcher accompanying a great dinner with live music.





John Cittadino was honored for his pioneering work in satellite communications. He played a key role in the development of Project SCORE, the world's first communications satellite, as well as the COURIER and Army satellite systems. (John said that the SCORE project was the forerunner of cell phone technology and the precursor to all current communication satellites.) He also played a key role in the test and evaluation of the first synchronous altitude communications satellite, SYNCOM.

Throughout his long career, Mr. Cittadino held increasingly responsible engineering and management positions at Fort Monmouth including that for NAVCON. Later, he worked for the Secretary of Defense, providing management and guidance for such major systems as NAVSTAR and AWACS. He was eventually selected by the Assistant Secretary of the Army to serve as a member of the Army Science Board and over a ten year period participated in numerous studies focused on the development of Army C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence and Reconnaissance) capability.



Robert Doto was honored for his contributions to Electronic Warfare, Combat Surveillance and Combat Identification. While at Camp Evans, he was responsible for several ground Radar and Identification Friend or Foe systems including a counter mortar radar system. He was also a system engineer for the PPS-5A and 5B Short Range Combat Surveillance Ground Radar Systems, all of which saw extensive service in South East Asia. He was also the production engineer for radar systems such as the FIREFINDER.

Mr. Doto completed his government career after 35 years of service as the Director of the Communications, Electronics Research Development and Engineering Center where he had responsibility for programs in the areas of Night Vision and Electro Optics, Command and Control, Communications and Intelligence and Information Warfare.



John W. Marchetti was honored as a radar pioneer; the award was accepted by his son John Jr. He passed away at his home in Cherry Hill NJ on March 28, 2003 at the age of 94 next to a table full of electronic equipment he was testing.

John worked on the team developing early radar sets under Paul Watson. These included the SCR-268 and SCR-270. After Dr. Harold Zahl invented the VT-158 transmitter tube, Marchetti led the design team that used this tube to develop a mobile radar, the A/N TPS-3. Weighing only 1,200 lbs., the radar could be carried by a group of men and had a range of 120 miles. It was successfully deployed in the Pacific Theatre as a mobile early-warning set.

Marchetti then modified the SCR-268 radar to employ the VT-158 tube for use on picket ships stationed off the Panama Canal Zone for early-warning protection. When the V-1 buzz bombs started to fall on Britain, batteries using the SCR-268 had a less than 10% kill rate. Captain Marchetti's solution to the problem increased the kill rate to over 90% and he received the Order of the British Empire for his efforts.

After serving as Chief Radar Officer for the 1st Army, Marchetti returned to Camp Evans to work on a mortar locator radar that was tested at Island Beach, NJ and found to be remarkably successful. The first 12 production sets were built on site at Camp Evans.

After the war, Marchetti reached the rank of Lt. Colonel in the US Army Air Forces prior to his discharge in 1946. He went on to many research endeavors in electronics, geophysics, atomic warfare, radar and high-speed rail transportation.

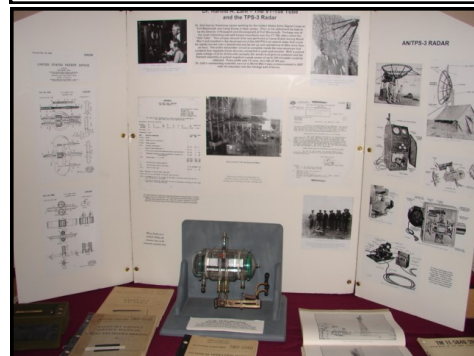
Among the highlights of the evening were the many "inside" stories revealed by the honorees. For example, the SCORE project (world's first communications satellite) was shrouded in such secrecy that personnel were not permitted to tell their families or co-workers what they were working on, resulting in

wifely suspicions about overtime work and unkind remarks about boondoggling by unknowing associates. In one case, the cover story was almost blown when a manager brought home leftover doughnuts from a shop that was not supposed to be anywhere near the location that the SCORE crew was working at.

In another example, at the last minute, after the Atlas rocket that would launch the SCORE satellite was sealed, it was decided that the original pre-recorded tape message on the satellite tape recorder should be substituted by a peace message from President Eisenhower. Since this substitution had to be done by radio interrogation and transmission, it came across on the frequency used by the taxi industry and one driver noted that he heard the transmission hours before it was actually broadcast from space.



**NJARC member Bob Pilcher provided the dining entertainment.**



**NJARC member Ray Chase provided a comprehensive display of the Zahl tube and radar information covering the work of the inductees.**



**NJARC member Dave Sica takes a break from filming the activities.**





Surrounded by so many "radar geeks," Ray Chase was in his glory.



InfoAge director Fred Carl thumbs through a book on the history of the Marconi Company presented to him from John Cittadino.



The award winners.

## A KUTZTOWN PHOTO JOURNAL

By  
Marv Beeferman

Most promotions headline the Kutztown event as a "show" rather than a swapmeet. I sort of like the term "show" because even if you don't come away with anything, Kutztown is a great venue to just browse through a host of radio items that you've only seen in pictures or heard about but have never seen in the

flesh. It's fun to examine all the numerous offerings head on or sift through boxes under the tables, but in my case, it was a bit difficult. When I joined Phil Vourtsis on the ride out on Friday, September 19th, I was attempting to recover from a previous day of excessive yard work. Sitting in a car for two hours didn't help the condition (even some of Phil's original new age synthesizer compositions didn't provide any relief) and I arrived bent over and depressed. I needed a shot of radio penicillin!

After about two tours of the pavilions and multiple back spasms, I found that there wasn't that much that I "had to have," or if there was, it was out of my price range. I did settle on a nice RCA tie with an enameled CRT clasp and purchased a few books from Jon Kummer of *Antique Radio Classified*, but for the most part, it looked like a bust until just before the evening auction. NJARC member Mark Mittleman offered a King Neutrodyne in excellent condition at a very reasonable price. This battery set was manufactured by King-Hinners of Buffalo, New York and distributed by Silvertone (Sears). Mark's version uses five UV201A tubes with another version offered with UV199's. Things were looking up. Then, on my way to the auction, a Kennedy 110 receiver caught my eye. I probably missed it on my first two tours because it was "hidden" behind a group of other radios and the owner didn't seem that he was that interested in selling it. Other than the typical fading of the silver coating on its controls, the radio was in beautiful shape and working. Although a bit pricey in general, the selling price was quite reasonable for such a historic radio in this condition...I let my guard down and purchased it.

Because the auction was scheduled for Friday, this was the first one I was able to attend. Although there were a few nice offerings, most items had issues and there were none that could compete with the Kennedy 110 I had just purchased. A nice mirror TV caught my attention and it probably would fit well in our museum at InfoAge, but with my back the way it was, the logistics of getting it home, even with Phil's help, seemed insurmountable. I left the auction early with a nice Bud cabinet.

I left Kutztown with a back in worse condition than that with which I had arrived and I am still suffering from a little "twitch" or two as I sit and write this. But as usual, the Delaware Valley boys did a great job in organizing the event and the "healing" affect of the addition of one or two nice additions to one's collec-

tion was helpful. If you're new to the radio collecting fraternity and never attended a Kutztown "show," a good start is "Kutztown 101" by Mike Koste (see [www.dvhrc.info/Kutztown\\_101.pdf](http://www.dvhrc.info/Kutztown_101.pdf)). The guide might be a little dated, but it will probably answer about 90% of the questions you might have if you're considering the next Kutztown event.



"I did settle on a nice RCA tie with an enameled CRT clasp."



King Neutrodyne



My 1922 Kennedy "Universal" Receiver. It was advertised as "universal" with the capability of tuning in anyone on the air in 1921.

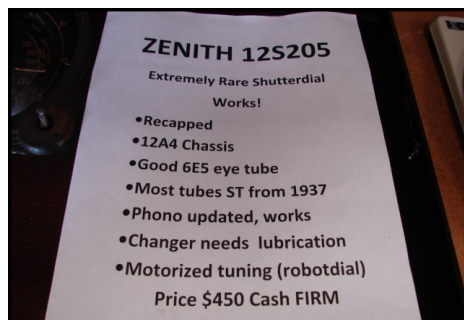
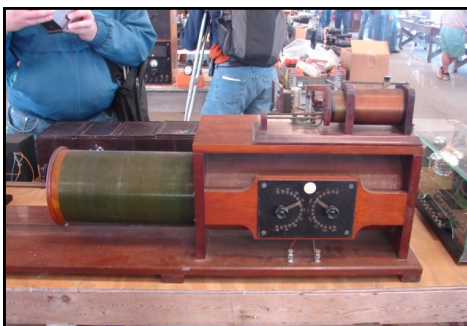




Although not my photo, the classic workmanship of the Kennedy 110 is quite admirable.



An artifact from RCA's Rocky Point research center.



# NJARC Holiday Party

**Date:** Saturday, December 13th, 2014  
**Time:** 5:00 PM – Cocktail Hour  
 6:15 PM – Dinner  
**Place:** Freehold Elks Lodge  
 73 E Main St  
 Freehold Township, NJ 07728

**Members:** \$25 each  
**Non-Member Adults and Children over 12:** \$25 each  
**Children under 12:** \$5 each

**Cocktail Hour, Dinner Buffet, Mystery Grab Bag, Surprises**  
 A wonderful evening of fun, good food and fellowship with a radio theme.

## \*\*\*\*\*RESERVATIONS REQUIRED \*\*\*\*\*

If you plan to attend, please fill out the attached coupon, detach it and mail it with a check to:

**Marvin Beeferman**  
**2265 Emerald Park Drive**  
**Forked River, NJ 08731**

by December 5<sup>th</sup>. **Everyone who plans to attend must send back a response form with the name(s) of attendees.** Reservations must be made via the form below; **please refrain from telephone or email reservations unless absolutely necessary!** Payment must accompany the form.

-----Cut here -----

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone or email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of <b>Members</b> :	_____	X \$25	= \$	_____
Number of <b>Children</b> under 12:	_____	X \$5	= \$	_____
Number of <b>Non-Members</b> :	_____	X \$25	= \$	_____

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks out to **NJARC**, enclose with this form and **mail before 12/05/14.**





# New Jersey Antique Radio Club's — Fall Swap Meet —



**Parsippany PAL Building  
Smith Field**

**Route 46 @ 33 Baldwin Road  
Parsippany, NJ 07054**



**Saturday November 22nd, 2014**



**Refreshments Available**

**(70) 8 Foot Tables**

**\$25.00 for members**

**\$30.00 for non-members**

**Reserve Additional Tables \$20.00**

**At the Door \$25.00**

**Open to the Public**

**8am to 12 noon**

**Vendor setup at 7:15 AM**

**\$5.00 ENTRANCE FEE**

**CLUB DONATION**

**For Directions**

**Visit our website: [www.njarc.org](http://www.njarc.org)  
or Mapquest**

**33 Baldwin Road  
Parsippany NJ 07054**

**Vendors, Make your Reservations Now !**

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