

**All the Electrons that are fit to flow.**



# OSCILLATOR

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Vol. 15, No. 9, February, 2007

## Meeting this Tuesday...Check the Weather!

### January Meeting Minutes and Club Notes

Reported by Dave Snellman

January 9, 2007 – our first meeting of the New Year. We introduced our board and officers for 2007. They are:

- Stan Saeger- President
- Dave Abramson – Vice President
- Dave Snellman – Secretary/Treasurer
- Pete Grave – Board Member
- Lewie Newhard – Board Member

We started the business end of the meeting with a call for programs for the upcoming year, as well as, a call for articles for the Oscillator, the club newsletter.

Mike Koste was recognized for his many years of service to DVHRC. As a board member for many years, Mike held every office at one time or another. We look forward to seeing him at our meetings and swap meets



swap meets and know he will remain active in the hobby and in our club.

This leads up to the first presentation we had at our January meeting. Mike brought along a box of “Schickerling Tube” posters that the club has had for a while. That brought some questions about who was Schickerling and what about the tubes. Ray Chase suggested that Paul Weidenschilling give some insight into the background of Schickerling tubes.

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#### Next Meeting Program

Show and Tell  
 February 13th, 2007  
 Telford Center, 7:30pm



*Newsletter of the  
Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club  
P. O. Box 5053  
New Britain, PA 18901  
www.dvhrc.org*

The Oscillator is published monthly by members of the non-profit DVHRC. Its purpose is to provide information on electronic, radio vacuum and communications with collections and preservation of vintage radio technology.

We welcome and solicit information relating to radio history or collecting. Submissions should be well researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or drawings. Material to be used should be in Word and pdf formats.

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Personal views, opinions and technical advice offered in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of its members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, nor is the organization responsible for any buying or selling transactions mentioned.

To join DVHRC dues are \$30 per year. The membership year runs January - December. Please mail to the club P.O. box above.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Telford Community Building, Telford, PA.

#### **DVHRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dave Abramson  
Pete Grove  
Lewie Newhard  
Stan Saeger  
Dave Snellman

#### **FOUNDING PRESIDENT**

Jay Daveler

#### **OFFICERS**

President: Stan Saeger  
Vice-president: Dave Abramson  
Secretary/Treasurer: Dave Snellman

#### **OSCILLATOR EDITOR**

Dave Abramson

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Material submitted is subject to acceptance and editing by the editor. A full page article is approximately 400 words. Printed photos may be submitted for a covering. JPG files should be under 1MB.

Paul was gracious enough to take us through the history of Schickerling tubes. They started production using "Eisner" (sp) equipment. They produced both tipped as well as tip-less tubes. Tip-less tubes were evacuated through the base.

Holding many patents both GE and RCA sued anyone they thought was in violation of their tube related patents.



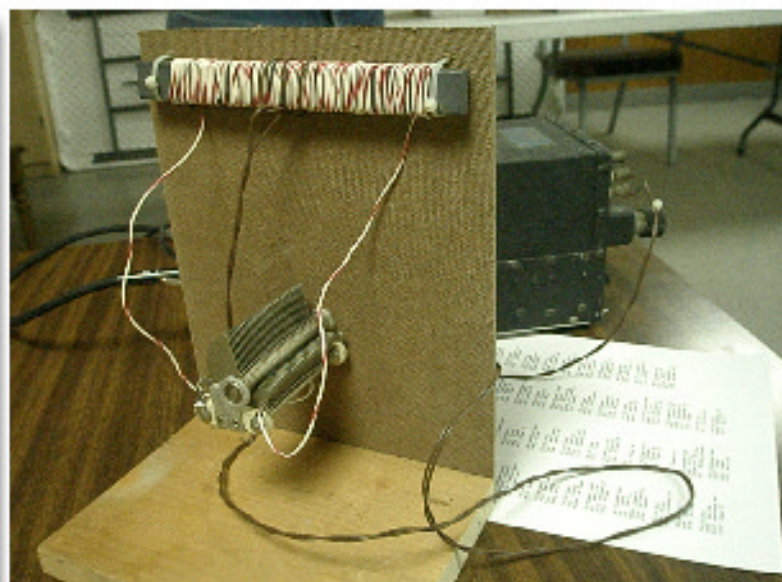
In business from 1924 to 1930, Schickerling produced tubes in Newark, NJ. They held a patent on a neon rectifier. One claim to fame was the fact that Schickerling tubes employed a "stabilizing triangular plate." No one is certain of the technical merits of this type of plate design; however, it certainly proved to be an effective marketing ploy.

Later they moved to Boonton, NJ and produced sunlamps.

Al Klase presented a "tech talk" on AM DX'ing techniques. With the annual AM DX contest coming up, Al showed us how to make a simple, yet effective, antenna for pulling in those distant AM stations. The DX contest is an annual event sponsored by the NJARC - our friends across the river. You may have heard of "frequent flyer miles." Well this contest is based on "distant station miles." If you hear a station 100 miles from your listening post, you earn 100 points. If you hear a station 1000 miles from your listening post, you earn 1000 points. There are different



categories for different types of radios – from crystal sets to communications receivers. Transistor sets count as long as they are pre-1970.

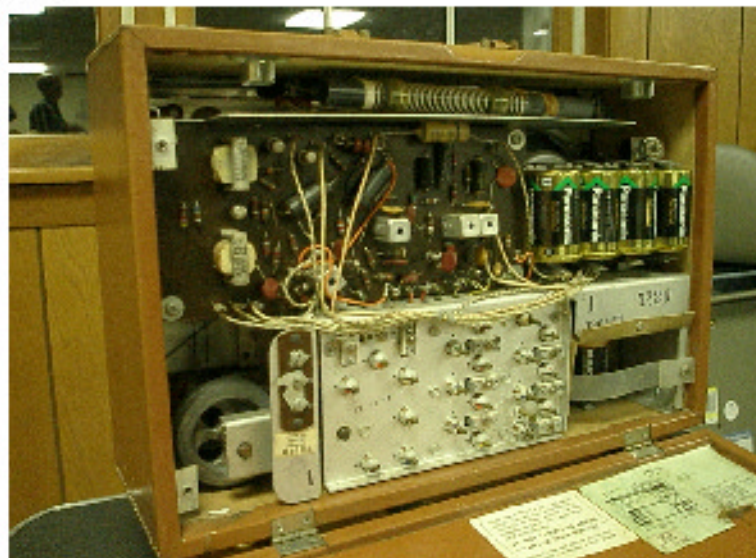


Al showed how to build a loop antenna using some wire, a ferrite rod, and a tuning capacitor. This will give you a tunable antenna that you can use to bring in some weak distant stations. As the loop antenna is directional, with deep nulls on the ends of the rod, you can use it to null out stations you don't want to hear (such as strong locals.)

He demonstrated on a "Boonton" WWII ARC-5 receiver. For practice you can use a current model digital set as a band scanner to get the feel for the stations that are out there. You're not supposed to do that during the real contest.

Al closed by recommending that you build an antenna and listen to your radio – before they digitize it!

Really good advice and a great topic – thanks Al. As we are in the throws of a "deep-freeze," a simple antenna and a simple radio can make for a pleasant evening's diversion AND it will get you away from the mindless drivel on the tube!



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Well you’d think that’s all that happened at our January meeting – well guess again. From the tech talk we moved on to “show and tell.”



Always popular, show and tell gives members a chance to show off items from their collections that they think other might be interested in. Well we had really different items to show off.

First, Lewie Newhard showed an RME model DB-10. Not quite certain if it was a pre-selector or a converter, it was an interesting piece dating from the 1950’s.

Next up was Ray Chase with a “radio trouble finder.” He obtained the Canadian Marconi radio trouble finder at an Estes auction. In

the 1930’s there was a lot of “noise” in the air (unlike today!) and these units were used to locate the source of the problem. Ray also had a photo of the Lackawanna Radio Club and their “inspection car.” Armed with their trouble finder they would ride around seeking the sources of signals that interfered with your radio listening! Guess they were the “geek squad” of the 1930’s.

The usual auction followed our busy agenda.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 13th at the Telford Community Center.



# DVHRC RADIO STORE

CAPACITY	VOLTAGE	LIST PRICE		CLUB MEMBER PRICE	
		QTY/25	EACH	QTY/25	EACH
.001	630v	\$7.20	.35	\$6.00	.28
.0047		\$7.50	.35	\$6.25	.29
.0068		\$7.60	.36	\$6.35	.30
.01		\$7.80	.36	\$6.50	.31
.022		\$8.30	.37	\$7.00	.33
.033		\$8.60	.42	\$7.25	.35
.047		\$9.00	.43	\$7.50	.36
.1		\$9.60	.48	\$8.00	.48
0.22		\$18.00	.86	\$15.00	.72
0.47		\$24.00	\$1.06	\$20.00	.96
1.0		\$31.20	\$1.50	\$26.00	\$1.25

## ELECTROLYTICS:

		QTY/10	EACH	QTY/10	EACH
10	160v	\$6.60	.70	\$5.50	.64
22	160v	\$7.70	.90	\$6.40	.75
33	160v	\$10.10	\$1.30	\$8.40	\$1.01
47	160v	\$11.50	\$1.40	\$9.60	\$1.16
10	450v	\$9.00	\$1.10	\$7.50	\$1.10
22	450v	\$13.30	\$1.45	\$11.20	
\$1.20					
47	450v	\$21.60	\$2.50	\$18.00	
\$2.10					
100	450v	\$34.50	\$3.20	\$28.50	
\$3.85					

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