



The Oscillator

"ALL THE ELECTRONS THAT ARE FIT TO FLOW . . . "

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Volume 16, No. 6 February 2009

DVHRC Event Schedule

Monthly Meeting - February 10
7:30pm Telford CC

Monthly Meeting - March 10 7:30pm
Telford CC

Spirit of the Airwaves Players Old-Time Radio Show (DVHRC co-sponsor) - March 12, 2009 7:30pm
Southern Lehigh Public Library, Center Valley, PA

Monthly Meeting - April 14, 2009
7:30pm Telford CC

Kutztown Radio Show XX - Friday, May 8 and Saturday May 9

North Penn Community Day - Sunday, May 16

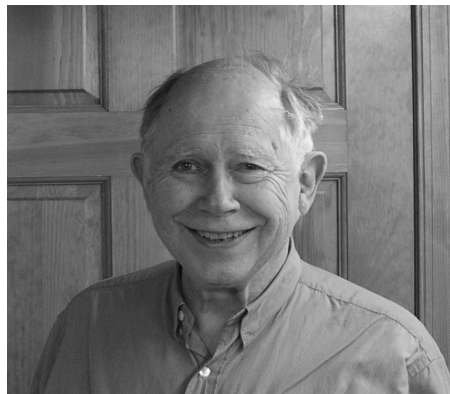
2009 Board of Directors

At the January 2009 meeting, the newly-elected Board of Directors met and assigned the officer positions. Officers for 2009 are: Stan Saeger - President, Dave Abramson - Vice-President and Dave Snellman - Secretary/Treasurer. At-large members are Dave Dean and Michael Koste. Lewie Newhard was appointed "Kutztown Koordinator" and will focus on the Kutztown Radio Shows.

Thanks to outgoing board members Pete Grave and Lewie

Newhard for their years of service to the club.

A Few Words with member Lowell Schultz . . .



Q: Where did you grow up and where do you live now?

A: I grew up in western Wisconsin near Arcadia. My father was a farmer. I now live in Maple Glen, PA, near Ambler with my wife.

Q: Do you have a background in electronics/radio/TV, etc?

A: Yes, when I was in the service I trained as a radio repairman with the Army Security, which was part of the Signal Corps. I then worked for 28 years with Honeywell doing low level design and then software development for system testing.

Q: What got you interested in old radios?

A: In the early 1970s there was an old woman in our church, and the pastor and I helped fix things for her. When she died, one of her possessions was sold - a Philco 87 radio, and I bought it. It sat around for quite awhile, but after I retired, I opened it up and fixed it.

Q: How long have you been collecting?

A: Since about 1988 after retirement from Honeywell.

Q: What are your radio interests (battery sets, consoles, etc.)?

A: I have mostly table radios and some AK consoles.

Q: How many radios do you have?

A: About 50.

Q: Where do you get your radios?

A: Mostly auctions, yard sales and Kutztown.

Q: Do you do your own restoration/repairs?

A: Yes, full cabinet restore and repairs.

Q: What's your favorite part of the hobby?

A: Cabinet restoration is rewarding, especially a set that is special to someone.

Q: What is your least favorite part?

A: Trying to find intermittent problems and open coils.

Q: What is your most prized radio?

A: An Atwater Kent 60C table with radio bought at Kutztown. I had my mobile home there and it was quite an effort to fit the large radio through the small door of the mobile home. But I got it in.

Q: How long have you been a member of DVHRC?

A: About 5 years

(Periodically the Oscillator will interview a member of the DVHRC.)

Membership Directory

Enclosed with this month's newsletter you'll find the 2009 DVHRC Membership Directory.

Find an error or omission? Don't despair. It's been quite some time since the directory has been published, and we expect corrections to be needed.

We will publish an addendum later this year so you can keep your copy up to date.

Antique Radio Classified covers Kutztown Radio Show

The January edition of ARC has two stories on the September Kutztown show. First a review by Stan Saeger on behalf of the club, and a personal review by DVHRC supporter John Hagman. Check out the ARC for these two highly-complimentary articles.

DVHRC to Co-sponsor Live Radio Drama

On Thursday, March 12th at 7:30pm, the DVHRC, along with the Southern Lehigh Public Library, will co-sponsor the "***Spirit of the Airwaves Players***", a local group that re-enacts old time radio shows complete with commercials, jingles and period music.



(From S.O.A.P. website)

Travel back to the Golden Age of Radio with the Spirit of the Airwaves Players. Sit back and get comfortable as you join our studio audience. We perform your favorite radio dramas LIVE. Comedy. Suspense. Westerns. And of course, soap operas. You'll hear episodes from shows like The Lone Ranger, Superman, Orphan Annie, and many more. Each episode will be brought to you with all the explosions, footsteps, and other thrilling music and sound effects to keep you on the edge of your seat.

"Pepsi-cola hits the spot . . . get Wild-root Creme Oil, Charlie . . . Super Suds, Super Suds . . ." You'll hear classic commercials and jingles, too—after all, every program needs sponsors. Feel free to sing along!

Radio may be the "Theater of the Mind," but whether your eyes are open or closed, you'll feel as if you've stepped back in time. Ladies in seamed stockings, gentle-

men in fedoras—the performers of S.O.A.P. recreate the 1930s and '40s in every detail. We dress in vintage clothing and accessories, and use vintage microphones, too. S.O.A.P.'s sound effects department also uses authentic techniques of the era. Watch two ordinary coconut shells transform into the thunderous hoof beats of the great horse Silver!

The **DVHRC** will be on-hand to introduce the group, stream period music through a few antique radios and provide information about the club.

Stop by for a night of radio-related entertainment. Admission is free.

The Southern Lehigh Public library is located at 3200 Preston Lane in Center Valley, PA. Directions can be found at www.solehipl.org.

January Meeting Recap

Ted Sowirka showed a "radio" controlled bus he bought as a department store closeout years ago.

The toy is in brand-new condition and includes the original box.



Ted will reveal how this old toy works at the February meeting.

Another Ted, who was a guest of **Tony Mollitiere**, shared a rare Sparton Bluebird he is currently

selling on eBay. It certainly caused a stir when some members thought the gem was part of the club auction.



Although missing the feet, the radio was in excellent condition.

If you look closely you can see Tony and Ted's reflection in the Sparton's mirror.

Keith Seiwel showed a Philco chassis he recently restored. Relatively new to the hobby, his work shows how nice a chassis can look with a lot of work, elbow grease and Brasso.



Mike Koste showed an old piece of sheet music, "Mr. Radio Man", which was recorded by Morton Downey and others. Mike's wife had the item professionally

framed and will it hold a place of honor in their home.



A **25-minute video** on the manufacture of Philco radios was shown. Thanks to **Bob Seiwel**, who donated the video to the club.

Lastly, the evening ended with a club auction.

DVHRC Items for sale

At any meeting the following items are for sale to members: tubes, capacitors, and DVHRC logo items (baseball caps and tee-shirts).

Thanks to Don Rector who spotted this article in the North Penn Reporter:

"During World War II, many industries advertised jobs for women to help in the war effort. In the era before transistors and digital devices as we know it today, the vacuum tube was a key device used in household radios

and military equipment.

"National Union was one of dozens of manufacturers in the receiving and CRT-picture tube industry. There were many manufacturers making and supplying parts to support the industry.

"The National Union factory in Lansdale later became Lansdale Tube Co., a division of Philco Corp. Ford Motor Co. purchased Philco as a subsidiary.

"The original Philco factories eventually went out of business. The Lansdale location on Church Road, after all the buildings were demolished, became the Station Square development."



DVHRC at North Penn Community Day

The DVHRC will have a table at the North Wales Community Day on May 16, 2009. Details are still being worked out.

If you would like to help, contact Frank Krider, Dave Abramson or Mike Koste.

Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club
PO Box 5053
New Britain, PA 18901
www.dvhrc.info

 **Estes Auctions**
Specializing in Vintage Radios

Burbank, OH
330-769-4992

The Kutztown Radio Store
AT RENNINGER'S ANTIQUE MART KUTZTOWN, PA
Open Saturdays, 8:30-4

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