



# The Oscillator

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



The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

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## Kutztown XXI – One to be proud of . .

The September 2009 Kutztown Radio Show is in the books, and I am proud of what our club was able to pull off.

It was clear some issues had developed over the past few years that had to be addressed, mostly related to the Saturday auction.

The executive committee, after careful thought and input from club members and regular attendees, took a hard look at where we've been and where we're going. We met and discussed alternatives for four hours, and made plans to implement the best ideas.

How did we do? My local newspaper, *The Morning Call* of Allentown, prints “report cards” after Philadelphia Eagles and Penn State Nittany Lions games, grading the teams on key facets of their games. In that spirit, here's my take on how we did on the changes and an overall grade.

### **Free up space at the club area by moving Buy-it-Now**

We needed to reduce the confusion, crowding and junkyard appearance at the club table on Saturday. By moving the Buy-it-Now area to the food pavilion, we accomplished this. There were less items, but from my observations, what was missing was

the true junk (broken VCRs, computer parts, etc.) Perhaps attendees didn't feel it was worth their effort to drag these items to the new location. This change went about as good as we could have hoped.

**Grade: A**

### **Encourage vendors to stay later on Saturday to make the show a full 2-day event**

This is a tough one, as we're trying to change the behavior of people that we don't have direct control over. We moved the auction back 1 hour to 1pm. However, by this time, with over six hours under their belts, most vendors were shutting down. We lengthened the show by one-half hour if at all. There were a few complaints about this. A passing grade, but that's all.

**Grade: C**

### **Change the Saturday auction “free-for-all” into a quality auction**

Previously, we've brought in Richard Estes to handle our quality auctions. We didn't seem to miss his name recognition as Pete Grave handled things just as well. The increased price of bidder tickets covered the cost of the indoor locale, the quantity and quality of consigned radios was good, and the rule to limit reserves to a maximum of 5 items per person re-

duced the number of unreasonable reserves.

**Grade: B+**

### **Cut back on the onerous auction record-keeping**

Keeping track of scores of 50 cent lots at the auction is frustrating. Then our treasurer, Dave Snellman, spends many hours writing checks to consignors for these small amounts. The BIN changes eliminated a substantial portion of that workload.

**Grade: B**

### **In closing - some random observations and an overall grade**

Attendance was similar to previous shows – radio bonfire continues to be a fun, if unofficial highlight – the food vendor did his usual great job – KUR radio remote was successful, but needs some tweaking – long-distance attendees were up: Michigan, New Mexico, Mexico, Canada, California and others were represented – raffle radio receipts, capacitor sales and tube sales were down (perhaps due to the economy) – club volunteering was up and we were able to cover all the areas - coverage - most dealers reported average to above-average sales – Kermit still remains missing in action (for those not familiar with Kermit, he's a long-time attendee with a distinctive personal-



## Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club

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*The Oscillator* is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club.

We welcome information relating to radio and television history and collecting. Submissions should be sent to [saegers@ptd.net](mailto:saegers@ptd.net) by the 25th of the prior month. Personal views, opinions and technical advice do not necessarily reflect those of members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, nor is the DVHRC responsible for any buying or selling transactions.

Dues are \$20 per year and can be paid at a meeting or mailed to the above address.

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ity) – weather couldn't have been better

Finally, (drum roll please) . . .

**Overall Grade: B+**

## What did others say?

More important that my views previously listed are the opinions of non-members who attended.

(From [antiqueradios.com](http://antiqueradios.com) and [rec.antique.radios+phono](http://rec.antique.radios+phono))

**“I have to say** that I thought this Kutztown show was the best ever, at least of those that I've attended. There was a wide range of quality merchandise available with many of the major dealers from the area in attendance”

“The best meet so far ... sold out to the bare van walls ... Bravo DVHRC.”

**“Lots of good items for sale,** and there seemed to be a fair amount of activity, most sellers I talked to, were doing well, a few seemed to think it was slow as far as buying activity. I picked up a bunch of nondescript mid 30's AC/DC sets, a Silvertone tombstone needing a speaker, some wire, and an Emerson logo T-shirt. I had a very good time there

**“This was my first trip to Kutztown.** I was able to go Friday only, and have to say that I enjoyed myself considerably. I got rid of about half my sets on Friday morning, and caught up with some old friends that I had not seen in quite a while. Nice friendly atmosphere.”

**“I decided late to go,** and ended up in the 2nd pavilion. It was a bit quieter, as it looked like a bit of a frenzy

in the other section. Most folks wandered over to where I was, and it worked out great.. Weather was beautiful!”

“Glad I went!”

**“Was another great meet!** Bought a nice early Zenith from John H. right off the bat, almost had my name on it! Friday seemed to be starting to hustle when I got there at noon, the afternoon seemed busier, most tables were manned and while I walked past alot of unpriced items it was good to see that there was good spillover to the second pavilion.

Weather was PERFECT!

Saturday seemed quieter than in the spring, but perhaps folks were getting there Friday instead.

Seemed a mix of restored and project sets, I found several to keep me busy, less parts sets though and less chassis but the important parts folks were there like Mark Oppat and of course Mike Koste. (thanks for bringing your knob collection too Mark!)

**“Wonderful friendly atmosphere,** one customer that bought a TV off me last spring learned of the meet then and was back again this year! Another customer who was picking up a couple sets I had sold was floored by the whole thing, he had a great time, was there for several hours and was able to make a deal for restoration on another console he had as I didn't have anytime left this winter.

Didn't make the auction, but I did see some good stuff in there like a Philco 16B in solid shape. Be interesting to

see how it went. I think the new format might have helped keep the amount of junk down, as the buy it now section seemed reasonable in size, but boy it sure did clear out the Pavilion by 1PM, but things were usually pretty much over by noon anyway in past years.

## DVHRC September Meeting Notes

The club had its September meeting a little more than a week before the Fall Swapmeet at Kutztown. The "old business" and "new business" sessions dealt with the upcoming meet.

With the changes planned for the club auction at Kutztown, there was a lot to talk about. The auction is to be held in the "White Room" inside the Renninger's pavilion on Saturday, starting at 1:00 PM.

There will be a "debris" field located adjacent the food area where anyone can donate items to be sold "can as catch can." No bidder tickets are needed for the debris field. There will, however, be a \$3 charge for bidder tickets for the indoor auction. This charge was made necessary due to the fact we have to pay to rent that room.

Other new business... A suggestion was made to have the club purchase empty tube boxes and make them available for sale to members. The idea, though good, was tried a few years ago and didn't work out.

An old time radio convention is scheduled for October 22-25, 2009 at the Holiday Inn North in Newark,

NJ. It is sponsored by the Friends of Old Time Radio.

On to the "Show and Tell" portion of the meeting... Lewie Newhard showed a Sears Radio Kit - new in the box! It included all the parts needed to build the radio that used a EK1000 tube.

Pete Grave showed the Zenith Trans-Oceanic - The Royalty of Radios, 2nd edition. This is an updated version of the original. The "doctors" added a few additional chapters to the end of the book with their new material. The rest of the book remains unchanged. Some interesting photos of military TO's and other TO clones. Pete also brought along a Philmore Shortwave converter.

Dave Dean showed us a Trans-Oceanic made by Sears as well as a Crosley multi-band set that covered 8-15 MHz shortwave.

Paul Weidenschilling had an interesting Emerson portable to show along with some early components in the form of early transistors and other components.

The next meeting will be held on October 13, 2009 at the Telford Community Center. Directions can be found at [www.dvhrc.info](http://www.dvhrc.info).

– Dave Snellman

## Golf Shirts

The club has decided to order colored golf shirts with the DVHRC logo on the front breast pocket area. These will be first-quality shirts with the logo embroidered, not silk-screened.

Cost will be about \$30 and orders

will be taken starting at the October meeting.

## Congratulations . .



to Ray Falcinelli, winner of the raffle radio at Kutztown.

## Mark your calendars . .

The dates for the 2010 Kutztown Radio Shows are May 7 and 8 and September 17 and 18.

## Special thanks

Thanks to the many club members who volunteered at Kutztown. I won't list everyone for fear of missing someone. But rest assured, you club appreciates it.

## Tube Donations Needed

Your club needs the following tubes to replenish the club's inventory:

6A8G, 5W4, 6F6, 6FS5GT, 6B5, 5Z4, 6Q7, 6Q7G, 5Y4G, 5Z3, 12AX7, 6E5, 12Q7GT, 13EM7, 15EA7, 6AN8, 6U8A, 3A3, 5Y3G, 35Y4, 50A5, 6SQ7, 14B6, 6EQ7, 6R7, 7A7(XXL), 83V, 6BA6, 6CS6, 19T8, 12SQ7, 6V6G, 6AS11, 50EH5, 6C5, 1LC6, 1LE3, 7B7, 27 GLOBE, 6A8G, 11BM8, 3Q5, 6JB6, 5AR4, 1L6, 1B6, 6AQ8, and 6HR6. Contact Dave Dean or bring them to a meeting.

# Images from Kutztown

