



OSCILLATOR

DELAWARE VALLEY HISTORIC RADIO

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC
November 1998

Vol. 6, No. 10,

November Meeting

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 10, at 7:30 PM at the Telford Community Building.

Nominations will be open this month for our five-member board of directors. The election will be held at the December meeting. The board in turn selects the club officers. It is important that we all actively participate in this process to establish effective leadership for 1999.

The program will be a presentation by John Okolowicz, involving a video copy of a 16 mm film from Philco's 75TH anniversary containing "Predictions for 1999," "The Philco Corporation began in 1892 as Helios Electric Co. and became Philadelphia Storage Battery Co. in 1906. A maker of batteries and power supplies, Philco jumped into AC radios in 1927 and became a tremendous success as one of the "big three" radio manufacturers along with RCA and Zenith." From: Morgan McMahon, *A Flick of the Switch*.

This month's auction theme is **Tools and Test Equipment**. As always, other items are welcome as well.

November 8, 1998 from 8:00 AM till 5:00PM at the South Jersey Exposition Center. Call 804-645-8816 for details. The second one is an auction by the Childers and Smith Auction Co. It will be held on November 21 in Lionville, PA. Preview at 10:00 AM and auction starts at 2:00 PM. For information, call 610-269-1036.

The evening's tech program was "show and tell." Not your, or our, usual "show and tell," but one with an almost "scary" twist. Those who brought items tried to "stump the stars," DVHRC's own panel of experts made up of: Bill Overbeck, Pete Grave, Lewie Newhard, Ray Chase, Jim Amici, and Mike Tannenbaum. Here are just a few of the items presented to test the collective expertise of this august group. Al Klase, our editor, provided some "quack" medical equipment, an "E" meter used by Scientologists, a signal injector that was part of a USM3A tool kit, and a "magic wand" tuning tool. Pete Grave brought a nice German radio that sported some very unusual tube sockets. Ray Chase challenged the panel with an impact switch and a tester and calibrator for the ARR-2 set. A rather large vacuum capacitor was Mike Tannebaum's offering. Club Pres Bill Overbeck

OCTOBER MEETING NOTES

By Dave Snellman

Mark your calendars, the date for the "Super Winter Meet" at Havertown was announced! It will be February 6, 1999. Start to make your plans now.

It is with sadness that DVHRC members learned of the death of Tony Flanagan, the founding president of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club. The Board recommended and the membership approved sending a donation to the Jersey club in Tony's memory. It is hoped that a memorial will be established in Tony's name.

Forty members were in attendance for October meeting. We had one new member join our ranks. A hearty DVHRC welcome to John Rohr from North Wales.

There is a pair of events that members might find interesting. The first is "Audiofest III," a swap meet and show for audiophiles. (You know who you are!) It will be held on

COMING EVENTS

- Nov 7** Hamfest, Hershey, Pa.
- Nov 8** Audio Fest III See flyer
- Nov 10** **DVHRC Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- Nov 13** NJARC Meeting, Freehold, NJ
- Nov 21** Auction, Lionville, Pa. See flyer.
- Nov 27** Fair Lawn ARC auction
Fair Lawn, NJ Ph: 973-427-3551
- Dec 8** DVHRC Christmas Party, 7:30
- Dec 11** NJARC Christmas party
- Feb 6** DVHRC Havertown Meet

THE OSCILLATOR

Newsletter of the
Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club
P.O. Box 847
Havertown, Pa. 19083

The *Oscillator* is published monthly by members of the non-profit DVHRC. Its purpose is to provide a forum to educate, inform, entertain, and communicate with collectors and preservers of vintage radio technology.

We welcome and solicit information relating to radio history or collecting. Submissions should be carefully researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on-disc (3-1/2" DOS/Win95) is particularly welcome.

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

To join: DVHRC dues is \$10 per year. The membership year runs January-through-December. Please mail to the club PO box above. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM

DVHRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Abramson Jim Amici Pete Grave
Al Klase Bill Overbeck

FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Jay Daveler

1998 DVHRC OFFICERS

President	Bill Overbeck	(610) 789-8199
Vice-President	Dave Abramson	(610) 827-9757
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Lewis Newhard Ted Sowirka

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COPY DEADLINE: The 20th of each month.

dug deep into his collection and produced some unique items. He brought with him an earphone from the first Sony transistor radio, a box of gears for Chrysler car radios from the '60's, an alignment tool for early Sony BetaMax VCR's, an odd Jensen electrodynamic speaker with diffuser, and a poly planer speaker. (I thought Poly Planer was the name of one of Bill's old girlfriends!) Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening's program.

Refreshments followed the show and tell. While enjoying refreshments members were ogling a few of the cool "briefcase" radio sets Pete Grave brought along. Those of us who collect communications gear enjoyed the chance to see (and play with) these unique pieces of gear our favorite "uncle" paid \$\$\$ for.

Afterwards the meeting proceeded to the regular auction feature. Some of the "stump the stars" items made it into the auction along with the normal bill of fare. A nice Minerva radio, a copy of Jane's Military Communications, lots of parts (including that large vacuum capacitor,) more radios and more books rounded out the auction.

It's only October, but it's not too early to think about paying your 1999 dues. They can be paid at any regular monthly meeting or send your check to DVHRC, P.O. Box 847, Havertown, PA 19083.

EDITOR'S NOTES

John Dilks will be doing a presentation on Adams-Morgan Paragon receivers at this month's NJARC meeting. He will be showing off his recently acquired RD-5 and amplifier. If any of you have other Adams-Morgan sets that you'd like to show off at the same time, contact John at 609-927-3873 (evenings).

You'll notice the return address on the Oscillator has been changed to my home. This will eliminate a lot of delays and confusion. Please direct all oscillator correspondence to this address, our use e-mail per the masthead.

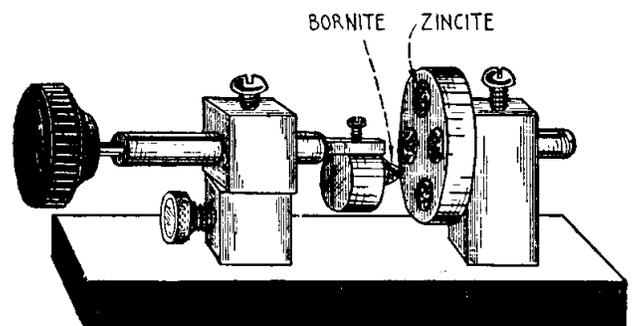


Fig. 159—The Zincite Bornite Detector.

75 Years ago in Ham Radio,

by John Dilks, K2TQN

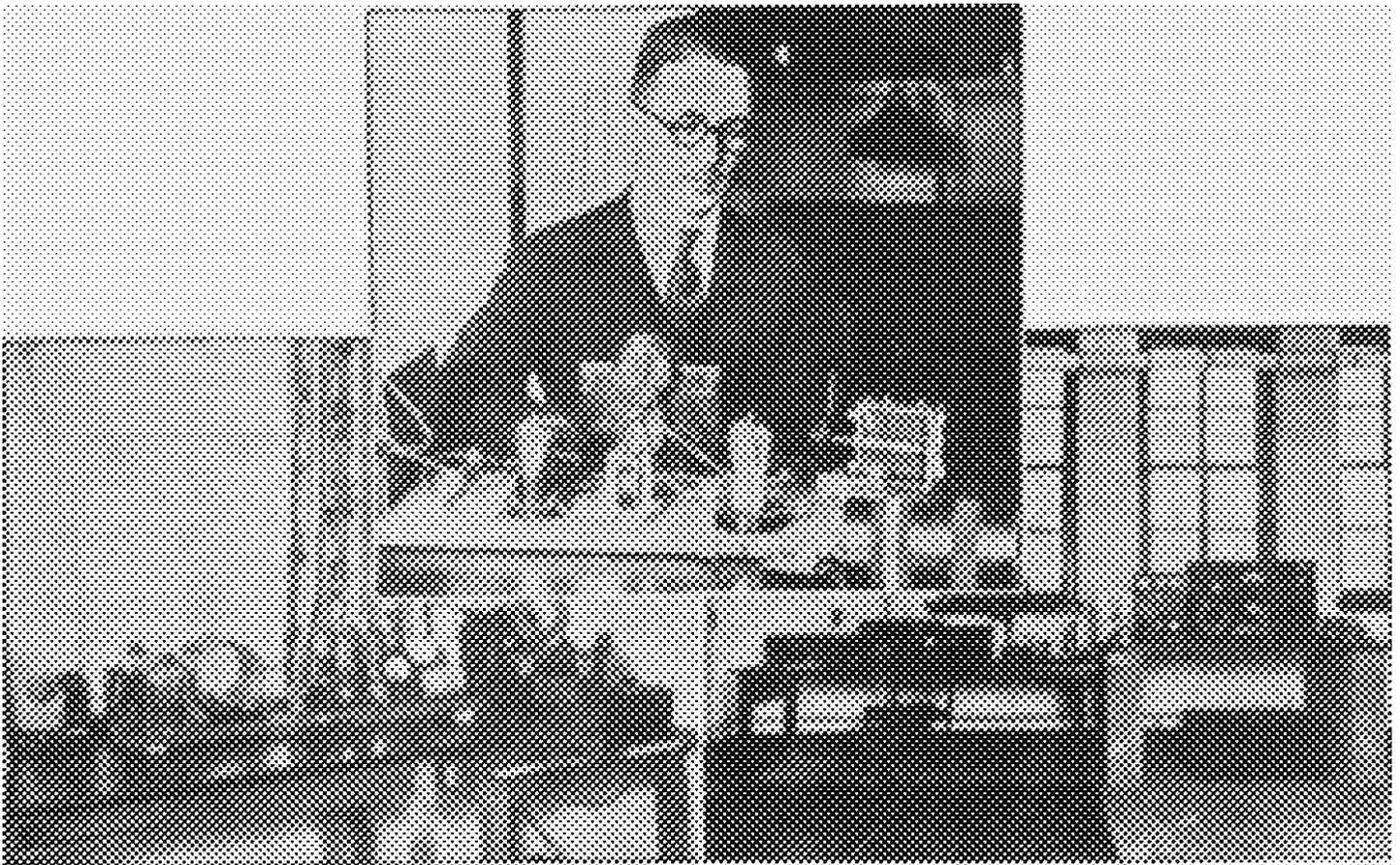
Email oldradio@worldnet.att.net

Transatlantic Amateur Communication Accomplished!

1MO and 1XAM Work French 8AB, One Hundred Meters Does the Trick

This was the headline in the January 1924 QST that every ham radio operator was waiting for. For several years the ARRL membership had dreamed of this. Up to this point only very powerful commercial stations were able to hold two-way communications across the Atlantic.

Earlier in the year, Leon Deloy, French station 8AB, visited the ARRL convention in Chicago and announced he was going to try to work the Americans this winter. Returning home, Deloy applied the knowledge he collected on his visit and built a short-wave transmitter. He cabled F. Schnell, 1MO, at ARRL headquarters that he would start sending on 100 meters from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. starting Nov. 25th. Word spread fast and many stations were listening. Schnell built a special short wave tuner and was ready. At 9 p.m. sharp Deloy was copied from the first word.



Center: Mr. Schnell and his 110 meter receiver. **Lower left:** The 110 meter transmitter at 1MO. **Lower right:** Receiving and broadcasting station at Haverford College, where signals from Leon Delon's amateur station at Nice France were brought in on a loud speaker.

The next night, Nov. 26th, Deloy again transmitted and was advised by cable that he was QRK. He sent two messages, which were also copied by 1QP. One of these, the first amateur message ever sent from France:

Nice, France

Want this first transatlantic message to convey most hearty greetings of French to American amateurs.

Leon Deloy



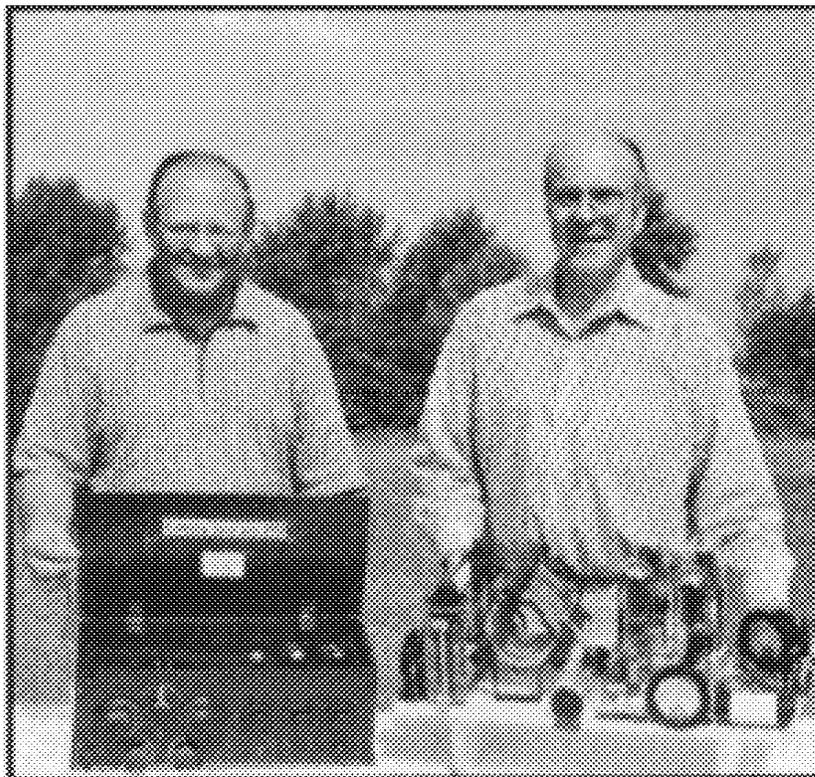
The second message made a further schedule and proposed listening for a reply on the same wave [frequency.] Meanwhile 1MO received permission from the 'Supervisor of Radio' to test on short wave and on the following night, of Nov. 27th was ready.

Deloy came on at 9:30 and for one hour called and sent two more messages. Signing off, he asked for a QSL. 1MO gave him a long call on 110 meters and European and American amateurs were working each other for the first time. Deloy came right back! It brought the thrill of a lifetime. Congratulatory messages were then sent to each other and several other amateurs there and other American stations also made contact.

Of course there is much more to this story, and you can read it in its entirety in the January 1924 QST magazine. I will be happy to supply a photocopy if you supply an SASE business size envelope.

75 years later – to the day, you can hear a great historic transmitter!

This month the Antique Wireless Association celebrates the 75th anniversary of the first transatlantic QSO. Listen for the replica transmitter from the AWA Museum station W2AN on Nov 27 at 2300 UTC on or about 3.525MHz. Listen again on Nov. 28th. Same time. (Use your receiver's wide filter, as this transmitter is a free running oscillator. It will be moving around somewhat.- Ed.)



Museum curator Ed Gable, K2MP, stands behind a Reinartz three-tube receiver while Bob Raide, W2ZM, shows off a replica of 1MO's transmitter with four 203 tubes.

BUY SELL SWAP

FOR SALE: Old radios and 78 RPM records from an estate. Includes **Zenith #5614**, **Silvertone** radio/disk recorder, and **RCA ACR-175** communications receiver. Contact: George Rottina, 17A Lumberjack Cir., Horsham, Pa. 19044. Phone: 215-675-9055.

FOR SALE: **7JP4 CRT**, good filament, screen looks OK, make offer. Alton Dubois, Jr., 67 Peggy Ann Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, Phone 518-792-3130

WANTED: Cast aluminum lid for **Eveready #2** radio circa 1928. Good photo would be a help if lid not available, Need two four inch black No. 488 dial knobs for **Fried Eisemann NR-6**. Alton Dubois, Jr., 67 Peggy Ann Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, Phone 518-792-3130

HELP: Would the person who sold Marc Ellis the Philco 70 cabinet please contact him at PO Box 1306, Evanston, Ill 600204-1306; ellis@interaccess.com; 847-869-5016.

FOR SALE: Antique telegraph instruments circa 1868-1878; 2 each. Key and register (sic) on wooden base. L.M. Ericsson AB, Stockholm, Looks like Siemens and Halske model 1868. **Asian financial crisis forces sale.** Mr. Thavorn Suwankit, Ham call E21DWM, 55295 MOO7 Saranrom Village Soi Nuanjan, Navamin Rd, Klong Kum Boung Kum, Bangkok, Thailand 10230; Phone: 6616272017 anytime. (This was dated Aug 1998 and was pretty tough copy. Good luck! - Ed.)

WANTED: Looking for accessories for AN/GRC-9 field radio, especially front cover, whip antenna, and power cord for DY-88 power supply. Al Klase, 908-782-4829, skywaves@bw.webex.net

WANTED:

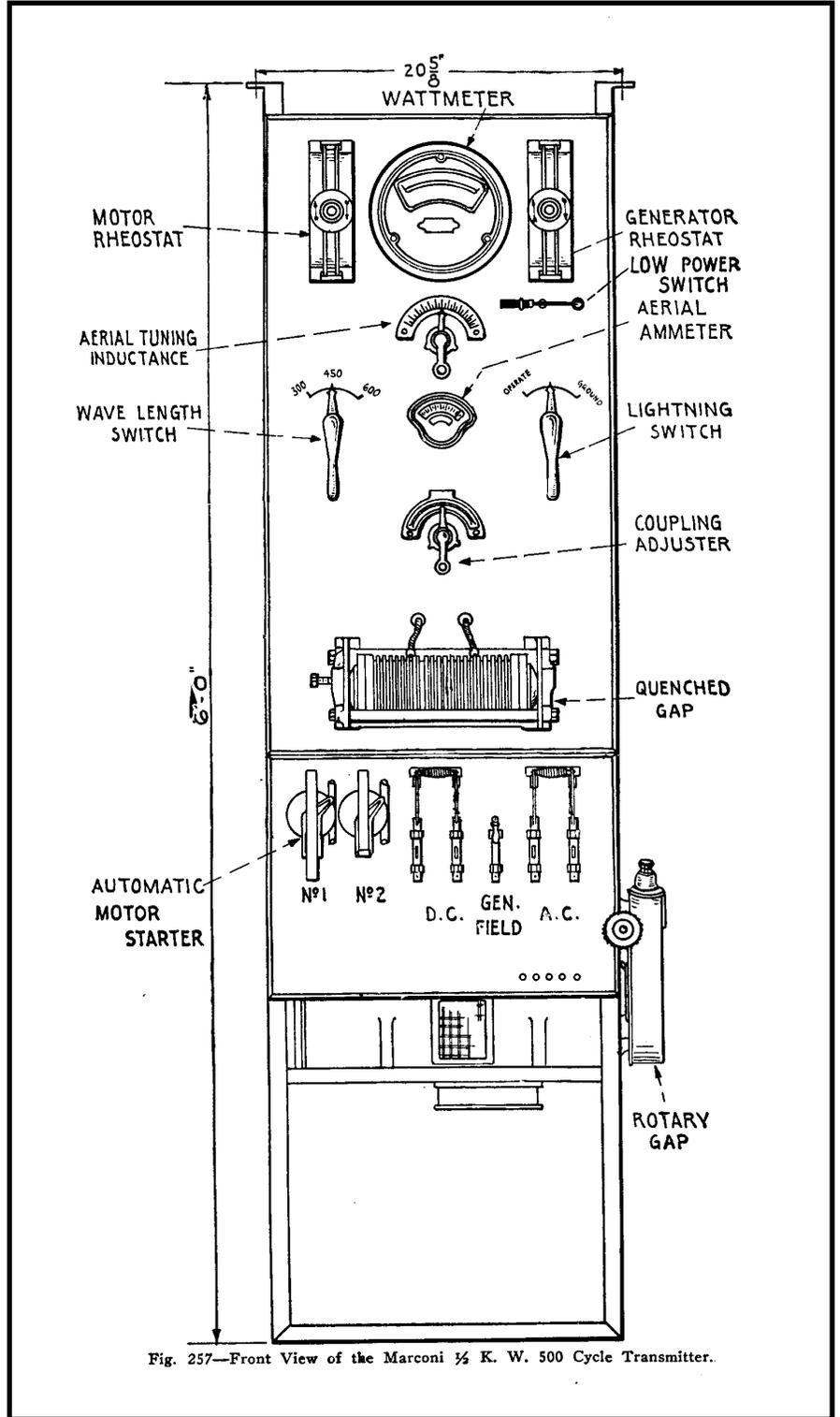


Fig. 257—Front View of the Marconi 1/4 K. W. 500 Cycle Transmitter.

