

# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

August 2017

Volume 23 Issue 8



## MEETING/ ACTIVITY NOTES

Reported by  
Marv Beeferman

### The ON-LINE Broadcaster

The *Jersey Broadcaster* is now on-line. Over 150 of your fellow NJARC members have already subscribed, saving the club a significant amount of money and your editor extra work. Interested? Send your e-mail address to [mbeeferman@verizon.net](mailto:mbeeferman@verizon.net). Be sure to include your full name.

Congratulations are in order to the NJARC, the Radio Technology Museum executive board and all its hard working volunteers for receipt of the prestigious Houk Award for preservation for 2017. Thanks to the persistent efforts of honorary member Ludwell Sibley and his nomination, the award will be presented to the club at the Antique Wireless Association's convention in August. You can read all about it on page 4 of this month's *Broadcaster*.

Hopefully, NJARC members will make a good showing at the convention to show our appreciation of this recognition and as a tribute to Ludwell Sibley for his hard work in helping us obtain it. We'll hopefully have a full report in next month's *Broadcaster*.

InfoAge is offering an opportunity for its members to become more involved in the operation of this great science center asset. "Welcome," "front desk" and "gift shop volunteer positions are available. Hours can be weekend or weekday (Saturdays, Sundays or Wednesdays, 1 to 5 PM). Training packages are available and certain tax benefits apply. You can also become a tour guide for a specific museum (hopefully the NJARC's Radio Technology Museum). To apply for a position or for information call 732-280-3000 or contact [info@InfoAge.org](mailto:info@InfoAge.org)

The InfoAge "Wall of Honor" induction ceremony and diner will take place on August 26th at 7 PM. NJARC mem-



## MEETING NOTICE

### NOTE: CHANGE OF LOCATION!

The next NJARC meeting will take place on Friday, August 11th, at 7:30 PM at Princeton Building CS-105 while Bowen Hall undergoes renovations. Directions may be found at the club's website (<http://njarc.org>). CS-105 is located directly opposite and a short walking distance from Bowen Hall so you can still park in the same garage used for previous meetings. Signs will be posted pointing to the new, temporary location. This month's meeting includes a presentation by Alan Wolke titled "The Basic Principles and Applications of Analog Meter Movements."

ber participation and support has been continuous throughout the years. The ceremony is dedicated to giving recognition to those citizens who, by their lives or life's work, have made significant contributions to the defense of our Nation with their accomplishments at the US Army's former Camp Evans and Fort Monmouth. This year, being honored, are Henry Muller for Airborne Signals Intelligence, Emil Schuerman for Radar Design, E. King Stodola for Project Diana and the Harris Corporation for their support of InfoAge. Tickets for the event are \$100 for InfoAge members. Contact

Ray Chase ([raydio862@verizon.net](mailto:raydio862@verizon.net)) for more information.

Member Joe Cro is looking for at least one good, usable UV-216 rectifier tube (two preferred) for purchase or trade. He needs it for an original power supply for a 1921, "1DH" (UV-203) transmitter he would like to put on the air. Any leads or information on what may be available would also be appreciated. Contact Joe at: [n3ibx@verizon.net](mailto:n3ibx@verizon.net).

Member Joe Devonshire reports that the site for Chuck Schwark's very popular Philco Repair Bench has been changed. Bill Burns states that the site may be found at [archive.org](http://archive.org). Just fill in "Philco Repair Bench" as the search term and select "search archived web sites."



**The coating on the walls in the corridor that leads to the rear exit of our museum and to the hallway that leads to our Vintage Radio Workshop and other InfoAge exhibits was totally deteriorated. Thanks to members, Bruce Ingraham and Bruce Williams for having spent significant time in the hot and steamy summer months repairing and repainting them. (See more photos on page 8.)**

### Upcoming Events

August 15th thru 19th - AWA World Convention, RIT Inn and Conference Center, West Henrietta, NY

September 8th - Monthly meeting at InfoAge; Charles Blanding presentation (TBA)

September 15th & 16th - Kutztown antique radio swapmeet

October 13th - Monthly meeting at Princeton; Mike Molnar presentation "V. Zworykin - The Lost Interviews"

October 28th - NJARC Fall Swapmeet at Parsippany PAL

November 10th - Monthly meeting at InfoAge; Show & Tell, Hints & Kinks

November 18th - Fall Repair Clinic at InfoAge

December 16th - Holiday Party at West Lake Country Club; 25th Anniversary celebration

**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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## THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AND COUNTING

By  
**Marv Beeferman**

Last month, in celebration of our 25th anniversary on July 16th, 1992, we presented a history of the club's major events up to December 2004. With this issue of the Broadcaster, we continue with this theme up to 2012.

**January 2005:** Club holds first "Members Only Auction."

**March 2005:** InfoAge cottage populated with radio displays based on National Broadcasters Hall of Fame (NBHF) donation.

**April 2005:** NJARC exhibits at Trenton Computer Faire.

**May 2005:** NJARC sponsors a "History of Radio Display" at the IEEE History Center. The IEEE donates Wheeler's "Washington Receiver" to InfoAge which was used to develop AVC. Official opening of NBHF radio exhibit at InfoAge "Engineer's" cottage which director Fred Carl called "a great day!"

**June 2005:** First NJARC swapmeet at Parsippany PAL. Swapmeets also continue at North Centerville Volunteer Fire Co.

**August 2005:** Washington Receiver exhibited at AWA convention in Rochester - receives "People's Choice" award.

**September 2005:** First InfoAge "tailgate swapment" held as part of regular monthly meeting. Members tour NBHF museum at cottage.

**October 2005:** NJARC supports "War of the Worlds" performance at Sarnoff Library.

**April 2006:** InfoAge transfer ceremony - 17 acres and 8 historical buildings including the Marconi Hotel and the future home of the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame/NJARC Radio Technology Museum are turned over to InfoAge.

**May 2006:** Mike Hammer's radio collection auctioned. Mike was the first NJARC vice president and passed away in 2004. \$10,000 in cash found in radio that was part of Franke collection to be auctioned by NJARC.

**June 2006:** Electronics workshop ("e-shop") opens in Marconi Hotel basement.

**July 2006:** First "open to the public" tailgate swapmeet held at InfoAge.

**August 2006:** Work begins on establishing Radio Technology Museum in Library building in anticipation of National Broadcasters Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

**September 2006:** Charles Osgood, Arthur Anderson and Les Paul inducted into National Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Ceremony held in conjunction with opening of what would later become the NJARC Radio Technology Museum (RTM).

**November 2006:** Swapmeets permanently moved to Parsippany PAL.

**January 2007:** Increased traffic at RTM during Sunday openings; Wednesday established as museum "workday;" security system established. Club acquires RCA BTA-250L transmitter from WMID AM (1340) Atlantic City.

**May 2007:** Sarnoff Library basement floods; NJARC supports rescue of some 600 cubic feet of lab notebooks, technical reports, manuals and manuscripts.

**June 2007:** Al Klase sponsors "Crystal Set Seminar" at InfoAge; sons, daughters, nieces and nephews in attendance. Dave Sica experiments with live streaming of NJARC monthly meeting.

**September 2007:** Second NBHF induction ceremony held honoring Celeste Holm, Jane Powell, Margaret Whiting and Andy Williams. Member Ben Tongue (of Blonder & Tongue) moves out of his office in Old Bridge (company was sold in 1989 but Ben stayed on as a consultant).

**October 2007:** NJARC supports "War of the Worlds" broadcast at Sarnoff Library.

**February 2008:** Live streaming of NJARC meetings becomes permanent.

**June 2008:** Second NJARC Crystal Set Seminar. Richard Lee elected NJARC president; Harry Klancer assumes VP role.

**August 2008:** Member Dave Sica wins AWA Taylor Award at AWA Convention in recognition of the preservation of television history. Member Isaac Blonder (of Blonder & Tongue fame) passes.

**October 2008:** First NJARC "Old Equipment Contest" held at Sarnoff Library. NJARC supports "War of the Worlds" radio presentation at Sarnoff.

**November 2008:** First "DX-pedition" held at InfoAge.

**April 2009:** Dr. Alex Magoun leaves post as director of David Sarnoff Library. Club decides to divide meetings between Princeton's Bowen Hall and InfoAge.

**May 2009:** First large public auction of radios and electronics organized by Ray Chase held at InfoAge; Richard Estes conducts auction. Member John Dilks offers presentation on possibly the first documented "DX-pedition" to the North Pole on the schooner Bowdain. Last NJARC meeting at David Sarnoff Library.

**June 2009:** First NJARC meeting at Princeton's Bowen Hall. Dave Sica rescues BC-412-B oscilloscope (used with SCR-268 radar) from a crawl space over a garage.

**October 2009:** NJARC tube inventory previously stored by Gary D'Amico moved to storage container at InfoAge provided by Dave Sica. Decision made to upgrade InfoAge shed for use as a tube storage facility.

**December 2009:** InfoAge designated a WWII Living Memorial by Monmouth County and surrounding towns. Ray Chase presented with Tony Flanagan Award.

**March 2010:** Second major InfoAge public auction earns \$2,000 for NJARC.

**June 2010:** NJARC radio exhibit at the Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County.

**July 2010:** NJARC holds "vacuum tube party" at InfoAge to sort out tube inventory. "Radio Hints & Kinks" brought to monthly meeting at Bowen Hall.

**August 2010:** NJARC provides support for first WWII Symposium at InfoAge - Ray Chase discusses how radar failed us at Pearl Harbor and Al Klase discusses tactical communications advances. Mem-

ber John Dilks awarded Houck Award for documentation at AWA Convention. NJARC member Jim Fisher, former club vice president, passes.

**October 2010:** John Dilks gives another gripping presentation related to the history of early wireless - "Jack Irwin: Marconi Wireless Man." NJARC exhibits homebrew radios at Maker Faire in Flushing Meadows and sets up a radio display at Science and Engineering Festival at the Clifton High School.

**December 2010:** Long-time member Jim Troe passes.

**February 2011:** Radio exhibit organized by Ray Chase at Cranford Library; "Golden Age of Radio" presentation at Cranford Community Center.

**March 2011:** Scope clinic held at InfoAge.

**May 2011:** NJARC sponsors radio demonstration at NJ History Fair.

**June 2011:** Wireless icon Ed Raser passes and donates part of his estate to InfoAge.

**July 2011:** Tube storage building at InfoAge completed. Longtime member Steve Sideroff passes.

**September 2011:** Major auction, open to the public, of radio-electronics at InfoAge. NJARC supports second WWII symposium and exhibits at World Maker Faire in Flushing Meadows. Fort Monmouth closes.

**October 2011:** "Tube Party" held at InfoAge to sort through tube inventory.

**November 2011:** Matt Reynolds takes over club capacitor program. Richard Lee interviewed by Paul Buresh on his "Tube Talk" classic radio show. In March, Buresh interviews Al Klase and Dave Snellman regarding our Broadcast Band DX contest.

**January 2012:** Ray Chase sponsors radio display and "Radio Broadcasting in America" presentation at Long Hill Township library - largest number of attendees of all previous library events. Dave Sica restores historic Camp Evans recordings - Project Diana and Joseph McCarthy visit.

**March 2012:** Twenty NJARC members tour Armstrong's Alpine Tower site -

ultimately results in large number of parts donation.

**April 2012:** Member John Dilks marks 100th anniversary of Titanic sinking with major presentation "Who Was the Hero of the Titanic Rescue?"

**May 2012:** Al Klase sets up Tactical Military Communications Display at InfoAge. RTM operating hours extended to Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 PM. Second "Tube Party" held at InfoAge

**June 2012:** Member Emidio "Mid" Ciccone passes. Steve Goulart's story "Belmar, New Jersey: Land of Radio Giants" published in *Monitoring Times*. Nesting eagle isolates InfoAge "engineer's cottage," first location of NJARC radio museum.

**July 2012:** Repair clinic shared with MARCH (Mid-Atlantic Retro Computing Hobbyists). Club celebrates 20th anniversary.

**August 2012:** Richard Lee takes first place in Communications Receiver category and wins "People's Choice" award at AWA Convention for his E.H. Scott Special. John Dilks exhibits rare Collins desk.

**September 2012:** Ray Chase and Al Klase take lead in rescuing several radar sets from Tobyhanna Depot. NJARC participates in Maker Faire at New York Hall of Science.

**October 2012:** Dues raised to \$25. InfoAge recognized as a National Historic Landmark. NJARC supports *War of the Worlds* radio play by Kearny theatre company.

**November 2012:** Third tube party at InfoAge. Good attendance at Parsippany swapmeet despite hurricane Sandy - InfoAge suffers minor damage but power substation is flooded.

**December 2012:** Phil Vourtsis awarded Tony Flanagan Memorial Award

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Well, 2012 seems like a good point to stop for now. I'm sure there's quite a bit that I left out but hopefully we can rely on some first hand accounts when we celebrate our 25th year at December's Holiday Party. We'll continue with our history between 2013 and 2017 in the September *Broadcaster*.

**BREAKING NEWS!****NJARC APPROVED  
TO RECEIVE AWA  
HOUCK AWARD****By  
Marv Beeferman**

NJARC Radio Technology Museum (RTM) board member Ray Chase has been informed by Antique Wireless Association (AWA) Awards Coordinator Felicia Kreuzer that the NJARC has received a nomination and AWA's unanimous approval to receive the Houck Award for Preservation for 2017. In her notification letter, Felicia wrote the following:

"NJARC will be recognized for their tremendous efforts in developing the Radio Technology Museum at the site of the Camp Evans Signal Laboratory. We hope that you and as many members as possible will join us to be honored at the AWA meet next month [August]. Please pass the word to your club members and thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to preserve radio history."

The AWA Houck Award for Preservation, named in honor of radio pioneer Harry Houck, recognizes the acquisition, preservation, and documentation of an outstanding collection of electronic communication artifacts by an individual or group. The collection may focus on a specific class of device, a particular time span, a certain country of origin; or may be unlimited in scope.

Who was Harry Houck? He first became interested in radio communication as an amateur in 1910. When the United States entered WWI, he enlisted in the Signal Corps and served in France with the A.E.F. from 1917 to 1919. In 1919, he joined the Engineering Department of the International Radio Telegraph Company and assigned to special radio receiv-

ing set design problems. Mr. Houck, working with Major Armstrong during and after WWI, helped develop the first superheterodyne to be placed in large commercial production.

In 1923, Houck became affiliated with the Dublier Condenser Radio Corporation, later becoming chief engineer and developing the first "B" battery eliminator. His research on capacitors made practical the filter systems used in all modern receivers. In 1931, he became assistant chief engineer of Kolster Radio, Inc. In 1940, Houck joined Measurements Corporation which was to become one of the outstanding developers and manufacturers of a precision line of laboratory standards designed for radio, television, and many other branches of the electronic industry.

The Houck award is the culmination of a persistent and perceptive campaign by honorary NJARC member Ludwell Sibley to add some intelligence to the award selection criteria and, most of all, to place the NJARC RTM in nomination. We won't go into all the details but one barrier that Ludwell was able to get waived was the requirement for AWA membership.

Ludwell's nomination letter is as follows:

"I wish to nominate, for the AWA Houck Award for Preservation, the members of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club. This group has developed, and continues to develop, the Radio Technology Museum at the site of the Camp Evans Signal Laboratory, part of the InfoAge Science History Learning Center and Museum."

"The site is important to electronics history in New Jersey. Transferred to the local government (Wall Township) by the Army, it includes the hotel/dormitory built by the American Marconi Company for its operators at the Belmar transoceanic station. After acquisition by the Army as Camp Evans and the establishment of the radar laboratory there in 1942, it was the location of the first radar contact with the moon in 1946. It was the site of the Project Diana moon radar, 1956, and still has the 60-foot parabolic antenna for the Television and Infrared Observation System (TIROS) satellite program."

"The preservation activity that calls for a Houck Award is NJARC's establishment of a museum with vintage restored wireless gear, home radios, communications equipment, important tubes, and radio-programming mementoes. The NJARC space includes the National

Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, which had previously lacked a permanent home. NJARC has carried out extensive restoration of its building space."

"NJARC's operation complements related technology museums on the site: a collection of electronic-intelligence systems sponsored by the Garden State Chapter of the Association of Old Crows. The site contains the Computer Museum built by the Mid-Atlantic Retro Computing Hobbyists, with working examples of computers dating to the vacuum-tube age."

"Honoring the role of the site in radar history, NJARC has developed a suite of military radar equipment ranging in vintage from early in WWII to modern times, and extending in size from personnel-detection systems to a massive AN/TPS-1D air search set. Plans are underway to put this gear on public display."

"The Houck Preservation Award nominally requires that the recipient be an AWA member. However, I request waiver of this provision, as was done with the awards given to other history-oriented groups: the Perham Museum (1995), Museum of Radio and Technology (1998), and the California Historical Radio Society (2015)."

Thanks for your kind words Ludwell. But most of all, thanks to all our NJARC members such as Ray Chase, Al Klase, Harry Klancer, Phil Vourtsis, Jules Bellisio, Bruce Ingraham, Don Irish, Bruce Knapp, Vince Lobosco, Steve Rosenfeld, John Ruccolo, Dave Sica, Dave Snellman, Bill Zukowski, Tom Sedergran, Len Newman, Paul Hart, Jacie Thorpe, Bruce Williams (and probably some whose names momentarily escape me) who have contributed their time and energy to make the RTM a well-deserved success.

**INFOAGE  
TAILGATERS  
SELL THEIR WARES  
AT SUMMER  
SWAPMEET****By  
Marv Beeferman**

Some time ago, the AWA sponsored a yearly radio swapmeet in Tranquility, New Jersey. It was always well-attended and was one of my favorites. I always felt that one of its draws was the location; an open field surrounded by green, lush

trees with a gentle breeze keeping things cool. It seemed that this atmosphere calmed people down a bit rather than breeding a group of cutthroat buyers and sellers.

Our tailgate swapmeets at InfoAge seem to be in the same category. I may be wrong, but attendees seem to be more interested in shooting the "radio breeze" and swapping stories than pushing sales. And speaking of "breeze," a light but cool one took the edge of what could have been a very hot day on July 22nd. President Richard Lee sends his regards to Bill, Charles, Kasha, Max, Sal, Phil and yours truly for pulling off another successful meet.

As usual, a photo summary of the day's events follows, or you can catch the activity by watching Bob Bennet's YouTube posting on his "RadioWild" website.





# CALL FOR TONY FLANAGAN MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINATIONS

By  
**Marv Beeferman**



As part of the club's 25th anniversary celebration, we will be accepting nominations for the Tony Flanagan Memorial Award. Tony was the club's founder and first president and the award was established upon his passing to honor his contributions to the NJARC. The award consists of a plaque and a certificate with the club maintaining its own plaque (below) of past winners. The award is presented for outstanding contributions to:



- The promotion of the antique radio hobby.
- The preservation of radio and electronic communication history and the history of their associated disciplines through artifacts and documentation.
- The promotion of the public awareness of radio development and history through books, articles and exhibitions.



It should be noted that the primary emphasis of the nomination should be given to the above considerations and not necessarily to the individual "who has done the most for the club." Previous winners have been John Dilks (1999), Ludwell Sibley (2001), Ray Chase (2009) and Phil Vourtsis (2012).

Nominations may be made by any NJARC member in good standing and must be presented in writing (or via email) to the Executive Board for voting no later than November 1st, 2017. In order to get a flavor for the nomination format, the following presentation was awarded to

Ludwell Sibley in 2001 (most fitting for his valiant effort on part of the museum's Houck award):

*The New Jersey Antique Radio Club proudly presents its 2001 Tony Flanagan Memorial Award to Ludwell Sibley as merited by his selfless dedication to the promotion of the antique radio hobby and the preservation of wireless, radio and electronic communication history through artifacts and documentation.*

*In 1999, Ludwell was awarded the Antique Wireless Association's prestigious Houck Award for Documentation in recognition of numerous original and authoritative articles on vacuum tube history and his book Tube Lore, a respected reference on the history, development and technical aspects of vacuum tubes. Presently, the editor of The Tube Collectors Association bulletin Tube Collector, Ludwell has also served as editor of the Antique Wireless Association's Old Timer's Bulletin, the AWA Review and the Oscillator (bulletin of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club).*

*Besides maintaining a diverse collection of radios, tubes and documentation of his own, Ludwell is the custodian of the Dowd-RCA Archive consisting of a large portion of RCA's Harrison plant documentation which he is in the process of indexing, cataloging and restoring.*

*Ludwell has always been available to share his extensive knowledge and reference material with his fellow antique radio hobbyists. As stated in his nomination submittal for this award: "There are many who have worked tirelessly to promote antique radio collecting, but I know of none personally who approached the task with more energy, expertise and humor than Lud."*

Your nomination does not have to be as extensive or "flowery" as above, but it should at least summarize the relationship between the nominee's credentials and the spirit of the award. For presentation purposes, your nomination statement may be edited. The final selection will be made by a vote of the NJARC Board following the receipt of all nominations received by November 1st.

Send your nomination to Marvin Beeferman, 2265 Emerald Park Drive, Forked River, NJ 08731, email it to me at [mbeeferman@verizon.net](mailto:mbeeferman@verizon.net) or drop it off with any Executive Board member. With all the deserving club members who have supported our hobby, expectations are high for a good selection of candidates to choose from.

## SHOP TALK & MUSEUM MUSINGS

By  
Marv Beeferman

*We try to report on activities in our Vintage Radio Workshop and Radio Technology Museum on as close to a monthly basis as possible. This month's installment combines the two columns...Ed*

Traffic at the club's Vintage Radio Workshop (VRW) has been very active over the last few months with members working on both museum and personal projects. In fact, it's getting a bit crowded. Dave Sica sent me a very nice comment regarding one of his recent enterprises:

"I've had the opportunity to spend several days now working in the shop, and I really have to congratulate you (and the club) on making this a reality. I don't know if we'd even be able to tackle a project like reassembling the projection TV in our previous shop; at the very least, it would have been much more difficult."

Thanks Dave, and let's hope that your hard work rewards us with a future *Broadcaster* article.

Don Irish and your editor were asked by Ray Chase to see if we could restore a recent donation for display in the museum. The highboy was either an Edison 4R or 5R neodyne. I say "either" because we could not find a model number on the cabinet. However, its power unit was tagged as an "8P" and its separate receiver unit was tagged as a "7R." The 4R and 5R model radios and C4 phonograph are the only units with the 8P/7R combination. Somewhat interesting was the fact that the radio was not equipped with the "light-o-matic" tuning aid advertised with the 4R and 5R. This addition provided a crimson light that would flash when a favorite station, set by contacts on the dial drive, was tuned in.

The original owner said that the radio "did work at one time." The chassis was clean and in great shape so the radio showed good promise. Don and I performed the typical startup with a Variac

and lightbulb load but a bright light stopped our progress. We then removed all the tubes and decided to take some initial power transformer readings. After a few minutes, smoke seeping from the transformer enclosure stopped us in our tracks. We went on to take some resistance readings but ultimately determined that the high voltage winding was shorted.

Edison radios are somewhat sought after, basically because of the "Edison" name and the fact that the company was only in existence for three years. However, this presents a drawback since replacement parts, either NOS or used, are hard to come by. A decision was made to place the radio in storage until an 8P power chassis or individual power transformer could be located.

Don and I then went on to look at an Edison R2 that had been displayed in the museum for many years but had never been fully tested for operation. The R2 was a TRF set, and along with the R1 and C2, was a Splitdorf design which was placed in production in order to expedite getting Edison radios into the public's hands. It has a lever-type switch as part of the tuning knob with an "oscillating" and "non-oscillating" position. In the later position, a variable potentiometer is cut in and provides feedback from the detector plate to the 3rd RF amp; its shaft is directly connected to the volume control potentiometer so both operate at the same time. The Peerless electro magnetic/dynamic speaker is somewhat unusual with a one turn voice coil and single turn secondary on the output transformer to match. Finally, the radio uses the much sought after 250 on the output.

Upon examination, it appeared that the power transformer and a few other components had been replaced. A "safe startup" showed no issues and a wire antenna allowed the reception of a few stations but at relatively low volume. Tube testing found all tubes good (however, some were just above specification) except for a 26 (RF amp) with marginal emission. Replacing this 26 gave a slight increase in volume. We returned the chassis and speaker to its cabinet and the radio is back in the museum.

To deal with the volume issue, we are considering replacing the weaker RF amp 26's with tubes with better emission. I have also located R2 service bulletins that trace low volume to a) loose voice coil holding and contact bolts b) high resistance in the antenna and ground binding posts, and c) unbalanced RF circuits. We plan to look into these possibilities in the future.



The museum's Edison R2



Don Irish gives the Edison R2 its final checkout.

Don and I then went on to look at a 1936 Silvertone model 4586 console displayed in the museum but said not to work. The radio is a 10-tube superhet with AM, SW and Police bands and tuning eye tube. A "safe startup" showed no issues and the radio went on to pull in a few stations at relatively fair volume with a wire antenna. We let the radio stay energized for a few hours and by the end of the day it still seemed to be working well.

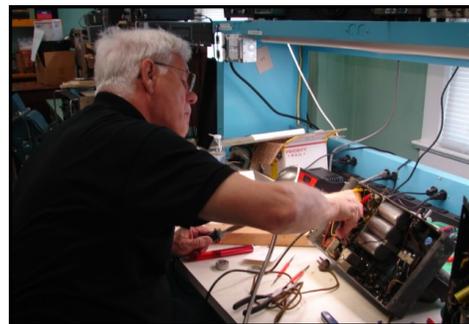
The following week, I was working alone and fired up the Silvertone prior to returning it to its cabinet. The only problem I found was that it still had a "scratchy" volume control which had been discovered the previous week, so I decided to give it a squirt of Deoxit. Immediately, there was a huge increase in volume and a few more stations were found on the dial. Apparently, oxidation of the volume control had significantly affected performance. The chassis and speaker was returned to its cabinet and the radio was replaced in the museum.



The system that Al Klase has established to run content to the museums' radios is a little involved to fully explain here, but after Al gave a few of us a crash course on the system, I found it to be quite unique and more comprehensive that I originally thought. Basically, a single cable from a distribution amplifier can supply to an individual radio both AM and SW transmissions picked up by a roof antenna or "canned" programs from CD's. Therefore, a radio connected to one of these cables can broadcast whatever is picked up by the antenna throughout its AM or SW bands or the radio can be tuned to pick up the CD program on a specific, clear frequency. The only drawback is that a specially built splitter is required to run more than one radio off each cable.

Al Klase had already built some splitters, but with the increase of more working radios to the museum, additional splitters would be required. Al came to the rescue on the August 2nd workday with a load of parts to meet our requirements and Don Irish went to work assembling the extra units to meet our needs.

Additional shop activities recently caught on camera include member Max Theis working on a Philco 16X console and Paul Hart, who I passed the baton to while taking on other projects, working on a Crosley grandfather clock radio.



There's also a lot of activities going on at the museum to upgrade its appearance and capacity. Bruce Ingraham and Bruce Williams have spent many a hot and humid afternoon restoring the walls of the museum's rear entrance. Phil Vourtsis and Harry began working on preparing the rear of the museum to accept new exhibits after the meeting area was moved to the old repair shop.

