



The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

August 2018

Volume 24 Issue 8



MEETING/ ACTIVITY NOTES

Reported by
Marv Beeferman

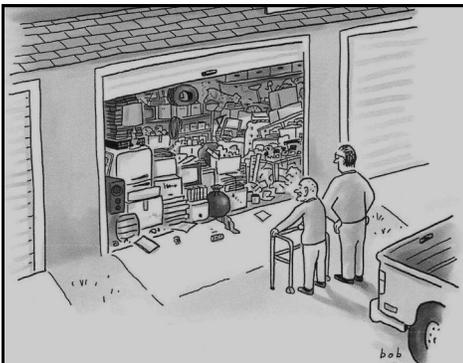
The ON-LINE Broadcaster

The *Jersey Broadcaster* is now on-line. Over 160 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. Be sure to include your full name.

In the April *Broadcaster*, I reported that I came across the posting of a handwritten note that a collector found inside a radio that he had purchased. The note read as follows:

"Sell for no less than \$15.00. Tubes alone are worth \$2.00 each. Parts and cabinet should be worth the other \$5.00 including old battery. Don't let any collector con you out of anything less than \$15.00."

A note like this seems to put Dave Sica's presentation at the July meeting in sharp focus. Dave gave us a very thorough and well-received talk on "Estate Planning for Radio Collectors." It concerned itself with the specific issues related to estate planning associated with dealing with your collection.



"One day Son all this will be yours."



MEETING NOTICE

The next NJARC meeting will take place on Friday, August 10th, at 7:30 PM at Princeton's Bowen Hall (70 Prospect Ave.). Directions may be found at the club's website (<http://www.njarc.org>). This month, the club's technical coordinator Al Klase, will offer a presentation that he calls "Practical Antenna Systems for the Radio Collector - Beyond Wire Antennas." In Al's words:

"A lot of us have acquired some really nice radios from the 1930's and then hang three feet of wire down the back of the table for an antenna. In this presentation, we'll take a look at antenna systems in general with an eye to modern solutions such as active antennas that better fit a 21st Century life style. Both commercial and homebrew setups will be considered."

Some of the more significant points of Dave's talk included the following:

- It may be a painful point to consider, but *only you* will love your collection.
- Think about selling some or all of your collection while you can.
- Dealing with a collection can be challenging. The executor of your will may not be familiar with or the value of the items; your executor may not be local to your collection; and, your executor may not have enough time or energy to deal with the numerous items in a large collection.
- Without a will or proper planning, under the best circumstances, your collection might be sold off at cents on the dollar or auctioned off in pieces.
- An important addition to your basic will is a written record of your collection called a personal property memorandum. It may be as simple as a list on a sheet of paper or as sophisticated as a detailed spreadsheet. You may also want to make a video recording or take photographs to document your collection.
- A typical spreadsheet may be downloaded from the NJARC website at:

<http://bit.ly/2NIUwYE>

Dave's entire presentation may be found at the following links:

<http://bitly/2vd7wgr>

<http://bit.ly/2LrjJJv>

The links also provide a compilation of other related topics and references including an estate planning kit, the importance of appraisal, creating and caring for a will, probate, insuring your collection and using barcodes.

Rain has been a constant threat over the last few weeks in the New Jersey area but once again our July 21st swapmeet at InfoAge beat the odds; in fact, the weather was quite pleasant. We maintained the same number of vendors as last year but the buyer count was significantly higher and the club netted \$563. Thanks go out to all our club volunteers who contributed their time and energy but Harry Klancer deserves a special acknowledgment for staying overnight at InfoAge so he could get things ready early in the morning, including putting on the coffee, for a smooth swapmeet start.

It was reported in the New York Post that RadioShack has signed a deal with HobbyTown USA to open "Express stores" inside 50 of its partner's stores. Potentially, these express stores could be opened in up to 100 of HobbyTown's 140 stores. If successful, they could expand to all the hobby chain's locations and bring the stores to more "suburban" towns.

HobbyTown is purchasing the RadioShack merchandise and offering it to its hobbyist customers who use the tools, wire and other accessories that RadioShack sold. The first store opening will be in Mooresville, NC; there is a Hobbytown located in the Byram Plaza Shopping Center in Stanhope, NJ but the total number of stores will probably pale to the more than 7,000 RadioShack stores which

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PRESIDENT:

Richard Lee (914)-589-3751
radiorich@prodigy.net

VICE PRESIDENT:

Sal Brisindi (732)-308-1748
salb203@optonline.net

SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Marv Beeferman (609)-693-9430
mbeeferman@verizon.net

TREASURER:

Harry Klancer (732)-238-1083
klancer2@comcast.net

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS (WEST):

Darren Hoffman (732)-928-0594
amcmataador@aol.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS (EAST):

Rotating

TRUSTEES:

Ray Chase (908)-757-9741
raydio862@verizon.net

Phil Vourtsis (732)-208-4284
pvourtsis@gmail.com

Bill Zukowski (732)-833-1224
n2yeg@optonline.net

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR:

Al Klase (908)-892-5465
al@ar88.net

TUBE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN:

Al Klase tubes@njarc.org

SCHEMATIC PROGRAM:

Aaron Hunter (609)-267-3065
ahunter01@comcast.net

CAPACITOR PROGRAM:

Matt Reynolds (567)-204-3850
mattr04@hotmail.com

RESISTOR PROGRAM:

(To be announced.)

WEB COORDINATOR:

Dave Sica (732)-382-0618
dave.sica@njarc.org
www.njarc.org

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Marsha Simkin (609)-660-8160
 33 Lakeland Drive
 Barnegat, N.J. 08005
mhsimkin@comcast.net

peaked in 1987.

There were a few minor corrections to the July issue that our "eagle eyed" proof reader Dave Sica brought to my attention:

- Corbett Klein's name was misspelled as "Corbert Klein."
- One of Dave Sica's pinball machines is a "Baffle Ball" not a "Babble Ball."
- Dave does not have a collection of opera laser discs; his remark was made in jest.

Upcoming Events

September 14 - Monthly meeting at InfoAge; John Ruccolo talk on communication receivers & transmitters

September 21-22 - Kutztown Antique Radio Meet

October 12 - Monthly meeting at Princeton; Mike Molnar talk on Jack Poppele and Radio Broadcasting in NJ

November 3 - Fall NJARC swapmeet/hamfest at Parsippany PAL

November 9 - Monthly meeting at InfoAge; Show & Tell and Hints & Kinks

November 17 - Fall Repair Clinic at InfoAge

December 15 - Holiday Party at West Lake Golf & Country Club, Jackson NJ

INTERNET ARCHEOLOGY

By
 Ray Chase

InfoAge is a WWII living memorial site and a designated National Landmark based on its radar history. Therefore it behooves us to preserve and display early radar artifacts. But today, where does one get them?

At the end of WWII, there was a mass rush to scrap out all useless, mostly obsolete military equipment. For the U.S. Navy there were those who wanted to preserve some of the ships; thus, there are many museum ships around the country and possibly some of their radars were saved. New Jersey has at least two. For communications equipment, there were legions of amateur radio operators who purchased radio equipment from the many surplus stores that sprung up (remember radio row on Cortland St. in New York City?). Besides, radios were

usually much smaller and could be useful as basic communications equipment for tens of thousands of Hams. Radar equipment was big and heavy and had no comparable peacetime use so off it went to the breakers.

So, what do we do in the 21st century to preserve the artifacts derived from the labors of those countless early engineers, workers and innovators who produced the wonders of radar and did so much to win our victory in the 20th century? And how do we preserve and display the history of Camp Evans?

"Radio Rows" across the country are now gone. The last remaining major surplus radar source, Radio Research Instruments in Waterbury, CT is gone; its 200,000 square feet of radar equipment sold for scrap. Five years ago, InfoAge was able to divert a couple of loads of equipment from them even as it was being hauled off to the scrappers, but that's another long story. One can probably count no more than half a dozen military museums with meaningful radar displays and another half dozen private collectors who have the energy and means to maintain personal collections.

One useful answer is to use the power of the internet to ferret out bits and pieces of military equipment that one way or another were accumulated in attics, barns or basements by WWII equipment collectors. This may not get us a complete system but enough bits and pieces can make a meaningful display. The on-line auction site E-Bay is also a prime source, but contact with other museums and internet reflector sites also provide rewarding opportunities. Newer social media sites can be useful as well. It also helps to have friends scattered around the country as a few following examples will show.

Some years ago, while trolling on ebay, I spied a BC-957-A indicator/receiver from the SCR-547 radar. This WWII set was often called the Mickey Mouse Radar because its two parabolic antennae looked like Mickey Mouse's ears. The item was in Oregon and was listed only for local pick-up due to its size and weight. The seller indicated that if there were no takers, it would go into the dumpster. That would be a nice item to have but Oregon is a long way off. Then I remembered that our good friend and honorary NJARC member Ludwell Sibley lives in Oregon. I contacted him and it turns out he was only about 20 miles from the seller. Lud offered to pick up the item and when I contacted the seller to make a deal, he was so thrilled that it was headed

to a museum, that he donated it for free. But then how to get it from Oregon?

Well, we have another local friend, Will Donzelli, who "wheels and deals" in all sorts of vintage radars and computers and makes an annual U.S tour to pick-up or deliver the results. While on a west coast leg of his trip, he agreed to make a detour to Oregon and bring the unit back to New Jersey where it is now on display in the hotel. What a good friend!

I have a daughter and grandchildren in MD and have been fortunate to combine visits with them to include the acquisition of artifacts that were advertised on e-bay and where local pick-up was either a condition of purchase or an option. As I indicated, WWII radar stuff was usually quite large and heavy. Looking at my records, I see that trips to MD have brought us a SCR-268 radar indicator, an APR-1 Electronic Warfare receiver and a PE-110-D power supply that was needed to complete a communication radio set already in the museum..

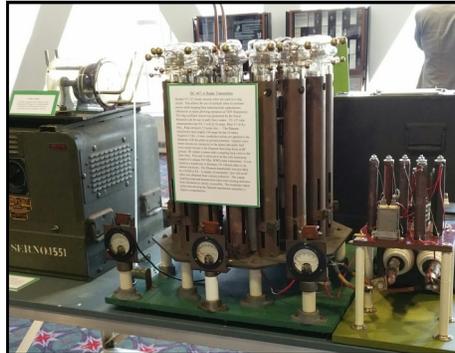
Probably the most significant find was a missing part for the SCR-268 radar transmitter that I was restoring after finding it in an old Boonton warehouse. This transmitter has three indicating meters mounted on large insulators because they are running at a very high voltage. One of the meter assemblies had been broken off and was missing. This bedeviled me as it would be very difficult to reproduce and its omission from the unit would spoil its display. Then, one day, "bingo"; someone on e-bay had a complete meter assembly for sale. The odds of this item showing up were extremely slim indeed, but I jumped on it and got it for a reasonable price. I figured who else would need or want it, but still there were a couple of other bidders.

By my quick count, InfoAge or I have acquired at least thirteen artifacts for display by these routes. One very heavy SCR-268 radar receiver was in South Carolina and the owner really wanted it to go to a good home. When I contacted him, he agreed to donate it. Our good friend John Dilks happened to be planning a trip to the Charlotte NC radio meet at about this time. The donor then agreed to transport it to a common meeting point and transfer it to John's vehicle. John then completed the delivery of the 60 pound receiver to the museum.

So, when compared to more traditional activities associated with uncovering relics and fossils like digging with shovels and carefully brushing away the dirt, modern archeology involves using the latest communications tool and networks of friends and enthusiasts.



John Dilks delivers an SCR-268 receiver to InfoAge.



The restored SCR-268 transmitter and its missing meter found on ebay.



An SCR-547 receiver/indicator in the InfoAge museum.

HAROLD WEBB INDUCTED INTO "WALL OF HONOR"

By
Marv Beeferman

On Saturday, July 28th, InfoAge held an awards reception for Wall of Honor inductees Felix Lavicka (Nuclear Testing and Analysis), Michael Ryan (Electronic Countermeasures) and Dr. Harold Webb (Project Diana). NJARC member Ray Chase provided a summary of Dr. Webb's work and welcomed his daughter Diana who accepted the award on her father's behalf. She introduced herself as "The Diana" of the moon bounce project and InfoAge site which her dad named after her. ("Diana" is the Greek goddess of the moon.)



Dr. Webb's daughter Diana accepts his Wall of Honor plaque from NJARC member Ray Chase. (Photo courtesy of Dave Sica.)

Just after the end of WWII, United States military leaders asked the U.S. Army Signal Corps to research the capabilities of long-range radar. The military wanted to learn whether it could be used to detect incoming ballistic missiles. The job was handed over to Colonel John DeWitt and his team of four scientists, including Dr. Webb, at the Evans Signal laboratory (presently InfoAge).

To address the challenge of the moon's distance and ability to detect a weak echo, the Diana team decided to generate a much longer radar pulse that lasted about a quarter of a second. One of the few existing high-power radar sets capable of generating such a long pulse had been developed by Major Edwin H. Armstrong. In fact, the radar frequency at which this set operated - 111 MHz - was slightly higher than today's FM broadcast band (88-108 MHz). Armstrong's set was used as a starting point for the project.

At moonrise on January 10, 1946, at

11:58 am, the radar oscilloscope showed clear deflections at a range of almost 238,000 miles. This was the echo from the moon.

Historians often point to Project Diana as the beginning of the United States' space program and mankind's first reach beyond the ionosphere to make contact with a non-terrestrial object. The feat excited the U.S. public as well as the international technical community.

Harold Webb continued work in ionospheric research, moon reflection and radio astronomy at the University of Illinois. He died on May 25th, 1989.



Project Diana staff (L to R): Jacob Mofsenon, Harold D. Webb, John DeWitt, Jr., E. King Stodola and Herbert Kaufman



Special radar antenna array of 64 dipoles. It could change azimuth but not elevation.

In addition to the awards, Ray Chase reports that another "job well done" was revealed during the Wall of Honor ceremony:

"As many of you know, when Sarnoff Labs in Princeton closed the Sarnoff Library, large portraits of Guglielmo Marconi and David Sarnoff were donated to InfoAge. The portrait of a young Marconi, probably done around 1916, was on display in the lobby of the hotel but has

been missing for awhile. The portrait had never been cleaned and somewhere along the way had sustained a small hole in the canvas. Through the diligent efforts of the InfoAge trustees, funding was obtained from a local art group to pay for a professional cleaning and restoration. That was accomplished and the 'new' Marconi portrait was unveiled at the recent Wall of Honor ceremony."



A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY FROM THE SUSSEX HAMFEST

By
Bob Bennett & Marv Beeferman

The story begins on July 15th with a call to member Matt Reynolds by someone asking if an NJARC member could restore a 1948 radio that was to be installed in a 1948 Tucker 1044. Matt provided the caller with the number for president Richard Lee. When Richard saw a Michigan number come up on his phone, he first thought it was just one of the numerous calls he gets each day asking for what a radio was worth, where to sell a collection, when and where is the next swap meet, etc.

The caller explained his problem - that he needed the radio restoration completed by July 23rd since the Tucker was ultimately going to a Pebble Beach show

for exhibition. Immediately, member Bob Bennett came to mind as a good candidate to tackle the job, but Richard explained that since the car was in Michigan, it would be difficult to complete the project in such a limited time. The caller responded that the Tucker was not in Michigan but was presently in the final steps of restoration at Ida Automotive in Morganville, New Jersey. Richard gave the caller Bob's contact information and, not catching his name at first, asked him who he was. "Oh, this is John Tucker, Jr., grandson of Preston Tucker."

The story continues in Bob's own words:

While driving home from the Sussex hamfest, my phone vibrated twice but I did not answer since I was focused on my driving and wanted to get home safely. I was so tired when I got home that I forgot to check my messages. On the following Monday morning, I found this on my email:

Hi Bob

I hope you got my phone message. I need some help with a Motorola 708 radio that is going in a 1948 Tucker. Please give me a call or email me.

All the best,
John Tucker Jr

At first, I thought this may have been a practical joke, but when I called John back, I found him to be completely legitimate. John is the grandson of Preston Tucker, the man who developed and produced the Tucker automobile.

John came over to my home and he was a pleasure to talk to. He was happy to find someone who could restore the radio so quickly since the car restoration was being completed as we talked. I gave him the nickel tour of my radios as well as my '67 Buick wagon. I wanted to make him feel at ease, and I learned much about the car as well as his grandfather.

I had to find out two important things. First, does the car use a positive or negative six volt ground and second, what is the time frame for completion? I was informed that the ground was positive and I had one week to do the job!

Now about the radio itself. The Motorola 708 series of radios were given to dealers, and sometimes directly to buyers, so the radio could be installed after the car was completed. I did some research and found that they were also used on 1941-1947 Plymouth, Chrysler, Dodge and DeSoto cars. The radio was mounted under the dash with a remote head using two cables - one for volume and one for

tuning.

The radio has some interesting features. To manually tune, the "T" button must be depressed. For tuned presets, the U, C, K, E or R buttons must be held down for a few seconds to memorize that station. This is achieved with a solenoid on the chassis that rotates a switch to a position after the tuning has been completed and memorized. The volume control also has a solenoid for tone control. You depress the volume control and rotate a three-position switch for the desired tone. This was your 1948 graphic equalizer.

The radios' eight tubes tested good but "surgery" involved lots of testing and parts replacement. Following an alignment and over three hours of bench burn-in, I gave the radio my seal of approval. (Editor's Note: Bob is very modest in describing the work he performed on this radio; he really put his heart and soul in it. There's a lot more to be told and the "rest of the story" will be revealed at the August meeting.)

I am happy this went well for myself and for the club. A shout-out goes to member Sal Brisindi - your shrink tubing made it into the radio! John Tucker Jr. told me he will let me know when the car restoration is finally completed so I can see it before being shipped to Pebble Beach for its showing.



"Lots of testing and replacing parts."



From the Vanderbilt Cup website: "Fortunately, John Tucker, Jr. (right) has friends with the New Jersey Antique Radio Club. When John approached the club, they immediately joined the Tucker 1044 restoration team. The radio is now working and somehow broadcasting 1948 radio shows!"



Continued on next page.



The Motorola 708 (left) used in 1941-1947 Plymouths, Chryslers, Dodges and DeSotos. The Tucker radio is similar but has a different head and has a hammertone, copper finish.



Tucker 1044 completing restoration at Ida Automotive in Morganville, NJ.



"The radio has some interesting features."

CALM WEATHER GREET'S BUYERS & SELLERS
By Marv Beeferman

With cooperative weather and a nice turnout, our summer swapmeet met all the standards for a pleasant Saturday morning. Some of the activity and offerings are presented in the following photos.



SHOP TALK

By
Marv Beeferman

Editors Note: Limited space requires moving Part III of my article on the Pressley Superhet to next month...stay tuned.

Wednesday work days at the our Vintage Radio Repair shop run the gamut from the mundane to the engaging. Once in a while, it's nice to recognize our contributors and volunteers.

Our museum's Zenith 10-H-573 went on the fritz so Paul Hart brought it home for a full recap and some additional work. It was reassembled in the shop with the help of Len Newman and is now back in the museum to be enjoyed by our visitors.



Sometimes, we wind up with some strange donations. In a box of mixed parts was something called a Kraus magnetlampe. The magnetlampe was a hand-powered dynamo flashlight used by German soldiers in WWI. It was worn on a cord around the neck. Pulling the pull-chain one time spun a flywheel which turned a miniature dynamo to generate enough electricity to light a small incandescent bulb on the front of the device for about 5 seconds. It is one of the first examples of a hand-powered flashlight. (Continued on pg. 8.)



The German Dynamo Flashlight is Shown at the Left as Worn upon the Soldier's Breast. At the Right, the Covers have been Removed to Show the Rear, Above, and the Front, Below. A Sharp Pull on the Ring will Keep the Bulb Lit for a Number of Seconds.

WREP
WHEN RADIO ENTERTAINED PEOPLE

AUGUST 29, 7:00 PM

Join WREP for an afternoon of old time radio programs with live actor's and sound effects. The 33rd broadcast will feature performances of Ellery Queen, Johnny Got His Gun, and Baby Snooks and Daddy.

Please register - 732-349-6200 | theoceancountylibrary.org

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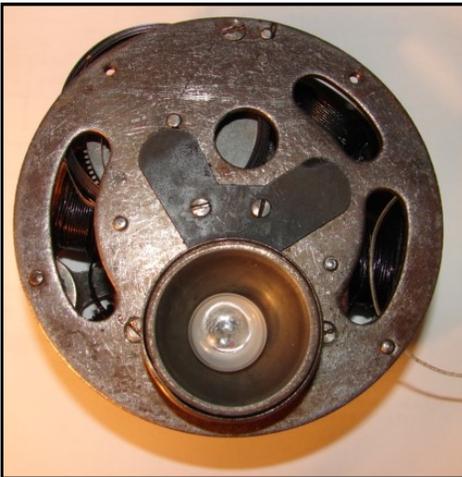
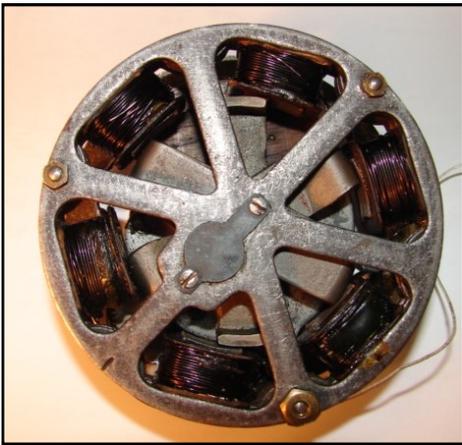
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Free, upcoming event at the Toms River Ocean County Library. Register at 732-349-6200/ theoceancountylibrary.org.

Ever wonder what tube costs were some 80 years ago? This price list card was found in an old tube tester donated to the club. An 01A for \$.80 or a 45 for \$1.00 are quite removed from today's NIB asking prices...look them up.

PRICE LIST				PRICE LIST				PRICE LIST			
TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE
01A	\$.80	2A7S	\$2.50	6E6	\$2.00	6V6G	\$1.75	32	\$1.75	57S	\$1.75
02A	1.50	2B7	1.75	6E7	2.00	6V7G	1.50	33	1.50	58	1.25
0Z4G	1.50	2B7S	2.50	6F5	1.25	6X5	1.50	34	1.75	58AS	1.75
1A1	1.50	2E5	1.50	6F5G	1.25	6X5G	1.50	35/51	1.25	58S	1.75
1A4P	1.75	2S/4S	2.75	6F6	1.50	6Y5	2.00	35A5	1.50	59	2.00
1A4T	1.50	2Z2/G84	2.00	6F6G	1.50	6Y6G	2.25	35S/51S	1.50	71A	1.00
1A5G	2.25	5U4G	1.50	6F7	2.00	6Y7G	1.50	35Z3	1.50	75	1.25
1A6	1.75	5V4G	2.50	6F7S	2.00	6Z5	2.00	36	1.25	75S	1.75
1A7G	2.25	5W4	1.00	6F8G	1.50	7A6	1.50	37	1.00	76	.80
1B1	1.50	5X4G	1.50	6G6	2.25	7A7	1.50	38	1.25	77	1.50
1B4P	2.25	5Y3G	1.00	6H6	1.25	7A8	1.50	39/44	1.25	78	1.25
1B5/25S	1.25	5Y4G	1.00	6H6G	1.25	7B7	1.50	40	1.00	79	1.50
1C5G	2.25	5Z3	1.25	6J5	1.50	7C6	1.50	41	1.25	80	.80
1C6	1.75	5Z4	2.00	6J5G	1.50	7Y4	1.50	42	1.25	81	2.25
1C7G	2.25	6	1.50	6J7	1.50	10	2.75	43	1.50	82	1.50
1D1	1.50	6A3	2.00	6J7G	1.50	12A	1.00	45	1.00	83	1.75
1D5GP	2.25	6A4/LA	1.50	6K5G	1.50	12A5	2.25	46	1.50	83V	2.25
1D5GT	2.25	6A6	1.75	6K6G	1.50	12A7	2.25	47	1.50	84	1.75
1D7G	1.75	6A7	1.50	6K7	1.50	12Z3	1.50	48	4.00	85	1.25
1E1	1.50	6A7S	1.50	6K7G	1.50	15	2.25	49	1.25	85AS	1.75
1E5GP	2.25	6A8	2.50	6K8	1.75	19	1.50	50	2.50	89	1.50
1E7G	2.75	6A8G	1.50	6L5G	2.25	20	2.25	53	2.00	V99	1.50
1F4	1.50	6B4G	2.00	6L6	2.25	22	2.00	55	1.50	99	1.50
1F5G	2.25	6B5	2.25	6L6G	2.50	24A	1.25	55S	1.75	182B	2.00
1F6	2.25	6B6G	Same as Type 6Q7G	6L7	1.75	24S	1.50	56	.80	183	2.00
1F7G	2.25	6B7	1.50	6L7G	1.75	25A6	1.50	56AS	1.50	210-T	2.75
1G1	1.50	6B7S	2.50	6N6G	2.25	25A6G	1.50	56S	1.50	485	2.00
1H5G	2.00	6B8	1.75	6N7	1.75	25A7G	2.25	57	1.25	864	2.00
1H4C	1.00	6B8G	1.75	6N7G	1.75	25B6G	1.75	57AS	1.75		
1H5G	2.25	6C5	1.25	6P7G	2.25	25L6	2.25				
1H6G	1.75	6C5G	1.25	6Q7	1.50	25L6G	2.25				
1J6G	1.50	6C6	1.25	6Q7G	1.50	25Z5	1.25				
1K1	1.50	6C7	2.00	6R7	1.50	25Z6	1.50				
1N5G	2.25	6C8G	1.50	6R7G	1.50	25Z6G	1.50				
1V	1.25	6D6	1.25	6S7G	2.25	26	.80				
2A3	2.50	6D7	2.00	6T7G	2.25	27	.80				
2A5	1.25	6D8G	2.25	6U5/6G5	1.50	27S	1.25				
2A6	1.25	6E5	1.50	6U7G	1.50	30	1.00				
2A7	1.50			6V6	1.75	31	1.00				

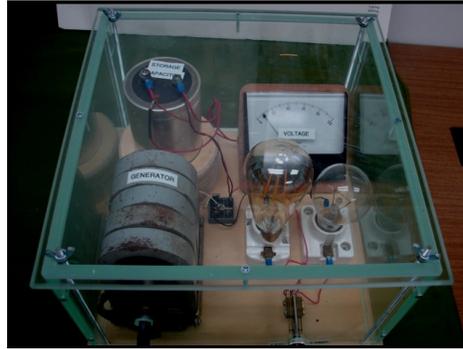
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Don Irish was able to get the magnet-lampe to spin but he couldn't get the lamp to light.

In the July *Broadcaster*, Leo Assur described one of his "alternate collection" activities as repurposing discarded items. In one of his creations, by using a telephone generator, capacitor, meter and an incandescent and LED lamp, Leo created a device that demonstrated the difference between the effort (turns of the generator handle) required to maintain the illumination provided by each lamp. At 50 turns, the generator produces about 100 volts. Leo was kind enough to donate the device

to our "hands-on" room. It first needed some shop work by Harry Klancer and Ray Chase to safely enclose it in a see-thru case and label each component.



If you plan to participate in our Wednesday workdays in the shop, don't expect to sit idle and shoot the breeze. There is always something for you to do. Below, Jules Bellisio assembles interface modules for the museum's new speaker demonstration display.



Sometimes our members are very generous with their support for the shop. Recently, Robert Forte donated a group of four pieces of vintage test equipment to be used for our recreation of a 1930's radio repair shop. You usually don't find such pieces in the great condition in which Robert donated them, especially with their original test leads and instruction manuals. Included was a Readrite Model 431 tube tester, a Mack tube checker, a Dayrad Type 330 multi-frequency test oscillator and a Precision Series 852 voltmeter.

Harry Klancer has already built a wooden test bench at the rear of the shop which duplicates, in a way, the typical benches from the 30's era. We plan to populate it with test equipment, tools, manuals, service advertising and other items that a technician might use in his daily repair activities. However, in addition to a historical display, the bench will afford a clear area to supplement the other benches in the shop where members will be able to work on museum and personal projects.

