

# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

October 2022

Volume 28 Issue 10



## MEETING/ ACTIVITY NOTES

**Reported by  
Dave Sica**

The *Jersey Broadcaster* is distributed to members via email as a PDF file. Back issues of many of our newsletters are available on the club's website:

<http://www.njarc.org/broadcaster/>

“The heavier the better” is the motto of NJARC member John Rucolo. And they don't come much heavier than the two subjects of our September meeting. At the meeting, John pitted a Hallicrafters SX-28 against an RCA AR-88 in “A Tale of Two Radios.”

John's presentation offered an overview of the differences between these two high-quality WWII-era communications receivers. As well as an introduction to the various features and benefits of such high-end radios.

The presentation is available on [YouTube](#).

## Sams Photofacts

Don't forget: the club has a complete library of the early Sams Photofacts folders, all digitized, inventoried and searchable. This member benefit is available in a password-protected area of our website. For access, contact club president Richard Lee.



## MEETING NOTICE

This month's NJARC meeting will take place on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at Princeton University in Bowen Hall. See [www.njarc.org](http://www.njarc.org) for details. The meeting topic will be “Just before Television” by Mike Molnar. The meeting will also be livestreamed on YouTube. Our Fall repair clinic will take place on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Make your reservation now with [Richard Lee](#).

## From the President's Workbench

By Richard Lee

Greetings Fellow Enthusiasts!

Just some musings from last month's Kutztown Antique Radio Show XLVI [46].

It was the best weather I can remember for this show! Both pavilions were full. Sadly, the usual well-restored DVHRC raffle radio was not available at this show. There were lots of buyers present. But...I heard some “grumbling” about poor sales. I was a vendor, and I did well. So I asked a few grumbling vendors who I know, are you “diversified”? No, not to do with their

personal IRA portfolios, we don't want to go there right now! Diversified in this case means “Are you trying to sell a table full of brown postwar bakelite radios?” Or “is your table littered with ‘kinda working’ classic test equipment?”

If so...you need to Diversify! Bring wooden radios, books, parts, manuals, working test equipment, amplifiers, plastic radios, tubes, turntables, fans, Boat Anchors, ephemera and some interesting Junque to sell! That's what it takes to be a “diversified” vendor at the Kutztown Radio Show or any other antique radio show. And stop grumbling!



**THE JERSEY BROADCASTER**

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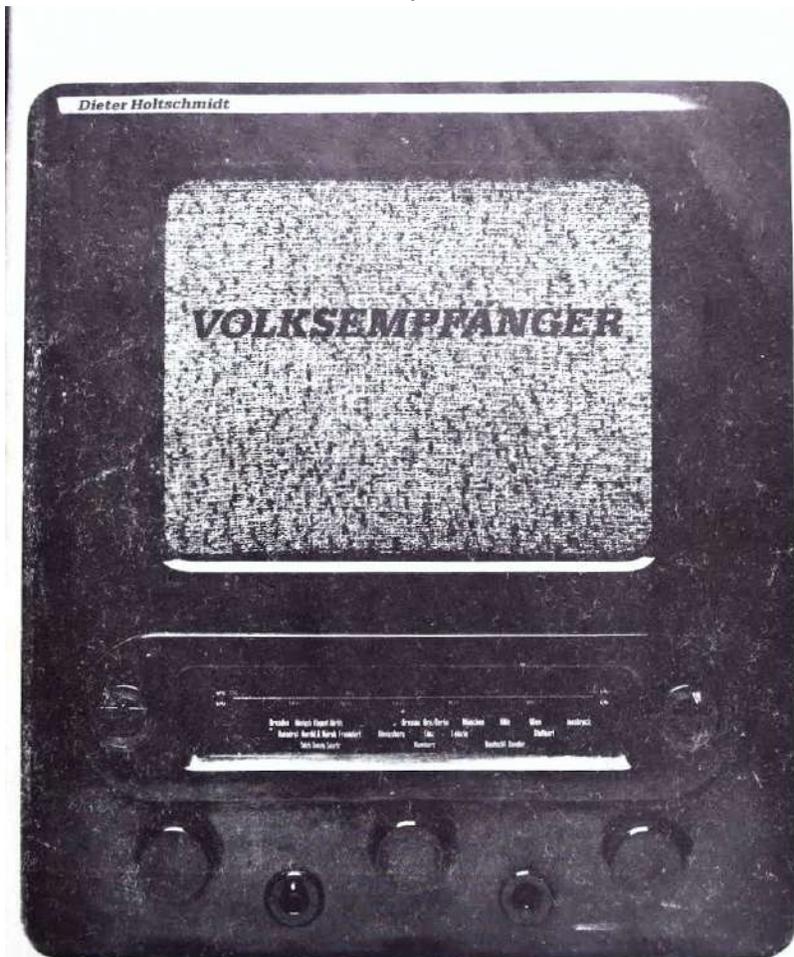
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**And Now the Rest of the Story**

By Rob Forte

Bill Zukowski's article two months ago on his VE 301 dyne W was both informative and interesting, but I would like to complete the story of these VOLKSEMPFANGER's, or people's radios.

In 1932, German radio broadcasting was placed under the control of the Nazi party, or the Nationalist Socialist German Workers Party. Joseph Goebbels, the propaganda minister, knew that to train, propagandize, and have the people submit to the Nazi doctrines, radio broadcasting to the populace was the key. And just broadcasting this propaganda was not enough as the people had to have radios to listen to these broadcasts. So in 1933, a government edict was declared to have every household have a radio within five years.



***Geschichte und Technik der Gemeinschaftsgeräte***

Twenty-eight radio manufacturers in Germany were organized to build a standard regenerative designed set (VOLKSEMPFÄNGER, or people's radio). They were cheap, abundant, and simple. They could be purchased outright, or on an eighteen-month instalment plan paid through the electric bill. The German courts ruled these radios could not be repossessed as they were an essential instrument of educational, economic and political importance.

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## The Rest of the Story

(Continued)



Tag given with radios warning to listen to only German radio stations (under severe penalties if tuned to other stations).

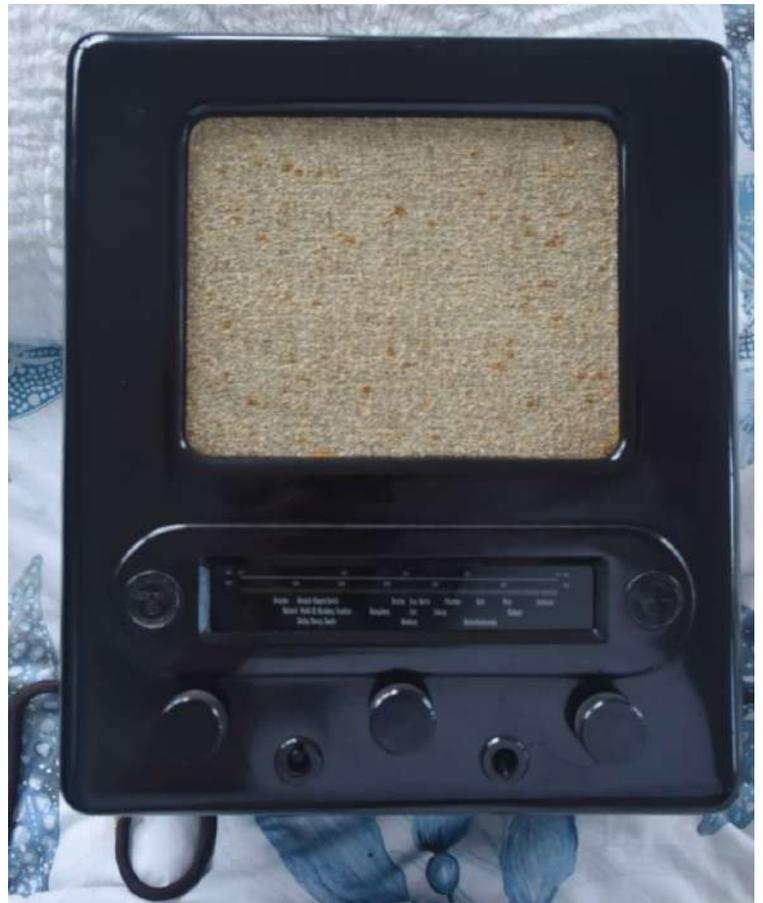
Finally, the model #3 was the DKE, (Deutsch Kleiner Empfennger) the “German Peoples Small Radio”. The set was smaller, half the cost to build than the VE 301 dyne, and simpler in design, with one rectifier tube, one dual-purpose detector and an audio amp tube. It worked on 100-240 volts AC/DC thru various taps. In all, by the end of 1942, 15 million of these three models were produced. Other radios were also made, superhets, larger sets, portable sets, accessories, and in 1939, even a television set. But these three models were the mainstay for Nazi Germany.

Tags were placed on these sets (see photo) which read “The reception of foreign radio stations is a crime against the national security of our people. It is punishable by several years of penitentiary, by the order of our leader.” So if you were listening to a non-German station, it behooved you to tune back to a German station after you were thru, lest an unannounced visit by the Gestapo land you in prison for having disobeyed the tag!

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There were three basic models. The first, the VE 301 was produced in 1933. The 301 stood for the 30th of January, (1) 1933, It was a cathedral-type design, regenerative, transformer coupled to a pentode audio amp. An updated version had a screen grid detector, which with its greater gain eliminated the interstage transformer; now it was R/C coupled. The second set, the VE 301 dyne was introduced in 1938. It had a slide rule dial, a better loudspeaker and better sensitivity. It was more expensive to produce. The W model had a transformer and was AC-powered only. The GW model eliminated the transformer and worked on AC/DC with steps from 100 to 250 volts.





### The Rest of the Story

(Continued)



DKE: the last and cheapest radio made. 2 tubes, regen.



Antenna Tuner accessory on DKE



VE 301 dyne GW.

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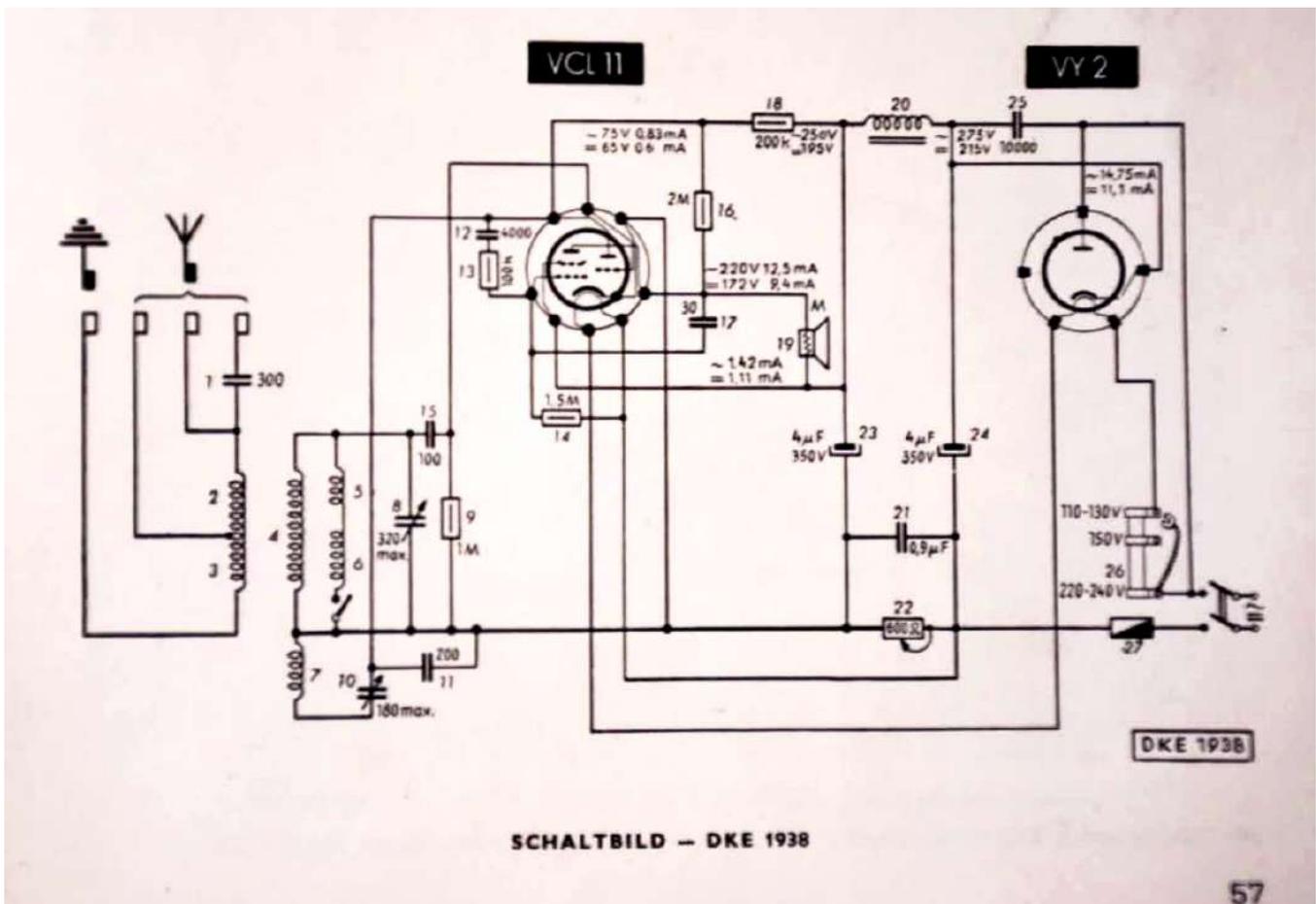
The Rest of the Story  
(Continued)



Note the swastikas



Portable radio

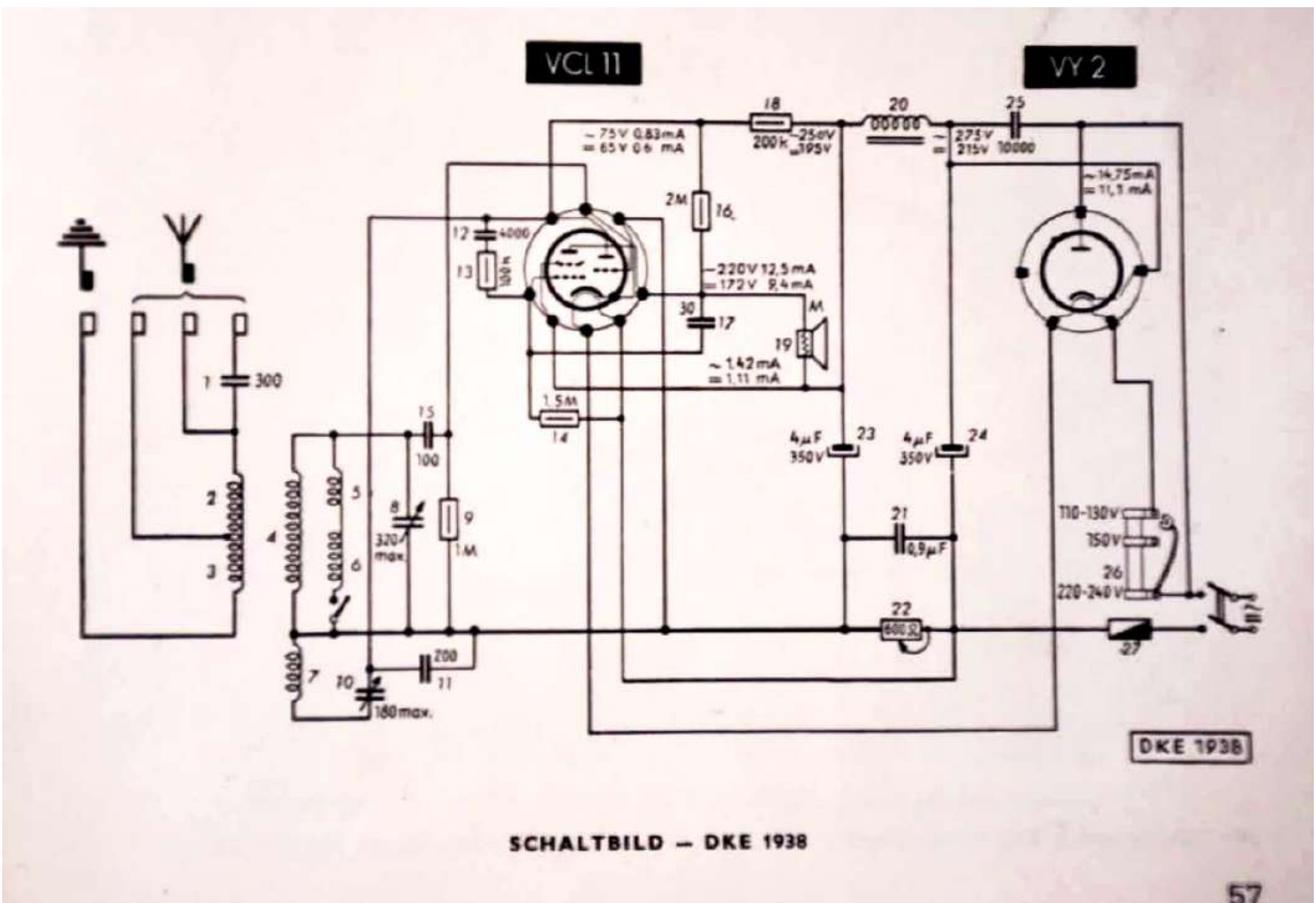


Schematic of DKE. 2 tubes.  
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### The Rest of the Story (Continued)



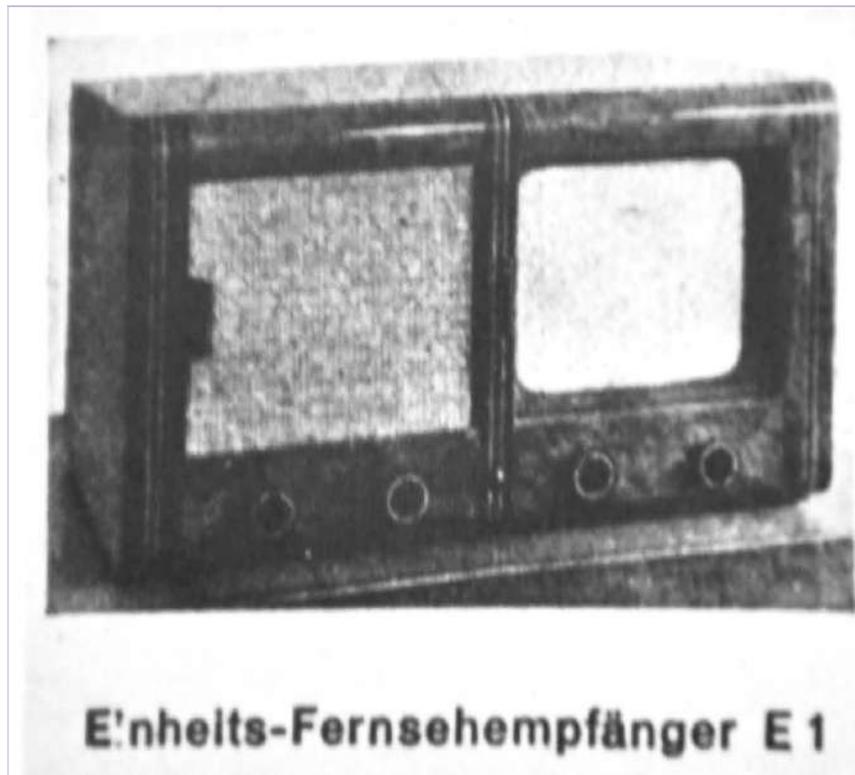
Set of all tubes used in the DKE and VE301 dyne; right tube is ballast tube.



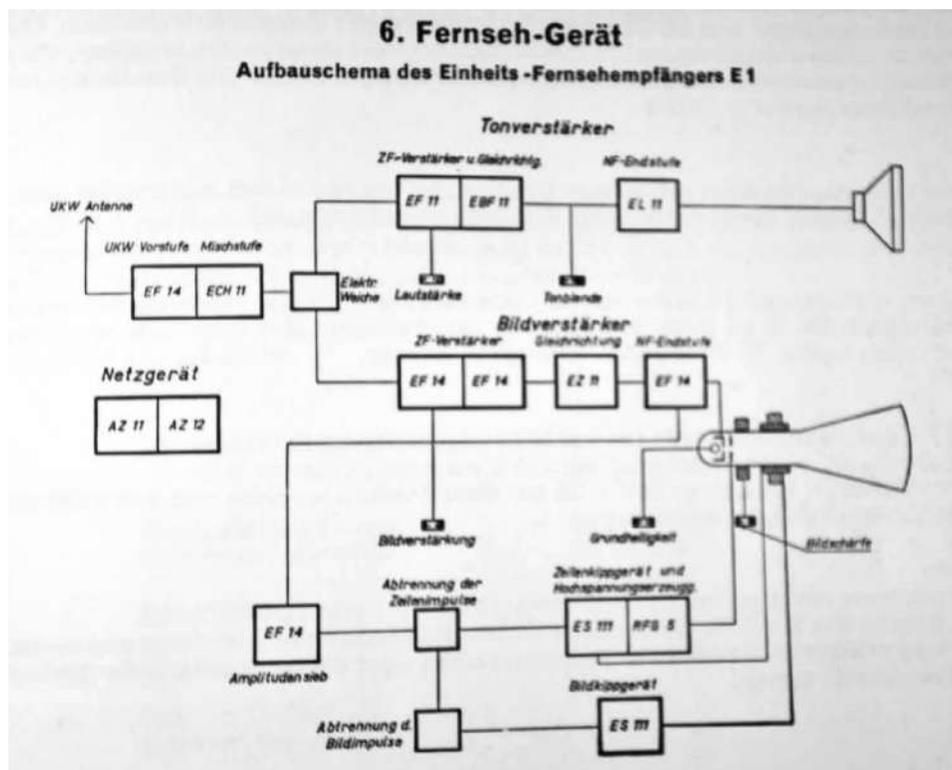
Schematic of DKE. 2 tubes.

# The Rest of the Story

(Continued)



Early TV, circa 1939.



Block diagram of TV

## From My Collection: Halloween Postcards with a Radio Theme

Marsha Simkin



Vintage radio-themed Halloween postcards by Ellen Clappsaddle. Clappsaddle was a prolific postcard and greeting card illustrator. These were published by the Wolf Publishing Co as part of their Series 31. The only one with a date was mailed in 1924.

### Resources

Marsha Simkin Collection

[vintagehalloweencards.blogspot.com/p/clapsaddle.html](http://vintagehalloweencards.blogspot.com/p/clapsaddle.html)

## Museum Musings

Ray Chase

The museum staff puts in a lot of hours and labor in maintaining an interesting and informative museum, especially for young people. Once in a while, we get recognized for our efforts.

Early this month InfoAge received the following letter addressed to the Radio Technology Museum from a local Grandmother.

*Gentlemen:*

*"I visited InfoAge for the second time on August 3 with my grandson, Dominic.*

*He loved all the exhibits but was particularly fascinated with your Radio Technology Museum.*

*He actually said he would like to "pick up the building and put it in my backyard so I can visit every day".*

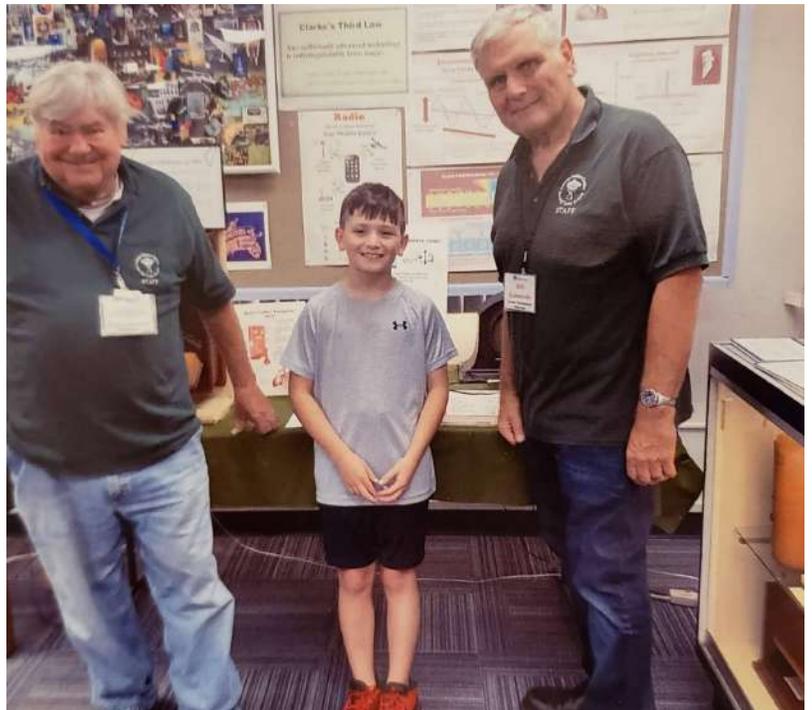
*I can't express my gratitude to all your volunteers who spend so much of their time, especially Bill Zukowski, Jules (Bellisio) and Dave {Snellman}. Your knowledge and patience with him were deeply appreciated.*

*We will be back to visit again.*

*Please accept this small donation in Dominic's name".*

*Regards,*

She enclosed a nice picture of Dominic standing between Jules and Bill.



Another interaction occurred as follows:

A woman called InfoAge regarding an upcoming Radio Repair clinic that she heard about. The call was referred to me so I contacted her. She explained that her 14-year-old son loves old things that they obtain when she takes him antique shopping. They have been to our museum several times and noticed the record players that we have. Seems that her son had acquired two wind-up record players and needed some help repairing them. She was wondering if he could bring them to the repair clinic.

I contacted our expert Aaron Hunter to find out if he would consider coming to the repair clinic for this person. Aaron suggested that spring wound motors might be a problem at the repair clinic because of possible flying springs and usually grease is involved plus he has all his tools and parts at home. But, he would be willing to help them at his home. The family was reasonably close to Aaron's place so I put them in contact with each other and a meeting was arranged. As a result, the young antique collector left with one machine working with a new spring while the second machine only needed some proper guidance on how to use it from Aaron so all were happy. Aaron was particularly happy to find a teenager deeply interested in what is usually a geezer's hobby.

NJARC comes through again!

## A Trip With Dick

Aaron Hunter

The accompanying picture reminds me of a trip with Dick (Richard) Hurff to the Kutztown Radio show one year.

Before we left, I asked if he checked the tire pressure in his customized? ( LOL) motorhome. Dick assured me the tires were fine as he checked them the previous year. On the drive home from Kutztown, he had a flat on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. We limped off the turnpike near Quakertown and got out the jack and wrenches.

His jack was a bottle jack that was half way extended for who knows how many years. And it would not retract! I had to put it under the leaf spring to get the flat tire (dual rear) off the pavement. The spare was mounted to the back of the motorhome, flat with rusted studs. He had a breaker bar and socket to fit, but no extension so we had no leverage to remove the nuts, deep in the rim.

Called for help and explained we also needed to inflate a tire. A Mini Cooper shows up with no air, but he was able to remove the spare from the back. He mounted it in place of the blown tire and told us to drive to the nearby Wawa to inflate the tire. Of course, driving over there broke the bead on the flat spare and it refused to air up. I removed the flat spare so we could drive for help, with half a dual.

We made our way to a Pep Boys store a few miles away and asked the tire experts to inflate it. They couldn't get the bead to seal and therefore could not inflate it. I asked if he had the bead expanding tool and he had no idea what I was talking about. I don't know what the proper name is for this strap.

We gave up and called my wife to come get us. On the way home, I realized I could have purchased a cargo strap in the store to expand the tire. When we got home, I immediately put one on and inflated the tire. The next day, Dick and I returned to the abandoned motorhome and mounted the tire. We made it back home without further incident except Dick started heading for Harrisburg instead of NJ! I was following behind in his car and unable to navigate for him. LOL.





## New Jersey Antique Radio Club's

### Fall Swap Meet and Ham Fest



Parsippany PAL Building  
33 Baldwin Road  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
Just off Route 46,  
Adjacent to Smith Field



## Saturday November 19th, 2022



#### Refreshments Available

(40) 8 Foot Tables

\$30.00 for members

\$35.00 for non-members

Reserve Additional tables \$25.00

At the door \$30.00

### Open to the Public

8am to 12 noon

Vendor setup at 7:15am

\$7.00 Entrance Fee

Club Donation

### For Directions

Visit our website: [www.njarc.org](http://www.njarc.org)

or use your favorite phone app

33 Baldwin Road  
Parsippany NJ 07054

### Vendors Make Your Reservation Now!

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