



The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

January 2013

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

www.njarc.org/broadcaster/

Meeting Notice

The first meeting of the new year will take place this Friday, January 13 at Info-Age. The meeting topic will feature our annual Members-only Auction. Al Klase will also discuss the 2023 Broadcast Band DX Contest. He'll review the rules and offer tips for getting the highest possible score. REMEMBER! 2023 dues are due. Only members in good standing are eligible to participate in the auction, so don't forget to renew your membership, either at the meeting or ahead of time [online](#).

Meeting Review

Our December meeting was, as usual, our Holiday Party meeting. Hosted at the beautiful West Lake Country Club in Jackson, NJ. The event featured a cocktail hour, a delicious sit-down dinner, and entertainment in the form of our Holiday Grab Bag gift exchange.

The 2022 Holiday Party celebrated the 30 year anniversary of the club, which was formed in 1992. Marsha Sim-

From the President's Workbench

Greetings Fellow Enthusiasts.

Well, first, let's have a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year!

I recently embarked on a repair adventure (perhaps more appropriate of the attentions of club member, Fred Wawra) but let me tell you about my 45 minute "antique" electric clock repair. Hanging on my shop wall, I have a circa 1951 G.E. model 2H20 Electric Clock made in Ashland Mass. In antique clock collecting circles, it's known as the "Epicure" Kitchen Wall Clock, with the ubiquitous Telechron motor movement. I have no idea where I got it, nor how long I've had it, but it's been functioning forever... until a week ago. I notice it slowing down with a distinct hum, then a louder hum, a grinding sound and finally it stopped.



kin, as a founding member of the club, kicked off the program by offering some remembrances of Tony Flanagan, the founder of the club. Dave Sica, another founding member, also talked briefly about Tony and the earliest days of the fledgling NJARC. Dave also ran a few minutes of our 10th anniversary video that discussed the very beginnings of the club.

Then it was time for the Gift Exchange. The gift exchange, a highlight of our holiday get-togethers for many years, is a chaotic swirl of thoughtful gift giving, treacher-

OK, what to do? I go to YouTube of course."If I can do it, you can do it" is the motto of the South Main Auto Repair Channel. So I too can do it! I have little interest in clocks, I just want to look up from the bench to see if it's lunch time yet! So I reviewed half a dozen electric clock restoration videos.

Due to time constraints, I decided not to follow the purist methods of removing the Telechron motor and either baking or boiling it in sewing machine oil, then cooling it in the fridge.

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Meeting Review

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ous conniving, chicanery and outright thievery. And a good time was had, as usual, by (mostly) all.



A big “thank you” to our hosts, Bill and Lynn Zukowski who, as West Lake residents, arranged for our use of the facility.

A recap of the event is featured on *RadioWild's* [You-](#)



[Tube channel](#). Thanks to Bob and Sharon Bennett for providing video coverage. The event was also broadcast live on the NJARC YouTube channel and several members who weren't able to attend in person ‘tuned in’ to join us virtually. You can view a recording of the broadcast [here](#).

And On Another Front

The Hudson Valley Antique Radio & Phono Society held it's annual Holiday Party one day earlier than the



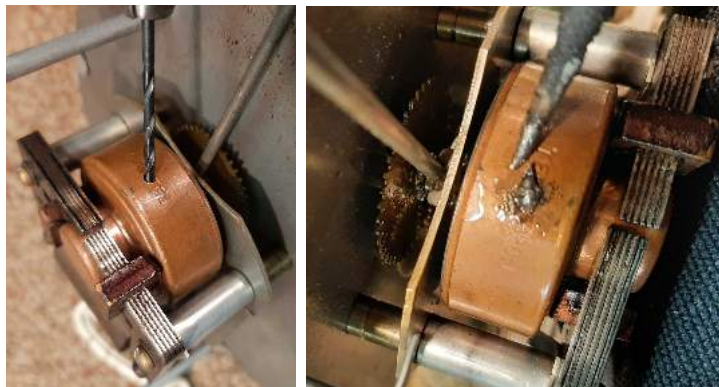
NJARC party, and with a lot less pomp and circumstance. It was however, as always, a thoroughly enjoyable event.

The President's Workbench

(Continued from page 1)

I chose the rookie method and just drilled a hole in it! Yes, a 1/16th” hole just large enough to insert my needle point container of light machine oil. I “calculated” six drops would be sufficient.

I cleaned and sanded around the hole and patched it quickly with my soldering iron. Since I had the plaskon clock case apart, I felt obligated to clean it with my go-to



cleaner: Spray Nine. It's always good to have your clock



cleaned, every-so-often.

As you can see in the photo to the left, the clock is back on my shop wall, quietly keeping time again!

— President Rich



RTM Year End Report

By Ray Chase

The year 2022 was by all measures a banner year for our Radio Technology Museum (RTM.)



The number of visitors coming through was higher than it has ever been in the past. Certainly, the relaxation of COVID protocols was a factor, but better marketing by InfoAge is paying off, and the word is finally getting out that this is a good place to visit. We are seeing more repeat visitors and are getting good verbal feedback from visitors and good online reviews at [Google](#), [Yelp](#), [Facebook](#) and elsewhere.

At times, we were hard-pressed to schedule enough historians to provide guidance, but our stalwart staff stepped up to the challenge. There was a pronounced increase in the number of school groups that at times necessitated manning the museum for extended hours or on special days. We often need to accommodate school schedules. We'd welcome more of you club members joining the staff; it's very rewarding as well as fun. C'mon down!

It was an especially active year for adding new displays as well as improving existing ones. Our staff of "idea inventors," Al Klase, Harry Klancer, Jules Belisio and others were busy creating and building new learning attractions. Our foray into the history of telephone communications was enhanced by the addition of a working telephone booth and other exhibits. Harry was determined that he was going to take an



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RTM Year End Report (Continued)

ugly red-painted wooden telephone booth and restore it to its original stained finish. After many hours of work, months later it was completed and it is a treasure. Darren Hoffmann supplied a working pay phone to complete it. (Guests can use it without having to ‘drop a dime.’)

Bob Maddox brought in a 1910 French phone that his father brought back from Vietnam but that was seriously damaged from poor long-term storage. However, Jules said he could fix it and he did, albeit using some newer internal parts; while our ace restorer of almost anything, Bruce Ingraham magically made it look like new. It is possibly the first telephone instrument that combines the transmitter and receiver in a single hand-piece. And it works, as all our telephones do.



But the most significant item in the telephone area is the display that demonstrates the central station relay mechanism that supports dial system calling as it was when introduced in the 1930s. Again, Jules took this under his wing and got it configured and working with several original rotary dial phone instruments. Visitors can use it to make a call to another nearby phone while watching the mechanism that does the job to complete the call.

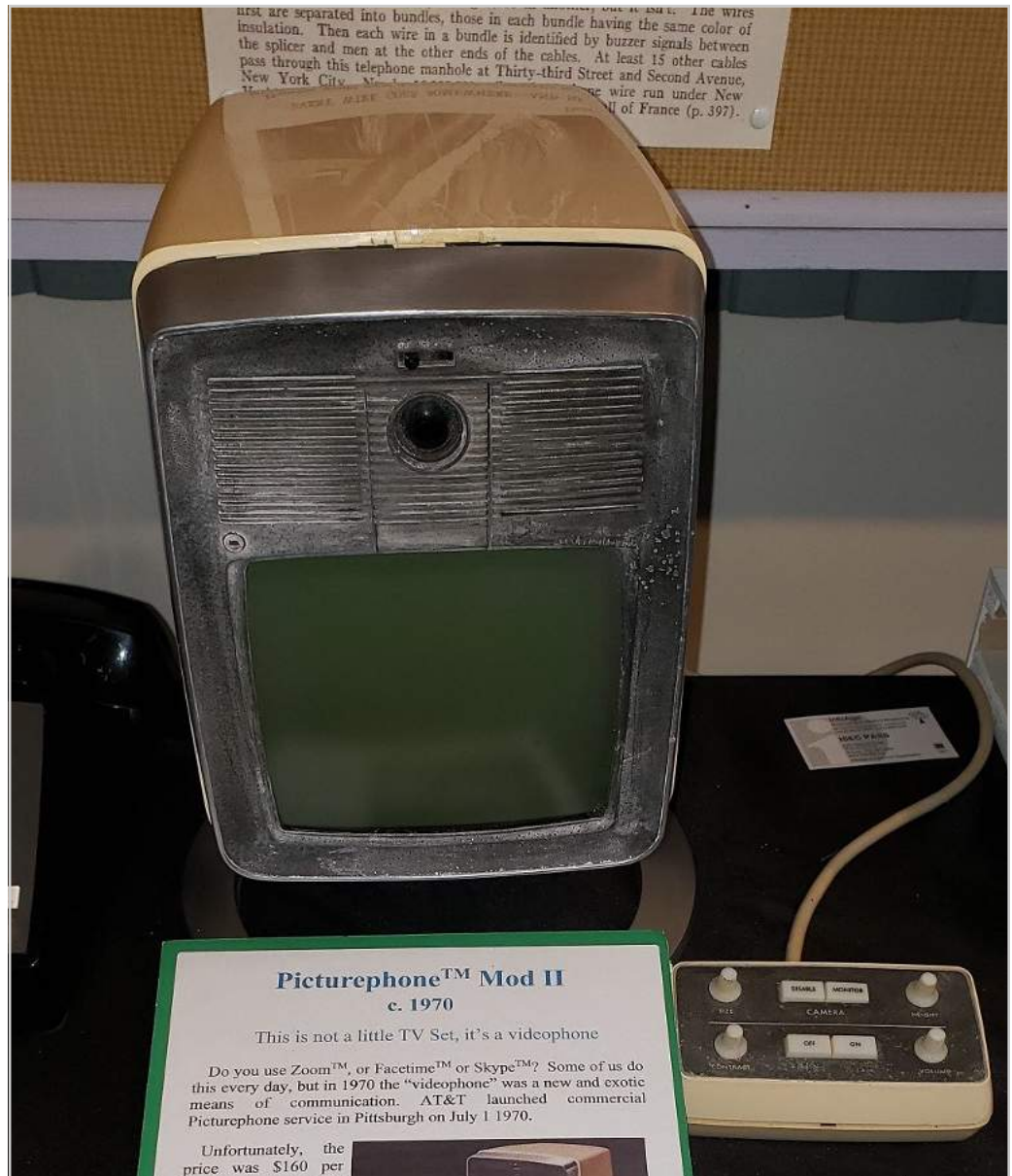


RTM Year End Report (Continued)

Finally, later in the year a visitor offered to give us an original Bell Picturephone from 1978. This was the first Bell attempt to provide video telephone calls; a promotion that failed at the time creating a huge financial loss. Of course, today, everyone can easily do so with their smart-phones. We immediately put the Picturephone on display as a rare historic artifact. As an aside to our RTM accomplishments, we were also called upon to provide a telephone booth to the Morven Museum in Princeton to supplement their planned special public exhibition titled “Ma Bell”. The AT&T historic archives could not come up with a telephone booth, but InfoAge had another one in storage that we outfitted with an instrument. This provides good publicity for InfoAge and the Radio Technology Museum.

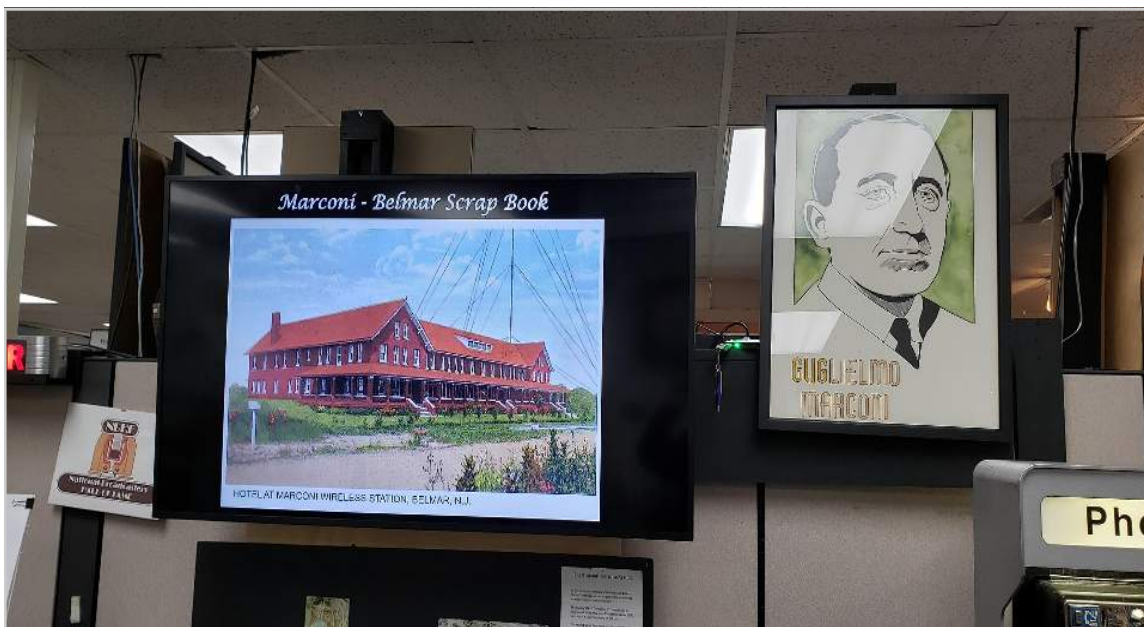
The telephone communications display has become our most popular display for all ages. Adults love to visit these technologies that they experienced years ago, and youngsters cannot believe that phones were once connected by wires and that rotary dialing is a technique that has to be learned and is unforgiving if you do not do it correctly. Common telephone terms such as “hang up the phone” or “dial a number” are physically experienced with our phones. Kids are amazed when they can call home on a candle stick rotary dial phone or call their parents’ cell phone from our dial telephones or the phone booths.

But we have not forgotten our radio heritage and mission statement to inspire science **and** history. Matt Reynolds recently arranged the donation of several large flat-panel TV screens and Al Klase took the initiative to create a display of the Marconi history of this site. Based on existing photos, early magazine pictures and his own artwork, he created a 32-slide display near the museum entrance that takes about ten minutes to ob-

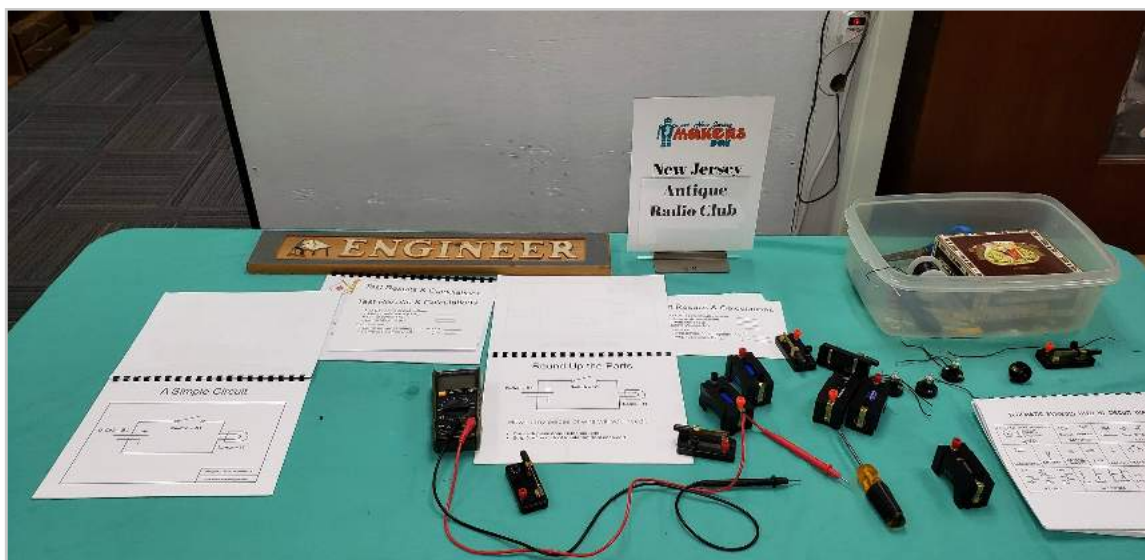


RTM Year End Report (Continued)

serve, and shows how the site was developed to make intercontinental wireless communication possible. The display can be controlled by the viewer to allow the selection of individual slides that helps to personalize the presentation.



For one of our school tours, AI also set up a “build it yourself” table where a few components, wires and simple hand tools are made available so youngsters can experience cutting wires, making connections, and ending up with a battery and switch that completes a circuit to make a light bulb illuminate. This is supported with documentation that AI created to explain how kids can learn about simple circuit diagrams and eventually grow to understand more complex schematics. This has turned out to be very popular with kids, and even some adults join in.



The 'build-it-yourself' exhibit

RTM Year End Report (Continued)

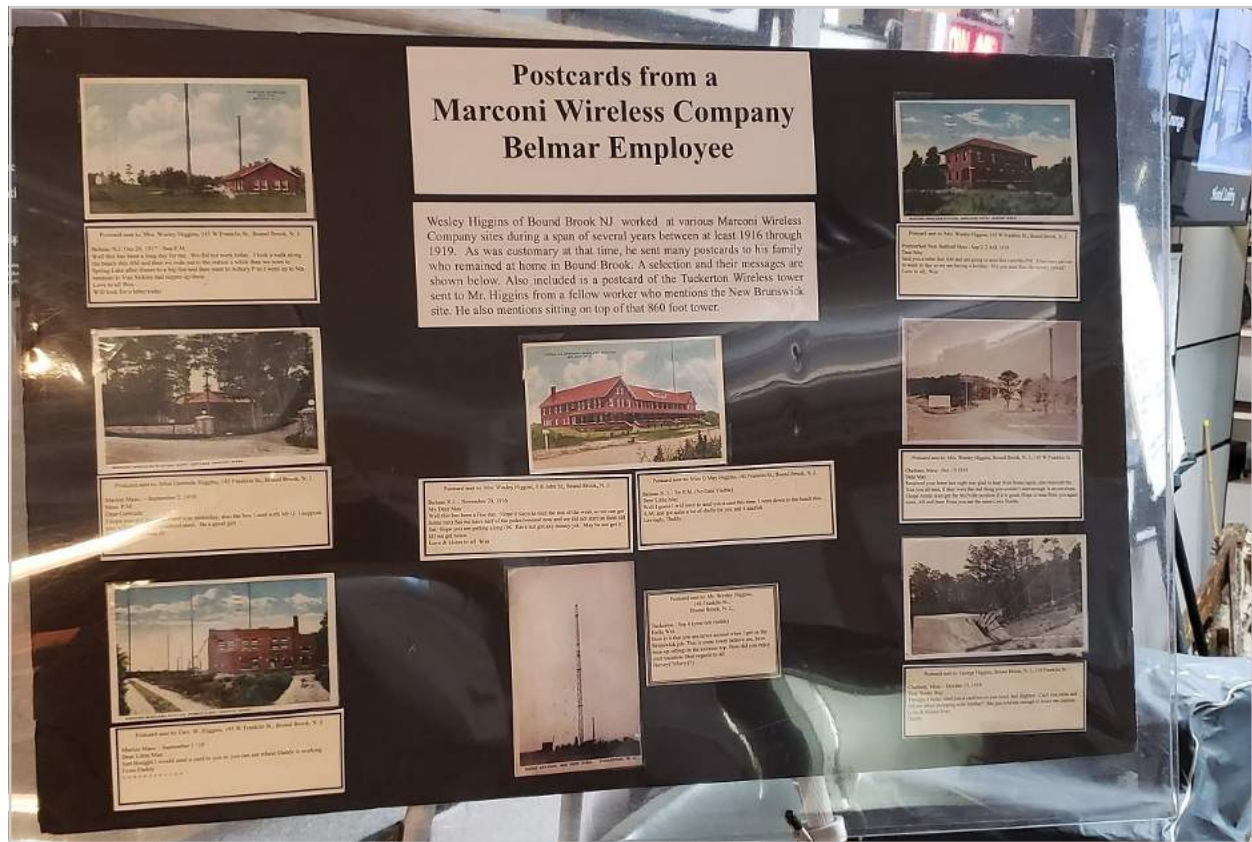
A few other enhancements include the addition of a second teletype terminal so that communication can be made between two teletype machines.



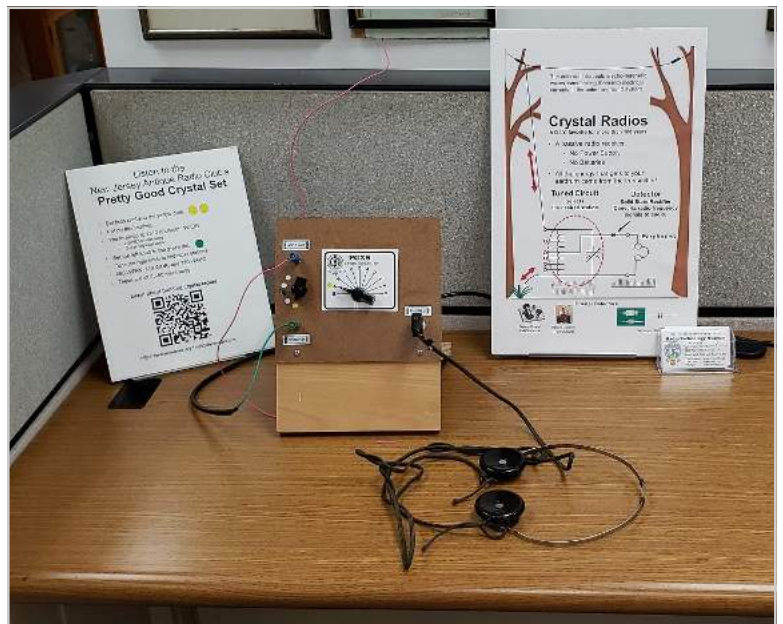
An explanation of ultrasound waves was added in the Hands-On room. This is a display that was donated to us when the Frequency Crystal Lab at Fort Monmouth closed several years ago. In it, a 1.0 MHz crystal generates an ultrasonic wave that caused a miniature windmill blade to rotate. The wave can be blocked or unblocked to demonstrate the action.

RTM Year End Report (Continued)

We have added a display of eight postcards sent by a Marconi employee between 1916 and 1919 while at the Belmar site, the Marion and Chatham, MA sites, and the Tuckerton, NJ site. He lived in Bound Brook and was sending cards to his wife and family while he was assigned to these sites. I believe that this display was originally made by Steve Goulart, but it needed some repair and enhancement. This was done and it now is stationed near the museum entrance.



We also moved the crystal set radio from the Hands-On room to a quieter location since the Hands-On room is usually too (joyfully) noisy for a satisfactory listening experience.



RTM Year End Report

(Continued)

On year-end reflection, Tony Flanagan, the founder of NJARC would be amazed to see what we have accomplished with this museum. Maybe he is looking down on us.



NJARC founder and first president, Charles A. "Tony" Flanagan.

Anyway, our joining with InfoAge has made it all possible and we remain one of the most popular destinations on the Camp Evans campus. But it is NJARC members who make it happen and you are all enthusiastically invited to join us as volunteer historians as we expand. The existing staff is not getting any younger and would appreciate some new thoughts and ideas as well as backup staffing for our operation. Looking ahead, we expect 2023 to bring even more visitors and more growth for our museum endeavor.



From My Collection — “Happy New Year!”

By Marsha Simkin

Let's ring in a very happy and healthy 2023 with these radio-related greetings from the past.

In the early 1920s, postcards were a very efficient and affordable means of communication. They were available everywhere from large department stores in major cities to general and drug stores in small towns. They weren't just for vacationers and tourists to commemorate a visit to some travel destination. Every possible holiday or event was represented. Some local post offices even had twice a day delivery. You could purchase the card in the morning, mail it and if the recipient lived in the same town they could receive it the same day. All this for just a penny stamp!

These 4 New Year radio-related postcards are probably by Ellen Clapsaddle, a very prolific illustrator of the time and were produced by Wolf & Company of New York as a part of their 310 series.



From My Collection
(Continued)



A happy New Year greeting from the telegraph office, across the miles and delivered to your door.

From My Collection
(Continued)



A ship to ship wireless New Year message from a design copyrighted in 1910.

Prosit Neujahr! - Happy New Year greetings in German.



Loosely translated: Hey, here I come for the morning exercises!

From My Collection
(Continued)



Loosely translated: Here we go!



From My Collection
(Continued)

French language Bonne Annee - Happy New Year greetings



Has Belgian postage



Very loosely translated –
When you wake up, I want to be the
first to wish you a Happy and
Healthy New Year

From My Collection

(Continued)

Gelukkig Nieuwjaar - Happy New Year in Dutch.



Happy New Year to all!

NJARC's Online Presence

Don't forget that the club has a vibrant online presence. There's lots going on in between our regular monthly meeting, repair clinics and swapmeets. Join us every Tuesday afternoon and Thursday evening on Zoom for a freewheeling discussion about everyone's radio-related activities, and life in general. Al Klase sends out Zoom logon instructions every week on the Communicator, so look for the email and join the fun!

We also have a [Facebook page](#) and a [YouTube channel](#). Links to both are on the home page of our website.

Finally, there's always a wide range of discussion going on in our email Communicator. If you're not on the Communicator, you're missing out on daily interaction with your fellow club members. The Communicator is a members-only email list where people can post requests for help with a restoration challenge, offer advice on those challenges, pass along noteworthy bits and pieces of information about radio-related things they've found in the news. and occasionally even some radio-related humor. Announcements of all club events go out on the Communicator, so don't miss out! Contact [Bill Zukowski](#) if you're not on the Communicator and he'll get you hooked up.