



# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

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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/](http://www.njarc.org/broadcaster/)

## Meeting Notice

Our September meeting will take place on Friday, 9/13 at InfoAge. NJARC Member John Stoll will discuss facts and myths about tube testers in his presentation "The P.T. Barnum of Electronics: The Tube Tester."

We plan to also livestream the meeting on our YouTube channel which can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/NJARC>

## Meeting Review

At our August meeting, Scott Marshall discussed the different things that can negatively affect the audio quality of your radio, and covered a few things you can do to eliminate problems and make them sound as good as possible.

A recording of this and other meeting presentations is available on YouTube at <https://bit.ly/3yZ5yoR>.

**September 13: NJARC monthly meeting, InfoAge**

## From the President's Workbench

Greetings Fellow Enthusiasts!

At our August 9th meeting I introduced the new club Vice-President, Paul Mondok. I asked him to write a short bio for our club, of what he did and is still doing in his working life. Well I should have asked Paul to write a list of things that he **has not** done in his long career!



## Calendar of Events

September 20: HARPS monthly meeting, Suffern NY

**September 19-21: Kutztown Radio Show** [\[link\]](#)

October 1-5: AWA Annual Conference, Henrietta NY [\[link\]](#)

**October 11: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton**

October 12: [JD Vintage Electronics auction](#), Jackson NJ

October 18: HARPS monthly meeting, Suffern NY

**October 26: Fall Repair Clinic, InfoAge**

**November 8: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton**

November 15: HARPS monthly meeting, Suffern NY

**Nov. 16: NJARC Fall Hamfest/Swapmeet, Parsippany**

**December 14: NJARC Holiday Party, Jackson**

December 20: HARPS Holiday Party, Suffern NY

**January 10: NJARC monthly meeting, InfoAge**

**February 14: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton**

**March 14: NJARC monthly meeting, InfoAge**

March 22: NJARC Spring Swapmeet (preliminary date)

**April 11: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton**

April 25-27: International Marconi Day, InfoAge

April 26: NJARC Spring Repair Clinic, InfoAge

So we start in the beginning. Early Career: Automatic transmission builder, automotive air-conditioning installer, Shop steward for the United Steel Workers. Next Career: Computers/IT working for Computer land, IT Job in N.Y.C, back to N.J. worked in a small IT company became a partner, left to work for an IT company at Morristown Airport learning flight dispatch systems, Set up EDI systems for General Motors, as an IT Paul set up his own business currently working in aviation & petrochemicals at Morristown Airport.

Hobbies: Paul has been involved in many different hobbies! Especially the go fast ones when he was younger, Hot Rods, Motorcycle racing etc. Paul was President of the Somerset County Fish & Game Protective Association, plus President of the Somerset County N.J. State Chapter Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. As President of the Somerset County Fish & Game Protective Association Paul managed the large and improved buildout of the existing field/club and indoor shooting range. This was successfully completed in the middle of the Pandemic!

**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 on the second Friday of each month either at InfoAge or at Princeton University. Neither the editor nor NJARC is liable for any other use of the contents of this publication other than for information.

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## President's Workbench

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indoor shooting range. This was successfully completed in the middle of the Pandemic!

Paul's interest in music and radio started in his teen years. As with many of our members, Paul started out building Heathkits, while repairing radios and TVs. Over time Paul got his Amateur Radio License up to Extra Class. His call is AA2PM.

Paul has been a member of the NJARC for many years participating at meetings and events. I am very happy that our Executive Board has selected Paul to complete Vice-President Sal Brisindi's tenure and expected incumbency in 2026!

— Richard Lee, President, NJARC.

## Summer Repair Clinic

By Richard Lee

The club held its 2024 Summer Repair Clinic a few weeks ago on August 24th, in room 9032A at InfoAge. We were a little 'light' on available Experts, consequently we were also light on clients, but we pushed on, helping each other when needed.

Bob Johansen set up shop to help anyone in need of his expertise. Bob always has some very interesting recently purchased 'gadgets' from China.



Bob Johansen shows off his newest gizmo

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## Summer Repair Clinic (Continued)

Tom Provost worked with James Doran on his very nice condition National SW-54. You seldom find these SW-54s without a rusted metal case!



The Dynamic Duo work on the NC-54

John Ruccolo worked with Andrew Pramer on his Heathkit Solid State VOM model IM-25. After some discrete component changes and a “meeting of the minds” it was determined that the output transformer was not “putting-out” and a substitute would have to be sourced.



John Ruccolo & Andrew Pramer working the HK Solid State



## Summer Repair Clinic (Continued)

Nevell Greenough worked with Nisar Ahmad on two of his Philips/German tabletop sets. Nisar said they were both not working, but the ride over from Staten Island woke up one of the radios! The other radio needed contact cleaning of pots and tube pins to be playing again.



Nevell and Nisar Make Magic on the Philips Tabletop sets

Bill Zukowski got stuck fixing this cute little woodcase Admiral. There was no corresponding schematic to follow so Bill, with his years of radio restoration experience, had to dive in barefoot! Unfortunately, he found wiring to nowhere and tubes installed in the wrong sockets. Bill very kindly agreed to finish the restoration at home in his well-equipped shop. The owner of the radio thanked him profusely!



Bill with the Admiral Mystery Radio

## Summer Repair Clinic (Continued)

Matt Reynolds stopped by with his newly acquired means of transport, a large powerful e-bike which fits well into his stable of 'rides': a Delorean and a Mustang convertible. Matt also showed the group a 'good deal' garage sale find on his way to our clinic: a box-lot assortment of VOM and LCR meters and other interesting stuff.

Bob Bennett also worked with Jeffrey Schwadron on Jeff's Zenith Trans-Oceanic. Bob realized it needed a lot more attention than they'd be able to give it at the clinic and kindly offered to take it home to complete the restoration.

Radio Bagels and Radio Pizza were served! Our Fall Repair Clinic will be on Saturday, October 26t in Building 9032A at InfoAge.



Matt on his new e-Ride

For as long as the museum has been open, it has attracted equipment donations from guests or simply phone

## Museum Musings By Ray Chase

offers from people who found us on the Internet. These include people who are downsizing, cleaning out attics or have sustained a family loss and need to dispose of a collection. This can be a boon to NJARC and InfoAge as it can add to our displays or if not needed for the museum can be sold or auctioned to financially help the both of us. Sometimes, they even show up with no notice on our doorstep.

We try to screen the offers to avoid becoming a dumping spot. You cannot imagine the number of console radios and TV's we have turned away. On occasion, we took in a lot with some items in extremely poor condition that I judged not worthy of retaining. Bruce Ingraham saw me about to take an item to the dumpster and he said, "I can fix that." A few weeks later he wowed me with a radio that was almost as good as new. He is a magician at restoring woodwork as well as other mechanical skills. He then fixes the innards to put the radio into good working condition. He also prepares a documented record of what he did and how he did it.

Since then, I check with him before trashing something. Recently, a donation contained the remains of an Omnigraph Telegraph Set in poor condition. It was missing its telegraph key, so we found a spare in our storage and challenged Bruce to have at it. Spoiler Alert: he worked his usual magic.

See Bruce's article on the next page for the full story.

## The Omnigraph Telegraph Set

By Bruce Ingraham



The first Omnigraph model was patented in 1903-1904 by Charles Shinnock, and was sold through The Omnigraph Company of New York. It was used to help people learn the Morse code. It consisted of a single metal disc with notched coded characters around its perimeter that represented characters of the Morse code. This metal disc was mounted on a round wooden base, and as the cranking handle was turned, a spring-loaded “follower” rode along the notched wheel to open and close the electrical telegraph circuit, producing an audible sound corresponding to the Morse code characters. It was known as the Omnigraph #1, and is shown below.



The Omnigraph #1

This coded wheel was later mounted on a larger wood base, as shown below, and was called the Omnigraph #3.

mounted on a larger wood base, as shown



The Omnigraph #3

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## The Omnigraph Telegraph Set (Continued)

The Omnigraph #3 was expanded to include a Morse key and sounder and was known as the KOB. It is shown below, and is similar to our model.



The Omnigraph KOB

This Omnigraph, as received in the NJARC shop, was in poor condition and was missing three major parts: the crank handle, the adjustable transmitting contact, and the Morse telegraph key. The stages of restoration are shown below.



The Omnigraph as Received



The Omnigraph Dissembled

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## The Omnigraph Telegraph Set (Continued)

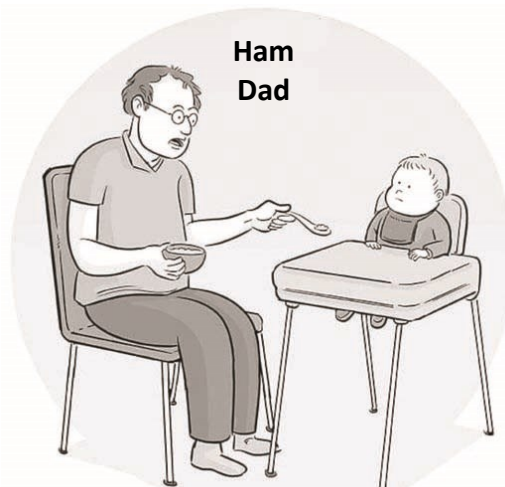
The refinished Omnigraph as shown below was not restored to operating condition due to two missing parts, i.e: the crank handle, and the adjustable transmitting contact.



**The Refinished Omnigraph**  
*Refinished by Bruce Ingraham - 2024*

A makeshift crank handle and transmitting contact have been installed on this unit so that it can be displayed as a representation of a working unit. The code wheel has been bypassed so that the unit may be used as a Morse code practice set.

Later models of the Omnigraph provided for five or more discs to be stacked, and included either a governor regulated clockwork or an electric motor drive. These units were produced over a period of almost 30 years.



And when I hold your food way over here, we call that 'DX.'  
Can you say 'DX'?



## The Little Radio Shop That Will Not Close

By Col. John Tyminski

The Kutztown Radio shop is under new management. In 1992 Lewie Newhard opened Kutztown Radio inside Renninger's Antique and Farmer's Market located in Kutztown, PA. Since then, Kutztown Radio has been one of the very few places in the country that offered quality vintage radio sales and service. The shop has also served as a place for those in the antique radio community to gather and share expertise and camaraderie with one another. Through that camaraderie came the idea for the Kutztown Radio Show that we have all grown to love.

As many of you know, Lewie passed away this spring. ([Obituary](#)) Lewie leaves a big hole in the antique radio community and will be greatly missed. But does this mean the end of Kutztown Radio? Absolutely not! JD Auction Services (Darren Hoffman and John Tyminski) decided that the Kutztown Radio shop is a good fit for their business and they made arrangements to acquire it. Much of the existing inventory in the shop will be auctioned at Kutztown 50th Radio Show on Friday night in the white room along with the remainder of the collection from Lewie's personal collection.

Darren and John look forward to continuing the Kutztown Radio tradition of quality radio sales & service. They also plan to continue offering a fresh inventory of restored radios, record players, TVs, hifi gear and parts. Most radio shops have closed within the last few decades, Kutztown Radio is looking forward to continuing to serve the radio collecting community for many years to come!

For more information about Kutztown Radio see: <https://kutztownradio.com/default.aspx?KutztownRadio&p=2>



Lewie Newhard



John Tyminski



Darren Hoffman



## The Kutztown Radio Show — Kutztown 50 (Not Kutztown L?)



### **50<sup>th</sup> KUTZTOWN RADIO SHOW** **September 20 & 21, 2024**

#### **Two days of radio-related activity**

- 60,000+ sq. ft. outdoor and under roof event
- Hours: Friday 7am-5pm, Saturday 7am-Noon
- Radio Auction 5:30pm Friday night in air-conditioned comfort
- Buy-it-now table open Friday & Saturday
- Capacitor & Tube sales at the Club Table Fri & Saturday
- Free admission Fri & Sat  
*(Dealer Tag Required for Thurs Entry at noon)*
- Free parking & onsite camping
- Hot showers available
- Food available onsite by "Just Grillin'" and at nearby Farmer's Market

#### **Dealer spaces:**

- 10' x 10' spaces are \$55.00 (includes 1 table and electricity –bring your own extension cords.) All spots are under roof. Extra tables are \$10.

- To reserve a table contact Renninger's. [www.renningers.com](http://www.renningers.com) or by phone: Mon-Thurs (570)385-0104, Fri-Sat (610) 683-6848.

The Kutztown Radio Show — Kutztown 50 (Not Kutztown L?)

# The New Jersey Antique Radio Club

- Radio Technology Museum
- Amateur Radio Station W2RTM
- National Broadcasters Hall of Fame
- WWII Tactical Communications
- Radar Museum

We Salute the  
2022 InfoAge  
Wall of Honor Inductees  
and Other Award Recipients

Visit us in Building  
9032D

WWW.NJARC.ORG

WWW.RTM.AR88.NET

