

The Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol 21

December 1995

No. 12

December Meeting, Dec. 9th 1 PM
Society Benefit Auction directly after —
Christmas Dinner to follow



The *Call Letter* celebrates over 2 decades in print.

Northwest Vintage Radio Society

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 the Society has been dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of "vintage radio" and wireless equipment.

Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$15.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

The Call Letter has been a monthly publication since 1974. It was originated with the first president and continues to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that supports the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum, 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd street) in Portland Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and information exchange. Guests are welcome at all Society meetings and functions (except board meetings)

Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio shows and radio sales which are advertised in the Call Letter and are held in and around SW Portland.

Society Officers:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| President | Greg Bonn | (503) 642-5097 |
| Vice President | Speed Feldschau | (503) 390-3928 |
| Treasurer | Ed Charman | (503) 654-7387 |
| Secretary | Ken Seymour | (503) 642-9115 |
| Board member at large | Ed Pittaway | (503) 645-2883 |
| Call Letter Editor | Dick Karman | (503) 281-6585 |
| Museum Curator | Frank Rasada | (503) 246-3400 |

The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society
Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

Note: CALL LETTER material should be sent to
the Post Office Box - Not to Gordon Phillips.

Call Letter Deadline
20th of the month
prior to publication.

The Call Letter is the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Circulation is limited to the membership and guests of the Society. The Society is not responsible for the material contributed for publication, nor the quality, timeliness or accuracy of the items offered for sale in the SWAP SHOP. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

December 9th, 1995 — Christmas Meeting

December 9th, 1995

The NW Vintage Radio Museum
7675 SW Capitol Hiway, Portland

1 PM business meeting!

- Discussion of Dues Increase
- Election of Officers
- Proposed calendar of events

2:30 PM Society Benefit Auction

- Broadcast Related Gear donated
- All returns benefit the Society

4 PM Christmas Dinner

- Families are invited !

The annual Christmas dinner will be held, after the auction, at about 4 pm. Please bring your favorite salad or dessert to contribute to the meal. Mary Rasada will be serving up the turkey. In an effort to hold expenses to a minimum, we are asking members and guests attending the dinner to contribute a small amount, perhaps five or six dollars, toward the cost of the dinner.

Notes from The President

by Greg Bonn

As 1995 becomes just another page in the history books, I thought it may be time to share a few ideas and concerns I have had over the past year.

I may have opened Pandora's Box, when I presented an increase of the membership dues to a vote at one of our regular monthly meetings. I was wrong in doing so. I have found out since, that society business of this nature must be presented at an annual meeting of the membership and notice of such presentation published in the Call Letter prior to the annual meeting. Fair is fair.

The reasoning behind the dues increase proposal was quite simple, The society's cash reserves had been declining and costs were continuing to rise; postage, printing, rental space and fees, while the membership dues remained unchanged. The members present at that regular monthly meeting, after much discussion, chose to do several things to attempt to remedy the decline of society funds. The dues increase was but one. Increasing the swap meet table fees from ten dollars to fifteen dollars was passed unanimously. A drive to recruit new members to the society was begun. A cutback in society activities or displays at other shows or fairs was also discussed. Auctions and raffles at the swap meets was also a hot topic. It was very apparent that the members were interested in finding a solution to the problem at hand.

Since the notification of the dues increase was published in the Call Letter, I have received several calls and letters, as well as those letters published in the Call Letter, from members of the society concerned about the dues increase. Every one of these calls and letters contain valid concerns; should the society subsidize the swap meets, should the society participate in shows and fairs, how

much does it really cost to publish and mail a newsletter, where does the money go??? All valid questions. Questions that should be asked by members concerned about the future of the society. The answers to some of these questions are not simple and I will not attempt it. I will however, ask that every member attend the annual meeting and voice your concerns and ideas and vote on these important issues.

During the past year attempts have been made to draw more members to the monthly meeting. Monthly contests have been held for different categories of radios with ribbons and certificates given to the participants. Many different sets were brought each month that may not have been seen had the contests not lured them from home. A manufacturers representative was brought in one month to discuss cabinet restoration and finishing materials made available to club members at a group discount.

The monthly meetings are held as an information exchange, planning session, business meeting and social exchange and anything that the members care to make of it. Membership participation is necessary to keep these meetings interesting and/or fun. Ideas are always welcome.

Now as I step down from my soap box, the annual meeting of the NWVRS will be held Saturday, December 9th. at 1 pm. at the Museum. Topics of discussion will include, you guessed it, THE DUES INCREASE. The meeting will be followed by an auction featuring a Predicta t.v., and whatever other items of broadcast interest that may appear (see SWAP SHOP Wanted...).

The annual dinner will be held, after the auction, at 4 pm. Please bring your favorite salad or dessert, Mary Rasada will be serving up the turkey. In an effort to hold expenses to a minimum, I am asking members and guests attending the dinner to contribute a small amount, perhaps five or six dollars, for the cost of the dinner.

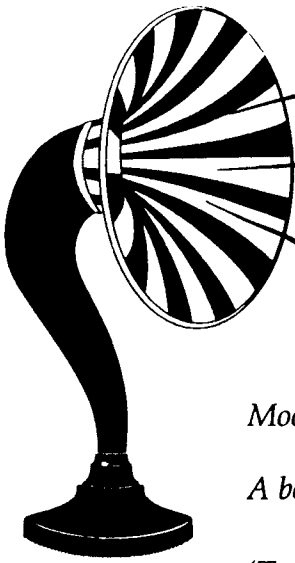
Names In Radio

Who were these folks from old time radio days? Make your best guess and then check the answers on page 16.

1. John Sullivan
2. Eunice Quedens
3. Milton Berlinger
4. Nathan Birnbaum
5. Owen Patrick Eugene Dennis McNulty
6. Doris von Kappelhoff
7. Frances Butts
8. Charles Aldrich
9. Lindley Armstrong Jones
10. Joseph Levitch
11. Thomas Garrison Morfit
12. Peggy Lou Snyder
13. Leonard Rosenberg
14. Leonard Slye
15. Harriette Lake
16. Isaiah Edwin Leopold

November Show & Sale

Rain may have dampened the jackets but not the spirits of the participants of the NWVRS show and swap meet on November 11 . Although the rain may have been responsible for the smaller crowds at this meet, attendance was fairly steady up to the close of the show. Some tables had been picked clean by buyers and were left nearly empty by late morning. The society's coffee and donut table did a brisk business in hot coffee and donuts were sold out well before the close of the show. Several new members joined the society as other members renewed at a table manned by Treasurer Ed Charman. The swap meets are not only a place to buy and sell radios and related items, but also a show for the public, to foster an interest in the development of technology and preservation of radio, and that is the success story behind these meets.



ATMOSPHERICA

by Tom James

The Trav-ers Advisory

*Moon and June, and Mary Lou,
A beautiful lake of blue,
A borrowed portable Trav-ler,
And a rowboat just for two.*

*'Twas a night of anticipation
Planned for many a day.
The stage was set for romance,
Nothing now stood in the way.*

*I rowed to the far shoreline
Where shadows of pines took note,
As we murmured sweet nothings, and
Little waves lapped at the boat.*

*There was a question to ask her,
Soft music could help turn her head;
I tried to tune in the set, then,
But the dad-gummed battery was dead!*

*Mary Lou is now in old Spokane,
I think she is single yet;
I only hope where her father is —(!&\$#)
The one who lent me the set.*

Museum Sale Report

Continued

For the last few issues of the CALL LETTER we have reported on the auction at Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn Michigan. Here are a few prices listed by brand name. —

Crosley

| | |
|--|-------|
| Musical Chef white w/red | \$35 |
| 11-119U Left Bullseye, blue metallic | \$220 |
| D25CE "Dashboard" Lime Green | \$60 |
| 11-100U Center Bullseye - white | \$130 |
| 11-102U Center Bullseye - green | \$200 |
| 11-101U Center Bullseye - Blue | \$300 |
| 11-114U left Bullseye - white | \$120 |
| 11-114U left Bullseye - cream | \$100 |
| 11-114U left bullseye - grey | \$140 |
| Super Sextet Coppertone | \$55 |

Spartan

| | |
|--|---------|
| "Bluebird" blue mirror | \$1,900 |
| 557, Blue mirror | \$900 |
| wood-grained metal with chrome trim | \$160 |

Stewart Warner

| | |
|--|-------|
| R-3044A birds eye maple | \$310 |
| 9001E drop-leaf table/ push-button radio | \$60 |
| 9182 Black & red | \$75 |

Zenith

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| 6-D-2615 Brown | \$75 |
| 6-D-311 Deco, brown bakelite | \$150 |
| 6-D-510 white w/ tan handle | \$55 |
| H-511 Green | \$20 |
| Royal 1000 Transoceanic | \$50 |

December 7th, 1941

By Editor Dick Karman

No other date lives in infamy like December 7th, 1941. Many of our members have first hand remembrances of the first day of U.S. involvement in World War II. Those who were not alive in those years may have taken an interest in the events of that day for any number of reasons. This short overview looks only at the way that radio was involved, as documented by author Walter Lord in his 1957 documentary *Day of Infamy* (Holt Rinehart and Winston).

The island of Oahu was a very popular place in 1941, with the naval installation at Pearl Harbor getting bigger, and army Air Force bases scattered around the island. Ensign William Brown, like so many other military personnel, had rented a small house in preparation for the arrival of his wife just before Christmas. The night of December 6th the University of Hawaii beat Willamette 20 to 6 in the Shrine Game. All of the action was covered by Webley Edwards, manager of station KGMB in Honolulu.

The game and all of the news you were going to get in print came to you via the Sunday *Advertiser*, the only newspaper in print on Sunday morning. But the presses broke down after only 2,000 copies and editor Ray Coll was having a hard time finding a machinist on the weekend. The Star-Bulletin was an afternoon paper that didn't come out on Sunday, but editor Riley Allen was hard at work cranking out an extra that hit the streets by 9:15 AM. Ironically, the Sunday comics that no one read told that Daddy Warbucks and *the Asp* also made a forced landing in their private plane due to an unknown attacker, and Navy Bob Steele successfully deflected a surprise air attack on *his* destroyer. Children of military families and civilian employees like James Mann jr., 13; Tommy Young, 13; Jerry Morton, 13; and his brother Don, 11, looked forward to the comics. But their attention now was turned toward KGMB.

Radio station KGMB interrupted its normal broadcasting at 8:04 AM when it made its first call for all Army, Navy, and Marine personnel to report for duty. Another station KGU was also on the air calling doctors, nurses and defense workers to report for emergency duty. In an attempt to calm panic the attack was referred to as "sporadic." Listeners who weren't paying attention didn't know the meaning of the word and thought it meant simulated.

By 11 AM the 74 year old governor read his proclamation of emergency on station KGU while Webley Edwards on KGMB couldn't get listeners to take seriously the reality of the attack. In a moment of impatience stumbled onto the phrase, "this is the real McCoy." It seemed to strike a nerve in the person on the phone. He began to use it on the air in hopes of repeating its effectiveness; he used it so often that "the real McCoy" is all that some folks remember of broadcast radio. By military order all commercial broadcasting ceased at 11:40 AM.

Days before the attack Japanese intelligence officers were interested in what was happening on the local radio stations. They monitored them day in and day out (and into the night) to detect if the military personnel had any indication of the impending attack. Commander Mitsuo Fuchida, leading the attack on Pearl Harbor, used his radio direction finder antenna to home in on Honolulu, using station KGMB as his homing signal while flying through continuous cloud cover over the ocean. Fuchida later used radio, reportedly even before the attack had begun, to notify his aircraft carriers that the attack was successful with the message, now well known, "tora... tora.... tora"

While they listened to us, we read things about them. Staff Sgt. Charles Judd noted an article belittling the Japanese Air Force in the September 1941 issue of *Aviation Magazine*. It was popular particularly with the aviators.

The Battleship *Arizona* lives on as a memorial to those who gave their lives during that day of infamy. While far from the only casualties, the *Arizona*, the *Oklahoma*, and the

California were by far the worst memories recounted by those who were there. When the *Arizona's* mid section exploded the blast was so great that internal combustion engines a half mile away stalled for lack of oxygen. Over 1,000 men perished in less than 5 seconds.

But apart from the use of radio in commercial news and entertainment, radio was and always will be an integral part of the military's operations. Let's remember some of those men who made radio their life, by the way they remember that day: Radio Operator Fred Glaser missed the last launch back to his ship the night before, couldn't get a room at the "Y," so spent the night sleeping in his car. Radio operator Charles Michael remembers making useless speculations on the speed of the sea plane tender *Swan*. Radioman Robert Gamble of the *Tennessee* remembers putting on his parade shoes to *start the war off right*. Radioman Leonard Stagich of the *Montgomery*, wrote what he believed to be his last prayer on a scrap of paper while his ship was being bombed. Radioman James Raines, on the tender *Curtiss* broke his own back while trying to save fellow radiomen Dean Orwick, and Benny Schlect. Orwick died but Schlect was saved by Raines and Radioman R.E. Jones who was on the battle phones at the time. Radioman James Lagerman fought to get to his post in the Ford Island Administration building. Radioman John Murphy of the *Vestal* stayed on board when others jumped ship, only to be rewarded when his captain ordered the ship to sail. Radioman Glen Lane on the *Arizona* was blown off of the ship by the explosion, but swam to the *Nevada* and was pulled aboard to continue the fight. Radioman Lt. Winser of the *Utah* was credited with saving his captain's life.

Many radiomen probably had a testimony like the *California's* forward air compressor station machinist mate Robert Scott who stayed behind when others left, because "this is my station. I'll give them air as long the guns are going." Machinist's mate Scott died at his station, as did brave radio operators. Don't ever let their memories die - ***Remember Pearl Harbor !***

Chicago Radio Labs Information Wanted

John Bryant, AIA, and Harold Cones, PhD, authors of *The Zenith Trans-Oceanic*, *The Royalty of Radios* with well-known Zenith collector, Bill Wade, are currently researching their next book, with a working title of *Zenith Radio: The Foundation Years, 1919-1933*.

A major portion of this book will center around information about Chicago Radio Laboratory (CRL), the precursor to Zenith. One task that the authors have taken on is to list all CRL models, both receivers or accessories. They are seeking contact with collectors who have CRL products. Specifically, they are looking for model numbers, and publication quality photographs of CRL sets and accessories. The authors would also like to know of the existence of CRL catalogs, manuals, advertising, and memorabilia which is in the hands of collectors and might be able to be photographed for use in the book. They stress heavily that confidentiality will be protected in all cases.

The outcome of this survey of CRL parts, and paperwork (not including the names of the collectors), will be made available to collectors who respond to this inquiry.

Respondents are asked to act as quickly as possible. This initial list is targeted for completion by February 15th, 1996. Your cooperation is very important for the success of this research. Bryant, Cones, and Wade express their thanks in advance for any and all information available.

Contact the authors at: The Radio Professors, P.O. Box 592, Stillwater, OK 74076.

**Financial Statement as of
November 25, 1995**

| Item | 1994 | 1995* |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| | | *to date |
| Net Dues Income | \$1,656.25 | \$1,887.50 |
| Donations | \$50.00 | \$0.00 |
| Coffee Sales | \$88.58 | \$192.19 |
| Book Sales, incl Library | \$397.00 | \$72.00 |
| Sale of Caps, Jackets, T-shirts | \$148.15 | \$141.40 |
| Sale of Mugs | \$64.00 | \$20.00 |
| Swap Tables Rent | \$800.00 | \$840.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME: | <u>\$3,203.98</u> | <u>\$3,153.09</u> |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | |
| Liability Insurance | \$172.00 | \$172.00 |
| Oregon NP Corp License | \$10.00 | \$10.00 |
| P.O. Box Rent | \$35.00 | \$40.00 |
| Displays | \$128.28 | \$37.51 |
| Misc Postage | \$5.80 | \$37.80 |
| Memorial/Hospital Flowers | \$25.00 | \$35.00 |
| Call Letter, incl Postage | \$1,174.45 | \$1,497.21 |
| Rental of MAC for Swaps | \$481.00 | \$680.00 |
| Other Swap Meet Expenses | \$604.73 | \$501.52 |
| Christmas Banquet | \$250.00 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL OP. EXPENSES | <u>\$2,886.26</u> | <u>\$3,011.04</u> |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | |
| Library Cabinet | \$229.95 | |
| Video Cassette Recorder | \$125.00 | |
| Television Receiver | \$280.00 | |
| Film to Videotape Transfer | | \$28.00 |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | <u>\$3,521.21</u> | <u>\$3,039.04</u> |
| GAIN OR (LOSS) | (\$317.23) | \$114.05 |

Thanks

By Editor Dick Karman

For the last several years Dick Dielschneider has headed up our twice annual radios show & sale. It was at a time when we were looking for some public exposure and the Multnomah Arts Center (right across the street) seemed like a good place. It turned out to be one of the best places to attract the public while still being able to offer free admission and keep the table expenses down. As it turned out Dick followed up and became the original contact for the event.

Now, as Dick goes on to other areas of the hobby, and leaves the Radio shows for someone else to handle, we owe him a debt of thanks. His time and energy, as well as quite a few phone calls went into these last 3 years. The shows, from an attendance standpoint, have been some of our best. Additionally, the dealings with the City of Portland (who owns the arts center) have put us in a pretty good light. Dick did all of this, as many of us do, out of the goodness of his heart and a willingness to help the society and its members.

Thanks Dick, we appreciate it.

Swap Shop

WANTED

Wanted.... Items of broadcast interest to be auctioned at the December meeting of the NWVRS. Items could include radios, books, advertisements or just about anything that can be auctioned. Proceeds will be used to restore the society's bank account.

WANTED Tuning dial for Silver Marshall Mod 30 Walt Humbird (503) 642-0202.

WANTED Cutting needles for Webcor type older type records. Glen Bricker 1030 N. 11th St. Cottage Grove Or. 97424 (503) 942-3717

WANTED Philco parts. Speed Feldschau (503) 390-3928

WANTED W.W. II and earlier military radio equipment. Forest Service radio pre-1950 fishing vessel radios, old or recent, especially Pacific N.W. built & manuals or advertising. Beginners Kit built radios with 1-3 tubes or transistors. Will pay to ship. Hugh Miller 250 S 900E #4C Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

WANTED To borrow owner's manuals for the following test equipment: EICO, 145 signal tracer, 221 VTVM, 239 VTVM, 315 Signal Generator, 332 VTVM, DeVry 1514 VTVM, Heath kits, V7A VTVM, IT12 Signal Tracer, SG8 Signal Generator, IM11 VTVM. Cliff Glaspey (206) 353-6637.

WANTED To borrow service manuals for Heathkits VTVM V-7A & Oscilloscope OL-1 and Hammarlund SP-600 communications receiver. Fred Powell (206) 547-6695.

WANTED five 01-A duds for restored Freshamn Masterpiece. Dick Bixler, (503) 690-2557.

Wanted knobs for 46 Philco console Also transformer for Halli-crafter S- 85. Terry Burge (503) 678-2166.

Wanted: Crystal Sets. Have many radios to trade for crystal sets. Also wanted, Boonton 260A Q Meter. Galen Feight (503) 231-9708.

Wanted: Receiving and transmitting tube application notes and other tube information from RCA, GE, and other manufacturers, Ken Seymour (KH7OSM) (503) 306-7439 days/eve.

Wanted AK Breadboard - Gerry Hale (509) 627-6319

Wanted Televisions from the 30s and 40s. - Also horned phonographs or parts and pieces of them - also radios from the 20s. Chuck Seidel, P.O. Box 1385, Merlin, Oregon 97532

Wanted Western Electric Electronics parts, and speakers, horns, also speakers and horns by Altec, JBL, Lansing or like items, Ed Billeci, 6229 NE Oregon St., Portland, Oregon 97213 (503) 234-8453.

Wanted Telegraph Relays Bob Phelps (206) 546-5495

FOR SALE

For sale: Radios from the 30s and 40s and 50s, Televisions from the 40s and 50s. Radio and TV tubes in quantity. Chuck Seidel, P.O. Box 1385, Merlin, Oregon 97532

For Sale: Over 200,000 tubes, panels, speakers, chassis, electronic surplus and supplies. R5-D3 Surplus. Bob Lee, 6111 SE 82nd Ave. Portland, Or. (503) 774-6560.

FOR SALE 1942 Zenith 6G601M cloth-covered with wavemagnet and Sailboat grille \$40; Zenith 7C05 AM/FM 7 tube, wood cabinet \$35; RCA 6-XD-5 plastic radio with nipper grill, 2-tone green, \$40; Knight signal tracer, \$5; and many more **Bud Larson**, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, Oregon 97504; (503) 773-5214

For Sale Two circa 1926 battery sets: Mohawk 1 dial- \$85; and a Magavox TRF model "D" - \$100; Contact Wally Kelly, 6910 Verde Vista Pl., Klamath Falls, OR 97603, (503) 882-7595.

For Sale: a Hallicrafter S- 120 receiver \$20, a Heath kit 2 meter amateur transceiver mod HW-30 -\$30, Channel Master Model 6503 5 transistor radio, with leather case \$35, Global portable transistor clock radio Model GRC-715 (circa 1959) 8 transistors with leather case (clock knobs missing) \$20, Radiola 18 with tubes (good condition, no tuning light hood) \$75 or best offer, Dick Karman (503) 784 4398 (leave a message if I miss you)

For Sale: National HRO 5TA1, metal tubes, 5 coil sets (4 general coverage and 10 meter bandspread), home brew power supply and cabinet for speaker and coils. Clean and in good working order. \$350. David Rutland, P.O. box 1084, Philomath, OR 97370, (503) 929-4498 e-mail WREN@PEAK.ORG.

FOR TRADE

Have a Zenith Shutter Dial, an original Audion, Dewald Catlins. Not for sale but will trade for right crystal sets. Galen Feight (503) 231-9708

Answers

These are the "stage names" of the old time radio performers listed on page 5.

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|-----|-----------------|
| 1. | Fred Allen | 9. | Spike Jones |
| 2. | Eve Arden | 10. | Jerry Lewis |
| 3. | Milton Berle | 11. | Garry Moore |
| 4. | George Burns | 12. | Harriett Nelson |
| 5. | Dennis Day | 13. | Tony Randall |
| 6. | Doris Day | 14. | Roy Rogers |
| 7. | Dale Evans | 15. | Ann Sothern |
| 8. | Gale Gordon | 16. | Ed Wynn |

ELECTRIC *radio is here!*

The scientific acclaim that has greeted the new Freed-Eisemann Electric has created a new era in radio! Flawless reception at the snap of a switch! No batteries, no chemicals, no chargers, no dry cell tubes. *Truly electric radio.* It pays to spend just a few dollars more and have the assurance of satisfaction that goes with the greatest name for quality in radio.

\$60 and upwards
Slightly Higher West of the Rockies

*Console Cabinets by
Caswell-Runyon*

Freed-Eisemann Radio Corporation
BROOKLYN Licensed under patents of Latour, Hazeltine, and Radio Corp. of America NEW YORK



In addition to quality radio apparatus, Freed-Eisemann acoustical engineers have developed a new device which will convert your old phonograph into the new phonic type. Simply replace old mica sound box with new Freed-Eisemann reproducer. The results will amaze you. Fits any make. If your dealer cannot supply you, send us your check or money order and his name. Price \$7.50

The very best holiday season
and the most wonderful of new years !

