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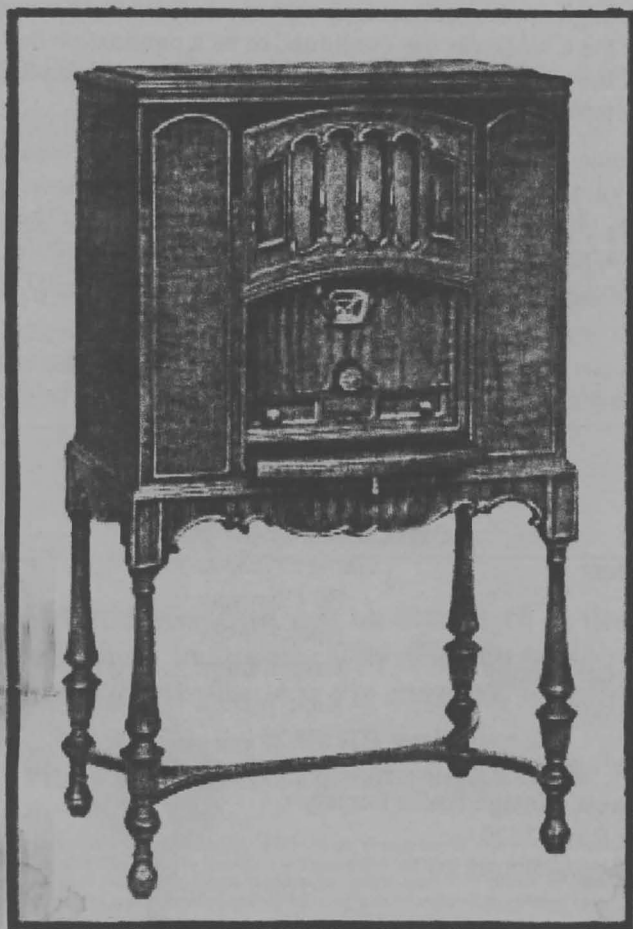
Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol. 24

March 1998

No. 3



In print since 1974

The 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 founder, Bob Bilbie, and our first president, Harley Perkins. Through several editors and with the assistance of numerous members of the *Call Letter* has continued to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that has supported the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held the second Saturday of each month (except July and August) at the Buena Vista Club House at 16th & Jackson Streets in Oregon City, Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and exchanging information. Guests are welcome at all Society meetings and functions (except board meetings).

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

Society Officers:

President	David Rutland	(541) 929-4498
Vice-President	George Kirkwood	(503) 296-3735
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288
Board member at large	Jerry Talbott	(503) 649-6717
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648

The Society's address is:

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



March 1998

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On the cover: The set shown on the cover is a 1929 Stromberg-Carlson No. 638 Console Receiver. This picture is scanned from an ad in the February 9, 1929 issue of *The Literary Digest*. The price East of the Rockies in 60 cycle areas and without tubes was \$380, certainly no casual investment in that day.

Call Letter Deadline
25th of the month
prior to publication.

The next NWVRS meeting will be March 14 at the Buena Vista Clubhouse in Oregon City. Plastic table radios, including bakelite, are the monthly feature.

Visit the *new* NWVRS web site at:
<http://www.peak.org/~wren/nvrs.html>.

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.

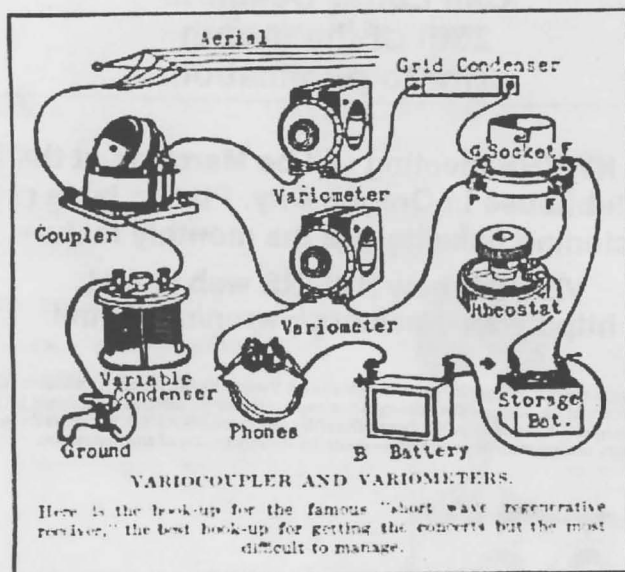
From the Editor

by *Call Letter* Editor, Rick Walton

Thanks to all those who've contributed to this month's *Call Letter*. Dick Karman rejoins the ranks of contributors with another "Wandering the Web" and Dan Howard has provided us with "Collecting 'Go Withs'". Mike Parker has overcome his malaise and tells us of his *March Madness* "In the Shack." Don't miss the photos of the displays at "Sounds of Nostalgia" last month. Many thanks to Adam Schoolsky for the digital photographs.

As a result of a lead that came my way, I picked up a boxful of radio publications from the 1920's through the 60's. I'm not normally a literature collector, but I've been wanting more source material for use in the *Call Letter*, particularly for ads and the like. Now I have it.

We've about reached that point where we update the membership rolls. Consider this a last call to get those dues paid up — don't let your membership lapse. I've assumed responsibility for the *Call Letter* mailing list, and I'll be updating it against Ed Charman's list of paid-up members. Soon after that I hope to be publishing the 1998-99 Membership Roster. Take a look inside the back cover — if you want to add to or change the information that appears in the roster, fill out the form and send it in. If you don't, we'll reprint the information we currently have.



Meeting Minutes

Liles Garcia, Secretary

Minutes February 14, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am with 27 members in attendance. Ed gave treasurer report. Dave took suggestions on what to display at the next meeting. A motion was made to display plastic radios, including bakelite.

Old Business

Rick is still checking on scanners and he and Sonny are working to get the best buy.

Swap Meet: Myron is taking table reservations for our swap meet. Admission is still \$2.00, we will be having our swap meet together with Portland Amateur Radio Club. NWVRS members will have free admission. There are 42 tables for our club and 42 tables for PARC. Our swap meet is on May 9 at the Washington County Fairgrounds.

Library: Tony brought a list of all of the publications in our library. Call Tony if you want a book.

The "Sounds of Nostalgia" antique show will be at the Salem Fairground on February 15. The club will have a display at the show. Jim Mason, Tony, and Jerry will be manning our booth.

New Business

The sale of the NW Radio Museum is now on hold.

Leads and Needs

Speed has a Scott 800B for sale for \$200.00.

Dave redid our web page. He will be in charge of our website from now on. Be sure to check it out.

Dan Howard mentioned that the Rickreall Swap Meet is on February 21.

Rudy needs a 12AL8 tube for a car radio.

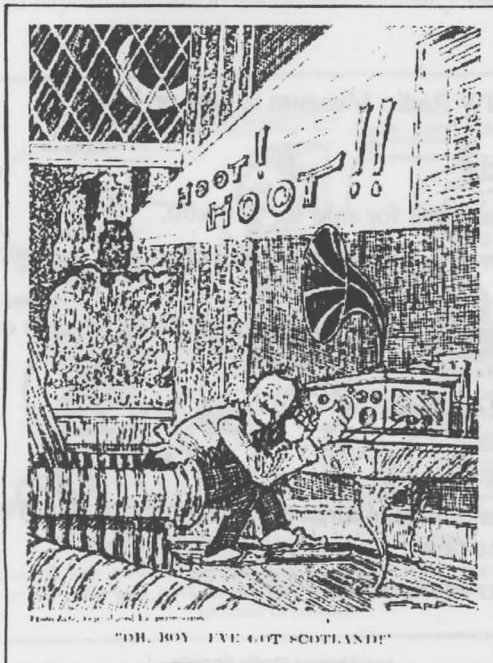
Good & Welfare

Peter Young was pinned against a wall by his car. He was in the hospital, but is home now.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45.

1998 NWVRS Calendar of Events

- February 15** "Sounds of Nostalgia" in Salem. Speed alerts you to "Bring you own chairs!"
- February 21** Salem Hamfair at Rickreall--(Largest ham swapmeet in Oregon)
- March 14** Regular meeting. Monthly feature: plastic radios including bakelite.
- March 28** Eugene Hamfest at Eugene
- April 11** Regular meeting.
- May 9** Spring Swap Meet with Portland Amateur Radio Club — South Hall at Washington Co. Fairgrounds
- June 13** Regular meeting.
- September 12** Regular meeting.
- October 10** Regular meeting.

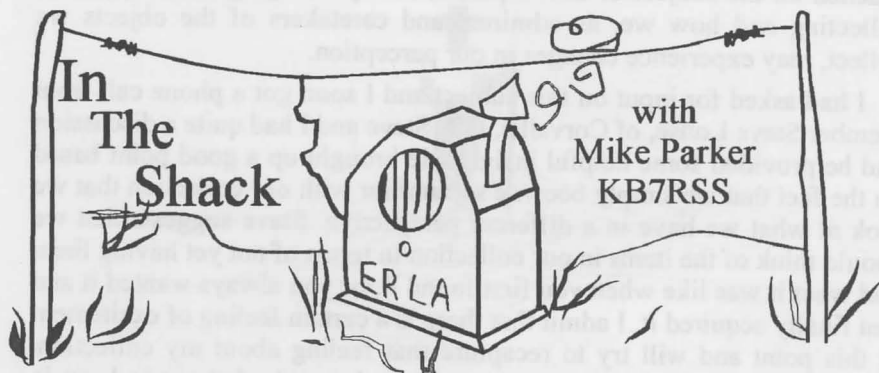


Sounds of Nostalgia Photos

Digital Photography by Adam Schoolsky







In the Shack

March Madness

This article is probably going to prove for good that I really am madder than a March Hare! Several things have occurred that may have me, at least, mad at myself.

But first, I have compiled some more radio related trade names to add to the list of this continued search for obscurity.

Here are 5 more "DYNE" names not listed previously "IN THE SHACK"

MEGADYNE

PERIDYNE

TETRADYNE

UNIDYNE

VIDEODYNE

And 10 more names ending in "TONE", these clearly outnumber the "DYNES" in amount, now up to 118!

AMPL-TONE

CHEERTONE

CONSOLTONE

ELECTRO-TONE

MAGI-TONE

MAGIC-TONE

NEW-TONE

OVERTONE

TEMPOTONE

WAL-TONE

In last month's "IN THE SHACK", my article "No Birthday Radio" touched on the subject of how I perceived my changing attitude toward collecting and how we, as admirers and caretakers of the objects we collect, may experience changes in our perception.

I had asked for input on this subject and I soon got a phone call from member Steve Lohse, of Corvallis, OR. Steve and I had quite a discussion and he provided some helpful insight. He brought up a good point based on the fact that we simply become so familiar with our collection that we look at what we have in a different perspective. Steve suggests that we should think of the items in our collection in terms of not yet having them and what it was like when you first found it, or you always wanted it and just finally acquired it. I admit that there is a certain feeling of excitement at this point and will try to recapture that feeling about my collection. maybe that is the way to really determine what and what not to keep in your collection. But I think that the better lesson is to not take for granted what you have, not only radios but anything that you have acquired. After all, you wanted it in the first place! Then if something is still just "Ho Hum", you can always take it the next swap meet, maybe that is how all that stuff gets there!

And now for the maddest moment of all....well, it is going to be hard for me to admit this but....well, alright, I got a radio for my birthday after all! Yes, I SUCCUMBED, just after "No Birthday Radio" was published. I was talking with member Dan Howard and he mentioned that he was selling some battery sets from his father, Dick Howard's collection. And sure enough, there was an odd brand battery set that I couldn't live without, a MARWOL Jewel 3-dial, made in New York, ca. 1925.

Even more ironic was the fact that on the very day of my birthday he brought it by the house and I bought it! Go figure!

I guess that I am only human after all in addition to being mad as a March hare. Many thanks to Steve Lohse for is input. And to Dan Howard for the new addition to my collection that I have that new feeling of excitement over. Here we go again!

QSO you next time.....IN THE SHACK.



Wandering the Web

by Dick Karman

Even though I've taken a few months off, I still like to start at Phil Nelson's web site. He keeps it current and continues to improve. His gallery now boasts over 195 scanned images of radio and radio art.

He's added some pages to one of my favorite areas, "Radio Wrinkles." This is where he documents his restoration activity. Currently the menu contains: Build A Crystal Shortwave Radio, Build Your Own AM Transmitter, Restoring a 1934 Philco Cathedral, Ground-Up Radio Restoration, Restoring an Electrohome Console, Restoring a Farnsworth GT-051, Restoring a 1947 Radio/Phonograph, and Restoring a 1957 RCA Television.

Once on the wire, don't hesitate to drop him an E-mail he is very gracious in his responses.

<http://www.accessone.com/~philn/>

Another new site is Sarah's Transistors. Sarah has a large collection of transistor radio images in her gallery and has them easily indexed so that you can go right to the one you may be looking for. The images are nicely scanned and come complete with a brief description of the radio. The gallery is also set up in a "radio ring" format so you can just click "next" and see the whole collection as you have the time. Drop and let her know you've visited.

<http://www.sonic.net/~sarahw/radios.html>

Phil pointed to Claudio Spiritelli's page, and it does look nice. Coming from a very slow server, the large home page graphic is slow to come in even in non-peak hours. The details in the scanned images make

them worth saving and looking at off-line. (You can almost read the dial numbers on his AK 82 cathedral.)

<http://www.iac.net/~syscon/claudio.html>

That's all this month. I have another tech insert that may be ready for republishing sometime soon, all about variacs. Until then, keep wandering on the web.

Collecting "Go Withs"

by Dan Howard

Some would call it "getting carried away." But I have always enjoyed collecting those "fringe" items that "go with" my radios. There are any number of items including perfume and razor blades that have "Radio" in the brand name. Then there are radio station give-away items, radio company catalogs, and of course my favorites, accessory items such as antenna insulators.

The theme for the Society's display at the 1996 car collector's show was "Radios made by companies that also made cars or car parts." We had Crosleys and Firestones, Ray Nelson's Pierce Aero radio, American Boschs, and a vintage Stromberg Carlson. It is amazing how many companies made both radio parts and car parts.

Of course one of the most famous is Atwater Kent. The company's ignitions, magnetos, and other auto parts were popular and are actually still fairly easy to find at auto swaps. In fact, I once picked up a bakelite Atwater Kent breadboard off-on switch at an auto show from a car parts dealer who took it for an after-market auto headlight switch.

Gilfillan is another company that made both auto parts and radios. Knowing of my interest in the area, Bob Campbell recently provided me with a 1920's vintage Gilfillan auto parts catalog. While reading the catalog this evening, I think that I may have found one of the neatest auto/radio go-with items. Gilfillan's part #AA36 is a wrench specially designed to fit Atwater Kent distributors. Now how's that for a Go-With?

Swap Shop

FOR SALE: Thousands of tubes, hundreds of radio parts, panels, meters, surplus, etc. R5-D3 electronic surplus, Bob Lee, 6111 Se 82nd Ave., Portland, OR, (503) 774-6560.

BUY, SELL, TRADE and RESTORE: Contact me for quality restoration service on most pre-1960 electronics. I also buy and sell early radios, TV's, tubes, parts and related items. I'll buy one item or a whole collection.

VISIT MY WEB SITE: <www.radiolaguy.com> or e-mail:

<sonny@radiolaguy.com>

Thanks, Sonny Clutter, phone (360) 834-5741

WANTED: *Parts for a Federal Model 61. Also need knobs for early WSA, RCA Navy receivers. Have Federal items to trade. Please call 775-6697, Dick Howard.

WANTED: *Antenna insulators and lightning arresters. 761-7799, Dan Howard.

WANTED: *A good flyback for RCA 8-inch portable TV, model 8-PT-7030.

RCA Victor part number 102045. in Sams 336-14. Glen Bricker
(541) 942-3717.

WANTED: Plastic escutcheon for an RCA 86T or 86E. Dave Vaughn, 292-5024 or message, 286-4750.

WANTED: Zenith chassis for a 6-S-27. Dave Vaughn, 292-5024 or message, 286-4750.

FOR SALE: Fair supply of good used tubes from '20's and '30's such as 01A;s, and 2-number tubes such as 24A, 26, 27, 41, 42, 45, 47, 75, 78, 80, and more! Also have new and used 211's and a pair of new 7591's. Glen Bricker, (541) 942-3717.

FOR SALE: ① Grunow console model. \$225, great cabinet.

② Zenith chairside 6-S-147, \$435.00.

③ Zenith chairside 9-S-244, \$535.00

④ 25 table radios, plastic, Bakelite, wood, \$15.00 to \$60.00

Dave Vaughn, 292-5024 or message, 286-4750.

From *The Literary Digest* for August 19, 1922. This set of photos from Oregon accompanied an article titled *Fighting Fire by Radio*.

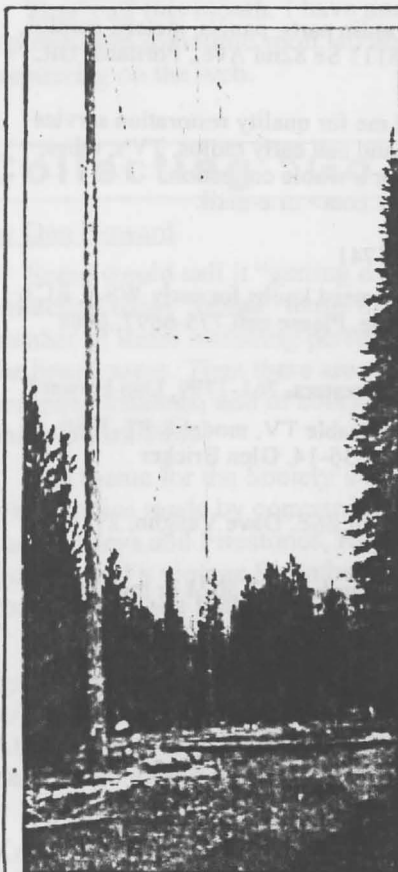


Photo courtesy of "Oregonian Radio" News Service

RADIO LOOKOUTS IN OUR FORESTS.

At the left an antenna, erected in the Nez Perce forest, at the right a forest service lookout on Mt. Hood in Oregon which receives and transmits reports of fires within a radius of many miles.

Member Information Update

We'd like to have accurate information about you to publish in the NWVRS Membership Roster. Please send this form (or a reasonable facsimile) with the blanks filled in to:

Rick Walton
3024 NE 49th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97213

Or send e-mail with this information to rwalton@teleport.com.

Name

Address

City

State Zip Code.....

Phone

HAM Call Sign.....

e-Mail.....

Hobby and Collecting interests.....

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