

The

Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol. 24

December 1998

No. 12



Reproducer
No. M1

*Magnavox brings you the
Voice of All Christmastide*

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) 648-4809
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
Librarian	Tony Hauser	(503) 629-4836

The Society's address is:

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



December 1998

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On the cover: From an ad in the *Literary Digest* for December 1, 1923, a Magnavox M1 Reproducer fills the air with the sounds of a boy's choir and the magic of the season.

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

Be sure to attend the meeting on December 12 in the Buena Vista Club House. The annual Holiday Party follows election of 1999 Officers.

**Visit the 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

It's time for the annual Holiday party and election of officers at our December meeting. Vice President George Kirkwood has put together a repeat of last year's party which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Bring some cookies or a salad; George is taking care of the hot snacks and the punch.

We've got lots of pictures in this issue, both from the last meeting and from the swap meet. Mike Parker reveals his letter to Santa naming all the radios he'd love to have. And I thought my teen-aged daughters list was long and extravagant! We've also got some technical tips from Dick Karman, who retrieved them from his *Call Letter* archives. And there's a song that I found on the Usenet news group, rec.antiques.radio+phono, that I've reprinted with the author's kind permission.

Next month, look for a report on the auction of Jim Mason's collection.

I've got to tell you a little story in connection with the garage cleaning at Jim Mason's following last month's meeting. I brought home a Hi-Fi preamp labeled "Custom High Fidelity." Before I had taken it off the shelf, I'd noticed that the top was loose and that there were papers inside. When I got home, I found that the papers were, as I suspected, a schematic and other specs. At the bottom of the schematic was a note that said "Constructed by James I. Mason, Designed by Walter Stepanovich." That Jim built it was no surprise. The designer was the surprise. Walter Stepanovich was the owner of the audio store in Honolulu where I worked when I was living there in the late '70's. Jim must have bought the kit from Walter's store, The Audio Center, soon after it opened in the early '50's. Some coincidence!

Have a wonderful Christmas, a happy Hanukkah, and a great New Year!

NWVRS Calendar of Events

- December 12** 10:00 am Annual Christmas Party following election of 1999 officers.
- December 13** PSARA monthly meeting and swap meet.
- January 9, 1999** 10:00 am First regular monthly meeting of the New Year.

Meeting Minutes

Liles Garcia, Secretary

President Dave Rutland called the November 14, 1998 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society to order at approximately 10:05 AM. There were approximately 30 members present. Members approved the October, 1998 meeting minutes.

Old Business

Call Letter—Rick Walton said that everything is going well with publishing our Call Letter.

Swap Meet—Members felt that our Swap Meet went well. Our next Swap Meet will be on May 8, 1999 at the Washington County Fairgrounds. The Triode Society would like to join us for this Swap Meet. Members gave Myron White a round of applause for his great work in arranging our Swap Meet.

NorthWest Car Collectors Show and Swap Meet—Our club exhibit received an award for an “Outstanding Exhibit” at the NWCCS in October.

Club Badges—Dave Rutland found a source for badges, but the cost was \$20.00 each. Other members will check and see if we can get a better price.

New Business

Jim Mason Estate Auction—Members discussed the upcoming auction of Jim Mason’s estate. Our club will receive part of the proceeds of the auction. Members voted to allow Sonny Clutter and Jerry Talbott to incur some necessary expenses for the auction. There will be a garage cleaning-out at Jim’s house this afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 this afternoon. Items will be free for the taking.

Nominations for Officers—The following nominations were made for next year’s officers:

President-Charles Kent, Vice-President-Myron White, Secretary-Liles Garcia, Treasurer-Ed Charman

Leads and Needs

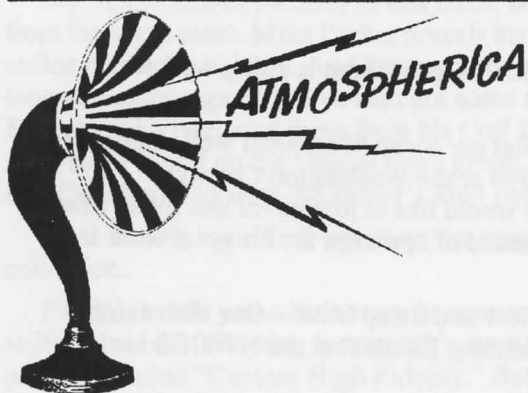
Gordon Mitchell needs an 8 inch speaker for a Zenith Model 42.

Dick Bixler has leads on an old RCA console radio and a Philco Model 36 Radio/Phonograph.

Christmas Party

Our December meeting will be our annual Christmas Party!!! Please plan to attend this meeting. We will have snacks after our regular meeting. Bring your favorite snack to share, but also read your December Call Letter to see what you may be asked to bring.

Members showed and discussed the Atwater-Kent radios and speakers that they brought. The meeting was adjourned.



by John Hagman of Burlington, Vermont

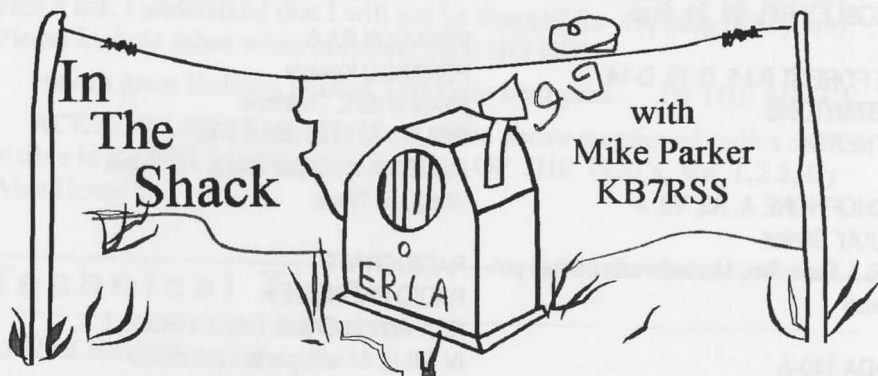
Used with permission.

(To the tune of "Impossible Dream", from the newsgroup rec.antiques.radio+phono version of "Man of La Mancha")

*To recap, the un-cap-able set
To repair, the unfindable wrong
To rewind, where the wires have broken
To restore, what the butchers have done!*

*For this is my quest, repair and restore
No set is too hopeless- or fit to ignore
To drive to ends of the earth in my car
To be willing to hear endless stories so boring by far!
But I know if I'll only be true to this glorious quest
That my heirs have a mess on their hands
When I'm laid to my rest*

*And the world will be better for this
That one man, burned and covered with scars
Still works at his bench until morning
To repair- the unfind-a-ble- wrong!*



In the Shack

A Letter To Santa

Dear Santa,

Please bring me the following old radios for Christmas. I will expect them under my tree in a timely manner. All of them need not work and you don't have to wrap them. Try to keep them dry! My chimney now has a gas vent insert inside of it, so you will have to find another way into the house! **DO NOT** talk to my wife!



Some of these radios are hard to find these days but I know that you know where everything is. You may want to start looking early. You can check my list, I have not been naughty but again, **DO NOT** ask my wife!

These are the radios I want:

ACE any
 AC DAYTON XL-10 glass, XL-50, XL-65
 AIRWAY F
 ANYLITE King Cole
 ALL-AMERICAN 44
 AMRAD reflex
 ATWATER KENT 5, 8, 9, 10-C
 AUDIOLA 3-dial

BOSCH little six
 BOSWORTH Air Set
 BREMER-TULLY Nameless

CASE 62-B

MARTI E
 METRODYNE 7
 MICHIGAN M-12
 MIRACO Ultra 5 (1926)
 MU-RAD MA-18
 MURDOCK 200
 MUSIC MASTER 250

NATIONAL SW-4, SW-5
 NEUTROWOUND Tone King
 NORTHLAND 3-dial
 NORTHWESTERN

OPERADIO

COLONIAL 17
CROSLEY RFL-60, 21, Pup

DE FOREST RJ-5, D-10, D-14
DISTANTONE
DYNERGY

ECHOPHONE A, R3, V3, 4
ELKAY Senior
ERLA Superflex, Monodic with perfect pot metal!

FADA 140-A
FEDERAL 57
FREED-EISEMANN NR-85
FRESHMAN Q-15

GILFILLAN GN-3, 10
GREBE CR-1, CR-17, CR-18, CR-19,
Synchronphase 7

HALOWAT RF, AW-5
HOWARD Green Diamond table model

INDIANA Hyperdyne 503

JACKSON-BELL 1929, Peter Pan
JONES J-75

KELLOGG Wave-Master
KENNEDY 110, V, XV, 20
KING 80 Baronet
KODEL C-11

LEUTZ Super 8
LONG F-5

MAGNAVOX Jr.
MARCONI 106

OZARKA Jr., Corona

PARAGON RA-6
PERASCO Kewpie
PFANSTIEHL Overtone
PHILCO 511 Mandarin, 90B
PILOT Wasp, Super Wasp, AC Super
Wasp, All Wave

RADIOCRAFT
RADIO PHONOLIER
RCA Aeriola Grand, Radiola Grand, I, II,
IV, VII-B, 44 with perfect pot metal!
REZEDON

SCOTT World's Record Super 9
SILVER-MARSHALL 635
SLAGLE IV
SLEEPER Monotrol
SONORA A-46, G-880
SPLITDORF Abbey
STEINITE 26-1, 27, 261
STEWART WARNER 365

THOROLA 57
TRI-CITY any
TROPODYNE
TUSKA 301
TYRMAN Superhet

WARE AD-2
WAV-O-DYNE
WESTERN COIL Radiodyne WC-15Jr.
WESTERN ELECTRIC 2-C
WIRELESS SPECIALTY IP-500
WORKRITE Chum
WURLITZER 9 3-dial

ZANEY-GILL any
ZENITH 1-R, 2-R, 3-R, 4-R, 11, 11-E, 12,
33

Well, that is all I can think of for now, I will find some more for next year's list. I understand that I will not be charged for shipping in any way. Please include tubes when possible....HO HO HO!

Have a great Holiday Season, QSO you next year.....IN THE SHACK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT; Most of the above mentioned radios are visible in RADIO MANUFACTURERS OF THE 1920's, Vol. 1,2,3, By Alan Douglas.

Technical Tips

by Dick Karman

Here are some tech tips from a 1987 issue of the *Call Letter*...

Soft rubber parts that have become hardened with age can, in most cases be softened by soaking them in or rubbing them with glycerin or automobile brake fluid.

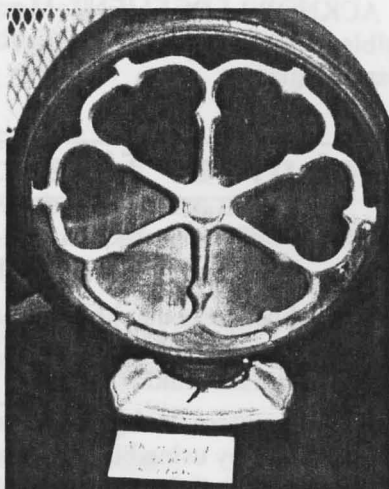
You can restore the black hard rubber portion of a horn speaker to it's original finish by using black paste shoe polish. Be sure to clean the horn surface first with light detergent. Apply paste wax (either black or clear) with a hard brush to work it in to Krinkle finish. After it's dry, buff with a polishing rag.

Breaks and chips in cast iron parts can be filled or repaired with epoxy- type mending glues, or automotive-type body putty. these materials can be shaped and molded while pliable and sanded and painted when hard.

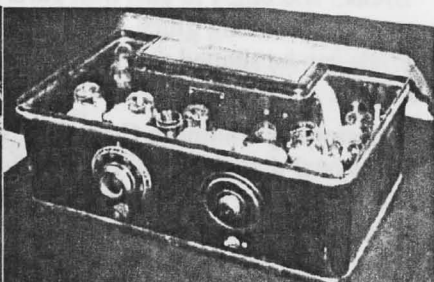
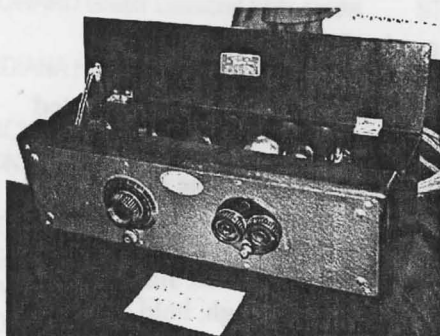
Occasionally Philmore Crystal Sets are found missing the glass cover for the crystal detector. You can use the glass envelope of a Loctal tube with great success. Remove the glass from the base by scratching the glass carefully where it meets the base with a miniature file. Just keep rotating it against the file. When the scratch is deep enough, hold the glass and gently tap the base on all sides until it breaks off. Rub fine emery cloth on the cut edge to smooth it. The glass envelope is about the right size and fits well.

November Meeting Photos

Photography by Rick Walton



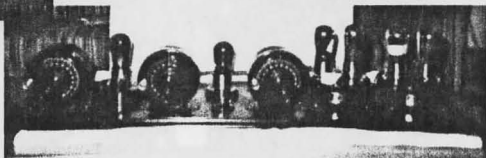
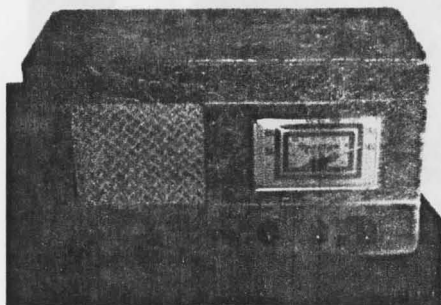
(L) 1933 A-K 246 and (R) 1926 Model E speaker - Alan Shadduck



(L) 1928 A-K 48 - Alan Shadduck; (R) A-K 46 - Rick Walton



A-K Model L chassis in Radio-Arts cabinet - Ron Hershey



(L) Sparton table radio - Owner not identified; (R) A-K Model 12? and Speaker - Glen Bricker

Fall Swap Meet Photos

Photography by Bob Campbell



(L) Ray Nelson; (R) Ed Charman at the membership table.



Gordon setting up!



Look at that Breadboard!



Tubes, tubes, and more tubes.



Nice cathedral.

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: Vintage Radio, Early Television and Hi-Fi.

Wanted: Tubes, Parts and whatever you might have related to early radio & TV. Visit my web-site at: < <http://www.radiolaguy.com> > or e-mail me at: < sonny@radiolaguy.com >

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

WANTED: The Crystal Radio Guy wants crystal sets and toy germanium diode radios. Buy outright, or trade for other radios. Galen (503) 231-9708.

WANTED: Sams complete folder of Set 44. Jerry Talbott (503-649-6717).

Roster Corrections

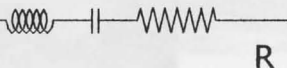
*Schalk, Dick

2729 SE 74th Avenue

Portland, OR 97206

(503)774-1085 dschalk@rodgers.rain.com

Philco table radios



* Address and work phone corrections.

Time to Renew Your Membership

All Memberships Expire in December

Send the information requested below with a check for \$15 to the
Treasurer
Ed Charman, P.O. Box 82379, Portland, OR 97282.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Collecting interest _____

Ways you'd like to help. _____
