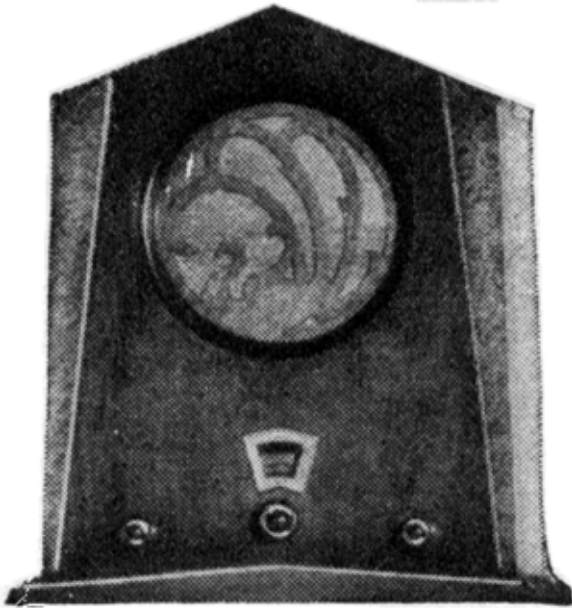


*The*

# *Call Letter*

*June 2000*  
*Vol. 26 — No. 6*



*Jackson Bell  
Company*

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Celebrating **25** years in print!

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# 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 society members, the *Call Letter* has continued to be a publication that informs members of the society’s business and that supports 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 Abernethy Grange Hall at 15745 S. Harley Ave. 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 for 2000:

President	Charles Kent	(503) 281-9335
Vice-President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288
Board member at large	Dave Rutland	(541) 929-4498
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135

The Society’s address is:

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



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# June 2000

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**On the cover:** This photo of a Jackson Bell cathedral is one of thirty photos of various radio makes that illustrate an article entitled “Up and Coming! The Midget Receiver” in the January 1931 issue of *Radio News*.

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**Call Letter Deadline: 10 days prior to meeting day.**

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**The next meeting is on June 10. The monthly feature is Jackson-Bell sets of any kind!  
Tailgate swap meet starts at 8:30!**

**Visit our web site at <http://nwvrs.org>.**

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.

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## From the Editor

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by *Call Letter* Editor, Rick Walton

Have you taken a look at the club's web site recently? If you haven't, you've missed Dave Brown's superb job of maintaining it. If you are wondering what the feature is for the next meeting (and you haven't received your *Call Letter* yet), you'll find out by visiting the web site. You haven't attended a meeting for months and you've gotten fuzzy about the location? Check the web site; there's a link to a map that'll take you right to the Abernethy Grange Hall. Want to take another look at all those radios that showed up at the last meeting? Dave's got all the pictures there for viewing. Keeping up a web site takes time and effort, and Dave has clearly spent plenty of both on the club's behalf. Let's be sure to give Dave the thanks and recognition he deserves for taking on this task and doing it very well. Thanks, Dave! And thanks, too, for taking pictures at the May meeting.

Well, I went to the Swap Meet and came home with three radios, three tubes, a camera full of pictures, and some disturbing news: the money we took in at the swap meet is just about all there is in the treasury. We've known for some time that we spend money faster than we take it in and we've discussed a dues increase, but for quite a while we've had a comfortable cushion that helped prevent us from seeing this day arrive. Hopefully the lump sum referred to in the minutes is now in an interest-bearing account and doing its part to slow the treasury drain. Let's be ready to thoughtfully discuss our finances at the meeting on June 10.

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## NWVRS 2000 Calendar of Events

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- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>June 10</b>     | Regular monthly meeting. Monthly feature: any Jackson-Bell radio. Last meeting before the Summer break. |
| <b>July 16</b>     | Forest Grove Concours D'Elegance. Tentative NWVRS display. Contact Jerry Talbott at (503) 649-6717.     |
| <b>August 12</b>   | Summer Swap at Abernethy Grange (normal meeting place).   |
| <b>September 9</b> | Regular monthly meetings resume after Summer break.   |
| <b>October 7</b>   | Fall Swap Meet, NG Armory at Wash. Co. fairgrounds.   |
| <b>October 14</b>  | Regular monthly meeting.  |

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# Meeting Minutes

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by Liles Garcia, NWVRS Secretary

President Charles Kent called the May 13, 2000 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:10 AM.

To help clear up some possible misinformation, Charlie noted that the sum of money that our club owns is not meant to offset the need for future dues increases. Dick Howard added that his intent was that the interest from the money to be used to offset the need for any dues increases.

An addition to the minutes from last meeting is that two of our Charter Members, Don Iverson and Don Hunker, were unintentionally left from the minutes.

Lloyd Harris brought the doughnuts for today's meeting. Many thanks to Lloyd!!! Sonny Clutter volunteered to bring the doughnuts for the June meeting.

## Old Business

Our Club's Money—The club's lump sum of money will be in a money market account later this month.

## New Business

May Swap Meet—Charlie asked for volunteers to take admission at our swap meet. Several members volunteered. The Friday evening set up time is from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM, and Saturday morning set up time starts at 7:00 AM. Our swap meet will be from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and we plan to take admission from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Local radio stations, the Hillsboro Argus, and the Oregonian will advertise and promote our swap meet. Members discussed having an auction at the swap meet, and generally agreed to have the auction. We then voted to have all proceeds from the auction to go to the Club.

PT Boat Restoration—Dick Bixler is working with a group that is restoring an old PT boat. He needs to know what radio and communication equipment was on a PT boat.

## Leads and Needs

- Jerry Talbott has some information on microphones.
- Ed Charman brought in some catalogs from Electron Tube Enterprises.
- Glen Bricker has a full set of Riders for sale.

- Dick Howard needs a special tube socket—see him for more details.
- Dave Brown needs a power transformer that has high voltage outputs, 2.5VAC, and 5VAC.

## Program

Today's program item was tubes. Members showed and discussed the tubes and associated equipment that they brought. The following members won ribbons for their tube displays:

First place—Don Iverson and George Kirkwood

Second place—Sonny Clutter

Third place—Lloyd Harris

The program topic for the June meeting will be Jackson Bell cathedral radios.

*Editor's note: At the swap meet, at least two different members approached me to let me know that the program topic includes any Jackson Bell receiver, not just cathedrals.*

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## The Hoot Owls Midnight Ode

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*Editor's note: The Hoot Owls were a group of local businessmen who were heard every Friday night on KGW radio between 10:30 p.m. and Midnight. The program first aired in January of 1923 and ended in 1934. This piece is reprinted from the "Call Letter" of January, 1992.*

Friends: The midnight hour is at hand and tomorrow will soon become today. What is gone is done. Each song or jest far-flung is on it's way to join the ages of the past. Here we stand, the center of a mighty web of golden waves; radiant waves which travel as a thought to countless thousands, to happy homes and cheerful firesides, but as well to some less fortunately blessed by fate. Should anyone ask us, "Why the Hoot Owls?" this is our answer; "Go spread a little sunshine." And to our earnest prayer: "That to those who laugh we send our mirth to linger, but to those deprived of sunshine and the joy of living, with each song or laugh, or jest, we send our blessing and our hope that to some pale lips we may have brought a smile and to others a moment's rest from pain." And as the day is ending and another being born, by the ancient symbol of the chimes we voice our hope that tomorrow may be more happy than today for friends whose portion has been most hard to bear.

TODAY IS YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW IS TODAY

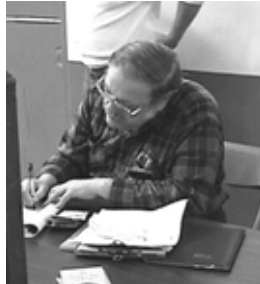
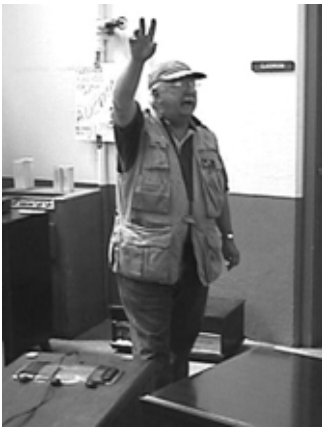
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# Swap Meet Photos

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Photos by Rick Walton









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## A Look Back

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This look back comes from *The Sunday Oregonian* of September 28, 1924. This

### Radio Ripples

California leads the states in numbers of broadcasting stations in operation, and New York is first among the cities, a study of department of commerce lists discloses. The sunny state again holds the premier position with a total of 44 stations on the air, Pennsylvania being second with 36, Ohio third with 32, and Texas fourth, having 30 broadcasters. Other states trail along as follows: New York and Illinois 29 each, Washington and Missouri 23, Iowa 21, Nebraska 17 and Michigan 16.

Among the most active cities, New York boasts of 12, Philadelphia follows with 11, Chicago 10, Los Angeles and Seattle 9 each, Minneapolis and New Orleans 8, St. Louis and Omaha 7, and Denver, Washington, D.C.; Portland, Or., and Pittsburg, 6 each

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# Photo Display

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Photos by Dave Brown

A few photos of the celebration and many photos of all those radios!



**Dick Howard and his tube display**



**Dave Brown's tubes**



**Don Iverson and his collection**



**George Kirkwood and his collection**





**Glen Bricker and his tubes for display**



**Jerry Talbott and collection**



**Gordon's tube display**



**Gordon Phillips**

**Joe Beseda**



**Joe's tubes**





# Service Rates Fifty Years Ago...

Submitted by Jerry Talbott

Here's an interesting piece of historical information.

MARCH, 1950

NORTHWEST ELECTRONIC WORLD

PAGE ELEVEN

## RADIO SERVICE RATES

\* Suggested prices for average repair operations

Alignment and calibration (A.M. only), single band .....	\$4.50
Additional bands, each .....	1.50
Audio Transformer replacement .....	6.50
Auto Antenna Installation, side coil, double drilling .....	2.00
top coil and fender .....	3.00
Automatic Record Changer adjustments minor job .....	4.50
major job .....	7.50-12.50
Condenser replacement—Paper by-pass or coupling (minimum) .....	4.50
Filter, single section (consoles & auto) (Add price of part) .....	6.50
AC-DC filter section (Add price of part) .....	4.50
AC-DC additional sections (Add price of part), each .....	1.00
Consoles & auto sets, addtl. sec. (Add price of part), each .....	1.50
Dial drive cable replacement AC-DC sets .....	2.00
Dial drive cable replacement Consoles, etc. (minimum) .....	3.00
Dial lamp replacement .....	.50
Dial pointer or scale (minimum) .....	1.50
Discriminator transformer replacement (Add price of part) .....	7.50
Estimate or diagnosis (in shop) (minimum) .....	1.00
Filter choke replacement (Add price of part) .....	6.50
IF transformer replacement (Add price of part) .....	6.50
Headphone jack & switch installation (spr. Voice coil) incl. parts .....	5.00
Oscillator coil replacement .....	7.50
Phonograph pickup replacement .....	4.50
Phonograph crystal cartridge replacement and checking (Add price of part) .....	1.50
Phonograph crystal cartridge replacement and checking (slide out type) .....	1.00
Phonograph jack and switch installation including parts .....	6.50
Pick-up and delivery (in district) .....	3.00
Power transformer replacement (Add price of part) .....	7.50
RF or IF transformer replacement .....	6.50
Resistor replacement AC-DC sets .....	4.50
Consoles and auto sets .....	6.50
Switches—Push-button or multi-section wafer, cleaning .....	3.50
Replacement of push-button or multi-section wafer (min.) .....	7.00
Radio-phono switch, single, replacement (minimum) .....	4.50
Service call (in district) .....	2.00
Tone control replacement, HF by-pass type (Add price of part) .....	4.50
Tube checking or replacement, remove chassis .....	1.00
Tube checking or replacement, AC-DC without removing chassis .....	.50
Tube socket replacement (minimum) .....	4.50
Vibrator replacement, plug-in (Add price of part) .....	1.00
Vibrator replacement, wire-in (Add price of part) .....	6.50
Volume control replacement (consoles and auto sets) (Add price of part) .....	6.50
Volume control replacement (AC-DC and midgerts) (Add price of part) .....	4.50

\*This list is a suggested basis for figuring the total bill of average repair jobs. Replacement of minor parts such as resistors or by-pass condensers is generally figured at \$1.50 each, after two main operations have been performed. On small AC-DC sets, a service charge of \$1.00 for each minor part replaced in addition to one main operation at price listed. For intermittent or obscure troubles, costs are substantially higher than this listing.

This price list is a result of careful study of average charges for typical service jobs encountered in Seattle shops in the radio repair business. It takes into consideration the shop time and overhead, professional skill, and guarantee of work done.

Compiled and approved by the

**MASTER RADIO SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

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## Swap Shop

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**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](mailto: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:** \*I'm looking for the following items:

- 1) Speaker for a Philco Model 41-220
  - 2) Dial handle (with gold accent center) for a Emerson 706B
  - 3) Isolation Transformer
- Scott Hoke (503) 646-9392

**FOR SALE:** A small collection of vintage radios belonging to Bill Bietelspach, a friend of Jerry Talbott's:

1932 Philco Grandfather Clock radio, 70 chassis. \$500

1947 Philco 47-1227, console radio / phono. \$150

1927 Kolster AC console Model 6J. \$200

1940 Zenith console, Model 10S464. \$300

1931 Crosley console, Model 124. \$150

1936 RCA 5T tombstone. \$150

1928 AK 40 (2) both for \$125

1924 AK 20 (short version) \$100

1925 AK 20 (long version) \$100

Please do not call until after June 12th. Ask for Bill at 503-648-0237.

## Leads and Needs

Dave Brown needs to find an AF transformer for a Crosley Model 51 out of either a Model 51 or another model which used the same transformer.

47 Hardbound books of Sams Photofacts. Miscellaneous radio parts and tubes. Call Mark at 642-1637.

Also see the meeting minutes.

# Meeting Location!

Our monthly meetings are held in the Abernathy Grange Hall, located at 15745 S. Harley Ave. in Oregon City. Here are instructions for getting there and a map.

1. Take the OR-213 exit, exit number 10, towards PARK PLACE/MOLALLA.
2. From the South, turn RIGHT onto SR-213, or from the North, keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp and merge onto SR-213.
3. Turn LEFT at the first traffic light onto CLACKAMAS RIVER DR.
4. Turn RIGHT onto S FORSYTHE RD.
5. Turn LEFT onto S HARLEY AVE. The Abernathy Grange Hall is a little past S. Taylor Lane.

The written instructions came from “Map Quest” on the Internet; the map is scanned from a AAA map with much detail removed for the sake of clarity.

