

The

Call Letter

July, 2005
Vol. 31 — No. 7

Citizen's

RADIO CALL BOOK

50¢
N.S.E.

A COMPLETE
RADIO CYCLOPEDIA

MAGAZINE



"Used the World Over"

30 years in print!

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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 \$25.00 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.

With each issue of the *Call Letter*, we remember Jim Mason, a charter member of the society who remained active until his death in 1999. A generous bequest from Jim's estate ensures the vitality of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, and continued publication of the *Call Letter*



Society Officers for 2005:

President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
Vice-President	Dave Brown	(503)585-4667 ironradio@qwest.net
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387 enamrahc@peoplepc.com
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288 landn2@verizon.net
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On the cover: This magazine cover from the early days of radio is one of a dozen that made up the art for a 2003 calendar given to me by NWVRS member Ron Hershey. The young sailors in this picture taking advantage of a rare moment of play remind us of the young men and women who guard the freedom that we celebrate on July 4.

The next meeting is on June 11, 2005.

July Feature: Cathedrals.

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

May Call Letter Deadline: August 3, 2005.

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

As I prepare this column, the weather is finally beginning to take on a summery feel. I was afraid that it would verify my cynical view that the summer sun doesn't make its appearance in Oregon until July 5th.

An important event in the life of the NWVRS is about to take place. For the first time since long before I became a member, the club will hold a July meeting. I think this is a great idea, but I'll reserve final judgement until we've held these meetings and can gauge the interest of the membership. If the attendance holds pretty close to the rest of the meetings, I think we'll be able to say the summer meetings are a success.

In Leads and Needs this month you'll notice a lead on a Thorola Model 57 TRF set with a picture. I listed that one because last month, following a wedding in Spokane, my wife and I and several other members of her family stayed at a bed and breakfast near Deer Park, WA. I had noticed the remains of a '20s vehicle in a shed when we arrived so I asked the owners, Tony Dinatale and Peggy Beckmeyer, about it. The car I saw in the shed is just a source of parts. Tony, it turns out, restores and shows antique cars, so I *casually* mentioned that I collected antique radios. As often happens, Tony said that he had one in the garage. Of course I had to see it as well as the 1926 Chrysler that he is restoring. The car is an amazing piece of work that will likely show up in Forest Grove at Concours d'Elegance in the next year or two. The radio is not in quite as good shape, but it is an interesting set all the same. I promised Tony I would let my fellow collectors know about his radio. Thus the listing in Leads and Needs. I might have bought it myself if I hadn't already used up the "radio budget" at an antique store in Spokane.

Speaking of TRFs, this month's "In the Shack!", a reprint from May 1995, recounts how Mike came up with a set he'd been wanting to add to his collection, and how fellow club members helped him in his search for parts and material to restore the Halowat 3-dialer. A quick check in the *Call Letter* archive file cabinet turned up the original print masters for the May, 1995, issue with the original color photo that Dick Karman used. I was able to scan it to provide a high quality image for the article. I was even able to enlarge the logos on the front panel to add new graphics to the article. Those archives are great.

As mentioned in the meeting minutes, I've received roster update information from Ed Charman and I should have new club rosters available for those who attend the July meeting. We'll mail the rosters not picked up, but the postage is expensive, so please pick up your roster at the meeting if you possibly can.

NWVRS 2005 Calendar of Events

- July 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 15-17** Glacier-Waterton International Peace Park Hamfest July 18-20, 2003, East Glacier, MT.
<http://www.gwharnfest.org>
- July 30** Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Hamfest. Lewis County Fair Grounds, Chehalis, WA. For details, contact John Ellingson, K7OSK, k7osk@boatanchor.com.
- August 13** NWVRS monthly meeting and Summer picnic - Cham-poeg State Park. Details to follow.
- August 13** Hamfest and Electronics Flea Market, Radio Club of Tacoma; Bethel Junior High School
22001 38th Avenue East, Spanaway, WA
- August 13** Hamfest - Swapmeet. Bandon, OR. (Note new date!!!) Located at the "Barn" (Bandon's Community Center). Sponsored by the Coos County Radio Club. Contact Paul, K7AIA at (541)888-2050 or k7aia@arrl.net.
- August 13** Christina Lake Amateur Radio Picnic/Camp out. Christina Lake Motor Inn, Christina lake, BC, Canada. For information, contact janroy@shaw.ca, (250)497-6136.
- August 13** The 8th Annual Greater Portland Insulator Swap. Located on Mt. Scott in southeast Portland - 9999 SE Frenchacres Dr. Portland, OR Starts at 1:00 pm and runs until early evening. No charge. For more information contact Dan Howard (503)761-7799 email strains@msn.com.
- August 20** Longview Hamfair. New location at the Castle Rock Fairgrounds. Sponsored by the Lower Columbia Amateur Radio Association. For information contact Bob, KB7ADO, KB7ADO@aol.com. Flyer in PDF, (37K)
Map in PDF, (3 IK)
- August 21** Antique Radio Swap Meet. Sponsored by the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association. 9 AM to 1 PM. Shoreline museum parking lot. N. 175th & Linden, Avenue, North Seattle. One block west of Aurora Ave. or one mile west of 1-5, exit 176. Free admission.

- September 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 24** Spokane Hamfest. (ARRL Washington State Convention) New University High School, Spokane, WA 99206. <http://www.kbara.org>. Info, contact Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ, n7wrq@aol.com.
- Sept 30 - Oct 2** Pacific Northwest VHF Society Annual Conference. Shilo Inn, Seaside Oregon, http://www.pnwvhfs.org/pressreleases/PR_12182004.htm
- October 8** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale at Salvation Army Rose Center.
- October 22** Swap-Toberfest, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Oregon, (Ten miles west of Salem). This is a big one and a good one! For information, contact n7bud@arrl.net. <http://www.swaptoberfest.net/>
- October 29** Mount Baker Amateur Radio Club Flea Market, Lynden, WA. <http://www.qsl.net/k7skw/fleamarket.htm>. Info, contact k7iey@netscape.net
- November 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2006.
- December 10** NWVRS monthly meeting and annual Holiday Party 10 am. Election of officers for 2006.

NWVRS Meeting Minutes

By Liles Garcia. NWVRS Secretary

President George Kirkwood called the June 11, 2005 meeting of the NorthWest Vintage Radio Society meeting to order at 10:05 AM. There were 38 members and guests at our meeting today. Dan Dukes, Rick Ryan, and Ray Ybarra attended our meeting today as guests. Members welcomed our guests with a round of applause. The meeting minutes for the April meeting were approved as printed in the May Call Letter. There are no meeting minutes from the May meeting since that meeting was our Swap Meet. Treasurer Ed Charman gave the Treasurer's report, and it was approved as provided by Ed. George has the CD's for sale that portray the 30 year history of our Society. Sonny said that Speed Feldschau is not doing very well, and that he would welcome visits from Society members. George complimented Rick Walton on the Call Letter

cover and also on the information about Jim Mason that is in the Call Letter. Many thanks to Rick!

Old Business

Swap Meet — Sonny reported that our Swap Meet went very well, and that he received several positive comments about the Swap Meet. Robby Robinson added that he received positive comments also. We discussed how to attract more public interest in our Swap Meets.

Zenith Museum Trip — Our tour to the Zenith museum will be on June 14 at 1:00 PM. Electrical Distributing Inc. is located at 4600 NW St. Helens Road in Portland.

New Business

Membership Roster — Ed and Rick will assemble the information for a new membership roster.

Leads and Needs

Gordon Phillips needs an 8 inch electrodynamic speaker.

Larry Tobkin and Glen Bricker need knobs and push buttons for a Crosley 02CP and 03CB.

Damon Vandehey needs the pointer dial for a Silvertone 4551.

Dick Dielschneider needs a working Grunow 750 chassis.

Program Topic

The program topic for this meeting was “Tuning Eye Radios”. Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought. The program topic for the July meeting will be “Cathedral Radios”.

The meeting was adjourned.

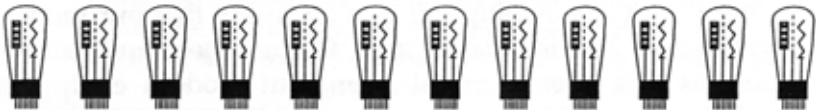


Photo Display

Photos by Dave Brown

Here are the radios displayed by members at the June meeting for the month's feature, radios with tuning eyes.



Silvertone - Glen Bricker



Simplex - Dave Brown



Searchlight - Sonny Clutter



Kortain - Bill Meloy



Zenith - Mark Richardson



Airline - Roger Brown

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRs members

Compiled by Sonny Clutter

Sonny Clutter: a 1925 Neutrowound “Super Six” model 1926 battery radio. A long breadboard type.

Rick Walton: a Philco model 38-9 wood table set. Very Art Deco styling.

UNMATCHED FOR TONE

HALOWAT All-Wave Type A'W' in "A" Cabinet, price - \$125.00
The new "All-Wave" may also be had in several other cabinet models in addition to one shown.

Prove to yourself HALOWAT superiority

The dealer who sells the HALOWAT knows from experience that "comparison proves its superiority". He will gladly demonstrate it against any other receiver, regardless of price. If its volume and clarity of tone do not win you in its favor, you will not be obliged to buy.

The quality of tone in the new Halowat "All-Wave" Receiver must be heard to be appreciated; its superior design, painstaking assembly and simplicity of operation must be seen, to convince you of its outstanding superiority to other makes.

It gets distance with clarity of tone that is amazing! It spans the full band of wave lengths from 185 to 570 meters with equal efficiency. In short, it gives everything one could wish for in a fine receiver—something heretofore unattained.

A few tube, tuned, radio frequency receiver with two dial control—with direct reading of wave lengths in the dial. Designed to use the new Power tube as audio-amplifier. Ultra modern audio transformer, the most advanced and proven backing, essential for the wide range and marvellous depth of tone in Halowat.

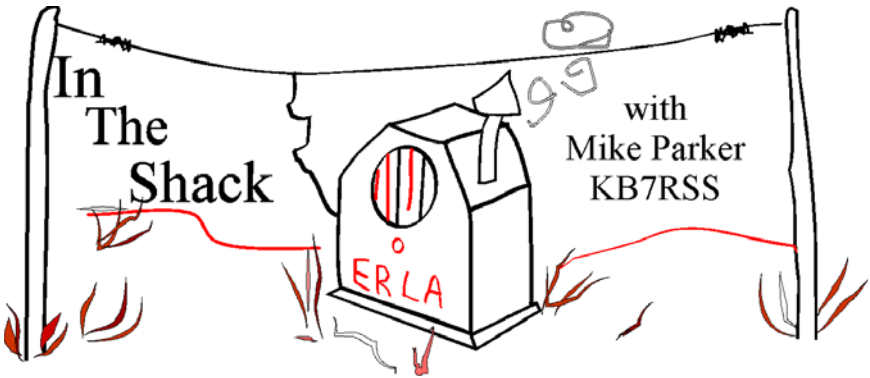
Do not buy any receiver until you have compared the Halowat. Sold only thru authorized Halowat dealers.

HALLOCK & WATSON RADIO CORP'N
 PORTLAND, OREGON

There is still some available territory for wide awake dealers. Write for information.

HALOWAT

"COMPARISON PROVES ITS SUPERIORITY"



Editor's note: This "In The Shack" article is from the May, 1995 Call Letter.

Ever since I became interested in 1920's radios, I decided there are two battery sets that I must have in my collection: an Atwater Kent breadboard, and a Portland built battery set — preferably a Halowat.



Well, I still don't have a breadboard, but I came across a Halowat last summer in a rather interesting way.

In the past few years, I have gotten to know Don Iverson quite well. Here is a guy as interesting as his collection of various radios and radio related items, a person with a full time repair shop known as "Wireless Antiques", and able to fabricate his own parts from scratch, if necessary. Don is a charter NWVRS member.

I have never seen Don without at least 3 or 4 projects going on at once, except during his recent time in the hospital. A creative individual, Don has been "at it" for about 40 years. Name an old rare radio part or tube and sure enough, Don has it somewhere! Who else has a working spark transmitter in his living room?

One day while Don and I were prowling through his attic, a virtual "wrecking yard" of 1920's receivers. One was very complete and one appeared to be all there but missing some parts. Don wouldn't part with the good one but was willing to comes to terms with me on the partial set, a 1926 model Halowat TR-5 three-dial...Made in Portland!

Don didn't see any reason to have two Halowats and I discussed my plans to restore the parted out one to operation, so he decided to sell it to me. He even offered to look through his junk for extra parts and eventually found a few.

As I put the old piece of “junk” in the car, I was so thrilled that I don’t even remember driving home!

Upon closer inspection, “In the Shack”, I found that it was missing the rheostat and the hard to find rheostat knob, the switch, some tube sockets and some binding posts. Someone, years ago, had cut out many of the square busbar connections under the panel, (Don swears he didn’t do it) and found it “as is”.

To the rescue came another friend and long time NWVRS member, Jim Mason. Jim had a nice Halowat TR-5 in his vast collection and when I told him my restoration plans, he kindly let me borrow his set to use as a model.

This kind of cooperation by Don Iverson and Jim Mason is what a radio club is all about and I thank them both for their efforts.

I carefully took Mason’s Halowat out of the cabinet and set the chassis upside down. I could now see what my Halowat was missing.

After I compared the two, I marveled at how anybody, other than a nitwit, could have butchered a radio like that! The square busbars were clipped in a crude, illogical manner. Many nuts, bolts, and screws were lost including some hard to find acorn nuts, used to mount the tube sockets to the top of the bakelite sub-panel. The amber colored “spaghetti” tubing used to cover the busbars was gone. The whole set was filthy.

Many would have given up in disgust, but I had a vision...a perfect, playing Halowat receiver! I had to get busy, I couldn’t keep Mason’s Halowat forever and besides, I had a goal, to fulfill that vision.

I had to order new busbar from Antique Electronic Supply 6221 S. Maple Ave. Tempe, AZ. 85283. Listed in their catalog as “Early Style Square Bus Wire”, it is part No. SW-140 and costs \$2.00 per 10 ft. roll, plus S&H charges.

My own parts collection produced some of the Eby binding posts, as well as identical small “Mica Sandwich” capacitors, one with the grid leak clips. Also, an identical make rheostat appeared. I had to send away for the correct switch.

Another well known NWVRS member, Sonny Clutter, unknowingly supplied the authentic color of wire spaghetti when I picked up a nearly stripped out 1929 Coast Guard receiver from his “free” pile at his radio garage sale last summer.

I cleaned every inch of the Halowat with cotton balls, Q-tips and water or liquid wrench, A lot of work but after a while, no more grime and no more bakelite scratches.

Finding the nickel plated acorn nuts was another story and I learned a lesson the hard way after several wild goose chases. Don't just go to Freddy's or Ace Hardware and expect things to magically appear. They won't! Go to specialty places like General Threaded Products, 2318 S.E. 10th, Portland or, Winks Hardware, 903 N.W. Davis, Portland. There are other places I won't list here.

For about \$3.00 and \$20.00 worth of gas, I found the exclusive nickel plated caps at Winks. They are almost identical, but have a lower profile hex cut. They don't cut them nowadays like they did in the 1920's. The lesson here is: Anything new and nickel plated is very scarce, these days.

With all the parts ready, I went to work. The square bus wire pieces must be measured and bent accordingly. I used a long nosed pliers, being careful not to mar up or twist the bus wire, I cut the spaghetti to fit and butt spliced the new bus wire to the old, forming the pieces to look just like the ones in Mason's Halowat. I could just see the assembly workers in the 1920's, doing this all day for a mere pittance. We have come a long way in electronic assembly!

The bus wires require a lot of heat and I found that an old style big soldering iron worked the best, after I got the feel of it. They are clumsy at first. A high power soldering gun would work, as well.

Finally, the magic moment arrived and I put in the tubes and hooked it up. Response was very good and the Halowat is quite a performer. It pulls in a lot of stations with good volume for a 5 tube TRF and compares favorably to the Fada 192-A, Atwater Kent 20 and Grebe Synchronphase.

"Halowat" was a trade name used by the Hallock and Watson Radio Corporation and formed by combining the owners last names. The address on my set is 192 Park St., Portland, Ore. With the help of my friend Bill Hayes, a local Portland historian and ex-radio repairman, we discovered the company was located in a building that still stands at the corner of S.W. Park and Taylor Streets. They also operated radio station KGG for a time.



According to McMahon's "Radio Collectors Guide" Hallock and Watson listed a model RF-12 for 1922-23 at \$100. The last year listed was 1926 with my model TR-5 Halowat 3-dial (Serial No. 456) for \$90, and a 2 dial AW-5 for \$160. They may have made radios after that, as the Portland telephone directory lists Hallock and Watson as a radio repair shop on E. Grand Ave.

I would appreciate any info from other Halowat owners or any historical info on the company. I am looking for a copy of the 1990 “Call Letter” with an article on Halowat.

This was a fun project with a reward and I hope it will inspire anyone with “half a radio” to not give up and to finish the job.

Now, where is that elusive rheostat knob? It is 2 inches across. Black with an arrow part way around the skirt....Missing knobs are the curse of this hobby!

See you next time, “IN THE SHACK” ... 73’s Mike Parker



The Author's Halowat receiver



“... Oh, stop it, Joe—you’ll never be able to make a 201-A.”

Swap Shop

FOR SALE: Thousands of tubes, hundreds of radio parts, panels, meters, surplus, etc. R5-D3 electronic surplus, Bob Lee, 9770 S.E. Stanley Ave., Milwaukie, OR 97222, (503)513-0410

FOR SALE: The following Zenith consoles:
Zenith 1941 #12S569 \$500.00
Zenith 1942 #12H670 \$500.00
Dick Bosch, Ph. 360-693-3482

WANTED: Sams 222-complete folder needed, as this one is missing from my set. Jerry Talbott (503-538-4041) email (vinradio@easystreet.com)

Radio Service

These members have indicated they are willing to perform radio repairs:

Roger Brown - (503) 693-6089

Blake Dietze - (360) 944-7172, wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com

Tony Ranft - (360) 944-8489 or ranft@saw.net - General repairs.

Dave Wise - (503) 293-7835, _

If you are willing to repair radios, give your name, phone and/or e-mail, and any comments to the *Call Letter* editor.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is not responsible in any disputes arising from services provided by members listed here. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

Leads and Needs



This radio, a Thorola Model 57, is stored at a bed and breakfast near Deer Park, WA. It looks very restorable. All the parts are there, and it has a couple of spare 201A's in their boxes. Contact Rick Walton for additional photos. Contact Tony Dinatale at 509-276-8552.

Questions about restoration of vintage radio? Visit radiolaguy's web site often for this information plus lots of other interesting displays, photo's, virtual museum plus lots of other information on vintage radio and television. Oh, yes,

there are items for sale as well and NVRS members get a substantial discount on most of these items. Thank You, Sonny the Radiola Guy

Visit my vintage radio web site: <http://www.radiolaguy.com>

Member Information

Just in case we don't have your most current member information, please take the time to send the information requested on this form.

Name*:

Mailing Address*:

City, State, ZIP*:

Ham Call Sign:

E-mail:

Phone:

Collecting Interest (e.g. Battery sets, consoles, clock radios, etc.):

*Information we must have to be able to send you your Call Letter. The rest is optional, but we hope you'll share it with other club members.

Mail this sheet (or something like it) to Rick Walton at the society's mailing address:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Post Office Box 82379

Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

or e-mail the information to rwalton@easystreet.com.