

*The*

# *Call Letter*

September 2016

Vol 43, #9



**Speed Feldschau Memorial  
Picnic and Swap Meet**

# 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.

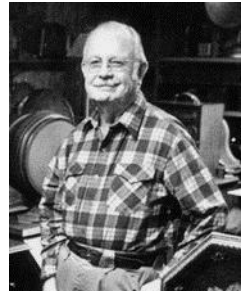
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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 at the Abernethy Grange Hall at 15745 S. Harley Ave. in Oregon City, Oregon. They convene at or about 9:30 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 shows, 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 2016:

President	Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	<a href="mailto:tranny53@frontier.com">tranny53@frontier.com</a>
Vice-president	Brian Toon (503) 266-5527	
Treasurer	Ed Tompkins (360) 573-3895	<a href="mailto:edtomp@Q.com">edtomp@Q.com</a>
Recording Sec'y	Liles Garcia (503) 649-9288	<a href="mailto:landn2@frontier.com">landn2@frontier.com</a>
Corresponding Sec'y	Pat Kagi (503) 694-6149	<a href="mailto:kagi.pat@con-way.com">kagi.pat@con-way.com</a>
Board member at large	Mark Moore (503) 286-5224	<a href="mailto:mark@pdxhistory.com">mark@pdxhistory.com</a>
Librarian	Damon Vandehey (503) 459-1777	
Editor	Don Hanson	<a href="mailto:vanguard4@lycos.com">vanguard4@lycos.com</a>

## On the Cover

2016 Speed Feldschau Picnic and Swap Meet  
Photography by Chris Butler

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## Announcements

Our September meeting will be the Annual Fall Show and sale.  
See flier on page 12 for details.

## September Meeting

No meeting this month.

## Editor's Note

Please have Call Letter Contributions in by **Sept 24**.

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Visit our web site at:

[www.nwvrs.com](http://www.nwvrs.com)

Find us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/nwvrs](http://www.facebook.com/nwvrs)

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## **A Letter from the President**

Well it's show time again. This summer just flew by. June was the trash-bash. Thanks to Brian Toon for getting the trailer. Everyone had fun getting rid of their junk, or finding treasures. I'm glad we moved the Speed Feldschau picnic and swap to August. Much better weather. Charlie Kent worked hard getting everything ready for the event. His Eagle friend Dave was a big help. Thanks to everyone that came early and stayed late for set-up and tear-down. Special thanks to Dick Karman for providing the wonderful entertainment.

September 10th is our Fall Show and sale. As usual located at the Eagles lodge in North Portland. The corner of Exeter and N. Lombard. I'm looking forward to another fun show. Charlie Still has tables available, \$15.00. Contact Charlie Kent and he can fix you up. Charlie and Rick Ryan always do a great job getting the hall ready for each swap meet. It takes a lot of work setting up the tables and laying out the extension cords so every table has power. Contact Rick or Charlie if you would like to help out. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Let's make the most of the rest of it. See you at the Show!

Mike

## **Update on First President Harley Perkins story**

By Dick Karman

The story from July about our first president stopped short of its end. Harley and his wife moved back to the Portland area in 2014. He attended and was honored at the December meeting (2014). His name was on the roster for 2015, but he was no longer collecting radios. I don't see him on our current mailing list, but I note that he had taken up residence in the downtown district of Portland. There are very few of our "founding members" still around. We have them to thank for what we are today and what we'll grow into tomorrow.

## Calendar of Events

**September 10. NWVRS Fall Swap Meet and Sale. See Ad Page 12.**

September 24. Washington State Convention (Spokane Hamfest)  
Spokane Valley, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* [Flyer in PDF](#)  
(430K) <http://www.kbara.org/> Contact, Betsy,  
N7WRQ. [n7wrq@aol.com](mailto:n7wrq@aol.com) (509)448-5821

September 24. K7MVA tailgate Swap Meet, Twin Falls, Idaho. [Flyer in PDF](#). (1.3MB)

October 2 ComFest, Delta, BC.  
[http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event\\_ID=1823](http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event_ID=1823)

October 7th & 8th. 2016 PNWVHFS conference, Bend, OR Pacific  
Northwest VHF Society Conference. *This is an ARRL sanctioned  
event.* <http://www.pnwvhfs.org/conference/2016/announcement.htm>

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October 8. Kitsap County Hamfest. [Note new location: The Filipino-  
American Community Center, 1240 Sheridan Rd, Bremerton, WA  
98310] *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Contact: Jim Nicolet,  
N7SYD, (360)874-0180. [hamfest@kcarc.org](mailto:hamfest@kcarc.org) <http://www.kcarc.org/>

# Monthly Feature

## 2016 Speed Feldschau Picnic and Swap Meet

Photography by Chris Butler











# Hallock and Watson, 1933-1937

By Art Redman

The big news for the firm of Hallock and Watson in 1933 was their adding Westinghouse lights and Majestic auto radios during July to their product line. Their new slogan began "Honest Work at Honest Price". The ads showed their location at 831 SE Grand Avenue using the current Portland address labeling system. The building today is the location of the City Home Furnishing store.

New ads emphasized "Service that Satisfies" and later Crosley radios for sale began during November 1933. Zenith radios became available beginning October 1933 thru February 1934. The February 8 ad was the last time a commercial ad for Hallock, and Watson appeared in the Oregonian.

Joe Hallock made news in 1933 as a radio announcer. One letter to the "Behind the Mike" column praised his Spanish on station KEX. Another old time radio fan and letter writer loved Hallock's diction remembering him as an announcer on station KGG.

The firm Hallock, Watson, and Yonge came in an end in 1935, which was the last time the firm was listed as a private Oregon corporation. There was no corporate registration in 1936. In 1937 without Roy Yonge, Joseph Hallock and Clifton Watson registered again as a corporation, which was the last time the firm or name appeared in the Oregonian.

Source:

Hallock and Watson, Majestic Auto Radio Ad, The Oregonian, July 23, 1933, page 36.

"Zenith Ad", Mentioning Hallock and Watson, October 12, 1933, page 3.



## Men who found and restored antique radio looking for family who had to give it up

Posted: Jul 15, 2016 PM PDT - Updated: Jul 15, 2016 PM PDT

By KATU Reporter Marilyn Deutsch



A vintage radio has been restored after surviving a Gresham house fire, and now two men are trying to return it to the family who had to give it up before going into a World War II internment camp.

PORTLAND, OR (KPTV) –

A 1939 Zenith Stars and Bars vintage radio sits in Pat Kagi's home waiting to be claimed. If it looks out of place, it's because the radio dates back to a time when a radio could be 40 inches tall and an elegant piece of living room furniture.

It brought the outside world into America's homes.

It would have brought word of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor and America's entry into World War II.

Americans listening would have also heard of America's plans to send Japanese-Americans living on the west coast inland to internment camps. This valuable old radio, in fact, was once owned by one of those Japanese-American families.

Will Barnett, a local electrician, bought it after it was blackened and nearly destroyed in a Gresham house fire. The man he bought

the radio from told him that the original owners had been sent to an internment camp, but he did not know the family's name.

When he got the radio home, Barnett first set out to restore the radio. Then he set out to return it.

He needed help trying to find the family of the original owner, so he turned to [the Northwest Vintage Radio Society](#).

The nonprofit group works toward restoring and preserving antique radio and wireless equipment, and they got the zenith back in working order.

Society member Kagi said the old radio was a fancy one for its time, and returning it to the owner is a personal mission for him, calling it an opportunity to, “return something of value to a family.”

Kagi's own mother was interned in Wyoming during World War II, and she shared with him the tension and loss she felt as a child. His mother said people were only allowed to bring one suitcase with them, and she left behind her prized possession, a Shirley Temple doll.

"It had a silk dress and was all beautiful, and she really prized that," he said. "It was the one thing she left behind that she really regrets."

Kagi actually bought his mom another Shirley Temple doll a few years ago, but if he could get her back that original one, he would. He knows just how important that would be to her. If he can, Kagi said he just wants to return the beautiful antique radio back to its original family. He has spent years trying to track down the original owners of this prized Depression-era radio. They don't have a family name, but they just suspect the family lived in Gresham in the early 1940s.

Kagi and Barnett both hope that sharing the story of their search can help them find the family, and have a chance to return a piece of personal history.

They ask anyone that may have information that could help them connect with the original owners of the radio to contact them on the [society's website, NWVRS.org](#).

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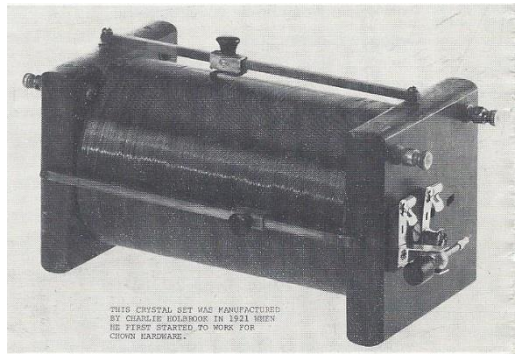
## THE CHOWN HARDWARE CRYSTAL SET

*By Dick Howard*

Francis (Frank) Roger Chown was born 5 May 1849 to Samuel and Sarah Chown in Kingston, Ontario. Samuel Chown owned a hardware store and when Frank was but eighteen years of age his father died leaving Frank to take over the business (under the watchful eye of his mother!)

Frank married Margaret Cunningham in Kingston in 1875 and the young couple moved to New Westminster, B. C. He “researched” the Pacific Northwest for a more favorable location and they relocated to Portland, then the Northwest's largest city, where he founded Chown Hardware the 15th of September 1879 at the corner of S. W. First and Main Street.

The store prospered, outgrowing its first location, moving to S. W. First and Morrison in 1913 and then to its longtime landmark store at S. W. Fourth and Alder. In addition to standard hardware products, they specialized in sporting goods, home appliances and early power tools. Not one to miss out on opportunities for the latest trends, 1921 brought to their shelves parts for radios and crystal sets, where you could also buy one assembled in their own shop by employee Charlie Holbrook.



The first set shown was pictured in an article in the *Portland Magazine* for September 1979. The tuner bears a strong resemblance to an EICO tuner in my collection but the detector assembly appears to be a much later Philmore unit which probably was added more recently. The second set was added to my collection many years ago.

Mrs. Chown died in 1888 and is buried next to Frank, who died in 1927 and his second wife, Isabella, all three in the Chown plot at Riverview Cemetery.

# Antique Radio SALE



*Presented by the  
NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY*

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10th 9:am - 1:pm**

**at the North Portland Eagles Lodge  
7611 No. Exeter St. Portland, OR 97203**

*You can see and purchase vintage radios from the 1920s - '70s. Short wave, plastic, consoles, wood, radio tubes & audio equipment will be available.*

**Low cost tables are available for vendors as well as outside spaces. For more info, contact Charlie at (503) 891-4615.**

**AUCTION (near end of sale)**



**FREE PARKING  
FREE ADMISSION**

for more information, see our website .... [www.NWVRS.org](http://www.NWVRS.org)

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33 rpm

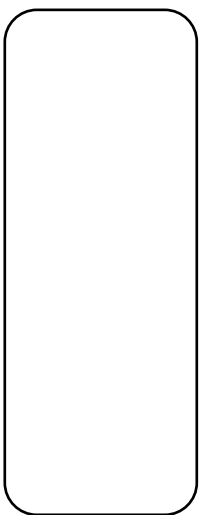
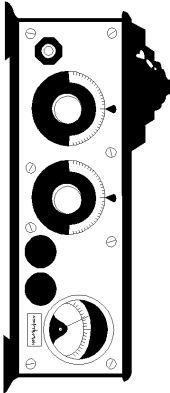
45 rpm

QUARTZ





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P.O. Box 82379  
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