

*The*

# *Call Letter*

May 2019

Vol 45, #5



**Mary Ramsay, Atwater Kent Factory 1925**

# 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.

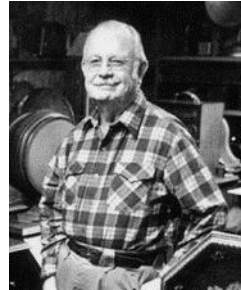
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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

President	Pat Kagi 360 909-7009	<a href="mailto:patkagi@yahoo.com">patkagi@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	Franklin Ouchida	<a href="mailto:crazykeychains@gmail.com">crazykeychains@gmail.com</a>
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	Mark Moore (503) 286-5224	<a href="mailto:mark@pdxhistory.com">mark@pdxhistory.com</a>
Board member at large	Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	<a href="mailto:soundmikey14@gmail.com">soundmikey14@gmail.com</a>
Librarian	Damon Vandehey (503) 459-1777	
Call Letter Editor	Don Hanson	<a href="mailto:vanguard4@lycos.com">vanguard4@lycos.com</a>

## On the Cover

### Mary Ramsay, Atwater Kent Factory 1925

Photo from Library of Congress, retrieved by Don Hanson

---

## May Table of Contents

Announcements.....	1
President's Note and VP Note .....	2
NWVRS at the 50+ Center in Salem by Dick Karman.....	4
Calendar of Events .....	5
Hallock and Watson, 1926 by Art Redman .....	6
The Radio Post Office by Dan Howard .....	8
April Radio Sale - Photography by Franklin Ouchida.....	9
Spokane Radio Company Cartoon from Hubert Miller.....	11
Radiolaguy's Monthly-Showcase by Sonny Clutter.....	12
Swap Shop .....	12

---

## Announcements

**May Meeting** will start at 9:30 AM on Saturday, May 11.

**May Monthly Feature** - The Feature of the Month is "Farm Radios" and the Tech Talk will be battery Eliminators by Sid Saul

**Leads and Needs** - The Swap Shop has returned to the Call Letter. Member ads are free and can either be permanent or temporary.

Brian Wegener: You can download free smartphone ringtones from old radio shows <https://www.radiolongago.com/otr-ringtones>

**Editor's Note** - Please have June Call Letter Contributions in by Sunday May 26. Articles & Ads welcome (Tube labels too).

---

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)

---

## **Note from President Pat Kagi**

Save Sunday, May 19 for a very special birthday party. Virginia Rankin will be turning 100 this month and you are all invited! More details will follow later.

The 50's+ senior event is fast approaching, so if you want your radios displayed on Saturday, June 1st in Salem, please bring them in. After the event, your radios will be safely returned to you at the June 8th NWVRS meeting (further information on page 4).

We are looking for a club photographer, so let us know if you would like to fill that much needed role.

A very special thanks to Gary and Joanne Meier for their efforts in making the auction today a reality. This was a very time sensitive window of opportunity that they were able to meet. Thanks for the pickup and safe storage of these items.

## **Note from Vice President Franklin Terry Ouchida**

**May meeting:** The Feature of the Month is "Farm Radios" and the Tech Talk will be battery Eliminators by Sid Saul

### **Feature of the Month:**

Thanks to all that submitted nominations for "Feature of the Month"! Please let me know if I missed anyone's nominations.

If you would help me out and include a TECH Talk subject that will correlate with the Feature of the Month.

- 1) Small tube type console radios, '20s – '50s  
(Those small enough for one person to handle).
- 2) Table model Phonographs or Radio/Phono combinations.  
Tube type only, '20s – 50s.
- 3) Clock radios [TT: History of clock radios]
- 4) Coin operated radios [TT: How they work]
- 5) FM tube radio. [TT: How early FM work]
- 6) Pre-war radio / changer combos
- 7) Battery eliminators [TT: save the BS]
- 8) Tube band converters

- 9) Table top (indoor) antennas (radio or TV)
- 10) Standalone speakers (horn, cone and voice coil)
- 11) Multi-tube battery sets
- 12) 2, 3, 4 tube battery sets [TT: History of early batteries sets]
- 13) Regenerative radios [TT: HOW it works]
- 14) Tube communications receivers
- 15) WWII military radios
- 16) Homemade Radios (Not Kits) [TT: How to build one]
- 17) Crystal sets [TT: HOW Crystal sets work]
- 18) Radio Kits [TT: how I build one]
- 19) TransOceanic [TT: a history of the TO]
- 20) Nicknamed radios (Dashboards, Hippos, Scotties)
- 21) Tube Reel to Reel
- 22) Rare Radio (Retailed)
- 23) Worst Radio Mistake (SAFETY, Fire, Cost, poorly build)
- 24) Small tube radios (Mini tubes)

It's just some of my thoughts.  
Franklin Terry Ouchida

Another idea from Liles Garcia - I have an idea that I have not heard about yet. How about a Monthly Feature on "Radios That You Will Not See Again?" I have been thinking about this idea for a while now. Bring radios from your collection that are very rare and probably will not be seen in person again. Just a thought!!

---

### **Tube of the month:**

Farm radio tubes -- in Farm radios of the 1930s a popular used tube was the 1A7G/GT which was a Pentagrid converter. In the rural parts of the country there was not AC power hooked up to all parts so people relied on battery-operated radio sets. Many ran on 6volt with a vibrator to run the B+ so they ran in series filament of 1.4 volts with 4 tubes for many radios. For the battery "farm radios" that used 1.4-volt filament tubes, 1A7 Pentagrid converter, 1N5 IF, 1H5 detector/1st AF, and either 1A5 or 3Q5 output.  
-- Franklin



# **Display and recruitment at the 50+ Center in Salem**

**By Dick Karman**

The NWVRS will display Radios and talk about restoration in Salem.

Date: Saturday, June 1 2019

Time: Breakfast begins at 8 AM, wrap up about 11:45 - noon

Location: Salem Center 50+, 2615 Portland Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301

Liles Garcia will host a table of Military and communications gear. If you have a vintage Ham Rig, or a military radio from WW I through Korea talk to him. He'd enjoy having them on the table and might be able to borrow some from you for display.

Pat Kagi will host a table display of radios from the 1940s (especially the war years) and the 1950s. If you have showpieces (home sets, not military) in that period that you'd like to display or have displayed for you, Call Pat.

Mike McCrow will host a table of 1920s and 1930s radios. If you'd like to put a set on that table talk to Mike.

You are all welcome to come and to enjoy breakfast (begins at 8 AM) the display will be set up at 8:30 and the display will begin at about 9. (Breakfast will still be being served.) There will be some special events to keep people interested and the show should wrap up about 11:45 (or noon).

I will be the historic DJ for the morning, but we are just there to entertain. NWVRS will be promoting membership, restoration and preservation of "antique" equipment. We will not offer "free refreshments" or fix-it services, or radios for sale.

You are all welcome, but it is a long drive for an early hour. Only three or four of us have to be there the whole time. We'll watch the "store" if you'll volunteer some sets. Your table host can make connections with you at the swap meet (or the May meeting) and return the borrowed sets to you at the June Meeting.

Chime if you want more information or have something to contribute.

## Calendar of Events

**May 11. Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club Flea Market and Hamfest**, Stanwood Middle School, Stanwood, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Contact: Fred Laun, [w7pig@arrl.net](mailto:w7pig@arrl.net) [Flyer in PDF](#). (895K)

**May 11. Matanuska Amateur Radio Association Annual Hamfest**, Wasilla Boys and Girls Club 3700 E Bogard Rd Wasilla, AK *this is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://www.kl7jfu.com> Contact: Sheila Olson, KL3TP, (907)631-2356, [kl7jfu@gmail.com](mailto:kl7jfu@gmail.com) .

**May 18 & 19. River Radio Campout 2019.** Pateros WA. Sponsored by the Okanogan County Amateur Radio Club. Free "dry" camping along the Methow River at Pateros. Always the weekend prior to Memorial Day Weekend. [w7orc1@gmail.com](mailto:w7orc1@gmail.com) . <http://www.w7orc.com/> . Contact Mike W7MCM, [skippermike53@gmail.com](mailto:skippermike53@gmail.com) . (509)689-3164.

**May 18. PNW DMR gathering.** Valley Camp, North Bend, WA. <http://trbo.org/pnw/index.html> <https://dmr.groups.io/g/PNW>

**May 31-June 2. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention.** *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. [info@seapac.org](mailto:info@seapac.org) . [www.seapac.org/](http://www.seapac.org/) .

**Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> - NWVRS Display and recruitment at the 50+ Center in Salem. It will be from 8 AM to 11:45 AM at the Salem Center 50+, 2615 Portland Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301**

**June 8. Port Ludlow ARC Old Fashion Tail Gate'r.** 8am – 12pm. Grace Christian Center, 200 Olympic Pl, Port Ludlow, WA. <https://www.n7pl.org/>

**June 7-9. 51st Annual Apple City ARC Hamfest.** Apple City ARC. Dryden, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* (Five miles east of Leavenworth on Hiway 2 <https://leavenworth.org/organizer/leavenworth-chamber-of-commerce/> ). This is a RV oriented old fashioned Hamfest and there is a wide range of motel accommodations available - see the back of the flyer. <https://www.applecityarc.com/> [Flyer in PDF](#). (314K)

**June 15. Second Annual Tailgate Swap.** Spokane Valley, WA. [Flyer in PDF](#). (38K)

# **Hallock and Watson, 1926**

**By Art Redman**

Hallock and Watson opened a factory for their two Halowat models the All Wave 5 and the later 1925 version of the TR-5 that featured a wave selector switch. The new factory was located on the third floor of the Wilhelm-Rudie Building at NW Park and NW Everett. "We have procured a space of 2000 square feet which will give us ample room for increasing output more than twofold to 500 sets a day," Joseph Hallock told the Oregonian reporter. Today this address at 733 NW Everett has housing units converted from space within the former warehouse building.

Until now, the firm manufactured its receivers at the then independent town of Multnomah, Oregon. Hallock and Watson gave up the retail line for a few months and hired the Forbes Company to sell the Halowat brand in Western Washington and Oregon. In eastern Washington, Idaho, and Montana, the Interstate Radio Company of Spokane became the chief distributor.

The Lectco Manufacturing firm offered the Hallock and Watson's first radio, the five-tube model RF-12, for \$25.00 in a Radio Renewal or clearance sale during June. The Walker-Toger Company located on SW Eleventh Avenue in Portland took over the Hallock and Watson retail outlet from August 1926 until March 1927 when H&W reopened their old store on SW Park.

The first ad among a series of five for the All Wave Five appeared in the September 12, 1926 Oregonian. The set sold for \$155.00 having General audio transformers for high quality of tone and simplicity of control, endearing the radio to the women market. One other ad mentioned the model TR-5 running on December 5 at a price of \$85.00. The firm offered Bakelite service for the radio consumer cutting, drilling, and engraving to any size and form continuing the service well into 1927.

## **Bibliography:**

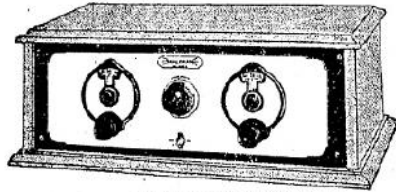
"Now a Radio That Makes Woman Fans!" The Oregonian, September 19, 1926, page 13.

"Portland Radio Makers Have New Factory", The Oregonian, September 19, 1926, Section 4, page 11.



Oregonian ad showing women are able to tune the two dial H&W radio.  
 H&W marketing strategy for their All Wave Model 5 during late 1926.

UNMATCHED  
 FOR  
 TONE



HALOWAT All-Wave Type AW-5  
 In "A" Cabinet, price . . . \$155.00  
 Genuine Bakelite cabinet—solid walnut  
 cabinet, lacquer finished. Other models in-  
 clude Console cabinet in various styles.  
 Write for descriptive folder.

## Now—a radio... that makes women FANS!

Numbered among the Halowat's biggest boosters  
 are women—women who are quick to appreciate  
 the unusual in anything! And in the new Halowat  
 All-Wave Receiver is combined: performance and  
 beauty heretofore unknown.

TONE

The tone is so vastly improved—volume with clarity  
 so much greater, that only actual demonstration can  
 reveal its superiority over other receivers. Beautifully  
 designed—masterpiece of the cabinet maker's skill—  
 it is a thing of beauty in any home.

TONE

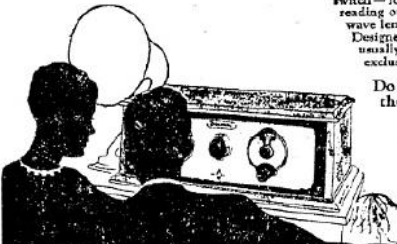
Simplicity is paramount in its operation. With two-  
 dial control it obtains the utmost in sensitivity and  
 selectivity.

A five-tube, tuned Radio receiver with three-point coupling  
 switch—for the best results on a given antenna and direct  
 reading of wave lengths in the dial. It spans the full band of  
 wave lengths from 185 to 570 meters with equal efficiency.  
 Designed to use the new power tube as audio-amplifier. Un-  
 usually large audio-transformers and an improved look-up  
 exclusively Halowat, account for its marvelous depth of tone.

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

Hallock & Watson Radio Corporation  
 Portland, Oregon

DISTRIBUTORS  
 Fobes Supply Co.—Portland-Seattle.  
 Interstate Radio Co.—Spokane.



# HALOWAT

"COMPARISON PROVES ITS SUPERIORITY"

WALKER-TORGLER RADIO COMPANY—HALOWAT RADIO DEALERS 228 11th STREET, Portland, Ore.  
 Phone BEncon 4010

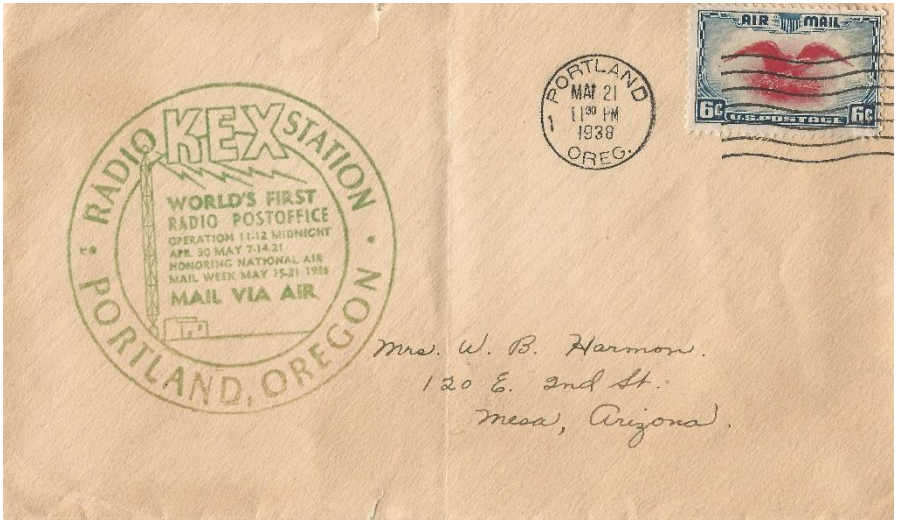
SALES, SERVICE AND REPAIRING ON ALL MAKES OF RADIOS  
 Successors to the Metal Service and Repair Departments of HALLOCK & WATSON RADIO CORPORATION

BROWN'S RADIO SHOP, INC.  
 105 TENTH STREET  
 The Home of ICYDR

WE WILL BE GLAD TO DEMONSTRATE THE HALOWAT TO YOU, SO  
 THAT YOU WILL HEAR AND APPRECIATE THE WON-  
 DERFUL TONE AND EASE OF OPERATION.

# The Radio Post Office

By Dan Howard



In May 1938, the Post Office Department held “National Airmail Week” a campaign to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of US air mail service. Post offices nation-wide prepared special “cachets” (commemorative rubber-stamped markings) that were applied to letters airmailed between May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup>.

During the run up to Airmail Week, KEX arranged with the Portland postmaster to designate their studios in the Oregonian Building an official post office and station personnel were deputized as postal clerks. From April 30<sup>th</sup> through May 21<sup>st</sup>, Saturday night broadcasts were run from 11:00 pm to midnight during which mail dropped off at the station was processed “live on the air” and celebrity guests performed. After sorting, mail from the KEX Radio Post Office was delivered to the Portland airport (then on Swan Island) for delivery.

The stunt was further promoted with celebrity appearances, letter-writing contests between local high schools, and numerous plugs in *The Oregonian* newspaper which owned KEX at the time.

# April Radio Sale and Swap Meet

Photography by Franklin Terry Ouchida





# Spokane Radio Company "Ham News", March 1939

From Hubert Miller



# Radiolaguy's Monthly-Showcase

By Sonny Clutter

Zenith G660 "Twin-Seven" radio/phono ca: 1949

Sonny's <https://radiolaguy.com/Showcase/Zenith%20Twin-Seven.htm>

NWVRS <http://www.nwvrs.org/Events/News/RadiolaGuy-s-Monthly-Feature/radiolaguy-s-monthly-feature.html>



## Swap Shop

Ads are free and can be permanent, or 3-month, with an asterisk added each month for tracking. Contact editor to extend.

----

**Please contact the following members to be trained in Radio Repair**

Bruce Baur	503 708-4537	Milwaukee
Blake Dietze	360 944-7172	Vancouver
Mike McCrow	503 730-4639	Aloha
Sid Saul	503 869-5280	Hebo
Ed Tompkins	360 573-3895	Vancouver

----

\*\* Large collection of high-end quality radios that range from mid-1920s to late 1950s and into the 1960s, for sale. Only NWVRS and PSARA club members and personal guests are invited!

Please call Steve Berglund 206-244-6428 for appointment.

----

\*\* I have dozens of radios that I purchased to restore that I will never get to. I need to part with them as I am moving. Basically name your price! Lots of nice table and console projects. I can email pictures. Joe Millward 503-209-8414



**PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION**

**ANTIQUE & VINTAGE TECHNOLOGY MARKET**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 18, 2019**

Huge **ONE DAY ONLY** event.

Radio, phono, audio, ham, electronics, tubes, books & more.

Sellers fee \$20. Open 6AM for seller setup.

Buyers no charge, 9 AM - 1 PM. Public welcome.

at Shoreline Community College parking lot

16101 Greenwood Avenue North, Shoreline, WA 98133

for information: <http://www.pugetsoundantiqueradio.com>



**PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION**

**ANTIQUE & VINTAGE TECHNOLOGY MARKET**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 18, 2019**

Huge **ONE DAY ONLY** event.

Radio, phono, audio, ham, electronics, tubes, books & more.

Sellers fee \$20. Open 6AM for seller setup.

Buyers no charge, 9 AM - 1 PM. Public welcome.

at Shoreline Community College parking lot

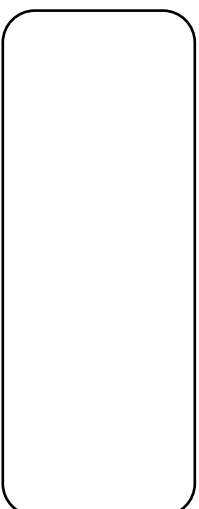
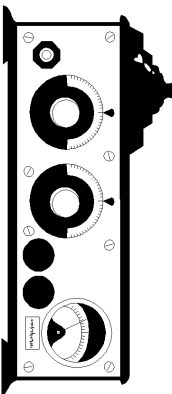
16101 Greenwood Avenue North, Shoreline, WA 98133

for information: <http://www.pugetsoundantiqueradio.com>





NW Vintage Radio Society  
P.O. Box 82379  
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**