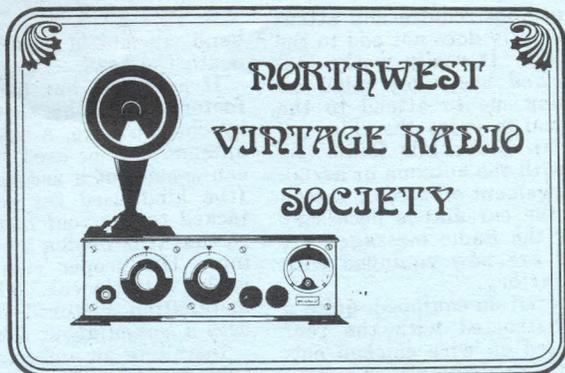


VOL. 4

No. 1



JAN.

1978

# CALL LETTER

The following article is re-printed from the August 1930 issue of the "National Radio News" published by the National Radio Institute. Contributed by: Chuck Shively

## Automobile Radio Here to Stay

By POWEL CROSLY, JR.

Think what the automobile Radio would mean to the man starting out alone on a long business trip; what added enjoyment it would give to a ride through the country on a summer evening; what a new thrill of ownership it would create in the owner of a car regardless of whether he has purchased a new model or had it installed in his old car.

For some time I have had a Radio in my car and find when driving alone the programs help to prevent fatigue and the monotony of long trips, especially at night.



POWEL CROSLY, JR.

Cont. on pg. 2

The Radio does not require any attention and consequently does not add to the hazard of driving. It really works just the other way and keeps my mind off business, enabling me to attend to the job of driving and to enjoy the ride.

In installing an automobile Radio one usually begins with the antenna or aerial. This is an arrangement of wire or screen in the roof of the car and is necessary for intercepting the Radio messages. A number of cars are now equipped with aeriels at the factory.

Of closed cars not so equipped, quite a number are constructed with the roof covering supported on wire chicken netting. Unless this chicken netting is connected to the metal body or frame of the car, it may be used as the antenna. An insulated wire is soldered to the chicken netting at the right-hand front corner and carried down inside or by the right-

hand windshield post to the receiver beneath the cowl.

If no aerial has been installed at the factory, or if the roof is not supported by chicken wire, a small wire or screen antenna may be used. In closed cars this can consist of a section of copper screen (the kind used for screening a house) tacked to the roof bows inside the roof, so that it is hidden by the cloth head lining. The proper size of screen to use varies with the car. The Crosley Roamio installation pictured on the next page uses a screen about 2 by 3 feet.

Installing an antenna in the roof of an open car presents a somewhat different problem, because the antenna must not interfere with the collapsing of the roof. A flexible, insulated wire attached to a piece of drill cloth serves admirably for this purpose. The wire is run back and forth across the drill cloth in grid fashion. The top is removed and the drill cloth is stretched over a false head lining and tacked to the end bows. When the top is replaced the antenna is entirely concealed. The lead-in wire is taken from the back, and is run down underneath the chassis to the position of the receiver in the front of the car.

Many different locations have been suggested for the receiver itself, but the preferred one seems to be on the engine bulkhead, just below the cowl. There it is out of the way, and in convenient position for adjustment by means of controls mounted on the instrument panel.

There is no universal rule for the location of the speaker. Some installations are made with the speaker in the back



"It's great — Wonderful!" says Viola Dana, famous movie actress, as she listens to her Roamio Automobile Radio for the first time.

Cont. on pg. 12

## CALL LETTER

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society which meets the second Saturday of each month at the Buena Vista Club House, Sixteenth and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon.

Editor ..... **Bob Hay**

Staff .. Tom James, Cathi Hay, Mark Moore

Address all correspondence regarding this publication to: The Call Letter, 5225 S.E. Brookside Drive, Portland, OR 97206.

# OUR PEOPLE

The December meeting started fast with the presentation of a Martian Radio Helmet to our President Tom James. The award was made by Craig Hoaglin. The helmet resembles an african safari hat with various radio devices affixed to it. Quite a sight!

The principal order of business was the election of new officers. Tom James, who inherited the presidency during 1977 when Bob Bilbie resigned, was elected to his own term for the upcoming year. His supporting cast will be Craig Hoaglin, vice president; Doug Eggert, treasurer; Chuck Kibler, recording secretary; Cathi Hay, corresponding secretary; and Andy Bell, member-at-large. A member-at-large was designated since we will not have a past president to serve on the 1978 board of directors.

Under new business Tom James called for a committee to be formed to re-draft the NWVRS constitution so that we may proceed with incorporation and the non-profit organization status. Mark Moore, Frank Plaistead, Lou Stober, and Don Iverson volunteered to undertake the task. Tom requested that the re-draft be completed by the January meeting.

After the meeting small gifts were exchanged by everyone with some mighty interesting items turning up-- like a couple of breadboards, with the bread(homemade of course), a good OI-A, some coasters in a cathedral shaped holder, and many, many more.

We will from time to time mention interesting radios found by members if you will write and let us know what you are finding. See everyone at the next meeting January 14 at the Buena Vista clubhouse in Oregon City.



# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## IN RETROSPECT

Santa Claus has come and went,  
Leaving papa badly bent;  
Daddy'll regain his composure, true,  
In '78 he'll be "Nicked" anew.

'Twas a strain on mama-san,  
(Ever thus since feasts began).  
And daddy dassen't even twit  
About her poundage, up a bit.

The kids all loved the fuss'n furze,  
All the presents; his 'n hers.  
For '77 it should suffice----  
I suppose 'twas worth the price!

## THE STORM

Everyone had AC sets-  
'Cept old Jim MacCoys.  
He stuck to his batteries;  
Was scared of those AC toys!  
Then a Norther came a-screaming,  
And Blooie, went the lights!  
There were many quiet firesides  
For several days and nights.

That is: except for Mac--  
His cozy house was warm;  
His radio was a jewel;  
Helped him weather-out the storm.  
Mac now, is long departed  
But until his dying day,  
He kept the batteries working  
In that drum-dial R.C.A.

# MARK'S MEMO

By Mark Moore

Just in case you may have planned a trip down to Australia to pick up a few radios I thought I might share some tips with you.

Most of the sets to be found are kits and some of well known names. There are few factory made radios according to one of our members who lives in New South Wales, Leslie Ball. He knows of two Atwater Kent radios but unfortunately, they are not for sale. Tubes are even more of a problem there than they are here. A few of his recent finds include a Harrington Popular Five using 01-A's, a Sterling Horn made in London, and a Little Spitfire horn made by Tower. As Leslie says Vintage Radio collecting hasn't "taken on" out there yet. And in case you are still going to Australia, why don't you take a few radios with you.

The new members we welcome this month include Larry Hakey of Windsor, Vermont; Howard Bilbie of Cheswick, Penn; and Bryan Lindquist, 18606 SE Addie St. Milwaukie, Or. 97222. We are happy you have joined us.

I hope all of you have sent your dues for 1978. Remember dues for Associate and Senior members are \$7.50 for the year. You may send them to our new treasurer:

Doug Eggert  
19430 SW Southview St.  
Aloha, Or. 97005

With this issue "Mark's Memo" will be discontinued as I am stepping down as corresponding secretary. I am happy to have served over the past two years and look forward to the time when I will be able to serve on the board again. Our new officers need our support and encouragement. More of my time will be devoted to research articles for the Call Letter. Handling the duties of corresponding secretary will be:

Cathi Hay  
5225 SE Brookside Drive  
Portland, Or. 97206

# POWER SUPPLY

By Cathi Hay

The Ladies Auxilary along with the ladies of the Buena Vista Club had their Christmas Pot-Luck Luncheon December 20th. Gifts were exchanges and a good time was had by all.

Congratulations to Mrs. Ranken and Mrs. Leete for completing their lap-robe projects. The robes were sent to a convalescent home as Christmas gifts.

The next meeting date for the Power Supply will be January 17th at 1:30 pm. in Oregon City at the Buena Vista Club House. See you ladies then....

This month's recipes are from Aunt Sammy's Radio Recipes Revised, published May 1931.

## SPLIT PEA SOUP

2 cups green split peas	1 pint milk
Cold water	2 tsp. salt
1 large onion, sliced	Dash pepper
4 Tbl. butter	Lemon
2 Tbl. flour	Parsley, finely chopped

Pick over the peas, wash well, and soak overnight in 1 quart of cold water. In the morning, add 1 more quart of water and the onion, cover, and simmer for about 1½ hours, or until the peas are soft. Press the peas and onion through a fine sieve, and save all the liquid. Blend the fat and flour, add the milk, and stir until thickenen. Mix with the pea pulp and liquid, season and serve hot. If the soup becomes too thick, add more milk to give the right consistency. Lay a thin slice on lemon with finely chopped parsley over the top in each bowl of soup just before it goes onto the table.

## CRANBERRY MUFFINS

1 egg	¼ cup sugar
¾ cup milk	½ tsp. salt
2 cups sifted flour	4 Tbl. melted butter or fat
4 tsp. baking powder	1 cup cranberries

Beat the egg slightly and add the milk. To the liquid mixture, add the sifted dry ingredients. Roll the berries in two more Tbl. spoonsful sugar, and fold into the batter with

# LETTERS

I just wanted to drop you a line and tell you how much I appreciated your article on KEX. It was well written and very informative, and brought back memories of 50 years ago. As I was one of the Engineers who put it together and maintained and operated it along with KJR - KGA and later through its ownership with KGW.

I will look forward with pleasure to your articles. I wish you would call me as I think I may have some information that might interest you.

Clyde H. Bruyn  
Portland, Or.

I picked up a Radiola 8 today with six good 199's in it, although it don't have a case it's a rare find at 15 bucks. It's going to be nice to ask for a Radiola case instead of a KOLSTER. Ho Hum.

Does anyone have a McMurdo Silver hook-up diagram? A Crosley clock radio sold at an auction here in Salem for 145.00, it was a basket case.

Joe Tompkins

Dear Bob:

Thanks for the two issues of your CALL LETTER. I found them interesting, and will send them on to our President, Dr. Ralph W. Muchow. I am sure that he will agree with me that it would be a good idea to trade bulletins. Meanwhile, I have put your name/address on our mailing list.

I'm enclosing a copy of our last GAZETTE- regretably a real foul-up! It was put together by our editor in a motel room, where he and his wife had been for some time awaiting the completion of their new home. I've tried to repair some of the mix-ups. We normally put out four **of** these per year. Well, by now he's in his home, and things should get back to normal.

Bill Denk , Secretary  
The Antique Radio Club of Amer. 7



The December meeting brought a good turn-out of members to the Buena Vista clubhouse. Photographs by Joe Tompkins.



The ladies auxiliary "Power Supply" provided many Christmas goodies for an after meeting lucheon.



The 1977 officers are from left to right;  
Mark Moore, Corres. Sec; Jim Mason, Treasurer; Don  
Iverson, Recording Sec; Tom James, President; Alan  
Shadduck, Vice President.



The 1978 officers are Cathi Hay, Corres. Sec;  
Andy Bell, member at large; Chuck Kibler, Recording  
Sec; Craig Hoaglin, Vice President; Doug Eggert,  
Treasurer; and Tom James, President.

# RADIO STATIC

By  
Glenn Gonshorowski

NAMES OF RADIOS, SOME ARE MISSING. YOUR GOAL IS TO FILL IN THE MISSING LETTERS AND COME UP WITH A COMPLETE NAME. ANSWERS IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE.

## LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS

_ A D _	___ E S T ___ MAJESTIC
_ R U N S _ _ _ _	___ W A R _ HOWARD
___ W A R _ W A R _ _ _ _	_ C H O P _ _ _ _ E ECHO- PHONE
_ _ T O R O _ _	___ O S L _ _ CROSLEY
_ A N T _ _ _ _	___ F I L L _ _ _ GIL- FILLAN
_ O F F _ _ _ _	___ R N S _ _ _ T H FARNSWORTH

### MATCH GAME A.M.

HERE ARE SOME FAMOUS TWO WORD NAMES OF RADIO MANUFACTURERS. MATCH THE TWO CORRECT WORDS TOGETHER AND SEE HOW WELL YOU KNOW YOUR MANUFACTURERS.

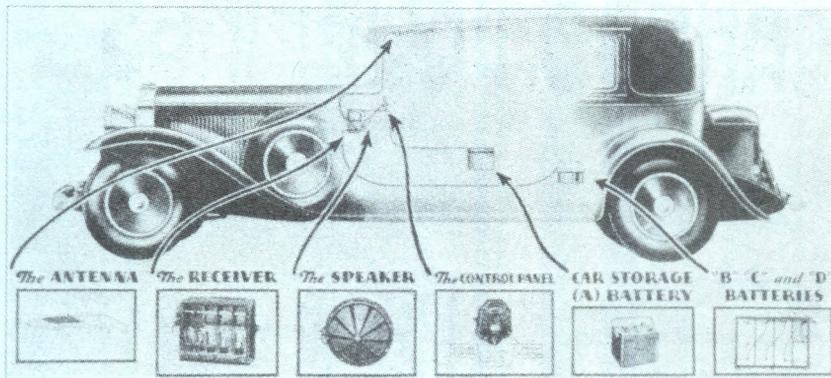
ATWATER	EISEMAN	PACKARD	WARNER
RCA	BOSCH	FAIRBANKS	CARLSON
AMERICAN	BELL	STEWART	CLARK
MISSION	KENT	GRIGSBY	MORSE
WILCOX	VICTOR	STROMBERG	BELL
FREED	GAY	KILBOURNE	GRUNOW

# CARTOON CLIPPINGS

from Bob Campbell



**RADIO NEWS**



The above illustration shows how the Crosley Roamio Automobile Radio Receiving Set is installed in a car. While the job of installation is comparatively easy, it should be done by one who knows Radio.

of the car; some with it suspended from the roof bows just above the back of the driver's seat. In modern, low-built cars, however, it seems to be advisable to locate the receiver so that it is as inconspicuous and out of the way as possible. In the Roamio installation the speaker is carried on the receiver case, beneath the cowl.

Automobile receivers are operated by batteries. The car storage battery is used for the "A" supply, but in addition there must be dry batteries for the "B" and "C" supply. A battery box, sunk in the floor boards of the rear of the car, is ordinarily used for carrying the batteries; although they are frequently packed below the driver's seat, in a rear compartment, or in some other out-of-the-way location.

Tuning is accomplished from a panel easily attached to the instrument board. Volume may also be regulated at will by turning a dial. The automatic volume control keeps the program at a constant level while the car is being driven from place to place.

Radio manufacturers have found it best to provide a switch of the lock type, operated by a key.

One of the most important factors which must be considered in the installation of automobile Radios is the elimination of interference from the ignition system and other electrical circuits of the car. This must be done in a thorough manner, so that reception is quiet while the car is being driven.

There are several methods of eliminating interference. The usual practice is to install an eliminator unit on the

generator and on the starting motor. In addition, eliminators may be required at the starter switch, and on other electrical devices, such as horns or windshield wipers.

Interference from the spark plug and distributor leads is eliminated by installing small suppressors in the spark plug leads at the plugs and in the center distributor leads at the distributor heads. This is not necessary on some cars in which the ignition wiring and plugs are partially shielded by grounded metal coverings.

The elimination of interference from the automobile electrical system is more or less a special job for each different type of car. Both the Radio and the automobile manufacturer have studied this problem thoroughly, however, with the result that standard, practical methods of elimination have been worked out for each different make of car. In fact, some automobile manufacturers are taking care of this matter by special design and construction, which makes interference elimination by the Radio installer unnecessary.

We believe millions of car owners will want the automobile Radio as soon as they have had it demonstrated to them and can appreciate its many advantages. Radio dealers will find the sale and installation of automobile receiving sets opens a profitable new field. In practically every case either the Radio or automotive dealer will be required to install the Radio. While the task is not difficult, it should be done by "someone who knows how." The dealer who operates a good installation service department seems assured of plenty of profitable business for some time to come. In some cases Radio dealers are planning to provide their own department for this work, while others are making arrangements with automotive service stations to do the actual installation under the direction of a Radio man.

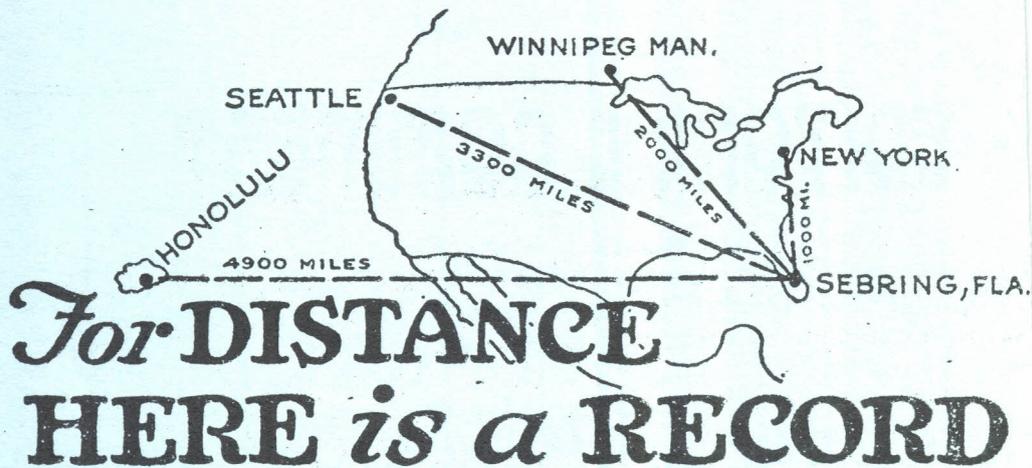
# EDITORIAL COMMENT

One of the puzzling controversies of the early part of this century has been -- Who invented radio? Guglielmo Marconi is given credit in many circles for being the "father of radio". But in 1872, over twenty years before Marconi's work, Dr. Mahlon Loomis was awarded a U.S. patent for discovering a means to communicate "without the aid of wires"... "from one continent of the globe to another". All of the great inventors of the late 1800's built substantially upon the works of their predecessors. This would include Faraday, Loomis, Maxwell, Edison, Hertz, Crookes, Helmholtz, and Marconi. Irregardless, Marconi must be credited with being the great technologist who turned the corner for radio and found commercial applications for the earlier works.

In the upcoming months we hope to have several articles dealing with these men. Anyone having information related to the work of these men is encouraged to write us so that it may be shared with all our readers.

In keeping with the season it seems like a good time to stand back and take a look at the NWVRS. In the past year the club has grown from 90 members to about 150 members. My feeling is that we have far more expertise concerning radio history and technology than anyone in the club realizes. The filming at the November meeting for the Golden Hours Telethon certainly proved this point. Unfortunately, the Telethon producers did not include the commentary from our members. My faith is still strong nevertheless that our members do have an interesting story to tell and that our club should set as one of its priorities to find ways to get the word out. Perhaps our club could approach one local television (or radio) stations about doing a program on the development of radio or how it really was in the Golden Years of Radio from the listeners point of view. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

Bob Hay



"Crosley Manufacturing Company,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Gentlemen:

After a thorough trial, and observation of other radio receiving instruments, I wish to state that the Crosley Model X is giving better results than anything else I have ever tried, not only in Sebring, but in Tampa and Jacksonville as well. We are receiving from all the standard stations, North, East and West, with the exception of the New England states, New York city being the farthest we have received in that direction. But we have received from a station announcing itself as Winnipeg, Canada, letters not plain, another from Seattle, Washington, and one night we received three selections and two announcements from KDYX, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Very truly yours,  
SEBRING GARAGE,  
Sebring, Florida."

The Crosley Model X Radio Receiver, pictured below, is a four tube outfit, consisting of tuner, one stage of Crosley tuned radio frequency amplification, (the feature that has made this set so popular), detector and two stages of audio frequency amplification. This is a beautiful mahogany cabinet. It will bring in distant stations loud and clear. An Ohio woman recently heard Hawaii and a Pittsburg owner has heard Mexico City.

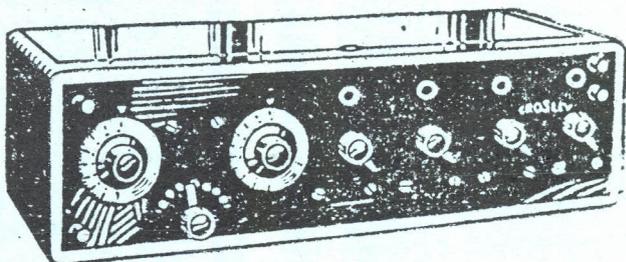
**Price, Without Tubes, Batteries or Phones—\$55.00**

This Crosley Model X, a four tube set for \$55.00, illustrates the value of Crosley receiving outfits, which range from \$25 to \$150.

Send for catalog

**Crosley Manufacturing  
Company**

216 Alfred Street  
CINCINNATI OHIO



# SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Radiola 104 Amplifier and Speaker O.K.--  
cabinet needs some work.  
Maurice Leete  
503-656-6487

FOR SALE: I have an AK Kent, Model 20, the big one  
looks great inside and out, but it needs  
transformers, asking \$65.00 or possibly  
a trade.  
Joe Tompkins  
503-362-8071

WANTED: Grebe cabinet (syncrophase)  
Jerry Novak  
9006 N.E. 111th  
Vancouver, Wa. 98662

WANTED: Old radio articles or ? for publication  
in the Call Letter.  
Bob Hay  
5225 S.E. Brookside Drive  
Portland, Or. 97206

Cranberry muffins--continued from page 6  
the melted fat. Do not stir the mixture any more  
than necessary. Pour into greased muffin pans and  
bake in a moderately hot oven (400°) for about 30  
minutes, or until brown. Serve hot.

# Old Time Radio In Oregon

**COMES ALIVE ON TV  
TONIGHT 8-10 P.M.**

*This program is broadcast on  
behalf of Golden Hours Radio*



**KOAP-TV  
PORTLAND Ch. 10**  
**KOAC-TV  
CORVALLIS Ch. 7**

**OREGON EDUCATIONAL & PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE**

*From Oregon Journal 12-27-77*

I don't recall that "OLD TIME RADIO" sounded so much like a "MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY" for a few old time radio personalities, and I don't remember the KOIN KLOCK gang sounding quite the way the OEPBS show would have you believe. All in all a dull and monotonous production intended as a worthy pitch for funds for THE GOLDEN HOURS radio program.

Further, I believe that a great deal of liberty was taken with our time and displays at the Buena Vista Club, which evidently wound up in the discard. Our members feel as if this show was an insult to our intelligence --- and certainly a far cry from the productions of the GOLDEN YEARS OF RADIO.

Tom James