

A Decade in Print!

**NORTHWEST  
VINTAGE RADIO  
SOCIETY  
CALL LETTER**

AUGUST '84

1974-1984

Vol. 10 No.8



THOMAS W. JAMES  
1911 - 1984

(self-portrait)

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COVER: A self portrait of past Call Letter Editor, Charter member, President and officer, many times over, Tom James. Circa 1976. (see pages 4 and 5)

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Oregon. Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at the Buena Vista Clubhouse in Oregon City (see page 3).

The CALL LETTER, the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, is published monthly. Address all correspondence & contributions to:  
Dick Karman, editor  
P.O. Box 02379  
Portland, Or. 97202

# AUGUST

DATE : August 11th, 1984  
TIME : 10:00  
PLACE : Buena Vista Clubhouse  
ADDRESS : 16th & Jackson streets  
Oregon City, Oregon

The first annual Northwest Vintage Radio Society Competition will be held during the August meeting. The contest categories this year will be:

- 1- Early Crystal Sets
- 2- Battery sets (TRF & superhet)
- 3- Early AC sets, through 1929
- 4- AC/DC transformerless radios
- 5- Amateur receivers and SW converters

There will be a 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place ribbon awarded in each category. Each contestant may enter radios in three of the five categories.

Judging will be conducted by everyone attending the combination Radio contest and Picnic. 5 tickets will be given each person present, one for each category. To vote, place a ticket in the dish near the radio of your choice. The radio with the most tickets will be awarded 1st place, the second most popular will be given 2nd place etc.

After the monthly meeting and the Club Contest, we will have our annual Pot-luck picnic. The Power Supply will furnish punch, iced tea, coffee, and hot bread.

Please bring your silverware and a hot or cold dish. Also, we can always use extras like pickles, olives, dips & chips, vegetable sticks, etc.

Do plan to stay after the meeting for the picnic. It's always more enjoyable if we have a good attendance.



# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## A DIFFERENT SLANT

In Rock Springs Wyoming, an aunt  
Kept a FADA as a stand for a plant.  
But water leaked through,  
Loosening all the glue,  
As a stand, it's no good----for it can't!

---

### EDITOR'S NOTES:

Though there are many who know more than I, permit me to explain some history for the younger members.

Tom James who recently passed from us, had been a contributing writer or editor of the Call Letter since 1974. Tom's early works of poetry were labeled TOM JAMES' POETRY HOUR by the first editor.

To be more formal, Tom gave a single title to all his contributions. First, in the April 1976, ATMOSPHERICS appeared at the head of the poetry. Later ATMOSPHERICA was used and has been in every issue since 1977, making Tom the longest (and only) continuous contributor.

To continue this nearly ten year old tradition, the Call Letter has obtained permission to use Tom's writing in his absence, and is seeking permission to award Tom James the title of EDITOR EMERITUS (posthumously).

ED

THE OREGONIAN JULY 18th , 1984  
Thomas W. James

Funeral for Thomas W. James, a southeast Portland resident and retired radio station engineer, will be at 1 pm Wednesday in Holman's Funeral Service. Mr James, 72 died Sunday in a Portland Hospital (Providence).

Born in Riverside Washington, Mr James had been a Portland Area resident for nearly 50 years. He retired more than 15 years ago after working 22 years for radio station KPOJ. He was a member of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society (and Marconi's Cronies).

Mr. James is survived by his wife, Dorothy; a son, John, of Portland; two daughters, Valerie James, Portland, Margret Sorino, Arturas, California; eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Burial will be in Rose City Cemetary. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Oregon Heart Association.

#### Museums

At the July meeting it was approved by the membership of the NWVRS to enter into an agreement with the new advertising museum in Portland. This could be an opportunity to put radios, radio history and NWVRS in the public eye year around. Your editor is contacting the museum.

Eastern Washington has a Radio Museum. Member Pat Stewart has sent the Call Letter one of his flier for STEWART'S MUSEUM: the Museum of Wonderful Wireless. Craig and Pat Stewart maintain an extensive collection from spark gap & before, to breadboards and beyond. All collectors are welcome. I'm sure that any member who is travelling through Walla Walla Washington could give Pat a call and enjoy quite a show. The Museum is located at 1404 Ruth Rd., Walla Walla, Washington 99362.

#### HOLLOW STATE

Member Bob Becker donated a copy of the HOLLOW STATE newsletter. This new publication (started this year) is for collectors and admirers of Tubes and Hollow State. Editor Skip Arey boasts a circulation of over 100 and states in the march issue that it is growing fast.

Hollow State goes to press quarterly and a subscription is \$4.00. Chris Hansen, publisher, welcomes all subscriptions and inquiries at P.O. Box 1226, New York, New York 10159.

And as is the case with all editors, Skip welcomes any and all articles for reproduction sent to him at P.O. Box 421, Mount Holly, New Jersey 08060.

#### PSARA

The horn of plenty is now being edited by Norman Braithwaite. John Schneider is still acting as a contributing writer. We hope the NWVRS will continue to have a good working relationship with the PSARA. Address correspondence to Norm Braithwaite 4415 Greenwood Ave North, Seattle, 98103.

Lee Williams is working on printing "club business cards" for PSARA members. Your editor will contact Lee to see if a die-cut card could be arranged for both clubs. Set up for a specially cut card is pretty high. perhaps a joint effort could make them affordable.

PSARA is looking into incorporation and seeking a non-profit status. This direction was some time ago for NWVRS but president Jerry has offered our by laws and articles of Incorporation to PSARA for their inspection.

## PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION RADIO CONTEST

There is little time to get prepared for the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association's annual Radio Contest. The date is Sunday, August 19th. Many NWVRS members attended last year's contest and invitation Swap Meet and enjoyed a day of good radios, and good company.

### PSARA categories

- 1- Crystal Sets
- 2- Battery Sets, less than 4 tubes
- 3- Battery sets, 4 tubes or more
- 4- A.C. Table Model radios
- 5- Plastic Radios
- 6- Novelty Radios
- 7- Consoles (all)

### PSARA Rules

No radio which has taken first place in past contests may be entered.

Plaques and accessories may be entered and displayed with the radios as long as the owner's name is not visible.

Contests sets must be registered before 1:15 pm.

### PSARA Agenda

- 11:00 am begin swap meet
- 1:00 pm last call for contest entries
- 1:15 pm contest judging begins
- 2:15 pm contest judging closes
- 2:45 pm contest results announced
- 15 minute photo session begins
- 3:00 pm announcements and check out

(Although there is no limit to the number of sets a contestant may enter, PSARA recommends approximately 4 per participant)

The PSARA contest judging:

Judging will be conducted in a similar manner as last year. Each club member will be allowed to fill out one Judging scorecard. The scorecards along with specific instructions will be handed out at the time of judging. Generally, each club member will be allowed to vote for the top three sets in each category and vote for the top three choices for best of show.

The votes will be tallied as follows: Three points will be given for each first place vote. Two points will be given for each second place vote. One point will be given for each third place vote. Additional points will be added for within each category for best of show votes. The highest scoring radios in each category will win first place second place and third place ribbons. One ribbon (only) will be awarded for best of show.

Judging criteria will be in the minds of the beholder, however consideration should be given to condition, authenticity, and desirability. Individual voting and honesty are required to maintain a fair contest. voting in groups or discussion while voting will not be permitted. Radio ownership should not be taken into account during the judging process.

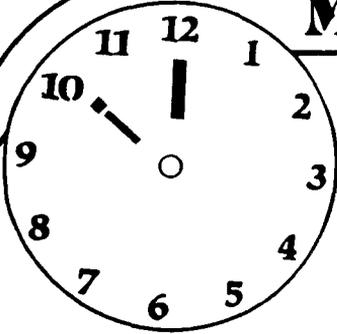
PSARA Invitational Swap Meet

There will be a charge of \$1.00 per seller to cover advertising expenses.

The meet is an outdoor event. If the weather does not cooperate, bring a camper, van, or pup tent.

For the time of the Swap see page 6. The Swap continues through the contest.

# Meeting Minutes



The July 14th meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Jerry Talbott. The minutes of the June meeting were approved as published in the Call Letter. The Treasurer's report was given and accepted.

## GOOD AND WELFARE:

Tom James and George Rudolph were ill and not in attendance. Doug Warren was reported to be responding to treatment, and on the road to recovery.

## OLD BUSINESS:

The ribbons ordered for the Club Contest were shown. The cost was slightly over \$50, about \$7 less than the estimate. Detailed information on the contest will appear in the next issue of the Call Letter.

Members were informed that the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association swap meet will be held at the Ronald School on N. 175th Ave., just west of Aurora Ave., Seattle, on August 19th at 11:00 a.m.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Members were reminded that the annual Club Picnic will be held at the Club House after the August meeting. The Power Supply was authorized to purchase miscellaneous supplies and get-well cards, and to be reimbursed from the treasury.

The 10th anniversary dinner will be held in November at a location to be determined.

The membership authorized the purchase of a videotape (VHS) of the Antique Wireless Association's Museum at a cost of approximately \$30.

Dick Karman advised of the proposed establishment of an advertising museum in the Portland downtown area by the Portland Federation of Advertisers, and suggested that Club members provide items for inclusion in the radio advertising section. Reaction was favorable.

Needs and leads were given, and the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m., followed by a lively auction.

Jim Mason, Secretary

Dorothy James wishes to express her thanks to all those who have extended so many kindnesses to her during these last few weeks.

Dorothy especially appreciates everyone who continues to keep her in their thoughts and prayers, supporting her in her bereavement.

#### FOREST GROVE REPORT

The Forest Grove display this year was a success despite the beautiful weather and high temperatures. More than 650 people visited the exhibit which featured 46 radios, 4 Televisions with several pieces of memorabilia and literature. Thanks to the members who participated the show was always manned by at least three NWVRS members who made several good contacts and developed not a small number of leads.

# Puget Sound Antique Radio Association

## ITEMS WANTED:

-----

Western Electric 7A amp in good condition.  
Steve Von Talge, 633-0070, 527-2829

Wooden cabinet for a battery radio, panel  
size 24" by 7". Minimum depth, 7-1/2". Max  
Kaplan, 851-4187

RCA battery and AC radios, 1922-1929,  
audio transformers: Grebe Syncrophase or  
Radiola III. John Schneider, 525-6974

Two good WD-11 tubes. John Aikin, 1-866-8407  
(Olympia)

Zenith floor models, Zenith chassis and  
parts, cathedral shaped radios, Miraco  
battery set. Lee Williams 481-9415

Zenith model 50 chassis, K55C ballast tubes,  
wooden knobs for Stewart Warner short wave  
converter, case for Silvertone model 4500  
(broken or not). Colin Hallgren, Everett,  
252-3892

Complete National SW-4 or SW-5. Will trade  
Westinghouse RC for mint set. Also need  
Federal 59 cabinet, and Radiola X cabinet.  
Patrick L. Stewart, 1404 Ruth, Walla Walla,  
Wa. 99362.

Riders volume I, volume I-III (Combined), or  
I-V abridged. Steve Carter, 833-3720

Grebe thumbwheel potentiometers for early  
set, Federal 61 parts (many to complete set)  
Atwater Kent 84 chassis, Norman Braithwaite  
453-9039 (work), 782-4864 (home)

W A N T   A D S

ITEMS FOR SALE:  
-----

A variety of antique radio advertisements from the 1920s. Eric Mootz, Everett, 252-5273

Floor model radios. Lee Williams 481-9415

HRO-50T with band C coil set only. \$75. or offer. Jerry Cappoen, 858-7235

Riders 2-13, and 15; Radiola 66 works, \$125. Majestic 15, \$35. Radiola 100A speaker, \$22. Steve Carter, 833-3720

Three good 01A tubes, \$5. each. Norman Braithwaite, 453-9039 (work), 782-4864 (home). Will bring to meeting.

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The Idle Pen

"Physician heal Thyself",  
    a quotation from the scripture,  
But except for THE MASTER,  
    this doesn't "fit the picture".  
Our poet marked the passing of  
    many a loved one and a friend,  
Using witt and wisdom,  
    and kindness without end.  
But when the poet passed from us,  
    and his maker ' went to meet,  
There were no words from his idled pen  
    to fill the empty sheet.  
I can't try to fill his shoes,  
    or equal his verse or prose,  
Only to show our love for him,  
    and make sure that Dorothy knows.

RJK

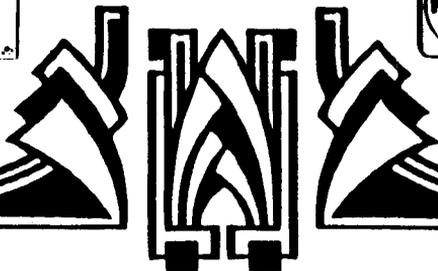
# Cascade Surplus Electronics

Phone (503)285-0832

Store Hours: Friday and Saturday 10:00 A.M. To 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday Noon To 4:00 P.M.

8221 North Denver Avenue  
PORTLAND, ORE. 97217

GARY W. STELLER, OWNER



## *Reflections*

Those who know, say it's good to reflect. Reflecting on things in the past, it is said, clears your vision for the future. It may even make some time-worn memories brighten a little through those rose colored glass.

As we all do, I enjoy the reflections I have of Tom James.

My reflections of Tom date back to the first time I met him. He was manning a display at a communication fair which was held at one of the Jantzen Beach convention centers. NWVRS had been given a small booth, and members like Tom were standing by to answer questions and help many like myself find out about the Society.

The dim reflection of time makes it unclear where I saw Tom next, but when I did, he was urging me to come to the meetings, assuring me that the club was a friendly group and that I was welcome to just come and "look".

It was several months, maybe years, later that I aquired my first radio and looked up Tom and the Society.

These are reflections in which nearly all of us "younger" members can see Tom. And doubtless all of us have different times, and different circumstances that color our reflections. But all of our reflections of Tom will bring to mind a man who never volunteered unless he meant to do what he set out to, and who often helped many who couldn't help themselves.

We all lost our "friendliest member" as some have called him, but we'll never loose these reflections and the pictures they leave in our memories.

# Swap Shop

## FOR SALE:

RCA Large Portable looks good. has no handle. (a BIG one) has good "199s"

\$125.00

JOEY TOMPKINS 3796 HULSEY ST SE, SALEM, OR  
503-362-8071 97302

Atwater Kent Model 60C, console excellent  
Philco Bulletin #273

LARRY CALLAHAN 2725 NE PILKINGTON,  
503-753-7701 CORVALLIS OR 97330

Tubes Tested & Guaranteed:

864 (new) electrically replaces WD-11 or 12  
\$6.50

Western Electric 215A (peanut tube) \$21.50

" " 231D \$13.00

" " VT-2 (WW1 vintage) \$35.00

types 22, 35, 39, 6D6, 2A7 new \$ 4.00 ea

types 1AG4, 1AH4, 1AG5, and misc. hearing  
aid tubes \$4.50 ea

BOB BREIVOGEL RT 2 BOX 803A BEAVERTON,  
503-649-5071 OREGON 97005

Atwater Kent model 33 \$65.00

Radiola 20 \$75.00

Ware 4 tube Music Master \$65.00

1930 Silvertone \$15.00

1930 Gilfillan \$25.00

1938 Wards Airline 3 band (table) \$30.00

1938 Sentinel farm set (tombstone) \$25.00

1940s Motorola chairside \$25.00

1946 Garod red & Yellow celluloid) \$75.00

Miscellaneous small radios \$3 to \$15

Lots of Literature, speakers meters etc.

JERRY TALBOTT 1440 SW 239TH, HILLSBORO,  
503-649-6717 OREGON 97123

503-627-1675 (work)

WANTED:

Flat faced Echophone Cathedral, Complete radio or just cabinet.

Philco #116-b Radio or cabinet only.

Riders 1 thru 5 condensed and/or vol. #2 vol. #3, and vol. #4.

ROBERT TEAGUE 7522 SE ROOTS RD, MILWAUKIE  
503-653-0077 OR 97222

Grebe "Rork"

General Motors Model 140

EDWIN BUHITE 4041 NE WISTERIA, PORTLAND  
503-284-7061 OR 97212

Hammarlund HQ-200 general coverage receiver circa 1969.

FRANK PLAISTED RT.3 BX 478, HILLSBORO, OR  
503-647-2891 97123

Data for PowerMate Co.'s Low Voltage power supply Model #su-uni-30EV Product Code 001048 (serial # 8G580302)

JOHN TUERCK 7480 SW CANYON LN, PORTLAND  
292-3607 OR, 97225

Push button escutcheon (black 6 position), & tone control assembly for Zenith 10B2/8B01; Tubes 6L7G, 50A1, V99, WD11, 6J5G, 1U6, 3LF4 2A4G

Riders vol. 6, 9, 10, 11, 12

LARRY CALLAHAN 2725 NE PILKINGTON,  
503-753-7701 CORVALLIS OR 97330

Western Electric Horn speakers

Old Telephone electronics (repeaters etc.) pre -1930 battery radios

NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY

President-----Jerry Talbott 649-6717  
Treasurer-----Ed Charman 654-7387  
Recording Secretary--Jim Mason 644-2343  
Corresponding Secretary -----  
Dick Karman 288-1285  
Technical Advisor--Bob Campbell 648-7331

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THE CALL LETTER

Editor & Chief	Dick Karman	288-1285
Meeting Minutes	Jim Mason	644-2343
Advertising sales	Jerry Talbott	649-6717
Membership	Ed Charman	654-7387
Acquisitions	Bob Teague	653-0077

We welcome member Bob Teague to the editorial staff of the Call Letter. Bob has agreed to handle the acquisitions page. Please send notice of your newest sets to him or contact him by phone.



JA MAC PRODUCTS

Speaker Re-Coning  
All Makes

8600 N.E. Sandy Blvd  
Portland, Oregon 97220  
252-2929