

**NORTHWEST
VINTAGE RADIO
SOCIETY
CALL LETTER**

Sept. '85

Vol.11 No.9



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The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a nonprofit 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 2515 NE 37th Ave Portland, Or. 97212, in care of the Editor.

September

DATE : September 14th, 1985
TIME : 10:00 AM
PLACE : Buena Vista Clubhouse
ADDRESS : 16th & Jackson streets
Oregon City, Oregon

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society Radio Competition.

The contest categories this year will be:

- 1- Battery Sets (Regenerative & Reflex)
- 2- Home Brew Sets and
pre-1930 Battery Sets
- 3- Early AC sets, 1930- 1942
- 4- Novelty sets - (tube type only)
- 5- Vintage Television

There will be a 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place ribbon awarded in each category.

Judging will be conducted by a panel of three judges selected by and from the contest committee. This year's judges will be Jim Mason, Jerry Talbott and Del Hambly. Judging considerations include looks, suitability to category, technical completeness, and authenticity.

Register your sets by NUMBER ONLY at the registration area. Place a number on your set in a conspicuous manner. The areas for the categories will be clearly signed. Be sure the sets are in proper category.

To save room for the contest sets and avoid confusion, confine your buying and selling activities to the parking lot and tailgates. There will be no sets sold in the club house.



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

Rare Old Wine
When 21, I planned to buy a Radio,
Like the one in the fancy ads.
I took one home for a week to try
to prove it good or bad.

"FULL RANGE tone brings every note
the orchestra can muster !",
(And if it expects my vote,
It had better be there, buster)

There wasn't sound of bell or chime
It missed low bass altogether.
Drum beats sounded often times
like the thumping of a feather.

And so on through it's listed merits
I checked every one for fact.
And for every time it quoted "carats"
There were five or six it lacked.

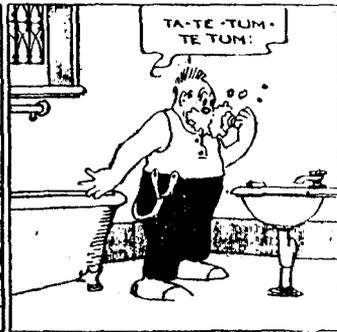
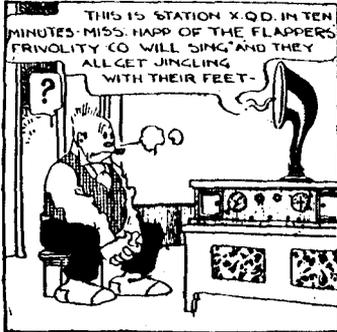
I took it back, you can believe,
(the dealer was quite irate).
I prefer the ads that don't deceive,
And the folks who tell it straight.

One day last week in old Spokane,
I bought that self same set.
From the estate of a local man,
it was a real terrific bet !

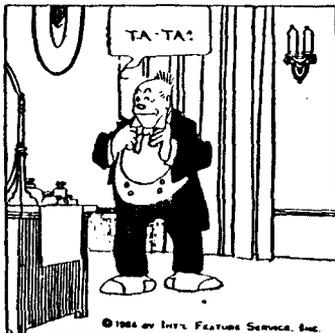
I guess the message here,
(and there's no mistake in typin'),
Is that it took some forty years,
for that sour set to ripen.

CARTOON CLIPPINGS

BRINGING UP FATHER

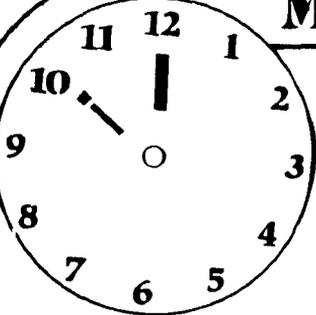


BY GEORGE McMANUS



-The Washington Herald

Meeting Minutes



The August 10th meeting was called to order at 10:10 by President Dick Karman. The minutes of the July meeting were approved as published in the CALL LETTER. The treasurer's report was given and accepted. The current balance in the treasury is \$590.64. Healthy financial conditions are due largely to the generosity of member Dan Wills, who has printed the CALL LETTER at no cost to the club.

GOOD AND WELFARE: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jim mason reported on the Forest Grove Club display. The vintage Television sets playing tapes of early T.V. programs attracted the most attention.

Dick Karman has been unable to contact Marconi's Cronies to secure a speaker for future meetings as they are in summer hiatus. He will do so after the meetings resume in September.

Due to lack of a quorum voting on the proposed increase in dues was deferred until a later meeting.

Dick Karman provided additional information on the upcoming PSARA contest and Swap Meet August 18th. A category of "miscellaneous", has been added, security will be improved, contestants will be limited to four entries and previous first place winning entries will not qualify for entry.

In response to a request for suggestions to improve the CALL LETTER, one member suggested more technical articles.

(continued on page -7-)

NEW BUSINESS:

In view of the low attendance at the July and August meetings, it was suggested that the membership might consider omitting summer meetings, with a single issue of the **CALL LETTER** during the hiatus.

It was also suggested that a family pancake breakfast or a progressive dinner at members' homes in place of the picnic might generate more interest.

Editor Karman discussed printing a new membership brochure to be distributed at displays, or, a less costly alternative: a special edition of the **CALL LETTER**.

LEADS and NEEDS were given and the meeting adjourned at 10:50, followed by the annual picnic.

Jim Mason,
Secretary

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REMEMBERING "Radjo" (RAY-JOE)

Where did it come from? What was "Radjo". Often people use it as a mispronunciation of "RADIO", but how did it begin?

The earliest reference that I can find is a Crystal set marketed by the Electric City Novelty and MFG. Co. of New York in 1923. According to the Radio Collector's Guide it was first marketed for \$3.50 and later for \$7.50.

If this was a spoof on some celebrity's mispronunciation of the invention (I wish I knew which one), or if it came about as a result of a publisher's typographical over-sight, we may never know. But when I hear someone say "Turn on the 'Rayjo'." I wonder where it all started.

Dick Karman,
Editor

CARE AND REPAIR OF OLD RADIOS

by Herb Brams

Handle old radios sets carefully. Most cabinets are covered by a thin wood veneers. These have often come loose from the cabinet and are easily broken off by rough handling. If knobs or other parts are loose, remove them and put them in a safe place so they won't fall off and get lost. If you move a large set by car, tie it securely or lay it down on it's back. /Remove the chassis altogether from large stately consoles. ed./

If the finish on a cabinet is in good condition, just dirty or scratched, clean the set carefully with a mild soap and water then apply a scratch remover such as "old English" or Howard's "Restore-A-Finish". Even very beat-up sets often come out beautifully with this treatment. Be sure to glue down any loose pieces of veneer before you start.

If the finish is in poor shape the cabinet can be refinished but it will be difficult to retain the original appearance of the set. Cabinets were usually made from cheap, light-colored wood. Colored lacquers were sprayed on to hide the blemishes and to tone down the mismatching in the various pieces of wood. Modern wood stains often do not hide these irregularities and may even exaggerate them. Dark finishes are especially difficult to restore. Modern wood stains usually do not yield a deep enough color and colored varnishes will show the brush marks. In most cases a muddy, pigmented stain like "Minwax Special Walnut"

seems to give the best results. Parts of the cabinet with beautiful veneers are best left unstained. For the final touch I use a satin polyurethane finish ("Flecto" Varathane #91).

Torn or faded speaker cloth can be replaced with a modern fabric. Choose a plain, dark, open weave material. Modern fabrics with patterns usually don't look good on an old set. Stiffen the cloth by applying spray starch or by soaking the cloth in wood stain and letting it dry. The color of the cloth can be changed somewhat by this method or by spray painting it. Original, but faded un-torn cloth can sometimes be restored this way.

Old radios should not be played unless they have been restored electrically. Many parts may be in poor condition, causing the set to draw too much current. If this should happen the speaker or power supply may burn out and these are costly parts to replace. If you must turn a set on to see if it works, watch the back carefully. If a tube turns red hot, or if the sets starts smoking, or if you hear frying or sputtering noises, turn it off immediately. Electrical repairs should be left in the hands of qualified persons. A professional restorer will replace every part found to be in poor repair and will put the set into safe working condition so that it will not only operate well but give long reliable service.



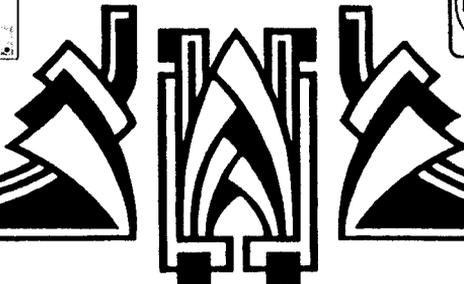
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GARY W. STELLER, OWNER



AC·CES·SION /ik- 'sesh-ən, ak-/

1. acquisition of additional property
 2. to record in order of acquisition
-

Alan Shadduck

Crosley Super Musicone speaker
Radiola 20
G.E. Tombstone A-53
Detrola 30-43 AC/DC
Gilbert AM-SW radio
GE GB-401 Battery Portable
Philco 42-322 (1942)
Westibghouse H-104a (1947)
Temple G4108 (1947)
Philco 95 chassis with speaker

Jerry Talbott

Scott 800B-6 (1946)
DeWald brown "Catlin" case (1946)
Philco 960 large wooden table set
with whip ant. and 9 bands

Jim Mason

11 Tube AIRLINE "movie dial" console

Frank Plaisted

Halicrafters:

S-76	SX-42	SX-96
SK-32	SX-28	SX-62

(from the Bruce Fletcher collection)

Every month, use this page to show off your most recent acquisitions. Place them in the pass-around notebook at each meeting, call Bob Teague (653-0077) or get word to your Editor.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Some very important items came to the membership's attention at the August meeting. These things deserve your consideration. As the President of the Society and the Editor of the CALL LETTER this writer will not cast a deciding vote until it is absolutely necessary. But as a member you should decide where you stand and make that position known to your officers.

Should we change the By-Laws to eliminate the Summer meetings?

Over the last 3 years attendance has been meager (at best) at the July and August meetings. The Society has attempted such things as contests, picnics, auctions, and speakers to encourage foul-weather friends to attend in the fair-weather months, but with limited success. Maybe these ideas will work if given more attention. Some of those who have attended these meetings have said that it may not be worth the effort. This year's annual picnic drew the fewest members in recent memory. 12 members attended. Insufficient for a quorum.

Shall we omit the traditional picnic?

The picnic is a great idea to include wives and families. It can be a time to draw the families into hobby and to show them other members who share your ideas. A society like ours needs to include the families and interest the younger generation.

Why doesn't it work? Could it work another time during the year. Should it be scheduled at an amusement park like Oaks Park? Should we share it with another society or historical group?

Shall we drop the August issue of the CALL LETTER?

For many people the CALL LETTER is the only contact they have with the club. Their dues make the meetings and activities possible, but they themselves cannot take advantage of these because of work, and family schedules.

To raise the dues as we have decided to do and to eliminate the August edition of the CALL LETTER all in the same breath seems to be inconsistent.

To maintain a newsletter during a month when there is no meeting may not be necessary. You be the judge!

Should the club continue to hold all of it's functions at the Club House.

For 9 years the Club house has been our one consistent place for meetings and Swap Meets. The number of times which we have taken exception to this rule can be counted on one hand.

Because of our long standing at the Buena Vista Club House, it has afforded us a very reasonable price. A price which we could not match for a roof over our heads and a kitchen when we want it.

The Club House is a distance from the "beaten trail" and is not always a good place for large gatherings.

The middle road has been taken while explaining these issues. This writer has very firm convictions which have been formulated over several years, but you have to form your own opinions. You are the individuals which make up this Society.

While the current President is in office the membership will have the final say. The President will not make the decisions.

TRADE: Grebe Synchrophase, Emerson 520 (swirled green/blue/ivory plastic) for good battery set. Max Kaplan 8412 150th St. NW, Gig Harbor, WA. 206-851-4187

WANTED: Colored Plastic mirrored glass, art deco radios, pre-1950 televisions especially pre-WW2, second IF X-former for Magestic model 461 (175 kc), and unusual sets. Ken Korhonen 4022 41st Ave SW Seattle, Washington 98116 206-932-9363

WANTED: Base and driver for AK "H" or "L" horn speaker. Al Mackenzie, 2109 Whitman NE Renton, Washington 98055 206-271-1674

WANTED: Grunow 801A Console Radio (or just cabinet for same). Darrell Forsberg 12209 1st Ave NW, Seattle, Washington, 98115 206-363-0754

FOR SALE: RCA 100 speaker Zenith Trans-Oceanic, Steinite speaker cabinet. two BC-799 receivers and an AK "L" chassis. Free= Majestic 130-A console FOB Everett

WANTED: Philco Mod 80B cabinet and speaker. "Aligning Philco Receivers" by Rider Vol. I & II. Colin Hallgren, 2205 Oakes, Everett, Wa 98201, 206-252-3892

FOR SALE: Philco 37-116 (no speaker) \$25.
Philco 37-11 (automatic tuning) \$35.
Philco 6 legged lowboy cabinet only \$15
Zenith 6-S-154 \$75. Zenith 6-S-52 \$75
Atwater Kent 72 Highboy (Neutrodyne) \$60
Majestic 130A Lowboy "mint condition" \$75
Earl 31 Highboy (neutrodyne) \$60
Walt Kiefner, Seattle, 206-524-1388

Swap Shop

WANTED:

"A Flick of The Switch"

Hard cover preferred
The Philco Cabinet that Jerry
Talbot sold at the July meet.
Robert Teague 7522 SE Roots Rd,
Milwaukie Or 97222
503-653-0077

Vintage Televisions or parts
or Literature.
Dan Wills 2074 SW 16th Ct.
Gresham, Or 97030
503-667-9454

FOR SALE:

WD-11 Plug in replacements
(864 tubes fitted with WD-11
type base. Same electrical
Characteristics as a WD-11)
(\$.75 P/A each) \$8.50 ea.
Radio and Television Tubes
Send SASE for entire list.
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Beaverton OR 97005
503-649-5071

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(KATU -2 from 40's or 50s)
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503-254-9296

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The Northwest Vintage Radio Society nor
the CALL LETTER are responsible for the
availability or accuracy of these ads.

NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY

President----- Dick Karman 288-1285

Vice President-- Frank Plaisted 647-2891

Treasurer----- Ed Charman 654-7387

Recording Secretary-- Jim Mason 644-2343

Corresponding Secretary -----
Robert Teague 653-0077

Librarian----- Chuck Kibler 678-5066



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