

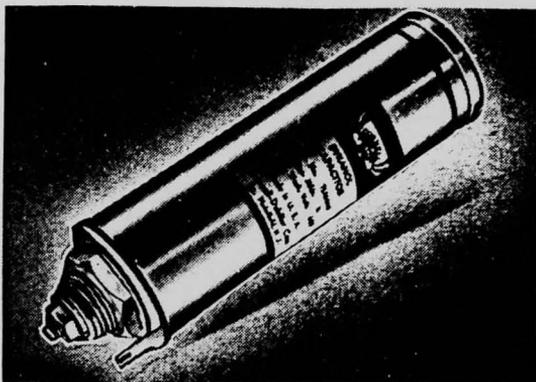


CALL LETTERS

VOLUME 16

FEBRUARY 1990

NUMBER 2



CALL LETTER

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 NWVRS has been dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Antique Radio & Wireless apparatus.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society meets at the Buena Vista Club House (Atkinson Park) 16th & Jackson Street, Oregon City, Oregon. (Note: take Washington St. to 15th, up 15th hill to Jackson, turn left to 16th).

Meetings are held at 10:00 AM on the second Saturday of each month except for summer vacation in July and August. The meetings are an opportunity to exchange information and advice.

Annual Dues:

Regular Membership \$15--

Associate Membership \$12--

Renewals are due on January First

1990 NWVRS OFFICERS

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| President | Dick Karman | 503-288-1285 |
| Vice President | Art Redman | 503-774-9913 |
| Treasurer | Ed Charman | 503-654-7387 |
| Secretary | Greg Morse | 503-626-9783 |
| Librarian | Norris Jackson | 503-642-5625 |

NWVRS Mailing Addresses

Membership Applications & Renewals:

Northwest Vintage Radio Society

P.O. Box 82379

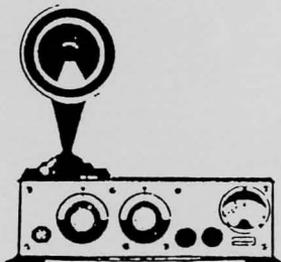
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

Newsletter Business/Information:

The Call Letter

4041 NE Wistaria Drive

Portland, OR 97212-2963



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The Call Letter and the Horn Of Plenty are available only as part of the NWVRS/PSARA memberships. NWVRS/PSARA are not responsible for any buying / selling transactions incurred, or for any other use of the contents of this publication.

On the cover this month we have two Cornell-Dubilier electrolytics and on page 13 are Sprague Electrolytics (filter caps) as in Sonny's Tech Tips beginning on page 11.





ATMOSPHERICA

By J

Another White Elephant

'Twas a twenty tube behemoth
Built by Cooper, Lane and Stokes.
The model was the "Taj Mahal"
(To excite the wealthy folks).

It sported all the latest stuff
In the circuits up to date--
Had six speakers, enough to drown
The sound of the S. P. freight !

Solid walnut was the cabinet,
With the grain all matched and such.
The perfect radio to show--
The ultimate classic touch !

Now Reginald de Smythe, the third
Installed one of these on trial,
He then sat down to search the band;
Hunting D. X. was in style.

The foreign stations were not there,
Nor many outside the state,
But the "locals" came a-booming in
On this music box ornate !

He quickly dumped this work of art;
Called it a prestigious fake,
Since neighbor Jones could out "pull" it
With his four tube Browning-Drake !

** **

Asketh not of a friend, the cost of his
radio, lest you tempt him to tell a tall
tale.

(Radiola: 10-4)



PSARA Meeting Minutes

Seattle, Washington -- Sunday, January 21, 1990

41 Members and 9 Guests were present. Vince Creisler has changed from associate member to full member.

Al Atworth volunteered to work on an amp & microphone for the club. Bert Whitaker will donate a microphone.

Jim McCall has volunteered to build whatever cabinets we need in the Museum at cost. Thanks Jim. We still need donations for display in the Museum - contact Ken Korhonen.

We received word on the condition of Bill Hebert. He is well on the road to recovery. Best wishes Bill we're all pulling for you. Note to Bill: If you wish to come to the meetings I'm sure we can find people to pick you up and bring you to the meetings.

The following Members have signed up for PSARA name tags: Vince Creisler, Steve Berglund, John Hoffman, Ron Sallabedra, Doug Bell, Pete Peterson, Rich Clearman, Tom Gettelman, Earl Hoppman, John Koster, Jim McCall, Barb Mettler. Anyone else wanting a name tag contact Al Lemke 206-868-8165.

We are looking for a Contributing Editor to work with Edwin Buhite on The Horn Of Plenty.

If you are looking for 78 RPM Phono needles contact JNS Phonograph Needles 206-524-2933. 1028 NE 65th St Seattle, WA 98115. Ask for Pfanstiehl PDN needles.

Note: Check your mailing label to see if it is correct and up to date. Don't forget to pay your 1990 dues. Any questions or corrections in your mailing label contact Bert Whitaker.

Next Meeting, Feb. 18 Optical Sound Recording. March 18 Auction. April 15 AWA Regional Meet. Agenda for Auction: Steve Von Talge, Bert Whitaker & Eric Lofquist will set up. Russ Anderson - Computer & Frank Banks Auctioneer. There is still time if you wish to volunteer to be auctioneer, I'll gladly put your name in for it. Check in time: 10AM -noon, Silent auction noon - 12:30, Oral Auction 1PM.

Frank Banks, PSARA Secretary



The N.W.V.R.S. Meeting Minutes

The January 13th meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society was called to order at 10:10 by incoming President Dick Karman. The minutes as published in the CALL LETTER were approved by consensus. The treasurer's report was given and approved. Members and Guests were welcomed and a door prize sign-up sheet was circulated.

Old Business:

The following committees need volunteers: Refreshment, Set-up, Contest, and Display.

There will be a nostalgia display in Salem on February 11th. Sonny Clutter will be the contact. All members wishing to help or offer materials for this one day display contact Sonny.

The question of a society historian was raised. This will be looked into but in the interim Ray Nelson will act as official photographer for the Society and eventually take the historical photographs and plan to display them with the ongoing project.

New Business:

A question from the floor involving the wisdom of publishing bank balances in the CALL LETTER lead to a motion to suppress that when publishing the meeting minutes. The motion was made by Don Copeland, seconded and passed unanimously.

A great deal of interest and attention was given to the 1990 planning calendar. A calendar was agreed upon and (following pages) will be published in the CALL LETTER.

The President suggested inviting a guest speaker from the Seattle Club to join us for a meeting. It was agreed by consensus that travel and honorarium would be extended to guest speakers.

There was discussion about the ability to video tape some of the "best of show" type equipment at the swap meets and contests and have it available for video display at meetings and shows.

The planning calendar discussion led to the idea of a NWVRS banquet. The members of the board will look into the possibility of scheduling one of these during the 1990 year.

The planning discussion also lead to a request by Gordon Phillips to have a value guide or presentation on the value of old sets. This



led to the suggestion of a group purchase of an old radio value guide. It was the plan to offer the group rate to Seattle members also. Ed Buhite was asked to contact Seattle. Ed Charman will do the leg-work for the Society.

The planning discussion lead to the plans for the February meeting. It will be a display of "pre-40" AC or AC/DC table radios.

Many members had suggestions about new items in the newsletter. One idea was the column that was included 8 years ago entitled "**OUR PEOPLE.**" The president and the editor both stated that they would enjoy the material but that someone would have to do the leg work. Another suggestion was that of highlighting a collector each issue. The editor says "sure" as long as the write up arrives at his home by the deadline.

There was a question about placing photographs and flyers on the club house bulletin board. The president will look into it.

There was a drawing for the door prize, by Chuck Kibler, and the winning number was that of the secretary.

Leads and Needs were given & the meeting was adjourned at 11:00.

Recording Secretary,
Greg Morse

Planning Calendar: 1990

- February 10** .Pre-40's AC and AC/DC table radios.
- March 10** .Old Radio Auction
- April 14** .Possible display, or speaker
- May 12** .Vintage Radio Swap Meet
- June 9** .Radio Equipment Display/Contest
- July**Forest Grove Auto Show Display
.No society meeting
- August** . . .Possible "BackYard Swap Meet"
.No regular society meeting
- September 8** .Old Radio Equipment Auction
- October 13** .Guest Speaker & Possible Banquet
- November 10** .Winter Swap Meet
- December 8** .Society Elections, Christmas Party

Swap Shop

Wanted

CHASSIS & Speaker or complete radio for RCA model 100, 101, 103 or 301. Chassis & Speaker for RCA model D-28, GE K-50, K-51 or K-82. Bosch 58 power transformer or chassis w/same. speaker for Radiola 24. Sonny Clutter 503-254-9296 14407 N.E. Fremont St. Portland, OR 97230

CONSOLES from the late 20s & 30s. Kim Brickman 503-873-7255 16818 S. Abiqua Rd. Silverton OR 97381

SCOTT Symphony radio, manufactured by the Scott Transformer Co., circa 1929-1930. Also need a Crosley Pup 1-tube battery radio. Jim Clark 517-349-2249 1292 Starboard Okemos, MI 48864.

GENERAL MOTORS Chassis S-3-A or S-3-B and speaker as used in models 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257 & 258. Ray Nelson 503-233-5063 3786 SE 8th Ave. Portland, OR 97202.

GENERAL MOTORS remote control unit for 160 radio. Frank Banks 206-941-2965.

DELCO Auto Radio "Wonder Bars" 6 & 12 Volt Hybrids. 1937 G.E. F-96 console. 1936 Arvin consoles. Vince Creisler 206-630-4735 13241 SE 261st ST Kent WA 98042.

MANUAL for Precision Apparatus Co. Series 914 Dynamic Electronometer (tube tester). Crosleys 56TD & 11-118U. John Koster 206-746-4391 16630 SE 26th Place Bellevue, WA 98008.

RIDERS III & IV, Sams AR4 & 5, Tubes 1-UX199 2-UX281 Al Lemke 206-868-8165 10004 206th Ave NE Redmond WA 98053

RIDERS I, V, 21, 22, 23. Jerry Brannon 206-854-4234 22324 100th Ave. SE Kent, WA 98031.

RIDERS I Ron Sallabedra 206-788-8940 20526 NE 177th St Woodinville, WA 98072.

RIDERS III, Sams 1 thru 7 Jim Gianacos 206-228-9398 or 206-784-9417 9110 122 Pl SE Renton, WA 98056

ADVENT 400 FM table radio David Dintenfass 206-784-4803 7901 8th Ave NW Seattle, WA 98117.

McINTOSH 50-W-2 Amplifier. Steve Von Talge 206-827-2829 or 206 783-2543 333 NW 74th St Seattle, WA 98117.



EARLY Commercial Transmitters. Jim Barrows 206-337-4880 15121 41st Ave. SE Bothell, WA

RARIO Memorabilia, books, magazines, advertising etc. Rich Clearman 206-774-6866 or 206-775-3271 7823 D 196th St Edmonds, WA 98020

Swap

ZENITH Super Model IX (shown on page 10 of our June '88 CL/HOP) Desk style Battery Console from the mid 20s. Sonny Clutter (see wants above).

LABOR: Will restore your wooden radio cabinet for your restoration of my chassis. Jim McCall 206-548-8015 or 206-763-2892 951 N 42nd St #302 Seattle, WA 98103.

For Sale

ZENITH 9-S-262 console: Triangular escutcheon, robot dial, motor tuning \$190. Walt Kiefner 206-524-1388 6233 51st NE Seattle, WA 98115.

PHILCO 60 console cabinet only \$ 5--. Ray Nelson (see wants above).

NORDEN Hauck Admiralty Super 12, this rare set is in excellent condition and works. Jim Clark (see wants above).

RADIOLA 26 w/tubes good condition \$300--, 50 issues of Radio Illustrated from 1923 \$75--. Steve Von Talge (see wants above).

Leads

CAPEHART Chassis Richard Levy 503-266-7327.



"Psst! Looking for a bargain?"

Olé!

(acquisitions)

Russ Anderson

Scott 800B Console

Steve Bafus

Bing Crosby junior juke phono

Sonny Clutter

1923 Graco 3 tube Battery set mfd. in Gray's Harbor, WA

1940 Emerson 400 "Patriot" brown & olive Catalin

Walt Kiefner

Zenith 9-S-262 Console

Mastercrafters Melody Cruiser

Packard Bell 5F-P Ivory Plaskon

Firestone Bakelite, Mitchell Lullaby

Philco 48-460 deco Bakelite

20 novelty transistor sets

Nanoala Japanese mini tube portable

Marvel Japanese mini tube portable

Scott MacGregor

1928 Apex 36

1928 Atwater Kent 40

1938 Zenith 6D315

Ray Nelson

1923 Battery Set Kit Radio

1932 G.M. 252 Cabinet

1941 Belmont 638 (a.k.a. 6D111)

1951 RCA Strato-World 3-BX-671

Jerry Talbott

1931 DeWald AC-524
Deco Tombstone

1936 RCA 4X midget
tombstone

1947 Bendix 55L2U white
bakelite

John Tuerck

B&K 1076 TV Analyzer

Rudy Zvarich

1948 RCA 8TS30 10"TV
with spare chassis



SONNY'S TECH TIPS

TROUBLESHOOTING THE POWER SUPPLY PART 1

by Sonny Clutter

In the last article we used the "light bulb test" to determine if a short exist that could damage the power transformer. In this issue we are going to take the first steps to check out and repair the power supply.

SPECIAL NOTE: Most early AC radios used a "field coil" speaker, (speaker cable had 3 or more wires). Never apply power with the speaker disconnected.

Assuming we passed the "light bulb test", we are now ready to apply full power and take the following steps to check out your radio. (I always take the first two steps with my hand on the plug, just in case I have to remove the power in a hurry.)

1. Observe the rectifier tube, you should see a dull reddish-orange glow from the filament. If you see sparks, an orange or purple glow or the outer "plates" of the tube glow red, disconnect the power and try again with a new rectifier tube.
2. Listen to the speaker as the set warms up, if you hear a loud hum, popping, cracking or a frying noise, disconnect the power.
3. If you successfully passed the first two tests, then allow the set to warm up for a few minutes. Hook a wire up to the antenna terminal and see if it plays. If it plays ok with no hum or distortion, you don't need to be concerned about the power supply for now. After about fifteen minutes, disconnect the power and feel the filter cans, If the cans are warm or hot, they should be replaced.



4. Most old sets will produce one or more of the symptoms in step one or two. These symptoms generally indicate defective filter capacitors. Since they are packaged in a variety of forms use the pictures included in the article to locate the filters. The most common are the cylindrical metal cans mounted on top of the chassis, other types are usually under the chassis.

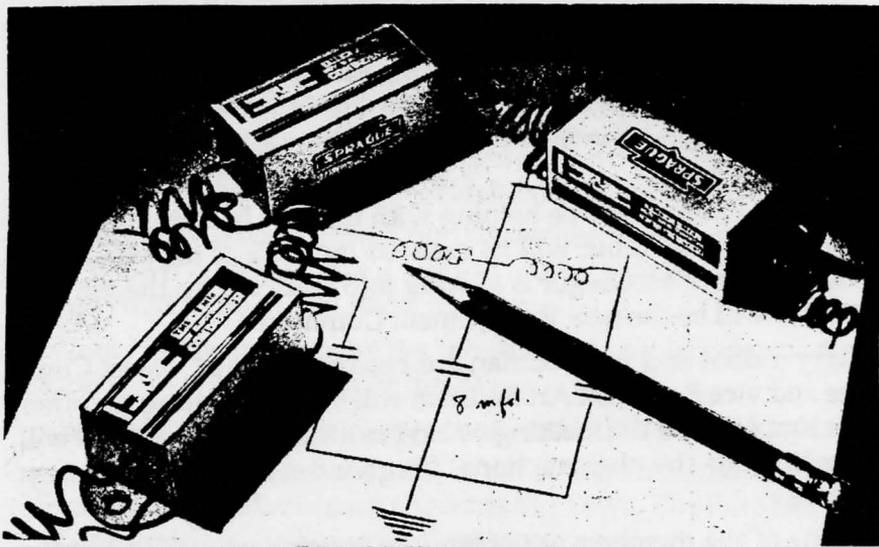
5 .After removing the chassis and identifying the filters you may notice they have already been replaced, quite possibly several times over the years. The newer ones have very likely just hung right on the lugs of the old ones! If this is the case the next thing to do is disconnect the original ones leaving only the newer ones connected and return to step one. Some "technicians" used the poor practice of tacking new filter capacitors right onto the lugs the old ones when a "hum" would start to develop. This got rid of the hum until the old filters (still in the circuit) would become more leaky or short out altogether. **The original capacitors should always be disconnected.**

6. **Installing the new filters:** Unless you can obtain new old stock capacitors and can reform them (I will explain reforming capacitors in a future article), you should use the modern replacement types. These are available from **Antique Electronic Supply**. These are quite small and can be mounted under the chassis. Install a couple of small terminal strips under the chassis to attach the new capacitors and the wiring to. This makes a much neater and safer job than just "hanging" them under the chassis. **I should mention here that these capacitors are marked + and - , Make sure you observe the correct polarity!!** Disconnect the old filters and Leave the the top mounted "can" types in place so the set will still look original from the top side. The value of the filter capacitors vary and is usually noted on the can or package. (The package containing the filter also varies see pictures.) The Capa-



capacitors are rated in microfarads and working voltage. The symbols to identify these values are uf or mfd for the capacitance. The most common value used in 30" s radios is; 8uf at 500 volts. 10uf at 500 volts is a good replacement.

7. After replacing the capacitors go back to the light bulb test and then to steps one and two. If you still have difficulties I will cover more power supply troubleshooting tips in the next issue.



"It shouldn't take you long to fix it. Orville has already disassembled most of it for you."



"TV survey? Yes. Right now I'm watching three channels...hello? Hello?..."



The NWVRS President's Pages

By Dick Karman

Greetings from the President.

Our society has begun a red-letter year. During and after the January meeting we filled all of the vacancies and showed our ability to work together. Ray Nelson is going to help out with the duties of Club Photographer. This will be augmented by some video tape of club activities shot by Yours truly and member Sonny Clutter.

Tony Hauser also volunteered. Maybe he has already contacted you. He will be doing the phone calling each month to help out the editor with Ole and Swap Shop. Editor Buhite will enjoy this assistance and all of us will benefit from the additional information in the CALL LETTER.

Gordon Phillips will be helping with the Set Up Committee. He can't always make it but will be assisted by those of us who are in attendance. Scott McGregor is looking into sprucing up the refreshments. He will be the new Refreshment Committee.

Jerry Talbot and Art Redman are heading up the Contest Committee and vice President Art Redman will be coordinating the other events that occur at the meetings. And I'm afraid your President will be heading up the club auctions. (forgive me if I have forgotten someone.)

Some of the members at the January meeting wanted to use the bulletin board to display some pictures of their collections. We weren't able to get a consensus on whether we could or should use the bulletin board on a permanent basis. My only suggestion would be to bring only copies of your photographs. If originals are the only thing available, place them on the board only during the meeting, and then take them with you.

On a Serious Note

Your President looks at radio as not just a technical hobby, but also as a part of living history. Many of you may know that I collect and enjoy radio shows from years gone by as well as counsel Boys Scouts in their Radio Merit Badge, and try to follow the lives and times of those who made radio the medium it is today.

It is on this last element that I make a serious note. The "*Golden Days of Radio*" are now nearly 50 years behind us. The days of vintage radio are further back than that. Many of those folks who made radio great are passing from us and I, periodically, note their passing with hopes that it perpetuates and sweetens their memory.

Actress Lee Allman, 81, died last October 8th.

Carmen Cabellero, 76, died last October 12th.

Radio writer Sam Moore, 85, died last October 13th.

Musician Lud Gluskin, 90, died last October 13th.

Actor Cornell Wilde, 74, died last October 15th.

Sound Effects man Tom Hanley died last November.

Actor Arnold Moss, 80, died December 15th.

Actress Betty Garde, 84, died December 25th, 1989.

Child Actor Robert "Bobby" Winckler, 62, died on December 28th.

These may mean nothing on the surface, but read between the lines. Bobby Winckler was a regular on the Jack Benny Show, and played child parts in Lux Radio Theater.

Tom Hanley made most the "noises" that you heard coming out of CBS Hollywood Studios in the 50's.

Sam Moore was co-writer on the Great Gildersleeve for years.

Betty Grade started in Radio in the 30's with Eddie Cantor and appeared as a regular in such shows as Big Town, The Fat Man, (Belle in) Lorenzo Jones, and in several soap operas.

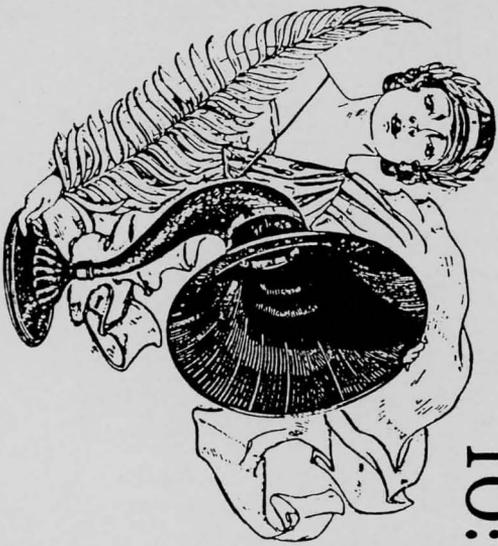
Lud Gluskin's music was heard behind much of the radio drama of the late 40's through the early 60's. Everything from Campana Serenade to Sam Spade. The one I remember most is Our Miss Brooks.

I would like to recount what each of these people did for radio in more detail, but space and time does not permit. Suffice it to say that we will continue to enjoy their memories and work for years to come.

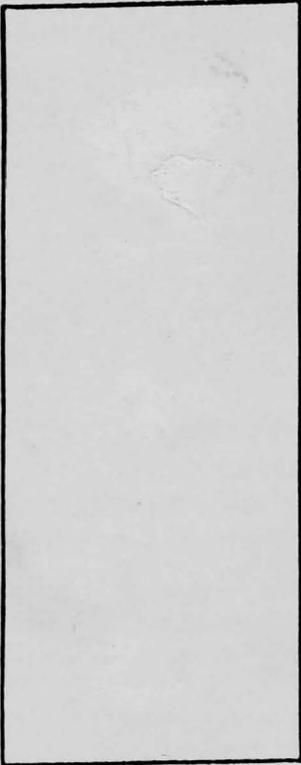
Special Thanks to The Society for the Preservation and Enjoyment
of Radio Variety And Comedy for their work in keeping
track of radio folks from years gone by.



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TO:



First Class Mail