

Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, Portland, Oregon

Volume 19

February 1993

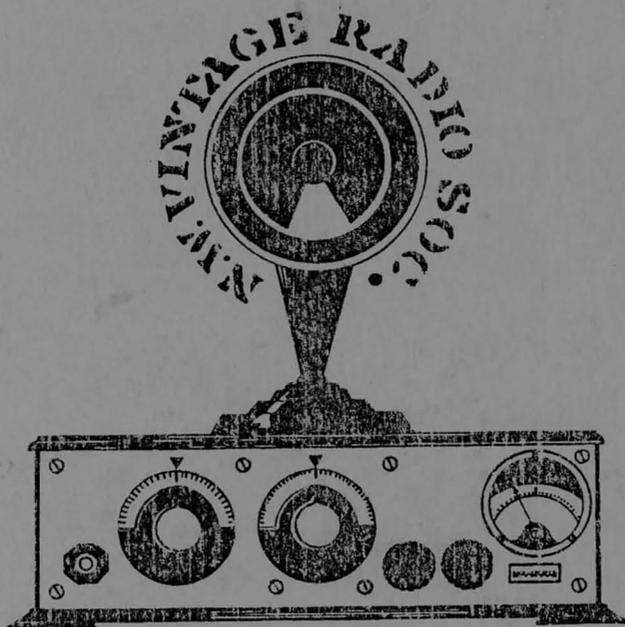
Number 2

This Month:

Meeting February 13th, 1993
Special Guest Don Hunker
& the HUNKER Radio

Next Month:

Meeting March 13th, 1993
Guest Speaker Wilbur Jerman,
founder of KWJJ Radio.
& Restoration Contest



The Original HUNKER, circa 1974

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

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 \$15.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year.

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 members the Call Letter has continued to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that has supported the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum, 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd street) in Portland Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and information exchange. 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 SW Portland.

Society Officers:

President	Speed Feldschau (503) 390-3928
Vice President	Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517
Treasurer	Ed Charman (503) 654-7387
Secretary	Joel Camicia (503) 287-7832
Board member at large and Call Letter Editor	Dick Karman (503) 281-6585
Museum Curator	Frank Rasada (503) 246-3400

The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society
Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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Meeting minutes

By Joel Camicia, NVRS Secretary

The meeting was called to order at the NVRS radio Museum at 10 AM by President Speed Feldschau, with 18 members in attendance.

Old Business

The Treasurer's report was presented and approved. Members in attendance were reminded that it is once again annual dues time. There was no mention of good and welfare.

A progress report was given by Dick Dielschneider on the renovation of the museum. Lighted display areas on the first floor were among the most recent completions. The forced-air furnace on the first floor will be moved to basement some time soon. Volunteers to help with the move will be appreciated.

New Business

The annual calendar was discussed by vice president Gordon Phillips. (See calendar on page 11, February Call Letter.) Dick Karman introduced the topic for the February meeting was the *Hunker-dyne* radio. Dick explained the origin of the NVRS logo. Contest were also part of the calendar. No one answered the call for a contest chairman. The Sounds of Nostalgia at the Salem fairgrounds will be on February 14th. The Society will participate. Speed Feldschau will be contact for the event.

Gordon Phillips presented a list of questions frequently asked by new members, i.e. where to find old sets, what is collectible, and where to find parts and diagrams? It was suggested that providing this information to new members would make the task of locating and preserving old radios easier. Also suggested was a bound book be printed and sold for a nominal fee to those interested in the hobby.

The President reminded all members that every general meeting includes an opportunity to sell radio related material at the meeting.

Dick Karman relayed information from PSARA about the question of sales tax when radios are sold in Washington State.

Reimbursement for the costs incurred by the Christmas dinner was brought to discussion. A motion was made, seconded and passed by voice vote to reimburse Mary Rasada the amount of \$50.

The need for a new club photographer was discussed, however there were no volunteers. Reviving the society scrapbook was suggested.

Leads and Needs were given.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15.

NVRS Announcements

Swap Meet Note

The two swap meets are now being publicized as "show and sales." To make them a success everyone needs to help get the word out. Full page flyers are ready to pick up at this and every meeting at the museum. Please see Sonny Clutter for more information.

March Meeting

Member Rudy Zvarich has arranged for Mr. Wilbur J. Jerman to speak at the March NVRS meeting at the museum. Mr. Jerman founded KWJJ in 1927. The station was then known as the "Voice of Broadway" and it was located in the Broadway Theater building. Mr. Jerman has seen several decades pass since then, and he can remember all of them. He has suggested that he will try to bring along memorabilia from the early days of radio. Although the station has changed down through the years, it still bears his initials W.J.J. Plan to come hear Mr. Jerman and bring a guest who may be interested in old radio.

WANTED

We are looking for several things that are missing from our "history book." If you have the Society scrapbook, early meeting minutes, Society library books, clippings about the Society, or any of the display materials that the society has used please get word to president Speed Feldschau. We'd like to document our past, and have fun "looking back."

Name Badges and Books

Tom Moore, Ed Pittaway, and David Palomino have yet to pick up their name badges.

Books should be available for the following members at the February meeting: Ray Nelson (novelty transistors); Frank Rasceta (Bunis); Glen Bricker (Bunis); Tom Hoskins (Vintage TV) and Scott Macgregor (Vintage TV). The Society will be selling copies of the Johnson book on vintage radios and there will be one extra of the Bunis second edition and the Breed novelty transistor books available at the February meeting.

Swap Shop

FOR SALE

35,000 Tubes, \$1 and up each; old radio and electronics gear; - Bob Lee at R-5, D-3 Surplus, 6111 SE 82nd Avenue, Portland, (503) 774-6560.

Early 1970's Magnavox Stereo AM-FM /Phono Console, like new, mediterranean lite walnut cabinet, - \$50 or best offer - Rudy Zvarich (503) 255-2227.

Halicrafter Model S20R multiband pre-war receiver (\$85); Citizen Black and White Liquid Crystal TV with backlit screen model 08TA "pocket TV" (\$60) - Scott MacGregor (503) 661-1294.

Mid-thirties Westinghouse transmitter control panels with all meters, switches, and dials in tact (\$55); Freshman Earl spindle legged console, as is (\$65) Stewart Warner "950 series" 4 legged sliding doors, (worked well when put in storage) (\$100) chassis for Stewart Warner 950 (\$25) - Dick Karman (503) 281- 6585.

WANTED

Philco Chassis & Speaker for a Model 43, and a Philco 20 Chassis - Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517

ARRL Hand Books 1st, 5th, and 16th editions to complete my collection - Bob Schafer (WA7IHN) 11004 James Way, Aumsville, Oregon 97325 (503) 749-1149.

1935 Model 835 Zenith chrome-front tombstone (any condition); 1937 Zenith Zephyr Console 10-S-157 or 6-S-157; 1935 Zenith 835 Tombstone; 1935 Zenith 5-R-312 "pancake grille" pushbutton Table radio; Arvin model 441T "Hopalong Casidy" Novelty radio foil, I have the radio; "Money Talks" novelty Radio - Scott MacGregor (503) 661-1294.

Coat-Pocket and Shirt Pocket radios of the 50's and 60's - Sonny Clutter 14407 NE Fremont St. Portland, Oregon 97230 (503) 254-9296.

30's Tombstone/Table Radios - Kim Brickman (503) 873-7255.

Items listed in the Swap Shop are listed as a service to the membership. The NVRS is not responsible for the accuracy or timeliness of the advertisements. All transactions are the responsibility of those members involved.

Acquisitions

Mike Parker

- 1924 Radiola III-A
- 1926 Airline 26 2-dial
- 1926 ERLA Monodic 2-dial
- 1926 Kismet 3-dial
- 1937 RCA 86BT-2 Cathedral

Ray Nelson

- Atwater Kent 10c Breadboard

Dick Dielschneider

- Crosley Model 515 Tombstone
- Crosley Model 52TAU chassis U-74 table set
- Motorola Model 57X Plastic Table set
- Arvin #818 Chassis
- Grunow Model 8E console
- Sparton Model 1068 Console
- Zenith Model 9-S-367 Console
- Zenith Model 7-S-529 Table set
- Zenith Model 6-S-152 Console
- Zenith Model 12-H-670 Console
- Zenith Model 6-S-527 table set
- Emerson Table set
- Airline Model 319 Console
- Stewart Warner Model 01-6GZ french provincial Tabel radio
- Arvin Model 422A metal table set



The Metrodyne, A Restoration

by F.W.Sloat, W7AHK

The Metrodyne receiver was manufactured by the Metro Company of Chicago and was one of the first A.C. receivers. It was advertised extensively in Radio News during 1927 and 1928 for mail order sales with a 30 day free trial.

The circuit is straight forward with three stages of tuned R.F., detector and three stages of transformer coupled audio. Originally, according to the ads, it was equipped with Sovereign brand overhead heater tubes of the McCullough type. McCullough, a former Westinghouse engineer, is given credit as the inventor of the first A.C. tube.

I first saw mine lying in the parking lot at the AWA flea market, Dearborn, Michigan, 1978. A cursory examination was made and it was noticed that Wireless brand tubes were installed in this receiver. They must be bootleg McCullough, I thought, and I must have them.

The four variable capacitors are mounted on two 3/8" shafts separated in the center with a drum dial. The rotor plates are in cast pot metal hubs which slip into shafts and are held in place by set screws. The stator plates are in pot metal frames which can be rotated several degrees around the shaft by levers on the front panel. This is for alignment.

My Metrodyne was a basket case., however, it was decided to attempt restoration. The variable capacitors were frozen and the pot metal broken in pieces and warped into strange shapes. An application of penetrating oil loosened the rust on the shaft. The dictionary defines pot metal as a combination of lead and copper and if you have not been involved with the vagaries of this stuff you don't know what you have missed. It grows with age, warps, twists, and falls apart in your hands. It is so tough and brittle one can break a pair of diagonals cutters on it. The hubs were OK but the stator assemblies looked hopeless. All parts were carefully cleaned and decreased. Cardboard was used for spacing shims and the broken pieces were fitted together and cemented in place with "Duro". Some additional breaks were made to get things

properly lined up. The first R.F. capacitor was missing some parts and this was taken care of by making new ones on the lathe.

One spider web inductance was replaced. The cathode resistors were replaced with wire wound types, the plate by-pass capacitor replaced and one audio transformer rewound.

The many breaks in the pot metal caused a loss of electrical continuity and this problem was solved by interlacing all stator plates with fine copper wire, placing this at the extreme outer edges, so as to not interfere with the rotors. These tubes take three volts on the heaters and the power winding was wound on an old transformer. The old B eliminator was put into service and we were ready for the alignment. It should be mentioned that the old panel was too far gone and a new one of black walnut was fashioned. Checking each stage separately indicated all was well. With the power applied in came the music. A little polishing and some paint made the old wreck look quite nice and it does a good job. Hum is negligible, the audio is fair and all in all the Metrodyne was a good receiver for 1927. To finish our job, the cabinet was made by studying the pictures in Radio News!

All Electric Radio

Single Dial 7 Tube Set - 30 Days Free Trial

**Agents!
Dealers!
Big Profits!**

Make Big Money taking orders for Metrodyne—all or part time. Metrodyne All Electric Radios are in a class by themselves. Unequaled for quality, performance and price. Demonstrate at home and take orders. Lowest wholesale prices. Your Demonstrating Set on 30 days' FREE trial. Mail the coupon below for complete details.

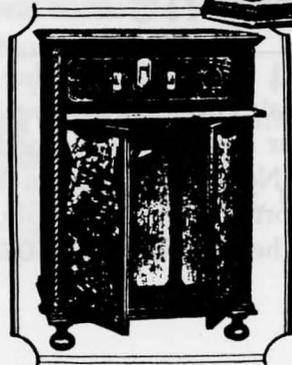


Three Year Guarantee

Metrodyne

ALL ELECTRIC RADIO

"Simply press the switch button and it's on"



1934: a year to remember in Salem!

The "Sounds of Nostalgia" show and sale at the Salem Fair grounds will feature a display by the Northwest Vintage Radio Society built around the year 1934. The date is February 14th. All members with nostalgia and radios from 1934 are urged to contact Speed Feldschau (503) 390-3928, and volunteer to help.

Try to Remember

Nineteen-thirty-four was the year that two brothers started a band, their names were Tommy & Jimmy Dorsey. Jazz clarinetist Benny Goodman's band played their first nightclub. Popular songs were "You're The Top," "Anything Goes," "Cocktails For Two," and "Blue Moon."

Nineteen-thirty-four saw the introduction of the "pipeless" Hammond organ, Sulfa drugs, the variable pitch airplane propeller, and RCA's first successful electrically operated phonograph attachment for radio. It cost \$16.50.

Here's what the "depression dollar" could buy: Mink coat, \$585; A ford V-8 with everything, the same price; A Chrysler Sedan, \$995; Sirloin Steak, \$.29 per pound; and a six-country, eleven day European tour, \$465.

Who can forget the Dionne Quintuplets, Shirley Temple as *Little Miss Marker*, and the final shoot out for gangsters Bonnie and Clyde.

Make 1934 come alive in Salem, and help out at the show in Salem.

Other Organizations

The Annual HAM SWAP MEET will be held Saturday, February 20th at the Rickreal Polk County Fair Grounds, just west of Salem Oregon. The event is very popular and there is a good chance to buy and sell vintage components. No Pre- registration is necessary. There is more information at Portland Radio Supply, 234 SE Grand Ave. in Portland, or through the Ham Club at (503) 233-4904.

NVRS Calendar

February 13th -

Business meeting, Special guest Don Hunker.

March 13th -

Business Meeting, Contest and display of before and after restoration projects; novelty sets both transistor and tube, Guest Speaker Wilbur Jerman, founder of KWJJ radio, Portland, After meeting demonstration on how to reform electrolytic condensers.

April 10th -

Business Meeting, Seminar on how to repair breaks in bakelite radios and questions and answers on other bakelite radio problems. After meeting demonstration on bakelite repair.

May 8th -

Northwest Vintage Radio and related nostalgia Show and Sale at the Multnomah Arts Center in the heart of the Multnomah district of Portland (across the street from the museum). Open to the public from 9:30 to noon thirty; clean up and out by 1 PM.

June 12th -

Business meeting, display and contest of unusual radio components, parts, tubes, and prizes for the most unusual.

July -

(No meeting) Keizer Oregon swap meet (date forthcoming).

September 11th -

Northwest Vintage Radio and related nostalgia Show and Sale at the Multnomah Arts Center. (See above for details.)

October 9th -

Business meeting, Vintage radio and equipment auction at the Vintage Radio Museum. Tentatively a silent auction first and an oral auction to "clear the floor."

November 13th -

Business meeting with nomination of 1994 officers, after meeting a radio repair demonstration (to be announced).

December 11th -

Business meeting, the annual Christmas party, and perhaps a Christmas banquet.

Meet the Secretary

Scott MacGregor

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society welcomes Joel Camicia as the new secretary. Joel has been a society member for just one year, but his interest in vintage radio goes back to his boyhood days. Joel originates from the San Jose, California area and recalls visiting the local landfills and thrift stores returning home with radios straddling the handlebars of his bicycle.

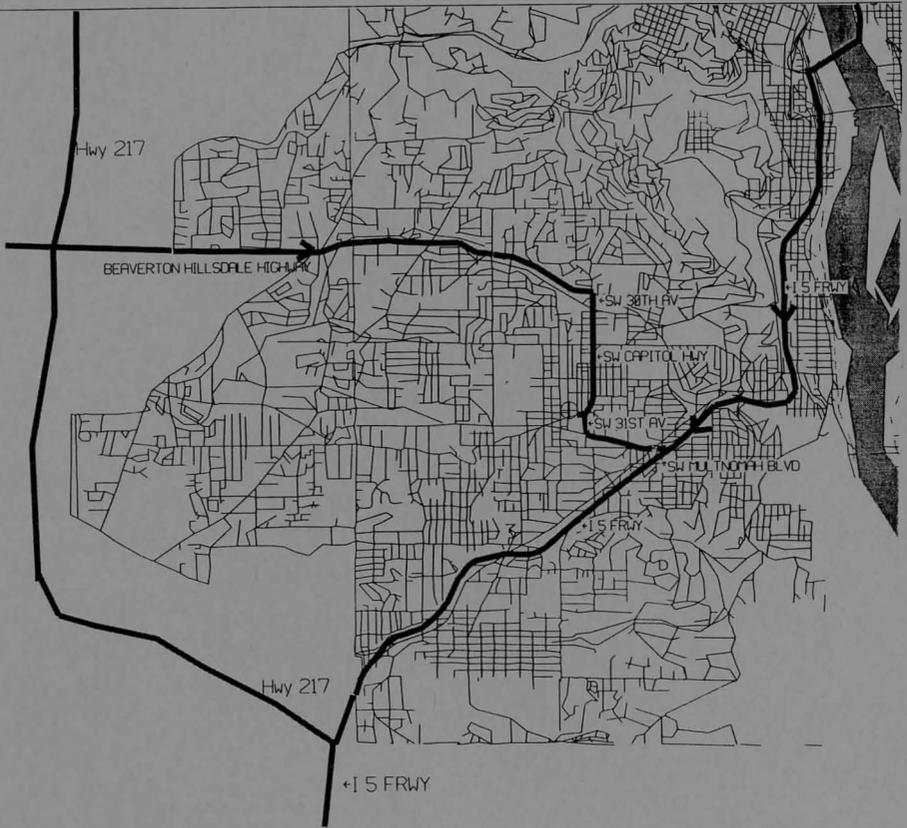
Joel collected and tinkered with radio sets through high school, graduating in 1965. After which he spent several years employed in the San Francisco Bay area specializing in microwave defense electronics. He relocated in Portland in the early 70's to work for Tektronics in Beaverton. Joel returned to the bay area twice in the seventies before settling permanently in Portland.

Joel decided to pursue his first love and has made a business out of his love for vintage radio. He opened his own full-time repair and radio restoration business in 1989, operating out of the basement shop of his NE Portland home. He has been busy ever since, with a steady stream of radio sets flowing into his shop. He has a small display area and welcomes guests to his shop. Besides restoring old radios, Joel also restores and repairs collectible telephone equipment, crank phonographs, and vintage lamps. Zenith radios are Joel's favorites to restore.

We welcome Joel as our new secretary and encourage everyone to say hello and get to know him at our next meeting.

In Memory

Thanks to long-time friend of our society Mrs. Virginia Ranken, we have learned of the passing of Honorary member Dorothy James. Dorothy was the wife of Tom James, one of hardest working and most dedicated members from 1974 until his death. Dorothy was not able to attend meetings since Tom died in 1984, but was supportive of the society and granted exclusive reprint rights to all of Tom's writings to the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Those who knew her will miss her for how much she meant to the "nuts and bolts" of the society in the early years.



The Call Letter is the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. All material in the newsletter is provided for the membership. The staff:

- Dick Karman Editor
- Tex Sloat Contributing writer
- Gordon Phillips Contributor & Bindery strawboss
- Scott MacGregor Reporter and writer