

# Call Letter

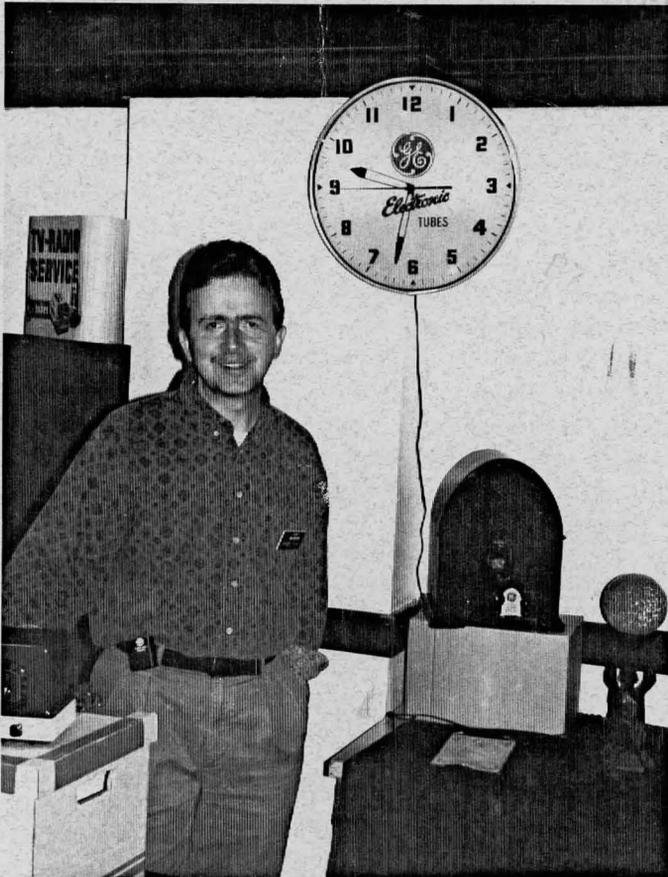
of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society Portland, Oregon

Vol. 19

June, 1993

No. 6

Man of the Hour, Scott MacGregor at the May Show & Sale. (More pictures on pages 6 & 7.)



Scott was reporter, correspondent, photographer, copy writer and delivery man for this issue of the *Call Letter*. Without him these pages would have been empty.

# ***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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## June Meetings

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From Gordon Phillips

The June 12th meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society will feature a forum on condensers (capacitors). I will bring two capacitor testers and discuss my experiences of testing capacitors. Others who have experience in working with condensers will be asked to contribute to the forum.

Meeting: June 12th, 1993

Time: 10 AM

This is the last meeting before our summer hiatus. The Society does not conduct its normal monthly meetings during July and August. Don't forget the July Swap Meet in Kieser Oregon.

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# On the Road In Illinois

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by Scott MacGregor

I recently returned from a business trip to my company's home office in Wheeling Illinois. I had the opportunity to attend the Antique Radio Club of Illinois' Spring Swap Meet held on April 25th in the town of Melton. While in the air en route to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, I was paging through the April issue of ARC, and discovered that the Illinois meet was the next morning. But how far was Melton from North Chicago? The map in my rental car showed Melton to be in the center of the state, about three and half hours each way. "Might as well", since I had Sunday to kill before the Monday morning meeting.

I left Chicago at 3 AM heading southwest. There was not much traffic at that time, even in the *windy city*. I was excited wondering who and what I might discover once I arrived. I soon felt that being on a state highway in Central Illinois was not much different than touring the Oregon Coast. Maybe it's in the blood! One thing about Illinois: all of the small towns are marked with a green mushroom-shaped water tower sporting the name of the berg. I spotted the *Melton* water tower and pulled into the community center parking lot at 6:45 AM. This was a tail-gate swap meet and members were already busy setting up. I soon met Carl Knipfel, secretary of the club and promoter of the spring swap meet. Carolyn, Carl's wife, is the club's treasurer. They made me feel at home, as did all of the collectors I visited with.

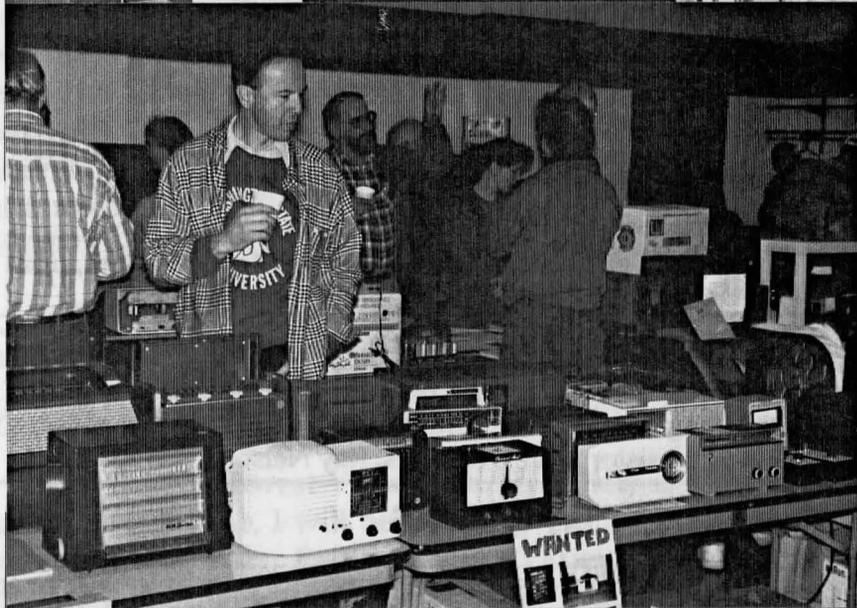
I visited with long time collector Dick Bury of Gurnee, Illinois; Arnie Breed, a Zenith collector from Ottumwa, Iowa; Bob Piekarz of LaGrange Park, Illinois; and many others. A note of interest was the number of collectors at-

tending this fairly small event. Many were from out of state, and many were on the "radio swap meet circuit." One fellow had driven from Arizona. Some had driven in from the Dayton, Ohio *Ham-vention* and Spark Swap Meet some distance to the east. I discovered why Chicago is often referred to as the Antique Radio Capitol of the country: the rest of the meets are within weekend commuting distance!

Listening to some of these collectors talk was enough to even make the mouth a novice collector water. The "Hands down" vote for the granddaddy of all of the meets goes to the upcoming meet in Elgin, Illinois in the first week in August. One could hear the name Elgin spoken throughout the parking lot. (I don't think I could convince my company to schedule another required meeting in August.)

The Melton meet started to wind down about 11 AM, and Carl invited a few of us over to see his collection. A convoy of about 10 vehicles made the short trip to Carl's home. He has a great collection encompassing at least three buildings. His crystal sets alone number close to one hundred. When not busy with radio Carl also collects flame powered engines. This was a great opportunity to visit with members of the ARC of Illinois and I surely enjoyed the experience. My special thanks to Carl & Carolyn Knipfel for their hospitality and to Dick Bury for his invitation to see the collection. Maybe we could all meet in Elgin !





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# Swap Shop

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Evidently everything is going to the early summer swap meets. Very little has come in for the SWAP SHOP column

## Wanted

Majestic 20 Chasis; Crosley 59 chasis; Magnavox Eton battery set chasis, Regency XR-2A earphone radio, Ken Korhonen (206) 932-9363.

Coat and shirt pocket tube & transistor radios of the 50's and 60's. Sonny Clutter, 14407 NE Fremont Street, Portland, Oregon 97230 (503) 254-9296.

Mallory Radio Service Encyclopedia Volume VI; Ryders perpetual Service Books (reasonable); ARVIN Model 441T "Hoppy" metal radio, any condition; Scott MacGregor (503) 661-1294.

Buyers and Sellers at the Summer Swap Meet, July 10th, from 8 AM to 2 PM. For more information call Speed Feldschau (503) 390-3928.

## For Sale

Revolving Display Case (timex watches), suitable for small transistor radios, or tubes. Ray Nelson (503) 233-5063

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# Swap Meets

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July 10th, Speed's Kieser, Oregon Swap Meet, More Information: call (503) 390-3928.

July 16 - 18 EXTRAVAGANZA '93; Lansing Michigan sponsored by the Michigan Antique Radio Club & the AWA. Additional information: write to EXTRAVAGANZA '93, P.O. box 585, Okemos, Michigan 48864.

August 6 & 7, Elgin, Illinois, Mid West Radio Swap Meet.

August 15th, 1993; Puget Sound Antique Radio Association; Shoreline Museum on N 175th street, one block West of Aurora Avenue, in North Seattle.

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# Tech Tips

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By Glen Zook

## Using Real Batteries ?

When using real "B" batteries with vintage radios the set may work well while the battery is at its peak, but starts oscillations when the battery becomes less than full power. This condition is often due to the "B" battery's internal resistance, which increases very rapidly as the battery nears the end of its useful life. The increased battery resistance allows positive feedback to occur across one or more of the receiver circuits. You can usually get a few more "howl-less" hours from your set by connecting a 0.02 mfd. mica or ceramic capacitor across the "B" battery terminals.

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# Quips and Quotes

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by Editor Dick Karman

When the Northwest Vintage Radio Society is meeting in Portland in June, I will be meeting with the Society to Preserve, and Enjoy, Radio, Drama, Variety, And Comedy, in Los Angeles, California. This group has been working for nearly 20 years to preserve recordings of the shows that made our vintage radios the entertainment that they were 50 to 60 years ago.

I was pleased to see tapes of vintage radio shows at our last Radio Show. Member John Fessler had his excellent supply of vintage tapes and had them for a reasonable price. John said that he'll be back at the September Show. It possible too that John will produce some tapes to "broadcast" on a low powered transmitter, so that you can tune in to yesterday as you display your radio sets.

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# NVRS Calendar

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## June 12th -

The business meeting will begin at 10 AM. A discussion of condensers and testing equipment will follow. A contest of unusual radio components, parts, and tubes, will be judged by those attending. Ribbons will be given for the most unusual.

## July 10th -

(No meeting) Keizer Oregon swap meet at Speed Feldschau's home, 7445 O'neil Road, Keizer.

## August

Anyone interested in having a picnic at the "old stomping grounds" in the Buena Vista Park in Oregon City??

## September 11th -

Northwest Vintage Radio and related nostalgia Show and Sale at the Multnomah Arts Center.

## 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.

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# Acquisitions

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## Dick Dielschneider

- '36 Zenith Model 6-S-52 Console
- '38 Zenith Model 12-S-268 Console
- '42 Zenith Model 6-D-2615 N table set
- 30's Westinghouse Model WR328 Console
- '48 Philco Model 48-400 Plastic set
- '48 Emerson Model 543 Plastic set

## Sonny Clutter

- 40's Philco Advertising Clock (colorful)
- 50's TUNG SOL Tubes Advertising clock
- 40's Admiral small Deco lighted sign
- 40'3 Eveready portable radio batteries lighted sign
- RCA "Authorized dealer" colorful, two sided, circular sign.

## Jim Mason

- '25 Whetestone Battery Set
- '25 Atwater Kent Model 21
- '25 Thompson Model S-70
- '36 Zenith Model 10-S-155 Console
- '37 Zenith Model 5-S-218
- '49 Philco Radio Phono Model 49-1401
- '58 Heathkit Crystal Set PR-1
- U.S. Forest Service Radiophone Model SPF-126

## Scott MacGregor

- '36 Zenith Model 5-S-29 Tombstone Set
- '36 Zenith Model 4-T-26 small Tombstone
- '37 Zenith Model 5-S-127 Tombstone Set
- '42 Zenith Model 6-D\_615 Deco plastic
- '39 Zenith Model 5-R-312 Deco Plastic
- '41 Zenith Model 6-D-525 Wooden table set

## Gordon Phillips

- '47 Traylor Model 5019 Battery portable
- '50 Setchell Carlson Model 5110 Table set
- '71 Arvin Model 40R34 unique clock radio

## Ray Nelson

- '32 Silver Marshall Model QD 13 tube lowboy console
- Thorphone Horn Speaker
- Magnovox Model R3 Horn Speaker



# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## Indian Summer

Indian Summer had come-  
I was hot on the Trail  
Of an old Brewer-Tully  
I'd Sensed was for sale.  
It's condition was mint,  
The tubes were all fine.  
I couldn't wait to make  
This neat old set mine!

The owner was senile,  
Lived back in the sick;  
The house was dim lighted  
By old fashioned wicks.  
But a fly in the ointment  
Now came to the front,  
In the form of a nephew,  
Who'd dropt in to hunt.

He'd told his old uncle  
That some folks he'd met,  
Were paying a fortune  
For an old time set.  
I drove home empty handed,  
The deal didn't jell;  
Made me wish that nephew  
had a ringside seat in Purgatory!

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A classic from the Tom James Collection  
Originally printed in January 1980

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