

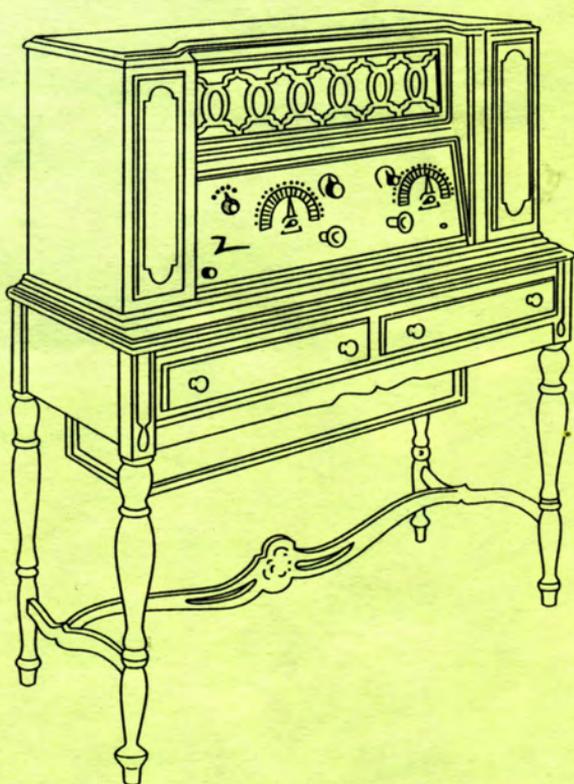
Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society Portland, Oregon

Vol. 21

June, 1995

No. 6



More than two decades in print

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 (prorated quarterly).

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	Greg Bonn	(503) 642-5097
Vice President	Speed Feldschau	(503) 390-3928
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Ken Seymour	(503) 642-9115
Board member at large	Ed Pittaway	(503) 645-2883
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

June 1995

Table of Contents

Radio Show Report	2
New Brochure Unveiled	3
June 10th Meeting	3
Atmospherica	4
In the Shack With Mike Parker	6
Acquisition	10
SWAP SHOP	12
Calendar	15

The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

Word Processing, Binding, and Distribution,
Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517

Help Your Editor !
Contribute articles and
photographs to
the Call Letter.
Deadline is the
20th of the month
prior to publication.

The Call Letter is the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Circulation is limited to the membership and guests of the Society. The Society is not responsible for the material contributed for publication, nor the quality, timeliness or accuracy of the items offered for sale in the SWAP SHOP. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

Radio Show Report

By Dick Dielschneider

VINTAGE RADIO & RELATED NOSTALGIA SHOW AND SALE

The May 13th NWVRS Show and sale appeared to be attended by more collectors and general public than at previous meets. It is hard to judge the size of the crowd as there is no fee to enter.

I talked to a lot of interested people that saw the ads in the local papers and they were curious about the society and collecting.

The Society table was popular promoting memberships and selling coffee mugs etc. The popcorn and dough-nuts did well as did the coffee, thanks to Gordon Phillips, Greg Bonn, Shirly Bosch and others who helped at the refreshment table. The peak attendance was approximately at 10:30 AM. At that time the selling was hot and heavy.

A special thanks to Steve Keney, the Vice President/General Manager of "KOTK 620 AM Radio and KINK 102 FM" Radio, for promoting the show and sale on their "*What's Happening and Events*" portion of their broadcast. This continued for a week before our show and sale.

This year the show was sold out a month early and I had a waiting list for tables. So if you want a table for the fall November 11th show, you had better get on the sign up list early. I would like to thank everybody who helped set up and knock down the tables and clean up after the show.

For reservations for the November Show & Sale call me, Dick Dielschneider, at (503) 246-1062.

Society Brochure Unveiled

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society has a new information brochure. The draft copy was used at the at Radio Show and many folks commented on it. The text in the brochure was a combined effort of many of our officers and members. The artwork and design were contracted out.

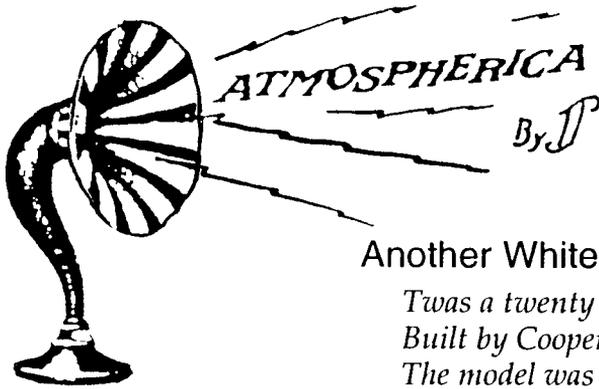
The draft printing did not include all of the suggested changes, and some refinements are still in the process of being made. The design is a four-panel "gate-fold" and explains the purpose of the society as well as invites new members. The finished product will be printed in colored ink on "off-set" stock and will be available to members to distribute and use when talking to prospective members, or when just looking for radios.

A special thanks goes to those members who help with the proofreading, and suggestions on the layout.

The funding for the initial design was approved by the Society last year. The printing costs may come from the general fund, or may be donated "in part" by the printing company that does the work, according to President Greg Bonn. We look forward to the opportunity to use the brochure, and spread the word about the society throughout the Northwest.

The June 10th Meeting.

After a short business meeting, there will be a video promotional demonstration and application of products that are sold by Mohawk Finishing Products, Inc. The demonstration will be conducted by Miriam Fein, who is the factory representative for this area. This demonstration may be informative for those who have radios that need touching up or have radios that need to have the old finish removed to make way for a new one. The representative will have the video tapes available to sell to those who want them for their own use. Some of our members already use these products.



History: Twenty years ago everyone remembered the scratchy reception of the 30's and 40's. It was blamed on atmospheric conditions, defined as the cause of breaks in serious reception. Atmospheric conditions soon were referred to as "atmospherics." Founding member Tom James thought that our newsletter should have some breaks in serious reception and started to write poetry, titled first *Atmospherics*, and later as *Atmospherica*. Tom and his wife, Dorothy, are gone, but the *Call Letter* continues to publish Tom's works as a *break in serious reception*.

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).*

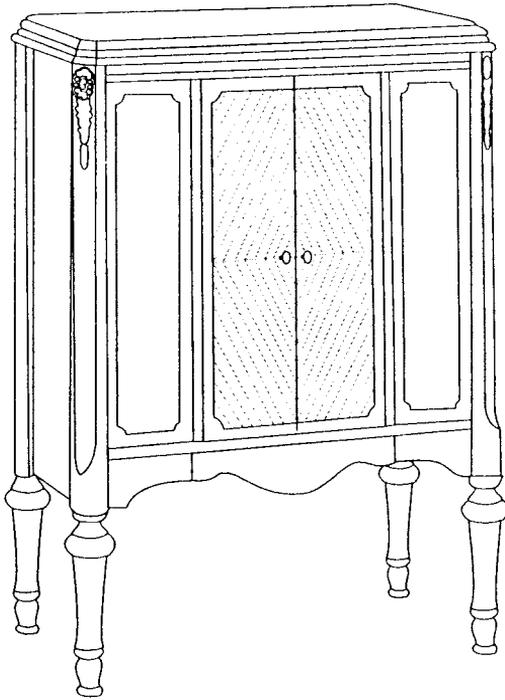
*It sported all the latest stuff
In the circuits, up to date
Had six speakers, enough to drown
The sound of an S.P. freight.*

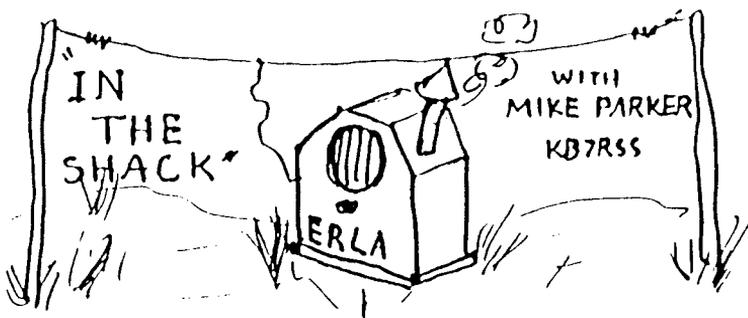
*Solid Walnut was the cabinet
With the grain all matched and such
The perfect radio to show
The ultimate classic touch.*

*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!*





Echoes Of The World

Most of us have seen the Echophone cathedral radios show up now and then; the ones with the peaked top and the thumb wheel tuner placed off to the right on the cabinet. There was even one for sale at the May 13 NWVRS swap meet.

Let me clear up some of the mysteries surrounding this radio. It is not unusual to find one a little different from another. Although they all look alike, this radio went through three model changes during 1930, while retaining it's basic outward appearance.

The story of the Echophone name is also a mystery and was used on various radios beginning in 1923 with a California company known simply as "Radio Shop". Derived from their subsidiary, Echo Radio Co. The name was used from 1925 to 1927 by a Chicago company: Echophone Radio Inc.

From 1927 to 1931, it was back with a California company, Echophone Radio Mfg. Co. and a new location at 968 N. Formosa Ave. in Hollywood. In 1993, I visited this location near the old Paramount movie studios, but found a new Public Works building at that address.

Early in 1930, when cathedrals went into production, the company was called, strangely enough, "Ufonic Radio Company, Ltd." and listed the above address.

In December, 1930, the company was purchased by Clem Wade, of Chicago who owned Western Television Inc., pioneers in scanning disc television development. Wade was also known as the inventor of the Eskimo Pie Ice cream bar! The

company was moved late in 1930 to a new factory in Waukegan, Illinois, near Chicago, with a "Pacific coast warehouse" listed at the former Hollywood address.

In 1934, the company was sold to Bill Halligan of Hallicrafters Inc., who last used the Echophone name on a line of radios made by Hallicrafters during the 1940's.

The photo below shows a first-series thumbwheel tuner Echophone cathedral. This photo points out my pet peeve concerning this radio. The photo is from a very informative little book entitled "Los Angeles Radio Manufacturing", Vol. 1, by Floyd A. Paul, a noted West coast radio expert and horn speaker collector. The book covers the very prolific production of small radios in the "Midget Capitol of the World" during 1920 to 1932 and their RCA licensing arrangements through the Gilfillan Co. It identifies 59 companies making midget radios in the Los Angeles area, including Echophone.

My annoyance comes from the photo caption, listing the radio as an Echophone Model "6" when actually, it is a Model "C" and I have a copy of the original schematic to prove this. Apparently, a type or copy error in Mr. Paul's book has it listed as a Model 6. The problem was carried over to the famous Bunis color phono-radio book which obviously used Mr. Paul's book as a reference.

This is the progression of this radio through three model changes during 1930. I note the subtle differences of each, since I own one radio of each type.

Echophone Model C

Echophone displayed a midget demonstration radio with a self contained speaker in 1928, but it was not a cathedral. Although designed late in 1929, the Echophone C was not the first cathedral made. That honor goes to the "Beaver" of 1925, but the Model C was certainly one of the first cathedrals sold commercially.

Advertised as "The Radio of Tomorrow", the Echophone C was definitely unusual, some call it "crude" and I agree with both definitions. The "chassis" is not metal, but is basically an insulated strip with tube sockets mounted on the inside of the radio's backboard. Also mounted on backboard is everything

ECHOPHONE MODEL S-3

Apparently the C was too crude for Echophone (Ufonic) so in mid 1930, the Model S-3 was developed. Using the same cabinet, but with a removable speaker grille, the S-3 was fitted with a conventional metal chassis and an electrodynamic speaker. The tube compliment was changed and now used three 224 screen grids, a 245 audio tube and a 280 rectifier. The circuit used resistance coupled audio stages to save space, doing away with the two stage transformer coupled audio circuit, popular in the 1920's.

The S-3 can readily identified from the front, having the same Echophone name decal on the lower center of the cabinet and the same square tuner escutcheon as the Model C. The regeneration control was omitted, leaving only the volume control, below the tuner. My particular S-3 has a rare factory drilled second knob hole, on the same level as the volume control, with a wooden hole plug inserted in it. Perhaps it is an early version S-3.

The schematics in Riders show the S-3 and improved S-3, although I can't see much difference in the two circuits. This was an evolutionary process to keep making a better radio, which leads me to the S-4 model.

ECHOPHONE MODEL S-4

The S-4 was developed late in 1930 around the time the company moved to Waukegan, ILL. and may not have been made by Ufonic. It was a 6 tube radio, using the S-3 chassis and cabinet. They managed to squeeze a 227 detector tube in the circuit, giving room for one more 224 screen grid TRF stage. However, this left no more room on the chassis.

The Echophone S-4 can be identified from the front. Gone is the square tuner escutcheon and the name decal, replaced by an ornate shaped escutcheon with the Echophone name on it. A shouting, scantily clad female sitting on top of a globe is apparently saying the company slogan inscribed on the escutcheon...Echoes of the World!

With the advent of the Model S-5, a superheterodyne with a Gothic repwood cathedral design using conventional center

window dial in 1931, followed by several other unusual cathedral models, the old plain-jane thumb wheel tuner cathedral, with the wood cut "lyre" speaker grille was history. Today, it is generally a \$200 radio and I am surprised at the amount of them I see around. They must have sold quite well, even though competing with Philco, RCA and Atwater Kent plus many other L.A. midgets on the market.

I might add that I am looking for volunteers to drop test my Model C by grabbing it by the hand hole while the power is on. So far, I have had no takers.....I can't do it myself, or I wouldn't be here next month to keep writing these articles!

See you next time....In The Shack, 73's Mike Parker

References;

Paul, Floys A. "Los Angeles Radio Manufacturing" Vol. 1, 1988

Douglas, Alan "Radio Manufacturers of the 1920's" Vol. 3 1991

Ufonic Radio Co. Ltd., Echophone Model C brochure, 1930

Acquisitions

Acquisitions is a place to tell others what new or old items have been added to collections in the Northwest. If you'd like to share your finds with others, please get your list to Gordon Phillips (see inside front cover).

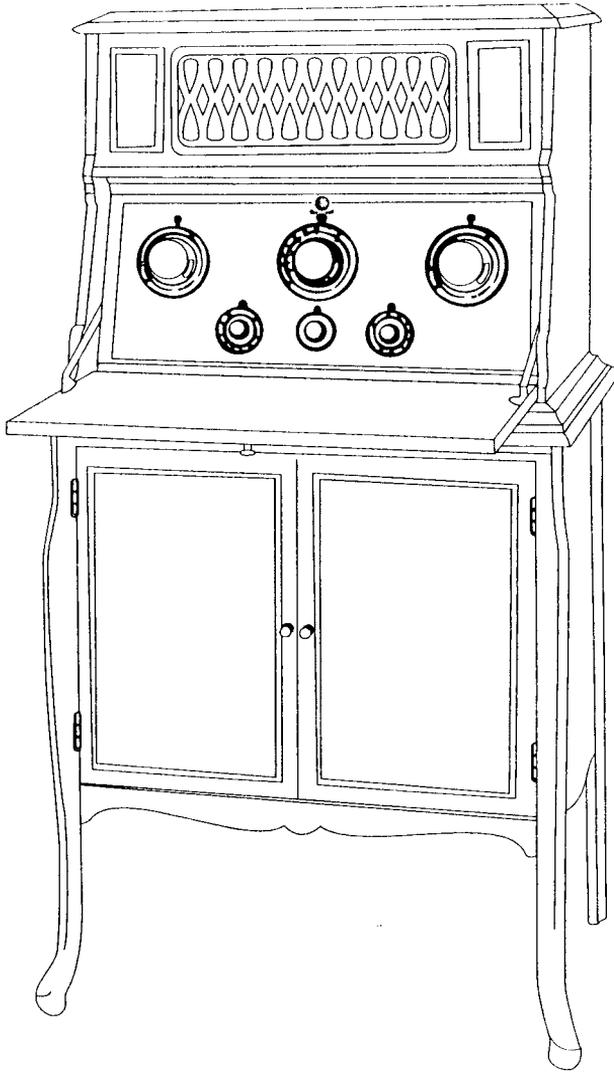
Jim Mason

1927 Eveready Model 1 Speaker

C. 1930 Long Radio Works (Cornelius) Cathedral

1938 Motorola Model 559T1 Table

Guild, The Teakettle Novelty



FOR SALE

Reluctantly reducing the size of my collection. Wood, plastic, consoles, and many others including early TV's must go. **Sonny Clutter**, 14407 NE Fremont St. Portland, OR 97230, - (503) 254-9296.

Model 414 B&K TV Analyst with probes and manual; Model 455 B&K Cathode Rejuvenator with manual and charts; Model Y33 Sencore Flyback Tester with manual; Model CG 141 Color Generator with manual; **Glen Bricker**, 1030 N. 11th Cotage Grove, Or. 97424 (503) 942-3717

Early 50's TV's. Most are 17 inch table models, very reasonable. **Jerry Talbot** (503) 649-6717.

Over 200,000 tubes, panels, speakers, chassis, electronic surplus and supplies. **R5-D3 Surplus**. **Bob Lee**, 6111 SE 82nd Ave. Portland, Or. (503) 774-6560.

1942 Zenith 6G601M cloth-covered with wavemagnet and Sailboat grille \$40; Zenith 7C05 AM/FM 7 tube, wood cabinet \$35; RCA 6-XD-5 plastic radio with nipper grill, 2-tone green, \$40; Knight signal tracer, \$5; and many more **Bud Larson**, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, Oregon 97504; (503) 773-5214

LEADS

Riders (Index 11 12 13) Manuals Abridged 1 to 5 plus 8 12 13 14; Philco 1939 year book. Supreme Publications M.N. Beitman Radio Diagrams- 4 books 1926-1938, 1940, 1941, 1942; Sams 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, (2)30, 31, 32, 37, 76, 121, 227, 237, 263, 275, (2)512; Zenith Technical information for Zenith record changers (Cobra). **Don Lacey** (503) 654-1556.

Zenith 16 inch TV with turntable, A console. **Ed Charman** (503) 654-7387

AK 10 Breadboard \$1200.00 **Tom** 642-3679

Philco's (3) Consoles and some wood table radios. Need tender loving care. **Roger** (206) 347-8674.

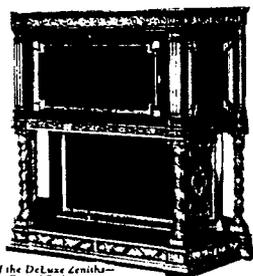
LOOKING FOR SWITCHES for a Telefunken Americana 5436. Please call with any information **Estella Howe**, (503) 235-2456.

Wilcox Gay Recordio Console **Martin** (206) 277-6927. Riders 6-12, 14, 15. Electronics Supply on 45th Ave. Seattle. (206) 632-2222.

Setchel-Carlson TV (with owners manual) - 1960 Webcore Tape Recorder - 1957 **James Mossman** (206) 522-1772.

Why Did
Commander
MacMillan
Take Zenith to
the Arctic?

As the result of his experience
with Zenith Radio last year,
Commander Donald B. Mac-
Millan again chose Zenith for
his Arctic Expedition.



One of the DeLuxe Zenith—
Period Style

Super-Zeniths are priced
at from \$140 to \$1,000.
Each instrument sold
under quality guarantee.
Also, Zenith's generative
sets from \$150 to \$175.

Why Every Dealer Can Not Handle Zenith—

THE dealer who sells you a Zenith regards the transaction only as the beginning of a permanent connection.

To him—you are not a "purchaser"—you're a customer. There's a distinct difference.

He expects—that—through the performance of your Super-Zenith—other people will become interested.

His policy of satisfying you is not sentiment—but sound business.

The Zenith Super-Radio is not a "quantity" proposition.

Consequently we can pick and choose our retailers—add and eliminate—work only with those retailers whose ideals and methods fit our own

And our objective is a mighty good one for you—for your protection.

We want you to know that wherever there is an Authorized Zenith Retailer, you can buy safely—with the full assurance that you get what you pay for; that cheerful, intelligent service begins with your purchase—and never ends.

The Zenith is not a "cheap" instrument in any sense of the word.

You pay a price that entitles you to unusual performance—genuine satisfaction.

And we are using every means within our control to see that you get it.

Zenith literature and name of nearest retailer gladly sent on request.

ZENITH RADIO CORPORATION, 310 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

ZENITH
TRADE MARK REG
→ LONG DISTANCE ←
RADIO
Costs More—but Does More

Calendar

Compiled by Dan Howard

- June 3-4 SEAPAC Ham Convention - Seaside, OR
10 NW Vintage Radio Meeting
18 PSARA Meeting, Seattle
- July 8 Speed's Swap Meet, Keizer, Oregon
15-16 Antique Show - Portland Expo Center
16 PSARA Meeting, Seattle
22 Ham Fest Junior Hi. School North Bend, Oregon
23 NW Vintage Radio Show, Forest Grove
Concours D'Elegance
- August 20 PSARA Annual Swap Meet, Seattle
- September 9 NW Vintage Radio Meeting
16-17 Portland Ham Fair, Portland Meadows
1001 NE Schmeer Rd. Portland, Oregon
16-17 Antique Show - Tacoma Dome
17 PSARA Meeting, Seattle
- October 14 NW Vintage Radio Meeting
15 PSARA Meeting, Seattle
21 Ham Swap Meet, Polk County Fair
Grounds. Rickreall, Or.
21-22 NW Vintage Radio Display, Expo Center
NW Car Collector's show
28-29 Antique Show - Expo Center
- November 11 NWVRS Annual Fall Swap Meet
19 PSARA Meeting, Seattle
- December 10 NW Vintage Radio Christmas Party
10 PSARA Meeting, Seattle
16-17 Antique Show - Oregon Convention Center

ATWATER KENT

Philadelphia

Selectivity—Distance—Volume
and Ease of Operation

ANYONE can tune in a distant station without interference and obtain clear reception with an ATWATER KENT Receiving Set.

Selectivity — range — volume and simplicity of operation have made it the choice of families everywhere.

The clearness with which the ATWATER KENT Loud Speaker recreates will give you a new conception of tonal fidelity.

ATWATER KENT MANUFACTURING CO.
4965 STENTON AVE., PHILA., PA.

