

The  
**Call Letter**  
of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

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Vol 22

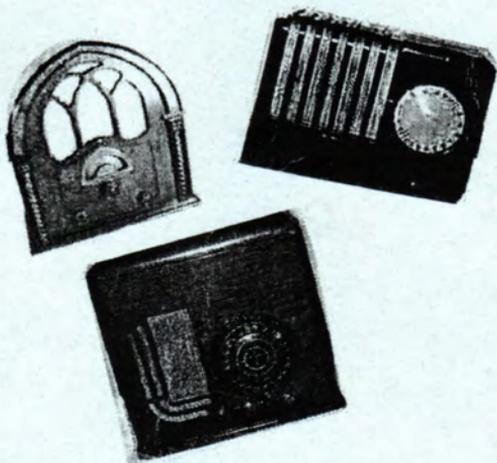
September 1996

No.9

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Sign up for the October Show and Sale being held on the First Saturday of October  
The regular October meeting will be held on the second Saturday of October.

FOR SALE



September meeting will feature  
**Unique Summer Acquisitions — Bring one!**

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In print since 1974

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# 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 (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



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# September 1996 Table of Contents

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September Meeting . . . . .	2
Atmospherica . . . . .	3
In The Shack . . . . .	4
Vintage Transmitters . . . . .	6
Wandering on the Web . . . . .	7
"A" Power Supply Project . . . . .	8
October Swap Meet & Show . . . . .	10
"B" Power Supply Project . . . . .	12
Zeniths . . . . .	14
Swap Shop . . . . .	15

## The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

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Note: CALL LETTER material  
should be sent to the Post Office Box !

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Call Letter Deadline  
20th of the month  
prior to publication.

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Don't Forget the  
September Meeting  
Come & Bring a Radio !

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.

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# Vintage Radio Folks Meet in September !

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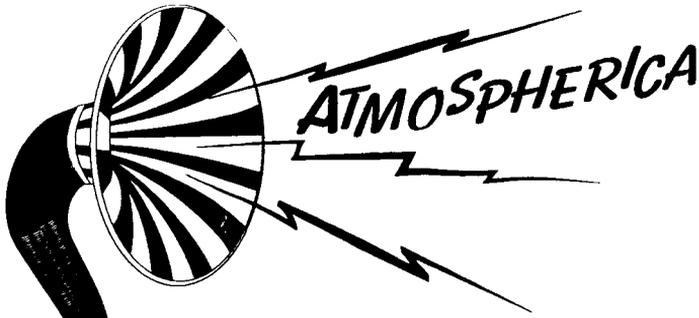
By Dick Karman

Members and guests of the NW Vintage Radio Society start another collecting season with the September 14th meeting the Society at the Vintage Radio Museum on Capitol Highway in SW Portland. Members are encouraged to attend and bring their plans for the rest of the years' meetings.

A special display will be made of *Unique Summer Acquisitions*. Bring something that you found this summer to show to others. Those getting back from the *Elgin meet* or those who just drove to Seattle last month, all have something to share.

As at every meeting refreshments will be available for a slight fee and the volunteers of the society always appreciate a little extra help setting up and/or tearing down the meeting place.

Come help plan the calendar; the October meeting; the Christmas get-together; and the nomination of officers which will take place.



## Song of the Syncrophase

*I'm the ultimate in Radio  
From the brains at Richmond Hill.  
My dials are horizontal ones,  
A real ornamental frill.*

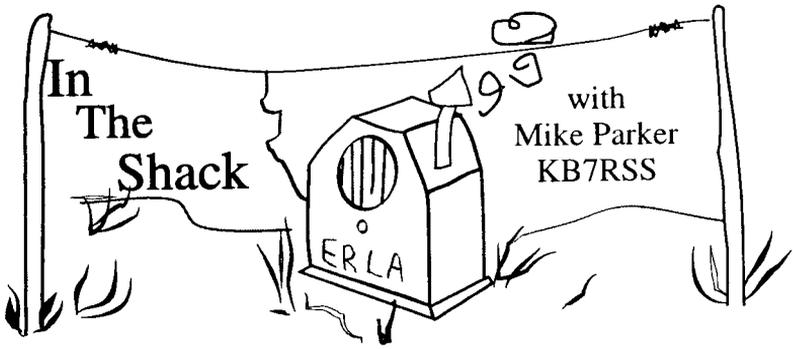
*My tuning gang is coupled by  
Real nickel-plated chain  
To simply the dialing for  
Every Mary, Dick, & Jane.*

*My coils are "Binoculars"  
Quite superior you'd agree.  
They're designed to neutralize  
The strong RF you see.*

*My tubes all wiggle wobble for  
They're socketed on springs  
To minimize microphonics,  
And other shocking things.*

*I have a little fuse bulb in  
The wire that goes to "B"  
It's just a safety feature  
They incorporated for free.*

*My audio and fine bus-bar  
My beautiful walnut case  
The best danged 5 tube TRF  
That you'll find most anyplace !*



During the summer break last month, I acquired a new "antique" up *In The Shack*. Thanks to your editor and Gordon Phillips of the **CALL LETTER**, I now have an vintage computer. Now, instead of labor intensive typewritten copies, I can just send these articles to your editor on a disk.

As computers go, this one has definitely earned itself vintage status. A venerable old workhorse from way before the days of the Pentium chip, it is a genuine IBM PC, made sometime in the early 80's. I believe it is an IBM 8088 type computer. If I painted the monitor brown, it would blend in very well with all the old radios up here, since the monitor is shaped very much like an old 1950's table TV!

It is certainly going to be good enough for me for a while. Although I have built and connected cable links to hundreds of computers at work, I have never owned one. But, there may be some hope for me, after a few intimidations and with very little operating experience, I got this article on disk and off to your editor. Why someday, I may be browsing the WEB on a new computer! But certainly not on this one, the only web this one connects with is a spider web in the back of the drive unit!

And I think that I don't have enough time for hobbies now! I might even have to curtail HAM RADIO!.....On second thought, Never!

While we are on the subject of ham radio, I am looking for a couple of Novice frequency, (3700 to 3730 Khz.)

transmitter crystals. They are the standard flat, rectangular type, with two prongs. I will pay real money for them or trade others that I have in the General class frequencies in the 80 and 40 meter bands. Or an interesting trade could be arranged.

If any of you out there can help me in this regard, I would appreciate it. Just give me a call (503-235-7187). I would really like to fire up my old Heathkit DX-20 transmitter using these crystals and send some code. If any of you hams out there have the patience to QSO with an old 5 WPM slowpoke, just for fun, please call me. I truly believe in using this vintage ham radio equipment as it was intended. I think it is an exciting aspect of our vintage radio hobby to actually have your nice old equipment functioning to have it be a hands on experience and not just look neat.

I certainly hope this does not offend anyone, but you folks just keep on having fun with your newfangled ham transceivers and repeaters and packet radio links. I have no quarrel with any of them. They do fantastic things. I do resent the fact that I can't take a rig like that apart and change a tube but that's OK, it was meant to be that way. It's just that apparently, none of that new stuff was meant for me! My respect goes to those few brave hams that I hear on 80 meters at night, cutting through a sea of single-sideband slop with a 1000 watt + AM signal from a lovingly restored big transmitter. There is so much fidelity, that you can hear it oozing out of your speaker!

And, there is no thrill quite like tuning up an old transmitter on a long wire antenna, late at night and pounding out a CQ on an old J-38 telegraph key. Then, tuning in an old regenerative short wave receiver to your frequency and getting a faint reply....all the way from Dallas, Texas....or Dallas, Oregon! 'Nuff said.

73, See you next time...."IN THE SHACK"



This replica of a 1920's transmitter built by Ed White, W1NPL, took first prize in 1995 AWA competition



A Homemade "Killowatt" Transmitter with its creator, Bob Cobaugh, W2AY, now a silent key.



## Wandering on the Web

Dick Karman

People without modem access to the Internet often wonder what's out there that fascinates folks. It is hard to explain how someone that is devoted to vintage radio would want to spend time on a computer. *"They just don't mix!"* you think. Not So !

Within seconds I can have a list of more than a dozen virtual museums and over one hundred *pages* of people, address, and collectors who were just as interested in vintage radio as I was.

**<http://www.accessone.com:80/~philn/>**  
is a great one ! Phil's pages has full color pictures of nearly 50 different radios; some text about collecting, and almost a dozen other addresses (some overseas) of other folks who collect vintage radio.

**<http://www.lookup.com/homepages/77848/home.html>**  
was mentioned a few months ago in this column as the internet home of the California Historic Radio Society. Their writers were kind enough to contribute the power supply articles (pages 8 & 12). Thanks CHRS !

**<http://ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu/~post/mrt/page2.html>**  
is the address of the Museum of Radio & Technology. Their home page has a few problems right now, but the photos on pages 6 & 11 come from that site.

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# “A” Battery Eliminator

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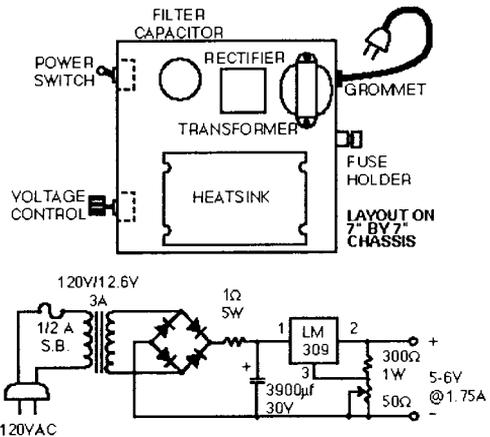
by Henry Meyer

This project is a means of eliminating the 6V “A” battery for those of us who would like to operate our old battery radios that use 201A type tubes. The most discouraging part of using this equipment is that dry cells are rapidly consumed and automobile batteries are a real pain with their acid and frequent need for charging.

This supply will provide 4.9 to 6.2 VDC (adjustable) at 1.75 amps and slightly less than 6 VDC up to 2 amps, regulated and well filtered.

The heart of the unit is a National Semiconductor device LM309K, a 5V regulator which when used as shown can provide a variable voltage output up to 8 VDC or so depending on components used.

The device is short-circuit proof and has thermal sensing to provide automatic shut-down if the junction temperature overheats. This all provides a real margin of indestructibility and provides a good reliable “A” supply.



The output current capacity because of this is determined by the efficiency of the heatsink provided and using a Motorola MS10, up to 2 amps can be provided without thermal shut down.

The rectifier I used was a Semtech #SCAJ6, a 6 amp bridge with 50 amp one cycle surge capability which handles charging of the filter capacitor in series with one

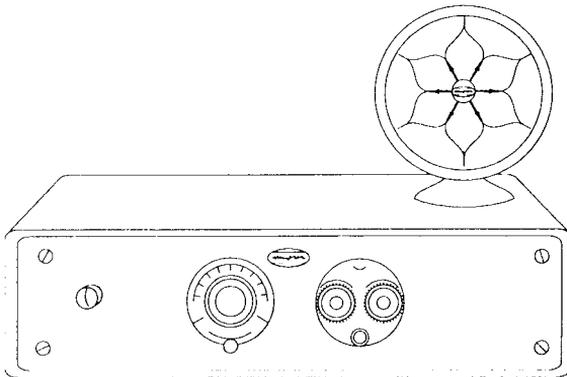
ohm quite nicely. Any filter capacitor over 3000mf @ 20VDC working voltage should handle the filtering job, and the 50ohm pot. controls the variable voltage output. The transformer is from Radio Shack #273-1511 providing 12.6V @ 3 amps.

The end result of this project has been quite pleasing in that the old Algonquin RF5 radio that sat around for many years after its previous owner passed away is again filling the house with low fidelity sound. Also two Atwater Kents have come out of retirement and must now work for a living.

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CHRS  
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San Francisco, CA 94131



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# October Radio Show & Sale

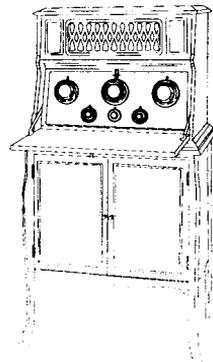
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Time to plan for the October Show and Sale at the Multnomah Arts Center, across from the museum on Capitol Highway, in SW Portland. The show will be the first Saturday of October.

It's Fall and time to get back into the swing of things. Call Myron White and reserve your tables for the show and sale.

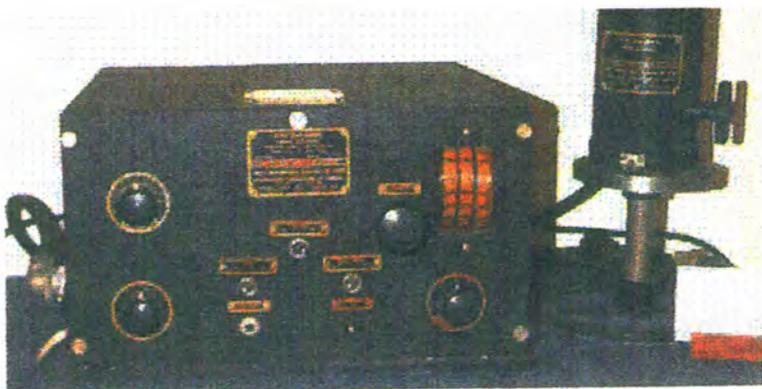
As always, we need volunteers to help move in and to help clean out. We also need folks to rent tables: Buying, Selling, and trading is hot and heavy - don't be left out. Reserve your table space today. Call Myron at (503) 629- 5513.

Also, if you aren't selling this season let Ed Charman know that you'll be glad to help him at the NW Vintage Radio Society table, taking dues and helping out new comers.





**Zenith chairside radio**



**RMCA Model DAE-1**  
Radio Transmission direction finder  
courtesy of the Museum of Radio & Technology



After building the supply, I found that the output filtering was necessary due to little or no decoupling in the old sets, and noise generated by the zenner diodes. The circuit is designed around a voltage doubler circuit which charges the capacitors to 2.8 times the RMS value of the transformers secondary. The main regulator is accomplished on the 67 volt line and the 45 and 22V lines are zennered down from this point and filtered.

The only requirements are that the regulating transistor should have a 100 volt collector to emitter rating, and be able to dissipate 10 watts or so, being very conservative as most power transistors can handle considerably more power, thus making the voltage rating more important. The Zenner diodes that reduce the voltage to 45 & 22V should be rated at 4 to 5 watts, being conservative.

The unit has been in operation for a couple of weeks now and with the output filtering and bypassing 3, 47uf capacitors, operation has been satisfactory and uneventful.

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San Francisco, CA 94131

# Is the Zenith Worth its Price?



Super-Zeniths are priced at from \$240 to \$2,000. Each instrument sold under a quality guarantee. Above is shown the Italian De Luxe Model, with full-length disappearing doors opened.

## Why Did Commander MacMillan Take Zenith to the Arctic?

As a result of his experience with Zenith radio in the Arctic, Commander Donald B. MacMillan again chose Zenith—for his latest Arctic Expedition.

THAT'S a natural question—and a fair one. If everyone in America could hear the Super-Zenith, words wouldn't be necessary.

Performance—quality of tone—selectivity—tell their own story—tell it distinctly—clearly—without the possibility of question.

Many people who have not heard the Super-Zenith regard it as a high priced instrument. It isn't cheap—that's true. And there's a real reason for its price.

\*\*\*

The Super-Zenith is priced on a basis of cost to make—not made to fit a price.

A watch costing one thousand dollars is far more accurate and beautiful and satisfactory than one costing a few dollars. A Super-Zenith—for the same reasons—is far superior to the ordinary radio instrument.

There are no more ounces of rubber or metal—no more feet of lumber in the Super-Zenith than in many instruments obtainable at half the price.

No argument there—we freely admit it.

For that matter, there's no more raw metal in a pound of horseshoes than in an equal amount of platinum jewelry. But there is a mighty difference in cost—and value.

\*\*\*

We simply can't make the Zenith for less and give you the quality of tone, the selectivity, the certainty of satisfaction.

It's the wonderful balance of the instrument—the care and skill and perfection in make and material. It costs us more, and naturally you pay more. But it's well worth the price.

Literature and dealer's name sent on request.

ZENITH RADIO CORPORATION  
310 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.



*It Costs more - but it Does more.*

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# Swap Shop

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## WANTED

WANTED: Vintage amateur radio receivers, AM transmitters, and other related amateur gear (circa: 1936 to 1960). ARRL Handbooks from 1935 to 1954. Ken Seymour (KA7OSM); 9115 S.W. 176th Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97007; 503-306-7439 days/eve. Email: ken.seymour@attws.com

Wanted: Bakelite or plastic pre-war shortwave sets, and early TVs, Scott MacGregor, 1115 SW 28th St. Troutdale, OR 97060, (503) 661-1294.

WANTED: Military Surplus communication gear, and shortwave receivers, Lyles Garcia, (503)649-9288.

## FOR SALE

For Sale: 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.

FOR SALE circa 1914 Spark Transmitter, double gap, with 110 volt power supply, external helices added to sharpen decrement -\$1,000 - can deliver to Portland. **Bud Larson**, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, Oregon 97504; (503) 773-5214

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Movie Dial Console, 1936 Airline Model #62-413. 13 tube, 2 speakers, Tuning eye, and Chrome Chassis. Mint Condition. Dick Bosch, LaCenter, WA - (360) 687-4414.

FOR SALE: National HRO 5TA1, metal tubes, 5 coil sets (4 general coverage and 10 meter band spread), home brew power supply and cabinet for speaker and coils. Clean and in good working order. \$350. **David Rutland**, P.O. box 1084, Philomath, OR 97370, (503) 929-4498 e-mail **WREN@PEAK.ORG**.

## LEADS

FOR SALE: General Electric model RC-329 AM/FM console with a 78 RPM record changer. Asking \$125 (negotiable). Call Robin Raiter (503) 287-3316.

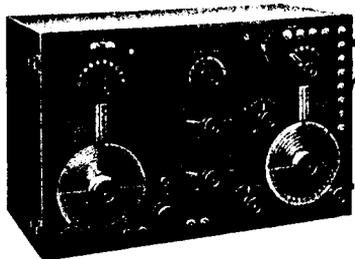
## TRADES

FOR TRADE: I'm looking to complete my set of Riders. I have an extra sets of manuals 7 - 10 and 12 - 14. I need manuals 15 and 17 - 23. Interested in trading or buying.

Dave Brown Email: [djbrow@pacifier.com](mailto:djbrow@pacifier.com) or Phone: 538-5842

# YOUR SET WILL LOOK NIFTY

WHEN  
EQUIPT  
WITH  
NAVY  
TYPE  
DIALS



## C AND S DIALS

are the original and  
only NAVY TYPE  
Dials for Sale to  
Radio Amateurs.

### *Put Your Set In The Commercial Class*

Replace the old fashioned scale and pointer with a brilliant, pure white, ivory celluloid dial which will form a beautiful contrast on the black rubber front of your receiving panel. C and S DIALS are constructed of substantial white ivory celluloid, 4 inches in diameter, highly polished, beautifully finished, and artistically engraved with two scales. One scale is calibrated for writing in station call letters at points at which stations are received; the other is accurately divided into two hundred divisions, the most finely divided radio scale in use today, making it most adaptable for use with any apparatus requiring precision adjustments.

### *C & S Dials Are Essential For Dependable Work*

When you mark the station calls upon your C and S DIALS, you can "tune in" stations in a small fraction of the time that is usually required with the old scale and pointer method.

#### ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The price of the  
Original C and S  
DIALS will advance  
to \$1.00 October 1st  
1920.

Buy now and save  
the difference.

### *Order Yours Today*

If you want to keep your set up with the other fellows, don't delay equipping it with C and S DIALS at once. The rapid progress in radio demands that you keep up-to-date—so buy today.

Send Money Order or Personal Check.

The Original—C and S Dials. Price, until August 1st, 90 cts. Postpaid, complete as described, without knob.

Dealers:—Write for Agency.

**THE C AND S RADIO CO., Dept. USN17 OMAHA, NEB.**

"Superlative Radio Engineering Productions."

ALWAYS MENTION QST WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS

73