

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

---

Vol 22

December 1996

No.12

---

December Meeting Announcement Page 2.

Elections at the December Meeting !



*... we here highly resolve that these dead  
shall not have died in vain . . .*

**REMEMBER DEC. 7th !**

---

In print since 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 (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.

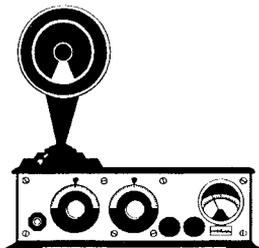
Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Buena Vista Club House at 16th & Jackson Streets in Oregon City, Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and information exchange. Guests are welcome at all Society meetings 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 ??		

The Society’s address is:  
The Northwest Vintage Radio Society  
Post Office Box 82379  
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379



---

# December 1996

## Table of Contents

---

Christmas Meeting . . . . .	2
Atmospherica . . . . .	3
Meeting Minutes . . . . .	4
Back to Our Roots . . . . .	6
Pearl harbor Radio Log . . . . .	7
My First Radio . . . . .	8
The Passing Parade . . . . .	9
Wandering on The Web . . . . .	10
Thank You All . . . . .	11
Swap Shop( revised) . . . . .	12
Time To Renew . . . . .	15

### The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

---

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

---

Merry Christmas  
To Everyone  
And a Happy New Year !

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.

---

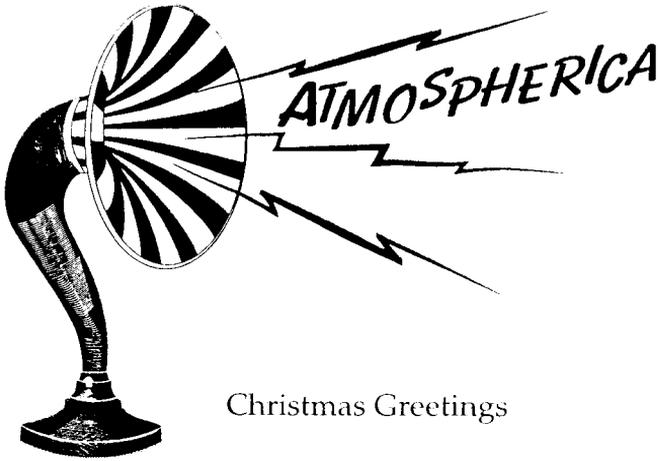
# Christmas Meeting and Annual Dinner

---

by President Greg Bonn

**Dec. 14th Noon Meeting  
at The Buena Vista Club House  
16th & Jacksons St.s Oregon City  
Election of Officers,  
No-host Christmas Dinner at 2 PM  
at Sizzlers, 3737 SE 82nd Ave**

The annual dinner is set for December 14th at 2 pm at the Sizzler restaurant on SE 82nd, two blocks south of Powell. Members will have complete menu selection at a 15% discount (except senior citizen selections, since they are already discounted). This way members may select lunch or dinner, and we are not held to a definite number of attendees. Questions or comments? My E-mail is [trackshack@msn.com](mailto:trackshack@msn.com)



### Christmas Greetings

*In years gone by, I would  
Have sent to every member,  
A Christmas card with greetings  
On the the twenty-fifth, December*

*But Christmas cards are now so poor  
With greetings cold and trite;  
And the postal system, a-lick a-miss  
It makes a problem, quite.*

*So I'll just say my greetings here,  
To members far and near,  
And hope you have a holiday,  
That'll last throughout the year !*

This first appeared in 1978, penned by Tom James. As editor, I used it again in 1985, and I thought it would be appropriate now, 11 years later.

---

# Meeting Minutes

---

By Secretary Ken Seymour, KA7OSM

The November 9th, 1996 meeting of the NW Vintage Radio Society was called to order by President Greg Bonn at 10:07 AM with 32 members in attendance. This was the first meeting held at the "old" location in Oregon City. Greg thanked Jerry Talbot for arranging with Oregon City Parks to meet here. Last months' minutes were approved and Ed Charman followed by reviewing the Treasures report which was also approved. Ed also reminded the Club that next years dues will be due soon. Greg then welcomed a new member, Don Atwood from Canby, to the meeting.

## Old Business

Greg reported that Dick Karman is still looking for someone who has desk top publishing experience or who has an interest in taking over as Editor and publisher of the Call Letter. If no one volunteers, then this publication is history. Contact any Club officer if you have an interest.

David Rutland is still looking for new material to publish in our Clubs pamphlet titled "Radio Collectors Information Book." This will be our second edition of this publication which contains all sorts of tips, technical information, and leads for parts. If you have something that you would like to contribute, contact David at (541) 929-4498 (phone) or wren@peak.org (email). David is also taking names of members who would like to order new Club coats, hats, and T-shirts. Contact David if you are interested.

## New Business

Greg mentioned that the Club Christmas dinner will be held on December 14 at the Sizzler restaurant at 2:00 PM. This located on the east side on 82nd Avenue about 2 blocks south of Powell.

Lloyd Godsey reported that the Pay-n-Pak mall located in North Portland has a book store in side. They will honor a 10% discount to our Club members. Lloyd says they have a few radio collector books available.

The final item that came up was the nomination of next years Club Officers. Jerry Talbot was nominated for President, Tony Hauser for Vice President, and Dan Howard for Secretary. No one was nominated for Treasurer. However, Ed Charman said he would continue to volunteer if no one else was interested. If anyone else would like to volunteer, feel free to be "nominated" at the December meeting.

Myron White mentioned that the May swap meet will be held sometime in May at the Washington County Fairgrounds. He will have more firm plans to report on at the December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04.

**CAUTION:**

The Great Golden flyers that we have been distributing promoting the society have the old meeting place listed in them - note the change or put a label over the old address !

---

# Back To Our Roots

---



by Dick Karman

In June of 1973 the SW Vintage Radio & Phonograph Society's *Horned Speaker* featured a smattering of information about Vintage Telephones, phonograph records, Will Rogers' radio broadcasts, and want ads from the AWA. It was in its second year and Richard Allbery of Beaverton was already into this hobby and receiving the *Horned Speaker* on a regular basis.

Our own newsletter, though not quite as sophisticated as the *Horned Speaker* in the early days, began its original run in December 1974. That first one was more of a meeting announcement. It wasn't until the February 1975 issue that we announced that we had a name, a list of charter members, officers, and a regular monthly meeting. It has been 22 years that we have met on the second Saturday of the month.

It was that *second Saturday of each Month* meeting that gave us cause to find permanent meeting place. The Buena Vista Club House in Buena Vista Park in Oregon City was only able to be used by members of the Buena Vista Club. To obtain use of the club house, several wives became members of the women's Buena Vista Club. Dorothy James, Sandy Bilbie, Bobby Kibler, and perhaps others joined to allow us to use the Buena Vista Club House, and they often acted on our behalf when a say was necessary regarding our meetings and activities. This was a good reason to form the Lady's Auxiliary. They were known as the *Power Supply*.

Tom James became newsletter editor in May, 1977 when he first published a "half page booklet style". When, that same month, Bob Bilbie resigned from the newly formed society (citing health problems), Tom assumed the role of President and Alan Shadduck took over as V.P.. Bob Hay became the Call Letter Editor.

Postage for that newsletter moved from 10 cents to 13 cents that year. It looked like time for dues increase.

A year later (June '78) Tom James returned to the post of Editor, and I became a member. I bought my first radio in 1977, but it wasn't until I was persuaded by Tom to come to a meeting that I started to be a part of the society. It's been a good eighteen years.

Help out your new editor and send him stories about your first remembrances of the society.

## 55 Years Ago

Radio station Log from Bishop's Point, Hawaii

WATCH		RECEIVER & CONTROLS	
G.E. GIBSON	SUPERVISOR	J.K.	
RJB. MOYLE	OPERATOR	FREQ. 2670	KCS. 1941 RUM
		DATE 7 DECEMBER 1942	

RADIO LOG	
SECTION BASE	
BISHOP'S POINT, OAHU, T.H.	
1715	TIME OF LAST ENTRY
1721	DW2X V DW3L AR
	DW3L V DW2X K
	DW2X V DW3L P BR WE HAVE DROPPED DEPTH CHARGES UPON SUBS OPERATING IN DEFENSIVE SEA AREA AR
	DW2X V DW3L STAND BY FOR MORE MESSAGES
	DW3L V DW2X IMI YOUR LAST PRIORITY K
1723	DW2X V DW3L WE HAVE ATTACKED FIRED UPON AND DRIPPED DEPTH CHARGES UPON SUBMARINE OPERATING IN DEFENSIVE SEA AREA AR
	DW2X V DW3L DID YOU GET THAT LAST MESSAGE K
	V DW2X R
	V DW3L STAND BY FOR FUTHER MESSAGES

---

# My First Radio

---

By Charter Member Joe Tompkins, *silent key*

It was in 1926 and '27 that I was exposed to radio by my friend that made a one valve regenerative set. I sat bug-eyed with the earphones tight on my ears hearing KGW. When I heard Oakland, I didn't believe it was Oakland.

That summer on the farm I worked enough to stack up \$33. Using this money I sent away to a Chicago firm that advertised radio parts and kits for sale for the attic radio bug.

It took two months for it to arrive. When the mailman came down the old gravel road, I heard his horn blowing. There it was: a large box with a picture of an antenna on the top labeled, **HANDLE WITH CARE — RADIO PARTS**. The mailman wanted to see it so we opened the box right there in the driveway. There were green coils, appollo audio transformers colored black, an assortment of square wires, bolts, nuts, a panel, and a case.

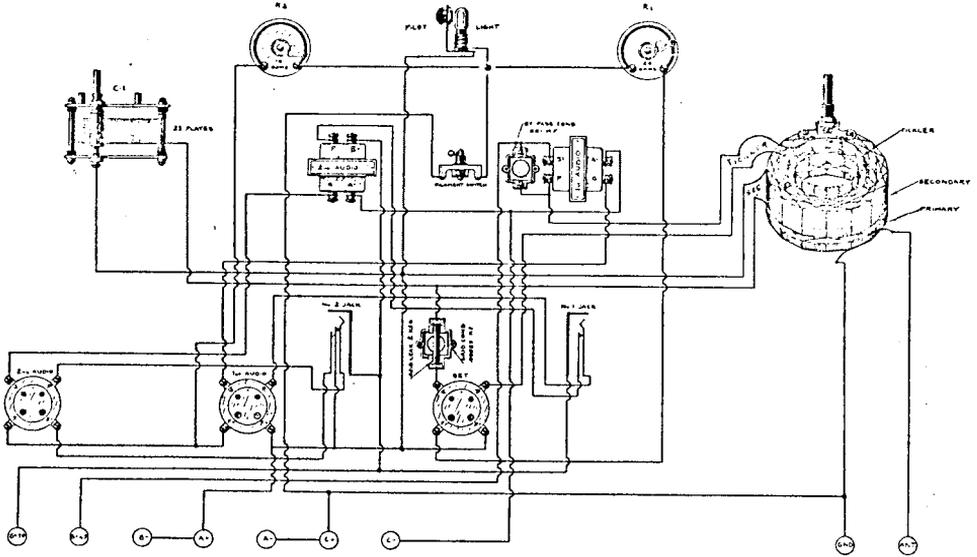
It took a month to get it going, and another month to get enough money to buy the tubes. When it was finished it was a distance getter.

Kits were a common thing in those early 20's and up to 1929 when better factory sets came along, and AC sets became available. Some kits came with pick-up parts [differing manufacturers], others came all from one firm. My set was called a Universal three-bulb three circuit; a real regenerative set.

Note that the set diagram is an outline drawing instead of a schematic. Most beginners could not read schematics.

# The Passing Parade

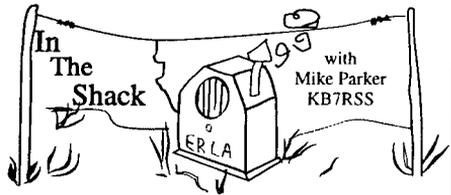
Your editor was grieved to hear of the passing of member Lester Thayer. We don't know the details but we are saddened by the loss of a member and a friend.



OUTLINE DRAWING OF THREE CIRCUIT RECEIVER

This diagram is of Joe Tompkin's first radio (page 8).

Mike Parker was unable to contribute to the *Call Letter* this month, but look forward to his articles in months to come.





## Wandering on the Web

By Dick Karman

With Pearl Harbor day close at hand I enjoyed wandering around some historical information on the World Wide Web. The Sperry Marine Company maintains a very informative site at [www.sperry-marine.com/pearl](http://www.sperry-marine.com/pearl). The copy of the radio log on page 8 came from this site.

Also, looking at how radio played a part in WW II, I found the original notes for the President's "Day of Infamy" speech at [www.mtr.org/images/w2letter.gif](http://www.mtr.org/images/w2letter.gif). Did you know that the word *infamy* was not in the original draft of the speech.

For those who like to look at old radios and fun things not associated with the war take a look at *boatanchors*. It has moved around a little bit but I found it at [www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/radio\\_rm.htm](http://www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/radio_rm.htm).

Or look at a brand new museum site at [www.geocities.com/TheTropics/2468/Radioindex.html](http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/2468/Radioindex.html). This site has great pictures although the server is a little slow.

Lastly, don't miss the *Antique Radio Grille Cloth Headquarters* at [www.libertynet.org/~grlcloth/index.html](http://www.libertynet.org/~grlcloth/index.html). It features (guess what) grille cloth reproductions by John and Mary Okolowicz.

---

# Thank You

---

By Editor Dick Karman

I want to thank all of the members of the NW Vintage Radio Society for the fun I've had for more than a decade and a half. I began as a Old Time Radio collector. (I still have several hundred hours of reel-to-reel tape of old shows.) But through the NW Vintage Radio Society I became a historian; never quite a collector. No one ever criticized because my collection never quite materialized; they accepted me as a member.

I've served 4 terms as Society President, and I have edited the *Call Letter* for over 8 years. During those years I have had great support from folks like Tom James, Joey Tompkins, Art Redman, Jim Mason, Dick & Dan Howard, Jerry Talbot, Ed Charman, Sonny Clutter, Hugh Rankin, and more recently Gordon Phillips, Tony Hauser, Ken Seymour, and Speed Feldschau. It hasn't always been easy. My faults have been pointed out on more than one occasion. But I enjoyed the service I could provide.

I want to particularly thank the Society's secretaries and treasurer down through the years. They have a tougher job than the editor, keeping things straight. Lately the job of editor has been much easier getting the meeting minutes "ready-made" on E-mail from Ken, and Ed Charman has always been helpful keeping the mailing list current.

I trust that as the editorship changes hands, and I become a little less involved, the publication will continue to serve the needs of the members and be a good ambassador for the Society to those outside our immediate area.

It's time to pack up and move on — Please help our new editor as much as you have help me (maybe more) and thank you again.

---

# Swap Shop

---

FOR SALE: Zenith 15-U-270 completely restored \$895. Michael Kerns, Culp Creek, Oregon (541) 946-1045.

FOR SALE: Old Transistor radios - American or Japanese made. Doug Low, 6 Doe Run, Pittstown, NJ 08867.

FOR SALE: Thousands of tubes, hundreds of radio parts, panels, meters, surplus, etc. R5-D3 electronic surplus, Bob Lee, 6111 SE 82nd Ave, Portland, OR, (503) 774-6560.

FOR SALE: Zenith Radio/Phono Combo, vintage 1946 or so, AM/FM/SW - recently worked; chassis is stamped with number 11-C-21. Ed Schiller (503) 244-9664 - Make offer.

FOR SALE: Vintage Ham Radio Equipment, several sets, includes a Drake TR- 3 transceiver. For full list send a SASE. Also for sale a 1939 Philco Console model 39-40 price \$50. Bud Larson, W7LNG, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, OR 97504. (541) 773-5214.

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

For Sale or Trade: Movie Dial Console, 1936 Airline Model 62-413, 13 tubes, tuning eye, and Chrome Chassis. Dick Bosch, La-Center, WA (360) 687-4414.

FOR SALE: DeForest Audion DV2 with original spec sheet dated November 1924 \_nearly new; Variable Capacitors, 2 Gilfillan (chrome plated) and one Cardwell in excellent shape. Serious offered considered, Richard Romanek, 88946 Lisoski Lane, Veneta, Oregon 97487, (541) 935-4186.

FOR SALE or Trade: Early Atwater Kent Breadboard with Variometers, Radiola R5, Paragon RA-10 with DA2 amp, Packard Cathedral, 1927 Tube tester, Edison Triumph "o" reproducer with Sygnet Horn, Victor with wooden horn, More Radios and Test Equipment Galore. Contact Chuck Seidel, Box 1385, Merlin, OR 97532, (541) 474-2596.

WANTED: WD12 Peanut tubes working or duds OK. (Navy Base - 4 flat contacts like panel lights) Call Bruce Russell collect at home (604) 299-1116, or Work (604) 298-1038 (or packet VE7HII @ VE7ROB.

Wanted: The NW Vintage Radio Society Video Tapes! If you borrowed some of the tapes please bring them to the next meeting or let Jerry Talbot know.

## LEADS:

FOR SALE: Philco Model 70 Grandfather Clock Radio in excellent condition, working clock and all: \$550.00 (negotiable) Call Phyllis Butcher at (503) 556- 2430 in Ranier, OR.

For Sale: General Electric Model L-150 superhet, 115 volts AC or DC (lights up) make offer. Call Don Ellis in White Salmon, WA (509) 493-3137.

TUBES FOR SALE: Pickard Audion, clear glass, 2 external wires from top, one from the bottom, brass base; UV 202 Radiotron, brass base, 4 pin, may be broken; DeForest double Spherical Audion, white ceramic base, red and green color-coded leads; Pickard Golden Audion, Candelabra brass base, only serious offers considered. Eric Page, 797 Waverly Ave, Holtsville, NY 11742-1107.

For Sale: Zenith Royal Transoceanic with Chassis #500MDR70, excellent working condition AC or DC, \$500. Steve Stewart, 2836 Metolius Dr., Eugene, OR 97408. (541) 345-0329.

Collection For Sale: 45 radio Receivers including AK, Brunswick, Kennedy, Grebe, Freed Eisenmann, western electric; 17 table model speakers, ad parts. Selling as a package, \$10,000, James Zordich, (503) 663-0115, Boring, OR.

FOR SALE: Motorola Television, circa 1952. Model #17K5 Engraved # 15D702808. \$25 negotiable. Dick Karman 2515 NE 37th Avenue, Portland, OR 97212 (503) 281-6585



(President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing the Declaration of War against Japan, December 8, 1941. National Archives number 79-AR-82)



(President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing the Declaration of War against Japan, December 8, 1941. National Archives number 79-AR-82)

---

# Time to Renew Your Membership

---

## ALL MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN DECEMBER

Complete the blanks below and mail it and a check for \$15 to the Treasurer  
Ed Charman, P.O. Box 82379, Portland, OR 97282.

Name

---

Street

---

---

City, State, Zip

---

Phone Number

---

Area of Interest

---

Ways you'd like to help.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Make checks payable to the NW Vintage Radio Society.

