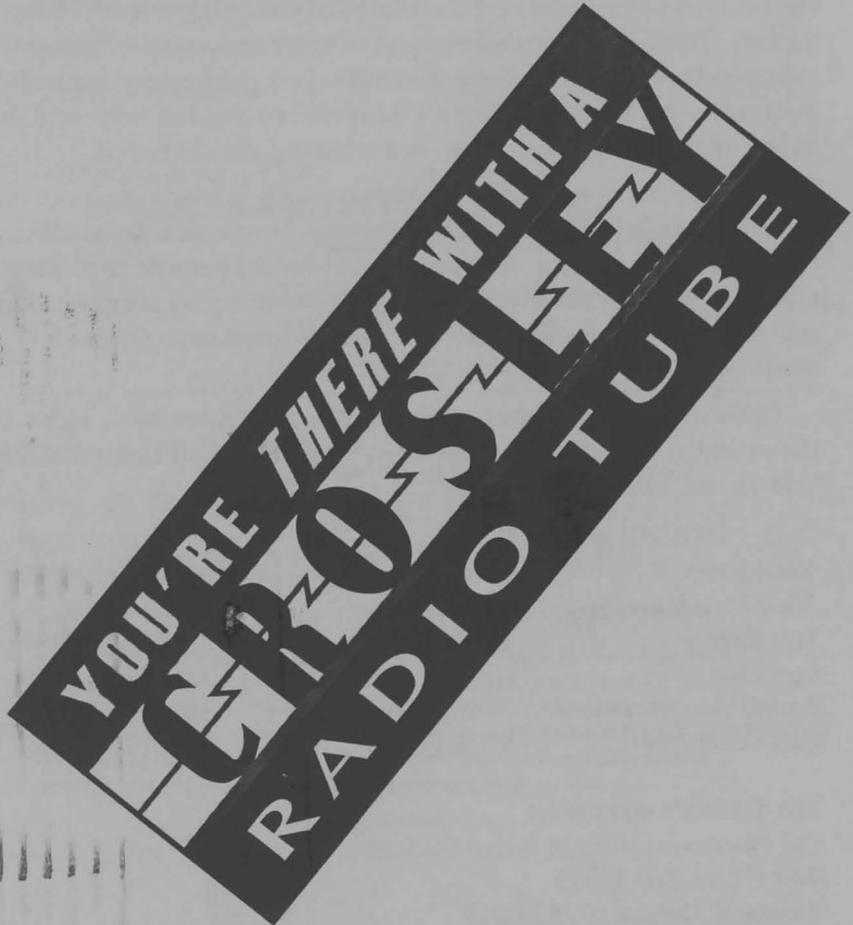


The
Call Letter
of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol 23

January 1997

No.1



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	Jerry Talbot	(503) 649-6717
Vice President	Tony Hauser	(503) 629-4836
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Dan Howard	(503) 761-7799
Board member at large	Greg Bonn	(503) 642-5097
Call Letter Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648

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



January 1997

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The CALL LETTER

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 288-8800

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

January Meeting will establish the calendar for 1997 !

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.

Calendar Notes

January Meeting

The January meeting will be held at the clubhouse in Oregon City at 10 AM. (Your old editor apologizes for the misunderstanding in last month's CALL LETTER.) The show will consist of "*your smallest tube radio.*" Bring one to show off. The calendar of meetings, swap meets, and other events will be one of the items of discussion.

Sounds of Nostalgia

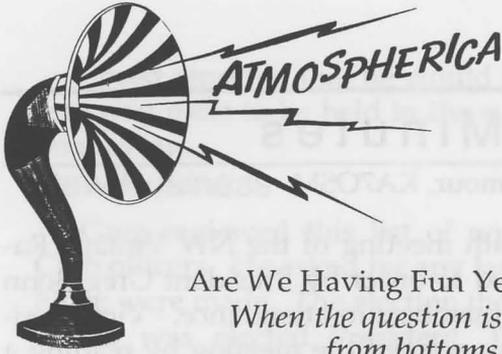
The traditional February *Sounds of Nostalgia* show and sale at the Salem Fairgrounds has had conflicts with bad weather for the last several years. This year we have arranged for it to be held on March 21st. Mark your calendars.

May Swap Meet

Our spring swap meet will be held at the Washington County Fairgrounds in conjunction with the Portland amateur radio club. Sellers cost will be around \$15 per table (provided by the fairgrounds), public admission will be \$1 (we think).

Hiatus for July

Speed announced at the December meeting that there will be no Keiser Oregon swap meet in July of 1997. At this writing it looks like we're taking the month off, unless someone else wants to sponsor a private meet. Thanks Speed for the work in years past !



Are We Having Fun Yet?

*When the question is asked
from bottoms or tops,
It's time to look at
where the buck stops.*

*If too few people are
carrying the weight
With sagging legs and
unsteady Gate;*

*If Good intentions are
there alright,
But too few hands
make work "unlight";*

*If you let George do it
when you should instead,
And George doesn't do it
He too's home in bed.*

*Volunteer now-
help the going go smooth
Pick your favorite task
while you've got time to choose.*

*Be creative, ingenious
help the Doers do more
Think up new ways
to lighten each chore.*

*Without Wilbur and Orville
we'd not have the jet.
Don't make the overworked ask:*

Are we having fun yet ?

This first appeared
in 1986, penned by
Dick Karman. It's
good advice now.

Meeting Minutes

By Secretary Ken Seymour, KA7OSM

The December 14th meeting of the NW Vintage Radio Society was called to order by President Greg Bonn at 10:12 AM with 26 members in attendance. Vice President Speed Feldschau opened the meeting by reading a letter that was sent to the Rasada's thanking them for the use of their home the last few years for our Club activities. The minutes from the last meeting were approved with one correction. Ed Charman followed by reviewing the Treasures report which was also approved by the members.

Good and Welfare

It was reported by Liles Garcia that he thought Lester Lewis was undergoing chemotherapy for lung cancer. Ken Seymour volunteered to attempt to contact Lester to see how he is doing.

Old Business

David Rutland brought in a sign-up sheet for members to order Club jackets, T-shirts, and caps. Greg asked the members if we should order a supply to have on hand for new members. After a discussion, it was moved and seconded to order up to 12 items to fill out the order that was placed off the sign-up list.

Myron White reported that the date is set for the Spring swap meet. It will be held on May 10th at the Washington County Fairgrounds. We will share the swap with the Portland Amateur Radio Club. Myron said that there is about 8000 square feet and room for about 70 tables. A motion was then brought up to charge \$1.00 admission which would help offset the cost of tables.

After some discussion, the motion was seconded and passed.

Speed reported that he would not be hosting the Kaiser swap meet to be held in the summer as he has plans on moving.

New Business

Greg reviewed this list of nominees for next years Club officers. He asked for any last minute nominations. None were made. The election then proceeded and Jerry Talbot was elected President, Tony Hauser for Vice President, Dan Howard for Secretary, and Ed Charman was elected as Treasurer. Congratulations to the new Officers !

Dick Karman then noted that Rick Walton volunteered to take over as Editor of the Club's newsletter, the Call Letter. Rick will take over as Editor in the January to February time frame.

Dick also mentioned that he would volunteer to look into what it would take to have a Club web site on the Internet. No one has heard from Adam Schoolsky since he volunteered to look at it six months ago. It was decided to wait until the next meeting to talk about this further when the new Officers are in place.

Dan Howard brought up that he was looking for the Club banner. It was thought that it may have been left at the Rasada's residence, but no one was sure. So, if anyone knows where it's at, please contact Dan at (503) 761-7799.

The next meeting will occur in January where the theme will be "Smallest Tube Radios". So, bring the smallest tube radio in your collection to share with us. Be sure to make plans on attending and meeting the new Officers.

The December meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM at which time the keys to the Clubhouse were literally passed from Greg to Jerry.

Thanks

by Ken Seymour

Finally, I just want to say thank you and goodbye as Secretary of the NW Vintage Radio Society. It's been a great job these past three years getting to know a lot of nice people and working with various Board members. I'll still be around hoping to see you all at the meetings (luckily, sight has slowly returned to my right eye)!!! Dick Karman, it's been great working with you too !!!

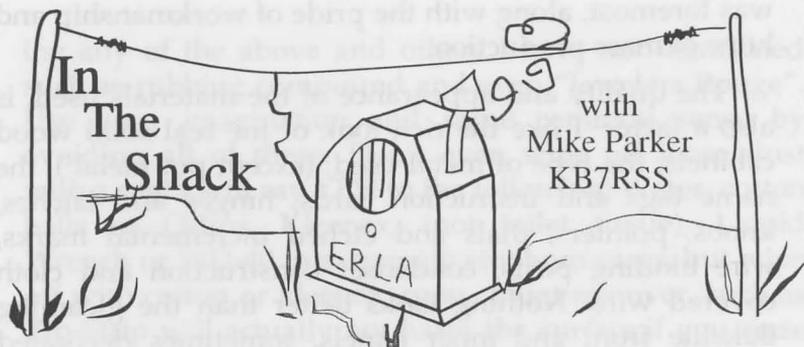
CAUTION:

The Great Golden flyers that we have been distributing promoting the society have the old meeting place listed in them - note the change !

President Jerry Talbot has arranged to have stickers printed to give the new meeting place and address.

Pick some up at the next meeting.

(If you don't know about the brochures, check them out. They are attractive enough to give to businesses and other clubs, as well as total strangers at swap meets, office parties, etc.)



Cotton Balls & Water

Recently, I acquired another one of those "3-Dial Freak" radios, I don't know what it is that I have for these things, other than the fact that my range of interest in Communication, Media and Music, and the devices that reproduce all of the above, centers upon the year, 1925! I know we collectors are "nuts" ...But this?

The radio is a Halowat, Model TR-5, made in Portland, and, I might add that I am accepting any and all information, from club members, historians, anybody at all, about this company. Hallock and Watson Radio Corp., 193 Park St. Portland, Ore. The information may come from one who was there, (Where are you, Tech Sloat?), or you collectors that have a particular model Halowat set, and wouldn't mind sharing information about it for a database on this company that I am compiling for a future article about Halowat radio. Please help any way you can. The purpose, of course, is to gather and to document historic events on this pioneer local radio company. I will be happy to return any postage concerned. I guess that what I like the most about these old time Battery Sets is the actual construction of them. The way they were built, with carefully formed bus bar wires, the intricate design of the coils, the quality of the components, the primitive simplicity of their design, when radio was virtually in it's infancy and the endeavor to make something so modern and up to date

was foremost, along with the pride of workmanship and hope of mass production.

The quality and appearance of the materials used, is also a factor. I like the rich look of the real solid wood cabinets; the type of metal used, (except pot metal!), the name tags and instruction cards, hinges and latches, knobs, pointers, dials and etched incremental marks, wire binding posts, condenser construction and cloth covered wire. Nothing looks better than the gleaming Bakelite front and inner panels, sometimes decorated with the ornate artwork of that period. Wait a minute! Did I say "gleaming Bakelite?", Well, when I found this Halowat, the panels were far from gleaming. I think that "grungy" was a better description. I suppose there are those that think this condition is something gathered by time alone and any amount of cleaning would destroy the effects of something that took 70 years to make! Don't get me wrong, I like the original "patina" of these items as well as anybody and furthermore, I like this patina clean. But let's face it, dirt is nothing but dirt and something like these radios, having been on this planet for 70 years, are going to acquire dirt and grime.

So, how to get rid of this grime and still have a gleaming Bakelite surface, perfectly clean with a good patina, becomes the question. Bakelite is a very strange and sensitive surface. You can scratch it with your fingernail, and actually make a mark that is almost impossible to get rid of!

I will say NO! to the following Bakelite cleaning methods and products. You will be more than sorry if you use them. Soap, (even mild), any chemical cleaner, 409 etc., grit cleanser, steel wool, plastic scrubbers, alcohol, cloth rags, paper towels, waxes, polishes, even "organic cleaners" such as Simple Green are taboo! Oil based anything, no, Windex or Glass Plus, no. You will permanently discolor, scratch, dry out and destroy the Bakelite surface and the associated Polymers with it us-

ing any of the above and others I have not mentioned such as rubbing compound and even "Jewelers Rouge". Use your imagination and some common sense by avoiding all of these. Don't even wipe off loose dust with a rag! I will say YES! to the following; Water, cotton balls or Q-tips, Kleenex, (not toilet tissue), Liquid Wrench or WD-40 in extremely stubborn cases, but wipe off with cotton or kleenex, soon., Paint remover, such as Zip-Strip will actually not harm the surface,if you rinse with water and cotton balls, after the paint is gone.

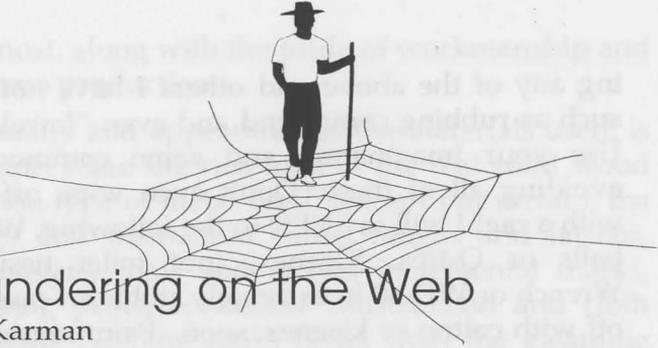
On the front panel, remove the knobs, note which is left, middle and right so you can replace them in their proper order. Grab some cotton balls, dip one in some water, and lightly rub away the grime. You will get a brown color on the cotton, mixed with grime, very quick, so throw the cotton away and get a clean one, do this often. Stop and let the surface dry, you will see a film on the disturbed Bakelite. Repeat the above process until you have a clean, shiny surface. Start on another section of the panel. You will have to "blend" the sections to one another creating a clean, even transition between them. You should have a Bakelite surface that is mirror like, once the residual film goes away. Be sure and do this under a very good light so you can observe and continue to remove the film, continue to rinse with cotton and water until surface is clean and film free.

Do the above process with the knobs, also but use an old toothbrush to get the grime out of the serrated finger grip marks. WD-40 will help clean them out, but rinse with water and cotton. Use Q-tips inside the chassis in hard to reach areas.

I will bring this Halowat to a meeting sometime. You will like the results of a few hours effort with ...Cotton Balls & Water!

Remember, clean Bakelite is happy Bakelite and an even happier radio collector!

See you next time.....IN THE SHACK.



Wandering on the Web

By Dick Karman

This month I came across an index page of links to vintage radio sites:

<http://www.openstore.com/yra/links/vintage.htm>

It's good and I enjoyed its simplicity, but my favorite is still <http://www2.accessone.com/~phil/>

Phil's Old Radios still gets my vote for the best information and reference site I've seen. The Crosley tube box on this month's cover is from Phil's site.

Under WWW radio museums I found,

<http://www.library.ohiou.edu/MuseumR&T/museum.htm>

It's the Museum of Radio and Technology in Huntington, West Virginia. The museum curator is Zane Parsons, N8OLD, (phone (304) 525-8890). Several major display areas have been created and are pictured on their web site, including:

A radio shop of the 1920's/30's displaying radio parts and a variety of radios focusing on that era. Try on the headphones and listen to the working crystal set!

A radio "classroom" circa 1940's/ 50's complete with a 1940's working tube radio designed as a set of schematic modules that interconnect.

A 1940's/ 50's "sales display room" with radios and some TV sets.

A 1930's Western Electric 5000 watt broadcast transmitter,

A vintage amateur and communications radio equipment is now on display

Swap Shop

FOR SALE: Presto Junior sound recorder complete with original manual, service notes, and sales brochure. This unit is a 78 RPM record cutting and playback machine in very good condition. The amplifier uses 45's in push-pull output. Asking \$80. Ken Seymour (KA7OSM); 9115 S.W. 176th Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97007. (503) 306-7439 days/eve or Email: ken.seymour@attws.com

WANTED: Operator's manual, any other data for Zenith Trans-Oceanic military models R520/URR or R520A/URR. Don Chamberlain, 18914 129th Pl. SE, Renton, WA 98058. (206) 228-5568.

WANTED: Philco and RCA radios (circa:1935 to 1945) and vintage amateur radio receivers/transmitters (circa:1935 to 1957). Interested in vintage technical books too. Ken Seymour (KA7OSM); 9115 S.W. 176th Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97007. (503) 306-7439 days/eve or Email: ken.seymour@attws.com

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

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.

WANTED: guest speakers for meetings this year. If you have any suggestions please bring them to the next meeting or get them to the vice president.

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.

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 offers 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! We're still trying to collect our library of borrowed tapes. If you have one please bring it 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.

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.

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.