

The
Call Letter
of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol 23

May 1997

No. 5

May 10th Swap Meet

In The
Hillsboro Armory at
Washington County Fairgrounds
9 AM to 3 PM

For more information
or to volunteer to help
with set up & tear down
call Myron White
at 503-629-5513

Move in is
set up for Friday Night,
or Saturday Morning
from 7 to 9 AM

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 the second Saturday of each month (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 exchanging information. 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 Portland.

Society Officers:

President	Jerry Talbott	(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
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648

May 1997

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The *CALL LETTER*

Editor, Rick Walton, (503) 284-5648, rwalton@mtsi.com

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

**The May meeting of the NWVRS is replaced by
the huge Spring Swap Meet at the Washington Co.
Fairgrounds in Hillsboro. Don't miss it!**

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.

Meeting Minutes

By Secretary Dan Howard

The April 12th meeting of the NW Vintage Radio Society was called to order by President Jerry Talbot at 10:00 am with 40 members in attendance.

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted as published. The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

Good and Welfare

Local radio collector C. Dick Lively passed away March 9th, 1997. He was 59 years old.

Old Business

The Portland Chamber of Commerce no longer publishes a directory of clubs and organizations. We may seek a listing through the Multnomah County library, however.

Six members expressed an interest in participating in the Concours d'Elegance, June 29th. We are still working on an invitation at this time.

New Business

You may elect to have your name and collecting interests listed in various nation-wide radio collectors directories. Contact Jerry Talbot if you are interested in this opportunity.

The membership voted to purchase a book on the history of the Heath Company and a video tape of the PBS Collecting Radios series for the society library.

A motion was passed to limit repeat insertions of the same classified ad in the *Call Letter* to three months.

Members displayed a number of radio station promotional items including microphone radios from eight different stations.

Leads and Needs were given.

The April meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Howard

Secretary

From the Editor

by Call Letter Editor, Rick Walton

Thanks to Myron White for all his hard work in arranging the Spring Swap Meet. For the first time since I've been a member, we're holding this one in conjunction with other clubs in the Portland area whose interests complement ours. I'm glad to see it. Perhaps I'll find that tube I've been looking for, or that special piece of test equipment.

I owe a huge apology to Doug Van Cleve, who sent me an ad for the Swap Shop that I failed to include in last month's *Call Letter*. That error has led me to look at better ways of organizing and handling the ads that I get for inclusion in the Swap Shop. I'll try not to repeat my mistakes.

Speaking of the Swap Shop, if you're wondering what the one or two asterisks by some ads mean, it's simply this: I need a way of keeping track of how many months an ad has run. As we decided in the April meeting, I'll run your ad for three months unless you tell me to stop it sooner or to run it longer. So, one asterisk indicates that the ad is making its second appearance, and two asterisks mean that the ad is appearing for the third and last time.



Wandering on the Web

by Dick Karman

From Ohio to England

My premier site this month is maintained by Don Moore. He keeps it on a server at the Marycrest International University, in Davenport, Iowa. Not only an academic type person, but a historian as well, Don has a great interest in broadcasting history, both here and in the southern hemisphere.

He granted your author permission to reprint one of his research papers (see remembering radio) and your editor will be printing it in radio traditional serial form for the next 5 issues.

Don's other interests include "The American Language & Culture Program" where he is an Assistant Professor and Department Head of the ALC program; Latin American radio stations links; and the site I found most interesting The Patepluma International Radio Website with over a megabyte of articles, and more in photos and graphics. Take a look at Don's site at <http://www.mcrest.edu/~moore/patepluma.html>.

From Ohio to England, Peter Foden's "Radio Daze" is an interesting site in the United Kingdom. Most of his links and photos have to do with radio collecting in England and Europe. He also hosts a link to the British Vintage Wireless Society Secretary Mike Barker at:

mike.j.barker@swindon.gpsemi.com
(Or write to him: 28 Cheney Manor Road, Swindon, Wilts SN2
2NS.)

Visit Peter's Vintage Radio Page at
<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/p.foden/>

So much for this month - Dick

The Upcoming Swap Meet

by Myron White

The Spring Swap meet will be held on Saturday, May 10th, from 9 AM to 3 PM. It will be held as a combined meet with the Portland Amateur Radio club.

Public admission is \$2.00, and members of NWVRS are admitted free.

The Meet will be held the Hillsboro National Guard Armory, located on the Washington County Fairgrounds in Hillsboro. This meet will be the biggest ever, with 70 tables available for vendors.

The fee for tables is \$10.00 each. Tables may be reserved by contacting Myron White at (503) 629-5513, or e-mail: Myron_White@latticesemi.com.

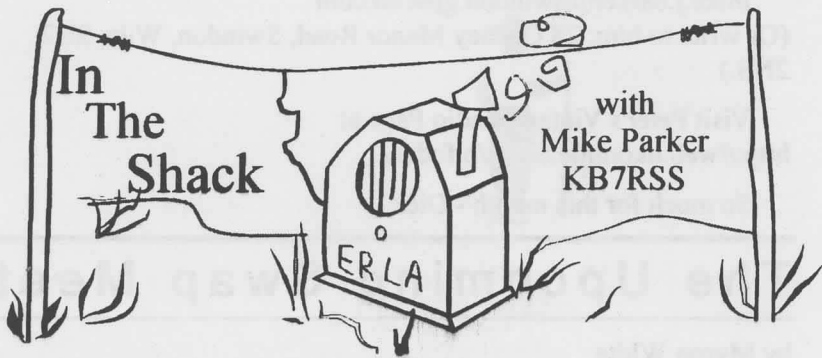
How to get there:

From Portland, Go west on Highway 26 about 10 miles to the Helvetia Rd-Shute Rd exit (Exit 61). Turn left onto Shute Rd.

Go straight for about 3 miles through three traffic signals.

At the 4th signal, turn right onto Cornell Road.

Fairgrounds parking is located on the left side of Cornell Road. The National Guard Armory is at the west end of the fairgrounds.



OLA!

Ola is Spanish for "Hello", so what does that have to do with radio?..... Why nothing, of course!

In my previous article entitled "Whatsadyne", (CALL LETTER, July '96), I promised to report on early radio names ending in "ola". But before that, I have encountered a few more "dynes" missed in the previous article. So, here goes;

ALADYNE

CAROL-DYNE

RELY-O-DYNE

CRYSTAL DYNE

MAZDADYNE

TRI-O-DYNE

I suppose there are more lurking out there. I will update you in the future. I know this is of the utmost importance!

I am not sure of the origin of the term "ola" used in a trade name, but about 1906, the Victor Talking Machine Co. introduced a new phonograph, the "Victrola". This term was used only to describe a phonograph with an internal self-contained horn. The name Victrola, was never used by Victor to describe any other type of phonograph, although the name is generically used by many to describe any old phonograph. Soon, Columbia Graphophone Co., not to be outdone by Victor, used the name Grafonola to describe their internal horn machines. This madness soon spread to other manufacturers and was attached to some manufacturer's last names such as the "Claxtonola" phonograph. A similar situation occurred in radio such as the "Seeryola", a product of the Seery Bartell Co.

I'd bet the farm that not one Seeryola radio exists in Oregon and no one I know has ever seen one! On the other hand, we all know of the Radiola by RCA and even more common is the name Motorola, still used today.

And so, with the help of McMahon's "Radio Collectors Guide 1921-1932" and the "Radio Trade Directory" Aug. 1925, here are some radio "ola" names. I really must be nuts! This is very important stuff, lest you are thinking that I am hurting for material to write about!

ACCOUSTICOLA	ADROLA	AERIOLA
AIR-OLA	ARIONOLA	AUDIOLA
BRANDOLA	CARDINOLA	CLAXTONOLA
CONCERTOLA	CORIOLA	DETROLA
DUNSONOLA	ECH-O-NOLA	ELECTROLA
MARTINOLA	MASTEROLA	MOTOROLA
NEUTROLA	ORIOLA	PENETROLA
POWEROLA	RADIOLA	RADOLA
REMOLA	SEERYOLA	STAROLA
THOROLA	TRESCOLA	ULTROLA
UNITROLA	VISIONOLA	VITANOLA

QSO you next time....IN THE SHACK OLA!

1997 NWVRS Calendar of Events

- MAY 10:** NWVRS/Portland Amateur Radio Club/Triode Society swap meet at the Washington County Fairgrounds
- JUNE 14:** Display of art deco radios
- JUNE 29:** Display at the Concourse d'Elegance automobile show in Forest Grove
- SEPTEMBER 13:** Member presentation (topic to be determined)
- OCTOBER 11:** Display of 1950's tube or transistor portable radios
- OCTOBER 18-19:** Display at the Northwest Car Collector's show
- NOVEMBER 1:** Fall swap meet (location to be determined)
- NOVEMBER 8:** Nomination of 1998 officers
Display of battery sets and crystal sets
- DECEMBER 13:** Election of 1998 officers and Christmas party

Remembering Radio

by Dick Karman

The 1924 Radio Election

(Part 1 of a 5 part series on early radio)

By Don Moore

In the 1800s, presidential elections were simple. Sometime during the summer, party hacks quietly gathered together and nominated a candidate. The campaign began in earnest on Labor Day. Local committees put up posters and passed out flyers. The party faithful paraded around town singing hastily composed ballads praising their standard-bearer or demeaning the opposing leader. The only way the people could see the candidates was in person, so special trains would travel the countryside stopping in every little hamlet long enough for a short speech. In short, elections were colorful, personal, and fun. Then along came this guy named Marconi, and politics hasn't been the same since.

First Broadcasts

When radio first started, no one thought about politics. Because radio was viewed as just another novelty, getting politics on the air was a slow process. The first known incursion of politics into radio was during the 1906 mid-term elections. A few days before the election, the Detroit & Cleveland Navigation Line contracted the Thomas E. Clark Wireless Telegraph and Telephone Company of Detroit to send the election returns to its ships in the Great Lakes. The passengers may have been impressed, but it didn't help Clark Wireless, which went bankrupt a few years later.

If politics and radio mixed in the next ten years, history doesn't record it. But inventor Lee DeForest was always willing to try something new. In 1916, he was running his own amateur "radio telephone" show of phonograph music and chats from his laboratory in Highbridge, NY. In November he arranged for a special line to be run to his home from the offices of "The New

York American" to supply him with election returns, which he then broadcast over the air to his amateur friends up to 200 miles away. In a foreshadowing of the famous Dewey "victory" over Truman in 1948, as 11:00 p.m. approached, DeForest decided it was time for bed and, looking over the returns, duly confirmed that Charles Evan Hughes had defeated Woodrow Wilson!

Most Americans have learned about the next step of the process in school; how the nation's first radio station, KDKA started up just in time to broadcast the election returns of the 1920 election. It almost didn't happen, though. It was less than two months earlier that Westinghouse vice president Harry P. Davis conceived of operating a radio station solely to broadcast to the general public. Westinghouse could get plenty of free publicity by launching the new station with a bang, and the upcoming presidential election was the time to do it. Company engineer Frank Conrad, amateur 8XK, was given the job.

Technical and legal work proceeded at a frantic pace and the station was ready just hours before the broadcast. KDKA came on the air at 8:00 pm on election night, November 2. Election returns were phoned in to the studio from the *Pittsburgh Post* as they came off the wire services, and live banjo music filled the empty spaces. Estimates are that only about 2,000 heard the broadcast but they included some very influential people gathered in the homes of Westinghouse officials and at the Edgewood country club outside Pittsburgh. Many people telephoned in to ask the station give more election news and play less music.

Most Americans don't know that KDKA wasn't the only station broadcasting election returns that night. Earlier that day, the *Detroit News* had published a notice that the newspaper's amateur station 8MK (later WWJ) would broadcast returns. An office boy, Elton Plant, ran up and down the stairs from the paper's editorial office, where the wire service results came in, to the radio station on the roof. He handed the news to whomever was at the microphone or, if no one was nearby, read it himself. As in Pittsburgh, listeners were few. In fact, the paper also, as in years previous, announced the results to the public via a megaphone from their front steps. The megaphone probably reached more listeners than the station. But, that was soon to change.

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<http://www.mcrest.edu/~moore/patepluma.html>.

Watch next month for part two.

Swap Shop

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.

*RESTORATION/REPAIR SERVICES OFFERED**

Quality repairs and restoration services now offered on vintage Radio, TV, Hi-Fi, & other pre-60's electronic equipment. Some small parts fabrication and location services of vintage items also offered.

Phone: Sonny Clutter, (360) 834-5741

FOR SALE: **Hallicrafters short-wave receiver S40B (ca. 1954) \$25.00.

Untested SBE 34 Single sideband transceiver. Looks nice. Needs work. Former owner said receiver intermittent. \$50.00

ca. 1920 Duolateral plugin coils (8) + 4 sockets \$40.00

Abbott TR4 2-1/2 meter tranceivers (ca. 1943) \$20.00 each

Lots of oil-filled capacitors reasonable.

Bud Larson, W7LNG, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, OR 97504.

(541) 773-5214.

FOR SALE or Trade: **1938 RCA HF-2, 12-tube console with motor-drive tuning. "Low-boy" design. \$200. Jerry Talbott, 1440 SW 239th, Hillsboro, OR 97123, (503) 649-6717.

FOR SALE: **Complete Instructions for Adjusting All Philco Radio Receivers*, a reproduction of a 1934 Philco Service Department publication. \$3.50 postpaid. Pete Petersen, 5214 120th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA 98006.

FOR SALE: *86 radios, battery and AC. For information, call Bud. (503) 538-3548

FOR SALE: Motorola Television, circa 1952, small console, Model #17K5. \$25 negotiable. Dick Karman, 2515 NE 37th Avenue, Portland, OR 97212, 503-288-8800.

FOR SALE or Trade: Over 400 78's (records) in excellent condition. \$1 each or will trade for radios. Records are of Glenn Miller, Tommy & Jimmy Dorsey, Sammy Kaye, Tex Beneke, Eddy Howard, etc. Also

Bing Crosby, Margaret Whiting, Dinah Shore, etc. Contact Howard Burgoyne, West Linn, OR, (503) 650-3828.

WANTED: *Base (with driver) for horn speaker. Also restorable cabinet for Philco Model 90 cathedral. Contact Glen Bricker, (541) 942-3717.

WANTED: T/O's: **Pre-WWII, R-7000-2, R-520/URR, 600L. Mike Roy, Work (503)-627-1580 / Home 360-254-8082

WANTED: Zenith Trans-Oceanic G-500 (must be complete and in good+ condition).

Round Telechron clock as used in many GE and Zenith clock radios. I need one with good glass and no broken knob shafts. I would also be interested in a junker clock radio with a good clock or glass only.

I also need a 119-24(?) electrolytic (non-working is fine) to cosmetically restore an Airline 62-4-25 chassis.

I am looking for a fully functional, AM/FM tube clock radio for daily use. I will consider any model or brand.

Doug Van Cleve 648-9633 (home) or DougVC@aol.com

WANTED: A Vintage microphone. Early SHURE's or RCA's will trade radios too. Dick Karman, 2515 NE 37th Avenue, Portland, OR 97212, 503-288-8800.

Needs:

*Gordon Phillips was contacted about repairing a wire recorder. Anyone interested should contact Gordon.

*Speed Feldschau needs pushbuttons for a Belmont.

*Gordon Phillips needs a thumbwheel dial for a repwood set. (contact Gordon for the make of the set).

*Myron White needs parts for a "Bomber" style Zenith Transoceanic.

*A neighbor of Mike Parker's is looking for parts for a Sparton console.

*Josh Carter is looking for a Hallicrafter's Civil Patrol set.

Northwest Vintage Radio Society Workup/Info Sheet

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Acquisitions: _____

For Sale/Trade: _____

Wanted Items: _____

Leads: _____

Suggestions: _____
