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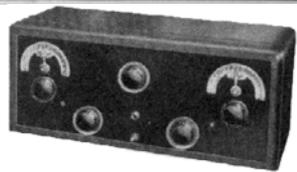
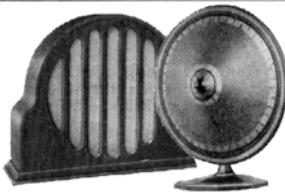
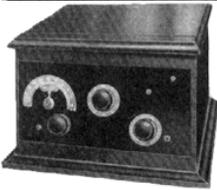
Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol. 25

May 1999

No. 5



In print since 1974

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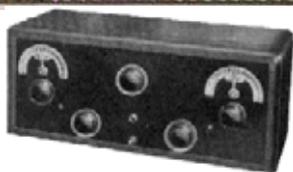
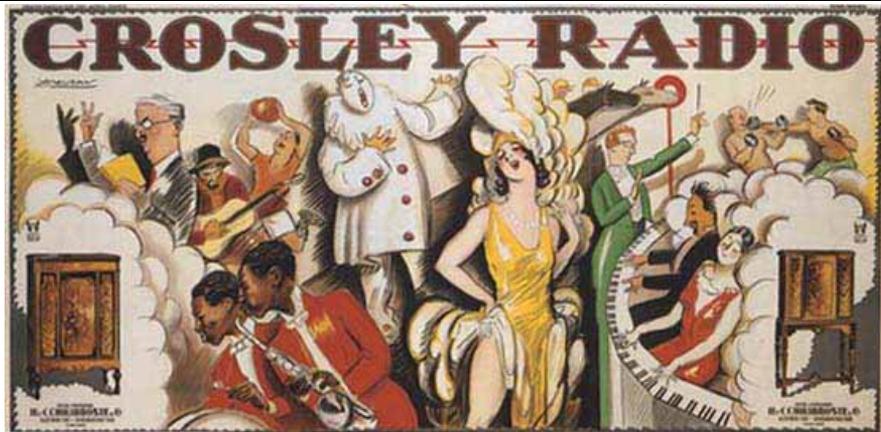
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The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

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 of 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 Abernethy Grange Hall at 15745 S. Harley Ave. 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 show, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

Society Officers for 1999:

President	Charles Kent	(503) 281-9335
Vice-President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288
Board member at large	Dave Rutland	(541) 929-4498
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648
Librarian	Tony Hauser	(503) 629-4836

The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society
Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379



May 1999

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On the cover: Crosley radios are this month's feature, and our cover this month follows that theme with a group of Crosley radios spanning the period from the early 1920's to the 1950's. The images were taken from scanned ads or from the internet.

Call Letter Deadline
10 days prior
to meeting day.

**Bring a Crosley radio to the meeting on April 10 at the
Abernethy Grange Hall, 15745 S. Harley Ave., Oregon
City.**

**Visit the NWVRS web site at:
<http://www.peak.org/~wren/nvrs.html>.**

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.

From the Editor

by *Call Letter* Editor, Rick Walton

This month's *Call Letter* is chock full of good information and articles. Dick Karman has another "Wandering on the Web" article, this time pointing you toward searches of a radio history site and that most infamous of sites these days, e-Bay. Art Redman has supplied us with an article about Oregon's first wireless station operator, one of several articles about early radio in Oregon that will appear over the next few months.

I want you to pay special attention to the Leads and Needs section, where I've printed a lead e-mailed to me by Mark Moore, one-time club member, secretary, and *Call Letter* editor. Mark was instrumental in publishing the first anniversary edition of the newsletter of the fledgling NWVRS, and it was Mark who originated the name, *Call Letter*, for that issue. 24 years later the newsletter still bears that name.

The reprinted article by the late F. W. "Tech" Sloat is one of three originally printed in 1992 *Call Letter* issues. Dick Karman found them in his collection of past *Call Letters* and sent them to me. "Tech" wrote a number of articles but they are lost to the *Call Letter* archive files. There is quite a "hole" in the files from the end of 1987 to the Fall of 1992. If you have a collection of *Call Letters* that spans that period and would like to donate them to the club, please contact me.

Thanks to Dan Howard for the Puget Sound Guide for ham events that allowed me to add the hamfest information to our calendar.

NWVRS 1999 Calendar of Events

May 8 8:30 am: Pre-meeting tailgate swap session in the parking lot.
10:00 am Regular meeting. Monthly feature: Your favorite Crosley.

May 22-23 Yakima Hamfest, Selah, WA

June 4-6 Wenatchee Hamfest, Dryden, WA

June 12 Spring Swap Meet with Oregon Triode Society. See the Swap Meet flyer on page 5.

July 31 Coos Bay Hamfest, The Barn, Bandon, OR

Meeting Minutes

Liles Garcia, Secretary

President Charles Kent called the April 10, 1999 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society to order at approximately 10:10 AM. There were 42 members present. Members approved the March, 1999 meeting minutes as written. Vice President George Kirkwood introduced Cliff Tuttle as a new member. Mike and Joel Henschman attended as guests.

Old Business

New Meeting Location — Our club has leased the Abernethy Grange Hall for the entire year even though we will not be meeting in July and August.

Money From Jim Mason Estate — Vice President George Kirkwood found out from an investment professional that the estate money can be used for any purpose that will benefit the Club. Some of these purposes could be: to pay meeting space rent, to pay for swap meet tables, to pay for a club party, etc.

New Business

Club Survey — Jerry Talbott mentioned that we should have another club survey. The group felt that we could do this soon.

Membership Roster — Rick Walton said that he will publish a new membership roster soon.

Swap Meet — The Triode Society will be joining us for our June Swap Meet. Myron is taking table reservations now.

Oregonian Article — There will be an article on antique radios later in April in the Thursday Home and Garden Section.

Forest Grove “Concours de Excellence” Car Show — Jerry Talbott mentioned that our club could have a display at the show this year.

Club E-Mail List — Rick Walton said that he will look into setting up a club e-mail list.

Library Books — Tony Hauser said that our club library books are well used by club members.

Test Equipment Manuals — Tony also mentioned that he has a box of test equipment manuals that was found at the Jim Mason Estate Auction.

If you bought a piece of test equipment, and need a manual for it, please see Tony.

Leads and Needs

Rick Walton needs a manual for an Eico 460 Oscilloscope.

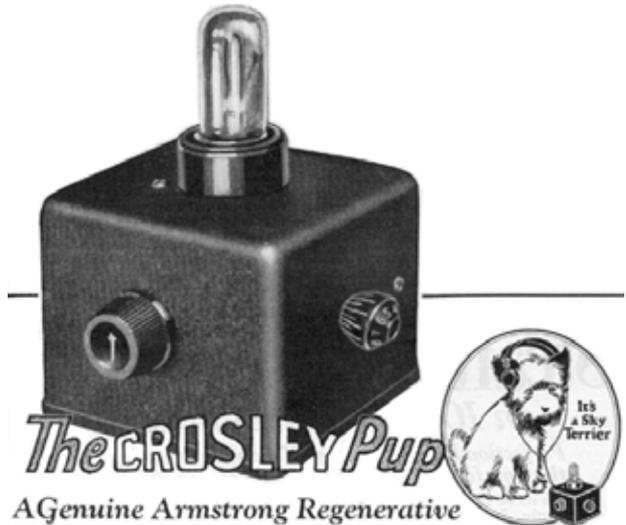
George Kirkwood needs a straight tubular type 30 tube and a type 864 tube.

Program for May

Our program item for the May meeting will be Crosley radios.

Members showed and discussed their favorite homebrew radios.

The meeting was adjourned.



NWVRS E-mail Group

by Rick Walton, Group Manager

At last month's meeting, the members in attendance who have e-mail gave me the go-ahead to set up an e-mail group for the club. Such groups are also known as list servers. I've set up a group for members, and I have, I hope, invited all of you whose e-mail addresses I'm aware of.

I'm happy to report that the group is beginning to fulfill its purpose: a forum for the discussion of our hobby. Already there have been requests for information, and answers to those requests.

The group is set up as a private group for NWVRS members only. To subscribe to the group, send an e-mail message to me with Subscribe as the subject, and I'll add you to the list. I think that's all we'll have to do. I'm still new at managing one of these groups, and I'm still a bit fuzzy on all the procedures, but if you bear with me we'll have a forum where we can discuss our mutual interest in antique radios.

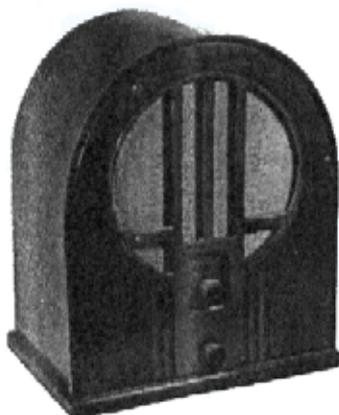
Swap Meet Information

Antique Radio and Tube Audio Swap Meet

Washington County
Fairgrounds

Hillsboro, Oregon

Admission \$2.00



Saturday

June 12, 1999

9 AM until 2 PM

* Antique Radios and Parts * Tube Audio *
* Vacuum Tubes *

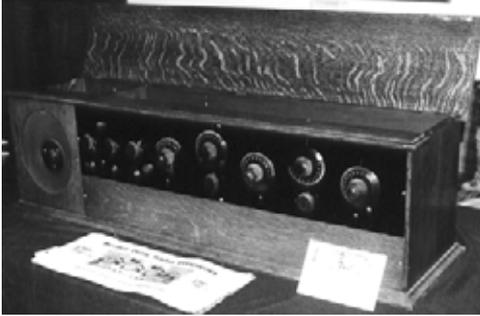
Sponsored by
Northwest Vintage Radio Society
and
Oregon Triode Society

For more information call Myron White at (503) 629-5513

Photo Display

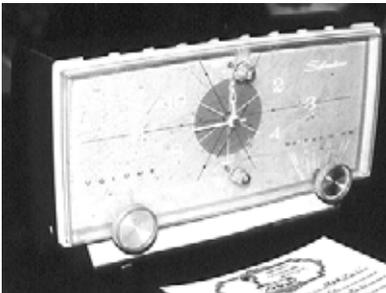
Photos by Rick Walton

Nine members brought in 15 items for exhibition at the April meeting. First place in the voting went to George Kirkwood for his three radios, second place went to Dan Howard with his insulator chandelier, and third place was taken in a tie by Mike Parker and Speed Feldschau.



To the left is the Bremer-Tully kit that Speed Feldschau brought. It tied for third place in the voting. Fickle set that it is, it went home with George Kirkwood!

George Kirkwood brought in the set on the far right, which was built by "somebody's father" from an interesting mix of modern and antique parts. The lower-right photo is a regenerative set for which George built the case, and the set to the immediate right with the horn is a one-tube reflex that George designed and built. These entries won George first place in the voting.

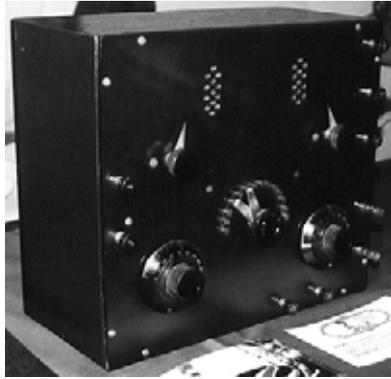


The rather out-of-place looking Silvertone on the left is a kit built by Rick Walton in the early 1960's.



Glen Bricker exhibited the "record radio" built on an old Edison disc.

Below is the two-tube regenerative home-brew displayed by Joe Beseda.

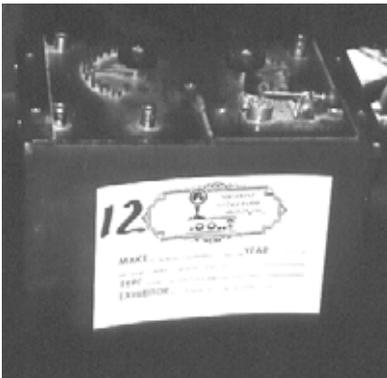


The two radios in the photo below belong to Mike Parker. The radio to the rear is a kit, while the radio in front is Mike's own design built into a minia-



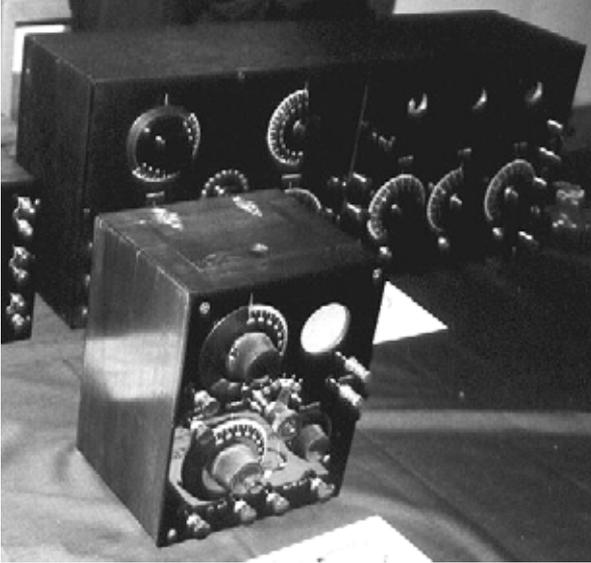
ture Lane cedar chest. Mike's radios tied for third place in the voting.

The two radios at the bottom of the page were displayed by Art Redman, who acquired them from Joey Tomkins, a one-time club member in Southern Oregon.





Ray Nelson brought the radios shown on the left and below. On the left is a 1925 one-tube home brew. In the foreground below is a 1922 Kilbourne & Clark kit radio, and in the background is a Norco kit radio built here in Portland.



Above right is one of the arms of the chandelier shown on the left, showing in more detail the use of glass insulators to decorate the chandelier. This chandelier is the work of Dan Howard, who was looking for a way to display some of his insulator collection. His chandelier took second place in the voting.



Wandering the Web

by Dick Karman

My stops on the World Wide Web lately have been to do research regarding our hobby. One of the history habits I have is to see how others view the events of the past — what items are interesting enough to get into the history books. A great page for this type of research is

<http://207.153.252.231/todayinhistory.htm>

I searched just for radio and found a fascinating chronology of what folks thought was important to note. Your editor might include a portion of the listing for May to catch your interest. (*See the list that follows...Ed.*)

No matter who you're talking to lately, when you talk about the internet and radio equipment, they say have you seen ebay - most of us know it all too well but if you don't, type vintage radio into their search engine:

<http://cayman.ebay.com/aw/>

Have fun - don't go broke - see you next month.

“Radio” found in the history book for May

- 05/01/1931 - Singer Kate Smith begins her long-running radio program on CBS
- 05/01/1942 - Radio Orange calls to defy order to wear “Jewish star”
- 05/01/1945 - Radio Budapest, Hungary re-enters shortwave broadcasting after WW II
- 05/01/1966 - Radio RSA, South Africa begins shortwave transmitting
- 05/01/1969 - Pirate Radio Station 259 (England/France) begins transmitting
- 05/01/1972 - Radio's Mutual Black Network premieres
- 05/01/1981 - Radio Shack releases Model III TRSDOS 1.3
- 05/02/1928 - KPQ-AM in Wenatchee WA begins radio transmissions
- 05/02/1932 - Jack Benny's 1st radio show premieres (NBC Blue Network)
- 05/02/1981 - Radio Shack re-releases Model III TRSDOS 1.3 with 2 fixes
- 05/03/1965 - Don Steele, begins a 40+ year radio career at KRTH (LA Calif)
- 05/03/1971 - All Things Considered premieres on 112 National Public Radio stations
- 05/03/1971 - National Public Radio begins programming

05/03/1982 - ABC's All Talk network begins on radio (2 west coast stations)
 05/03/1982 - Pres. Reagan begins 5 minute weekly radio broadcasts
 05/04/1922 - KNX-AM in Los Angeles CA begins radio transmissions
 05/05/1945 - Premier Gerbrandy on Radio Orange tells Dutch they are liberated
 05/06/1975 - Early warnings provided by REACT (ham radio operators) means only
 05/08/1979 - Radio Shack releases TRSDOS 2.3
 05/09/1929 - WJW-AM in Cleveland Ohio begins radio transmissions
 05/10/1922 - WHB-AM in Kansas City MO begins radio transmissions
 05/10/1941 - Queen Wilhelmina on Radio Orange warns against treason
 05/10/1982 - WABC joins ABC's All Talk radio network
 05/12/1908 - Wireless Radio Broadcasting is patented by Nathan B Stubblefield
 05/13/1943 - German occupiers confiscate all radios
 05/14/1948 - Israeli Radio Station Kol Yisrael's 1st broadcast
 05/14/1966 - 1st reported monitoring of pirate radio station WBBH (NJ)
 05/14/1967 - Pirate Radio Station 270 (England) closes down
 05/14/1976 - Lowell Thomas ends 46 years as radio network reporter
 05/17/1938 - Radio quiz show "Information Please!" debuts on NBC Blue Network
 05/19/1960 - Alan Freed & eight other DJ accused of taking radio payola
 05/19/1960 - DJ Alan Freed is accused of bribery in radio payola scandal
 05/19/1968 - Pirate Radio Brumble of Northern England 1st heard
 05/21/1921 - Oldest radio station west of Mississippi River licensed in Greeley Co
 05/23/1960 - WRCA radio changes call letters back to WNBC (NYC)
 05/24/1940 - Dutch Queen Wilhelmina speaks on BBC radio
 05/27/1994 - Larry King ended his radio show
 05/27/1994 - Radio conservative Rush Limbaugh (43) weds Marta Fitzgerald (35)
 05/28/1962 - Wide World of Sports with Chris Schenkel premieres on CBS radio
 05/29/1977 - NBC News & Information Service (24 hr. news) ends on radio
 05/29/1979 - Radio's 1st rock network "Source" premieres
 05/30/1979 - Percom Data Company Inc. release Microdos for Radio Shack's TRS-80
 05/31/1943 - "Archie" comic strip 1st broadcast on radio

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.

BUY, SELL, & TRADE: Vintage Radio, Early Television and Hi-Fi.

Wanted: Tubes, Parts and whatever you might have related to early radio & TV. Visit my web-site at: < <http://www.radiolaguy.com> > or e-mail me at: < sonny@radiolaguy.com >

Thanks, Sonny Clutter, phone (360) 834-5741

WANTED: The Crystal Radio Guy wants crystal sets and toy germanium diode radios. Buy outright, or trade for other radios. Galen (503) 231-9708.

WANTED: Zenith tube shields. Have non-Zenith shields (Philco, other brands) to swap. Contact Dick Dielschneider.

Leads & Needs

My name is Mark Moore, an early editor of the Call Letter (I originated the name "Call Letter") and an early secretary of the NWVRS. A friend of mine has an early electric set for sale. It is an American Bosch Model 2A. I can be reached at 666-5053 for more info.

Forest Grove Concours d'Elegance

announcement by Jerry Talbott

I am willing to set up a club display at the Forest Grove Auto Show / Concourse July 25th. Anyone interested call me at 503-649-6717, e-mail PTL@worldaccessnet.com, or see me at the May meeting. I need to know how much interest there is before I have us commit ourselves.

KFC, Seattle, Washington

by F.W. "Tech" Sloat W7AHK

Editor's note: This article by "Tech" Sloat originally appeared in a Call Letter printed in 1992. It's full title was originally "KFC Northern Radio And Electric Company, 418 Union St., Seattle Washington."

KFC was the first broadcast station licensed in the city of Seattle and the fourteenth in the nation. It was known as the "P.I." station. The Seattle Post-Intelligencer daily newspaper sponsored the programs and gave the station much publicity.

The KFC transmitter was 100 watts and the programs were listened to in Hawaii. One of the first transmissions was an address by Dr. Mark A Mathews to the Men's Club of the First Presbyterian Church of Seattle. The P.I. of 12/11/21, reported, "From the radio room of the PI it will be broadcast and wafted through the air to the receiver at the church."

KFC's 1921 Christmas program carried an extensive list of entertainers. Listeners far at sea, in cold Alaska, or sunny California were invited to share in the Yuletide Spirit.

On 12/27/21, the PI announced a New Years Eve dance party would be broadcast. Arrangements had been made to secure a new Magnavox tone arm from Oakland, Cal. Listeners were also advised the "sending set is being overhauled to insure perfect tone performance."

The PI had powerful "Magnavoxes" installed on their building and invited the citizens to listen to the news and other bulletins over these loud speakers.

The transmitter, located atop the PI building at 6th and Pine, was constructed and operated by a Mr. Tenney. KFC did not operate too long. The call was changed to KFJC.

Operator of First Oregon Wireless Station Visits

Submitted by Art Redman

From the Astorian Daily Budget, October 16, 1951, Page 2.

The days when Astoria had the first and only commercial wireless station in Oregon were recalled here Monday (October 16, 1951) by Alfred Ferland, now of Portland, who was a wireless operator for that station from 1907 to 1909.

Ferland, an Astoria boy, got the operators job when United Wireless company established its station here on the hill above Smith point-still called "Telegraph hill" by old timers.

The first tower was 204 feet high, but blew down in a storm and was replaced by two 113-foot masts. Ferland recalled while visiting here Monday on his first real Astoria visit since he left here in 1910.

Heard First Call

Ferland recalled that he heard the first radio telegraphic communication between the continental U.S. and Hawaii one night in 1908. He recalled transmitting news to the U.S. fleet when it passed the Oregon coast on a round-the-world- cruise in the same year.

The old wireless station (KCP) was intended primarily for communication with ships at sea, Ferland said.

Humphreys Manager

Ferland worked as night operator for the Postal Telegraph after leaving the Telegraph hill station, and recalled that the late Charles Humphreys managed the Postal office in those days.

From here Ferland went to Canada, where he worked for the Canadian government for 14 years. For the past 25 years he has been living in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferland made a special trip here Monday because they felt it was a shame they had never been back to the city where Ferland began his career so many years ago.

New Meeting Location!

In February we changed our meeting location to the Abernathy Grange Hall, located at 15745 S. Harley Ave. in Oregon City. Here are instructions for getting there and a map.

1. Take the OR-213 exit, exit number 10, towards PARK PLACE/MOLLA.
2. From the South, turn RIGHT onto SR-213, or from the North, keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp and merge onto SR-213.
3. Turn LEFT onto CLACKAMAS RIVER DR.
4. Turn RIGHT onto S FORSYTHE RD. (appears on the map to turn into PARK PLACE)
5. Turn LEFT onto S HARLEY AVE. The Abernathy Grange Hall is a little past S. Taylor Lane.

The written instructions came from “Map Quest” on the Internet; the map is scanned from a AAA map with much detail removed for the sake of clarity.

