

The

Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Vol. 25

October 1999

No. 10



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 society members, the *Call Letter* has continued to be a publication that informs members of the society's business and that supports 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



October 1999

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On the cover: The beautiful Stewart-Warner speaker on the cover belongs to Jerry Talbott and was shown at the September meeting. See the others that were displayed in the Photo Display in this issue.

**Call Letter Deadline
10 days prior
to meeting day.**

Be sure to attend the meeting at the usual time on October 9 in the Abernethy Grange Hall. The monthly feature for October will be catalin radios. And don't forget the tailgate swap meet that starts at 8:30 prior to the meeting!

**The NWVRS web site is temporarily unavailable:-(
Watch this space for its return.**

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

What a great meeting we had! Following our usual Summer hiatus, the club resumed the regular meetings with a full agenda. If you were there, be sure to read the minutes to be sure they caught everything. If you weren't at the meeting, be sure to read through the minutes to see what you missed.

The swap meet didn't have the best attendance, but Myron told me that it was pretty busy near the beginning. I sure had a good time, even though I got there late. I roamed around the tables for a while and had picked up a few items and was about to leave when I saw IT! It was a beautiful Philco console in great shape on the outside and most important, in my price range (low). It wound up following me home, which had Charlie Kent chuckling since less than an hour before I'd told him I couldn't shoehorn another console in my house. Even my wife admitted that it is a very nice radio. It turns out that with a new power cord and dial string, it's a working radio.

This month Sonny Clutter has a report on the Museum of Radio and Technology in Wheeling, West Virginia, which he visited this past Summer. Sadly, the pictures he took didn't reach me in time to be printed, but I copied pictures from the museum's web site to give you a taste of the wealth of the museum.

The short article submitted by Art Redman is taken from the Oregon Journal of December 27, 1928. It describes the granting of a license to KWJJ for the transmission of television pictures. The idea of broadcasting movies to a theatre sounds an awful lot like current ideas for "e-cinema." This article is one of four that Art has given me for publication in the *Call Letter*; they will be appearing in subsequent issues.

NWVRS 1999 Calendar of Events

October 9 Regular meeting. Monthly feature: catalin radios.

November 13 Regular meeting.

Meeting Minutes

by Liles Garcia, NWVRS Secretary

President Charles Kent called the September 11, 1999 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:00 AM. Members approved the meeting minutes as written in the Call Letter. Dave Brown attended his first club meeting since recently joining our club—welcome Dave!!

Good and Welfare

Jim McCracken's wife passed away on July 6. We will send him a sympathy card.

Dick and Dan Howard reported that they saw Past Club President Harley Perkins and his wife at the large swap meet in Rochester, New York.

Old Business

Misrepresenting Our Club—Charles Kent informed us that a club member or members are telling people that estate donations to the club are tax-deductible. Then they take the radios for themselves. There will be an article in our next Call Letter about this problem.

Funds From Jim Mason Estate—Jim's relatives gave the club a \$30,000 check from Jim's estate. We plan to put the funds in an interest-generating account. We are allowed to use the money and interest for purposes that will benefit the club. Members discussed some investment options for the money. Members then voted to let the club officers research options for investing the money and report their findings at the next meeting.

Hats and Coats—Gordon Phillips said that hats and coats are still available.

Library—Tony Hauser would like to transfer the Librarian's job to another club member.

NWVRS 25th Anniversary—Our club's 25th anniversary will be in December. We discussed having a special edition of the Call Letter, and what we would like to see in this special edition. We also discussed what we wanted to do for our anniversary function. Members decided to form a committee to work on our 25th anniversary event. The committee is George Kirkwood, Dick Bixler, Liles Garcia, and Jerry Talbott.

New Business

Awards at Meeting Programs—Members discussed whether to award ribbons to members for the top items in our monthly programs. The general consensus was that the ribbons are a good practice to continue, and members voted to continue to award ribbons at our monthly programs.

Swap Meet—Our Swap Meet will be on September 25. We discussed the local advertising for our swap meet, and then voted to talk about our swap meet locations at some future meetings.

Club Web Site—Rick Walton told us about some cost options for the club to have a web site. Members discussed whether we wanted a web site or not. We then decided to investigate other web site provider's prices.

Antique Radios in Madrid, Spain—Dick Bixler was on vacation in Madrid, Spain and found a store full of antique European radios. The store's owner said that there is a very active antique radio club in Madrid.

Leads and Needs

Dick Howard needs a chassis for a Majestic 60.

Sonny Clutter needs a chassis for an Atwater-Kent 55.

Dick Bixler needs information for a Zenith 12A58.

The program topic for the October meeting will be catalin radios.

Our club program today was speakers. Members showed and discussed the speakers that they brought.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 AM.

Notice to Members

Charles Kent, NWVRS President

During the Summer, the officers of the club became aware of two incidents of members accepting radio donations. The donors were led to believe that they were donating the radios to the NWVRS and that they could deduct their donations from their income tax. As a club, we cannot tolerate this practice, which is unethical, illegal, and jeopardizes the club's non-profit standing. In the future, members discovered misrepresenting their acceptance of donations will lose their club membership.

What We Did This Summer

by Lila & Sonny Clutter

During our recent visit to Kentucky & West Virginia, by chance it happened to be the weekend of the meeting, swap meet and auction of the “Museum of Radio and Technology” in Huntington, WVA.

We were warmly welcomed and spent the morning visiting this wonderful facility and visiting with a number of it’s members. This friendly group’s facility claims to be the largest in the nation dedicated to the radio collecting hobby. This fantastic collection is the best display of vintage radio and related that I have seen (with the possible exception of the AWA museum). The “Museum of Radio and Technology” is housed in a 10,000 sq. ft. building (formerly an old school house). It is clean, well kept, and all the people we met and talked with were warm, friendly and outgoing.

When you start your tour of this well laid out and spacious Museum and walk down the long hallway, you will find each of it’s many rooms devoted to a particular theme or era. Among the many rooms, one contains a complete and working vintage transmitter and radio studio. Another has vintage hi-fi equipment, and yet another is a 20’s - 30’s era re-creation of an electronics classroom and they hold classes in it once a week! You will find a fantastic library and bookstore in one of the rooms, and there is also a room dedicated to communications gear. The auditorium is used for their indoor swap meets, auctions and meetings. They also have a workshop where repairs can be performed for those who may not have the ability or facility to do so at home. The “Grand Showroom” contains a plethora of examples of Vintage Radio and Television from the 20’s - 50’s, very nicely displayed. The equipment displayed here is not a bunch of discards or dregs from the collection of others; quite the contrary, it is full of some of the best examples of vintage radio you will find.

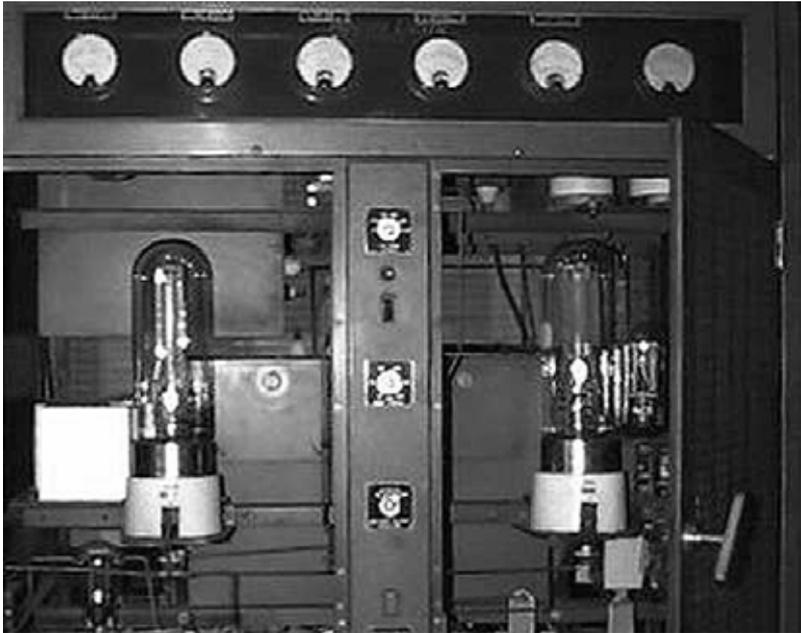
We attended the pre-auction sale where I purchased a few items. Since packing and shipping while traveling by air is not only a big hassle but it also gets expensive, to avoid the temptation of having even more to pack and ship, we left before the auction started.

If any of you readers find yourself in the area of Huntington, West Virginia and you love vintage radio, please don’t pass up the opportunity to visit this wonderful facility. It’s located conveniently just off interstate 64. For those interested, I have phone numbers and contacts. Feel free to contact me if you plan on being in that area or wish to become a member.

Editor's note: The pictures that Sonny took didn't reach me in time so I used pictures from the museum's web site. You can see these and other pictures and take a virtual tour of this museum at <http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/MRT/>



Top: the museum building. Bottom: A display of radio equipment from the '20's.



Top: a display of '40's equipment. Bottom: two large tubes in the Western Electric 5KW transmitter on display in the museum.

Gets Permit To Radio Pictures

Submitted By Art Redman

From the Oregon Journal, December 27, 1928 Page 1.

Wilbur Jerman technician at radio station KWJJ has been granted a license for television transmission according to word received this morning by Edwin W. Lovejoy, supervisor of radio in the seventh district.

Jerman has been assigned call letters W7AXO and authorized to transmit pictures by radio on frequencies between 2750 and 2850 kilocycles which are in the short wave band and using 100 watts the supervisor advised.

Jerman has not been officially notified of his license. He said this morning that the television set he built during the summer has been partially dismantled, but that he probably could begin experimental television broadcast this month.

The technician pointed out that the license could not be used for commercial purposes but confined to experimental use on the short wave bands. He said the public could take advantage of the broadcasts by watching for announcements of his television broadcasts.

At present Jerman is busy on KWJJ broadcasting equipment-installing apparatus for the commission in the reallocation November 11. (The Federal Communications Commission shifted all wavelengths 30 kilohertz)

Jerman ultimately expects to broadcast moving pictures on the television license on short waves to use the projection machines in the Broadway theatre for pictures and KWJJ broadcasting station to broadcast the sound accompaniments, he said.

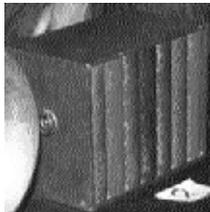
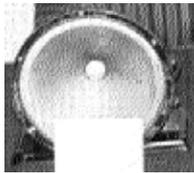
Pictures probably will be three inches square unless some new method is introduced whereby larger pictures could be satisfactory sent.

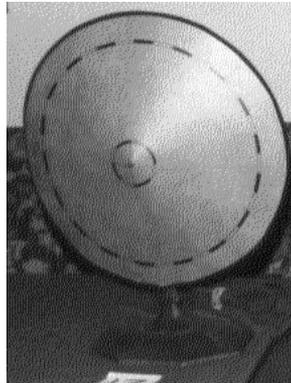
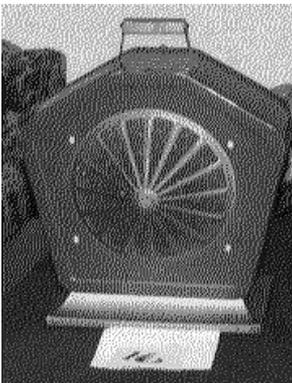
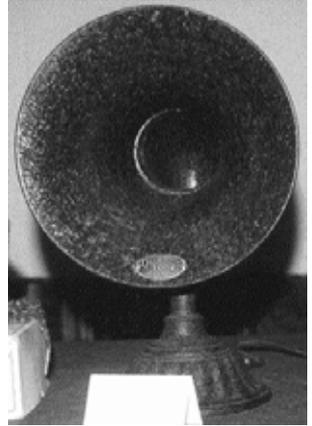
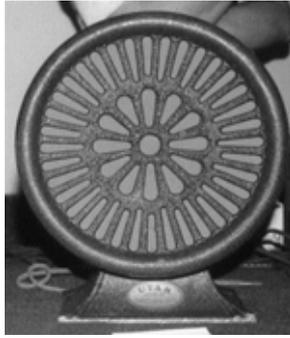
The broadcasting of talking movies will be an interesting experiment he said and especially with the short wave set sending the pictures and KWJJ handling the sound. The movie broadcast experimentation is rather distant he intimated.

Photo Display

Photos by Rick Walton

Here are most of the speakers that members brought to display at the September meeting. The Rola stand speaker (bottom-right) belonging to Ron Hershey garnered the most 1st place votes in the tally.





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

FOR SALE: Speakers, all sizes and types. I cleaned out my attic of all my surplus speakers and will bring them to the next meeting. All priced very reasonable or free. Make note of what you need. Jerry Talbott

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.

WANTED: *White plastic knob with a long shank for a Bendix 55L3 white plastic table radio. Rick Walton, (503) 284-5648, rwalton@teleport.com.

WANTED: **Drive belt for Zenith 7J259, Chassis 5711. Ray Vanderzanden. (503) 648-2287

Leads and Needs

Hickok TV-3B/U tube tester. Located in Canby, OR. Contact Pete Avery, (503)266-4010.

1946 Magnavox radio/phono console in Hepplewhite cabinet. Asking \$140. Contact Mrs. Humphries at (503) 284-1322.

Roster Corrections & Updates

Brown, Dave*

6548 Lipscomb St., SE

Salem, OR 97301

(503) 585-4667 dave@ironradio.com

<http://www.ironradio.com>

General



R

Richardson, Mark WA7NTU†

P.O. Box 253

Washougal, WA 98671

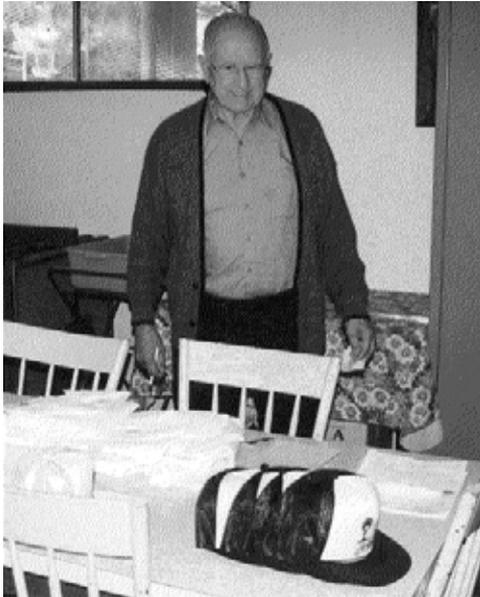
(360) 837-3823 mhr@pcez.com

1930-'40 consoles



R

A Final Photo



* E-mail and website address correction.

† Added e-mail address and HAM call sign.

Meeting Location!

Our monthly meetings are held in 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/MOLALLA.
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 at the first traffic light onto CLACKAMAS RIVER DR.
4. Turn RIGHT onto S FORSYTHE RD.
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.

