

The

Call Letter

November 2000
Vol. 26 — No. 11

RADIO
IN AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

In This Issue

THE 1928 SOLODYNE
Constructional Data for the
ALL-WAVE STABILITY XMITTER
WARFARE By WIRELESS

OTHER FEATURES:
BRASSO-ISLAND RADIO-HAM NOTES

Vol. 2, No. 3. **July 16, 1928** **ONE Shilling**

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Celebrating **25** years in print!

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 \$20.00 (beginning January 2001) 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 2000:

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	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135

The Society's address is:

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



November 2000

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On the cover: The front cover of the July 16, 1928, issue of *Radio...in Australia and New Zealand*. Thanks to Bob Campbell for making this publication available for use in the *Call Letter*.

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

**The next meeting is on November 11.
The monthly feature is:
Your best bargain radio!
Tailgate swap meet starts at 8:30!**

Visit our web site at <http://nwvrs.org>.

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.

Your Letters:

Ludwell Sibley
Gold Hill, Oregon

Dear Editor,

I've just enjoyed Mike Parker's notes on re-filling dial marks on battery radios (*October 2000 - Ed.*), and can offer some further notes.

Believe it or not, the original filling was pure white! This is completely contra-intuitive, but the filling material was white lead in a waxy binder. This was, of course, the standard pigment for white house paint at the time. I have a small lump of old-time dial filler, left over from the estate of an old-timer who worked for Adams-Morgan in New Jersey in the early '20s.

Of course, the white markings would have started to discolor after a couple of years of having fingers rubbed over them, or of sulfur-dioxide exposure in a coal-heated house. So there's no single "right" tint - but one need not be uncomfortable with white markings. This leads to the possibility of using white typist's correction fluid, which I've done several times with good results. It tends to run upon being wiped down, but with a couple of passes the results can be very good.

Best wishes,
Lud

Editor's note: Ludwell Sibley is editor of the "Tube Collector", newsletter of the Tube Collector's Association, and regular columnist in the AWA "Old Timer's Bulletin". Lud is also a member of NWWRS.

From the Editor

by *Call Letter* Editor, Rick Walton

I know that as Swap Meets go, the Fall Swap Meet in October was not the greatest of successes. If I'd been a seller, I too, would probably have complained that we were just trading all our stuff among the club membership. But as a buyer, I had a great time spending time with like-minded friends and coming home with the back end of my station wagon loaded. Several of you also gave me material to fill the pages of the *Call Letter*, pages that have been rather skimpy of late. Despite the problems, I am hopeful that our new swap meet location will prove to be a good one. With more time to alert the public, the Spring swap meet should draw more buyers from outside our ranks.

I'm pleased to have a letter to print this month for the first time since I've been editing the *Call Letter*. If you'll mail 'em (postal or e-mail), I'll print 'em. Thanks to Bud Larson for his interesting article about his trip to Denmark. Because of the early publishing last month, Voilà didn't make it in, so I saved it for this month. There are some interesting finds.

This month I'm posting the *Call Letter* in the Files location on the NWVRS e-groups web site. I hope that you'll take a look at it and let me know what you think about this as a possible method of delivery. I'll be doing this in December, too, and then in January we'll talk about whether members who have an internet connect can choose to receive the *Call Letter* on-line instead of by mail.

NWVRS 2000 Calendar of Events

November 11 Regular monthly meeting.

December 9 Regular monthly meeting.

Northwest Vintage Radio Society Meeting Minutes

President Charles Kent called the October 14, 2000 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:05 AM. Antonio and Aoy Edgar were guests.

Old Business

Swap Meet—Our swap meet last Saturday was generally considered a success. Wendy Kent thanks Cliff Tuttle, Dick and Shirley Bosch, Rick Walton, and others who helped at the swap meet.

Call Letter—The group discussed the idea of receiving the Call Letter electronically. There are some alternatives that Rick Walton will look into. Rick will try to make the November Call Letter available on-line.

New Business

Club Officer Elections—We will nominate officers at our November meeting. The office description and duties of each officer will be in the November Call Letter.

Library--John Bucholtz has an index card file for all of the radios that Jim Mason had in his estate. If anyone would like the card for a radio that they bought please let John know.

Spring Swap Meet—Our Spring 2001 Swap Meet will be on May 14, 2001 at the Salvation Army Rose Center. We will plan to have more advertising for this swap meet. There will be approximately 50 tables.

Monthly Meeting Speaker Or Class—Charlie asked if members would be interested in having a guest speaker or a class at our meetings. The consensus was that we would. Sonny Clutter volunteered to give us a class on “restoration of original wood finishes on radio cabinets”. Many thanks to Sonny for volunteering for this!!!

Leads and Needs

See Myron White’s post on e-groups about a Blaupunkt console radio for sale.

Charlie Kent has a web-TV system for sale.

Cliff Tuttle needs the manuals for the following instruments:

Heathkit Visual--Aural Signal Tracer

Sprague Tel--Ohmike Model TO-4 Capacitance--Resistance Analyzer

Silver Model 904 Capacitance--Resistance Bridge

Program

Today’s program item was “tube portables and clock radios”. Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought. The following members won ribbons for their radios:

First place—Ed Pittaway—Radiola P-31

Second place—Ed Cook—Ingraham Desk Radio

There were too many tie votes for a Third Place Award

The program topic for the November meeting will be “your best bargain radio”.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Liles Garcia

Secretary

Officer's Roles

The President

The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors. The President shall set the time and the place of Board of Directors' Meetings. The President has the power to appoint members of committees as appropriate to enhance the activities of the society.

The Vice President

The Vice President shall be responsible for planning and arranging technical and entertaining activities associated with the society's meetings. He serves as chairman of the program committee if such a committee is appointed. He acts as presiding officer at meetings if the President is unavailable.

The Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of every business meeting and for receiving and preparing all of the society's correspondence.

The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be accountable for all funds received and disbursed by the society and shall report all monetary transactions and treasury balance at each regular meeting of the society. The Treasurer shall prepare a list of members in good standing for distribution at the next regular meeting following the annual meeting of the society.

The Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the current elected officers of the society plus the immediate past president of the society. The Board of Directors shall direct the care and expenditure of the funds of the society. The Board shall determine a suitable time and place for regular society business meetings.

Photo Display

Photography by Rick Walton

The Swap Meet



October Meeting

Photos of the portable and clock radios featured at the meeting.





Stubbekøbing Radio- og Motorcykelmuseum

by Bud Larson

About 50 miles south of Copenhagen, Denmark, you will find a pair of islands, Lolland and Falster. The country side is mostly flat farmland, nice and green with fields, houses, and barns. The roads are nice, smooth, and paved. They vary from 40-lane super highway to narrow lanes about 10 feet wide where, when meeting another car, you must park along the edge, hoping not to go in the ditch. The lane to the old schoolhouse my great-grandfather converted to a residence many years ago is that way. My “grand-cousin”, Bjarne, actually lives in the house where my great-grandparents lived about 100 years ago (grand-cousin, same great-grandparents). I told him I was interested in radios and he gave me a home-made set built in a cigar box. He thought it was from WWII Danish resistance but with a transistor inside, I doubt that.

After visiting several distant relatives we had to head back to Copenhagen to catch our SAS flight to the USA. Leaving Maribo on Lolland the highway goes in a tunnel under the sea and then to Falster island. We had a little time so went on a side road to Stubbekøbing, a colorful community where a small ferry takes cars to nearby small islands. We found the museum and I had a quick tour. I even was permitted to visit the basement storeroom piled high with unrestored radios and boxes of tubes. I think my gift of a Tube Collector magazine helped. The lady on duty spoke Danish, German, and English. The museum catalog is in all three languages. Actually, there were many more motorcycles than radios, but they have some interesting sets. Bang & Olufsen is the only Danish radio manufacturer left of the many before WWII. This company made nice sets and still operates electronic stores in several places. There was one near our hotel in Maribo. B&O made wire recorders, a modern adaptation of the first tape recorder invented by Poulsen, a Dane. He was more famous for the arc radio transmitter that was the first CW. Hard to believe, but arc was considered continuous wave.

The radio collection includes European crystal sets, early phonos, Rasmussen, Tikofon, Phillips, and other interesting sets. It was well worth the drive from the modern highway to visit the past.

(Our visit was in June, 2000.)

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRs members

by Sonny Clutter

Visit my Vintage Radio site @ <http://www.radiolaguy.com>

Tony Hauser A late 50's Heathkit model FM-4 hi-fi FM receiver.

George Kirkwood has added a Crosley "Pup" to his growing Crosley collection.

Mike Parker added one of the few pieces that he has picked up this year! And what a nice piece it is, It is a "Splendid Deluxe" 3 dial TRF, ca. 1925 made by the W.F. Main Radiophone Co., Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Uses 5 good old 201-A's. It had one unusual 201-A brand tube in it (not working) a, "Diatron" made by the Diamond Vacuum Products Co. complete with good paper.

Rick Walton found on eBay an RCA Victor BP10 portable radio. It even has RCA batteries in it. Amazingly, there is almost no leakage from the batteries, or damage from the leakage.

Sonny Clutter lucked out big time this month. After reluctantly stopping at an antique shop that I had frequented for the last 10 years finding nothing, sitting there waiting for me was a 12-tube Zenith 12S232 "Walton", very reasonably priced and in decent condition.



"Since he discovered that old crystal set up in the attic, he hasn't any time for television."

Swap Shop

FOR SALE: Thousands of tubes, hundreds of radio parts, panels, meters, surplus, etc. R5-D3 electronic surplus, Bob Lee, 9770 S.E. Stanley Ave., Milwaukie, OR 97222, (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.

FOR SALE: 1925 Chelsea Super 5 console battery set. Complete but untested and has some water rings on lid. Best offer. Phone 245-1341

FOR SALE: Freed-Eisemann FE-15 Battery radio, good condition - \$90.00.

Kellogg Wavemaster model unknown, fair condition - \$65.00.

Brandes composite horn speaker and driver, fair condition - \$65.00.

Sonora wood box speaker, good condition - \$65.00.

Zenith console 12-S-370, very nice original finish, plays good, you won't find a nicer one around here - \$1395.00.

Contact David Vaughn, 503-574-2825

FOR SALE: Radios, portables, clock radios, test equipment, AK-60, Radiola 33, 100A speaker. Lots more. Send SASE for list. Bud Larson, 1325 Ridgeway, Medford, OR 97504, (541)773-5214, budedna@medford.net.

FOR SALE: **Cabinet for a Silvertone Table-R/P, Model No. 7210. It has the record player with the crank and it winds up and turns fine. No radio included. Looking for an offer.

I also have a wood battery box w/o lid for the Voltamp Battery No. 12

"Champion". The label is still attached. Contact Larry Beaver at 503-669-0358.

Leads and Needs

Radiolaguy's web page is full of lots of information on early radio, TV and also provides lots of links to other valuable info resources relating to the radio collecting hobby; it's not just a "for sale" site. Be sure and visit the site often. One of the services offered is pictures and information on the entire RCA "Radiola" line from 1921 to 1931 and my "show and tell" page.

This ad comes from the June, 1942, issue of Radio News. It lets you know for sure when Volume XIII was published, and provides a contemporary perspective on the cessation of civilian radio production. Thanks to Dan Howard for submitting this ad to the *Call Letter*.

THEY DON'T GET RID OF THEM NOW

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