

The

Call Letter

May 2001
Vol. 27 — No. 5



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Over **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 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 2001:

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



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On the cover: The flyer for the May Swap/Sale.

**Call Letter Deadline: 12 days prior
to meeting day.**

**The Spring Swap/Sale takes the place of our regular
meeting May 12.**

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.

From the Editor

by Call Letter Editor, Rick Walton

As this month's cover reminds you, the Spring Swap/Sale is upon us. Be sure to check once again the guidelines for the swap/sale listed on page 12. As always, I'm looking forward to wandering through all the items, maybe bringing home a few small items, and making contact with many of you.

Thanks to Ron Hershey for sending scans of some old radio postcards that he spotted on eBay. I don't know if anyone would paid the minimum bid of \$9.99, but the pictures are great. They provide most entertaining fill for the otherwise empty spots.

As you can see from the article that follows this one, and from my call for information and pictures about Long radios, there is new and interesting stuff on the horizon. I'm sure that many of us have restoration tales that we can share in Dave's new column.

Charter member and Portland radio history enthusiast Art Redman has provided me with a number of historical pieces, one of which I've chosen for this month's issue. This article from the Oregon Journal provides excruciating technical detail about Portland's first station to announce regular broadcasting hours.

A new column is in the works!

Our talented web master, Dave Brown, is launching a new column for the *Call Letter*. It is to be a restoration column in which you, the members, describe your latest restoration success (or failure, what difficulties you encountered, what you did to overcome them, what clever means you used to repair that unobtainable part, what incredible steps it took to restore that lustrous finish. This is an opportunity for you long-time collectors and restorers to share your knowledge and expertise with the rest of the club, or in the case of you who are new to the hobby, to share the wisdom you acquired in the process of restoring that garage sale treasure.

This new *Call Letter* feature will be called "Play it again Sam!", a suggestion that came from Ray Nelson and met with immediate and widespread approval following some discussion of a name for the column on the NWVRS e-mail group.

Roster Corrections/Additions

If you've moved, changed e-mail address or phone number, or you've changed your collecting interests, let me (Rick) know so I can include that information in the club roster that I plan to publish in May.

Ellsworth, James O. R
 1530 Tudor Street
 Albany, OR 97321
 541-928-4666
 General Interest

Gunning, Norman L. R
 13935 SW Weir Road
 Beaverton, OR 97005
 (503) 524-1785

Newkirk, John L. R
 1224 NE 7th St. Ext.
 Lafayette, OR 97127
 503-864-9324
 General Interest

Looking for Longs

by Rick Walton, *Call Letter* Editor

Several weeks ago Art Redman gave me an article about the Long brothers and Long radios (actually one of several historical pieces). Out of conversations about the article has come the idea to devote an entire issue of the *Call Letter* to Long radios.

What I'd like to get are pictures of Long radios or more written articles or both. Some of you have already sent me pictures of your Long sets and others have promised to do so. If you have a Long radio and a way to get me a picture of it, or if you have something written about Long radios or would be willing to write something in the next month or two, I want to use those items to fill up a "Long" issue of the *Call Letter*.

My plan is to publish that issue in July or August when it seems so hard to come up with material to fill up an issue.

NWVRS 2001 Calendar of Events

- May 12** NWVRS Spring Swap/Sale at the Salvation Army Rose Center.
Stanwood-Camano ARC Hamfest, Stanwood, WA.
Up The Crick Radio Club Hamfest, Eugene, OR
- June 1-3** Sea-Pac, ARRL Northwestern Division Convention, Seaside, OR. <http://www.seapac.org>
- June 9** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 22** Concours d'Elegance vintage car show, Forest Grove.
- August 3,4,5** Ralph Muchow Estate Auction in Elgin, Illinois.
- August 19** PSARA Annual Swap Meet.
- September 8** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 30** Chehalis Valley ARS Hamfest, Chehalis, WA. <http://www.cvars.org>
- October 13** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- TBA** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale.
- November 10** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- December 8** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.



Northwest Vintage Radio Society Meeting Minutes

By Liles Garcia, Secretary

President Charles Kent called the April 14, 2001 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:00 AM. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the *Call Letter*. There were 42 people at our meeting today; two guests attended.

Old Business

Swap Meet—Just as a reminder, our swap meet will be on May 12, so we will not have a May meeting. The first ad for our swap meet was in the Home and Garden section of *The Oregonian* on April 12. There will also be ads in the classified section of *The Oregonian*. Setup time on Friday is from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM, and on Saturday morning from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM.

New Business

Library—We have two new books that were donated to the library by Mark Stein.

Leads and Needs

Dick Bixler needs an escutcheon for a Philco 19, and he has 2 globe 45 tubes for sale.

David Wise has some capacitor grade mylar film if anyone would like some, and he has a Philco 20 chassis available.

Damon Vandehey would like to buy TV and radio tubes, he prefers new and in the original box.

Jeff Martin needs a Philco 45 chassis and escutcheon.

Bill Meloy needs a 1L6 tube, new or used.

Pat Kagi needs a faceplate and dial glass for a Philco 41-295, and a foot for an RCA 75X12.

Dick Howard will be bringing some estate sale items to our swap meet, and later will have a garage sale for other items.

Charlie handed out door prizes to winning ticket holders.

Program

Today's program item was "radio advertising items and materials". Members showed and discussed the items that they brought. The following members won ribbons for their radios:

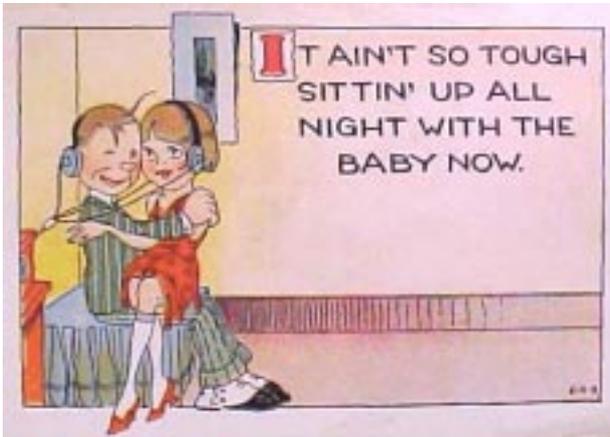
First place—Art Redman—paper items

Second place—Sonny Clutter—radio advertising displays

Third place—Ed Cook—Ingraham presentation clock

The program topic for the June meeting will be "rare radios ". Bring any radios that you feel are rare; we will ask some club members to be judges.

Radio Postcards



Hawley Station Most Complete Plant in West

From The Oregon Journal March 5, 1922 Section 2, Page 3.

Submitted by Art Redman

Announcement Is Made of First Regular Broadcasting Hours by Any Station in Portland

The Willard P. Hawley private station 7XG at 400 East 22nd Street North, announced Saturday (March 4, 1922) that it will broadcast on 360 meter wavelength instrumental and vocal music on regular between 8 and 8:45 PM every Tuesday and Wednesday, and between 9 and 9:30 PM every Thursday until further notice. The Northwestern Radio Manufacturing station 7XF is expected to announce a regular schedule in a few days, and Hallock & Watson Service station will announce regular hours as soon as their transmitting set is installed.

The station 7XG installed and operated by Willard P. Hawley Jr. is rated as the finest amateur station west of Chicago.

Additional apparatus ordered by Mr. Hawley will further increase the power and efficiency of the station including musical instruments specially equipped for radio transmission, the installation has already cost Mr. Hawley \$6000 and apparatus ordered will increase the cost to \$10,000.

Mr. Hawley's transmitting set, which was designed by Charles Austin, president of the Northwestern Radio Manufacturing Company, is located in the Hawley residence at 400 East Twenty Second Street North. It consists of four 50 watt Radiotron power tubes, two being used as oscillators and two as modulators, the Colpitts oscillator circuit and the Heising modulation circuit being used.

To supply the filament current an Acme transformer is used giving 9.75 volts AC on the filament The plate current is supplied is supplied by a Robbins & Myers motor generator set, the motor being a ¾ HP single phase 110-volt AC direct connected to a special double-wound generator with a 72-bar commutator at each end. Each generator being ¼ kW and gives far in excess of the 500 volts required. By connecting the two generators output leads in series a voltage of up to 1500 volts direct current is easily obtained. A voltage regulation from 300 to 1500 volts is obtained by 10,000 ohm Ward Leonard rheostat.

At the lower left hand corner of the transmitting panel is a drum switch control which is marked "Voice," "Receiving," "Off," "C.W.," and "Chopper." When turned to "Voice" the transmitting panel is ready for the transmission of

speech or music, for through the ingenious arrangement of the drum switch the filaments are lighted, the motor generator is started, furnishing current to the plates and the set is in full working order. The same holds true when control is turned to CW or Chopper. When finished with transmitting, drum switch is always to receiving position, and apparatus is then ready to for receiving. To the right of the drum control, first, is the wavelength control; second the coupling control, and third the condenser control.

The Weston meters on the panel, starting from left to right, are as follows: First, oscillator plate current milliammeter; second oscillator grid current milliammeter, third, radiation thermoammeter, fourth, modulator plate milliammeter, fifth, volt meter for plate current.

A chopper motor, 1-20 HP Westinghouse with 900-cycle note is used for the CW.

The receiving apparatus was designed by and built by the Northwestern Radio Manufacturing Company, being a short wave receiver, which consists of a plate variometer, grid variocoupler, primary inductance and primary condenser.

This handles wavelengths from 160 meters to 450 meters. The 450 to 900 meter range is obtained by shunting a fixed condenser in the secondary circuit. Connected to the short wave set is a detector and 2-step amplifier of the same make.

For Long Waves

For long waves from 600 to 20,000 meters, a **Colin B. Kennedy** long wave receiver is used. Control of the wave length of this receiver is obtained by switches cutting in and out, wound banks of inductances; connected to this receiver is a Northwestern Radio Manufacturing two-step amplifier. For use with either the short wave or long wave receivers is a large **Magnavox** and a three-stage power amplifier, which consists of three stages of 5-watt Cunningham transmitting tubes each having two tubes in parallel. An 8-volt, 80 ampere hour Exide storage battery is used to energize the field of the Magnavox and furnish current to light the filaments of the power tubes. For the plates of the power tubes, three banks of Eveready dry batteries are used, each bank being 108 volts connected in series.

A 6-volt, 100-ampere hour Exide storage battery furnishes current to the filaments of the Cunningham detector and ordinary amplifier tubes, and two 45-volt Eveready B batteries furnish current to the plates of the detector ordinary amplifier tubes. I speak of ordinary audio frequency audio amplifiers to distinguish them from the larger Magnavox Audio Frequency Power amplifiers.

The storage batteries are charged by means of a 75-volt 6-ampere General Electric Tungar Rectifier.

Aerials Described

The transmitting and short wave receiving aerial is of the "T" type. The flat top portion is 40 feet long and consists of four wires equally spaced on 10-foot spruce spreaders. Each wire of the flat top portion is insulated at both ends with Victor insulator. These insulators are 24 inches long and will withstand 100,000 volts on a wet arc test. The bridles are also carefully insulated at all points.

(Continued at "Hawley" on page 16.)

Photo Display

Photography by Rick Walton

The monthly feature of "Promotional radios and material" brought out an interesting assortment of items at the April meeting.



Ed Cook



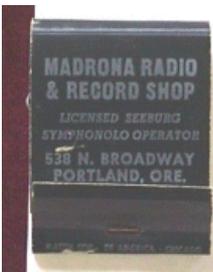
Jerry Talbott



Dick Howard



Jeff Martin



Dick Bixler



Dave Brown



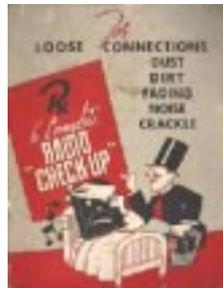
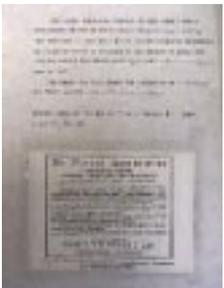
Sonny Clutter



Charlie Kent



Damon Vandehey



Art Redman



Dick Karman

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

by Sonny Clutter

Ray Vanderzanden.... Westinghouse Aeriola Sr. Receiver and Deforest Crosley 52 Canadian version.

George Kirkwood.... Echophone model "A" (the Radio Shop, Sunnyvale, CA.), a 3 tube set from 1923.

Sonny Clutter.... vintage Western Electric "ring" microphone & stand, model 600, early 20's (I think). Emerson radio, "Emersonette" model CF-255, a tiny 2 tube Bakelite radio from 1939.

Cheers, Sonny the RadiolaGuy

Visit my vintage radio site at: <http://www.radiolaguy.com>

NWVRS Swap/Sale Information

by Charlie Kent

Swap/Sale Guidelines

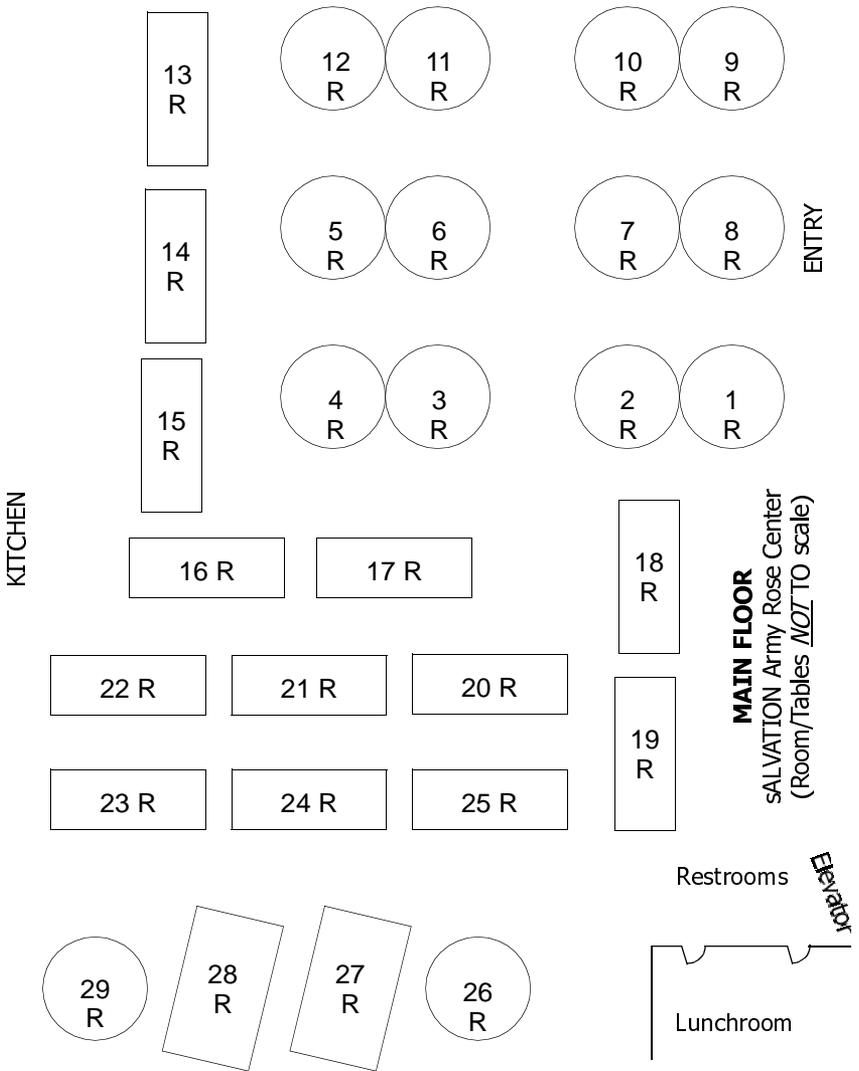
1. The sound level can get pretty high with people talking and radios playing. For those planning on having a radio playing, please keep the volume turned down. After demonstrating a radio for a customer, please also turn the volume down.
2. Upon the radio sale's completion, you are responsible for the policing and clean-up of your own area.
3. Do not leave items you wish to dispose of as we have no means to do so. Items that are donated for the 2:00 PM auction at the sale's end should be tagged with your name and given to the auctioneer. If the item is not purchased at the auction, you will need to be present to take it back. The Club does not have the means of storing/disposing of unsold items.
4. When unloading and reloading, don't bring in handtrucks with dirty or greasy wheels.
5. If you are renting a table with console wall space, be sure not to damage the walls.
6. When using the elevator, take care to not damage the walls.
7. During the sale, don't block or congregate in the aisles — let the crowd movement flow.
8. Be kind to your fellow sellers, don't criticize their items so a potential customer may overhear.
9. Once the public is admitted, try not to leave your tables unattended for more than a short time.

These guidelines are not open for suggestion or argument. Table rental payment should be made payable to NWVRS and only given or mailed to Wendy or Charlie Kent. If you are paying at the club meeting, make sure to pay only to Wendy or Charlie.

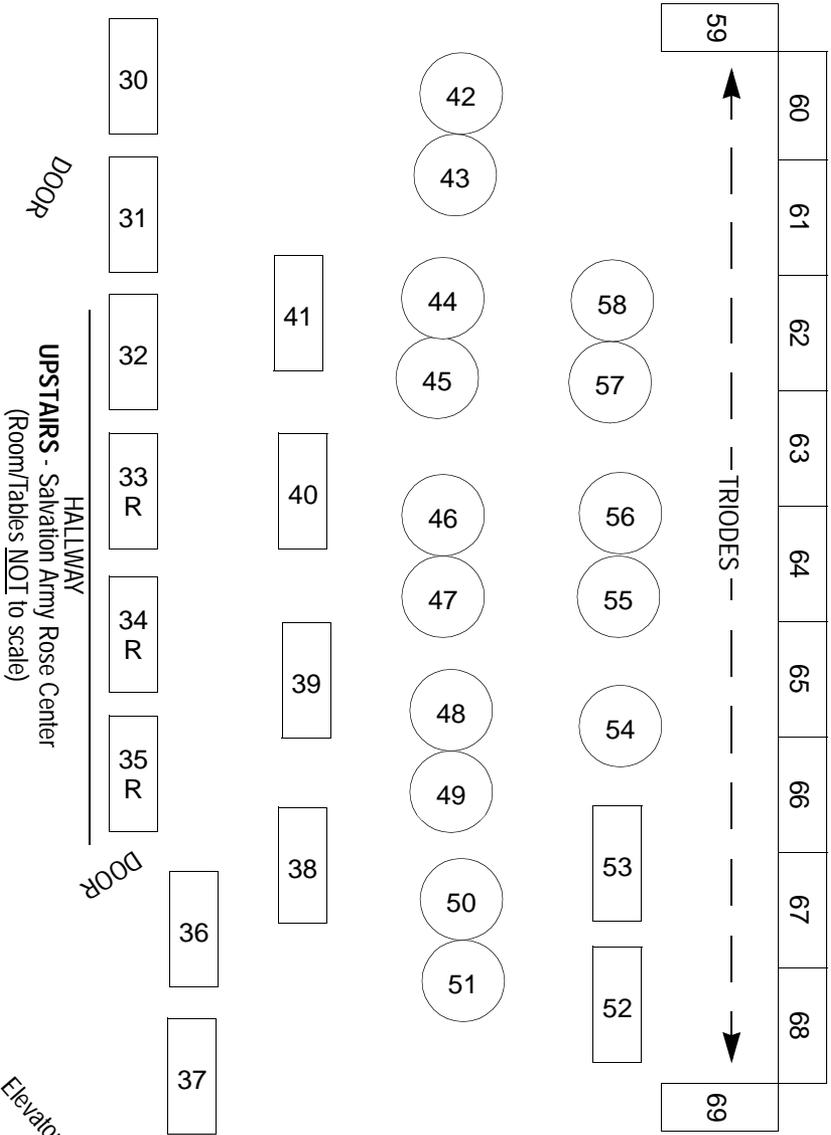
Those individuals not wishing to adhere to these rules will not be allowed the privilege of a future table rental.

The remaining tables available for rental are numbered on the floor maps shown on the following pages. If you still wish to rent table(s), call Charlie or Wendy at (503) 281-9335 or e-mail them at radiogallerykent@aol.com.

R = Already Reserved



Floor plan for tables on the main floor of the Salvation Army Rose Center



Floor plan for tables on the second floor of the Salvation Army Rose Center

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) 513-0410

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: The INGRAHAM man wants radios with wood Ingraham cabinets. If you're not sure if it's an Ingraham, call Ed Cook in Vancouver, (360) 573-1439, or e-mail "hopopco1@home.com".

WANTED: Zenith speakers — any condition. 12" #49-150 (Bee hive cover), 6" #49-158 (with metal end bell). R.A. Dielschneider, 7040 S.W. 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97219, 503-246-1062

WANTED: *I still need a dial glass for a Telefunken radio. No model # is available but the glass is 2 1/2" long, 3 3/4" tall. The dial hole openings are 1 7/8 center to center. Thank you, SPEED

WANTED: *Dial Glass for DEWALD HARP A501. Contact Ray Vanderzanden, radioray@alveus.com or 503-648-2287

WANTED: **A speaker for a Philco 20 and a speaker for a Philco 70 speaker. (any condition). Thanks, Gordon Phillips

FOR SALE: A wide variety of radios at <http://radiogallerykent.com>. Charlie Kent

FOR TRADE OR SALE: *Beautiful 1939 Zenith console model 12S370.

Completely restored inside and out and a real showpiece. Trades or sale wanted for equivalent value of \$1200 on table models, preferably Ingraham cabinet radios. Call Ed Cook at 360 573 1439 or e-mail at hopopco1@home.com. Thanks, Ed Cook

FOR SALE: *Eico signal gen, cap testers, ham TV xmtr (in 42" rack) with camera, transformers, misc. parts, QRP xmtr kit (\$25.00 ppd). Working on list. Send LSASE. Bud Larson, W7LNG, 1325 Ridgeway, Medford, OR 97504

FOR SALE: *PHILCO 17,1933, 250.00; Philco 42-380, 225.00; Firestone 4a31 radio-phono, 120.00; Temple 10-tube, 250.00. Contact Ray Vanderzanden, radioray@alveus.com or 503-648-2287

FOR SALE: **Two 3 inch Pilot TVs, one with standard P4 phosphor B&W, good cabinet, etc., \$175; the other with green picture, second rate cabinet, \$125. Both sets have all tubes, schematics, etc. I will be in Tacoma for March meeting so please call before if interested. Dick Howard, (503)775-6697.

Leads and Needs

Cliff Tuttle has a friend who is restoring a 1953 Chevy pickup and would like to find a radio for it. Contact: Cliff Tuttle, kiptuttle@aol.com, 503-666-7005.

Be sure to look through the "Leads and Needs" in the meeting minutes.

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.

Hawley (continued)

The long wave receiving aerial is a 7-strand No. 20 phosphor bronze single wire and is 350 feet long with an average height of 70 feet.

The poles supporting the flat top portion are both 100 feet high and 70 feet apart, each pole weighing 3.5 tons, and are 22 inches at the base and 8 inches at the top. These masts are one piece and turned true on a lathe, and there are no guys whatsoever. They are bolted between concrete saddles with 1 7/8-inch bolts and do not go into the ground, hence, will not rot the base.

The lead-in consists of four wires brought together about 50 feet above the ground forming a rattail from that point to the instruments. The wire used is 7-strand No. 20 phosphor bronze. A six-wire counterpoise made of 7-strand No. 20 phosphor wire runs parallel with the antenna flat top portion, and directly beneath the antenna, the wires being 1½ feet apart and 70 feet long, and very carefully insulated. The counterpoise extends fifteen feet beyond the antenna at both ends. This counterpoise is connected to the inductance on the transmitting set being used in addition to the ground. This gives greater radiation as it reduces the antenna resistance to a minimum. The transmitting set radiates 4 amperes on modulated voice and 5 to 5½ amperes on straight CW using two 50-watt tubes as oscillators. The lead in insulators are 15½ inch electrose.

The ground system consists of four 60-foot strips of 3-inch flat copper ribbon, buried about 8-inches deep, directly beneath the aerial, each strip being two feet apart.

Two Magnavox hand transmitters for talking and three different types of head phone sets for receiving are used, the receivers being the Brandes navy type, Western Electric and the Baldwin Mica Diaphragm phones. A jack box is mounted on the table so the three sets of phones can be used at the same time. Also, the large Magnavox and power amplifier can be used either with the short wave or long wave receivers.

The instrument table is 12 feet long and three feet wide, the top portion of the table being made of spruce and shellacked.

The latest type of electric-driven Victrola with Magnavox tone arm is used for transmitting phonograph music, and a Steinway grand piano with a specially constructed spruce tone chamber is used for transmitting vocal and instrumental music.

