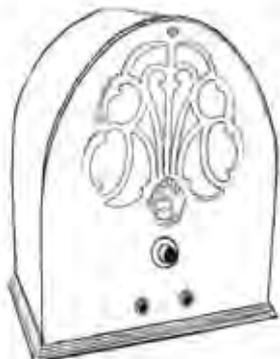


The
**Call
Letter**

May, 2005
Vol. 31 — No. 5

VINTAGE RADIO SALE

AND



SWAP MEET

9 AM - 1 PM

Saturday, May 14

**Salvation Army Rose Center
N.E. 18th Ave. and Sandy Blvd.
Portland, Oregon**

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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 \$25.00 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.

With each issue of the *Call Letter*, we remember Jim Mason, a charter member of the society who remained active until his death in 1999. A generous bequest from Jim's estate ensures the vitality of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, and continued publication of the *Call Letter*



Society Officers for 2005:

President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
Vice-President	Dave Brown	(503) 585-4667 ironradio@qwest.net
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288 landn2@verizon.net
Board member at large	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005 kiptuttle@aol.com
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648 rwalton@easystreet.com
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 BonJonBuck@webtv.net

May 2005

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On the cover: It's time again for the Spring Swap Meet brought to you by the Northwest Vintage Radio Society.

The next meeting is on June 11, 2005.

NO May meeting!
See you at the Spring Swap Meet.

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

May Call Letter Deadline: June 1, 2005.

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.

The Presidents Corner:

The passing of David Rutland this past month is a sadness for all of us and he will be missed. David was a great supporter of Vintage radio and great inspiration to us all.

David obtained his Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Caltech in 1946. In 1950 he was one of the three engineers in charge of the construction of the first digital computer on the West Coast. He served as president and founder of two electronic companies manufacturing computer graphics and image processing hardware and software.



David wrote the book "Behind the Front Panel" a unique book that gave many of new members a look into the concepts and struggles of early radio construction. He had great experience with vacuum tubes in that one of computers (vintage) used over 3000 of them.

David will be remembered not only for his book but for the kind individual that would always have time to talk about his favorite subject - radios.

George

Radiogeo@hevanet.com

Phone 503-349-0711

From the Editor

by Call Letter Editor, Rick Walton

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of David Rutland, a long-time member and past-president of NWVRS. I can never think of Dave without thinking of our club's website. Back in the late '90s when we were just starting to understand the power of the web for us, both as collectors and as a club, we decided we wanted to create a website. One of our members at the time, Adam Schoolsky, said he would develop a site for us, and indeed he did, creating much of the look and feel of the site that we still use. But for some reason I don't recall, the site never went on line until Dave Rutland volunteered to host the site through his publishing company, Wren Publishing. There might still be a few vintage radio sites out there that still list our club with that web link. Just as Dave was a pioneer in computing, he was also a pioneer in putting NWVRS on the web. We will miss him.

This month's issue is another full one. While a lot of it is pictures, what pictures they are! The turn-out for the 1st Annual Radio Competition was great. As the pictures show, there were numerous entries in most of the categories. I'm glad I didn't have to try to decide the placement of the winners in the judging. These sets were top notch.

Along with the pictures we have an article on Northwest Radio history by Dick Karman, and we have the reprint of the third in Mike Parker's "In the Shack" series. Voila is full this month, and there are new items in the Swap Shop.

As the cover points out, this is the month for our Spring Swap Meet. These are always fun events to socialize with society members and to maybe find a treasure or two to add to your collection. See you there!

NWVRS Library Notice

by John Bucholtz, NWVRS Librarian

I will check in books at the swap meet but not check them out. Also there will not be a library in June.

Special Swap Meet Item

I will have 700+ tubes, 21 volumes of Riders, and misc testers, books, and parts for sale as ONE bid takes all at next weeks swap meet.
THANX, Robert Campbell

NWVRS 2005 Calendar of Events

- May 14** NWVRS Spring Swap Meet at Salvation Army Rose Center.
- May 14** Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club (SCARC) Hamfest, Stanwood, WA. Contact Vic, N7KRE (360)387-7005.
- May 14** Eugene, Oregon's First Ever Ham Radio Dumpster Dive! 8:30 AM-11:00 AM ONLY (Rain or shine). 75 Centennial Loop, Eugene, OR (Off Martin Luther King Boulevard). For info, contact: N7IXA: Home 683-8941 Work 485-8441 Cellphone: 521-4878 or Bill Louis, N7MWL, n7mwl@arrl.net.
- May 21** Chili Cook Off and Electronics Swap Meet. Albany, Oregon Near 1-5 just off Highway 20. 12:00 noon until! Contact Steve, (541)928-2207. www.qls.net/wa7abu.
- June 3, 4, 5** Apple City Radio Club Hamfest, Dryden Gun club. Dryden, WA. Go to the intersection of Hiway 2 and Hiway 97 and look for the signs. Contact Judy, ka7zna@msn.com. www.qls.net/w7td/
- June 11** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- June 11** Hamfest 2005. Kootenai Amateur Radio Society. Lions Club, Hiway 53, Rathdrum, ID. For more info contact Jim, N7ESU at (208)667-4915 or email n7esu@arrl.net
- June 17-19** SEA*PAC, Northwestern Division Convention, Seaside, OR Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC <http://www.scapac.org>
- July 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 15-17** Glacier-Waterton International Peace Park Hamfest July 18-20, 2003, East Glacier, MT. <http://www.gwharnfest.Qrg>
- July 30** Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Hamfest. Lewis County Fair Grounds, Chehalis, WA. For details, contact John Ellingson, K7OSK, k7osk@boatanchor.com.
- August 13** NWVRS monthly meeting and Summer picnic - Champoege State Park. Details to follow.

- August 13** Hamfest and Electronics Flea Market, Radio Club of Tacoma; Bethel Junior High School 22001 38th Avenue East, Spanaway, WA
- August 13** Hamfest - Swapmeet. Bandon, OR. (Note new date!!!) Located at the "Barn" (Bandon's Community Center). Sponsored by the Coos County Radio Club. Contact Paul, K7AIA at (541)888-2050 or k7aia@arrl.net.
- August 13** Christina Lake Amateur Radio Picnic/Camp out. Christina Lake Motor Inn, Christina lake, BC, Canada. For information, contact janroy@shaw.ca, (250)497-6136,
- August 13** The 8th Annual Greater Portland Insulator Swap. Located on Mt. Scott in southeast Portland - 9999 SE Frenchacres Dr. Portland, OR Starts at 1:00 pm and runs until early evening. No charge. For more information contact Dan Howard (503)761- 7799 email strains.@msn.com.
- August 20** Longview Hamfair. New location at the Castle Rock Fairgrounds. Sponsored by the Lower Columbia Amateur Radio Association. For information contact Bob, KB7ADO, KB7ADO@aol.com. Flyer in PDF, (37K) Map in PDF, (3 IK)
- August 21** Antique Radio Swap Meet. Sponsored by the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association. 9 AM to 1 PM. Shoreline museum parking lot. N. 175th & Linden, Avenue, North Seattle. One block west of Aurora Ave. or one mile west of 1-5, exit 176. Free admission.
- September 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 24** Spokane Hamfest. (ARRL Washington State Convention) New University High School, Spokane, WA 99206. <http://www.kbara.org>. Info, contact Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ, n7wrq@aol.CQm.
- Sept 30 - Oct 2** Pacific Northwest VHF Society Annual Conference. Shilo Inn, Seaside Oregon, http://www.pnwvhfs.org/pressreleases/PR_12182004.htm

(Turn to *Calendar* on page 16.)

NWVRS Meeting Minutes

By Liles Garcia, NWVRS Secretary

President George Kirkwood called the April 9, 2005 meeting to order at 10:15 AM. There were 41 members at our meeting today. Treasurer Ed Charman gave the Treasurer's report. Librarian John Bucholtz reported that our society's library is working fine. The following is a correction to the meeting minutes that were printed in the April Call Letter:

In Sonny's Technical Talk at the March meeting, he described how to clean old radios. I incorrectly wrote to use Pine-Sol to clean old Bakelite radios.

*** **Please note:** do not use Pine-Sol to clean Bakelite radios, it will remove the finish from the Bakelite. However, if you want to remove the whole finish from a Bakelite radio, then soak it in Pine-Sol. ***

As mentioned in the original minutes, it is OK to use dilute Drano to remove old paint. Also, WD40 removes old masking tape from Bakelite.

Old Business

Swap Meet — Contact Sonny Clutter if you would like to get a table at our swap meet. Dick Bixler will do the promotion for our swap meet.

Zenith Museum Trip — Rudy is working with the museum owners to arrange for our tour. The tour will probably happen in June.

New Business

August Meeting — We will tentatively have our meeting and a picnic at Champoege State Park for our August meeting. Our usual meeting building is not available in August.

Radio Display — The Stevens-Crawford Museum in Oregon City would like to have some 1920's and 1930's radios to display during May and June. Ed Charman volunteered to coordinate this event for our Society.

Leads and Needs

Pat Kagi needs some WD-11 duds.

Dick Bixler needs three knobs for an RCA ACR-136 Communications Receiver.

Jay Johnson needs an example of an original "Long" signature that would be on a Long radio.

Annual Radio Display Contest

We had our first radio display contest at our meeting today. Blake Deitz announced the contest winners.

The Feature Radio for June is “tuning eye radios”.

The meeting was adjourned.

Photo Display: The 2005 NWVRS Annual Radio Competition

Photos by Rick Walton

These are the sets that members entered in the various competition categories. The results of the judging are listed as well.

Category 1: Wireless Sets & Pre-war Crystal Sets



Giblin Radio Ear
Dave Brown
1st place



Unknown Crystal Set
Art Redman
2nd place



Meyers-Blackwell Xtal Set
Jay Johnston
3rd place



Unknown Crystal Set
Art Redman

Category 2: 1920's Battery Sets



Western Electric 3A (1921)
Joe Corsi
1st place



Kennedy 220 (1921)
George Kirkwood
2nd place



Atwater Kent 9 Breadboard (1923)
Sonny Clutter
3rd place



Westinghouse RA-DA
Mike Parker



Precision/Crosley Ace
Dick Bixler

Category 3: 1920's AC Sets

No qualified entries.

Category 4: 1930's & 40's Wood Sets



Emerson 172
Ed Cook
1st place



Radio Vision
Dick Bosch
2nd place



1934 Long
Del Dixon
3rd place



Stewart-Warner R-180-A
Ray Nelson



Atwater Kent 82
Dave Brown



Zenith 5-S-29
Phil LeVelle



Atwater Kent 84 (early)
Mark Richardson



Philco 40-120
Joe Corsi



Clarion Model 85
Bob Campbell

Category 5: 1930's & 40's Plastic Sets



AMC Catalin Plastic
Dick Bosch
1st Place

Category 6: Miscellaneous



Amplion AR43 Junior
1923 - Sonny Clutter
1st Place



Thorla Thorophone
Model 5-ca. 1926
Ron Hershey
2nd Place



Stewart-Warner World's
Fair - Century of Progress
Ed Cook
3rd Place



DeForest Crystal Detector
Ray Nelson



Atwater Kent Induction Coil
Dick Bixler

Hallicrafters S-19R
1939 Sky Buddy
Liles Garcia



Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

Compiled by Sonny Clutter

Jeff Martin:

Stewart Warner advertising brochure that includes a picture and description of my Stewart Warner 51-913 “Spade” radio.

Bill Meloy:

Radiola 18 1928 AC radio and Radiola 100A speaker.

Glen Bricker: (he's been busy)

Radiola 25

Radiola 60 w/Radiola 100 speaker

Stromberg-Carlson 60IB “Treasure Chest”

Kolster 6J (early AC set from 1927)

Atwater Kent 40 “breadbox”

Sonora CRU 208 (wood table radio)

Hoffman BW 601 (wood table radio)

Silvertone 6423 unusual “bookcase” radio

Philco 38-4 console

8 other misc plastic & Bakelite radios + 2500 tubes

Jay Johnston:

Long Bros, tombstone with Lansing speaker. In excellent shape, and works.

Phil LaVelle:

Kellogg “Wave Master” mid 1920's battery set.

Rick Walton:

RCA 56X5 6-tube AC-DC wood table model, needs dial glass. My wife found it at an estate sale and brought it home for me.

Vintage Radio History in the Northwest

By Dick Karman

Over the years the NW Vintage Radio Society has watched radio in Portland, and around the Northwest change. In our early years we lamented the passing of “old time radio” as an art form. We applauded when stations like KEX had week-long festivals of old time radio. We searched through the radio dial for the “music of your life” station (which often changed locations) so that we could hear big bands and vintage music on our vintage radios.

When old friends left the scene we made passing note like the story in the Call Letter in 1977 titled “We Traded in an old KOIN for a New KYTE.” The KYTE disco format was short lived. Additionally this author chronicled the history of stations like KGW and KEX when they changed hands at various points in time. They were all part of “vintage radio” in the Northwest.

At 12 Midnight May 1, 1959 KVAN became KISN (owned by the new entity Star Broadcasting, Inc.) The sale price was \$580,000. The station moved to number one on the charts in a matter of weeks. It had little to do with big bands, radio drama, or easy listening. It was rock and roll. Those living in Portland in the early 1960s remember the KISN corner at 10th and West Burnside with a new breed of personality called a disc jockey. You heard air slogans like “Relax at the wheel with the Real Don Steele.” They also put up billboards near the airport, stating “While you were away we've been KISN your wife, She's ninety-wonderful!” There were names like Mike Western, Tom Murphy, Wally Thornton, and Hal Raymond. That was all part of Portland history.

Beginning with allegations of misconduct in 1969 several legal battles ensued and were dragged out for almost 7 years. An FCC ruling forced KISN to cease broadcasting on September 2, 1976. At midnight on September 1st, Dave “Record” Stone, an air personality then (and now) announced: “At this time KISN leaves the air for an indefinite period of time. Goodnight from The KISN Good Guys”. A song started but in mid-song KISN was silenced.

KISN came back to the AM dial at 910 in August 1987 as a kind of nostalgic nod at the past. But AM didn't do too well for the format and they moved to 97.1 FM in February 1988. For 17 years they had a loyal listening audience in Portland.

Why is all of this news now? On April 22, 2005 ENTERCom corporation moved 97.1 FM from it's popular location back to KTOK AM 910. Management reports that it will be known as KISN (although the station that took that call sign in 1976 and kept it is in Utah), and many of the personalities will stay the same. They hope that the format will just keep getting better, but we'll have to wait and see. It may be another goodbye for an old friend.



Editor's note: This "In The Shack" article is from the March, 1995 Call Letter.

In my last article in the *Call Letter* I described a MAGNUS 3-dial battery set that I purchased mail order and that had a couple of typical 1920's radio problems.

One of these problems was an open winding on one of the audio transformers. It is a fact that in the construction of these old transformers, certain materials were used without thought of the consequences in later years. For instance, the insulating paper material used between the windings had a sulfuric content which after 70 years could corrode the fine winding wires so they'd break internally.



To make a set with bad audio transformers work:

1. Replace it with a good original unit. You would have to be pretty lucky to find an exact replacement, but it can be done, (see No. 5). However, in the case of the MAGNUS, they made their own transformers and had a name decal of the outside of the cases. Finding another would be pretty remote. Another brand of a similar vintage could be considered authentic.

2. Keep the bad transformer on the chassis and use a resistance capacitance bridge circuit across it to make the stage work. This is typically, a 100K 1/2 watt or bigger resistor between the Bat. and Plate leads if the primary is open and a 500K from the Grid to Filament leads if the secondary is open, or both, and typically, a .01 to .05 mfd. capacitor between the Plate and Grid leads. Hide these under the chassis.

3. “Zapping” the windings. Some people have claimed to get the open winding fused together using high voltage current. I don't doubt that it works, but have never tried it. Use one hand and extreme caution when working with high voltage leads!

4. Pull the windings off the transformer, find and fix the break, replace wire. They say this can be done but I would not like to try it. It requires a coil winding jig and a lot of patience. I'm told it is best to take the entire winding off and start over.

5. Use a small replacement transformer mounted inside the case of the original transformer. I did this with the MAGNUS battery set. The original transformer should be the type with a two piece housing over the windings. These are usually bolted together or in some cases they are riveted, requiring careful drilling and removing. Mark the transformer leads to avoid confusion later! You can order many original replacement audio transformer as well as a nifty, compact brand new replacement transformer from PLAY THINGS OF FAST, 9511-23 Sunrise Blvd. Cleveland, Ohio. 44133. Their catalog is \$3.50 and contains many hard to find 1920's parts and literature. This transformer is their part number 1017-001. Measuring only 1 3/8 by 1 1/8 by 1 1/8 inches they cost \$5 each. Modern materials, and a high permeability alloy core, allows for a more robust winding, better response and lower losses.

Play Things Of Past, claims these replacement transformers have been installed successfully inside the housing of the ATWATER KENT can shaped transformers as well as the CROSLEY “Sheltran” and others of it's type. I have concealed one of these units inside of the transformer case of my RADIOLA III-A by gutting out the defective core and winding and leaving enough of the core laminations plates to surround the new unit. The color coded 2 1/2 inch leads can be brought out to their respective terminals as with the original. On this one, I had just enough room to close the housings on it. I can not tell it is inside of it and the response is excellent. Perhaps better volume than the original. I restored the bad transformer in the MAGNUS radio in a similar way. I have also used these new transformers just mounted under the chassis. I was not fussy about the originality under the panel—it's up to you. I hope this information will help you have more fun with your old radio than a human being should be allowed!

See you next time, “IN THE SHACK”

73 's Mike Parker

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

FOR SALE: The following Zenith consoles:

Zenith 1936 #7853 \$450.00
Zenith 1937 #1211158 \$550.00
Zenith 1939 #125370 \$800.00
Zenith 1941 #12S569 \$500.00
Zenith 1942 #12H670 \$500.00
Dick Bosch, Ph. 360-693-3482

FOR SALE or TRADE: *1929 Freed NR-55 eight tube (high boy?) console. Cabinet is very nice. The radio works but needs either the power transformer replaced or an additional high voltage transformer added. (One leg of the high voltage output is open.) Tubes are type 26 x 3, 27 x 2, 71A x 2 and 80. All are globes except one. Photos e-mailed upon request. \$135.00 or trade? Vance Daberko, Corvallis, OR (vdaberko(a;fastmail.fm) 541-753-3356

FOR SALE: **Need to downsize for upcoming move - Hallicrafters SX-100 \$150; SX111 \$80; SX25 \$100; S-38(also B & C models) \$40-\$60; S72 \$50; S-118 \$25; S-120 \$25, EC-1 \$30; Also DX-150 \$35; Lafayette HA-600 \$40; National NC-57B \$35, Knight Star Roamer \$50, Zenith Model 825 Wood Table Model, need re-finishing, make offer. Mike Roy 360 254-8082 or coasties@comcast.net.

Radio Service

These members have indicated they are willing to perform radio repairs:

Roger Brown - (503) 693-6089

Blake Dietze - (360) 944-7172, wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com

Tony Ranft - (360) 944-8489 or ranft@saw.net - General repairs.

Dave Wise - (503) 293-7835, david_wise@phoenix.com

If you are willing to repair radios, give your name, phone and/or e-mail, and any comments to the *Call Letter* editor.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is not responsible in any disputes arising from services provided by members listed here. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

Leads and Needs

FOR SALE: 1930 Spartan Model 930 small console, fair cabinet, has 1 wrong knob, powers up but no sound-\$75/offer. They also have 2 post-war radio-phonoconsoles. A Philco radio/phono and Sears radio/phono/wire recorder very reasonable-no price. Phone 503-538-3203

Also see the meeting minutes.

Questions about restoration of vintage radio? Visit radiolaguy's web site often for this information plus lots of other interesting displays, photo's, virtual museum plus lots of other information on vintage radio and television. Oh, yes, there are items for sale as well and NVRS members get a substantial discount on most of these items. Thank You, Sonny the Radiola Guy
Visit my vintage radio web site: <http://www.radiolaguy.com>

(Calendar — continued from page 5)

- October 8** **NWVRS** Fall Swap/Sale at Salvation Army Rose Center.
- October 22** Swap-Toberfest, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Oregon, (Ten miles west of Salem). This is a big one and a good one! For information, contact n7bud@arrl.net.
<http://www.swaptoberfest.net>
- October 29** Mount Baker Amateur Radio Club Flea Market, Lynden, WA. <http://www.qsl.net/k7skw/fleamarket.htm>. Info, contact k7iey@netscape.net
- November 12** **NWVRS** monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2006.
- December 10** **NWVRS** monthly meeting and annual Holiday Party 10 am. Election of officers for 2006.

Swap Meet Location

The Spring Swap Meet will be held at the Salvation Army Rose Center, 1785 NE Sandy Boulevard (see the map).

