

The

Call Letter

October, 2005
Vol. 31 — No. 10

VINTAGE RADIO SALE

AND



SWAP MEET

9 AM - 1 PM

Saturday, October 8

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

30 years in print!

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	Dick Bixler	(503) 690-2557 RF2AF@comcast.net
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387 enamrahc@peoplepc.com
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) 656-4104 rwalton@easystreet.com
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 BonJonBuck@webtv.net

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On the cover: Following the usual practice, this month's cover announces the Fall Swap Meet.

The next meeting is on November 12, 2005.

**October Feature: Fall Swap Meet at the Salvation Army
Rose Center**

**November Feature: Your most ambitious Summer radio
project.**

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

Next Call Letter Deadline: November 2, 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.

From the Editor

by *Call Letter* Editor, Rick Walton

I received this e-mail note and photo from Ray Vanderzanden:

Thanks for the Long Radio Works article. I did not know that "Magic" was the name of the manufacturer of my crystal set.

Thanks for the note, Ray! It's always nice to hear that we've done something to further the hobby.



This month's issue is full to the brim with all sorts of goodies, like a kid's Halloween basket after a good evening of trick-or-treating, including lots of pictures (thanks to Sonny Clutter and Blake Dietze) of last month's feature items and the PSARA August Swap Meet, and articles from Dick Karman, Dave Wise, and Mike Parker. Enjoy, and we'll see you at the Swap Meet!

NWVRS 2005 Calendar of Events

- 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.

NWVRS Meeting Minutes

Tony Hauser for Liles Garcia. NWVRS Secretary

Vice President Dave Brown called the September 10th, 2005 meeting to order at 10:03am.

There were 39 members and guests in attendance. The August meeting minutes, as written in the September, 2005, Call Letter were accepted as written.

Ed Charman gave the Treasurer's report. The treasury balance, as of September 10th, was \$184.07. This forces us to transfer money from the Mason fund into the treasury.

John Bucholtz then gave the Librarian's report. He said the Library is being used, but there are a few books that are overdue with one out to a now ex-member.

New member Kurt Torgerson introduced himself. There was no Good & Welfare to report.

Old Business

Gordon Phillips reminded members to contact him to order name tags.

Sonny Clutter reported he still has plenty of tables available for the October swap meet. He also announced that Brian Toon and Jerry Talbott will take over as swap meet coordinators next spring. Sonny also reminded attendees to please volunteer for setup and tear down. Dick Bixler mentioned -40% of newcomers to our swap meets have found out about them through our ad in The Oregonian. The ad cost about \$200 each swap meet, A motion was entered on discontinuing the ad and pursuing free advertising outlets. Discussion ensued and the motion failed. Another motion was entered to approve and advertising budget of \$250 for the October, 2005, swap meet. The motion carried and Dick Bixler was given authority to spend the budget as he sees fit. Attendees thanked Dick for his efforts in advertising our swap meet for so many years and gave him a round of applause. Sonny asked members to post an ad on free websites such as craigslist.com.

New Business

Bob Campbell asked about creating a budget of \$500 to purchase a laptop computer for the Secretary to use to record the meeting minutes more accurately. Attendees did not approve a budget, but Blake Dietze offered to help the club get one.

There was a discussion about using the American Legion hall, in the midst of antique shops in Aurora, for our next swap meet. The rent is only \$100 (we currently pay \$350 for the Rose Center). A motion was entered to try the American Legion hall for the spring 2006 swap meet. The motion carried and Brian & Jerry will coordinate the move.

Leads & Needs

Phil Levelle needs #28 silk-covered wire.

Blake Dietze needs to contact Rick Walton about blank mailing labels for the Call Letter.

Dick Dielschneider needs a repairable 15-tube chassis for a 1938 Zenith,

Ed Charman asked members to contact him if they are willing to display their radios at the Stevens-Crawford House in Oregon City beginning September 14th for a 4-6 week display. He is looking for anything from early wireless to 40's vintage. All radios, with the exception of consoles, will be housed in locked glass display cases.

Art Redman needs to borrow or purchase a Hallock & Watson AW-5 for research on the Portland company.

Monthly Feature

Ten members discussed nineteen pieces of pre-WWII radio test equipment they brought for the monthly display. The November meeting feature will be your most ambitious summer radio-related project.

Dave adjourned the meeting at 11:15.

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

Compiled by Sonny Clutter

Sonny Clutter: Rare "Vocarola" horn speaker (RCA's first) and a RARE "Hal-0-Wat" Super-Het kit radio that I got from Dave Brown at our last meeting.

George Kirkwood: Neutrowound battery set (1926 version).

Rick Walton: Emerson Model 553A AC/Battery 6-tube portable.

Photo Display

Photos by Sonny Clutter

September's monthly feature was pre-WWII test equipment. Here are photos of the various items members displayed at the September meeting.



Art Redman - Hickok Oscillograph and RF Oscillator



Sonny Clutter - Supreme Tube Tester



Bob Campbell - Kent-Moore Tube Tester (Hickok made)



Ron Hershey - Supreme AAA1 Diagonometer



Damon Vandehey
Triplet Test Set



Dave Brown - Supreme 385 Analyzer



James Harper - Adjust-a-Volt



Mark Richardson
Hickock Tube Tester

Jerry Talbott Group

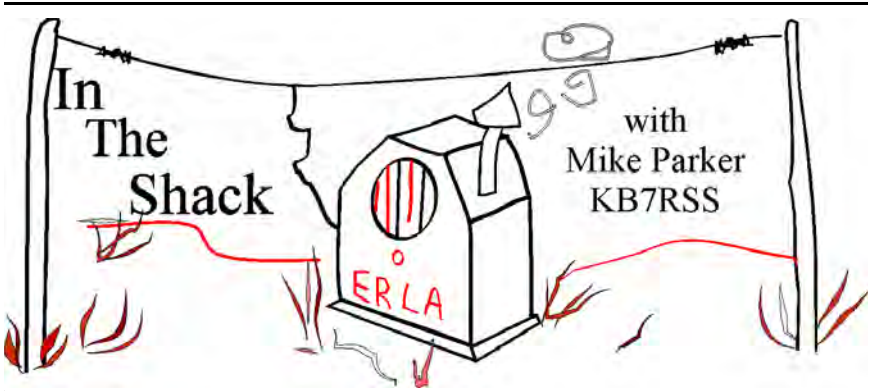




Rudy Zvarich - Crystalliner Generator



Blake Dietze - Jefferson Tube Rejuvenator



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

Recently, I received a letter referring to the September 1995 "In The Shack" regarding stripping chassis parts from one radio to help another. Steve Lohse of Corvallis, Oregon has an interesting point of view. I agree with it and pass it on to you:



Mike, Robbing parts from a chassis may or may not be some thing to feel guilty about. If reproduction parts are available of good quality and the chassis truly is restorable, it is probably better not to strip the chassis. A good example is the Grunow Teledial chassis I acquired from another collector. I was going to take the power transformer for another radio. But once I

really looked at the chassis and realized how good its condition really was, I returned the chassis untouched to my friend, At the next Portland sale, a cabinet showed up (with half a chassis) to put this chassis in. There exists now a nice radio (most of one anyway. Anyone got a speaker for a Grunow Teledial?) where before was a pile of parts, Good thing I didn't cannibalize the transformer!

I have however, used parts from a restorable chassis when no reproduction parts were available with no feelings of guilt. I did it this way: 1. I was using the part to fix a Radio (cabinet and chassis) as opposed to leaving the scrap chassis alone to perhaps someday find a cabinet. 2. I put the chassis back together as much as possible. 3. I passed along what was left very cheaply (SI for parts) or free so that what remains might be used to bring another radio back to life. Let's face it — there seem to be more chassis than empty cabinets. Over the years cabinets fall apart leaving good chassis behind. It usually doesn't work the other way around, but it does happen. If a chassis gets stripped to bring other whole radios back to life, the chassis has been used wisely.

Your concern, Mike, is valid as the stock of good original parts do seem to be diminished. This is an indication that old sets are being restored and this is good. Hopefully the parts are not just disappearing, but being used, They do exist in a radio somewhere. The stuff is being used and bringing people happiness, which was its original purpose.

To sum up, whether to strip or not is a judgment call. Chassis and parts are a limited resource. Conserve them when possible by using reproduction parts of high quality. If one has to use a chassis for parts, cause as little damage as possible, return swapped parts back to the victim chassis if possible, and pass along what's left for others to use. This way a limited resource can be used wisely and bring the maximum number of radios back to operating condition and bring the greatest possible enjoyment to the largest number of people.

Many thanks to Mr. Lohse for his input. Steve, welcome to "In The Shack." You are correspondent number one, I have encouraged interactive participation since April, 1995 in this column, and am glad for your letter.

Dear Reader, your participation is always welcome on any subject covered In The Shack. I will keep submitting new material and maybe hit a subject that will strike a nerve and get many letters, Or, maybe I just have "a lot of nerve."

See you next time. In The Shack —

PSARA August Swap Meet

photos by Blake Dietze



Play It Again, Sam!

by Dave Wise

Marconi TF1370 Wide-Range RC Oscillator (continue)

This instrument sets the record for number of problems. They're like weeds: just when you think you got them all, another one pops up!

1. The control loop oscillation is back. It only appears if the instrument has been off for a few days. This certainly slows down the diagnostic process! I have eliminated the four tubes in the oscillator section from the list of suspects. I did this by removing all four, subjecting the circuitry to cap-discharge transients with the instrument off, reinstalling the tubes and powering on. The symptom went away. This isolates it to, say, a couple dozen passives. Unless it's an interaction with tubes elsewhere in the instrument. I'm getting so I'll believe anything.

2. I traced a large frequency drift at 10MHz to a grid stopper resistor that had developed a temperature sensitivity. My spectrum analyzer was extremely useful here. I displayed the oscillator output on it, and watched as I sprayed around with aerosol coolant. When I hit the culprit, the trace skedaddled right off screen then slowly crept back. I could have also used a radio with a BFO, but since the beat note would have gone ultrasonic in a fraction of a second, this technique could have been more confusing than useful. The radio has been useful locating hum modulation, but it's hard to distinguish AM from FM. It's quite clear with the S.A.

3. I traced a small intermittent jump in frequency at 10MHz to a bad .001 ceramic plate bypass cap on the oscillator's output buffer tube.

4. The B+ drifted a lot during warmup. It turned out to be one of the resistors I had replaced in the power supply. This puts me on notice that I need to update my junkbox. Most of the resistors came from some TVs and radios I took apart in my teens. Can't trust 'em anymore!

5. Sometimes certain frequencies had hum modulation. With the aid of my oscilloscope, I eventually traced this to another bad ceramic plate bypass cap, this time in the power supply regulator. The regulator was being excited into oscillation by feedback through the B+ line. You hardly ever see a bad ceramic cap, let alone two. These European parts seem to sacrifice reliability in the pursuit of compactness.

I'm still lying in ambush on the control loop problem. Meanwhile, I've noticed another hum modulation at certain frequencies. I suspect it's B+ rectifier transients coupling (through long parallel wire runs) into the A supply and from there to the oscillator cathodes. I need to test the tubes for leakage, but I don't expect to find test information on the 3 A/1 67M's. Why it only happens in certain narrow frequency ranges is quite a mystery.

The Rest of the Stories:

By Dick Karman

Several stories from the Call Letter last spring have sprung up again. So here is the rest of the stories:

Last May I mentioned a new place in Portland radio history for KISN radio. Entercom Inc. moved the original rock and roll station from 97.1 FM back to the AM band and put them at 910 which was the historical position in the 1960s. They have continued to prosper and I must admit I also enjoy listening to them on the Internet 24 hours a day. But what you might not have known is that long-time NWVRS member and tireless volunteer, Gordon Philips was involved in those early years, Gordon's son Mike Philips was one of the "gentlemen" on ninety-wonderful Kissin' radio. Gordon has many stories about the original 91 and how his son continued in broadcasting and continued in the "more music" format.

When I edited the memory book "Looking Back 30 Years," we looked up our first society president, Harley Perkins. It was great to chat with him and I was able to include a few of his memories in the book. He also welcomed members, past and present, to contact him. During the summer he e-mailed me with a new email address after many years. If you are so inclined, drop Harley a note at harleyaperkins@verizon.net.

As some of you know I have taken this vintage radio hobby as an outreach to others in the form of a drama project known as Reliving Radio. Jim Mason's benefit sale started me with a great crop of vintage microphones. Many of you have unknowingly contributed by the things I have purchased at swap meets. Rudy helped me when I needed a power supply for a vintage telephone. He said, "get a sub-cycle transformer." It is exactly what I needed. So to say thank you you are invited. The most recent Reliving Radio project is "The War of The Worlds" as performed by Orson Wells and the Mercury Theater on the Air. The historic re-enactment will take place at 9933 SE Pine Street, Portland, OR on October 30, and 31. I'll provide NWVRS members with family tickets (bring the kids, and grandkids) for only \$10 per family. For reservations e-mail me at dick@karmans.net.

And now you know, the rest of the stories!

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 at the SWAP MEET: I will be bringing the following "radio restoration" items - tube shields (bring sample if possible), speakers- both dynamic and PM (12" to transistor size), dial covers (bring measurements),

grill cloth, new filter caps, new cloth covered power cord, antique AC plugs (new & used), dial pointers (will need your chassis there to check), knobs, and many other restoration parts. Jerry Talbot

FOR SALE: *Two remote control Philco console radios with matching Mystery Dial remotes, \$200 for both. Included is a third console without remote and a Philco cathedral. Contact Pat Kagi (360)694-6149

FOR SALE: *Hallicrafters TW-1000 for sale, \$60.00. Color is black. The TW-1000 is the Hallicrafters version of the Zenith Transoceanic. Liles Garcia

FOR SALE: *Icom R 8500 100kh to 1.999gh all mode. Played about 30 hours. E/W shipping box, manuals, software for computer control and TV R 7000 TV picture adapter, \$1200, Robert Campbell 503 648 7331 or hmlcc@aol.com.

WANTED: **Tubes, large quantities, preferably NOS, radio or TV. Also dial pointer, knobs, & antenna for Silvertone Candycane (model 3351?), Damon Vandehey, 503-259-9129.

WANTED: I am looking for a Zenith model 808 chassis and speaker (5605 or 5607) to fit into my cabinet. According to my sources, Zenith used these two chassis in the 808, 809, 861,966, 1114 and 1160 radios. Phil LeVelle

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

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>

Swap Meet Location

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

