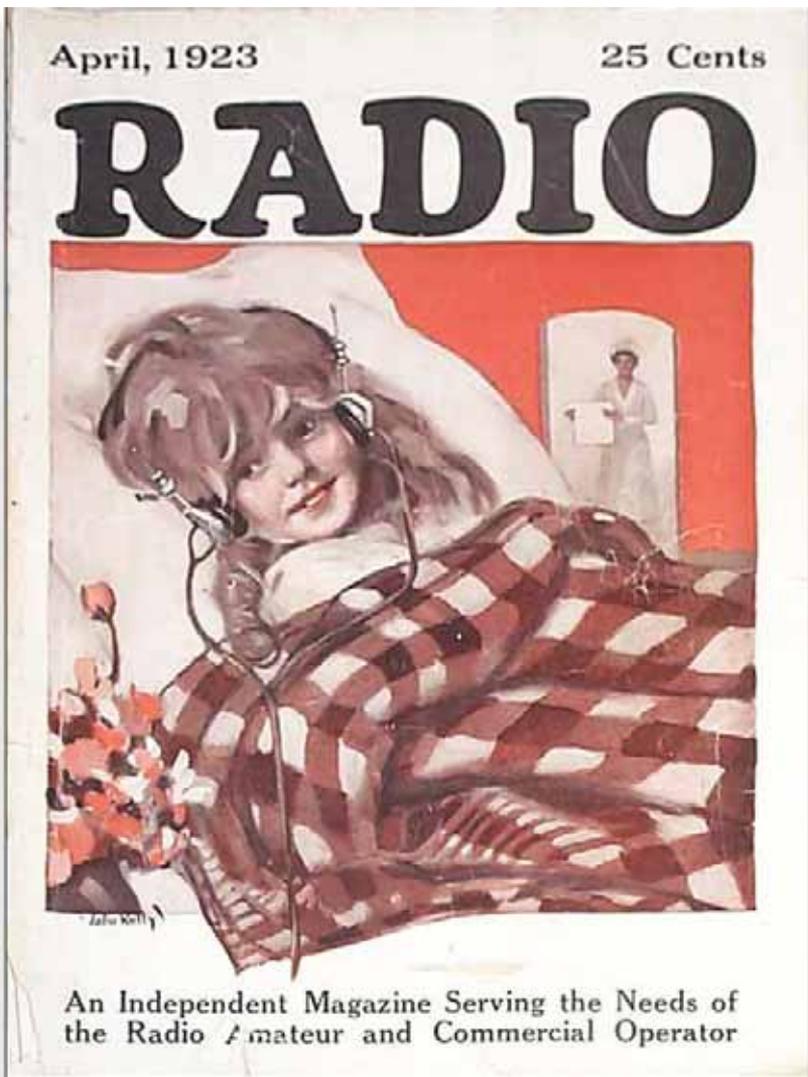


The **Call
Letter**

March, 2008
Vol. 34 — No. 3



Over **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 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).

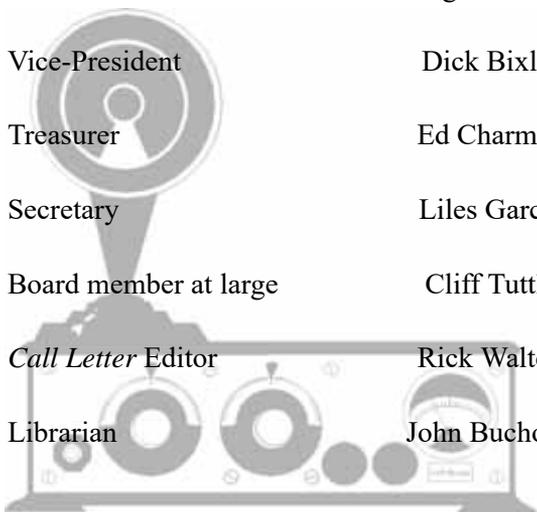
Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio show, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

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 2008:

President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
Vice-President	Dick Bixler	(503) 690-2557 rf2af@verizon.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.net
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 BonJonBuck@webtv.net



March 2008

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On the cover: “The cover of the April, 1923, issue of *Radio* magazine.

The next meeting is on March 8, 2008.

March Feature: Philco Radios

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

Next *Call Letter* Deadline: April 3, 2008.

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 or services 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

This has been a hectic, stressful month for your editor. As you learned at the last meeting, my wife was in the hospital following surgery for a broken leg. She is recovering, but the mending process is slow and will require that she put no weight on the leg for three months. As you might suppose, my time is spent mostly in her care. Somehow work is keeping up and you have a *Call Letter* this month.

In this issue, *Voilà* makes its return. Thanks to Jay Johnston for persisting. This month's reprint of *In the Shack* has Mike Parker finding even more crystal set makers and brands. An important announcement for all is the Spring Trash Bash, a popular event that is establishing itself as an annual happening. On the Back Page, there is an announcement of a birthday celebration for Burlingame TV & Radio, owned by club member Todd Ommert. The shop has been in business 56 years, a genuinely laudable accomplishment.

Sinatra, Bennett,
Norah.

Portland's only station for classic American standards
of yesterday and today. Sunny 1550 KKAD.

Listen online at: www.sunny1550kkad.com



NWVRS Meeting Minutes

Liles Garcia, NWVRS Secretary

President George Kirkwood called the February 9, 2008 meeting of the NorthWest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:00 AM. Liles Garcia read the minutes of the January meeting; the meeting minutes were approved as printed in the February Call Letter. Ed Charman gave the Treasurer's report; it was approved as provided by Ed.

Rick Walton's wife is in the hospital with a broken leg. Ed Westfall recently had heart surgery, and is recovering at home. Charter member Art Redman recently published an article in Antique Radio classified titled "Station 7XG-An Oregon First". Members gave Art a round of applause for his recent article. Jan and Mike McCrow attended today as guests. Welcome Jan and Mike! There were 36 people at our meeting today.

Jeff LaDoe brought a video about vacuum tube manufacturing to our meeting for all members to watch. Many thanks to Jeff!

Old Business

Networking And Outreach — Liles brought an example of a counter flyer and passed it out to everyone present. Members discussed the counter flyer and the group decided to discuss it more at our March meeting.

New Business

Spring Trash Bash — We will have our Spring Trash Bash at our April meeting.

Leads and Needs

Scott Hoke told the group about a product, Aero Gloss. According to a product description, it is used for cleaning and protecting fabric, painted metal and aluminum aircraft. Aero Gloss is nationally distributed through aircraft supply stores. Here is the website for a company that sells Aero Gloss: <http://www.wagaero.com/>

Dick Bixler needs the crystal filter assembly including bar knob for a National HRO receiver.

Program Topic

The program topic for today was “Your Oldest Acquisition That You Still Have”. Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought. The program topic for the March meeting is “Philco Radios”.

The meeting was adjourned.

NWVRS Calendar of Events

Most of the hamfest and ham swap meet information comes from: PNW Hamfair web page at www.n7cfo.com/amradio/hf/hf.htm

- March 8** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- March 8** Mike & Key Swap Meet. Puyallup fairgrounds exhibition hall, Puyallup, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Contact mwdink@eskimo.com.
- April 5-6** Communications Academy. Seattle, WA. S. Seattle Community College. <http://www.commacademy.org>.
- April 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; annual Spring Trash Bash 8:30 am.
- April 12** Yakima Hamfest. Selah Civic Center, 216 South 1st Street, Selah, WA. Info, contact Lindsay Kooser, N7RHW 141 Stark Road #7 Yakima, WA 98908. Phone: 509-965-6612 Email: n7rhw@arrl.net. <http://w7aq.org/>
- May 10** NWVRS Spring Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion Hall, Aurora, Oregon.
- June 14** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- June 14** Hamfest 2008. Kootenai Amateur Radio Society. American Legion Hall, 1138 E. Poleline, Post Falls, Idaho. Contact Jim, N7ESU at (208)755-2100 or email n7esu@arrl.net. <http://k7id.com/>
- July 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- August 1-3** Pacific Northwest DX Convention. Monarch Hotel, Portland, OR. Hosted by the Willamette Valley DX Club. www.wvdx.org.
- August 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

August 16 Antique Radio Swap Meet. 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 Avenue - one mile west of I-5, exit 176. Free admission. <http://www.eskimo.com/~hhagen/psara/swap.html> (Always the 3rd Sunday in August)

Photo Display

Photos by Rick Walton

Members displayed these radios that they've had the longest at the February meeting.



Jackson-Bell
George Kirkwood



Jackson-Bell
George Kirkwood



Climax
George Kirkwood



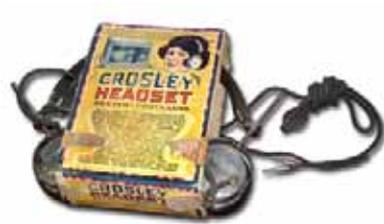
Philco 38-12
Frank Olberding



Coke Bottle Radio
Jay Johnston



Kennedy Model 5
Sonny Clutter



Crosley Headset
Mark Moore



1929 Allied Radio Catalog
Jerry Hertel



Zenith 808
Mark Richardson



Zenith GS10
Tony Hauser

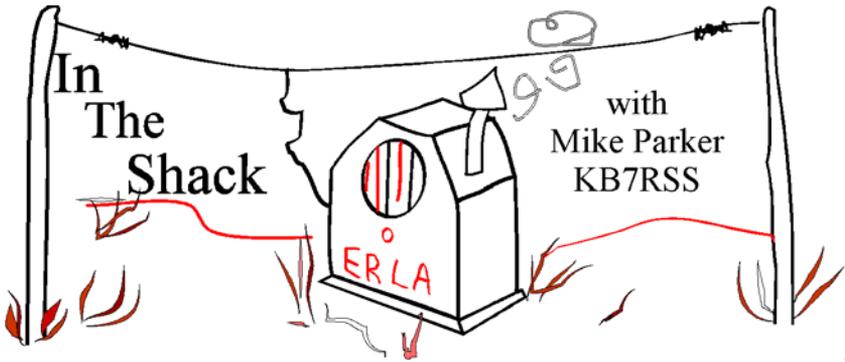
Roster Additions/Corrections

Rick Walton, Call Letter editor

Here is another addition to the club roster.

New Member

Jim Lippincott
12 Deerfield Street
Cook, WA 98605
dogbreath@gorge.net



Editor's note: This "In The Shack" article is from the November, 1998, Call Letter!

Crystal Mystery

Well, apparently I was not satisfied with the short list of 1920's crystal set trade names that I accounted for in last month's CALL LETTER, so I found about 87 more to report. I have tried to list them by the actual name given to each crystal set, but in many cases the manufacturer would not give their set a name, in fact some sets were made without any name or manufacturer identification visible at all. In those cases I have listed the manufacturer's name.



It's amazing to discover that some of these manufacturers, having made a mere crystal set went on to bigger and better things to produce! I see that Killark is listed. This company went on to be a large producer of electrical panels and switch gear but never made a tube radio that I know of. Briggs & Stratton — of course we have all seen their motors and

perhaps mowed the lawn with one! Many major radio manufacturers appear to have made at least one crystal set, mostly during the peak sales years of 1923 and '24. Names are here such as AC Dayton, Amrad, A-K, Audiola, de Forest, Gilfillan, Kilbourne & Clark (Seattle), Kodel, Magnus and RCA. Of course, a few years later, none of them made a crystal set, as radios became bigger and better, with AC plugs on them.

The crystal set became more and more regarded as a toy or a novelty for home radio builders and boy experimenters, a status in which a few specialty manufacturers such as Philmore, enjoyed success. Some are listed by a set name and manufactured by famous companies such as the Leroy by Radio Shop, and the Harko by Crosley. And notice the other Harco, made by a company capitalizing on the name with a different spelling of the famous Harko! The Pasco is worth noting having been made by the Pacific Screw Co. here in Portland, who also made an Acme. RCA, as near as I could ascertain, first made an RCA Concert crystal set and then marketed it as a Radiola Concert when that name became standard for their products. I cannot determine whether they are two different sets or the same renamed. Another item of interest is the fact that back then, you could walk into a local radio shop and chances are, they had their own version of a crystal set for sale, made in their shop to be purchased over the counter or put in the mail. Some of these qualify for this list and one that I noted, cost a whole 60 cents! So here goes.

5-IN 1 Superset

A.C.Dayton, Aerex, Aerovox, Airmuse, Air Scout, Amrad Audiola, Atwater Kent (promotional only)

Bird, Black Diamond, Boldo, Branston, Briggs & Stratton, Brownie Airphone
Champion C, Cherington, Craincraft Jr., Crystal Artay, Crystal King, Crystal Mystery

Diamond, De Forest Everyman

Electrad, Excellophone

Gem, Gem C, Gilfillan R-475, Globe

Harco, Harko, Harkness, Henry Hyman, Home-o-Fone

Inman Specialty

Jaynxon, Journal

Kilbourne & Clark K&C, Killark, King Tut, Kodel, Korona

Leroy, Little Gem, Little Giant

M-V, Magnus, Master, Melodian, Mel-o-Tone, Mignon, Monarch, Monrona,
Multiphone, Mysto C

National Airphone G, Novelty Set

Orator Midget

Paige Crystal, Pal, Pall Mall, Pasco, Pentzlyne, Perfect, Power, Progressive
Specialty

Racon, Radio Argentite, Radioclear, Radiogem Radiola Concert, Radiolean Jr, RCA Concert Ritter Grand, Roycroft, RPM

Schenectady, Simplex, Soundrite, Superior, Steinmetz

Tesco A, Travellers, True Tone

Van

X-I Three Way Radio

As I stated last month, this is by no means all of them, so I would appreciate hearing from you if you know of one not listed so far. This applies especially if you have one of the above listed crystal sets. It is sadly, a fact that the crystal set was so lowly regarded at one time that many were simply tossed out and regarded as cheap enough to be dispensable. Start digging folks! It may be in the back yard! Just recently, a Martian Big 4 crystal set was found stashed for many years under the porch of a home here in Portland! I still have a no name crystal set that I found in a dump.

QSO you next time....IN THE SHACK

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

Compiled by Jay Johnston

Dick Bixler —Navy RBM medium frequency

Liles Garcia —Atwater-Kent 55 tabletop radio

Atwater-Kent F-4-A speaker

Tony Hauser —Long Radio Works AC table set. This 6-tube AM/SW radio displays no model number. The tubes feature Long Radio Works labels.

Bremer-Tully table speaker in a cathedral cabinet.

Jay Johnston —Kilbourne & Clark magazine advertisement for the Junior xtal set.

Crosley JM-8 book radio “Musical Memories”. This hybrid tube/transistor model was offered in 7 titles.

Rick Walton —Zephyr Model 1 gray plastic 5-tube AM set made in Japan.

Spring Trash Bash is Coming!

by Rick Walton



"We're headed for the Spring Trash Bash over at the NWVRS monthly meeting!"

Cliff Tuttle asked me to remind you to start cleaning out your basements, attics, sheds, garages, barns, or storage units — wherever you keep all your radio junk. Because the Spring Trash Bash is coming in next month as a prelude to our normal meeting.

This event, our third, is a great way to get rid of that stuff that you don't want anymore, and that someone else might find valuable. If you haven't participated before, this will be a fine time to start.

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: 1931 Philco 90 cathedral \$350.00 Dick Bosch 360-693-3482.

WANTED: I am looking for a couple of audio transformers from the old big box Atwater Kent model 20. These are 1 ¾ in diameter and about 3 ¼ inches high. They are known by the 3 hole flange on the bottom (later AKs had a 2 hole flange. I have a lot of those). The transformers do not have to work. Cliff Tuttle kiptuttle@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, wb6jbj@ix.netcom.com

Todd Ommert – (503) 246-4141, website www.burlingame-radio.com

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

Dave Wise – (503) 648-0897, 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>

The Back Page

The Editor

Club member Todd Ommert owns this shop in the Burlingame area of town. As this flyer announces, they are celebrating 56 years in business. And vintage radio repair and restoration is a big part of their business.

BURLINGAME RADIO & TV

**Where Sales, Service, Repair, and Vintage Restoration
Has Been A Family Tradition Since 1952**

Announces Their:

56 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!



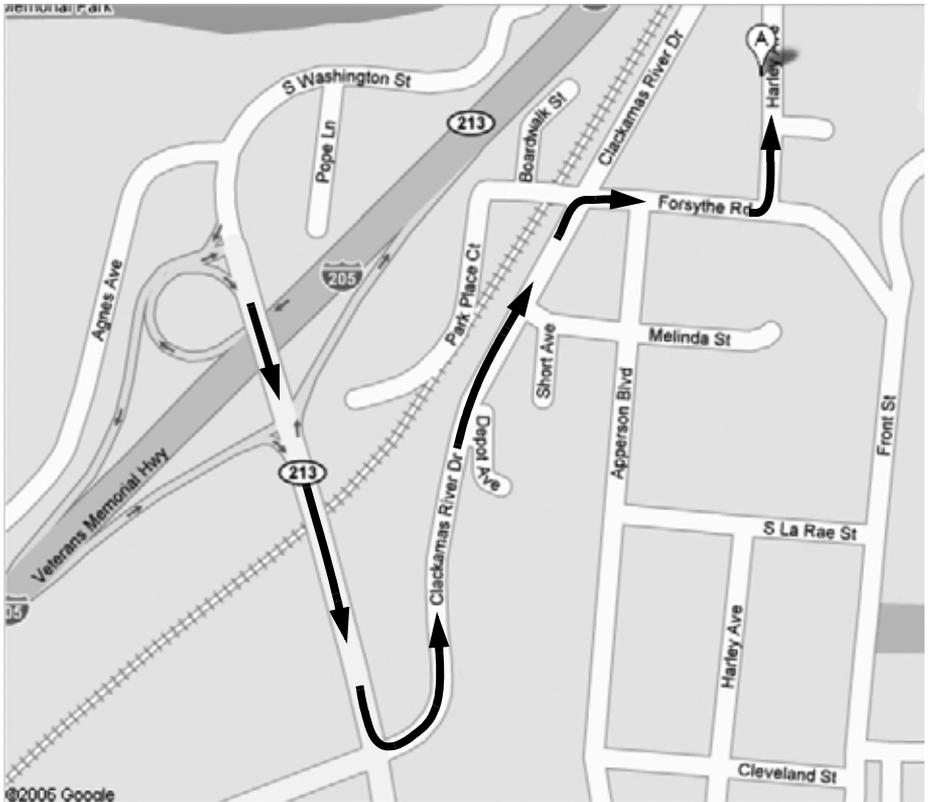
**You are cordially invited to visit the New Showroom!
Anniversary savings through April!
(10% off sales and service)**

**Location: Burlingame Radio & TV
8433 SW Terwilliger Blvd.
Portland, OR 97219
503-246-4141**

www.burlingame-radio.com

Meeting Location

Here is a map (thanks to Google Maps) to the Abernethy Grange Hall (the pointer marked “A”), where the Northwest Vintage Society meets the second Saturday of each month. Just follow the arrows on the map.



To get to the Abernethy Grange Hall:

1. Exit I-205 at SR-213 (Exit 10 to Molalla) and head south on 213.
2. At the first intersection (the traffic light), turn left onto Clackamas River Dr.
3. Turn right at Forsythe Rd.
4. Turn left onto Harley Ave. The Grange Hall is on the left about a block and a half.