

The

Call Letter

January, 2010
Vol. 36 — No. 1

JANUARY, 1924 25 CENTS
RADIO

(Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.)



Celebrating **35** 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 shows, 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 2010:

President	Dick Bixler	(503) 690-2557 rf2af@comcast.net
Vice-President	Tony Hauser	(503)397-0074 abhauser@aol.com
Treasurer	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005 kiptuttle@comcast.net
Recording Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288 landn2@verizon.net
Corresponding Secretary	Mike McCrow	(503)730-4639 tranny53@comcast.net
Board member at large	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 656-4104 rwalton@easystreet.net
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 BonJonBuck@webtv.net

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On the cover: ““The sands have run out, Old Timer, and it’s my turn to wear the headphones,” the brash young 1924 seems to be saying to the waning 1923 on this cover of *Radio* magazine. The magazine table of contents is more circumspect in its description of the cover: “The New Year Assumes New Pleasures.” The description goes on to explain that the cover was “Drawn by W.H. Andrews from idea of R.F. Browne.”

The next meeting is on January 9, 2010.

January Feature: Early (pre-1934) Superhet Radios

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

Next Call Letter Deadline: February 4, 2010.

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

Happy New Year, everyone!

Because of the canceled December meeting, this edition of the *Call Letter* winds up being a bit smaller than it might otherwise have been. Without meeting minutes and photos, there just isn't as much to fill up the space.

We've filled a couple of pages with 2010 calendar information, and looked back 15 years to Mike Parker's very first "In the Shack" article. After all these years, Mike is still contributing occasionally. There are a couple of new entries in the Swap Shop, and one of my "Back Page" entries.

I'm happy to note that a couple of folks have joined up with the NWVRS Yahoo Group following my article last month. I hope that more of you will take advantage of the Yahoo e-mail group to communicate with the society. It would have been much easier to let members know of the meeting cancellation last month if more members were signed up. It would also make electronic distribution of the *Call Letter* easier. We'll continue to discuss this during the year.

Always sunny & warm.

*For a refreshing change,
check it out!*



Sunny 1550 KKAD



Herb Alpert - Tony Bennett - Michael Buble - Carpenters

Nat King Cole - Perry Como - Neil Diamond - Diana Krall

Barry Manilow - Johnny Mathis - Platters - Carly Simon

Elvis - Frank Sinatra - Barbara Streisand - Andy Williams

NWVRS Meeting Minutes

Liles Garcia, NWVRS Secretary

Due to cancellation of the December meeting, there are no minutes.

Annual Dues Now Due

If you haven't done so already (and just a few of you have), now is the time to pay your annual dues.

A Couple of Last Minute Items!

From your editor

I received my *Antique Radio Classified* yesterday and was pleased to see not one, but two articles by our own Art Redman. One was about his Cockaday radio that lacks the Cockaday circuit. The other was about a Hallock & Watson radio that he recently acquired from fellow club member Jay Johnston. The article was a follow-up to one Art wrote for ARC back in June.

The second item has to do with this month's meeting. I received a phone call from President Dick Bixler to let me know that we wouldn't be trying to catch up on the Holiday Potluck that was cancelled in December. We'll make up for it at a picnic later this year.

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

January 9 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

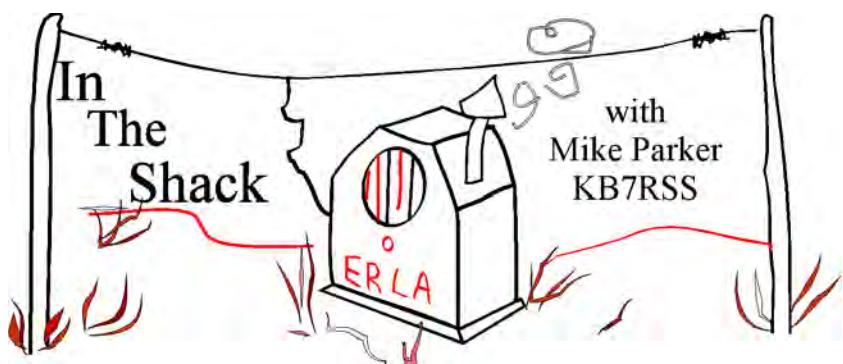
February 13 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

February 20 Salem Hamfair & Computer/Electronics Swapmeet.
Rickreall, Oregon at the Polk County Fairgrounds.
www.w7sra.com.

March 13 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

- March 6** Mike & Key Electronics Show and Fleamarket. Western Washington fairgrounds exhibition hall, Puyallup, WA. Contact mwdink@eskimo.com. www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm.
- April 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- May 8** NWVRS Spring Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion Hall, Aurora, Oregon.
- June 4-6** Sea-Pac Hamfest. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. ai9q@arrl.net www.seapac.org/
- June 11-13** 41st Annual Wenatchee Hamfest. Apple City ARC. Dryden Gun Club. Dryden, WA. Contact Jim, W7JBP at shultzjims@aol.com or Judy, at ka7zna@msn.com for information. www.qsl.net/w7td/.
- June 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- June 12** Port Ludlow ARC tailgate swap meet. Port Ludlow, WA. www.n7pl.org/
- July 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 2010** Chehalis Valley ARS 11th Annual Hamfair. Lewis County Fairgrounds. Contact John Ellingson, K7OSK. johnk7osk@boatanchor.com. www.cvars.org/
- July 17** Coos County Radio Club Hamfest and Swapmeet. North Bend Middle School, North Bend, OR. Contact Marilyn Mansker, ke7oam@yahoo.com or Dave Granicy k7nbo@charter.net. www.coosradioclub.net/.
- August 14** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- August 15** 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. www.eskimo.com/~hhagen/psara/swap.html (Always the 3rd Sunday in August)
- August 2010** Radio Club of Tacoma Hamfest. www.w7dk.org/
- September 11** The 4th Annual Clark County ARC Tail-Gate Swapmeet. Vancouver, WA. www.w7aia.org/ Rob, K7JAO at k7jao@arrl.net

- September 11** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 2010** Spokane Hamfest. University High School, 12420 E 32nd Ave, Spokane Valley WA 99216. For information contact Betsy, N7WRQ n7wrq@aol.com.
- October 9** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion Hall, Aurora, Oregon.
- October 23?** Swaptoberfest. Mid-Valley ARES. Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, OR. Contact: Chris Portal, W7CLP (503)559-7837. w7clp@arrl.net 520 South Pacific Highway. www.swaptoberfest.net
- November 13** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2011.
- December 11** NWVRS monthly meeting and annual Holiday Party 10 am. Election of officers for 2011.



Editor's note: This "In The Shack" article is the very first one from the January, 1995, Call Letter!

I have volunteered to help make the Call Letter "fatter." Allow me to say a bit about myself, since you will be hearing from me "in the shack" for a while. I am 53 years old and have been an electrical hobbyist since childhood. I was a boy with a red Philmore crystal set, and outdoor antenna and a two- band cathedral 'in the bedroom. The family Philco 42-380 console was our home entertainment, along with the piano. Television didn't exist for us



until I was 12. I first saw KPTV-12 through the window at McNaughton's in nearby Milwaukie.

Across the street from our house was the house of an old ham operator. His name was Mr. McKay (W7HJI). He was deceased and the house sat empty for years... (haunted, we thought). All of us kids knew the way in and out of the house and what was inside would make a pretty good swap meet, today. I remember seeing the names Atwater Kent and DeForest in there. I also remember all of the radios that each relative and neighbor had. They were part of my lives, like television is today.

Some of us had an informal radio club and we would create fun by hanging around the local radio repair shop, pestering the owner and sniffing the hot tube and transformer smells.

In high school I joined the Radio Amateur Club and had a ham license until I let it go later, when cars and girls became more important. In the Air Force I went to electronics school and served in Radio Relay Maintenance. After the military I spent many years in the telephone installation and wire maintenance business. I was also a vintage auto hobbyist and rail car enthusiast spending more than 10 years making the old electric trolleys in this area run again.

Although I had a couple of sets, I didn't become an avid radio collector until I joined the NW Vintage Radio Society in January 1990. My main interest lies in the 20's and 30's radios and in the pre-1960 short wave gear. I have since acquired another amateur license, KB7RSS, but my favorite pastime is collecting and repairing those 1925-style, three dial receivers. I am also fond of cathedrals and other AC sets until they have push buttons - (there I lose interest).

Presently, I have about 105 complete sets and my shop is in the attic. We call it the Shack hence the title of my page. Some radios are displayed downstairs, but only the ones my wife will tolerate. She has a few pretty ones of her own in the living room.

I like the Vintage Radio Society and never have met a member that I didn't like, but there are many that I still do not know. I am a strong supporter of our link with the radio museum and believe that we should not loose sight of this identity. Our objective is to preserve radio history, which the museum accomplishes.

I don't claim to be an expert, but I am learning all the time and am willing to pass on to others what I know. "Knowledge is of no value until shared with others."

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: **1 Stewart-Warner Model B-134-A; a 2 band (AM/2.3 to 6.8 MHz) with no cabinet, no speaker, but with all good tubes

2 Stromberg-Carlson Model 1121; a 4 band (FM1/FM2/AM/8.3 to 10.5 MHz) that includes all its hardware, speaker, phonograph, and tubes, but no cabinet.

3 Spartan Model unknown; 3 band (550KHZ to 18MHz) that includes all hardware, phonograph, and console cabinet (cabinet needs restoring)

4 Philco Model 60--complete and working
Contact Ed Guenther at (541)382-0173.

FOR SALE: *Rider's Perpetual Troubleshooter manuals, Vols. 1-22 (1-5 are single volumes, not abridged), \$274.99, o.b.o., or trade for RV or camper.
Pick-up only in Aloha. Contact Damon Vandehey, 503-459-1777.

WANTED: Speaker for a Philco Model 70 or 90. It must have a good field coil.
Other parts damaged OK. Contact Gordon Phillips, 503-234-3517,
gdnphi@comcast.net

Radio Service

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

Roger Brown – (503) 693-6089

Bruce Baur - (503)-708-4537, brucebaur@comcast.net

Blake Dietze – (360) 944-7172, wb6ihj@ix.netcom.com

Jack Doyle – (503) 305-8097

Pat Hickman – (503) 887-9015 web site: www.classictubeaudio.com
Email: phickman@comcast.net

Todd Ommert – (503) 246-4141

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or walterranft@hotmail.com – 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.

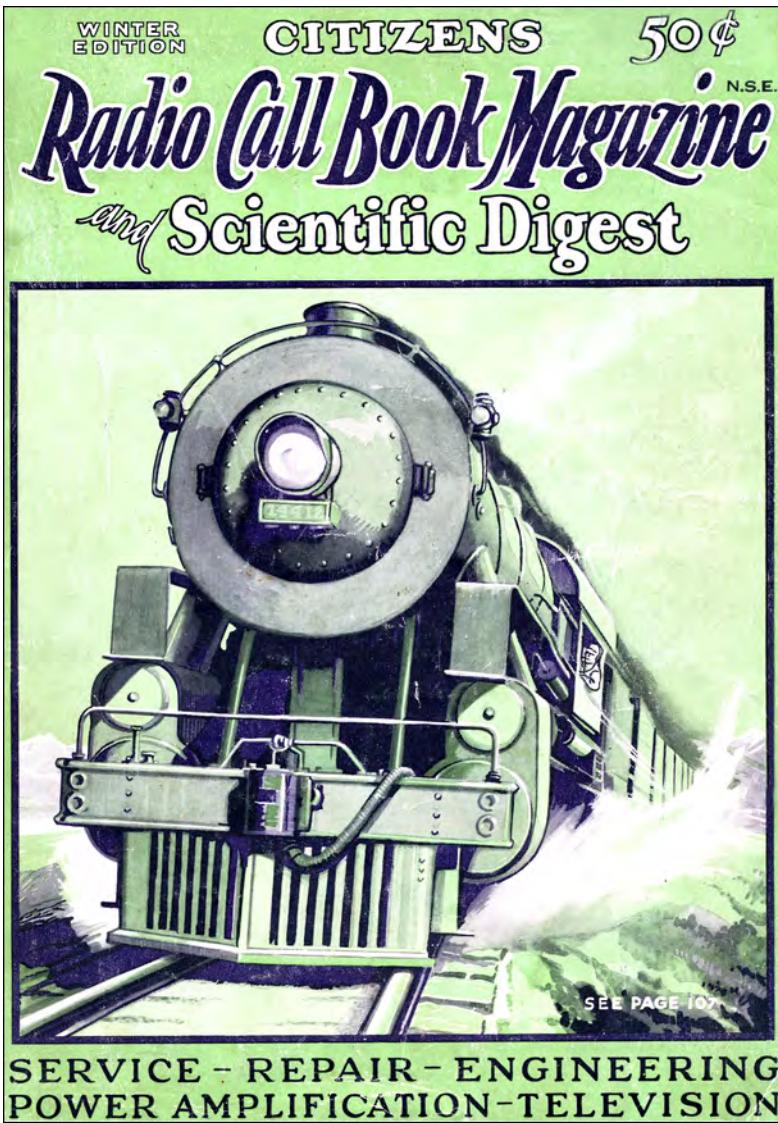
Leads and Needs

Questions about restoration of vintage radio? Visit Radiolaguy's web site often for this information plus lots of other interesting displays, photos, 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

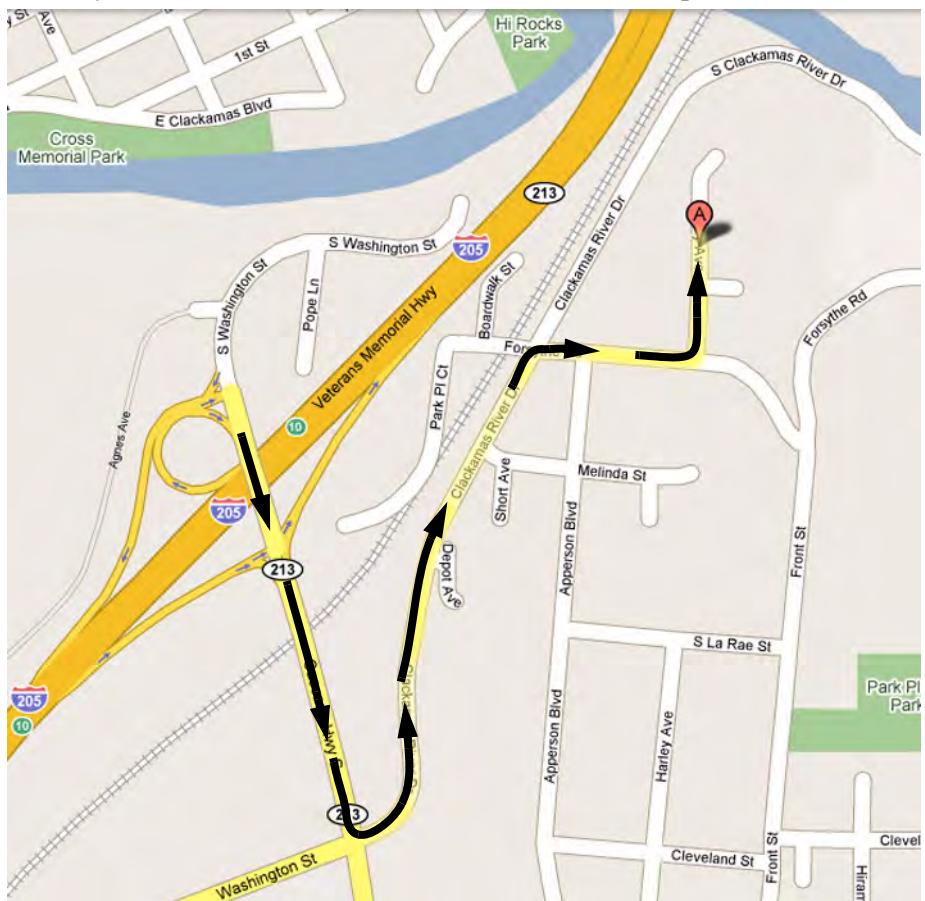
by Rick Walton

Why was there a rushing locomotive on the cover of *Radio Call Book Magazine* in November, 1929? The key lies in the little note "See Page 107" at the bottom of the picture. On page 107 is an article about the use of radio telephone equipment for railroad communication.



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.