

The *Call Letter*

July, 2011
Vol. 37 — No. 7



Celebrating over **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).

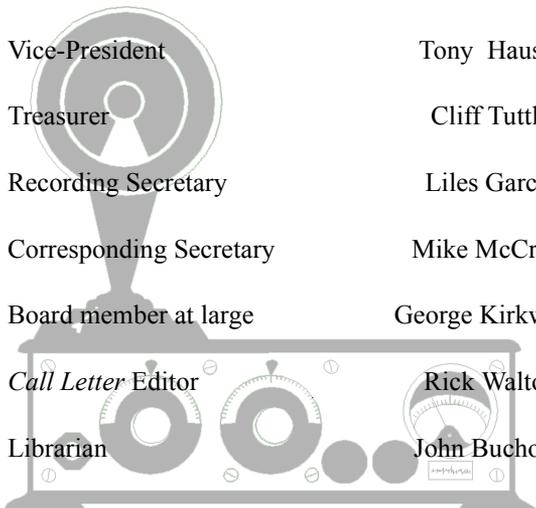
Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio shows, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

With each issue of the *Call Letter*, we remember Jim Mason, a charter member of the society who remained active until his death in 1998. 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 2011:

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@frontier.com
Corresponding Secretary	Mike McCrow	(503) 730-4639 tranny53@frontier.com
Board member at large	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 701-3260 rewalton46@gmail.com
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 Bucholtz3049@comcast.net



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On the cover: Art Redman displayed these boxes (and the tubes that filled them) at the June meeting.

The next meeting is July 9, 2011.

Monthly Feature: Tube Audio Amplifiers

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

Next Call Letter Deadline: August 4, 2011.

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

As usually happens in July, I'm putting this issue together over the holiday weekend. So what?! Summer has arrived. All my windows are open and the sun is shining and I'm sitting at my computer in shorts and a tee shirt enjoying it all.

This issue is full of the "usual" stuff — Meeting Minutes, Calendar, Photo Display, etc. Then there's Sid Saul's article (which should perhaps be a *Play It Again, Sam!* piece) about his success at restoring the sound quality in his Silvertone Neutrodyne set. Sid really showcases all the best reasons to be a part of this society. We have people with a wealth of knowledge and experience who are willing to share the same with members who are just learning the ropes of this hobby.

Voilà is back again this month with some interesting acquisitions by our members.

Here's hoping that everyone had a safe and happy Fourth of July weekend, and that we'll see you at the meeting on the 9th.

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NWVRS Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Secretary Liles Garcia

President Dick Bixler called the June 9, 2011 meeting of the NorthWest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:00 AM. Liles Garcia read the minutes of the April meeting; the minutes were approved as published in the May Call Letter. Roland Beebe attended today as a guest; members gave Roland a round of applause. Historian Mark Moore told the group about the Oregon Jewish Museum here in Portland. The museum has an exhibit featuring Mel Blanc and the early days of Portland radio. Mark also informed the group about some upcoming events at the Museum. John Bucholtz said that the library is doing well. There were 52 people at our meeting today.

Old Business

Swap Meet — Brian Toon said that our May Swap Meet went well. Jerry Hertel said that we signed up 14 members — some new members and some renewing members. Brian also said that tables are selling well for our October Swap Meet.

New Business

Society Jackets — Dick Bixler is working on getting some jackets with our Society's logo on them.

Leads and Needs

Charlie Kent would like to buy some cathedral and tombstone radios. His phone numbers are (503)281-9335 and (503)891-4615.

Program Topic

The Program Topic for today is “Unusual Electron Tubes”. Members showed and discussed the variety of tubes that they brought. Approximately 11 members brought tubes to show and discuss.

The program topic for July will be “Tube Audio Amplifiers”.

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

- July 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 16** Coos County Radio Club Hamfest and Swapmeet, North Bend, Oregon. Info, contact Elise Ciralo, N7CIR, (541)267-4243, e.ciralo@verizon.net. <http://www.coos-radioclub.net>
- July** Chehalis Valley ARS 11th Annual Hamfair. Lewis County Fairgrounds. Contact John Ellingson, K7OSK. k7osk@boatanchor.com. <http://www.cvars.org/>
- July 15-17** Glacier Waterton International Peace Park Hamfest. This is an ARRL Sanctioned event. Glacier Meadows Campground, 13 miles west of East Glacier on MT Hwy 2. www.gwhamfest.org.
- August 13** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- August 12-14** 56th Annual Pacific Northwest DX Convention. Holiday Inn, Everett, WA. <http://www.wwdx.org/>.
- August 21** Antique Radio Swap Meet. Puget Sound Antique Radio Association. 9 AM to 1 PM. NEW LOCATION: Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center, 18500 1st Avenue N. E., Shoreline, WA 98155 Free admission. <http://www.eskimo.com/~hhagen/psara/swap.html> (Always the 3rd Sunday in August)
- August 13** Radio Club of Tacoma Hamfest. Bethel Jr. High in Spanaway WA. <http://www.w7dk.org/>
- September 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 24** The 1st Annual Clark County ARC Ham Fair. Vancouver, WA. <http://www.w7aia.org/> or contact clarkcountyhamfair@w7aia.org
- September** Spokane Hamfest. University High School, 12420 E 32nd Ave, Spokane Valley WA 99216. For information contact Bob, AC7GP ac7gp@hotmail.com.

- October 8** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion Hall, Aurora, Oregon.
- October** Swaptoberfest. Mid-Valley ARES. Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, OR. Contact: Chris Portal, W7CLP (503)559-7837. w7clp@arrl.net 520 South Pacific Highway. <http://www.swaptoberfest.net>
- November 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2012.
- December 10** NWVRS monthly meeting and annual Holiday Party 10 am. Election of officers for 2012.

2011-2012 Membership Roster Update

We have one new member, and two e-mail updates. Printed rosters will be mailed at the same time as this issue of the *Call Letter*, and a fully updated electronic version will go out in PDF format as well.

New Member:

Roland Beebe

35210 SE Hurlburt Rd

Corbett, Or 97019

Interests: Old radios (pre 70's) & Ham equipment

Phone: 503-318-1540

reblacksnipping@gmail.com

E-mail address corrections:

Bill Weigel — bill_weigel@hotmail.com

Larry Tobkin — tobkin@clear.net

Photo Display

Photos by Rick Walton

Members displayed these unusual tubes at the June meeting.



Art Redman



Bruce Baur



Brian Toon



Bob Deuel



Charlie Kent



Jim Harper



Sonny Clutter



Tony Ranft



Damon Vandehey



George Kirkwood

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

Compiled by Jay Johnston

Larry Tobkin 30s vintage wood case Coronado table top AM SW radio from the swap meet. It worked fine when I got it, but it needs a little work. There is no model number that I can find, but it is easy to work on with the help of my trusty tube manual.

Sonny Clutter Majestic 5TO 5-tube clock radio. This 1939 beauty in a beetle plastic cabinet features a backlit 2-way mirror dial.

Dave Wise General Radio 1232-A Tuned Amplifier/Null Detector from Alan Douglas over on ARF. I got this as an accessory for my 1650-A and 1656 Impedance Bridges.

The bridges have a built-in 1kc oscillator and 1kc tuned detector. It's possible to drive the bridge with an external oscillator anywhere from 20cps to 100kc, but you need a tuned detector to filter out all the 60/120cps hum, and the oscillator harmonics. The 1232-A has a sharply peaked response you can tune on a dial anywhere from 20c-20kc; it also has fixed-tuned filters at 50kc and 100kc. It also has logarithmic compression on the meter, so you can see both loud and soft signals without messing with an attenuator.

It also has funky little telescopic front feet, I guess so you can tilt it to match your bridge :)

It was designed to run off nine short, wide "M72" mercury batteries; I intend to retrofit alkalines or lithiums. When I figure out how to fit them in, I'll post it.



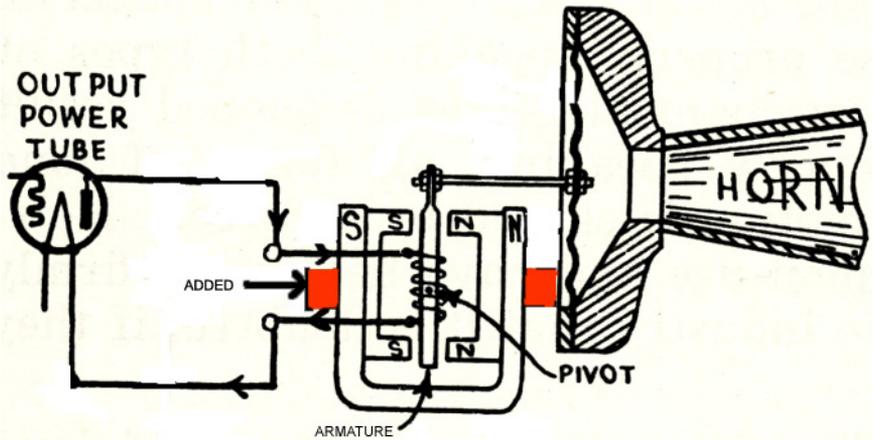
Revive That OI' Horn

by Sid Saul

As most of you remember from our last club meeting, I brought a working display of my 1924 Silvertone Neutrodyne 6 tuber, bought from Steve Berglund at our last swap meet in May. I have yet to find a model number, let alone a schematic for this beautiful domed radio with it's built in horn speaker. I saw one in a magazine, dated 1924, so I will have to go with that as to it's origin. 2 RF and 3 audio stages comprise this 'single knob tuning' TRF. It came home with an open primary 1:3 interstage audio transformer between the second and third stages, and a few 01A tubes that were open. Both Sonny Clutter and George Kirkwood noticed the sound distortion. George suggested I change out the 71A output tube and replace this with a 01A. Blake Dietze just happened to have a 01A handy. Wouldn't you know that George's suggestion made a dramatic improvement? George also said that a less tinny sound could be had if the old horseshoe magnet in the speaker assembly had more magnetism. He thought a few inexpensive, rare earth magnets put in the right places on the horseshoe, would make a further improvement.

Driving home from the meeting found an unplanned stop at Harbor Freight Tools to buy ten of these super magnets for \$1.49. Upon my return home and the radio wired to it's battery eliminator, I placed various magnet combinations around the horseshoe without much change in sound. Not one for giving up, I finally pinned the magnet on the donkey's horseshoe 'so to speak'. I would say the difference in sound quality is nothing short of amazing. It may be even better were I able to place magnets on both sides of the horseshoe, but lack of space didn't allow for this.





George also said something about removing the ‘whiskers’ between the spaces of the speaker armature and the horseshoe. I wasn’t sure what he meant by this until dragging a piece of rough paper between these spaces removed flakes of rust and other metallic debris. I now see how such debris could prevent proper action of the speaker in these tight spaces. There may be other solutions for remagnetizing these old horns, but I would have to say this is an easy and effective solution to the problem.

I hope to bring the new and improved radio to our next meeting in July to demonstrate the before and after effects of magnet restoration using small super magnets. I am grateful to have had the chance to learn more about this older sound reproducing technology, and to the continuing help and support from our club members.

New Caps & Shirts!

New caps and new shirts are available. Caps are \$10, and shirts are \$22 for M & L sizes, \$24 for XL. If anyone needs a hat or polo shirt, and would like to pick the items up at the July meeting, they should contact Tony Hauser at 503-438-0297 or e-mail their request to abhauser@aol.com so Tony can arrange for someone to take the items to the meeting.



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: Two Philco radio/phonos, both are model 46-1201, one restorable, the other for parts - \$20 for both.
Zenith console, model 8A02, 8-tube, minimal effort to restore - \$30.
Contact Bill Meloy (503) 667-8109.

WANTED: *I need a transformer for an early Philco that has the tube socket on top of the transformer. Tony Ranft walteranft@hotmail.com

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>

I'm looking for a chassis with an oval dial for a Truetone D-699. The same chassis looks to have been used by Coronado (470 and 1170) and probably others. I would be interested in a chassis in any condition, including one from any another brand/model that uses a similar shaped dial. Please e-mail me, Dan Olson (classicelectronicsguy@yahoo.com) or call me (503-648-7204) if you think you may have something in your junk box or parts bin that could be useful. Thanks.



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, wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com

Jack Doyle – (503) 305-8097

Pat Hickman – (503) 887-9015 Web: www.classictubeaudio.com

Email: phickman@comcast.net

Todd Ommert – (503) 246-4141 Web: www.burlingame-radio.com

Email: burltv@msn.com

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or walteranft@hotmail.com – General repairs.

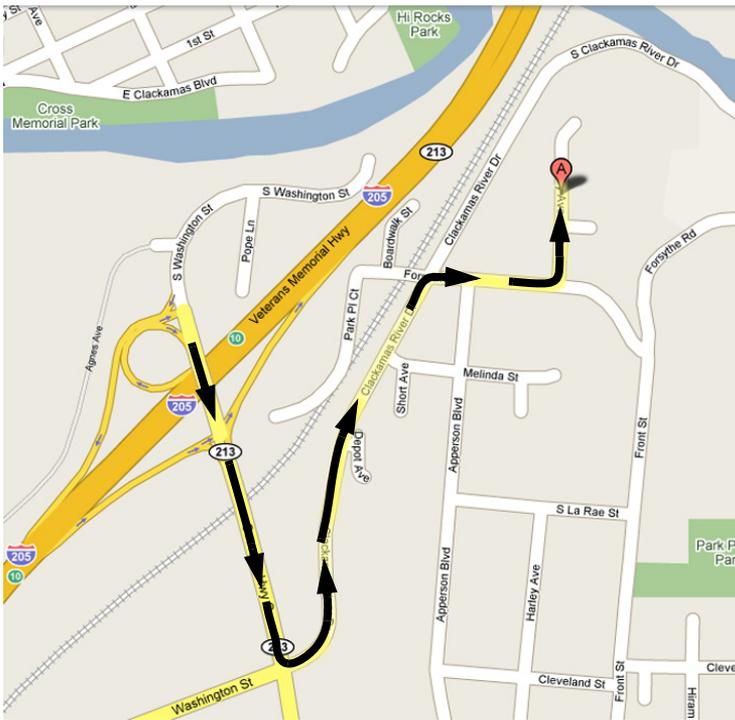
Dave Wise – (503) 648-0897, david_wise@phoenix.com

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.

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.

PSARA New Swap Meet Location

ANTIQUUE RADIO SWAP MEET

SUNDAY, August 21, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



NEW LOCATION:

SHORELINE-LAKE FOREST PARK SENIOR CENTER

18500—1st Avenue N. E.

Shoreline, WA 98155

FREE ADMISSION

Vendors:

\$10.00 donation
recommended

Tune in to the largest vintage radio
event in the Northwest.

Collectors, hobbyists and sellers alike
are invited to buy, sell and trade old
radios and related gear.

A community event sponsored by the

PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION

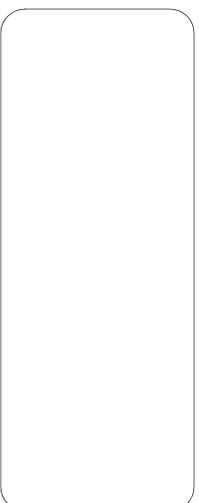
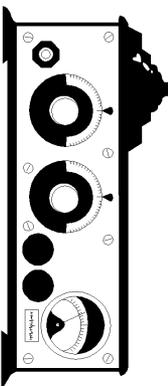
P. O. BOX 7567

Tacoma, WA 98417-0567

<http://www.eskimo.com/~hhagen/psara/>



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