

The

# Call Letter

May 2017

Vol 43, #5



**NWVRS 2017 Spring Sale**

# 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.

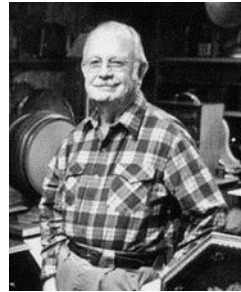
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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 9:30 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 2016:

President	Pat Kagi (360) 694-6149	<a href="mailto:kagi.pat@con-way.com">kagi.pat@con-way.com</a>
Vice President	Brian Wegener (nnn) nnn-nnnn	<a href="mailto:spudweg@gmail.com">spudweg@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Ed Tompkins (360) 573-3895	<a href="mailto:edtomp@Q.com">edtomp@Q.com</a>
Recording Sec'y	Liles Garcia (503) 649-9288	<a href="mailto:landn2@frontier.com">landn2@frontier.com</a>
Corresponding Sec'y	Mark Moore (503) 286-5224	<a href="mailto:mark@pdxhistory.com">mark@pdxhistory.com</a>
Board member at large	Mike McCrow (503) 730-4639	<a href="mailto:tranny53@frontier.com">tranny53@frontier.com</a>
Librarian	Damon Vandehey (503) 459-1777	
Call Letter Editor	Don Hanson	<a href="mailto:vanguard4@lycos.com">vanguard4@lycos.com</a>

## On the Cover

Dick Bosch's Motorola Catalin -- Photography by Dan Howard

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## Announcements

NWVRS has an opportunity to participate in the Maker Faire at OMSI on September 16-17. If you would like to volunteer to share your knowledge with the public and get more people interested in NWVRS, contact Brian Wegener at [spudweg@gmail.com](mailto:spudweg@gmail.com) or 503-936-7612.

## May Meeting

Our May meeting will be on May 13 and starts at 9:30 AM. The Program Topic for our May meeting will be "Your Favorite Plastic Radio". **Tech Talk:** George Kirkwood will speak about the design and construction of crystal radio sets. George will show several of the sets he has made recently including two FM sets.

## Editor's Note

Please have Call Letter Contributions in by **May 27**

**We still need a volunteer to take notes on monthly feature items**

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Visit our web site at:

[www.nwvrs.com](http://www.nwvrs.com)

Find us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/nwvrs](https://www.facebook.com/nwvrs)

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## Calendar of Events

May 13. Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Stanwood Middle School, Stanwood, WA. Contact: Fred Laun, [w7pig@arrl.net](mailto:w7pig@arrl.net) <http://www.scarcwa.org/>

May 19-21. Washington State Search and Rescue Conference. Ferry County Fairgrounds, Republic, WA. <http://www.wasarcon.org/>

May 19-21. River Radio Campout 2017. Pateros WA. Free "dry" camping along the Methow River at Pateros. Always the weekend prior to Memorial Day Weekend. Contact Roger W7CH [w7ch@arrl.net](mailto:w7ch@arrl.net) (509)687-3919. <http://lakechelanradioclub.webs.com/>

June 2-4. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Seaside Convention Center, [Seaside](#), Oregon. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* [info@seapac.org](mailto:info@seapac.org) . [www.seapac.org/](http://www.seapac.org/) . [Flyer in PDF](#). (870K)

June 9-11. 49th Annual Apple City ARC Hamfest. Apple City ARC. Dryden Gun Club. Dryden, WA. (Five miles east of [Leavenworth](#) on Hiway 2). *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://www.qsl.net/w7td/> . [Flyer in PDF](#). (54K)

June 10. KARS Hamfest. Kootenai Amateur Radio Society. Post Falls, ID. Always the 2nd Sat in June. For information contact Bonnie, KG6QQM, 208-683-2939 or [KG6QQM@ARRL.net](mailto:KG6QQM@ARRL.net) or John, [n7ju@arrl.net](mailto:n7ju@arrl.net)

June 10. Port Ludlow ARC Annual TailGate'r. Port Ludlow, WA. <http://www.n7pl.org/>

July. 8th Annual KUH Pigoast. Springdale, WA. Contact Ray, (509)258-7078 [cdknray@wildblue.net](mailto:cdknray@wildblue.net)

July 8-9, 2017. Salmoncon. Pacific Northwest QRP Group annual weekend outing. North Bend, WA at Valley Camp. <http://valleycamp.org/> Contact Wayne McFee [nb6m@att.net](mailto:nb6m@att.net) . <https://sites.google.com/site/pnwqrpgroup/>

# 2017 Spring Sale

Photography by  
Chris Butler, Dan Howard, Mark Moore, Phil Bausch, Sonny Clutter









## Halowat, 1924 – The Superhet Year

By Art Redman

# THE MOST PERFECT RADIO *of Today*

**I**N OUR opinion the receiver built from the design of Gerald Best in "Radio" is all that its name implies in perfect radio reception. No antenna other than loop. No interference. Maximum range and tone quality. We will therefore carry in stock all parts necessary for its construction and will assemble same to order at a nominal cost and guarantee results. Write for our circular letter and quotation.

WHY NOT GET THE BEST?

## HALLOCK & WATSON RADIO SERVICE

192 Park Street, Portland, Oregon

The Portland firm of Hallock and Watson advertised the Best Designed Superhetrodyne set beginning August 10, 1924 Oregonian. This was the Halowats third new product for 1924. Halowat also made and sold a wave trap for \$9.00, \$12.00 with cabinet beginning in January and later in June an automobile loop and camping antenna for their model RF-22 shown at the Portland Camping Fair and Seaside by Clif Watson.

Gerald M. Best designed the superhet that appeared in the May 1924 issue of Radio magazine using Remler parts. On October 12, Hallock and Watson announced they were using Best's design and were assembling four sets a day in their own 12" X 12" X 22" portable case with suitcase handle and front lid containing eight UV-199 tubes, three IF stages, loop antenna, needing no other antenna or ground. The original May 1924 Best design had an unstable first RF stage and A.J. Haynes redesigned the set for the July 1925 article of Radio magazine with a tuned RF first stage and 15" square loop antenna having 18 turns of wire for longer distance.



Remler also sold for \$200.00 the original design of the Best design as a kit having a 30.5" long table model cabinet, two main dials, three 45 kHz If stages, and a 3-volt meter. The Jaynson Laboratory of New York City was also selling the Gerald Best designed Superheterodyne sets like Hallock and Watson during 1924 placing an ad in the August issue of Radio magazine. In addition, the Lectro Corporation, Weeds Radio Shop and Langhorne in Portland offered other Superheterodyne parts for assembly. The other superhet offered for sale by H+W was the assembled Radiola Superhet retailing for \$220.00 beginning in June.

Charles T. Hass of 1191 NE Hoyt Street Portland heard the Wimberley races in London, England on station ZLO for over twenty minutes on his Best-designed Radio, which appeared in a Hallock and Watson Christmas promotion, marketing long distance reception and portability. This 1924 Superheterodyne radio was not a set manufactured by Halowat but an assembled item. The parts alone sold separately as a kit for around \$75.00 in 1924 and the assembly price was never listed in the Oregonian.

"The Most Perfect Radio of Today"  
Halowat ad, The Oregonian,  
August 17, 1924, Section 5, page 7.

"Best's 45,000 Cycle Super-heterodyne."  
By G.M. Best. Radio May 1924,  
Pages 10-14, 49-51.

"Best Superhet Ad", the Oregonian  
November 6, 1924, page 57.

We Are Now Prepared  
to Build the

**"BEST SUPER"**  
complete with

**ALL BATTERIES  
SELF CONTAINED**

In a Compact  
**CARRYING CASE**  
Approximately

**12x12x22-inch!**

May We Interest You?

**HALLOCK & WATSON**  
192 Park St. Portland, Or.

# Improvements to the De-Luxe Superheterodyne

A Receiver Using One Stage of Tuned R. F. Ahead of Super  
and Employing Storage Battery Tubes

By A. J. Haynes

SINCE the article on the De-Luxe superheterodyne appeared in February RADIO, many inquiries have been received about the receiver, especially as to shooting trouble in the radio frequency stage, and particularly about the possibility of re-designing this remarkably sensitive set for use with five volt tubes throughout. This is a very natural desire on the part of the builder, as there is no question but that the larger tubes are more satisfactory, since they are less critical, give greater amplification per stage and as a rule last longer. There are two drawbacks, however, one being that the larger tubes take up more

employs all storage battery tubes, the current consumption for the filament circuit will be  $2\frac{1}{4}$  amperes, while the *B* battery drain will be between 25 and 35 milliamperes. This is not much more than the average superheterodyne requires, when using the potentiometer type of volume control, but is nevertheless large enough to make the cost of dry cells a consideration. Consequently the improved set is essentially a storage battery receiver.

Fig. 1 shows a front panel view of the receiver, the set consisting, as did the original one, of one stage of specially designed tuned radio frequency amplifica-

tion coupled amplification is used as the final audio amplifier rather than resistance coupling. This was done because this set is capable of delivering a large amount of energy from an outdoor aerial, and the impedance coupled amplifier handles the output better than the ordinary form of resistance amplifier, making it unnecessary to use extreme values of *B* battery. A three scale voltmeter has been included in the panel as a matter of convenience to allow a careful check to be kept on the condition of both *A* and *B* batteries.

Fig. 3 gives a rear view of the entire

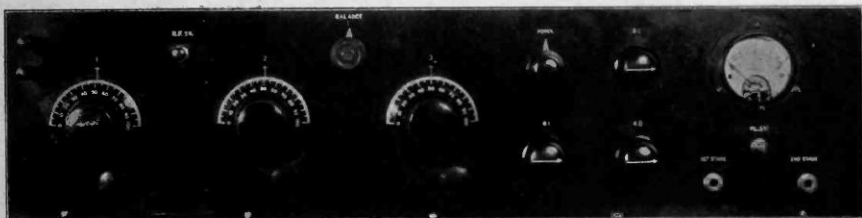


Fig. 1. Improved De Luxe Super.

room and require a larger panel, and the other which is more important, is that the set will require larger *A* and *B* batteries.

One of the features of the former set was the fact that with a combination of large and small tubes the entire *A* battery consumption was only one ampere and but 20 milliamperes were drawn from the *B* battery. If the set

tion ahead of the 1st detector. Due to the greater available space on the panel, the switch for throwing in and out of this special stage of tuned r. f. is mounted on the panel itself.

It will be noted in the schematic diagram, which is shown in Fig. 2, that a few slight changes have been made in the circuit wiring in adapting this set to the large tubes. Also a stage of impe-

layout, which shows the placing of the various instruments. In Fig. 4 a detailed diagrammatic view of the entire layout and wiring is shown, which not only gives the exact placing of the instruments on the panel and sub-base, but the actual wiring of the set as well, for those who prefer this type of diagram.

In this set it will be noticed that three rheostats are used, one controlling the

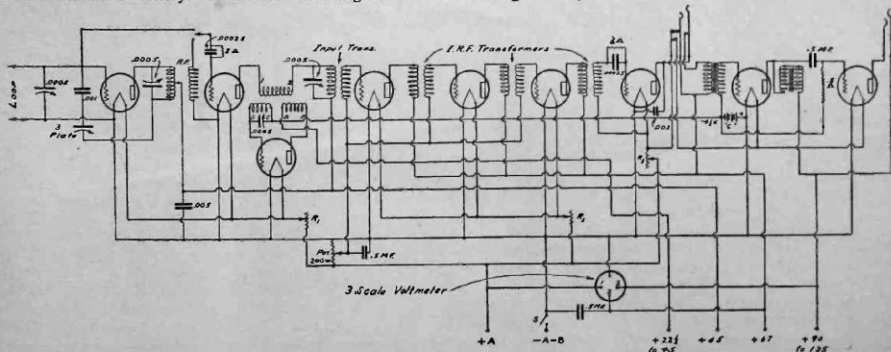


Fig. 2. Schematic Wiring Diagram.

RADIO FOR JULY, 1925

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## **My first Television Receiver**      **By Russie Ofria**

One evening, Dad arrived home from work and announced “We are going to get a Television Set”. We never had one before, as did none of our neighbors, friends or family, so I’d not had an opportunity to watch TV, though I knew what they were from magazine and newspaper ads.

I was too young to know how important Dad’s first announcement was, but the second part peaked my interest, “We’re also going to get a new car”! That idea struck me as the most profound, since I could relate to it readily. I liked our old car, a 1941 Ford Sedan, but it was a bit beat up and it had seen a few too many miles of bad city roads. In the interests of a reliable way to move his young family around, Dad wanted a better car, so the old Ford had to be replaced.

That weekend we went out shopping, the first stop being the appliance dealer. A Motorola Television with a “big” 7” screen was the perfect size to place on top of the coffee table while we all relaxed on the sofa. All of us were excited and everything was perfect except for one thing... the price tag of over \$350 was a bit too significant for us to make a buy on the spot. The decision was made to move on to the search for a new car, after that we’d get back to the Television.

Dad had his heart set on owning a Mercury, so off to the local dealer we went. Beautiful big round fenders, a quiet engine, bench seats front and rear and chrome that sparkled, all these things dazzled my senses. It was a black 1951 Mercury two door. It too was expensive, with extras it came to about \$1450. The TV and car were a bit too much for our budget, therefore we couldn’t afford both. Dad decided to pass on the television set with the explanation: “The price will come down in time”, but at least we got a new car.

The following summer, my Uncle (Dad’s younger brother) bought a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand DuMont Television receiver. That changed Dad’s desire for a television set from a discretionary luxury to a competitive necessity. We went looking and came home with the same Motorola style as we passed up before. It was in a black bakelite case and was used already. We were happy to have any TV, and soon learned that we were the only ones on our block who had one. We had a run of frequent visits from our neighbors until the novelty wore thin. Those were great visits, it helped us to get to know our neighbors better.

A couple of years after that, we upgraded to a 21" RCA and the old Motorola went to my room where it stayed until we bought a new color set in 1959 (the Motorola wound up in the attic of my Grandparents home, where it stayed until I came home from Viet Nam). Then the RCA took its turn in my room until it failed to work sometime near my senior high school year. I had developed a strong interest in electronics by then, but only a mild interest in how television worked, so I never bothered to get the RCA working again. I have no recollection of what happened to the RCA.

By the way, the Mercury remained Dad's pride, and when we bought a new Ranch Wagon in 1956, the Merc became his test bed for customizing ideas and hot rodding (it puzzled me at that time, why he would take a functioning feature on that car and change it to something else). My older sister inherited it when she was married, and I lost track of it after that.

I had forgotten about the Motorola, until one Mother's Day celebration, about 1975. I was visiting with Grandma, catching up on things. Grandpa had passed, and as I was reminiscing with her, she announced "Your Grandpa once told me that you had some things stored in the attic. I think you should come and get them, before someone else does!". "Oh yeah", I remembered, "I do have some things there, I'll come get them tomorrow".

It was such a delight to see that old Motorola again! I took it with me and found a place in my home for it. I was surprised to learn that it still worked (kind of), but it was no longer practical to view for more than a few minutes, given that I was spoiled by my Sony Trinitron which had much a superior and more comfortable to watch picture.

For weeks after that, I talked to anyone who would listen, about what it meant to me. Like an old photograph, it brought on wonderful childhood memories of lying on the floor before it, with a few school chums, or neighborhood kids, watching cartoons and Laurel and Hardy.

I still have that old Motorola. It is in the permanent part of our collection. Whenever we give tours of the museum, when we get to the area where the Motorola is displayed, there is always a pause as I recount the provenance of this memorable piece.





This is the old Motorola set today, as it sits on display in our collection. It hasn't been turned on since the switchover to digital transmission, but "it worked when we last tried it"!



A few parts are missing from the front end of the car, apparently as it was being customized and fitted with a different style grille. This photo from about 1955.

## Original NWVRS Members (Active in Blue)

By Dick Karman

Harley Perkins

Don Iverson

Don Knotts

[Alan Shaddock](#)

Orval White

Lou Stober

Peter Young

[Dick Howard](#)

Ron Moran

Harold Woodruff

Maurice Leates

Tom James

Chet Burress

Bruce and Jean Fletcher

Jerry and Nina Irwin

[Art Redman](#)

Robert and Jean Connors

Ron Gorshoerowski

Glenn Gorshoerowski

Joe Tompkins

John Wood

Bob and Sandi Bilbie

Max Clampitt

James Mason

Don Hunker

Wayne Barney

Bill Baker

John McConnell

Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Rowland

Tom and Marilyn Stebens

Joe Joncas



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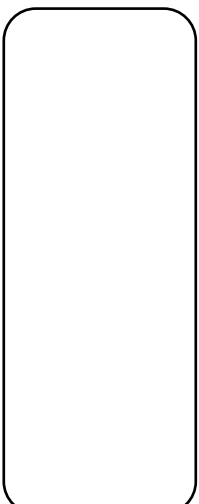
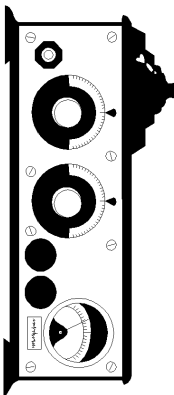
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