

CALL LETTER

VOL II NO.6

Written & Edited by Bob Bilbie, and printed by Lightning Quick Print, without the use of specialized equipment. Graphics in this issue also done by Bob Bilbie. All submissions should be sent in by the 25th of the month. This is published each month for the edification of the members of The Northwest Vintage Radio Society-Free of charge



**NORTHWEST
VINTAGE RADIO
SOCIETY**

***** ALL ELECTRIC ISSUE *****

In keeping with our club policy of furthering the interest in all aspects of antique radio, here we present for your enjoyment, the long promised ALL ELECTRIC ISSUE. During the past year and a half, the battery set collectors have had their fair share of pictures and articles, with little or no mention of those old and beautiful electrics, so full of character that most of us remember. These old gems provided us with so much entertainment during those dreadful years of the depression and later the War, that we can all recall how well they held our families together during those trying times of constant hunger and anxiety! The editor is in no way demeaning the battery radios, but we do feel that ALL RADIO should be given an equal share of the limelight. We also hope you "Battery Boys" find this issue as interesting as we do, but if not, hang in there and next month we'll have something for you again.....

AND SO WE BEGIN.....

THE AC RADIO....Ever since the advent of radio broadcasting there had been a strong demand for receivers which could be operated from "the light socket". This was established as one of the MAJOR OBJECTIVES to be attained by set manufacturers and designers. Its practical accomplishment is greatly to the credit of those who attacked the problems. The original Vacuum Tube required DIRECT CURRENT for the proper functioning of its elements. Relatively heavy current at low voltage was needed for filament supply. The PLATE supply called for relatively high voltage at low drain. The grid required different voltages for different purposes but negligible current. So far as plate and grid voltages are concerned the Ac tube requirements are the same as the old battery type tubes, but the newer AC type tubes were designed to use AC to light the filaments. The appearance of these tubes caused a veritable stampede from the battery operated tubes and sets!.....and so started the long line of improvements down through the years, better tubes, push-pull circuits to help eliminate AC hum, screen grid tubes, convenient one dial tuning, tuning devices and finally a radio that looked like a real piece of furniture instead of the ungainly "coffin boxes" of the battery set era. Only a short span of 5 years separate the primitive from the efficient!! And so into the "Golden Era" of radio where the BIG and BEAUTIFUL and amazingly efficient consoles thrilled all of us with its big resonant voice which even today stands head and shoulders above anything man has since created!! Admittedly, our program material has deteriorated, but with some careful tuning one can still find an occasional "oasis" of sound.

From Western Music and Radio Journal-May, 1929:
Technically, the principal new features that are likely to be found in finer radios offered at the RMA (Radio Mfg. Assoc.) Trade Show are:

- A.C. Screen Grid tubes in the R.F. stages; Band Selector Tuning for increased selectivity; A.C. Screen Grid power detector; Push-Pull power output stage using the new #245 tubes; to provide ample undistorted volume for home entertainment; Dynamic Speakers of improved high note response; Auto regulating of fluctuating power line voltages and LOWER prices on high grade receivers.



Cat. No. B1299

**Replacement
Dynamic Speaker
For Victor R-32,
RE-45, RE-52,
RE-75 Sets**



Cat. No. B1266 **\$3.95**

1929

\$22.75



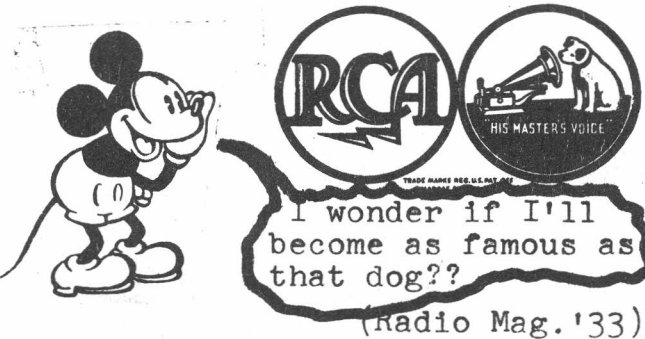
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McMurdo Silver, of Silver-Marshall, Inc., sees several trends in radio receiver design today in 1928. These trends are toward finer-toned reception of local-distant stations, with diminished interference, from self-contained receivers, with ONE DIAL, AC receivers of increased convenience appeal, coupled with lowered initial and operating costs! (from RADIO mag. April, 1928) Amen.....

IS THIS A PENTODE YEAR?

There are indications that the coming year will see PENTODES coming over the horizon. It has all the earmarks of the screen grid era of two years

ago. Its success depends on how heavily the pentode tube is advertised by the leading manufacturers. Lyric, Atwater Kent and Clarion have already announced Pentode Models. Not that the pentode is a very much better tube than the screen grids we now have, although it is much more powerful and has widely different characteristics than the screen grid sets..... It is something NEW to sell.... and the radio public will clamor for the NEW in radio! (This was written during the Great Depression when getting anyone to buy anything without money was a problem for ALL the set builders, this still sounds like the typical Madison Avenue "Big Sell" to the Editor) Re-printed from Radio Magazine, April, 1931.....



And on and on followed the innovations and developments in AC radios, better tubes, easier tuning, better speakers, prettier cabinets and lower costs and who knows better than a collector how those improvements increased our enjoyment of old radio, that is, the REALLY GOOD old radios. And finally we find that rare gem that has that something we all find hard to explain, (unless you are lucky enough to own one) the Radio that has PRESENCE. Listen sometime to an "X" model Philco and you will see what we are talking so enthusiastically about!!

Your editor was born way back in 1924 in Pittsburgh, Penna., and how fondly I can remember my dear old Dad, laboring over his beloved old radios, too when I was but a kid, and after having a set of headphones clamped over my ears and hearing station KDKA coming from all that mysterious mechanism, I have never lost that initial fascination! How wrong it was for me to drop a marble down Dad's horn to hear it gargle, or turn the rheostats way up to see how bright the "bulbs" would burn or forget to turn the damn thing off, killing the batteries! These little acts would displease Dad no end and I still have the scars to prove it! Perhaps my one regret is that Dad did not live to see the marvelous improvements made in radio in the later years for he passed away when I was 13 years old, leaving me with those nostalgic memories.. Yes, dear old radio, I DO love you!

And now, these offerings from our poet, Tom James.....

Joe loves to create new gear,
With parts from the twenties, I hear,
This must be the reason
this bi-cen-ten season,
For all of this static, I fear!
El Fumo del PU
Of Iris, I collect a few old cultivars,
Another buff dotes on old timey cars,
Some amass this and that,
But a pox on the cat,
Who gathers old raunchy cigars!

Please turn page for more entertainment!

Northwest Vintage Radio Society



5 Tube Pentode

Cat. No. B1297
\$14.95
Complete with 5 RCA Tubes!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE STENODE CIRCUIT?

"A new circuit introduced close on the heels of the superheterodyne, is the STENODE. It is designed to provide a maximum of selectivity through the use of a special circuit in which is introduced a mechanical oscillator in the form of a quartz crystal. The radio signal, in passing through the Stenode Circuit, is actually forced "through an exceedingly narrow aperture", and then reconstructed by means of a "corrector circuit" placed in the radio at the audio section. (From Western Music & Radio Trades Journal-June, 1931)



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Some people save their money for a rainy day....Me.....I'd rather save mine for a sunny day and a radio!!

Fellas and gals, would you take time out of a busy schedule and drop your old hard working editor a card letting me know how I can improve this little newsletter for you?? Sometimes we wonder if this monthly escapade is getting the job done. Critics are a necessary evil, for with them things are improved, so please help us. Will you?

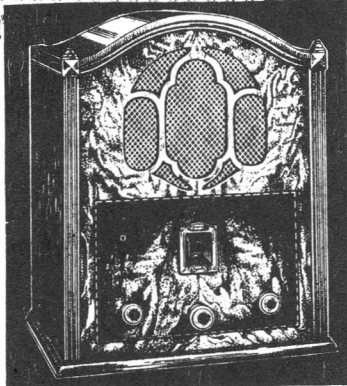
AND NOW....MORE TOM JAMES POETRY!

Lament of the Old Radio Buff
Many were the hours spent
Twisting on the dials,
Bringing in the stations
O'er the ether miles,
50 years ago, 50 years ago,
I had a battery set
Some 50 years ago.

Now its all a dream, folks,
A distant cloudy blur;
Charge it all to progress---
Happy days that were.
50 years ago, 50 years ago,
I had Alladins' lamp,
Bout 50 years ago

Tee-Vee now is with me,
Shows me every move.
This scientific booby trap
Lines me in the groove
50 years ago, 50 years ago,
Oh science, send me back again
to 50 years ago!

t/j 73's



● 8-TUBE SUPERHETERODYNE mantel model. Matched walnut panel with imported marquetry inlay. Sold complete with Majestic, \$4780 tubes, \$69.50; less tubes,



● NEW 8-TUBE MAJESTIC SUPERHETERODYNE chassis in a beautiful Tudor lowboy. Panels of matched butt walnut. Sold complete only with Majestic tubes, \$119.50; \$9780 less tubes

Majestic

Licensed under patents and applications of R. C. A., Hazeltine, R.F.L., La Tour, also by Lovell & Dunmore

RADIO

How many out there own or have ever heard of a FALCK radio? If you own one of these old timers you have the rarest electric set of all! After doing some careful research work, we have come up with the following information. FALCK radios were built under the supervision of an obscure firm in Los Angeles called ADVANCE ELECT. CO. who was in business from 1927 to 1929, built only seven models, and when Wall Street crashed in '29, they went bye-bye too. These radios are not listed in Riders (at least the one I have isn't, since it has no screen grid tubes-there are several listed using that type of tube, Ed.) Mine has a BUILDERS PLATE BUT NO MODEL NUMBER, which is strange indeed. Can anyone else come up with more info on this very rare old jewel, if so contact "The Call letter and we'll print it for all to see!"
next page, please



We have a very nice member down in Eugene, Oregon, name of KEN SMITH who is really a great guy and is becoming famous in his own way. He has had several write-ups in the papers there as well as providing Morgan McMahon with a lot of the pictures used in Morgans new book, "At the Flick of a Switch." Ken is what we consider a collector should be - one who loves ALL radio, be it battery or electric! He has his own going business, too, Kens Electronics which is quite an accomplishment for a youngster of 26! He took every available electronics course in high school when he was only 17, plus any other scientific course he could find, and is an extremely capable technician. He started

his business when he was only 20 years old. At present count he has 108 radios of every shape & description, but he likes the electric radios the best because of the electronic challenges they present. (Wish I could talk him out of his half-round Stromberg-Carlson console that plays & looks so beautiful, Ed.) He has many rare ones too, including a Delco ash tray radio and an old Nuetrowound still in its original packing crate, which took first prize at an AWA meet for best original condition! Ken feels that modern radios cannot compare to the vintage models in style and sound quality and we quote, "They all had there own personalities, and the audio was better then. Transistors generate their own noise." Amen, Ken....we agree heartily! Any of you who happen to be in Eugene sometime, drop in and visit with a very nice and remarkable young man. Thanks again, Ken for the effort you spent on Sandys' little wall phone radio and happy collecting!!

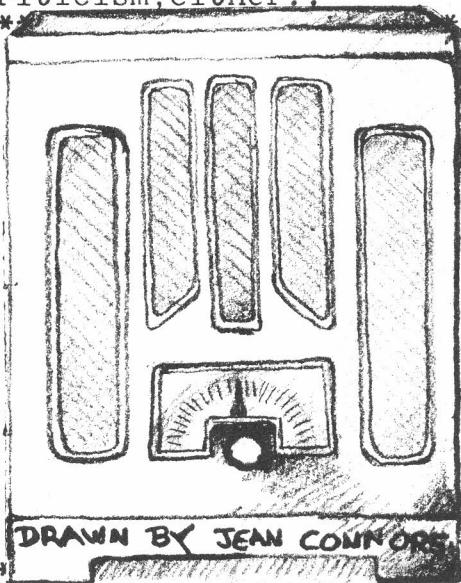
The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at the Buena Vista Club in Oregon City, JUNE, 12th, 1976 at 10 AM, Saturday morning, as usual. Be ther!

The editor wishes to welcome all new members into our club, and hopes some day to be able to meet every one personally. Drop us a line and let us know how you like our newsletter and don't be afraid to offer criticism, either!!

WANTED COLUMN

- By Jim Mason, Treasurer
- Power Supply & Dial Pointer/Strom-Carlson #60I-B
- Power Supply-Bosch Model 28 and Kolster K-20
- Power trans/Radiola 33 and Philco 5II
- Cab. & Spkr/Philco Models #7I and 89
- Spkr for Sparton Mod. 930 and Spart. tubes #I82 & 484
- Chassis & spkr for Ozarka Mod. 78 "Minuet"
- Following tubes - ID7G, ID5G, IH4g, IE6G, IH6G
- (No, Jim I have not forgotten the Radiola book on the amplifier - just busy as hell)

- By Bob Bilbie
- Spkr for Philco, Jr, Model 80
- Schematics on Hamurland-Roberts Hi-Q, circa 1925
- Any Stromberg-Carlson radio, console or table model
- (Have several battery sets/will trade for above)



WHEN I DIE
PUT
THIS
TOMB-
STONE
ON
MY
GRAVE
!!

Well, there you have it for this month, if you are disappointed think about your contribution to the "All-Electric Issue". Send in the things you would like to have published and we will do it for you -- its that simple!!

Sorry! It was too late to publish "Marks Memo" this time, but we will have it for you again next month.....

HAPPY COLLECTING and may all your little tubes glow brightly forever!

GENERAL  ELECTRIC