

# Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, Portland, Oregon

Volume 19

December 1993

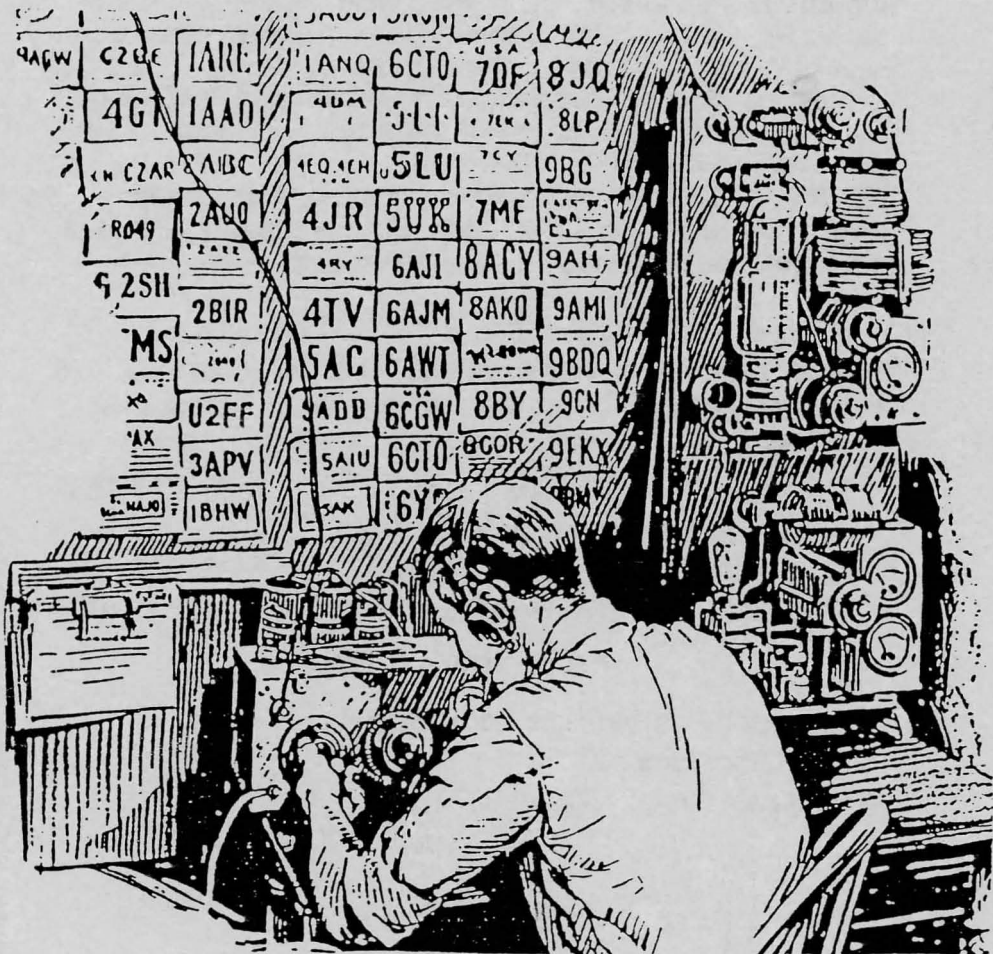
Number 12

*This Month:*

*Next Month:*

Elections, Business &  
Christmas Banquet,  
December 18th, 2:30

New Year, and  
New Officers



## Vintage Radio Society

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 \$15.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year.

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 members the Call Letter has continued to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that has supported the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum, 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd street) in Portland Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and information exchange. 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 SW Portland.

### Society Officers:

President	Speed Feldschau	(503) 390-3928
Vice President	Gordon Phillips	(503) 234-3517
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Joel Camicia	(503) 287-7832
Board member at large and Call Letter Editor	Dick Karman	(503) 281-6585
Museum Curator	Frank Rasada	(503) 246-3400

### The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society  
Post Office Box 82379  
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

# The CALL LETTER

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## December 1993

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## December Meeting

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The December meeting date is December 18th, 1993. The time is 2:30 PM. This is a deviation from our normal meeting time and date. After the meeting, which will include election of officers, a Christmas banquet will be held for members and their families. Those wishing to stay for the meal, please call Sonny Clutter (503) 254-9296 prior to December 18th so proper accommodations can be made for all attending.

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# Meeting Minutes

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## NVRS Meeting of November 13th, 1993.

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM by Vice President Gordon Phillips. The minutes of the October meeting were accepted as published in the Call Letter. The Treasurer's report was submitted and accepted.

### Old Business

The chair raised the question of what was to be on the name tags: NWVRS or NVRS. A show of hands indicated that they would use NWVRS. The name tags will be available for the price of \$6.

Rudy Zvarich reported that Wilbur Jerman has returned home from the hospital and is recovering from his illness. Rudy has made contact with Fred Murphey and a video tape of Mr. Jerman's presentation (March 1993) will soon be available to the society.

Dick Dielschnieder reported on Swap Meets. Other sites had restrictions and some had significantly higher usage fees than the Multnomah Arts Center, so Dick was authorized to reserve the M.A.C. for our future "Radio Sales." The question was raised about a conflict in October with the Antique Auto Swap Meet. Dick said that he would avoid conflict by scheduling the Radio Show and Sale at M.A.C. for the fourth Saturday in October. All table reservation will be paid in advance.

David Rutland reported on his trip back east to the AWA Museum which included a tour by Bruce Kelly of the Spark Generators and Antique Military Radio Equipment. He also gave an account of the radio sales and swap meets he attended.

The Chair welcomed member Tech Sloat officially thanked him for all of his contributions to the Call Letter.

Jerry Talbot recommended the "Old Timers" Bulletin of the AWA as very informative to collectors.

## New Business

Gordon Phillips reported that the first printing of the "Radio Collector's Information Booklet" was completed. Those in attendance voted to distribute the booklet at no charge to the members. Twenty-five copies of the booklet were given to the members.

Jerry Talbot stated that meetings lack radios on display. He encouraged members to bring radios for "show & tell" to future meetings.

A motion was made, and passed by voice vote, to request the editor include a list of responsibilities of each officer's position be printed in the Call Letter each November.

Nominations of officers: Joel Camicia- President (declined), Jerry Talbot- Vice President (accepted), Ken Seymore-Secretary (accepted), Ed Charman- Treasurer (accepted).

Richard Baker volunteered to handle refreshments for the new year. Sonny Clutter agreed to handle meeting setup, and Nick Tonkin volunteered to help him.

## Leads & Needs

Mike Parker requested information on the Scandinavian Hour aired at 1150 KHz. Is it the longest running show of its kind?

Jerry Talbot suggested that the society buy several copies of the popular collector's book to loan out instead of having members buy them.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 and followed by a technical demonstration by Ray Nelson.

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# Tech Tip - Applying Veneer

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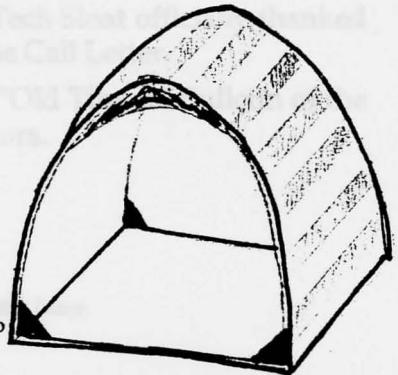
By Gordon Phillips

This is the best way I have found to glue veneer onto a tombstone or cathedral style radio cabinet. Professionals may do it differently.

In preparation, I cut several thin strips of "shirt cardboard" (or from a cereal box) which are the length of the cabinet's width. Next, I rough cut the veneer to be the right size and shape.

I apply contact cement to the back of the veneer and to the radio cabinet. you must follow the instructions for application from the can. Different brands vary. I use a fine bristle two inch wide brush. When the cement is no longer wet to touch, I check to see if enough cement has been applied. I apply a second coat to areas that appear to need them. I let it set up enough so that the cardboard strips do not adhere to the cement.

I place the cardboard strips on the radio (as shown) using blue masking tape so that they will be easily removed as the gluing progresses. I then fit the veneer to the cabinet with the strips keeping the two glued surfaces apart. Check to see that the veneer meets the edge or abuts the molding (if there is any) before proceeding. If all is well, pull the top strip of cardboard out and press the veneer into contact with the cabinet. I use a burnishing roller (the kind used for wall paper work) which is about 3" wide to apply pressure to the cemented surfaces. After the top is securely anchored, I remove one strip at a time down each side applying pressure with the roller to insure good contact. This progresses until all of the strips are removed and the veneer is in place.



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# Obituaries

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**Actor Vincent Price**, and a rich history of early radio performances passed away last month. Although Mr Price has appeared in movies and on television, your editors best memories of him are from radio. The definitive signature performance was the role of Simon Templar as "the Saint" between 1947 and 1950. His voice was easily discernable in casts of multiple stars in performances broadcast on Columbia Present Corwin ( 1941), Hollywood Startime (1944), The Phillip Morris Playhouse (1939-45), The Ford Theater (1947), The Screen Guild Theater (1948), The Hollywood Star Playhouse (1951-52), CBS Radio Theater (1950's), and The Family Theater (1955-57).

**Professor Theremin**, the inventor of the first electronic musical instrument, died on November 8th, 1993. Leon Theremin was a physicist who was born in Russia, and who brought his invention to the United States in 1927. The instrument, beautifully enclosed in a mahogany cabinet, had a chassis resembling a Radiola 17 with the tuning capacitor removed. It was played by moving the musician's hands around the proximity of the cabinet and its two antennas. Only 200 of these rare instruments were produced by RCA in 1929. Although its inventor has passed from the scene, Theremin music lives on. For more information see the January 1989 CALL LETTER *"The First Electronic Synthesizer"* written by Sonny and Lila Clutter.

**Actor and Announcer Don Ameche** passed away on December 6th at the age of 85. Few radio fans can forget the Bickersons, Don Ameche as John, and Francis Langford as Blanche. Mr Ameche (not to be confused with his brother Jim) was also the long time announcer on the Charley McCarthy Show. Mr Ameche died of cancer at his home in Arizona.

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# Letters

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To the members of NVRS, (excerpts)

I have been out of touch with the society for a long time. Perhaps some of your newer members would like to know that a lady started the club . . . Back in the early 70's, when radio collecting was not as popular, I had amassed a collection of 450 radios in all manner of repair and disrepair, when we lived in Oregon City. Now, my wife is a very understanding and forgiving person, but living in a one-bedroom house with an insane radio collector and 450 radios was just too much for this lady to take. She said, "Get rid of those radios, or I'm leaving." I mulled over this offer for a couple of weeks and realized that my wife was less frustrating than those radios, so I decided to sell all that I had collected.

Sandy asked everyone who came to the sale, "If we started a radio club, would you join?" The response was over-promising [affirmative]. Harley Perkins was one of our customers, and we decided to meet at my house in Oregon City to hammer out the details of getting a club started. We men decided that it would not work, but Sandy said that it would work. She was right. We started with about 10 charter members.

Later, it was decided to have a ladies auxiliary, and it was called the *Power Supply*: very aptly named we felt. Sandy, as a member of the Oregon City Ladies Club, was also instrumental in obtaining the club house on Jackson street as the club's first meeting place and clubhouse.

We miss all of the old guys like Jim Mason, Tom James, Joe Tompkins, Maurice Leete, Harley Perkins, Allen Shaddock, Mark Moore, and Don Iverson (does he still wear that white cap?). I understand that some of these members are in heaven and still searching for that elusive gem they couldn't find.

In our travels we find collectors back east that know of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Keep up the good work.

Thank you,  
Bob & Sandy Bilbie, 1209 S. Nevada Avenue,  
Box 11 Space 84, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903



To President Speed Feldschau

. . . We had a good time at your place [Summer Swap Meet] and found a few goodies to buy. We thought your event was thoughtfully layed out and advertised and can only guess how much work it took on your part to organize it.

Sachi & Max Kaplan

To Speed Feldschau

Thank you for inviting us to your swap meet. We had a good time and met some nice people. . . Your hard work was very much appreciated. (Hot dogs were good too.)

Ed & Kay Curry

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## Radio News

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Distinguished broadcaster and war correspondence Edward R Murrow will be honored with a 1994 U.S. commemorative postage stamp to be issued in January. Murrow is part of the Northwest graduating from Washington State University in 1930 and going on to greatness through the course of World War II.





# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## *Delayed Delivery*

*The white bear cubs were playing tag,  
Polar lights were flashing bright--  
It was December twenty-fourth,  
Preceding that fateful night.*

*Santa's helpers were grooming deer,  
Mrs. S. was making soup.  
Old St. Nick was a busy guy,  
Filling pack bags with a scoop.*

*The sleigh was finally readied  
For that annual Xmas dash;  
The reindeer poised and prancing--  
Then off in a blinkin' flash!*

*Nick took a radio out of a pack  
(From the many in the sleigh),  
Just to listen to the carols  
And thus while the miles away.*

*He arrived four hours late that night,  
(Early folks were getting up)  
All because he hunted DX  
With somebody's Crosley Pup!*

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# Acquisitions

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## Dick Dielschneider

1947 Midwest Model 716  
Grunow Model 7A Thomstone  
Philco 40-180 Console  
Philco 41-280 Console  
Zenith 9-S-365

## Richard Bosch

This is the first half of a list of what Richard found this last summer.

1939 Airline model 04BR-420B  
1940 Airline model 04BR-514A  
1940 Airline model 62-288  
1926 American Bosch, Amborada  
1935 American Bosch model 604  
1936 American Bosch model 670S  
1931 Atwater-Kent Model 84 Cathedral  
1939 Belmont model 636  
- 1940 Belmont model 633  
1946 Belmont model 5D-128  
1946 Belmont model 6D-111  
1947 Belmont model 6D-121  
1947 Bendix model 636BA  
1947 Bendix model 526MB  
1946 Brandes model 1021TB  
1946 Brewster model 9-1084  
1940 Coronado model 527  
1946 Coronado model 43-8180  
1939 Crosley model C-529B  
1947 Crosley model 56TD-R  
1949 Crosley model 9-103  
1946 Delco model 1154  
1936 Detrola model 148

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# Swap Shop

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**WANTED:** Philco model 60 chassis or whole radio - any condition- Jerry Talbot (503) 649-6717.

**FOR SALE:** Sears Silvertone 7" portable TV - \$75 - Jerry Talbot (503) 649-6717.

**FOR SALE:** Still have many radios: transistors, early battery sets, consoles, catlins, and portable from my collection. Sonny Clutter (503) 254-9296.

**REMINDER:** Tables will be provided at every regular meeting for those who wish to sell or swap vintage radio equipment.

**Leads-** These items are for sale by a non member. It is listed as a service to the membership.

**FOR SALE:** Zenith 6-G-801Y, Zenith 6-G-001YXZ, RCA 9-Y-510, Silvertone 8118C, and multiple transistor radios. David Huttula, All Star Music, Vancouver, WA, (503) 242-1124.



May the Star that guided  
mankind to a knowledge of  
God over 1900 years ago,  
shine unmistakably on you  
for now and forever.

*Merry  
Christmas  
Editor Dick*

# Increase the Range of your AERIOLA SR. with the new AC AMPLIFIER



**T**HE new A C Amplifier, to a considerable extent, increases the reception possibilities of the Aeriola Sr. With head telephones and the A C Amplifier reception ranges of one hundred to three hundred miles become possible for the owner of an Aeriola Sr., depending on local conditions. Used with the Vocarola loud-speaker, the Aeriola Sr. and A C Amplifier fill a whole room with music and speech received over distances of ten to thirty miles.

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"Radio Enters the  
Home." Price 35  
cents by mail or at  
your dealer's.*