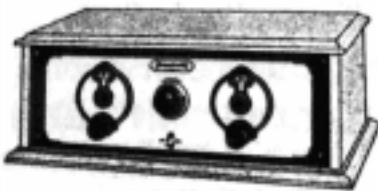


The

Call Letter

June, 2001
Vol. 27 — No. 6

UNMATCHED
FOR
TONE



HALOWAT All-Wave Type A-W-3
in "A" Cabinet, price . . . \$11.00
The new "All-Wave" may also be had in several
other cabinet models to addition to one shown.

Prove to yourself HALOWAT superiority

The dealer who sells the HALOWAT knows from experience that "comparison proves its superiority". He will gladly demonstrate it against any other receiver, regardless of price. If its volume and clarity of tone do not win you in its favor, you will not be obligated to buy.

UNMATCHED
TONE

The quality of tone in the new Halowat "All Wave" Receiver must be heard to be appreciated; its superior design, painstaking assembly and simplicity of operation must be seen, to convince you of its outstanding superiority to other makes.

UNMATCHED
TONE

It gets distance with clarity of tone that is amazing! It spans the full band of wave lengths from 185 to 370 meters with equal efficiency. In short, it gives everything one could wish for in a fine receiver—something heretofore unattained.

A five tube, tuned radio frequency receiver with two full control—with direct reading of wave lengths in the dial. Designed to use the new Power tube as audio-amplifier. Uses modern audio transformers, the most advanced and proven hook-up, account for the wide range and marvellous depth of tone in Halowat.

Do not buy any receiver until you have compared the Halowat. Sold only thru authorized Halowat dealers.

HALLOCK & WATSON RADIO CORP
PORTLAND, OREGON

There is still some available territory for
sub-authorized dealers. Write for information.



HALOWAT

"COMPARISON PROVES ITS SUPERIORITY"

Over 25 years in print!

The Northwest 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 \$20.00 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 (except July and August) 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 show, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

Society Officers for 2001:

President	Charles Kent	(503) 281-9335
Vice-President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288
Board member at large	Dave Rutland	(541) 929-4498
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 284-5648
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135

The Society’s address is:

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



June 2001

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On the cover: One of Portland’s own, Halowat, made by Hallock and Watson Corp. This radio would qualify for the rare radio feature at the June meeting.

**Call Letter Deadline: 12 days prior
to meeting day.**

**The next meeting is on June 9 (last meeting before the
Summer break).**

The monthly feature is:

“Rare radios” — Bring any radios that you feel are rare.

Tailgate swap meet starts at 8:30!

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

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 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

Who did it? Who gave me the piece that I used for the April cover? Dan Howard says that he wasn't the one. So who should I credit with handing me that extremely funny piece of satire?

This month marks the premier of "Play It Again, Sam!", a column that Dave Brown, our web master, is compiling. Send your restoration stories to Dave so that we can all enjoy and learn from them. This issue also includes Bud Larson's brief history of vacuum tubes, Voilá, Swap/Sale pictures, and Liles' take on the Swap/Sale.

Thoughts and Impressions from the Swap Meet

By Liles Garcia, Secretary, NWVRS

Since there is space for meeting minutes in our Call Letter each month, I thought that I would fill my space with some thoughts and impressions from our last swap meet. Basically, I feel that the swap meet was a huge success. There seemed to be quite a few people there that do not usually attend our swap meets. As your club secretary, I always try to go around to each table and meet the seller if I do not already know the person. This swap meet I turned some roster names into real people. To those of you that I met and talked with for the first time—it was my pleasure. I also met some of the Seattle club members. I will renew these acquaintances in Seattle this coming August. In the area of new sales, a co-worker of mine who likes old radios came and bought a console from one of our club members. Meeting new people and placing old radios in new homes—this is what our swap meets are all about.

I am going to speak for myself here, but I would like to thank Jeff Martin for allowing us to have our swap meet at the Salvation Army's Portland Rose Center. Many thanks for the coffee and pastries in the morning; and many thanks for those great lunches!!! The food preparation staff did a great job, and they deserve a lot of credit. This was seen from the number of people eating lunches at the Rose Center. Those club members that helped with the swap meet, the advertising, and the general co-ordination deserve a hearty thanks also!!!

I bought three military surplus radios at our swap meet, so I added some neat old radios to my collection. All in all, I thought that our swap meet was a huge success.

Roster Corrections/Additions

If you've moved, changed e-mail address or phone number, or you've changed your collecting interests, let me (Rick) know so I can include that information in the club roster that I plan to publish soon.

Two new e-mail address:

Ormsby, Gordon R
1855 NW Circle Place
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 753-6398 gormsby@trixiseng.com
1928-1939 Wood Radios

Walton, Rick R
3024 NE 49th Ave.
Portland, OR 97213
(503) 284-5648 rwalton@ftconnect.com
General - Radios of the 30's & 40's

NWVRS 2001 Calendar of Events

- June 1-3** Sea-Pac, ARRL Northwestern Division Convention, Seaside, OR. <http://www.seapac.org>
- June 9** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 22** Concours d'Elegance vintage car show, Forest Grove.
- August 3,4,5** Ralph Muchow Estate Auction in Elgin, Illinois.
- August 19** PSARA Annual Swap Meet.
- September 8** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 30** Chehalis Valley ARS Hamfest, Chehalis, WA. <http://www.cvars.org>
- October 13** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- TBA** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale.
- November 10** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- December 8** Regular monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

Photo Display

Photography by Rick Walton

Here are some scenes from the May Swap/Sale.





Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

by Sonny Clutter

Mike Parker... bought a Zenith Trans-Oceanic Model D-600 radio, excellent+ condition, plays well. From the same seller, he also got a box of 40+ assorted tubes, some new in box for \$25 that included a NOS 1L6 tube for the Trans-Oceanic!....good find Mike!

Sonny Clutter... While on vacation found a rare "Sunnyvale Radio Shop" set from the early 20's, a small 1 tube, slope panel with the tube protruding from the middle of the panel!

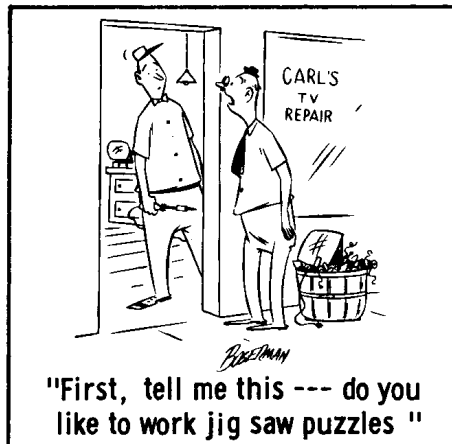
Mark Richardson... Hammarlund SP 600 JX21 communications receiver, Fairbanks Morse 91 T4 radio and Crosley 51.

David Wise... Airline 93BR-7515B 7-tube tombstone, Motorola 56CE plastic clock radio and a GE P807A transistor.

Pat Kagi... G.E. E-101, Philco 37-675, Philco 38-7, Philco 46-1201, Sparton 1867, Zenith 63527, Stewart Warner 950 in a 'McLagan' wood case.

Cheers, Sonny the RadiolaGuy

Visit my vintage radio site at: <http://www.radiolaguy.com>



Play It Again, Sam!

Compiled by Dave Brown

The column where club members can publish their restoration accomplishments!

Rick Walton — Actually, nothing is “playing again” yet, but I’ve worked on a couple of the radios that I acquired in the auction at the May Swap/Sale.

First is that tiny little Travler portable. When I opened the back, it was obvious that the first order of business was to replace the battery connection wires with the crumbling rubber insulation. The trickiest part was getting the battery snaps off the ends of the B-battery wires. The snaps were soldered and crimped to the wires. Patience and a good solder-sucker did the trick. I didn’t have to replace any other wires because only the wire on the outside of the chassis had the deteriorated rubber. The next step is to find some way to clean up the outside covering.

Next is the Stewart-Warner farm set. Despite the apparent condition of the set at the auction, it turned out to be in fair shape. A little carpenter’s glue and clamps took care of the only cabinet problems. Some day a refinish job might be in order, but for now it is OK. A nice surprise was that a missing knob was caught in the chassis, and all the missing hardware was trapped on the speaker magnet. The radio is reassembled now, but I haven’t tried it yet.

Like most of my restoration projects, these will probably wind up as long-term projects, but will eventually be finished.

Dave Brown — In one of the seven or so transactions I made with the seller of the Jerry Kubick estate, I obtained a cute little 1930 Gloritone Model 27S Lowboy. Instantly I knew it was a ‘keeper’. It was one of the first sets from this estate which I started restoring. It soon became obvious, however, that it had extensive power supply damage including a bad transformer. Therefore it sat around my place for almost a year before I restarted the restoration effort. Most of the power supply needed to be rebuilt. But where to find a power transformer with 2.5V filament windings and not be put in the poor house? Perhaps some of you recall my asking at the meetings and via e-mails if anyone had one. I wasn’t able to locate one. Couldn’t locate filter caps which looked anything like the missing originals either.

Well, I finally bit the bullet and bought the \$80.00 transformer from AES. It fit almost perfectly, just had to drill a couple new holes. Then I added the new after market filter caps the original choke, and wired and tied it all up. I then had to experiment with an additional voltage divider resistor. The original B+ was around 225V but the B+ off this new transformer was 375V! Luckily I calculated the proper resistance to tame the B+ down to what it should be and got all of the voltages right on per the voltage chart.

After double checking my work, I fired it up on the variac and - no fire! Other than a couple noisy tubes which I replaced, it worked quite well! A little orange oil and the cabinet looked great.

It's still the fantastic little lowboy I obtained but now it works! Restoring it was a real pleasure. Listening to it is even better!

Check its photo out at <http://ironradio.com/gt27s.html>



Image copyright 2001 - David C. Brown

Vacuum Tubes

Robert L. (Bud) Larson, W7LNG (c) 1998

This brief paper accompanied a talk at the Medford, Oregon ham radio club. Later, the author was a founding member of the Tube Collectors Ass'n. P.O. Box 1181, Medford, OR, 97501. \$20.00 yearly dues include six magazines and occasional booklets.

Many of the electronic devices in use today were developed using vacuum tubes. About 95 years ago Lee deForest was seeking a more sensitive detector for wireless waves. The crude detectors then in use (coherers) severely limited the transmission range. DeForest tried to use something vastly different. He started with a Bunsen burner with electrodes in the flame. By connecting the positive of his battery to one electrode he could hear signals in the earphone. The flame was not practical because any small breeze would distort the action. He then hired McCandles (a maker of Christmas tree lights) to make a bulb with a filament and an added element, a plate. (In later years he claimed that he did not know about Fleming's valve at the time). DeForest's arrangement was not the same as either Edison's or Fleming's. DeForest is credited with the nomenclature, still used, of A, B, and C batteries. This simple diode with a B battery and earphone in the plate circuit was better than the coherer.

When he added the grid a large improvement resulted. After many experiments he developed the audio amplifier. In 1912 a three-stage amplifier squealed. This was an oscillator, of course, but it was not what they wanted. Many years later deForest took away Armstrong's rights to the regenerative circuit because lab notes proved prior use of regeneration. Many think this patent action was unfair to E.H. Armstrong was making a receiver and deForest's experience was an accident. Lawsuits sometimes upset what is really right. For some time both deForest and Marconi's company were prevented from making tubes, the result of conflicting patents.

Many tried to get in the tube manufacturing business. In those days patents sewed up most of the circuits and techniques. One "bootlegger", Elmer Cunningham, sold many of his Audiotrons that were built in Oakland, California. He finally reached an agreement with the patent owner, RCA, to market tubes made for him by GE. Unknown to most, the tubes were the same, just different markings. C or CX for Cunningham, UV or UX for RCA. Collectors have found about 500 various '01A tubes. Looking at the radio Magazines from the twenties show numerous manufacturers and even rebuilders.

One company that successfully won a patent suit brought by RCA was Heinz and Kaufman. They made gridless transmitting tubes that used a second plate for the control element. These were called Gammatrons. When the grid patent expired they quickly adopted it, improving the amplification markedly. Several tube manufacturers had their start in what is now known as Silicon Valley. Lewis and Kaufman, Eimac, Varian and Penta come to mind. Gridless triodes and many other odd tubes are on display at Ye Olde Transmitting Tube Museum in Crescent City, California. Phone Al Jones before your visit.(707)464-6470.

Both world wars spurred tube development. Radar, for instance needed high-power keyer tubes that could handle megawatts for microseconds. These pulse tubes, originally modified transmitting tubes, found use in many ham transmitters after the war. Now even the audio group uses some in their class A circuits. Radar used klystron microwave tubes for local oscillators and special crystal diodes for detectors. Wide-band low-noise IF amplifiers made the signal available for display on the CRT. (Cathode ray tube) The 6AK5 found its way into TVs and ham equipment.

Subminiature tubes were used in missiles fired at enemy aircraft. These early guided missiles used the tubes to sense when to explode. Another use was in small VHF transmitters dropped from planes. The sound of submarines would send a signal out to alert the troops. (Sonobouys) Some hearing aids and even radios used these tiny tubes but cost prevented large-scale use. The transistor took over most of this market.

In 1913 E.H.Armsrtong (later to develop the superhet and FM broadcasting) discovered that by adding a coil in the plate circuit of an Audion detector regeneration was created, amplifying the weak signals greatly. A QST article in 1915 showed a similar circuit and was quickly put in use in many ham shack receivers. Most amateurs and many commercial operators used the regenerative sets for many years. My first ham receiver was a regen, in 1947.

Using a regenerative set on the broadcast band created squeals and even rebroadcasting of distant signals. The Neutrodyne (three-dial set) used many tubes to overcome the lack of the gain of triodes. Tetrodes and pentodes, along with vastly improved superhet sets became popular about 1930. The regenerative set lived long in beginner and kit radios well into the 60s. Ten-tec even has a kit set for those still wanting the early technology. It uses transistors and ICs and includes an RF amplifier to prevent radiation. The vacuum tube isn't dead yet!

References: *Radiocraft*, Jan. 1947. DeForest anniversary issue.

Tube Lore, L. Sibley, (c) 1996

Saga of the Vacuum Tube, Tyne, (c)1977, Howard Sams.

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

BUY, SELL, & TRADE: Vintage Radio, Early Television and Hi-Fi.

Wanted: Tubes, Parts and whatever you might have related to early radio & TV. Visit my web-site at: <http://www.radiolaguy.com> or e-mail me at: sonny@radiolaguy.com

Thanks, Sonny Clutter, phone (360) 834-5741

WANTED: The Crystal Radio Guy wants crystal sets and toy germanium diode radios. Buy outright, or trade for other radios. Galen (503) 231-9708.

WANTED: The INGRAHAM man wants radios with wood Ingraham cabinets. If you're not sure if it's an Ingraham, call Ed Cook in Vancouver, (360) 573-1439, or e-mail "hopopco1@home.com".

WANTED: Dial glass for a Philco 41-295 console. Record turn table for a Philco 46-1201 table top radio/phonograph. Pat Kagi (360) 694-6149
kagi.pat@con-way.com

WANTED: Chassis for 1932 Airline 62-51, 12-tube superhet, (or similar model). Radiola 17 or 18 lamp hood (original or reproduction). Gordon Ormsby, 1855 NW Circle Place, Corvallis, OR 97330 ph 503-753-6398,
gormsby@trixiseng.com

WANTED: *Zenith speakers — any condition. 12" #49-150 (Bee hive cover), 6" #49-158 (with metal end bell). R.A. Dielschneider, 7040 S.W. 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97219, 503-246-1062

WANTED: **I still need a dial glass for a Telefunken radio. No model # is available but the glass is 2 1/2" long, 3 3/4" tall. The dial hole openings are 13 7/8 center to center. Thank you, SPEED

WANTED: **Dial Glass for DEWALD HARP A501. Contact Ray Vanderzanden, radiator@alveus.com or 503-648-2287

FOR SALE: A wide variety of radios at <http://radiogallerykent.com>. Charlie Kent

FOR SALE: Send large SASE for my new revised list of reasonably priced transformers, test equipment, ham gear and other stuff. Bud Larson, 1325 Ridge Way, Medford, OR 97504

FOR SALE: Vintage TV's:

1955 Stromberg-Carlson oak 21" console, \$50.

1956 Philco 17" portable, tan & white, \$50.

1957 RCA 14" maroon metal portable, \$75.

1956 Zenith 14" tan & white metal portable, \$75.

All are in working condition. Jerry Talbott (503-649-6717) e-mail jerryt@coho.net

FOR TRADE OR SALE: **Beautiful 1939 Zenith console model 12S370.

Completely restored inside and out and a real showpiece. Trades or sale wanted for equivalent value of \$1200 on table models, preferably Ingraham

cabinet radios. Call Ed Cook at 360 573 1439 or e-mail at hopopco1@home.com. Thanks, Ed Cook

FOR SALE: **Eico signal gen, cap testers, ham TV xmtr (in 42" rack) with camera, transformers, misc. parts, QRP xmtr kit (\$25.00 ppd). Working on list. Send LSASE. Bud Larson, W7LNG, 1325 Ridgeway, Medford, OR 97504

FOR SALE: **PHILCO 17,1933, 250.00; Philco 42-380, 225.00; Firestone 4a31 radio-phono, 120.00; Temple 10-tube, 250.00. Contact Ray Vanderzanden, radiatoray@alveus.com or 503-648-2287

Leads and Needs

Be sure to look through the "Leads and Needs" in the meeting minutes.

Radiolaguy's web page is full of lots of information on early radio, TV and also provides lots of links to other valuable info resources relating to the radio collecting hobby; it's not just a "for sale" site. Be sure and visit the site often. One of the services offered is pictures and information on the entire RCA "Radiola" line from 1921 to 1931 and my "show and tell" page.



ANTIQUQUE RADIO SWAP MEET

Sunday, August 19, 2001
9 AM to 1 PM

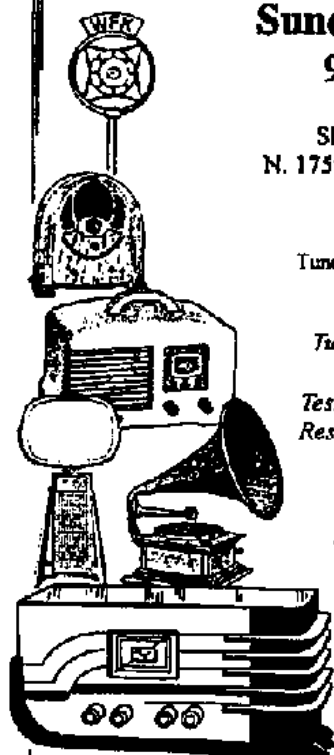
Shoreline Museum Parking Lot
N. 175th & Linden Avenue, North Seattle
(One block west of Aurora Avenue, or
one mile west of Interstate 5, Exit 174)

Tune in to the largest vintage radio event
in the Northwest, featuring:

*Tube, Transistor & Novelty Sets
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Test Equipment • Parts • Tubes
Restoration & Repair Service Info*

FREE ADMISSION

Collectors, hobbyists and sellers alike
are invited to buy, sell and trade
old radios and related gear.
Bring a table or tailgate.
Plenty of parking.



A community event sponsored by the
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PO Box 2095, Snohomish, WA 98291 (425) 747-1323 or (206) 546-5495
<http://www.cakimo.com/~hbagen/psara.html>