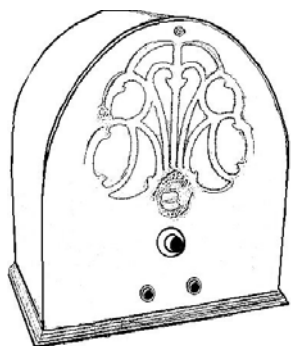


*The*  
**Call  
Letter**

May, 2004  
Vol. 30 — No. 5

# VINTAGE RADIO SALE

AND



# SWAP MEET

9 AM - 1 PM

Saturday, May 8

Salvation Army Rose Center  
N.E. 18th Ave. and Sandy Blvd.  
Portland, Oregon

# 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).

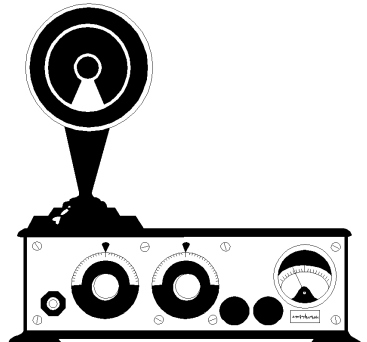
Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio show, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

## Society Officers for 2004:

President	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005
Vice-President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Tony Hauser	(503) 397-0074
Board member at large	Wendy Johnson-Kent	(503) 281-9335
<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



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# May 2004

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**On the cover:** It’s Spring, and time for the semi-annual Swap/Sale.

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### The Spring Swap/Sale is on May 8, 2004.

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**No meeting this month! But don’t miss the  
 Spring Swap/Sale at the  
 Salvation Army Rose Center.  
 June Feature:  
 Tube-type clock radios.**

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

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### June Call Letter Deadline: June 2, 2004.

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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

Where was I in April? Unfortunately, I was in the hospital from March 16 to April 4, the time frame in which I would have put together the April *Call Letter*. On the evening of March 15, I suffered a perforated diverticulum on my colon and it took three surgeries and almost three weeks in the hospital to get me to the point where I could return home. Thankfully, my recovery is going nicely and I returned to work on April 19, part-time to start out. I expect full recovery to take several months, but I'm grateful that I have the strength to return to work (and editing the *Call Letter*).

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Dick Karman for filling in at the last moment and continuing the unbroken string of *Call Letters* to our membership, and to Cliff Tuttle for setting things in motion after I called him and described my situation. What a relief it was for me to lay in that hospital bed and know that everything was well taken care of.

Dick is well represented in this issue of the *Call Letter* with his compilation of Art Redman's recollections of "show and tell" in "Looking Back." George Kirkwood appeals to the experimenter with his plans for a one-tuber that will drive a speaker.

The photo display is a month behind, featuring the photos I took at the February meeting. Sadly, there was no one taking photos at the March meeting. I'm sorry I missed that meeting not only because of the missed photos, but also because I have at least two sets I would love to have shown.

You'll notice that I've added the PSARA monthly meeting dates to our calendar. Considering the long-time association of our clubs, I feel remiss in not adding them to our calendar sooner, especially since they list our meetings in their calendar.

## NWVRS 2004 Calendar of Events

- May 8** NWVRS Spring Swap/Sale at Salvation Army Rose Center.
- May 10** Hamfest, Stanwood-Camano ARC, Stanwood, WA.
- May 16** PSARA monthly meeting 12 noon, Shoreline Historical Museum, Seattle, WA. Informal parking lot swap meet prior to meeting.

- June 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- June 18-20** SEA\*PAC, Northwestern Division Convention, Seaside, OR Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC <http://www.seapac.org>
- June 20** PSARA monthly meeting 12 noon, Shoreline Historical Museum, Seattle, WA. Informal parking lot swap meet prior to meeting.
- July 16-18** Glacier-Waterton International Peace Park Hamfest July 18-20, 2003, East Glacier, MT.  
<http://www.gwhamfest.org>
- July 16-18** Pacific Northwest DX Convention, Seattle, WA. Western Washington DX Club <http://www.wwdxc.org/2004conv.htm>, Willamette Valley DX Club <http://www.wvdx.org>
- July 18** PSARA monthly meeting 12 noon, Shoreline Historical Museum, Seattle, WA. Informal parking lot swap meet prior to meeting.
- August 14** Hamfest, Radio Club of Tacoma, Spanaway, WA  
<http://www.w7dk.org>
- September 11** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- October 9** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale at Salvation Army Rose Center.
- November 13** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2005.
- December 11** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Election of officers for 2005. Annual Holiday Party!

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## Northwest Vintage Radio Society Meeting Minutes

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Tony Hauser, NWVRS Secretary

President Cliff Tuttle called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

There were 35 members, and no guests, in attendance. The March meeting minutes, as written in the April, 2004, Call Letter were accepted as written.

## **Reports**

Editor: Cliff reported that Rick Walton had been hospitalized and was back home. He said Rick sent his thanks to the Society for the flowers and well-wishes he received. Dick Karman published the April Call Letter. Rick will be back to publish the May issue.

Treasury: Ed Charman reported our current balance was \$265.51.

Swap meet: Tony Hauser reminded members that tables were still available for next month's swap meet and asked again for volunteers for Friday evening setup and Saturday afternoon teardown. Members discussed the possibility of including a separate auction for "higher price" radios during the swap meet with a percentage of the sales going to the Society. Tony will make the final decision on including this in the May swap meet.

## **Good & Welfare**

Liles Garcia announced that Frank Olberding's wife passed away. Also, Don Iverson's wife is feeling better after a recent illness.

## **Old Business**

Cliff reminded members that any dues increase can only be approved at the annual meeting next January. He also mentioned that Rick will pick up where he left off with the email group prior to his sickness.

Cliff, once again, called for students volunteer teachers for a possible basic electronics class.

Cliff reported that opinions about the trash bash were that it was a success. The Society took in \$12 (after expenses) from the event. He felt it should be an annual event.

George Kirkwood brought up the annual radio competition and suggested that it include a limited number of categories and that it be held at the annual holiday party in December. The members discussed ideas about the competition. The categories will be set at the June meeting.

Dick Karman reminded us that this December marks the Society's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **New Business**

Cliff asked members if there should be a reception committee for new members to insure that new members are welcomed and introduced to other members of the Society. He asked members to consider volunteering to set up the new committee. Tony will look into setting up information stations around the May swap meet.

## **Leads & Needs**

George asked for help in recovering parts and informational material that was stolen from him off of the officers table at the end of the March meeting.

Ed Charman reported that the remnants of a defunct radio/TV repair were being sold in Toledo, OR.

Pat Kagi needs the chassis for a General Television miniature piano novelty radio.

## **Monthly Feature**

Seven members displayed 13 tube radio/phonographs and accessories. The feature at the June meeting will be tube clock radios.

Cliff adjourned the meeting at 11:07.

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# **Topica to Yahoo - The E-mail List**

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by Rick Walton

On April 24, I began the promised switchover from the e-mail list on Topica back to the list on Yahoo!Groups. I had never managed to close out the Yahoo group because there were so many who were never able to get messages from Topica. As of this writing, over twenty of you from Topica have responded and joined the Yahoo group bringing total group membership to forty-two.

On the 24th I sent out the invitation notice to join the Yahoo group to the list of members from the Topica group along with the names of members who gave me their e-mail addresses at the March meeting. There were forty-three e-mail addresses that should have received the invitation. I've received notice from two or three people thus far who didn't get the invitation.

Another way to join is to go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/> and in the search block enter nwwrs and click the Search button. When the description of the group appears, click on "nwwrs" and that will take you to a page that has a big button labeled "Join this group." If you are a Yahoo member, I'll get a notice that you want to join the group. If you aren't a member, Yahoo will require you to join up first before you can join the mail list. One possible way to avoid joining Yahoo (although I haven't been able to verify this) is to just send an e-mail to nwwrs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. If those methods fail, I will simply add the remaining names to the group after making sure that's what you want me to do. Yahoo limits me to ten names a day using that method. I hope I can do it all in one day!

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# Looking Back

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## On the first Show and Tell

By Art Redman

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society Monthly Newsletter Number 3 (the Call Letter name had yet to be used) documents the first Show and Tell for the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. This landmark event occurred at the February 8, 1975 meeting.

Alan Shadduck brought a little Paramount cathedral radio described by Bob Bilbie as “quite rare, first one we’ve ever seen.” I wonder if Alan still has that set. Bill Baker showed an EI Company crystal set from the Electric Importing Company owned by pioneer radio publisher and science fiction writer, Hugo Gernsback.

I brought an “ancient microphone” described in the Newsletter as “a real find” which I still own. I showed this carbon microphone again to the NWVRS membership on April 2000. The microphone is a Western Electric model 389W patented on March 6, 1920 for which I paid ten dollars. The microphone can be seen on the NWVRS web site under the Call Letter “Vintage Sets as would be shown at our First Monthly Meeting”.

Joey Tompkins brought a battery radio set; he usually acquired one a month. Bob Bilbie stated “Joe probably has the largest collection of rare battery sets in the whole state of Oregon.”

I cannot remember what battery sets Joey brought, but it very well may of have been one of the five battery radios which I bought from him in the late 1980s: a Claratone made by the Equitable Radio Corporation, a Gold I Medal model Five-Sixty made by the Consco Electric Company, a three tube Tri-City set model TT Deluxe, a Klitzen battery set made in Racine, Wisconsin, or a 1924 five tube Carnival model made by Peter Kardon of the Diva Radio Corporation. I still have all these battery radios except the Carnival, which I sold to Mike Parker.

The Show and Tell feature, which started in early 1975, continues to this day and is the most popular and one of the longest on-going activity of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society.

If you have memories about the last 30 years like Art’s – please send them to Dick Karman at [dick@karmans.net](mailto:dick@karmans.net) or mail them to Dick Karman, 2515 NE 37th Ave. Portland, OR 97212.



# Photo Display

Photos by Rick Walton

Portable tube radios, the February feature, brought out a wide assortment of radios.



Sonny Clutter



Atwater Kent  
Part # 4053  
c1922  
Detector

Cliff Tuttle



George Kirkwood



Jeff Martin



Rick Walton



Bob Campbell



Ray Vanderzanden



Dave Brown



Galen Feight



Art Redman

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# *Voilà*

*...new and recent finds by NVRS members*

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Compiled by Sonny Clutter

**Rick Walton:**

- A Rocket Radio crystal set, a get-well gift from friends while I was in the hospital.
- Sentinel model 1U286 "Treasure Chest" portable, AC or battery operation. Anniversary gift from my wife.

**Jeff Martin:**

- A small black Bakelite, Meck "Trail Blazer" radio.
- A small metal Arvin radio, (model unknown.)
- A "Supertone" tombstone which has the empire state design.

**Sonny Clutter:**

- Magnavox model "A" first single dial radio, see it on the "Showcase" page of my web site.

**Ron Hershey:**

- A Stromberg-Carlson A-1 Neutrodyne battery set.
- A Thermiodyne TF6 battery set
- A Hallicrafters S21 VHF communications receiver

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# One Tube Radio That Will Operate a Speaker

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by George Kirkwood

The coils are very important in that they need to be spaced at 1.75" from lip to lip. Use 2" pill bottles that you can get from a pharmacy. I put octal sockets in the bottoms but this is not necessary for a standard Broadcast receiver. The best tube for this operation is a 6AC7. It will give the best gain.

The antenna is fed into the cathode of the tube. The cathode choke is 5mh, however 10mh would work. R2 and the 220ufd cap establish the bias. The 150pf cap, C6, to the first grid prevents distortion, and R3 allows C6 to work when you are at the low end of the volume pot. Ch1 isolates the audio portion from the RF portion of the signal. C4 removes any RF at the output transformer.

L2 and L1 are identical. 85 turns wound on a 2" plastic pill bottle. The caps C2 and C11 are trimmers to allow correct tracking. C8 is the RF adjustment to the driver coil. This should be adjusted for max gain. L1 has the highest Q and therefore sets the selectivity. L2 has a broader bandwidth due the action of D1 and it's load.

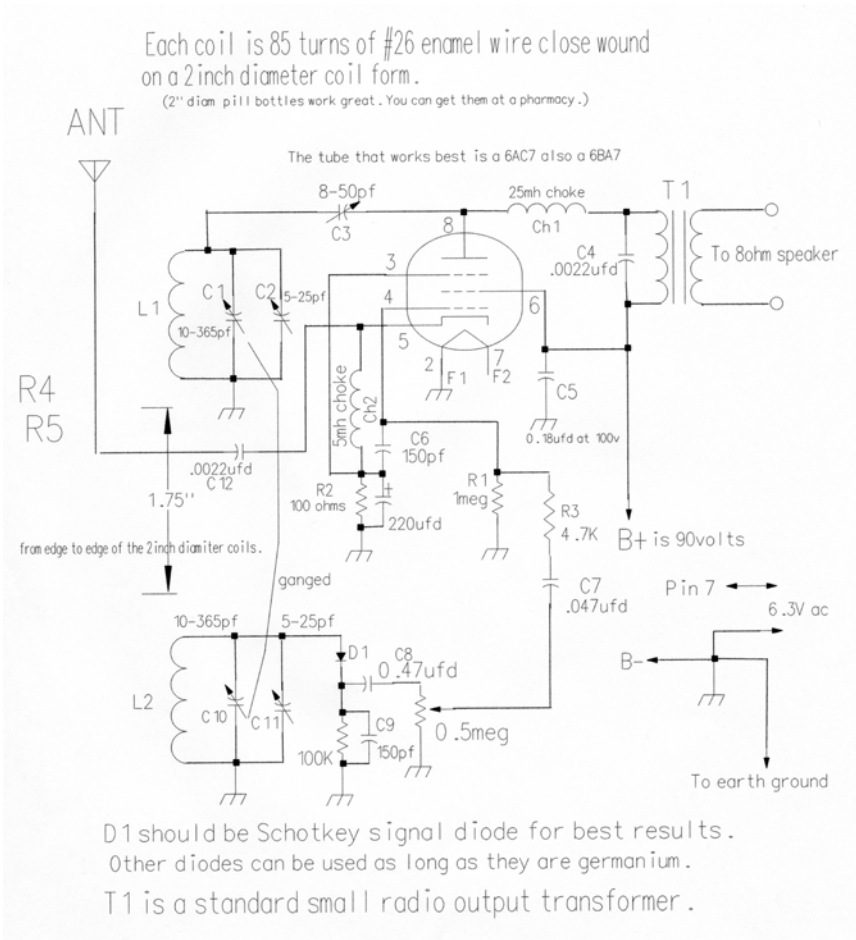


The radio could have agc but it does not give the best results. If you wish to try agc then reverse D1 and change R1 to 10 meg and attach its ground end to the junction of D1 and the 100K resistor. I found this not to be that satisfactory. However, it did reduce the distortion due to the million watt blow torch in Hillsboro's bog south of town.

Nothing is critical in construction however, the radio should have a good common ground plain. A good antenna is required and an earth ground.

Have fun.

George.



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## Swap Shop

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**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

**WANTED:** \*SAMS auto radio manuals AR7, AR8, AR10 - AR14. Also, Riders Perpetual Manuals 15 - 22. Ken.Seymour@comcast.net or 503-642-9115.

**WANTED:** An audio output transformer for RCA 54B1 personal portable. It matches the 3V4 to the 10 ohm speaker voice coil. Rudy Z. 503-255-2227

## Radio Service

These members have indicated they are willing to perform radio repairs:

Roger Brown – (503) 693-6089

Blake Dietze – (360) 944-7172, [wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com)

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or [ranft@saw.net](mailto:ranft@saw.net) – General repairs.

Dave Wise – (503) 293-7835, [david\\_wise@phoenix.com](mailto: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.

## Leads and Needs

Questions about restoration of vintage radio? Visit radiolaguy's web site often for this information plus lots of other interesting displays, photo's, 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>

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# Member Information

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Just in case we don't have your most current member information, please take the time to send the information requested on this form.

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**Name\*:**

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**Mailing Address\*:**

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**City, State, ZIP\*:**

---

**Ham Call Sign:**

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**E-mail:**

---

**Phone:**

---

**Collecting Interest (e.g. Battery sets, consoles, clock radios, etc.):**

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\*Information we must have to be able to send you your Call Letter. The rest is optional, but we hope you'll share it with other club members.

Mail this sheet (or something like it) to Rick Walton at the society's mailing address:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

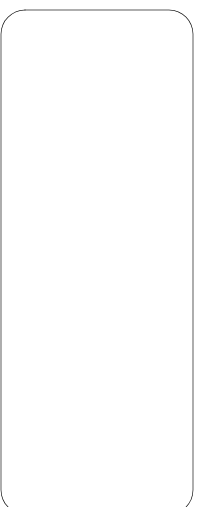
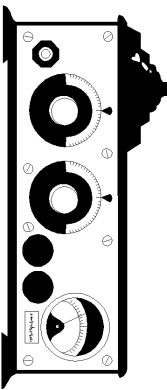
Post Office Box 82379

Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

or e-mail the information to [rwalton@easystreet.com](mailto:rwalton@easystreet.com).



**NW Vintage Radio Society**  
**P.O. Box 82379**  
**Portland, Oregon 97282-0379**



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**