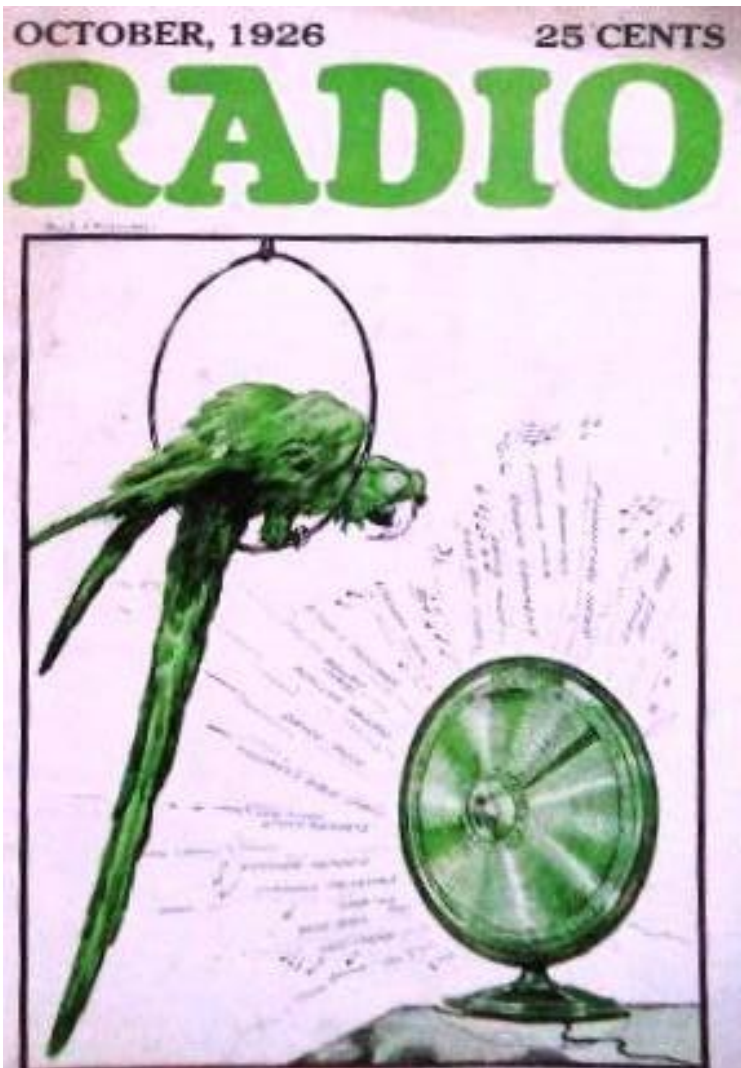


The

Call Letter

February 2019

Vol 45, #2



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.

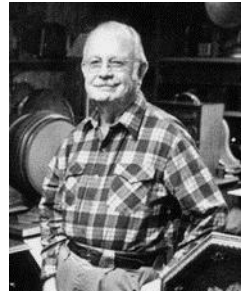
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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 360 909-7009	patkagi@yahoo.com
Vice President	Franklin Ouchida	crazykeychains@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ed Tompkins (360) 573-3895	edtomp@Q.com
Recording Sec'y	Liles Garcia (503) 649-9288	landn2@frontier.com
Corresponding Sec'y	Mark Moore (503) 286-5224	mark@pdxhistory.com
Board member at large	Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	soundmikey14@gmail.com
Librarian	Damon Vandehey (503) 459-1777	
Call Letter Editor	Don Hanson	vanguard4@lycos.com

On the Cover

October 1926 “Radio” Magazine Speaker Cover

Contributed by Dan Howard

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Announcements

The February Meeting will start at 9:30 AM on Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Abernethy Grange Hall in Oregon City. The Spring Radio Sale will be at the VFW Post #6057, 210 Main St. NE, Aurora, Oregon 97013. It will be on April 20th, which is the 3rd Saturday of the month. The January Monthly feature is cone speakers.

Reminder: Please pay dues for 2019!!

It takes extra effort to keep members active past the deadlines!

Thanks if you have already sent in your payment! - Pat

Editor’s Note – Please have March’s Call Letter Contributions in by Sunday, February 24. Articles welcome. (Tube labels too.)

Visit our web site at:

www.nwvrs.com

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/nwvrs

NWVRS Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2019

President Pat Kagi called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Attendees pledged allegiance to our nation's flag. Jerry Kroker is new member—welcome Jerry!!

Sid Saul told the group about some new features in his home AM broadcast transmitter. Mike McCrow will start a member recognition project. Jerry Kroker has a lot of speakers for sale and trade; he also needs some TRF radio parts. RJ Rhodes has a 1929 Victor console radio that needs a good home. Ed Tompkins, Bruce Baur, Robbie Robinson, and Mike McCrow volunteered to assist fellow members in repairing radios. Contact them for further information about what is needed.

Robbie is taking orders for swap tables at our April Swap Meet and Sale. Our Swap Meet will be on April 20; and it will be at the American Legion Hall in Aurora. Swap tables are \$ 15.00. Since we will be having our Swap Meet in April; the group voted to not have a regular meeting in April. We had a motion to buy a tube tester so that we could test tubes at our meetings and at our Swap Meets. The motion did not pass.

Librarian Jeff LaDoe reported that our Library is doing fine. Treasurer Ed Tompkins said that our Treasury is also doing fine. The meeting minutes for our December meeting/Christmas Party were approved as published in the January Call Letter.

Approximately 50 people attended our meeting today. The Monthly Program Topic for February will be 1950's era portable lunch box radios and portable multi-band tube radios. The Monthly Program Topic today is "Cone Speakers". Members showed and discussed the speakers that they brought. The meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by Secretary Liles Garcia

Note from President Pat Kagi

Members,

Starting in February, our Vice-President is to going have a door prize for all members as well as a separate one for guests, so this is a great time to bring someone new along.

Please contact the following if you want to learn radio repair from one of the mentors listed below:

Bruce Bauer	503 708-4537	Milwaukee
Mike McCrow	503 730-4639	Aloha
Robbie Robinson	503 810-0565	Happy Valley
Ed Tompkins	360 573-3895	Vancouver, WA

For Class Room Learning, please contact:

Liles Garcia	503 649-9288	Aloha
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Note from Vice President Franklin Terry Ouchida

I would like to set up a committee of knowledgeable members we will be called "THE TUBE TESTERS " members that are willing to bring their own tube tester or use a tube tester that they are familiar with.

The purpose of is to provide a service and educate New and non-members about the use and function of tube testers.

Please let me know if you are willing to be on this committee or can donate a tube tester.

Calendar of Events

The NWVRS Spring Radio Sale will be at the VFW Post #6057, 210 Main St. NE, Aurora, Oregon 97013. It will be on April 20th, which is the 3rd Saturday of the month.

February 16, 2019. Salem Hamfair & Computer/Electronics Swapmeet. Rickreall, OR at the Polk County Fairgrounds. <http://www.w7sra.com> .

March 9, 2019. Mike & Key 38th Electronics Show & Fleamarket. Puyallup fairgrounds exhibition hall, Puyallup, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://www.mikeandkey.org/index.php>

March 23, 2019. MicroHams Digital Conference. Redmond, WA. <https://www.microhams.com/mhdc/>

April. Yakima Hamfest. Yakima, Washington. <http://yakimaamateurradioclub.com/yakima-hamfest/>

April 13th & 14th, 2019. Communications Academy. South Seattle Community College, Seattle, WA. <http://comacademy.org/>

May. Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club Flea Market and Hamfest, Stanwood Middle School, Stanwood, WA. Contact: Fred Laun, w7pig@arrl.net

May 4, 2019. Electronics, Ham Radio and Experimenters Swap Meet, Kennewick, WA. Contact: Dan Durflinger KD7KJJ, DANCAR68@AOL.COM OR KD7KJJ@ARRL.NET

May 18 & 19, 2019. River Radio Campout 2019. Pateros WA. Sponsored by the Okanogan County Amateur Radio Club. Free "dry" camping along the Methow River at Pateros. Always the weekend prior to Memorial Day Weekend. w7orc1@gmail.com . <http://www.w7orc.com/> . Contact Mike W7MCM, skippermike53@gmail.com . (509)689-3164.

May 31-June 2, 2019. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. info@seapac.org . www.seapac.org/ .

Charles Alton "Chuck" Forsberg

Submitted by Betty Forsberg

Chuck Forsberg died on September 24, 2015, in Portland, Oregon. He was 71.

Chuck was a collector of all things electronic. No piece of equipment was unworthy of shelf space, no matter how old or useless.

Chuck said that he always wanted a career in electronics, and he never considered any other profession. He started college at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York. After two years at Rensselaer, he transferred to the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering. He continued at the University of Wisconsin, earning a Master's degree in electrical engineering.

In 1968, he accepted the invitation from Tektronix, in Beaverton, Oregon. It was a perfect match. It was a company and a position that allowed him to thrive. He had good managers who knew how to use his talents. Yes, Chuck was a talented engineer, but he was also naturally creative, providing Tek with inspired design and forward-thinking innovations.

The company recognized his unique talent and special set of skills. Chuck was quickly given a lot of responsibility, culminating in his assignment as the project engineer for the Tektronix 4014 computer graphics terminal project, a hugely successful product for the company.

Chuck was a ham radio operator for about 50 years. His FCC designated call sign was WA7KGX. He bought the best equipment, and true to form on all things electronic and technical, he just knew stuff. In his later years, ham radio became particularly important to him because it was an enjoyable activity that he could physically handle. He was an active member of two ham radio clubs.

Stromberg Carlson 150-L

Donated for auction by Betty Forsberg.



Tucker Car Radios

By Dan Howard

At Saturday's meeting, I had an interesting talk with Mike McCrow about Tucker car radios. Most have heard the story of the short-lived Tucker Torpedo cars. About 51 cars were produced in 1948 before Preston Tucker's company folded. So, with only 51 cars produced, why are there so many Tucker car radios around? Let me tell you.

A late NVRS member, Don Iverson, once owned a Tucker car radio; made by Motorola. I was thrilled to borrow it for the NVRS "Motorola Milestones" display at the October, 1993 Northwest Car Collector's Show. That's it on the corner of the table.



NVRS "Motorola Milestones" Display October 1993

A late NVRS member, Don Iverson, once owned a Tucker car radio; made by Motorola. I was thrilled to borrow it for the NVRS “Motorola Milestones” display at the October, 1993 Northwest Car Collector’s Show. That’s it on the corner of the table.



Left: Don Iverson’s Tucker receiver, control head, and speaker



Right: Tucker radio control head closeup [ebay]

Though the receiver is a little non-descript (as some car radios can be), you can’t miss the control head with “Tucker” spelled-out on the push buttons.

Don told me that Motorola made and sold many more Tucker radios than there were ever cars to put them in. In an effort to raise capital for the cash-strapped company, Tucker came up with a plan to solicit down payments. In exchange for putting cash down on a Tucker, customers received a set of luggage and a Tucker radio to be installed when their car was delivered. Other sources confirm Don’s story with slight variations.

“The accessories plan was the brain child of Cliff Knoble, [Tucker’s] advertising manager, whose idea was to sell accessories to people who wanted to buy Tucker automobiles, and with the accessories give them a sequence number for getting a car as soon as one with their number came off the line.“ “[B]uyers are offered...a desirable group of advance accessories including a radio, a set of fitted and immediately usable luggage, and tailored seat covers.”¹

So, although Tucker car radios are far from common today, they are not exactly rare, either. If you would like to see a Tucker radio for yourself (installed), check out America’s Car Museum in Tacoma.

**Tucker
luggage.
Image
property of
The National
Museum of
American
History
(Smithsonian)**



[<http://Americanhistory.si.edu>]

¹ Charles T Pearson “The Indomitable Tin Goose – The True Story of Preston Tucker and His Car” 1960.

Monthly Feature: Cone Speakers

Photography by Sonny Clutter



'30s Philco
Cathedral
Farm Radio
Speaker

Jerry Kroker

Tower
Adventurer

Dick Howard
Philco 30's





**Above:
Dictogrand
Speaker Roll
Speakers R-
50 (left) and
R-80 (right)
Dick Howard**

**Below:
Pathe'
Westminster
and Na-Ald
Midget
speaker
Sonny Clutter**



PHILCO 42

Here's a tube I found in my collection. The label indicates a shop in White Salmon, Washington. The shop name started with Cascade.

I can't make out the rest of it. The tube was tested good 12/28/37.

It'd be interesting if any club members can come up with the rest of the name and location. - Bob Barrett



NWVRS Picnic Features:

Sweet Music from the 1930s

Big Band Music from the 1940s

'Happy Days' Music from the 1950s

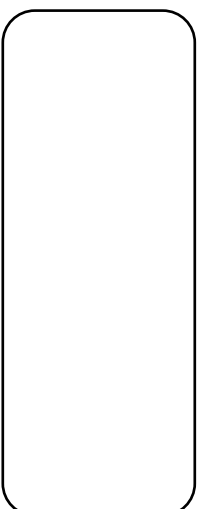
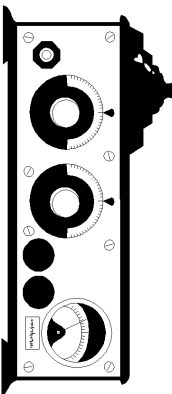
Reliving Radio provides history, music, magic and memories of the **Way Radio Was** at car shows, picnics, wedding receptions, "Senior" Proms and any event where people enjoy the swing music of the 1930s, the big bands of the 1940s, or the *Happy Days* sounds of the 1950s. The mix is just right, no matter what the decade.

Dick Karman has been an NWVRS member since 1979

If you would like period entertainment or just music at a special event, indoors or out, call **Reliving Radio** for availability. He brings everything *except the audience*.



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P.O. Box 82379
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