

The

Call Letter

April 2019

Vol 45, #4

Jerry Hertel - Zenith Beach radio



Surfboard & Woody Van Ready!!

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.

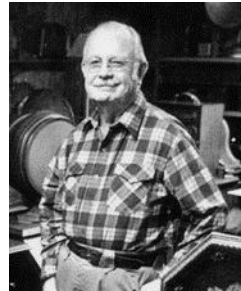
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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

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
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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

Jerry Hertel's Zenith Beach Radio

Photo by Sonny Clutter

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Announcements

The April Spring Sale and Swap Meet will start at 8:30 AM on Saturday, April 20, which is the 3rd Saturday of the month at the VFW Post #6057, 210 Main St. NE, Aurora, Oregon.

April Monthly Feature: either 1) Multi band tube portable size radios or 2) 1950 lunch box size larger portable radio tube or transistor

Reminder: Last day For 2019 dues is Mon, April 15.

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

Leads and Needs: The Swap Shop has returned to the Call Letter.

Member ads are free and can either be permanent or temporary.

Editor's Note – Please have May Call Letter Contributions in by Sunday May 28. Articles & Ads welcome (Tube labels too).

Visit our web site at:

www.nwvrs.com

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/nwvrs

Note from President Pat Kagi

NWVRS Members,

Here is an event that you don't want to miss. We need to make our presence known to the community. Please read the following and volunteer for this fantastic outreach.

Pat

A GREAT opportunity in Salem.

Salem members, Rick Ryan, has made an arrangement for an NWVRS display and membership recruitment in the Salem 50+ Center in Salem. Our club will have the entire 50+ (activities center) for three hours on June 1. The center's event calendar is distributed to senior (and not too senior) groups in Salem and Marion County. So they'll know we're coming. Let's show them what we're all about.

We can have show-and-tell and mini-workshops - even a "fix it" corner. We need to put our best display radios on the tables for show (not sale). So plan now to be there the morning of June 1st. Bring your business cards and take phone numbers for future reference.

Dick Karman has agreed to present "The Way Radio Was" so there will be an opportunity for sit-down entertainment.

We will need someone to handle potential refreshment.

Someone needs to bring the table clothes and the banner.

Reliving Radio will make table signs (so they all look the same) for each display radio.

If we want to, a volunteer could set up an AM radio transmitter.

Ed or a designee should be there to take new memberships.

And we'll want members who are proud of their display radios.

Save the date and commit to being in Salem on June 1st. It's Radio Days! **Saturday, June 1, 2019!!**

Please contact the following to be trained in Radio Repair.
In the future this information will be printed in the Swap Shop.

Bruce Baur	503 708-4537	Milwaukee
Blake Dietze	360 944-7172	Vancouver
Mike McCrow	503 730-4639	Aloha
Sid Saul	503 869-5280	Hebo
Ed Tompkins	360 573-3895	Vancouver

Note from Vice President Franklin Terry Ouchida

May meeting: The Feature of the Month is "Farm Radios" and the Tech Talk will be battery Eliminators by Sid Saul

Please submit your Nominations for radios for the Feature of the Month. We have 4 Monthly Features left this year. Or send them for next year.

Members needed for committees - Positions for members or just willing to help. We need you! We need your Help! Sign up for a committee!

Radio Sales Coordinators - (Swap meets, Auctions, Sales)
Christmas Party Coordinators - (Plan, help, setup Christmas party)
Picnic Coordinators Mike McCrow - (Plan July Picnic ,DJ and tables)
Makers Fair Coordinators - Franklin Ouchida (Free adm. and T-shirt)
Prize Coordinators - Franklin Ouchida (Door prizes, drawings, features)
Tube Coordinators - Franklin Ouchida (Tube Test & Tube of the Month)
Save the BS project - Blake Dietze, Franklin Ouchida (Battery Sets, Battery Eliminator, T-shirt)
Live Stream Coordinators - Franklin Ouchida (Web site, Live streaming)

The purpose of the committees is to provide a growing fan club.
It is your club help make it the best it can be.
Please let me know if you are willing to help out our committees

Franklin Ouchida
FO1963@gmail.com
(971)407-8108
Franklin Terry Ouchida

NWVRS Meeting Minutes - March 9, 2019

By Liles Garcia

President Pat Kagi called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. All present pledged allegiance to our nation's flag. Jeff Hutchinson attended today as a guest - welcome Jeff! MaryLou Dielschneider has been diagnosed with cancer; please put her in your prayers and thoughts.

Ed Tompkins said that our finances are doing well. Please pay your dues if you have not already paid them. If membership dues are not paid by April 15 membership will be discontinued. This rule was motioned and approved by the membership. Ed also informed the group that our Society's finances were audited by two Society members; and that our finances are fine.

Franklin mentioned that we need a tube tester so that we can test tubes at our monthly meetings. The group also discussed getting name tags for everybody. The nametags will cost \$ 5.00 each. The group decided to try new paper nametags for a few months before spending the money for permanent nametags.

Tony Hauser updated the group on our Society's archives. The group discussed the items in our archives and what items need to be kept and what items are not needed. The Board will discuss our archives at a meeting; and will also ask more members to help with the archives.

Dick Karman mentioned that we can have a display at a senior center in Salem on June 1. Several members offered to participate. Pat needs some volunteers to decide how to work with Galen Feight's estate. Our Swap Meet will be on April 20 in Aurora; we will not have an April business meeting.

Our Monthly Feature for today is "1950's Lunchbox Radios and Multiband Portable Radios." Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought. The Monthly Feature for May will be "Farm Radios." Blake Dietze gave a Tech Talk on adding blue tooth to a radio. Members gave Blake a round of applause for his excellent Tech Talk.

Recorded by Secretary Liles Garcia

Calendar of Events

April 6. 3rd Annual Swap Meet & Emergency Communications Display. Richmond Amateur Radio Club. Richmond,

BC. https://secure.eton.ca/rac/events/detail.php?event_ID=1997

April 7. The "Lucky Seven" Swap Meet. Courtenay, B.C. Comox Valley Amateur Radio

Club. https://secure.eton.ca/rac/events/detail.php?event_ID=1991

April 13. Yakima Hamfest. Yakima, Washington. *This is an ARRL sanctioned*

event. <http://yakimaamateurradioclub.com/yakima-hamfest/> [Flyer in PDF](#) (467K) [Vendor information in PDF](#). (131K)

April 13th & 14th. Communications Academy. South Seattle Community College, Seattle, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://commacademy.org/> [Online Registration.](#)

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.

April 27. Idaho Ham Radio STEM-Fest, Mountain Home, Idaho. <https://www.idahohamradiostemfest.com/>

April 28. Klamath Basin Ham Swap Meet. Redmond, Oregon. Deschutes County Fairgrounds. Doors open at 8:30 AM. Admittance \$2 per person. <https://www.facebook.com/pg/kfalls.radio/posts/>

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. PNW DMR gathering. Valley Camp, North Bend, WA. <http://trbo.org/pnw/index.html> <https://dmr.groups.io/g/PNW>

Request To Add Resource to NWVRS Web Page

From Barbara Lincoln

Good Afternoon Mr. Kagi and Mr. Moore,

Just wanted to send over a quick word of thanks! My youngest son, Dylan has recently taken a big interest in the old-time radio era as well as broadcasting history (my husband's grandfather actually worked in broadcasting in the 50's). We found your society's website and resources page together over the weekend doing some fun radio history research, and I just wanted to make sure I took the time to say that you've done a wonderful job here, and thank you for taking the time to pull this together and sharing with all of us as well!

Dylan has also asked me if I could share the article that he and his father found together recently on New York's broadcasting history, which includes a great time line featuring the Radio Act of 1912, the first coast-to-coast radio broadcast (the Rose Bowl game of 1927), the first commercial ever aired on television and more. We noticed you don't have this one listed, and Dylan actually brought up that this could be something you might like to include for other readers who could also be looking to you for some guidance here! If you find you are able to add this one after all, would you please let me know? I would love to surprise him if you're able - I think it would make his day to know he was able to 'pay it forward' and even show his father and grandfather his contribution if it's included! (nwvrs.org/Resources/resources.html)

Anyway, thank you both again for all your help here!
Best to you always,

Barbara and Dylan L.

<https://www.topviewnyc.com/packages/new-york-s-broadcasting-history>

Short Wave Boom

By Art Redman

Atwater Kent and Crosley shortwave receivers were among the radios sold by the Ira F. Powers Furniture Store at SW Third and SW Yamhill during Portland's big short wave boom. It began with police radio station KGPP beginning March 1932 as an experimental 10-watt station and 24-hour weather reports by US Airlines Bulletins guiding their airplane pilots.

"Portland Folks are getting real thrills out of the police bulletins and instructions to prowl cars in chase of criminals," said A.T. Erickson the sales manager for the Powers Furniture to the Oregonian. "Of course to get the police and airplane bulletins one must have a short wave radio and the manufacturers of Atwater Kent sets have introduced a ten-tube short and long wave radio combined machine."

The Atwater Kent Model 260 sold for \$105.00 at Powers Furniture and the Five-tuber Crosley Deluxe superhet with local short wave for \$24.00 cash or credit terms of \$1.00 per week. The reports heard by the public and police were one-sided. The patrol cars had no transmitters and had to check back later to police headquarters by phone call boxes mounted on telephone poles.

Some of the first police calls were "a grocery man at 82nd and Foster reports three suspicious characters have been standing on the corner for a considerable time". Sgt. Jewell and Patrolman Heath answered the call. The boys had only been waiting for their brother.

In addition, "a man had been bothering a dweller in an apartment at 281 Broadway near Columbia. The man is standing on the street." The suspect proved to be a peeping Tom and he spent the next sixty days in jail.

A man depressed over money hanged himself. The family members found him in the garage unconscious and called the police. In one minute, the police arrived and cut the rope. The man was alive and started breathing on his own. His life saved by police radio because of the prompt arrival of two officers cruising nearby in far-out Southeast Portland.

The Shorty Short Wave converter made on 2730 East Burnside Street offered local listeners a real low cost option. My converter, once owned by Jerry Talbot, has a dial scale from zero to 100. The setting for police is 60 handwritten on the bottom instructions corresponds to a frequency 2.442 MHz for the 500-watt Police Radio station KGPP operated by Clif Watson and built by Hallock and Watson; while the 80 setting is for the airport.

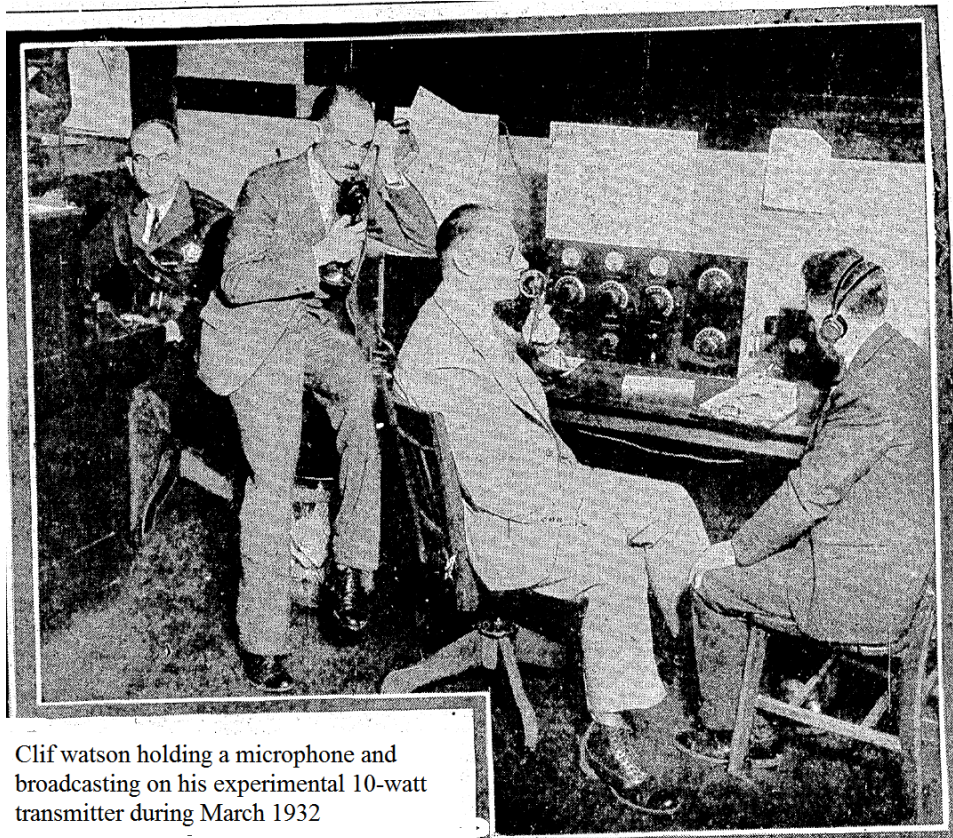
Source:

“Police Radio System Found Great Help in Curbing Criminal”, the Oregonian, March 20, 1932,

Section 4, pages 1, 2.

“Powers Atwater-Kent ad”, The Oregonian, September 13, 1932, page 8.

“Short Wave Sets Boom”, The Oregonian, December 4, 1932, page 17.



Clif Watson holding a microphone and broadcasting on his experimental 10-watt transmitter during March 1932

Honorary member Ron Kramer

From an interview with Dick Karman

Ron Kramer is an honorary member of the society since his Portland visit about ten years ago. He had been invited to talk to our group about his recently published book *Pioneer Mikes*. Ron was not a radio collector, but had acquired some for a museum display which he was working on. Much like our other honorary members (James Lansing, Craig Adams, Morgan McMahan, Wilbur Jerman) he has provided invaluable research and information about the hobby and avocation of restoring broadcasting and receiving equipment.

Ron is an academic and began his career in the mid-west. He moved to Portland and taught at Lewis and Clark University. His interests lie in history. After a move to Southern Oregon and a job at Southern Oregon University, Ron was asked by the Oregon Association of Broadcasters to write a history of broadcasting in Oregon. This was a work of several thousand hours (about 9 years). Much of his documentation came from the national archives as well as published records of Oregon History.

During a portion of that time Ron work for ABC radio. His frequent trips to New York for ABC also gave him time to toil in the National Archives gleaning information about Oregon broadcast history. He estimates that he spent more than \$1,000 in “10 cent” copies of archival documents. The other enviable parts of his research were his hours interviewing radio giants (in their later years). His interviews included Ted Hallock (that’s Joe Hallock’s nephew), Wilbur Jerman, and Orval White.

Ron paid great honor to Craig Adams’ *History of Portland Radio by Stations* as Ron’s source for the more current personnel and changing of hands of broadcast station in Portland. Craig is still considered an authority on Portland broadcasting. Craig’s book (1994) is in the stacks (not for check out) in the Multnomah County Library.

Ron’s wonderfully thorough work, referred to as the academic reference edition of *Pioneer Mikes*, was privately published. Your author has seen it and read much of it. It is a great work that compiles and indexes the

birth and growth of radio broadcasting in Oregon. Ron spent another 13 months to distill the contents to a “popular sized” volume: a paperback known as *Pioneer Mikes*.

Ron has nothing but praise for our society. He said that for a group as old as we are, we still have a cause which keeps us together. He appreciates being an honorary member. He doesn't make it to Portland very often and hardly ever on the second Saturday, but he says “hello” to everyone.

If you want your own copy of Ron's book he has a few to sell. E-mail him at rkramer@jeffnet.org

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Swap Shop

Many years ago the Society voted to include a section in the Call Letter for member ads.

Ads are free and can be permanent, or 3-month, with an asterisk added each month for tracking. Contact editor to extend.

* Large collection of high-end quality radios that range from mid-1920s to late 1950s and into the 1960s, for sale. Only NWVRS and PSARA club members and personal guests are invited! Please call Steve Berglund 206-244-6428 for appointment.

* I have dozens of radios that I purchased to restore that I will never get to. I need to part with them as I am moving. Basically name your price! Lots of nice table and console projects. I can email pictures. Joe Millward 503-209-8414

**March Monthly Feature -
1950's Lunchbox Radios and Multiband Portable Radios**

Photography by Sonny Clutter





Myron White

Roberts



Larry
Tobkin

Zenith TR0

Northwest Vintage Radio Society

**Presents: A sale & Swap-Meet of:
Vintage radios, test equipment, tubes
parts, audio and related gear.**



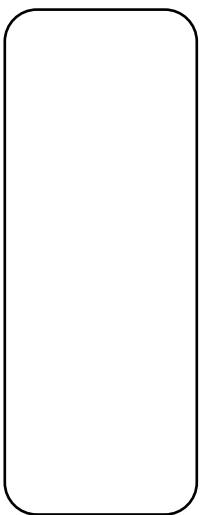
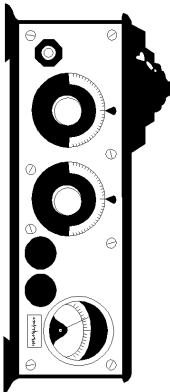
**Saturday, April 20 2019
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Canby-Aurora VFW Post 6057
21510 Main St. NE, Aurora, OR 97013**

***To reserve a table or more info call:
Robbie Robinson - (503) 810-0565***



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



FIRST CLASS MAIL