

The

Call Letter

July 2019
Vol 45, #7



**Blues Diva Mamie Smith Performed With The
Hoot Owls On KGW On Friday, May 4, 1923**

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.

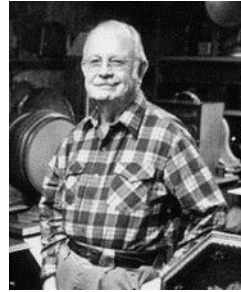
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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
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Board member at large	Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	soundmikey14@gmail.com
Librarian	Jeff LaDoe (503) 408-4446	flat4pdx@gmail.com
Call Letter Editor	Don Hanson	vanguard4@lycos.com

On the Cover

Blues Diva Mamie Smith Performed with the Hoot Owls on KGW in 1923 [Credit: Wikipedia] Retrieved by Don Hanson

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Announcements

July Picnic will start at 9:30 AM on Saturday, July 13

August Monthly Feature is Regenerative Radios

August Tech Talk will be presented by George Kirkwood

The Trash Bash will be held September 14, 2019

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 August Call Letter Contributions in by Sunday, July 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

We still need a few volunteers to be in the OMSI Maker Faire this year on September 7th and 8th. Please let us know if you can attend as this is a fun event and a good outreach to the public.

Sorry, but the auction for the Free Geek items will be moved to the August meeting.

We have received dues from one person during the April radio show and sale but so far is still unidentified. If anyone knows or hears of someone who is not receiving the Call Letter or getting club emails, let us know.

This is the last month that Tony Hauser will be housing the archives. If no one steps up to be the next historian, he will be dropping the archives off at the August meeting.

The next Trash Bash will be September 14, 2019.

Pat

Note from Vice President Franklin Terry Ouchida

Please submit your nominations for radios for the "Feature of the Month" for 2020.

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)

Makers Fair Coordinators Pat Kagi, Franklin Ouchida, Mike McCrow, Liles Garcia (Free admission and T-shirt)

Prize Coordinators Franklin Ouchida (Door prizes, drawings, features)

Tube Coordinators Mike McCrow (Tube Testers & Tube of the Month)

Save the BS' project Blake Dietze, Franklin Ouchida (Battery Sets, Battery Eliminator, and T-shirt)

Live Stream Coordinators Franklin Ouchida (Web site, YouTube 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

NWVRS Meeting Minutes - June 8, 2019

Recorded by Secretary Liles Garcia

Vice-President Mike McCrow called the June meeting of the NWVRS to order at 9:30 AM. All present pledged allegiance to our Nation's flag. Howard Bergh, Bob Kircher, and Dave Gibson attended today as guests. Welcome guys!! Our group sent a sympathy card to fellow member Dick Dielschneider for his recent loss. Jerry Kroeger has some surplus organ speakers that work with solid state 100 Watt amplifiers. Blake Dietze updated the group about Galen Feight's estate. More information on this will be forthcoming. Dick Karman said that our participation at the Salem Senior Center on June 1 was very well received. There was a lot of interest in the radios that were on display.

If anyone needs a ride to our meetings, please let a Board member know. OMSI's Mini Maker Faire will be on September 7 - 8. Anyone who is interested please keep in touch. Treasurer Ed Tompkins said that our treasury is doing fine. Librarian Jeff LaDoe said that our Library is doing fine and he asked that any items that have been checked out for a long time be returned. Robbie Robinson said that our Swap Meet in April was a success. He also mentioned that members could sign up for swap tables anytime. We will have our annual Picnic/Swap Meet at our July meeting. Some members will look for a caterer for our Picnic. We need someone to store our Library; it consists of two 2-drawer file cabinets. The minutes of our May 11 meeting were approved as published in the June Call Letter.

Dan Howard gave a Tech-Talk on "Coin-Operated Radios." Attendees gave Dan a round of applause for his excellent Tech-Talk. Our Monthly Feature today was also Coin-Operated Radios. Members showed and discussed the coin-operated radios that they brought. Dan won the "Best Radio" award for one of his radios. George Kirkwood also showed the group a radio that he made. The Monthly Feature for August will be "Regenerative Radios." George will give a Tech-Talk on Regenerative Radios as well.

The meeting was adjourned.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, July 13 – NWVRS Summer Picnic and Radio Sale / Swap Meet will be held at the Abernethy Grange Hall in Oregon City, OR. @ 9:30 AM

July 12-14. QRP Salmoncon. Valley Camp, North Bend, WA. <https://sites.google.com/site/pnwqrpgroup/salmoncon> [Flyer in PDF](#) (103K). Contact: NB6M@att.net .

July 19-21. Glacier Waterton International Peace Park 85th annual Hamfest. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* (Always the third weekend in July) Glacier Meadows Campground, 13 miles west of East Glacier on MT Hwy 2. <http://www.gwhamfest.org/>

July 20. Chehalis Valley ARC 21st Annual Ham Radio Tailgate Swapmeet. Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Contact John Ellingson, K7OSK. k7osk@boatanchor.com . <http://www.cvars.org/> [Flyer in PDF](#). (158K)

July 12-14. QRP Salmoncon. Valley Camp, North Bend, WA. <https://sites.google.com/site/pnwqrpgroup/salmoncon>

July 20. Coos County Radio Club annual Hamfest and Swapmeet. North Bend, OR. <http://www.coosradioclub.net/> **CANCELED.**

July 20. Moosehorn ARC (Kenai Peninsula) Hamfest. Kenai American Legion Post, 902 Cook Ave. Kenai, Alaska. 1000 to 1500. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Contact: Ed Cole, KL7UW kl7uw@acsalaska.net . <http://moosehornarc.org/wp/> Flyer at <http://www.kl7uw.com/Hamfest2019.htm>

August 9-11. 64th Annual Pacific Northwest DX Convention. Everett, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned vent.* <http://pacificnwdxconvention.com/>

August 10. Arctic ARC Hamfest. Associated General Contractors building, 3750 Bonita St, Fairbanks, AK. 0900 to 1530. Contact: Eric Nichols, KL7AJ at kl7aj@arrrl.net . <http://www.kl7kc.com/>

Sunday, August 18. Antique Radio Swap Meet. Puget Sound Antique Radio Association. Shoreline Community College, 16101 Greenwood Avenue North, Shoreline, WA. 98155.
<http://www.pugetsoundantiqueradio.com/index> (Always the 3rd Sunday in August)

Speed Feldschau Memorial Picnic by Mike McCrow

Hi everyone. This year's picnic is being catered by Arlen's Cuisine. She is the one that provided such good food at our swap-sale in April. They will be cooking the hamburgers and hot dogs. **We still need to have everyone attending bring a pot luck item. Everyone with last name starting with A to H – Salad; I to Q Dessert; R to Z - Chips, Beans, Macaroni, or Potato dish.**

Dick Karmen will be providing the entertainment again this year. Thanks Dick for all you do for the club. Set up for the swap meet starts at 8:00. We need volunteers! The tables need to be moved outside Saturday Morning. If we can have people there at 7:00 to help move tables, help set up the pop up tents, and help the caterer get set up. As always your help is greatly appreciated. This year's event will be a fun time for all.

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Blues Diva Mamie Smith Performed With the Hoot Owls on KGW on Friday, May 4, 1923

By Don Hanson →

Excerpt from The Oregonian, May 5 1923



A riotous meeting was held by the Keep Growing Wiser order of Hoot Owls last night. In the words of the Hoot Owls it was a knockout. Frank Newman, manager of "Struttin' Along," the musical comedy at the Heilig this week, outdid himself in supplying Hoot Owl entertainment from the company. Mamie Smith, who is celebrated for her phonograph records and plays the leading part in "Struttin' Along," was among those present and was extremely generous with her songs. Caroline Snowden and Susie Hurst, jazz hounds with these originators of jazz, proved themselves real song birds, and the "Struttin' Along" quartet, Corney Anderson, Norman Stewart, Ivey Anderson and E. Porter, contributed. Other songsters present were Earl West, Lawrence Ford and William Mitchell, and several members of Mamie Smith's jazz orchestra came along and did their stuff.

Needless to say the originators of jazz music fitted in quite well with the originators of jazz entertainment over radio.

NWVRS Presentation at Salem Center 50+

By Dick Karman

Everyone should be proud of the showing that NWVRS members made at the Salem Center 50+ on June 1.

More than 3 dozen radios were polished up and shining for the public. I didn't get an exact count, but I know that more than 10 were turned on and receiving AM signal. At least one excellent old Battery set from the 1920s was pushing a horned speaker with wonderful music for over an hour. A live DJ fed the YORS transmitter that Sid Saul had set up and the signal was crystal clear. At one point the PA system was shut down and the public heard just the Radios- a very impressive showing. Some commented that it was just like hearing radio from their childhood. I think if we looked for them, someone might post some pictures of the "timeline of radios" that were on display.

Credit where credit's due: Rick Ryan made the arrangement with the "senior citizen center." Sid Saul made a long trip to make sure that a transmitter was in good shape and working like a charm. Mike McCrow and his loving wife, hauled the majority of radios to Salem. Theirs was a yeoman's task. Mike's inventory helped fill out the radio timeline, with a few from other collectors. Blake Dietze and Sonny Clutter traveled together and filled in the gaps quite admirably. Blake had some of the earliest sets and Sonny did a great job with the 1950s end of the spectrum. Most of those sets that came down from Vancouver were up and running. Nearly 50 people (public) stayed for the entire time, and thoroughly enjoyed hearing "live radio" over live radios. The NWVRS got some very favorable comments and if a few more helpers could be found, we have been asked to do this again a little closer to home.

The technical expertise of members working with their radios, and tinkering with frequencies, arranging antennas and dusting off fingerprints reminded me of a "radio show" at the fair, just before contest judging. It was fun to be a part of it. I hope we can not only do it again, but push for new memberships and some new radios as a result. Phil from Salem and Tom from Albany helped set up and tear down (and there are others I'm sure that I have missed- sorry).

A big thank you to Marilyn at the Center 50+ radio not unlike some of the popular enclosed speakers from the late 1920s. The large flat front could be custom-painted to accommodate additional advertising.

Apollo Shortwave Reception

By Art Redman / Apollo Radio Photos by Tom Hoskins

The Oregonian announced February 2, 1933 “Portland has a radio manufacturing plant of its own”. The Apollo Radio Corporation at 1101 NW Glisan opened just in time to allow Portlanders to tune in police broadcasts on 500-watt station KGPP. The NW Glisan address does not exist today but the northeast corner location is currently the Blick Art Material outlet at 1115 NW Glisan.

The Apollo Company started with storeroom filled with parts and employed 15 persons capable of assembling three to 16 tube sets, midgets to portables, and an auto radio adaptable to short wave. Meier and Frank was the firms’ main retail outlet selling the five tube long and shortwave set for \$24.95 and on sale for \$19.95.

The Portland Police department employed 14 precinct cars and 2 machine gun squads in its work of crime prevention. Patrol cars reported in on police telephone boxes. Since all radio, transmissions are one sided the listener on his Apollo 5 tube superhet heard just the KGPP calls at 2.442 MHz narrating a chilling police chase.

“KGPP, the Portland police calling all cars and stations. A citizen reports that two men who slugged him of a gun had just held him up. Took \$8 and a diamond ring. Two men were lurking in the bushes near SE 72nd, 7-2, Avenue and Foster Road. Additional information will be available on the two holdup men in a few minutes. Also Okaying No. 18 and No. 24 at 7:59. This will serve as the hourly test for all cars and stations. KGPP, that is all”.

The hunt is afoot and two minutes later:

“Here is additional information on the two holdup men. No. 1 man is described as about 23, 5 feet 10, dark complexion wearing a blue, no necktie, a sailor’s pea coat and dark trousers carrying a .38 caliber blue steel pistol. No. 2 described as about forty, 6 feet, 160 pounds. Medium complexion wearing corduroy pants, dark coat and a black hat. KGPP, 8:11 that is all.”

Car 39 spots the stolen car and starts the chase and the cars head east on Woodstock Blvd. and turns south on 52nd Ave traveling over 60 mph. The stolen car slides to a halt one half mile south where two men jump out and scramble through the brush. There is no sight of them when another police car pulls up. With the automatic shotgun and machine-gun the three officers tramp around for a half hour in water soaked weeds. They return and check the license number of the car. It is the one stolen by the two hold up men. A citizen reports to the five officers that two men got into another car several blocks away just a minute before.

Squad car 39 drove to the nearest police telephone to notify the dispatcher of the recovery of the automobile. In the remaining interval, until 3:45 am when their shift ends the machine gun squad apprehends a drunk wearing a plug hat and handles a citizen complaint about several bats. The shotgun roars and the bats become a memory just like last night's police broadcast.

Bibliography:

"Behind the Mike" column, The Oregonian Feb. 2, 1933, page 18.

"KGPP the Portland Police Calling No. 39," The Oregonian November 3, 1933, Section 5, pages 1, 3.

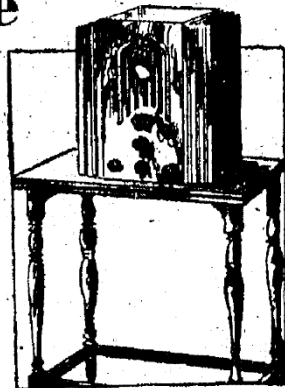
"New Apollo Radio With Table" Meier and Frank ad The Oregonian, October 8, 1933, page 10.

New Apollo Radio With Table

\$24.50

Regularly \$32.20. Here again Meier & Frank's offers the NEW at low prices, although prices are already climbing rapidly. Here is a fine little 1934 radio, made in Oregon, complete with walnut table. Pay \$4.50 down, terms on balance.

*Meier & Frank's—
RADIO—Sixth Floor*





Apollo Midget
Radio
 Long and Short Wave **\$19⁹⁵**
 Reg. \$29.90



Here's a real long and short wave set at less than an ordinary radio. The best value of the year.

- New Type tubes
- Dynamic speaker
- Dial light
- Kilocycle tuning

—Downstairs Store

Above – A Portland-Made Apollo Radio that appears to be from the early 1930s. Photography by Tom Hoskins

Left and Previous Page - Meier and Frank ads for Apollo Radios from The Oregonian, October 8, 1933

June Monthly Feature – Coin Operated Radios

Photography by Sonny Clutter



Blake's Jetco Coin Operated Receiver

Below – Dan Howard's Presentation





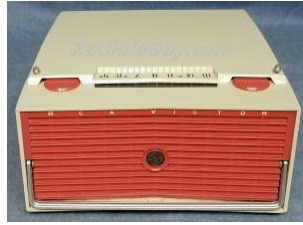
The two pictures below are George Kirkwood and his “Cat-In-A-Hat” crystal radio (catwhisker included)



[http://radiomag.com/Showcase/RadiomagMonthlyFeature\(7-19\).htm](http://radiomag.com/Showcase/RadiomagMonthlyFeature(7-19).htm)

Radiomag's Monthly Showcase

RCA Portable Radio-Phono
battery operated model 6BY4A



Swap Shop

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

Please contact the following members to be trained in Radio Repair

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| 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 |

I wish to purchase a 1942 Portable radio as pictured. Please contact me at 360 695-6349 or (C) 360 989-5981. The Model # is 985866. The radio is ID'd by the Model # and the GM under the dial. - Ray Holland



Three items that I wish to sell:

- Tube Tester EICO Model 667 great condition \$75.00.
 - RCA Radiola 18 cab excellent all tubes test good \$90.00. I never powered it up.
 - Swiss Chalet novelty radio mfg. by Empire Designing Corp. New York - needs work \$45.00.
- John Bucholtz 360-693-7135 or bucholtz3049@comcast.net.



Reliving Radio of Portland
brings the
Music, Memories, and Magic
of old time radio back to you.

Public entertainment	Presenting the history of Portland Radio
Private events	Music and trivia of early broadcast industry
Special events	DJ playing hits and from the 1940s and 1950s
	Car shows, Picnic gatherings, receptions, more
Nostalgia gatherings	Sights and sounds of four decades of radio

Contact Dick relivingradio@karmans.net (or call 503-784-4398)

Northwest Vintage Radio Society
<https://www.facebook.com/NWVRS>

Presents Our
6th Annual
Speed Feldschau

*back-yard picnic and
vintage radio Sale*



Saturday, July 13th 2019
9:am - Noon (set-up at 8:am)



Abernethy Grange, 15745 S. Harley Ave., Oregon City, OR

*Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, buns, napkins,
tableware and all the "fixins" will be
catered by: "Arlene Cuisine"*
www.ArleneCuisine.com

Entertainment provided by:
Dick Karman - Reliving Radio
www.relivingradio.com

Tables provided free for vendors selling radios & related items
Auction at noon of 50 electronic items provided by Free Geeks
For further information contact - Pat Kagi 360 909-7009 or
email - patkagi@yahoo.com

NWVRS members, to complement
the *burgers & dogs*, please
bring a side dish or desert.

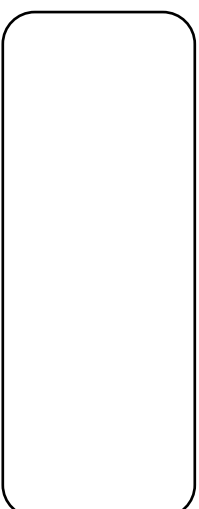
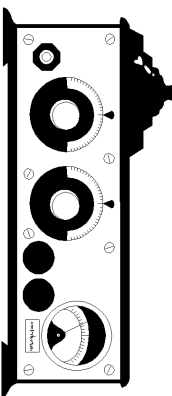


Public Welcome





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



FIRST CLASS MAIL