



CALL LETTER

VOLUME 17

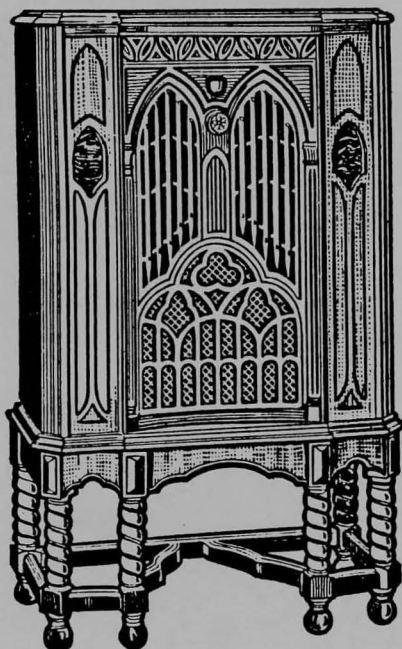
OCTOBER 1991

NUMBER 10



**MIGHTY
MONARCH**
of the AIR

Superheterodyne
RADIO



Majestic Model 307

CALL LETTER

THE NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 NWVRS has been dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Antique Radio & Wireless apparatus.

The CALL LETTER was founded in 1974 by Harley Perkins (our first President). Editors have served as follows: 1975/77 Bob Bilbie, 1977/78 Bob Hay, 1978/79 Tom James, 1980 Bill DeVey, 1981/83 Jim Mason, 1983/87 Richard Karman & 1987/91 Edwin Buhite.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society meets at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd St.) Portland, Oregon Museum Phone (503) 246/3400.

Meetings are held at 10:00 AM on the second Saturday of each month except for summer vacation in August. The meetings are an opportunity to exchange information and advice. The July Swap is at Speed's in Keizer, Oregon. Swap Meets begin at 8:00 AM.

Annual Dues: \$15-- Renewals are due January 1st

NWVRS OFFICERS & STAFF

PRESIDENT	DICK KARMAN	(503) 288/1285
VICE PRESIDENT	RAY NELSON	(503) 233/5063
TREASURER	ED CHARMAN	(503) 654/7387
SECRETARY	GORDON PHILLIPS	(503) 234/3517
CORRESPONDENT	EDWIN BUHITE	(503) 288/8719
MUSEUM CURATOR	FRANK RASADA	(503) 246/3400
MUSEUM CONTACT	SONNY CLUTTER	(503) 254/9296

NWVRS MAILING ADDRESS :

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



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EDITOR IN CHIEF Edwin Buhite ..		503/288/8719
BINDING	Gordon Phillips	503/234/3517

The **CALL LETTER** and The **HORN OF PLENTY** are published monthly as the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society and the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association.

The Call Letter and the Horn Of Plenty are available only as part of the NWVRS/PSARA memberships. NWVRS/PSARA are not responsible for any buying / selling transactions incurred, or for any other use of the contents of this publication. All transactions are on an "as is" basis with the new owner assuming all responsibility.

1930'S ZENITH LOGO WATCH

Beautifully reproduced on a black dial Goldtone Quartz Watch with over 1" face (men's) 3/4" face (women's) A leather band & 1 year warranty.



Logo A

State Logo
A or B
Preference
Men's
or
Women's
Style



Logo B

To reserve your watch send \$49.50 check or money order (includes tax and shipping)

To: NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO MUSEUM
9453 E. Arkansas St.
Bellflower, CA. 90706



From the President's Desk

David Dintenfass, PSARA president

At the September meeting, I had the honor of receiving the president's gavel from Max Kaplan. I'd like to thank Max for yeoman service as last year's PSARA president. Max also served unfailingly as secretary for several years before that. Max has been at the front table during our meetings for so long that it will be disquieting to see him on the other side of the table...

Thanks also to Lee Ray who has done an outstanding job as our secretary for the past year. Through Lee's efforts, we've had an accurate record of each meeting and a subsequent synopsis in our newsletter. And hats off to David Braun, who has graciously volunteered to assume Lee's duties. Many of you know David as the man who led us through a wonderful tour of KIRO Broadcasting some months ago.

I'd also like to thank our officers who are staying on for yet another year—Jim Gianacos (vice president), Al Atworth (treasurer), Ken Korhonen (museum curator), and Al Odmark (correspondent). I also want to thank Edwin Buhite, who continues to coordinate the joint publication of our newsletter with the *Northwest Vintage Radio Society*.

Continuing the trend of the past several years, I'd like to keep the business meetings short and to-the-point—no more than 30 minutes at maximum. If there are items that need extended discussion, members of the executive committee (and any interested club members as well) will meet to discuss these matters at the conclusion of the day's meeting.

I'm going to take a rather aggressive approach to scheduling regular programs. We've had good presentations over the past number of years but we need to keep the momentum going. Technical presentations—be they lectures, panel discussions, or show-and-tells—are the very core that keeps this club going. If you are an active *PSARA* member, expect a telephone call from me sooner or later. Although I plan to tap a number of "regulars," I want to encourage newer members to share their knowledge as well.



At the same time, I don't want to discourage anyone from coming forward with a presentation for fear of not having it polished enough. You don't have to use an overhead projector or 35mm slides to illustrate a topic – just having relevant materials for display is often sufficient. (However, if you *do* need to use a projector, please call me a week in advance and remind me to borrow one from my employer; I have a very busy schedule and must be reminded about this sort of thing!)

If you have some good ideas to share but would rather not develop a full-length presentation, consider participation in a panel discussion. For example, a club member told me that he had good success repairing a radio cabinet that had become de-laminated – a common problem with some of the older plywood cabinets. If we could get a few folks together with similar experience, we could have a much-needed panel discussion on plywood and veneer repair.

Keep in mind that presentations don't always have to be on "how to fix old radios." Although our charter is "to promote the preservation of historical wireless and radio equipment," related topics are always welcome. Topics such as sound recording, commercial broadcasting practice, television, and military and amateur radio design are very much part of radio history and deserve our attention as well. To suggest another topic, what about facsimile? It might be fun to review the history of this decades-old technology in light of the current popularity of FAX machines.

Show-and-tells are always fun and can be a regular part of every meeting. Just think – the more items you exhibit from your collection, the greater the likelihood that a club member might want to buy similar items from you at our pre-meeting swap meet!

If you have ideas for a presentation, please give me a call. You can reach me at (206) 784-4803 most evenings after 7 pm.

Regards,



David Dintenfass



P S A R A MEETING MINUTES

Seattle, Washington
Sunday Sept 15, 1991

Max Kaplan called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. Attending were 28 members and one guest, Scott Norris.

OLD BUSINESS: The "Puget Sounds" book (Radio-TV broadcasting history in the Seattle-Tacoma area) sign-up sheet was passed around again. We have consolidated the lists and ended up with 16 (the exact number available last time we checked). Those who have signed up for the book, please send (\$14.95 plus \$1.17 tax) total \$16.12 for each copy to Max Kaplan 14902 84th Ave Ct NW Gig Harbor WA 98329. When he receives your money, he will take care of ordering the books on a first received, first served basis.

Bob Phelps gave a short summation about the possible updating of lighting and electrical outlets in the radio museum room. Also he turned over to the board of directors, our donations for Shoreline Historical Museum that were raised at the August Swap Meet. A big thanks to those members who contributed to the fund.

NEW BUSINESS: Walt Kiefner discussed the possibility of shorter hours at next years August Swap Meet, because a substantial number of members left before about 2:00 PM. He made a motion that next years meet be 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM, motion passed unanimously. Walt also will be looking into ordering 1992 classic radio calenders.

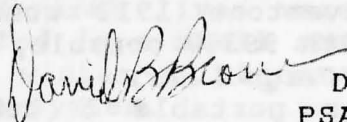
Al Lemke has found a source for "Sams Photofacts" from 1946 to 1960 for \$14.80 per volume. He will bring some to show at the October meeting.

There will be an upcoming program on P.B.S. on the History of Broadcasting. It's called "Empire of the Air, the Men Who Made Radio", about DeForest, Armstrong and Sarnoff of RCA. The book is by Tom Lewis and the TV program is done by Ken Burns of "Civil War" program fame. The 2 hour special is set for late January 1992.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Several of last years officers volunteered to run for another year and were re-elected by show of hands, unanimously by the way. They were Vice President Jim Gianacos, Treasurer Al Atworth, Museum Curator Ken Korhonen and Correspondent Al Odmak. Newly elected positions were President and Secretary. Dave Dintenfass was nominated for President, seconded and voted in unanimously as was David Braun for new Secretary.

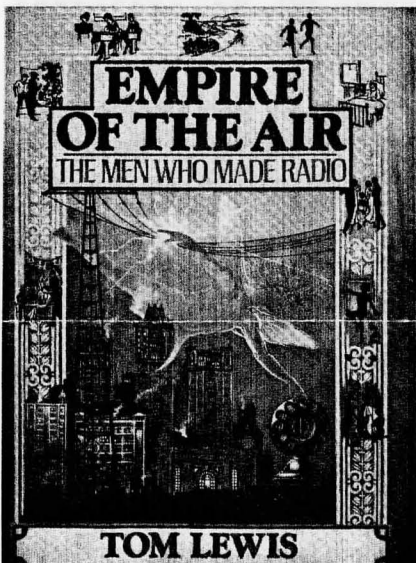
THINK ABOUT: The feasibility of having an indoor Swap Meet at the Museum sometime about January 92. Rent table space for \$10.00 or so, to go to museum fund. We will discuss this more at the October meeting. We need more radio related presentations for future meetings. Please sign up with anything soon.



David Braun,
PSARA Secretary

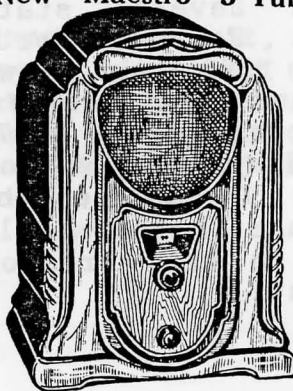
P S A R A
COMING EVENTS :

- October 20 11:00 AM Swap
1:00 PM Business Meeting
A. Discussion of future programs
B. Planning for January Swap
- November 17 11:00 AM Swap
1:00 PM Annual Contest
- December 9 11:00 AM Swap
(second sun) 1:00 PM Business Meeting



A new book on broadcasting pioneers is coming to PBS courtesy of Ken Burns

New "Maestro" 5 Tube



Olé! (acquisitions)

Al Atworth

Majestic 20

Edwin Buhite

1936 Zenith AC Set with shortwave & shadowgraph
1924 Atwater Kent L Horn, 1942 Zenith w/radiorgan

Ed Curry

DeForest Crystal set

Richard Dielschneider

Airline 8A47 table set, Bendix 526MB plastic,
Crosley 66TC wood, Crosley 72CA console, Emerson
464 wood, Emerson wood, GE HJ1205 console, Guild
Grafanola radio/phono, Philco 37-610 wood, Philco
38-60 console, Silvertone 7067 radio/phono
console, Silvertone 1912 console, Zenith 1005
console, Zenith 9S367 console, Zenith 7S633 wood.

Max Kaplan

1925 Trav-ler portable 5 tuber, 1940 Defiant
British 3 band.

Steven D. Martin

Transistor sets; Motorola 56T1, Philco T-7-126,
Global GR-711, Zenith Royal 300.

Ray Nelson

1925 Amplivox Horn Speaker, 1931 Philco 90B
cathedral, 1955 Philmore 3 transistor Kit radio
with book, 1962 Hoffman 9 transistor Solar radio.

Jerry Talbott

1946 Packard Bell 5FP white mini bakelite

K B L E 1050

Seattle Washington

During these times, many radio stations are constantly changing format and seemingly have no purpose. Several stations just aren't around anymore. For over forty years, when you set your dial to 1050, you know what to expect. KBLE has been consistent in providing good programming with a purpose. In 1947 They signed on as KRKL in Kirkland and for a short time were KNBX. For as long as I can remember they've been KBLE, a lighthouse in the middle of the AM fog. It's good to have a truly responsible broadcaster in the northwest.



K P C

by F.W. Sloat W7AHK

In 1907 the United Wireless Telegraph Company constructed a radio - telegraph marine station on Smith's Point, a promontory overlooking the Pacific Ocean at Astoria, Oregon. First known as "PC" it was later taken over by the Marconi Company and the call was changed to KPC.

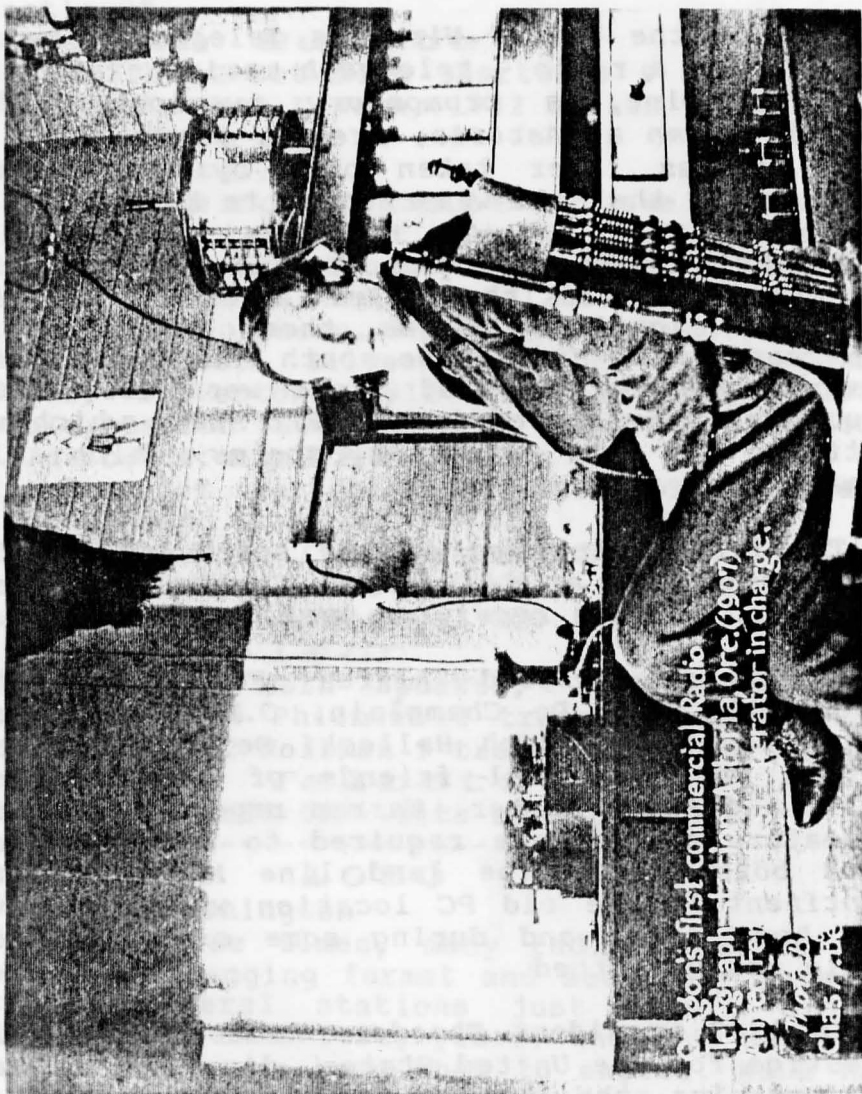
The main purpose of the station was to handle the traffic from the ships at sea including distress signals such as those from the SS Rosecrans which struck the south end of the jetty during darkness. Several lives were lost. PC's equipment was located in a small shack which was battered by the winter's storms which also damaged the antenna system.

The transmitter was of the spark type, tubes not being used at this time. Crystal receivers were used for the receiving part.

Operators included Alfred Ferland, Arthur Greenwell, Paul De Champlain, O.L. Norman, and the ubiquitous Joseph Hallock! De Champlain and Norman were personal friends of Warren Green, W7JY, and PSARA member. Warren reported that the operators at PC were required to copy and work with both codes- the land line Morse and the Continental. The old PC location was taken over for home sites and during some excavation old cable was unearthed.

In 1907 President Theodore Roosevelt, seeking prestige for the United States, directed the Navy to organize the "Great White Fleet" make an around the world trip. Twenty ships, all painted white, made an impressive sight. Added to their





Oregon's first commercial Radio
 Telegraph Station - Astoria, Ore. (1907)
 Alfred Ferland, first operator in charge.

Astoria Oregon 1907
 Alfred Ferland, first operator in charge,
 at Oregon's first commercial radio telegraph station KPC.

OUR THANKS TO OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 FOR ALLOWING US TO USE PHOTO ORH14181 BY
 CHARLES A. BECK. OUR THANKS TO ART REDMAN
 FOR ARRANGING IT.





Astoria Oregon 1913
Arthur Greenwell at KPC. This rare photo
sent to pioneer radio operator Floyd
Gibbs at Hood River, Oregon

OUR THANKS TO TEX SLOAT FOR THIS PHOTO.



usual spark installations, all ships carried the new low powered "arc" transmitters, installed by the De Forest Company.

This new development generated direct current transmissions which could be modulated. Invented in Denmark, it consisted of a carbon cathode and a copper anode, both in a gap formation and operating in a magnetic field and sealed in a hydrogen atmosphere.

The arc installations were very low powered and were for experimental purpose. As the fleet sailed North past Astoria in 1908, PC kept them informed of the news. Attempts to communicate by voice with the new arc system failed but were successful in other locations. The Federal Telegraph Company was soon using it for world wide communication.

Information on PC from Chester Lamont, and originally from Paul De Champlain.

SWAP SHOP FOR SALE

Magazines; Radio Craft - Radio Electronics, 1941-1951 (51 issues). Radio News - Radio TV News, 1939-1950 (69 issues). \$35-- for all. Don Knotts 3158 NE Azalea Hillsboro OR 97124 (503) 648/1738

1940 Magnavox radio/phono console P-P 6L6 & dual 12" speakers, not working, fair cabinet \$20- Harold Hagen (206) 768/1043

Radio & TV Tubes for \$1.-- each. Bob Lee at R5-D3 Electronic Surplus. 6111 SE 82nd St Portland OR 97266 (503) 774/6560

Radios, parts etc. from collection of PSARA founding member Homer Malstrom. Dozens of cathedrals, consoles, early battery sets, test instruments, parts, much more at The Old Technology Shop 7712 Aurora Ave. N. Seattle WA 98103 (206) 527/2829 open 12:30 - 6:00 Wed thru Sat. 2:00 - 6:00 Sunday. Don't Miss This One.



**** NOTICE ****

Mary & I would like to thank every one who came on Saturday Sept. 7 to help move radios from the first floor to the second floor of the museum. Without their dedicated effort we would never have gotten the move completed. Restoration of the downstairs area can now be started.

Thanks Again
Frank & Mary Rasada

**N W V R S
COMING EVENTS**

****** NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO MUSEUM ******
7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd St.)
Portland, Oregon

Museum Phone (503) 246/3400

Oct. 12 1991 Meeting & Contest 10:00 AM
Contest Categories

1. Philco Transitones
2. Farm Radios
3. Home Brew (not kits)
4. Ugly Radios (basket case)

=====
***** FINAL SWAP MEET IN OREGON CITY ***** #
Nov. 9 1991 Swap Meet 8:00 AM #
=====

****** NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO MUSEUM ******
Dec. 14 1991 Election of Officers 10:00 AM
Annual Christmas Dinner (time to be announced)
Jan. 11 1992 Annual business meeting ... 10:00 AM
Feb. 8 1992 Contest 10:00 AM
Mar. 14 1992 Auction 10:00 AM
Apr. 11 1992 Meeting 10:00 AM
May 9 1992 Swap Meet 8:00 AM
June 13 1992 Meeting 10:00 AM
July 11 1992 Annual Summer Swap - Speed's 8:00 AM
Aug. 1992 Summer Vacation
Sep. 12 1992 Auction 10:00 AM
Oct. 10 1992 Fall Swap Meet 8:00 AM
Nov. 14 1992 Contest, Officer Nomination 10:00 AM
Dec. 12 1992 Annual Christmas Dinner and Election
of Officers (time to be announced)



N W V R S MEETING MINUTES

Portland, Oregon Sept 14, 1991

President Dick Karman opened the first meeting of NWVRS at the new location: Rasada's Northwest Vintage Radio Museum at 10:05 AM. Dick thanked the 15 people that helped move radios and for other work preparing the display area. Also discussion of plans for fruther improvements to the displays. Members who had not seen the radio display were invited to see it.

Dick called for approval of the minutes of the June meeting as published. They were approved as published. Ed Charman presented the treasurer's report, it was approved as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS: Dick announced that an agreement was made with Frank Rasada for NWVRS to meet at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum until it is unagreeable with both parties. The November 9, 1991 Swap Meet will be at Oregon City because of the previous publicity.

Dick read a portion of the constitution which states that anyone who publishes advertising for an event of the NWVRS needs to file a copy of that advertisement, either with the corresponding secretary (Ed Buhite) or with the board who will forward it to Ed so that we will have consistency of advertising.

Work days to help Frank will not be until December. Frank mentioned some of his future display plans. He said that any day he is working at the museum, he could use some help.

Frank stated that there are many radios or equipment, that he doesn't have, that other members might want to display in the museum. They are welcome to do so, but they must carry their own insurance. Mark your equipment with your name on it.

As the museum becomes more and more formal we'll print placards for various families of radios. If you bring a radio or other equipment that has some history on it, bring some text and we will print it up and put it with the radio so that it will also be educational.



NEW BUSINESS: Prospective new members were discussed and it was suggested to make their names and addresses available for a copy of the Call Letter. Inviting them to our museum was also suggested. Dick announced that within the next 60 days, the nominations for 1992 year's officers will be needed.

Mary Rasada is willing to help with the Christmas party and banquet. It will probably be on the second Saturday evening in December. John Otterstedt and Dick Dielschneider volunteered for the committee. Sonny Clutter suggested meeting in the afternoon. Mary Rasada suggested that each member bring a Christmas ornament for the tree.

Visiting PSARA members were introduced: Mr. & Mrs. Ed Curry and Mr. Howard Randall. Visitors also included Mr. John Winters, Mr. & Mrs John Bradshaw from Arizona and Mr. Charlie Fisher from London Ontario Canada.

Future events and parking in the empty lot when not raining were discussed. Speed's Big Summer Swap will be the second Saturday in July and this is corrected in this Call Letter. Auction guidelines were announced.

NWVRS belongings will be stored at the museum. Frank Rasada announced: The official name of the museum is Northwest Vintage Radio Museum. If you have Radios to display in the museum, talk to Sonny Clutter.

Sonny Clutter suggested reading the Call Letter IN FULL, At Least all the notices. Ed Charman complimented Ed Buhite on his efforts publishing the Call Letter.

GOOD & WELFARE: None presented

LEEDS & NEEDS: Steve VonTalge at the Old Technology Shop in Seattle is liquidating a collection he recently purchased including AC & battery sets. He is listed in Swap Shop & Roster. Dick Karman recently purchased many old radio shows. If you are interested, call his computer at 288/1285 and leave message.

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:33 AM.

Gordon Phillips

Gordon Phillips, NWVRS Secretary



SWAP SHOP

WANTED

Westinghouse early 30's table radio, Pilot AA-903 amplifier. Jerry Talbott 1440 SW 239th Ave Hillsboro OR 97123 (503) 649/6717

RCA 621 TV set, Sky Chief radios, blue 01A tubes, art deco and other unusual radios, pre-1950 TV sets & literature, Emerson 628 TV. Ken Korhonen (206) 932/9363

Rider Vol XXI - XXII Al Lemke 10004 206th Ave NE Redmond WA 78053 (206) 868/8165

R42D Ballast tube

Bob Dye (206) 692/0220

Philco 37-690 or 38-690 any condition. Jerry Cappel (206) 874/5490

Transistor radios. Motorola, Zenith, Regency, Japanese pocket sets etc. Will trade also, small tube portables. Steven D. Martin 815 N. Hayden Rd. Apt B-204 Scottsdale AZ 82527 (602) 994/3162

Rider Radio Repair manuals Volumes IV, V, XVIII, XX, XXI, XXII and XXIII are needed for the PSARA Library. Ken Korhonen (206) 932/9363

Regency Instruction Manual for ACT-T-720A Digital Flight Scanner. Al Atworth P.O.Box 125 Snohomish WA (206) 568/2698

Tektronix Instr. Manual for 543 Oscilloscope or someone to loan me one to copy. David Braun 17554 12th Ave NE Seattle WA 98155 (206) 363/1980

Grebe RORK amplifier, Amplion horn speaker. Edwin Buhite 4041 NE Wistaria Dr. Portland OR 97212 (503) 288/8719

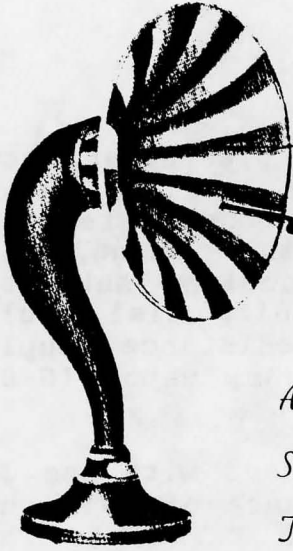
SWAP

Old time radio gear for watch maker's lathe / tools. Max Kaplan 14902 84th Ave Ct NW Gig Harbor WA 98329 (206) 851/4187

Sell/trade 1928 Freed radio chassis & speaker (no cabinet) Dick Boller (206) 782/8318

Buy-sell-trade Cathedral radios and crank phonos, related parts & advertising. Ed Curry (206) 351-2663





ATMOSPHERICA

By J

A Wondering Minstrel, I -----

Some folks are dogmatic
As to what we each should do
To hold the club together---
Make a sort of people glue .

Some are wishy-washy
Like some drifting bit of fluff,
"Things'll work out dandy--
Manana is soon enough!"

Some are indeed skeptic
That anyone can come to grips
And put the ends together ;
They just wait to grab the chips.

I'm not steeped in dogma,
Nor do I dodge my part ;
I'm not a doubting Thomas
As to the future of our art.

But the writing on the wall
Is clear for all to see--
If we don't keep the lead out
No more So-ci- et-tee !

** ** * ** *

Mamma Goose # 22

Hippety-hop to the antique shop
To deal with that canny yegg--
It's sheer luck
To get the Duck
For even an arm and leg !



MAJESTIC 307

The Grigsby Grunow Co.

Gothic lowboy, unique in its pipe-organ front panel design and illuminated stained glass inserts. Eleven-tube superheterodyne receiver provides Automatic Synchro-Silent Tuning, tone control, Duo-Diode (G-4-S) detection, Automatic Volume Control, Visual-Lite tuning dial, full-pentode (G-47) amplification, resistance coupled push-pull power output and mercury vapor (G-82) rectification.

The large G-14-F speaker is used with the 300 chassis. It has a field resistance of 1040 ohms and a voice coil resistance of 1.7 ohms. This speaker is of generous design to handle great amounts of power. The frequency response represents the very latest in dynamic speaker development.

By 1929 Majestic was recognized as first in sales and performance. Before Zenith owned the Radio Manufacturing plant at 5801 Dickens Avenue in Chicago, Majestic was there. Before Zenith manufactured the Stratosphere, Majestic manufactured the 307. The Grigsby-Grunow Co. had a staff of over 8,000 people. The model 307 for 1932-33 was certainly most worthy of the Grigsby-Grunow-Majestic slogan.....

The Mighty Monarch of The Air.

Majestic

MIGHTY
MONARCH
of the AIR

Superheterodyne
RADIO



A New Standard of Radio Enjoyment

is set by

MAJESTIC

Within the last twelve months greater progress has been made toward perfect tone in radio than in the preceding four years.

As a result, millions of existing radio sets—still thought of with affection by their owners—are as out of date, from a scientific point of view, as a two-cylinder, crank-starting motor car.

For example, by merely turning a knob on the new Majestic, you can silence all inter-station roars and crackles—thereby establishing the closest approach to complete static elimination yet achieved, AN OUTSTANDING FEATURE WITH MAJESTIC.

We sincerely believe that the new Majestic represents the greatest advance toward perfect tone yet attained.

If you are interested to know WHY, we will gladly explain a score of distinct advancements . . . tell you about such things as the new 2½-volt, dome-shaped, spray-shield tubes . . . duo-diode detection . . . full pentode amplification . . . image-rejector circuit . . . improved automatic volume control . . . synchro-silent tuning . . .

Majestic, however, needs no printed sponsor. For assuredly it SPEAKS FOR ITSELF—and in a tone so clear, so natural, so true to life that not only music but the SPOKEN WORD is reproduced with unbelievable fidelity.

The great new Majestic line comprises eight models . . . any one of them a set you would be proud to own.

Hear these sets at our store—and know for the first time how truly wonderful a radio can be!

Majestic

