

Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, Portland, Oregon

Volume 19

April 1993

Number 4

This Month:

Meeting April 10th, 1993
Bakelite radio Repair.

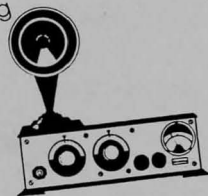
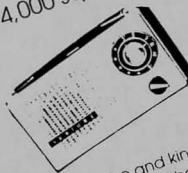
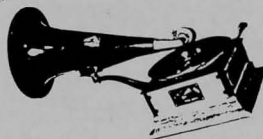
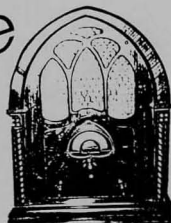
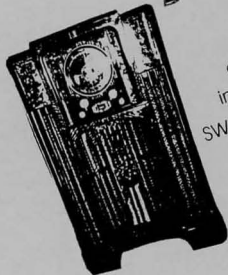
Next Month:

Vintage Radio & Related Nostalgia Show and Sale Back to the Past!

Saturday, May 8th, 1993

at the Multnomah Arts Center
in the heart of Multnomah Village
SW 32nd Ave & Capitol Hiway, Portland
9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

- Vintage Nostalgia
 - Vintage Radios
 - Vintage Television
 - Vintage Phonographs
 - Transistor Radios
 - Radio & Television advertising
- Over 4,000 square feet



This is the first event of this size and kind in Portland
It's fully 4-fold larger than other sales hosted by the NW Vintage Radio Society.
Collectors, hobbyists, and resellers will all be present. Table space is available.
For directions and vendor reservation contact Sonny Clutter (503) 254-9296.

From Downtown Portland, Take I-5 southbound to Multnomah Blvd Exit,
From Multnomah turn right on SW 31st
A community event sponsored by

the Northwest Vintage Radio Society,
P.O. Box 82379, Portland, OR 97282



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 \$15.00 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 members the Call Letter has continued to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that has supported the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum, 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd street) in Portland Oregon. They convene at or about 10 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and information exchange. 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 SW Portland.

Society Officers:

President	Speed Feldschau (503) 390-3928
Vice President	Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517
Treasurer	Ed Charman (503) 654-7387
Secretary	Joel Camicia (503) 287-7832
Board member at large and Call Letter Editor	Dick Karman (503) 281-6585
Museum Curator	Frank Rasada (503) 246-3400

The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society
Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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April Meeting

The April 10th meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society will be held at the NW Vintage Radio Museum and will feature a presentation on the topics of Bakelite Radio repair, and polishing. After the meeting will be a demonstration using some of the classic Bakelite sets. Offering help and advise on this topic will be members Mike Parker, Sonny Clutter, Mark Rasmussen, and possibly Dan Howard.

If you have helpful hints, or tips, or you need a particular piece of advice on a bakelite set, bring it along. The meeting starts at 10 AM. don't be late.

Special Notice:

The radio related items from the Tom and Dorothy James estate will be on sale at the James home, 5024 SE Clay St., Portland, Oregon, on April 17th, 1993 from 10 AM to 3 PM. The sale will be conducted by Virginia Ranken, and members are reminded that only the radio related items will be sold.

Meeting Minutes

By Secretary Joel Camicia

The March 1993 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society meeting was called to order by President Speed Feldschau at 10:15 AM with 34 people in attendance.

The first order of business was approval of the minutes of the February meeting. Next, Treasurer Ed Charman presented the Treasurer's report which was accepted as presented. Ed also reported that the Society now has liability coverage to the limits suggested at the February meeting.

A call to introduce guests was made. Those responding were Miles Garcia and Dan Lieberman.

Visitors Wilber Jerman and his Nephew Fred Murphey were introduced, and they were presented with Northwest Vintage Radio Society coffee mugs. Gary Locker from Channel Two News was also introduced and welcomed both as a guest and in his work capacity. Gary videotaped Mr. Jerman's presentation as a guest speaker.

Old Business:

Sonny Clutter reported that he is still in the process of following up on the possibility of the Southern Oregon Swap Meet.

Gordon Philips reported on the progress of the "first-timer" or "how to" book which he is compiling. He reports that most questions have been answered and the book will be available soon.

Dick Dielschneider reported on the Museum renovation project. He stated that the telephone and electrical wiring is now all complete.

New Business:

Sonny Clutter reported that Frank Rasada is considering the construction of a three story block building next to the existing museum, and would welcome recommendations for a good mason.

Sonny Clutter also reported that the Triode Society will be sponsoring a display at the high school at 124th and Brazee from 7 PM to 10 PM. The display (only, no selling) will consist of vintage radios and phonographs. Society members who wish to participate can call Sonny for details.

Gordon Philips reported that the bakelite repair seminar planned for the April meeting is right on schedule. Some of the presenters will be Sonny Clutter and Mike Parker.

The radio contest was conducted. Peter Young won first place for the nicest novelty transistor radio. Jim Mason took first for the best novelty tube radio. Mike Parker received first place in the "before and after" contest.

Normal business was put aside and special guest Wilber Jerman took the floor. Mr. Jerman, founder of station KWJJ began by returning to his first involvement with early radio and worked his way to present day. His presentation included many very interesting stories.

Following the presentation members and guests had the opportunity to ask questions and view photographs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia which chronicled Mr. Jerman's long career in radio.

The entire presentation was very much enjoyed by all those who in attendance, and I am certain that we all learned something new.

On behalf of the membership, I offer my personal thanks to Mr. Jerman for attending our meeting and for his presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Out Takes

From the *Blunderful World of Bloopers*

Back in the days when dramatic programs were produced live on radio, Bloopers were commonplace. For instance, one time the writers of the Lone Ranger Show were trying to indicate in the script that the townspeople, who were trapped in a cave, were about to be rescued by the famous masked man. Radio listeners heard one character, supposedly trapped in a cave, deliver this immortal line: "listen . . . I hear a white horse coming."

Pretty good ears, huh?

Reliving Radio's Past

Tuesday Night in the Spring of 1947 (New York feed).

Time	Mutual Don Lee	National Broadcasting	Columbia Broadcasting	American Broadcasting
4:00		Backstage Wife	Art Linkletter	
4:15	Johnson Family	Stella Dallas		
4:30	Adventure Parade	Lorenzo Jones	Hollywood Jackpot	Cliff Edwards
4:45	Buck Rogers	Young Widder Brown		Dick Tracy
5:00	Hop Harrigan	When A Girl Marries	American School of the Air	Terry & the Pirates
5:15		Portia Faces Life		
5:30	Capt Midnight	Just Plain Bill	(*)	Jack Armstrong
5:45	Tom Mix	Front Page Farrell		Tennessee Jed
6:00	(*)	(*)	(*)	
6:15			Public Affairs	
6:30			Red Barber: Sports	
6:45		Lowell Thomas	Robert Trout: News	
7:00	Fulton Lewis:News	Chesterfield Super Club	Mystery of The Week	Taylor Grant Headlines
7:15		Morgan Beatty: News	Jack Smith Show	Elmer Davis: News
7:30	Henry Taylor/A. Hales	(*)	American Melody Hr	
7:45	Bill Brandt: Sport	HV Kaltenborn: News		
8:00	Michael Shane	Rudy Valley	Big Town	Lum & Abner
8:30	The Falcon	Date With Judy		Boston Symphony
9:00	Gabriel Heater	Amos & Andy	Vox Pops	
9:15	Real Stories			
9:30	(*)	Fibber McGee	Arthur Godfrey	
10:00	(*)	Bob Hope	One World Flight	
10:15	Upton Close			
10:30		Red Skelton		Listening Post

* these times were available for local programming.

From the Oregonian April 2, 1952, page 17.

Odd Radios Entered in KGW Contest



Unusual radios have been coming into the KGW studios this week for the old radio contest which closes Wednesday (April 2, 1952). Janet Baumbhover, KGW receptionist, tries the dial on the Keg Radio. At right is a radio in a globe. Sets will be displayed at the Oregonian April 8th through the 12th.

Contributor's note:

This contest must have been in celebration of KGW's 30 years on the air. On March 22 1922 KGW opened with R.G. Calvert as supervisor and Richard Hallock as program director. I could not find any record of the winners of this contest. Dan Howard.

NVRS History (Part 2)

By Editor Dick Karman

June, 1977:

The CALL LETTER of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society announces the resignation of the society's founder Bob Bilbie. The story cited personal and health reasons for the resignation. Bob's departure moved, then Vice President, Tom James into the President's role, and Alan Shattuck to Vice President.

This headline was not the only thing that caught the eye of the 132 paid up members in 1977. This CALL LETTER was the first to come out in the "half fold format" that we are used to today. This was the work of the new editor Bob Hay. For nearly 16 years we have had the 8 1/2" by 5 1/2" CALL LETTER, but that spring it was quite a change from the format which Bob Bilbie originated and passed on to Tom James. Bob Hay only kept the position of Editor for about a year, but the format change stood the test of time.

Then President, Tom James, took over the editor's post again in June 1978. At that time member Doug Eggert was printing labels on a main frame computer and did most of the copying of the publication on a Xerox machine, but the editor was generally responsible for folding, stapling, labeling and mailing the CALL LETTER.

Although Dorothy & Tom James, Bobbie Kibler, Hugh & Virginia Ranken, and Joey Tompkins continued to be valued contributors to the CALL LETTER, editorship changed hands many times. In January 1980 when Bill Devey took the helm. In January 1981 Jim Mason took it on for a couple years. Your current editor picked up the paste-up job in February 1983. In 1987 Edwin Buhite, of PSARA, directed the word processing; and in 1992 your current editor returned to the post.

No matter who has his name on the editor's line, the CALL LETTER has been a quality monthly publication for 19 years. It is something to look forward to and it always has been a friendly reminder of meetings, business and camaraderie. Thanks currently to Scott MacGregor (reporter), F.W. Sloat (writer), VP Gordon Philips (bindery strawboss, and his crew), and President Speed Feldschau (encouragement and support), who make it all possible.

Acquisitions

Glen Bricker

Freed Eisman FE-15
RCA Model 103 Speaker
AK Model 12 Breadboard
Stromberg Carlson "1-A"
1924 Globe Duo-Dyne
Champion Spark Plug Radio
Abott Ware "Horse radio"
Philco Predicta TV.

Gordon Philips

Zenith 3000-1 Transoceanic

Scott MacGregor

Philco 1932 Model 52 Cathedral

Sonny Clutter

1938 Emerson Lil-Miracle Tiny bakelite Set
1947 Emerson Model 540 Tiny Red Plastic set

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No. 6



GALL

BILBIE RESIGNS

LETTER

For personal and health reasons, Bob Bilbie resigned from the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Bob has contributed much personal effort to NWVRS since its conception. His ideas and desire to help others learn about these reasons we are all tremendously appreciated. Bob's resignation is a tremendous asset to the Society. His resignation is a tremendous asset to the Society. His resignation is a tremendous asset to the Society.

SWAP SHOP

Wanted

Schematics, diagrams, or documentation for the Abbott Ware "horse radio" - Glen Bricker, 1030 N 11th Street, Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424 - (503) 942-3717.

Zenith Mod 5-R-312 "pancake table set" in any condition - Scott MacGregor, 1115 SW 28th street, Troutdale, Oregon 97060 - (503) 661-1294.

Atwater Kent Model 10 Breadboard parts, Ed Curry, 8502 8th Ave W, Everett, Washington 98204 - (206) 353-2661.

Grebe RORK Amplifier, Edwin Buhite, 4041 NE Wisteria Dr., Portland, Oregon 97212 - (503) 288-8719.

8" speakers with field coil, Gordon Philips, 610 NE Royal Ct. Portland, Oregon 97232 (503) 234-3517.

For Sale or Trade

Philco Model 16, 11 tube tombstone; Zenith Model 288, 9 tube, tombstone; Victor R small horn disk phonograph (pictured on the Radio Show and Sale poster on the Cover) Sonny Clutter, 14407 NE Fremont, Portland, Oregon 97230 - (503) 254-9296.

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NVRS Calendar

May 8th -

Back to The Past !

Northwest Vintage Radio and related nostalgia Show and Sale at the Multnomah Arts Center in the heart of the Multnomah district of Portland (across the street from the museum). Open to the public from 9:30 to noon thirty; clean up and out by 1 PM.

June 12th -

Business meeting, display and contest of unusual radio components, parts, tubes, and prizes for the most unusual.

July -

(No meeting) Keizer Oregon swap meet (date forthcoming).

September 11th -

Northwest Vintage Radio and related nostalgia Show and Sale at the Multnomah Arts Center. (See above for details.)

October 9th -

Business meeting, Vintage radio and equipment auction at the Vintage Radio Museum. Tentatively a silent auction first and an oral auction to "clear the floor."

November 13th -

Business meeting with nomination of 1994 officers, after meeting a radio repair demonstration (to be announced).

December 11th -

Business meeting, the annual Christmas party, and perhaps a Christmas banquet.

Editorial Opinion

KBPS 70 Years Old

By Dick Karman

Last Month KBPS celebrated its 70th birthday. KBPS was licensed to begin broadcasting on March 23rd, 1923. Even among those who argue about what stations were first, second, third, etc, this station ranks up there; about number two.

In October of 1986, Andy Bell, and I, armed with radio gear from several members, put on a display of early radio equipment at the birth place of the station: a stately home at NE 22nd & Hancock Street. It was part of a reception given by supporters of National Public Broadcasting for KBPS. We enjoyed the opportunity and the publicity that our society received. (For details see November 1986 Call Letter, page 10.)

KBPS, the only AM station to be owned and operated by a school district, was moved to Bensen High School when the students themselves purchased the station's license. At first it was part of the engineering course at Bensen. It has continue to train young engineers and broadcasters ever since. An estimated 8,000 students have some small part in its operation each year.

Now with educational budget cuts they are threatening to take KBPS off the air. Parents, students, and faculty all have voiced their dismay over this unique educational opportunity possibly falling to the "budget ax." Many former students, now in the broadcast profession, have raised their voices in protest. What can be done?

KBPS is part of radio's past; part of Portland's future; and most assuredly part of vintage radio. Take a few minutes to write to the station's General Manager Patricia Swensen, at 515 NE 15th Avenue, Portland, Oregon, and offer your support. Never have members of the NVRS had a better cause to stand behind than preserving a call sign that has been around for nearly 70 years.



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

TOAT'S COULEE CARL

It was an ancient Philco,
That sang beside the chair,
And the old man adored it,
As a child, his teddy-bear.

'Twas comfort in the evening
Clean up 'til he'd return.
'Twas company in the morning,
When he 'rose to build a fire.

He turned it on at noon-time,
A rest from toil, and loam.
And then on every Sunday,
He went to church--at home.

He'd bought the set in '30,
And in nineteen sixty-two,
Lightning hit the aerial,
And the Philco finally blew!

'Twas only two days later,
That the old man passed away--
The service was very simple,
He'd wanted it "that-a-way".

Old Carl's been gone for year now,
But at the end of a summer's day
You may hear him down the coulee
Making his "Phantom-Philco" play.

Portland's Original
STROMBERG-CARLSON DEALERS
The J. K. Gill Co.

FIFTH AND STARK STREETS

PORTLAND, OREGON



A Really Great Set

So often you have heard people say, "There is really no radio receiving set up to the Stromberg-Carlson". Why? Just because they know true quality. They know that every tone, semi-tone and overtone sent out from the broadcasting studio is reproduced in all its original beauty and delicacy. Let us show you this remarkable set either in our booth or in the busy radio department of our big store. Stromberg-Carlson signifies quality and service. GILL'S can give both.

The New Cone Speaker
With the Violin Soundboard

This truly wonderful instrument is the result of long and painstaking research. It alone can do justice to the Stromberg-Carlson set. The reproducing unit is built to give maximum sensitivity and pure rich volume. You will be delighted with its unbelievable possibilities. Let us show you.



GILL'S for STROMBERG-CARLSON

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