

The **Call Letter**

November, 2008
Vol. 34 — No. 11



Over 30 years in print!

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 10 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 2008:

President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
Vice-President	Dick Bixler	(503) 690-2557 rf2af@verizon.net
Treasurer	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005 kiptuttle@comcast.net
Recording Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288 landn2@verizon.net
Corresponding Secretary	Tony Hauser	(503)397-0074 abhauser@aol.com
Board member at large	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005 kiptuttle@comcast.net
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 656-4104 rwalton@easystreet.net
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 BonJonBuck@webtv.net



November 2008

Table of Contents

From the Editor2

NWVRS Calendar of Events3

Report: Northwest Car Collector’s Show October 11th & 12th4

WRNO, Vancouver4

Photo Display6

Report: Antique & Collectibles Show8

Voilà ...new and recent finds by NVRS members10

Swap Shop11

The Back Page12

On the cover: “This painting by S. G. Phillips adorns the cover of the November, 1924 issue of *Farm Journal*. The editors of *Farm Journal* commented, “The citizen in the red shirt sleeves is certainly delighted with the way things are going. Hope he didn’t do his voting, as well as his listening by radio.”

The next meeting is on November 8, 2008.

Nomination of Officer Candidates for 2009

**November Monthly Feature:
Northwest-Manufactured Radios and Related Items**

Visit our web site at <http://nwvrs.org>.

Next Call Letter Deadline: December 5, 2008.

The *Call Letter* is the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society. Circulation is limited to the membership and guests of the Society. The Society is not responsible for the material contributed for publication, nor the quality, timeliness, or accuracy of the items or services offered for sale in the SWAP SHOP. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

From the Editor

by Call Letter Editor, Rick Walton

My apologies to those who received last month's *Call Letter* with pages out of order and/or not printed in color. Due to problems with the color printer, the pages of several page sets wound up out of order, causing a waste of paper and toner. Then the black toner ran out, forcing me to complete printing on the black and white printer.

To avoid such problems this month, I've moved all the color pictures to the middle pages so there is only one sheet to print in color. The rest I can print in black and white, which is faster and less expensive. The cover is in color, of course.

This issue has lots of pictures because there were three events covered: the Swap Meet, the Northwest Car Collector's Show, the Antique & Collectibles Show. And there are pictures from WRNO in Vancouver. Thanks to Mark Moore, Dan Howard, Sonny Clutter, and Blake Dietze who provided the reports and the pictures.

I hope you enjoy the politically-tinged cover, even if it gets to you a few days after the election.

Don't forget that we nominate officers at the November meeting.

Sinatra, Bennett, Norah.

Portland's only station for classic American standards
of yesterday and today. Sunny 1550 KKAD.

Listen online at: www.sunny1550kkad.com



NWVRS Calendar of Events

Most of the hamfest and ham swap meet information comes from:
PNW Hamfair web page at www.n7cfo.com/amradio/hf/hf.htm

November 8 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
Officer nominations for 2009.

December 13 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
Officer elections, annual Holiday party.

2009

January 10 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

February 14 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

February 14 Salem Hamfair & Computer/Electronics Swapmeet.
Rickreall, Oregon at the Polk County Fairgrounds. <http://www.w7sra.com>.

March 7 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

March 7 Mike & Key Swap Meet. Puyallup fairgrounds exhibition
hall, Puyallup, WA. Contact mwdink@eskimo.com.
<http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm>.

April 11 NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.

April 24-26 Idaho State Convention. Voice of Idaho ARC. Idaho's
FIRST Section Convention! This is an ARRL Sanctioned
event. <http://www.voiceofidaho.org/>

May 9 NWVRS Spring Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion
Hall, Aurora, Oregon.

May 9 Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club (SCARC) Ham-
fest, Stanwood Middle School, Stanwood, WA. Always
the second Saturday in May. Contact Vic, N7KRE
(360)387-7705). nwecop@tgi.net

June 5-7 Sea-Pac Hamfest. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside,
Oregon. This is an ARRL sanctioned event.
ai9q@arrl.net www.seapac.org/

Report: Northwest Car Collector's Show October 11th & 12th

Reported by Dan Howard

The annual Northwest Car Collector's Show and Swap Meet was held at the Portland Expo Center on October 11th & 12th. This year's theme was "Diners and Drive-Ins" and all the club displays, including ours, worked within this theme. For the NVRS display, collectible radios were posed along three sides of a large, windowed theater set, designed to simulate an old store and decorated with radio store signs, license plates, and other memorabilia. About one-half the available inside space featured radios posed along side a variety of scale-models of diner restaurants. One end of the front window showcased a large drive-in movie scene with a working "movie" screen. 2008 marks the 75th anniversary of the drive-in movie theater. And this is the 20th year that the NVRS has hosted a display at the Car Collector's show.

Dick Howard and Dan Howard and their families, populated the 16' x 16' display space with artifacts from their collections. A mint-condition Transoceanic anchored one window. Nearly 100 auto-themed novelty radios such as cars, oil cans, tires, and gas pumps, were displayed throughout. For the drive-in movie vignette, larger "Barbie-sized" novelty car radios were used, along with a vintage 1965 Philco Ford camper radio (complete with dolls enjoying a picnic at the theater).

Dan and Dick have enjoyed representing the club at this important outreach opportunity ever since the club's initial invitation to participate in 1989. If you would like to participate in next year's display, contact Dick or Dan during the summer for details. Next year's show is scheduled for October 10th & 11th, 2009, with set up on Friday the 9th.

WRNO, Vancouver

Contributed by Blake Dietze

October 29, 2008

Last month we wrapped up most of our cabinet repair for the year. As the spray guns are cleaned and put back up on the shelf and veneers are rolled up and tucked away; we turn our focus back to radio chassis restoration. There are two radios of interest on the bench this month. The first is Ed Montgomery's Airline 93BR715A which has been recapped and still refuses to play; the second is a

(Continued at WRNO on page 10.)



Photos of the Northwest Car Collector's Show



Photos of the WRNO activities on October 29.

Photo Display

Photos by Rick Walton and Sonny Clutter

Photos from the October Sale & Swap Meet in Aurora.





Report: Antique & Collectibles Show

by Mark Moore; photos by Mark Moore & Sonny Clutter



Members of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society put together a very impressive display of old radios at Palmer Wirfs Antique & Collectibles Show at the Portland Expo Center with a focus on radios made in the Northwest. The display included radios purchased or sold in Oregon as well as vintage microphones and radio related photos and memorabilia.

The display was held on October 25 and 26, 2008, and we filled 5 large display cases. Thanks to members Mike Parker, Dick Howard, Sonny Clutter, Don Iverson and Mark Moore for making this a really great display. New member, Art Zimmerla from Millersville, Pennsylvania joined the NWVRS at the display.

Some highlights of the display included the following locally made sets: a Halowat TR5 made by Hallock & Watson in Portland; a 1924 Halowat Home Radio Receiver; as well as a Hallock & Watson Police Station transmitter (Portland's first) also made in Portland; a Norco one-tube receiver made by Northwest Radio Manufacturing Company of Portland; a Meyer & Blackwell coil receiver made on Hawthorne street in Portland; a 3-thumbwheel dialer made by Long Brothers of Cornelius, Oregon in 1925 and a deluxe table model radio made by Long Brothers in the mid-1930s.

We had 9 studio microphones, including a rare KGW flagged Western Electric condenser mike, a dual flagged ring mike from KGW/KEX and a KOIN flagged mike from the 1940s. We also had a large selection of photos, postcards and booklets from Portland's radio and TV stations, including several rare KGW Hoot Owls items from the 1920s.

Included in the display was a sign from the KISN Jock in the Box which hung at the bandstand at Blue Lake Park in the 1950s during live remotes and a KXL Happy Habit sign from the 1930s. We also had a Kilbourne & Clark 3-section counter display model which was made in Seattle, a Rola horn speaker made in Seattle and a wooden Swoboda speaker also made in Seattle.

Other notable sets on display: a Crosley Pup from 1924 which was the first radio to sell for less than \$10; a 1924 DeForest F-5; a Grebe Synchronphase; a Magnavox Model A2R combination radio speaker and amplifier with an 18" diameter horn; a 1910 Bulldog spark transmitter; an Atwater Kent Model 3955 breadboard; 5 cathedral radios, a classic Philco Model 70, a 1933 Silvertone (Sears) Model 36 which was made by Colonial and 3 Echophones, a Model C, Model S-5 and a Model 60 as well as a 1934 Crosley Model 181 art deco tombstone table radio. There were several horns and speakers and a couple midget style cathedrals. There was a small Airline table model with a Bakelite cabinet and a Sentinel portable TV with a 7" screen from 1948.

The booth was shared with a couple of historians who had two other showcases for displays of photos and memorabilia of Vanport (60th anniversary) as well as The Expo and the old stockyards. Thanks to all who helped haul and load radios in and out and for helping staff the booth.



WRNO (continued from page 4)

1946 Philco with modulated hum. Ed is a fairly recent addition to the group and has done a nice job restoring the Airline chassis both electrically and cosmetically. This particular radio is an eight tube example with a tuning eye and plenty of space under the chassis to work. The approach on this set included a high level discussion on the Superheterodyne radio as well as use of a signal generator. Using the audio portion of the signal generator Ed determined that faults were not in the power supply or audio section of the radio. Following standard troubleshooting techniques the issue was quickly found to be in the converter section of the radio; further investigation determined that the problem was in the oscillator. Voltage and resistance checks further narrowed the issue to a shorted padder and a minor wiring mistake.

The second radio of interest this month was Jay's All American Five made by Philco. The set exhibited two problems: a power switch problem and modulated hum. The switch issue was cleared quickly while the modulated hum presented more of a challenge. The radio did not have any noticeable hum between stations, but the output was so garbled when tuned to a radio station that you could not discern what was being broadcast. Using standard troubleshooting techniques and starting at the speaker and working back toward the antenna, the problem was found to be in the RF front-end near the antenna. All voltages and component values were well within specification which left us wondering what was going on. Quite by chance, the loop antenna lead got bumped and the radio started playing properly. Problem solved, we thought. Once the radio was back in the cabinet, it started misbehaving again. We'll let you know what happens next month as we take a second look.

The Photos this month include Ed injecting an IF tone into his Airline project, Jay assembling (or disassembling) his Philco and a very special picture of Donnie; who was picking up his Victor RE-35 after a joint effort from the group to bring it back to life. Donnie was referred to us by Woodland Library Special Services. Donnie works part time at the library and earned enough money, with help from his friends and colleagues to get his family radio repaired. Every once in a while, an offer to assist someone special comes along, Donnie's delight at hearing the radio play again was a heartwarming experience for everyone who participated. Thanks gang!

Voilà

...new and recent finds by NVRS members

Compiled by Jay Johnston

Sonny Clutter — Halowat TR-5. Picked up in a trade with Mark Richardson, this 3-dialer was made in Portland by Hallock & Watson in 1925.

Blake Dietze — Zenith 5S218 "Cube". A Vancouver garage sale find, this radio was snapped up at the pittance of \$10!
Sparton Model 69. An 8-tube AC set circa 1928.

Dick Bixler — Picked up a Knight T60 transmitter and a Knight “Space Spanner” regen at Rickreall. I'm in the process of rebuilding collection in a more conservative, organized fashion.

Pat Kagi — Got a real cool Philco 38-7 wood table radio.

Swap Shop

FOR SALE: Thousands of tubes, hundreds of radio parts, panels, meters, surplus, etc. R5-D3 electronic surplus, Bob Lee, 9770 S.E. Stanley Ave., Milwaukie, OR 97222, (503) 513-0410

FOR SALE: **Autographed copy of *Oscilloscopes: Selecting and Restoring a Classic* by Stan Griffiths. It focuses on the old Tektronix boatanchors, and is in impeccable condition except for a small crease on the cover's corner. \$25. Contact Jay Johnston, withat@msn.com or 503-226-4181.

FREE: SAMS Photofacts 1 through 500 in two metal filing cabinets. These came from Jim Mason's estate. Please contact Pat at (360)694-6149.

Radio Service

These members have indicated they are willing to perform radio repairs:

Roger Brown – (503) 693-6089

Blake Dietze – (360) 944-7172, wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com

Todd Ommert – (503) 246-4141, website www.burlingame-radio.com

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or ranft61@msn.com – General repairs.

Dave Wise – (503) 648-0897, david_wise@phoenix.com

If you are willing to repair radios, give your name, phone and/or e-mail, and any comments to the *Call Letter* editor.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is not responsible in any disputes arising from services provided by members listed here. By common agreement of the board of directors, the buyer assumes all responsibility for the satisfaction of any transaction.

Leads and Needs

Questions about restoration of vintage radio? Visit radiolaguy's web site often for this information plus lots of other interesting displays, photo's, virtual museum plus lots of other information on vintage radio and television. Oh, yes, there are items for sale as well and NVRS members get a substantial discount on most of these items. Thank You, Sonny the Radiola Guy
Visit my vintage radio web site: <http://www.radiolaguy.com>

Jay Johnston is looking for a Kilbourne & Clarke horn speaker. Contact him at withat@msn.com or 503-226-4181.

The Back Page

Another piece from the *Farm Journal* of November, 1924.

NOVEMBER, 1924 51

Who's Elected?

Through MUSIC MASTER you hear every syllable of the returns distinctly

ELECTION NIGHT! Bulletins from forty-eight States are flooding the air. It is now that you need a loud speaker that will reproduce in tones that are natural and clear—easily and quickly understood.

MUSIC MASTER is a clear loud speaker—and much more. It is an instrument so accurately tuned to voices and musical sounds that if you shut your eyes you can believe the broadcaster is standing at your elbow, instead of an hour's or a day's journey away.

Radio impulses entering the sensitive precision instrument in the base are translated into sound waves, undistorted and faithful to the original voice or instrument. In the tapered tone chamber of cast aluminum these sound waves grow clear and bell-like and, finally, the full, mature tones pour forth in rich resonance through the MUSIC MASTER amplifying bell of natural wood.

When next in town go to your dealer and hear this musical instrument of radio; or, better still, take one home to prove with your own set.

Dealers Everywhere

Music Master Corporation
Makers and Distributors of High-Grade Radio Apparatus
 10th and Cherry Streets
 Chicago PHILADELPHIA Pittsburgh

411-N

Connect MUSIC MASTER
 in place of headphones.
 No batteries required.
 No adjustments.

Music Master

RADIO REPRODUCER

14-inch Model, for \$30
 the Home
 21-inch Model, for \$35
 Concerts and
 Dancing

The Musical Instrument of Radio

Officer's Roles

The President

The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors. The President shall set the time and the place of Board of Directors' Meetings. The President has the power to appoint members of committees as appropriate to enhance the activities of the society.

The Vice President

The Vice President shall be responsible for planning and arranging technical and entertaining activities associated with the society's meetings. He serves as chairman of the program committee if such a committee is appointed. He acts as presiding officer at meetings if the President is unavailable.

The Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of every business meeting.

The Corresponding Secretary

The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for all of the society's networking and correspondence tasks.

The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be accountable for all funds received and disbursed by the society and shall report all monetary transactions and treasury balance at each regular meeting of the society. The Treasurer shall prepare a list of members in good standing for distribution at the next regular meeting following the annual meeting of the society.

The Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the current elected officers of the society plus the immediate past president of the society. The Board of Directors shall direct the care and expenditure of the funds of the society. The Board shall determine a suitable time and place for regular society business meetings.