

# *The* **Call Letter**

*June, 2011*  
Vol. 37 — No.6



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Celebrating over **35** years in print!

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# 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).

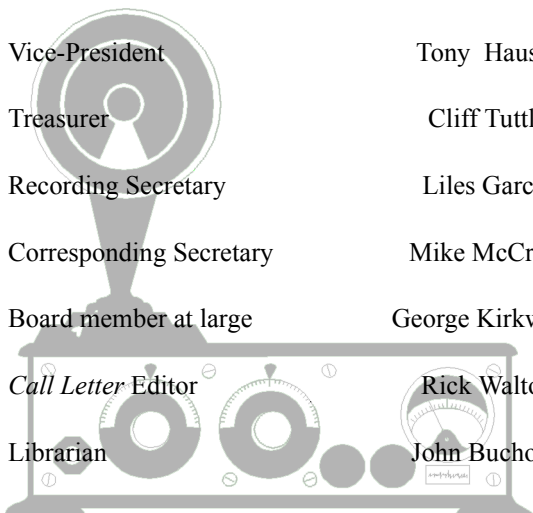
Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio shows, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

With each issue of the *Call Letter*, we remember Jim Mason, a charter member of the society who remained active until his death in 1998. 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 2011:

President	Dick Bixler	(503) 690-2557 <a href="mailto:rf2af@comcast.net">rf2af@comcast.net</a>
Vice-President	Tony Hauser	(503) 397-0074 <a href="mailto:abhauser@aol.com">abhauser@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005 <a href="mailto:kiptuttle@comcast.net">kiptuttle@comcast.net</a>
Recording Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288 <a href="mailto:landn2@frontier.com">landn2@frontier.com</a>
Corresponding Secretary	Mike McCrow	(503) 730-4639 <a href="mailto:tranny53@frontier.com">tranny53@frontier.com</a>
Board member at large	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 <a href="mailto:radiogeo@hevanet.net">radiogeo@hevanet.net</a>
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 701-3260 <a href="mailto:rewalton46@gmail.com">rewalton46@gmail.com</a>
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 <a href="mailto:Bucholtz3049@comcast.net">Bucholtz3049@comcast.net</a>



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# June 2011

## Table of Contents

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From the Editor .....2

NWVRS Calendar of Events .....3

2011-2012 Membership Roster Update .....5

Photo Display.....9

The Radiogram Column for November 13, 1924 ..... 11

Voilà ...new and recent finds by NVRS members ..... 13

New Caps & Shirts! ..... 13

A Little Portland Local Color ..... 14

Swap Shop ..... 15

**On the cover:** The Hunkerdyne, our society’s mascot! Your editor took this photo at the Swap Meet in May, where the Hunkerdyne was displayed prominently at the membership table.

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**The next meeting is June 11, 2011.**

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**Monthly Feature: Unusual Vacuum Tubes**

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

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**Next Call Letter Deadline: June 30, 2011.**

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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.

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## From the Editor

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by Call Letter editor, Rick Walton

Did you miss the May Swap Meet? Too bad! It was a good time, and some folks did well, others not so well. All the tables were occupied and there was a wide variety of stuff available. We signed up several new members, including one from Alberta, Canada. The Photo Display includes candid shots from the Swap Meet.

I passed out the new roster to quite a few of you, but there are still a large number to be passed out. I'll have the remaining rosters at the June meeting, and I hope that you'll pick up yours then. If you don't, we'll be mailing it within a few days following the meeting.

Three pages in this issue are devoted to the roster update. The update includes those who joined since I printed the roster last month, as well as those who renewed their memberships late. I'll be e-mailing a PDF version of the roster to all whose e-mail addresses I have.

Other things of note in this issue: Art Redman's submission of an article from the *Portland Telegram* that was part of the *Call Letter* cover art from April last year. Ludwell Sibley sent a short piece about Stubb's Electric. On the inside cover is the flyer for the PSARA swap meet in August. As many of you know, they were forced to change the location of their meet.

### Vancouver's Talk Station

**TALK**  
**VANCOUVER**  
**1550**

[1550talk.com](http://1550talk.com)

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## NWVRS Calendar of Events

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

- June 3-5** Sea-Pac Hamfest. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. ARRL sanctioned. [ai9q@arrl.net](mailto:ai9q@arrl.net)  
[www.seapac.org/](http://www.seapac.org/)
- June 10, 11, 12** Wenatchee Hamfest 2011. Apple City ARC. Dryden Gun Club. Dryden, WA. Contact Jim, W7JBP at [shultzjims@aol.com](mailto:shultzjims@aol.com) or Judy, at [ka7zna@msn.com](mailto:ka7zna@msn.com) for information. <http://www.qsl.net/w7td/>
- June 11** Port Ludlow ARC tailgate swap meet. Port Ludlow, WA.  
<http://www.n7pl.org/>
- June 11** KARS Hamfest. Kootenai Amateur Radio Society. American Legion Hall, 1138 E. Poleline, Post Falls, Idaho. Always the 2nd Sat in June. For information contact Jim, N7ESU at (208)755-2100 or email [n7esu@arrl.net](mailto:n7esu@arrl.net). <http://k7id.com/>
- June 11** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- June 25** Clark County ARC field day event between 12:00 and 4 pm. Field day site is at the SEH America overflow parking lot at 3900 N.E. 112th Ave., Vancouver. Enter off 39th Street. Club hotline 360-989-9268  
[www.w7aia.org](http://www.w7aia.org) Mainly a demonstration and test of Ham Radio, but also includes other forms of emergency communication. There will be a Get On The Air [GOTA] station for anyone to try and make a voice contact. Amateur Ham Radio Operators from across the nation will be on the air waiting to talk to you.
- July 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- July 16** Coos County Radio Club Hamfest and Swapmeet, North Bend, Oregon. Info, contact Elise Ciraolo, N7CIR, (541)267-4243, [e.ciraolo@verizon.net](mailto:e.ciraolo@verizon.net). <http://www.coos-radioclub.net>

- July** Chehalis Valley ARS 11th Annual Hamfair. Lewis County Fairgrounds. Contact John Ellingson, K7OSK. [k7osk@boatanchor.com](mailto:k7osk@boatanchor.com). <http://www.cvars.org/>
- July 15-17** Glacier Waterton International Peace Park Hamfest. This is an ARRL Sanctioned event. Glacier Meadows Campground, 13 miles west of East Glacier on MT Hwy 2. [www.gwhamfest.org](http://www.gwhamfest.org).
- August 13** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- August 12-14** 56th Annual Pacific Northwest DX Convention. Holiday Inn, Everett, WA. <http://www.wwdxc.org/>.
- August 21** Antique Radio Swap Meet. Puget Sound Antique Radio Association. 9 AM to 1 PM. NEW LOCATION: Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center, 18500 1st Avenue N. E., Shoreline, WA 98155 Free admission. <http://www.eskimo.com/~hhagen/psara/swap.html> (Always the 3rd Sunday in August)
- August 13** Radio Club of Tacoma Hamfest. Bethel Jr. High in Spanaway WA. <http://www.w7dk.org/>
- September 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- September 24** The 1st Annual Clark County ARC Ham Fair. Vancouver, WA. <http://www.w7aia.org/> or contact [clarkcountyhamfair@w7aia.org](mailto:clarkcountyhamfair@w7aia.org)
- September** Spokane Hamfest. University High School, 12420 E 32nd Ave, Spokane Valley WA 99216. For information contact Bob, AC7GP [ac7gp@hotmail.com](mailto:ac7gp@hotmail.com).
- October 8** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion Hall, Aurora, Oregon.
- October** Swaptoberfest. Mid-Valley ARES. Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, OR. Contact: Chris Portal, W7CLP (503)559-7837. [w7clp@arrl.net](mailto:w7clp@arrl.net) 520 South Pacific Highway. <http://www.swaptoberfest.net>
- November 12** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2012.
- December 10** NWVRS monthly meeting and annual Holiday Party 10 am. Election of officers for 2012.

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## ***2011-2012 Membership Roster Update***

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You can pull these update pages out and insert them in your printed roster. Printed rosters not picked up at the May Swap Meet or at the June meeting will arrive by mail before the July meeting.



**Feight, Galen**

R

3104 SE 20th  
Portland, OR 97202  
503-231-9708  
Crystal radio building & collecting, all radios  
[gfeight@aol.com](mailto:gfeight@aol.com)

**Geissel, Henry J**

R

15425 S.E. Grant St.  
Portland, OR 97233  
503-760-6231  
Transistor sets  
[hjgrant@comcast.net](mailto:hjgrant@comcast.net)



**Guenther, Ed**

R

62902 Eagle Rd.  
Bend, OR 97701  
541-382-0173  
Test Equipment  
[eguenther@bendbroadband.com](mailto:eguenther@bendbroadband.com)



**Jones, Daniel**

R

15313 N.W. 21st Ave  
Vancouver, WA 98685  
951-250-9246  
Restoration (Philco, RCA)  
[djones@hydrodyners.com](mailto:djones@hydrodyners.com)



**Kent, Charles J.**

R

3822 NE 64th  
Portland, OR 97213  
503-281-9335  
Catalin  
[radiogallerykent@qwestoffice.net](mailto:radiogallerykent@qwestoffice.net)



**Kirkpatrick, Mike**  
38313 S.E. Nichols Hill Rd.  
Washougal, WA 98671  
360-835-9742  
Tesla Coils, wood cabinets, VT radio  
[mikek@airspd.net](mailto:mikek@airspd.net)

R



**Kisseloff, Jeff**  
6030 S.E. 20th Ave  
Portland, OR 97202  
503-616-5410  
[jeff.kisseloff@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.kisseloff@gmail.com)

R



**Marvin, Gary**  
598 St. Andrews Loop  
Creswell, OR 97426-9890  
541-515-5733  
Consoles & Table Models; Wood Cabinet Refinishing

R



**Parker, Craig**  
1496 Court St NE  
Salem, Or 97301  
503-990-8778  
Philco, Transoceanic  
[parker3836@comcast.net](mailto:parker3836@comcast.net)

R

**Reddemann, Gene**  
29515 S.W. Teton Way  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
503-682-5823  
Old Crosley Radios

R

**Rothengass, Rob**  
4193 Penny Dr S  
Salem, Or 97302  
503-399-3605  
30'-50's tube radios  
[robthengass@yahoo.com](mailto:robthengass@yahoo.com)

R





**Russell, Bruce**

**R**

P.O Box 452  
Twin Butte, Alberta CANADA T0K2J0  
403-627-4764  
1920's and 30's and early 40's. Amateur Radio  
[russellradio@jrtwave.com](mailto:russellradio@jrtwave.com)

**Sutton, Mel KB7PVW**

**R**

9609 S.W. 18th Place  
Portland, OR 97219-6460  
503-246-8879  
[kb7pvw@arrl.net](mailto:kb7pvw@arrl.net)



**Walkenshaw, Don**

**R**

P.O. Box 245  
60825 Hebo Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347  
503-879-5958  
Old Hallicrafters  
[kigerz1@yahoo.com](mailto:kigerz1@yahoo.com)



**Weigel, Bill**

**R**

3035 N.E. 52nd  
Portland, OR 97213  
503-281-8000  
General, audio, wood radios  
[bill.weigel@hotmail.com](mailto:bill.weigel@hotmail.com)

**DE FOREST  
Leads again**

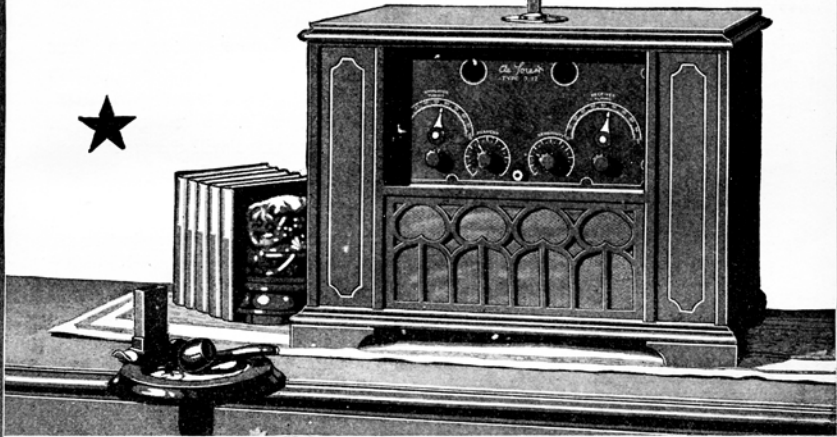
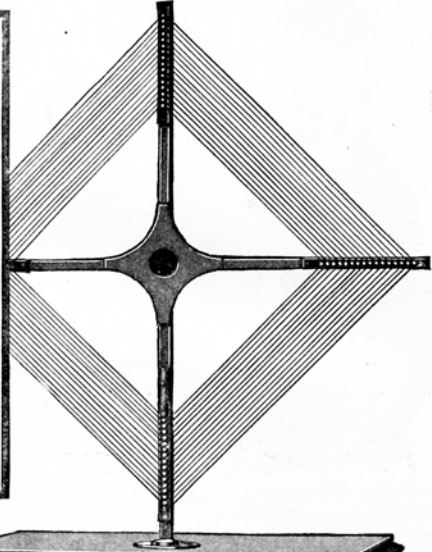
*Another jump ahead!*  
**Just out—First in 1925**

**D**E FOREST'S greatest triumph. A truly remarkable advance in ease of operation—beauty of tone—selectivity—distance range. It uses tube detector instead of crystal.

You should see and test this instrument before you buy any set. Its refinements and improvements are too many to tell here.

Ask your nearest De Forest dealer to bring it to your home and show you how simply and perfectly it operates. It will be hard for you to let him take it away.

Price range, \$125 to \$200



THE NEW  
**DE FOREST D-17**

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

De Forest Radio Company, Jersey City, N. J.

An ad from *Radio Broadcast* magazine, March 1925.

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# Photo Display

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Photos by Rick Walton

Another successful Swap/Sale in Aurora.





# The Radiogram Column for November 13, 1924

submitted by Art Redman

*Editor's note: The column was shown in part on the cover of the April 2010 Call Letter. Now our members can read the whole article.*

## A New Super-Receiver

By Syd Dubbinn  
 Portland Telegram Radio Specialist

A great deal has been written about superhetrodyne circuits and a great deal more will be written in the future.

During the last five months, Thomas J. Langhorne has experimented with fifteen types of supers in his laboratory, (316 old Commonwealth Building corner SW Sixth Avenue and SW Stark building demolished in 1948) using material of his own design as well as that of other manufacturers. Some of these wonder circuits proved to be very good, some indifferent and others a travesty on using the name superhetrodyne.

The radio fans of the West Coast who build their own receivers have always looked forward to the circuits perfected in the East. They lose sight of the fact that these receivers are tested under conditions far different from Pacific coast conditions.

We are giving to the fans the hookup of this new super

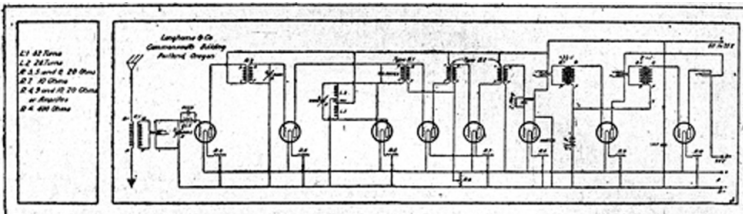


Diagram showing hookup for the Langhorne super-receiver.

circuit, which has been thoroughly tested by a number of local fans, which report wonderful results.

There is nothing entirely new in this hookup, as some of the fine points are taken from standard circuits, which are now on the open market. It will be noted the first tube works at a low radio frequency, ahead of a modulated tube, which does not carry any high B+ battery voltage. This tube has not been balanced out by condenser capacities nor is it stabilized by the use of a potentiometer; still it is impossible in this circuit to force this tube into oscillation.

For DX reception, it is well understood among radio authorities that radio frequencies has proved to be best method of detection before the natural detector and then add audio frequency to build up the received signal.



The transformers used in this hookup are tuned to a wavelength of 6300 meters (48 kHz), and are of the air core type. Capacity and resistance have been figured to such an extent that they will tune down to the noise level, with very little intertube noises and retain the extreme selectivity, which is a very important detail. This eight tube receiver has within one mile air line of KGW tuned through to KFI and KLX without any interference from the local station, using either loop inside or outdoor aerial.

One of the characteristics of this receiver is the clear deep tone, something that is not always achieved by superhetrodyne receivers.

The next question is DX or distance. Langhorne, the designer has a certified list of stations received, so that even the most doubtful of fans will have to admit that this circuit certainly “does step out”.

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# Voilà

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## **...new and recent finds by NVRS members**

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Compiled by Jay Johnston

**Blake Dietz** Zenith 6S128. This 1937 6-tube set resides in an oversized cabinet with horizontal bars across the speaker area and five small wooden balls along the base of the speaker grille.

**Jay Johnston** NORCO Model 1. This TRF set was manufactured in our very own Rose City. Please read Art Redman's excellent ARC article for an informative description of this manufacturer.

**Mike Parker** 1925 SOMERSET Model Shelbourne 4B. It is a 4 tube TRF battery set made by the National Airphone Corp. Mike acquired it from the late Del Dixon collection.

1927 Pierce Airo (not Pierce Arrow) 6-tube TRF battery set panel chassis. It has one dial tuning and a double stage resistance coupled audio section with an audio transformer final stage. The chassis is purportedly working- and was quite a steal at \$10!

**Dave Wise** Zenith H500 Transoceanic from the Dell Dixon sale. It has a beautiful exterior, but Dave hasn't tried playing it yet.

General Radio 1656 Impedance Bridge. This instrument achieves a 10x improvement in accuracy by the simple expedient of swapping the 1650-B's CGRL rheostat for a decade resistor. Of course the innovative "Orthonull" feature of the 1650-A and 1650-B could not be included, so it was not a free lunch. Besides the scratchy switches and pots, there was what had to be a factory assembly error in the decade box; missing washers allowed gears to ride up their shafts and lose mesh. The four alkaline D batteries in the holder were dead but not visibly leaking. Dave was still suspicious so he put in some vinegar... it foamed like crazy!

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## **New Caps & Shirts!**

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New caps and new shirts are available. Caps are \$10, and shirts are \$22 for M & L sizes, \$24 for XL. Contact Tony Hauser for more information.



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# A Little Portland Local Color

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submitted by Ludwell Sibley

*Editor's note: Lud found this article in the July 1945 issue of the Sylvania News.*

## WELL KNOWN OREGON DISTRIBUTOR CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

In September, 1894 the Stubbs Electric Company of Portland, Oregon was founded by Mr. O. B. Stubbs, who is still the owner and active head of the firm, and now, in the fifty-first year of their business, they are one of the leading wholesalers and distributors of radio parts, electric supplies and appliances in the North West.

This concern has had an interesting history. During the Spanish-American War they wired boats with ordinary water pipe for the Government. In 1915 they started wholesaling wireless supplies, and in 1922 they entered the wholesale distribution of radio parts and now are the oldest established radio parts distributor in Oregon.

In the same year of 1922 they built Station KQY, the first broadcasting station in Oregon. It was built next to their elevator shaft because it was the only possible source of supply of 500 volt D.C. current which was required to operate the 7 1/2 watt station. A short time after building the station the wattage was increased



to 25 watts. Programs consisted of a one hour evening news program at five o'clock, followed by two hours of the latest Brunswick records. The actual construction of the station was handled by Mr. Wilbur Jerman who is at the present time the owner of radio station KWJJ in Portland. The station was later sold to the Benson Polytechnic and is still in operation.

As can be seen in the photograph above, the Stubbs Electric Co. has a large and modern establishment, which contains an attractive and up-to-date radio parts department, managed by Mr. William Endsley; Mr. Hugh Hanna is general manager of the company.



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## Swap Shop

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**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:** \*\*Del Dixon's son, also named Del, will consider offers on the remaining radios in his dad's collection. Among these items are several very nice Zenith Royal and "R" 7000 transoceanics and a variety of other radios. Keep in mind that Del is not very knowledgeable about radios; he won't be able to respond to technical details or know if they work or not. It would be best to make an appointment to visit with him. Contact Del by phone: (503) 839-9020.

**WANTED:** I need a transformer for an early Philco that has the tube socket on top of the transformer. Tony Ranft [walteranft@hotmail.com](mailto:walteranft@hotmail.com)

## Radio Service

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

Roger Brown – (503) 693-6089

Bruce Baur - (503)-708-4537, [brucebaur@comcast.net](mailto:brucebaur@comcast.net)

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

Jack Doyle – (503) 305-8097

Pat Hickman – (503) 887-9015 Web: [www.classictubeaudio.com](http://www.classictubeaudio.com)

Email: [phickman@comcast.net](mailto:phickman@comcast.net)

Todd Ommert – (503) 246-4141 Web: [www.burlingame-radio.com](http://www.burlingame-radio.com)

Email: [burltv@msn.com](mailto:burltv@msn.com)

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or [walteranft@hotmail.com](mailto:walteranft@hotmail.com) – General repairs.

Dave Wise – (503) 648-0897, [david\\_wise@phoenix.com](mailto: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, photos, 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>

Radio collection for sale in Bend, OR. See photos on next page. Contact Frank Hodapp, who lives in Gresham, for more information and to arrange viewing. 503-667-9576. [fxhgoalpha@aol.com](mailto:fxhgoalpha@aol.com)



Atwater-Kent 509



Hallicrafters SX-43



Hallicrafters WR-600



Serenader lo-boy console



Philco 45



Zenith 5R317 "World's Fair"



Zenith 10S567



Philco 611



Philco 211 speaker

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# PSARA New Swap Meet Location

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## ANTIQUUE RADIO SWAP MEET

SUNDAY, August 21, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**NEW LOCATION:**

**SHORELINE-LAKE FOREST PARK SENIOR CENTER**

**18500—1st Avenue N. E.**

**Shoreline, WA 98155**

### FREE ADMISSION

Vendors:

\$10.00 donation  
recommended

Tune in to the largest vintage radio  
event in the Northwest.

Collectors, hobbyists and sellers alike  
are invited to buy, sell and trade old  
radios and related gear.

A community event sponsored by the  
PUGET SOUND ANTIQUUE RADIO ASSOCIATION

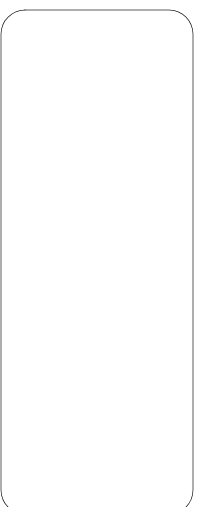
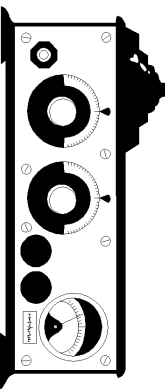
P. O. BOX 7567

Tacoma, WA 98417-0567

<http://www.eskimo.com/~hhagen/psara/>



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



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**