

The
**Call
Letter**

November, 2012
Vol. 38 – No. 11



NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 10th

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 2012:

President	Mark Moore (503)286-5224	mark@pdxhistory.com
Vice-President	Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	tranny53@frontier.com
Treasurer	Ed Tompkins	edtomp@Q.com
Recording Secy	Charlie Kent (503)281-9335	radiogallerykent@qwestoffice.net
Corresponding Sec'y	Jim Harper (503)538-8738	JLHarperclan@aol.com
Board member at large	Dick Bixler (503) 690-2557	rf2af@comcast.net
Call Letter Editor	Tony Hauser (503)438-0297	abhauser@aol.com
Librarian	Robert Robinson (503) 255-3585	srrobins@comcast.net

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On the cover: The Don Iverson Trophy to be awarded for the best example of craftsmanship in radio restoration.

Monthly Feature: Don Iverson Radio Restoration Award Competition.

Visit our web site at <http://nwvrs.com>
and on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/northwest-vintage-radio-society

Next Call Letter deadline: November 30, 2012

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 Tony Hauser

Hello again fellow Society members! It has been a few months since I have had the opportunity to make a submission to *The Call Letter*. This is due in large part to the fantastic participation we have had from members submitting informative and interesting articles to our publication. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank them again and to also encourage all of our members to follow suit and send in articles.

We are heading into our traditionally busy time of the year and there are some important topics to cover. The November meeting is when we nominate officers for 2013. I have included the list of officers and duties on the inside back cover so please consider it for next year.

Don't forget to bring your entries to the November meeting for our first-ever Don Iverson Award competition. I think we are all looking forward to seeing what this competition brings now and in future years.

We have several new articles this month. One of particular importance is Blake Dietze's article on the future of the Wednesday Radio Night Out group.

An auction of items from the estate of a collector will occur on Saturday, Nov. 10th. I mention this because the list includes rare AK breadboards and other nice items. The auction is in Walla Walla, but online bidding is available at

www.maconbrosauction.com/upcoming.php#65

Finally, November is when we finalize events for the annual Holiday party in December. Please consider volunteering to help plan this highly anticipated event. See VP Mike McCrow at the meeting to find out how you can help.

Look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

Remember, the dial stops here.

Tony

October BOD Meeting Minutes

by Recording Secretary Charlie Kent

Northwest Vintage Radio Society
Board Meeting
October 10, 2012

In attendance: Mark Moore, Mike McCrow, Charlie Kent, James Harper, Dick Bixler and Ed Tompkins. Guests: Dick Karman Craig Adams and Wendy Johnson-Kent

The Board Meeting of the NWVRS was called to order by President Mark Moore at Elmer's Restaurant at 9660 SE Stark St. at 6:30 pm. The minutes of the August 8, 2012 meeting were not printed in the *Call Letter* so President Moore will forward them to Board members and we will vote on their acceptance at our next board meeting. (*editors note: the minutes were printed in the September Call Letter*).

Christmas Party

Program plans were discussed as the first order of business with guests Dick Karman and Craig Adams being present. To allow sufficient time at the Christmas party, it was decided to start the event a half hour early at 9:30 am with a brief business meeting. Nominations for Officer Elections will be presented at the November meeting. Members will be able to write-in a candidate's name on the ballots. Ballots will be counted while the food line begins and the results will be announced during our meeting.

Our holiday program will begin with Christmas music while we eat. Dick Karman and Craig Adams will prepare a program of music and clips of old time radio programs highlighting the history of Portland's Christmas Traditions in Broadcast History.

We hope to start the food line about 10:00 a.m. so we'll describe the meal as a 'Brunch' to members to help in their meal planning. The club will supply a ham for a main dish, and ask that members bring a salad, dessert, casserole, rolls and butter, or favorite item of their choice to complete the meal. Coffee, diet soda pop, and bottled water will be furnished. We'll orchestrate two lines down either side of kitchen counter (inside the kitchen being one side), as well as placing additional food on tables to allow for access to both sides.

A small gift and door prize was discussed and determined. Mike McCrow will look into purchasing them.

Financial Report

Ed Tompkins reported that he has contacted the bank to get the bank statements sent to him. This delayed his current report. We have had few expenditures outside of the Fall Radio Sale and postage for the *Call Letter*.

Ed is running low on membership cards and Mark offered to order them from Vista Printing.

We would like to schedule an audit in January 2013.

Swap/Sale

Mark reported that Brian has reserved the second Saturday in April for our Spring Radio Sale in Aurora. Advertising for the sale was discussed. Ed said he would analyze the costs of advertising this past year.

Club Correspondence and Promotions

James received a letter from a man needing a tube and sent one from Jim Mason's collection he had purchased. James would like to reciprocate links to websites such as Radiophile. Mark knows of another that sells soldering guns named www.circuitspecialists.com. The motion was made to add these two links to our site, seconded and approved.

Membership

Mark shared that Pat Kagi has offered to become our new Membership Chair. Since Pat is our administrator for the Google group, he needs to be aware of who is a member and who is not. Pat is looking into getting software to efficiently track our membership.

Tech Committee

Mike has the Don Iverson Restoration Trophy and will display it at radio sales and club meetings as appropriate. If there is room, he would like to keep it at the Grange Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. The next Board Meeting of the NWVRS will be held December 5, 2012 at Elmer's Restaurant at 9660 SE Stark St. at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Charlie Kent, Secretary



Roster Updates

by Rick Walton

Here are updates to your membership roster. These include seven new members added at the October Swap Meet.

Name spelling correction:

Giunta, Chris R

3537 SE Quayside St

Corvallis, OR 97333

541-207-7708

ZTO's, Portables

cgiunta@aol.com

Photo added:



Berglund, Daniel R R

721 SW 146th St

Burien, WA 98166

206-439-3258

Vintage Radios

Radiomandan2@gmail.com

Address change:



Walton, Rick AR

2203 McBain Dr.

Fayetteville, NC 28305-5152

503-701-3260

General - Radios of the 30's to 60's, radio magazines and publications.

rewalton46@gmail.com

New members who joined at the October Swap Meet:

Bandzi, Joe R

20995 Scottsdale Dr.

Bend, OR 97701

541-318-8303

1920's, 1930's, 1940's

Ezell, Virgil R

3310 Ermine St. SE

Albany, OR 97322

541-926-4344

1930's to 1950's

VKTM@comcast.net



Hartman, Martin
1310 Neahkahnie St. SE
Salem, OR 97306
907-388-2312
All – amps, technician repairs
altechnw@gmail.com



Kraemer, Darrel R
1508 Pine St.
Silverton, OR 97381
503-873-6685
TransOceanics & Multi-band portables

Kulyik, Stephen J. R
966 SE Sunwood Ct.
Bend, OR 97702
541-647-9773
Any

Mattoon, Scott R
222 Crego Ridge Rd.
Chehalis, WA 98532
360-623-4313
All wood radios.
heritage0343@yahoo.com

Sanderson, Michael R
P.O. Box 1952
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
503-635-6022
Transistor
mikes2004.1@netzero.com

Finally, which of our new members belongs to this photo? Your photographer failed to put a name with the face.



And please correct us if we've associated your name with the wrong photo.

October Sale Photos

Photos by Rick Walton from the October Show & Sale





WRNO: Passing The Torch

by Blake Dietze

WRNO (Wednesday Radio Night Out) was born shortly after my relocation to the area in 2001 with the intent of introducing would-be radio collectors to our fascinating hobby. One of the most important facets of Radio Collecting is the preservation of our radios, both as a piece of art and as a working appliance. It is to this simple theme, that I opened my garage every Wednesday evening for the last eleven years.

The intention was to invite anyone who had an interest in learning how to repair/restore vintage tube-type radios to nestle up to the workbench and learn a little. Learn by doing, learn by experimenting, learn from me, learn from others, and even learn by making fire and smoke. After more than a decade, WRNO has introduced dozens to the hobby and added many new members to NWVRS. WRNO has changed over the years as well. It has morphed from a hand full of motivated learners, to a full blown social event, numbering as many as 20 or 25 good friends every week. Coffee, soda, snacks radio parts and a quick question or two is the new norm.

It's been a great ride and the highlight of my radio hobby activities, but I think it's time to pass the torch; it's time to let someone else enjoy the great privilege I have had in hosting this kind of event. With that said, I will be concluding my hosting of WRNO the end of December 2012. I consider it an honor to have hosted this event for so many years and look forward to future events in another member garage soon. I will continue to support the club, its members, and all of my collecting friends and colleagues; but on a more individual basis.

If you are interested in hosting WRNO, or interested in being involved, please let me know as I would be happy to provide any support you might need. Thank you to all who have been part of WRNO over the years, and especially to those fine folks who have supported the effort with unselfish sharing of parts, paper and their personal time.

The Video Broadcasters Company

by Art Redman

Two executives of the Video Broadcasters Company came to Portland on November 2, 1948 to announce that their television equipment for a television station would be arriving on February 1, 1949 in an article which appeared in the Oregonian. The company secured the only construction permit authorized by the Federal Communications Commission for television on channel three, one of the four VHF channels allocated for Portland at the time.

Wes Turner, the technical director of the firm said "there is no way of forecasting how many television receiving sets will be installed in Portland by the time first programs are broadcast. Manufacturers and distributors have promised receivers will be shipped here for sale well in advance of the first broadcasts to allow time for installation." Catalog prices the Oregonian noted for receivers range from about \$170 for small table model receivers with 6.5 inch by 4.75 inch direct view screens up to \$800 for a 20-inch by 15-inch reflecting screens. Also ornate cabinets and other considerations may drive the price as high as \$3000.

Charles B. Brown, the general manager said, "one of the purposes of the Portland visits to look for available studio facilities." He went on to state "more space is required since actors cannot huddle around a microphone as in a conventional radio. One answer is the difficulties of extensive studio on other stations have been the considerable use of films which would be followed in Portland."

Outdoor pickups, Brown stated will include "athletic events, parades, and various types of meeting and ceremonies. 'Live' studio production will include forum discussions." No definite plans were announced for the types of programs the station will present, or the hours, it will televise. Among the owners of the company were three producers of package radio shows and a film company.

It was never stated later in the Oregonian why television failed to make its appearance in Portland by March 1949. Station KRSC was already on the air in Seattle. It appears that Video Broadcasters only secured construction permits and construction never started.

Television came to Portland in October 1952 when KPTV on channel 27 went on the air; the first UHF channel in the nation. It interesting to note that the FCC also granted besides channel three; channels 6, 10, and 12, for use in Portland in 1948 and that KPTV on UHF channel 27 went on the air before any of these four VHF channels.

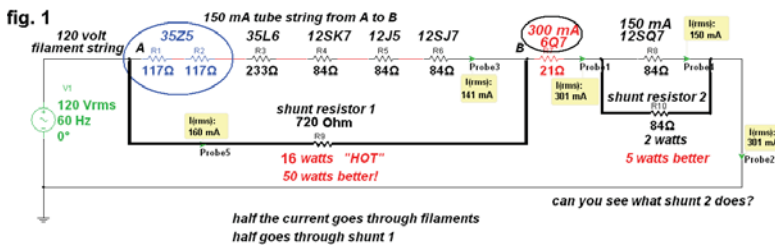
Source: "Television by Next March Viewed for Portland Area," The Oregonian, November 2, 1948, page 15.

Shunting Heater Current

by Sid Saul

Many thanks to Mike McCrow for his fine article in last month's *Call Letter* on "Tube Substitution in AC-DC Radios". During the swap meet, Mike and I discussed other methods used during tube shortages. Let's continue the "Gas Gate" example seen in the last few publications, with the schematic being in the September issue.

Mike and I think that substituting a higher filament voltage tube, with its weak emissions in sensitive circuits such as in the mixer or I.F. stages, would not be ideal. Performance for the Gas Gate tube was not degraded as the circuit didn't contribute much other than being a simple diode, and to inflate the tube count!



As seen in fig. 1, we have resistors along the top to represent our seven tube filament string. R1 and R2 being the dual filaments for the 35Z5. Ohms law, voltage/current gives us our resistors. One example is the 35L6 output tube with a 35 volt filament. This tube being in the 150 mA string, for example, 35 volts/.15mA gives us our 233 ohm equivalent resistor.

Let's say the original 6T7 tube, with its 150 mA, 6.3 volt filament, had burned out. An exact replacement is not available. We find a 6Q7 tube in the caddy having the same characteristics as the 6T7, only using the higher 300 mA filament. How do we get 300 mA to this tube and still provide 150 mA to all the other tubes? The problem is simple: We use a shunt.

Give current two parallel equally resistive paths in which to travel, half the current flows from points A to point B (fig. 1) and the other half flows through our shunt resistor. Hey, that would satisfy our 150 mA tubes, and the full 300 mA available to our new 300 mA tube. Adding up all the filament resistances from A to B totaled 719 ohms. The closest common value resistor of 710 ohms was selected for our shunt. The wattage rating is found (volts X amps), 108 Volts (A to B) X .15 mA gives us our 16 watts. As a rule always double this to allow for safety.

The last tube in the string the 12SQ7, with its 150 mA filament would be damaged with 300 mA. You guessed it, use a shunt to steer half the current around the 12SQ7. As before, just use the same resistance as the tube filament 84 ohms for the shunt and we are done. Wattage is found by (12.6 volts) X.15 mA = 2 watts.

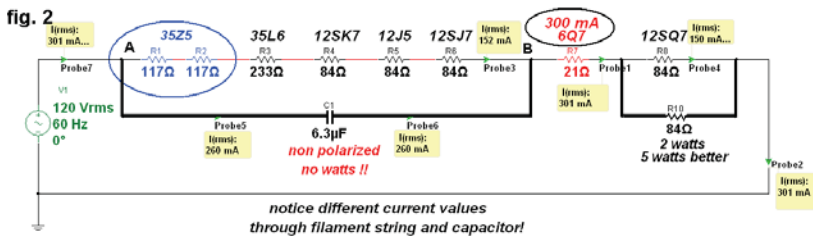


Fig. 2 shows what our more experienced members may do instead of using the big resistor. A *non-polarized* (NP) capacitor rated about 6 uF, with a working voltage of at least three times the line voltage, this time without any heat at all. The math is a little complex, so trial and error works for me. Most of the time we end up using between 6 and 7.5 uF anyway when using NP caps for voltages and current reduction. One tip, going down in capacitance affects the drop more at line frequencies. These NP caps can be purchased from fellow club member, Blake Dietze, from whom I am grateful to have learned this valuable technique.

You may wonder about the radio with a 300 mA tube string. This time, one of the 300 mA tubes is replaced with a 150 mA tube. All we do is shunt the tube with a resistor. Suppose a 25L6 has burned out. It uses a 300 mA heater as do all the rest of the tubes in the string. A 50L6 with a 150 mA heater is at hand. We just shunt 150 mA of current around this tube. Can you figure out the shunt required? Yes, $50 \text{ volts} / .15 \text{ mA}$ give us our 333 ohms required.

A series resistor would need to be lowered in value by half to compensate for the difference between the old 25 and the new 50 volt tube. These resistors were sometimes found in the line cord, but modern restorations use a conventional resistor. All this shunting stuff is pretty simple once we think about it. My passion for shunting all started with making meters work with higher currents. Maybe this is something for a future article.

So, until next time from the *Wednesday Radio Night-Out Bench*, see you at our November meeting!

Sid

NWVRS Calendar of Events

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

- November 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10am; tailgate swap 8:30.
Nomination of 2013 Officers.
- December 8** NWVRS annual holiday party and Election of 2013 Officers 9:30am.
- January 12** NWVRS **Annual Meeting** 10am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- February 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10am; tailgate swap 8:30.
- February 16** **Salem Hamfair & Computer/Electronics Swapmeet.**
Rickreall, OR at the Polk County Fairgrounds.
<http://www.w7sra.com>
- March 9** **Mike & Key Swap Meet** Puyallup fairgrounds exhibition hall, Puyallup, WA.
<http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm>
- March 9** NWVRS monthly meeting 10am; tailgate swap 8:30
- April 13** NWVRS **Spring Swap & Sale (new month!)** Times TBD
- May 11** NWVRS monthly meeting 10am; tailgate swap 8:30
- May 31 – June 2** **Sea-Pac Hamfest** Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, OR. <http://www.seapac.org/>

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: ***Reducing collection for moving. Consoles and other stuff. Extremely reasonable. Contact Rick Walton, 503-701-3260, rewalton@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: *Portable paint booth perfect for radio cabinets and other small parts. Home made all plywood construction. Exhaust fan with filter, worklight, extra AC outlets, parts drawer. Rolls on casters \$75. Tony Hauser, 503-438-0297, abhauser@aol.com.

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 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

Blake Dietze – (360) 944-7172, wb6jihj@ix.netcom.com

Jack Doyle – (503) 305-8097

Pat Hickman – (503) 887-9015 Web: www.classictubeaudio.com

Email: phickman@comcast.net

Jim Myers – (509) 525-6264

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

Email: burltv@msn.com

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or walterranft@hotmail.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.

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

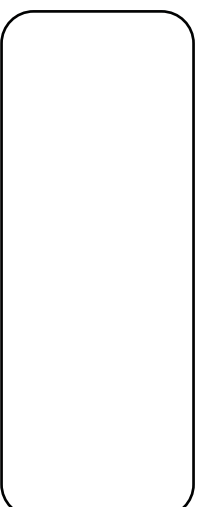
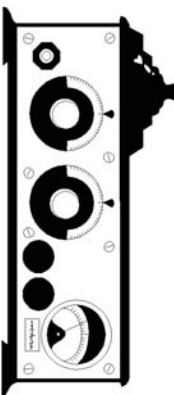
The Treasurer shall be accountable for all funds received and disbursed by the society and shall report all monetary transactions and treasury balance at each regular meeting of the society. The Treasurer shall prepare a list of members in good standing for distribution at the next regular meeting following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



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



FIRST CLASS MAIL