

The

Call Letter

December, 2012
Vol. 38 – No. 12



NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 8th 9:30 START!

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 Sec'y	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: Rick Walton receives an Appreciation Award for his 15 years of service as the editor of The Call Letter from Dick Bixler.

Monthly Feature: Annual Holiday celebration and potluck.
 The regular Monthly Feature will resume in January.

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

and on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/northwest-vintage-radio-society

Next Call Letter deadline: January 2, 2013

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

Seasons Greetings fellow Society members!

The choice for this month's cover photo was an obvious one for me. Rick Walton was honored at the November meeting for his fifteen years of service as editor of *The Call Letter* from January 1997 through December 2011. We wish Rick and his wife well as they transition to life in North Carolina at the end of this year to be close to family.

Don't forget that the brief business meeting before our December Holiday party begins 30 minutes earlier than normal at 9:30am! The meeting is important as we will be voting for next year's Board of Directors. Reminder cards will be sent out this week with details of our annual potluck.

Many of you have probably already heard of the unfortunate break-in at The Abernethy Grange prior to Thanksgiving. Gone are the Don Iverson trophy and a radio just restored by Blake that was to be given away at the Holiday party. So far we are unaware of any other Society items that were stolen. We ask that all of our members keep an eye out for these items in case they show up on craigslist or in a pawn shop. A picture of the Iverson trophy is on the cover of last month's issue of *The Call Letter*.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all of our members to renew their membership for 2013. Paying your dues now will help to insure your subscription to *The Call Letter* will continue uninterrupted. On a related note, I would like to ask those of you who have not decided to receive *The Call Letter* exclusively by email to consider doing so. Our ranks have grown over the past year and switching to the electronic edition can help substantially reduce the operating expenses of the NWVRS.

Now let's make this year's Holiday party a memorable event!
Remember, the dial stops here.

Tony

November Meeting Minutes

by Recording Secretary Charlie Kent

The meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society was called to order by President Mark Moore on November 10, 2012 at 10:05 am. Tim Booze rejoined NWVRS and was welcomed back.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Tompkins gave his financial report ending with reporting the Club has approximately 160 members, 11 of which are new members since July 13, 2012.

Sprint Swap/Sale

Brian Toon announced the Spring Swap/Sale will be on April 13, 2013, again at the American Legion Hall in Aurora. All the upstairs tables have been sold, along with two downstairs. There are still six tables available for purchase downstairs. A \$50 fee will be charged for the Friday 4:00-7:00 pm set up, and \$150 for Saturday's event. A discussion followed as to what brought people to the Swap/Sale. Internet connections leading to our website, being in the area and seeing our signs, and Craig's List were the top draws.

Website

In addition to Website responsibilities, Pat Kagi agreed to take over the Membership duties.

Christmas Party / Elections

The business meeting will begin a half hour early at **9:30 am**.

Nomination of Officers: The floor was opened for 2013 nomination of officers. All current officers were nominated for the same offices. Sid Saul was nominated for President, as is current President Mark Moore.

The Christmas party theme is Christmas Traditions in Portland Broadcasting. Dick Karman and Craig Adams have planned the party's entertainment. The Club will supply ham for our brunch, with a 10:00 am targeted time for our meal. **Members are asked to bring side dishes, salads, and desserts.** Cold beverages will be provided, and coffee will be free.

WRNO

The Wednesday Radio Night Out (WRNO) at Blake Dietze's home will be ending at year-end. Thanks goes to Blake for many years of hosting.

Monthly Feature

The monthly feature for January will be **'Wild Card or Bring What You Want'**.

Don Iverson Award

The Don Iverson Award presentation was postponed due to a lack of interest. There was a discussion of rescheduling for March.

Good and Welfare

Robbie Robinson injured his knee.

The membership learned Glen Bricker's wife passed away last April. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Glen.

Leads and Needs

Jerry Green has approximately 300 radios for sale; contact Ed Tompkins for information.

Rick Walton has radios for sale; contact him.

There were 51 members in attendance. The meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.

The Halowat TRF Receivers

by Art Redman



The Hallock and Watson Company of Portland, Oregon started manufacturing their TR-5 and TR-R model sets after RCA patent attorney’s visited the assembly plant and suggested that if a lawsuit was to be avoided the firm should stop manufacturing their Porta-Pak Eight and any other superhetrodyne receiver. The company made this wise decision and switched to the manufacturing of TRF’s under the Halowat brand in 1925.

The two TR-5’s and TR-R made from 1925 to early 1927, were the first the first models to bear the famed “Halowat” label. A distinctive logo followed displaying three small lightning bolts at each

end of the Halowat name. The model TR-5 sold for \$90.00 and incorporated the tuned radio frequency circuit.

The two audio transformers in the TR-5 models are the Hedgehog brand, a unique, small all wire-wound type having a 1:3 ratio. It was a product of the Premier Electric Company of Chicago. The transformers are mounted underneath the sub-panel and are known for their failure rate. The two phone jacks (loud and medium volume output) are from the Federal Telephone and Telegraph Company of Buffalo, New York. The fixed capacitors are a .00025 mfd grid leak bypass capacitor and two .001 mfd capacitors made by the New York Coil Company. The Daven Radio Company made the 3.0 megohm grid leak resistor, and all the parts were connected by square bus bar wiring.

The TR-5 models had vertically mounted Coto Company coils wound with green silk wire in a pancake shape. One rheostat controlled the filament voltage to the detector stage and thereby volume. The set was housed in an 8.5" wide x 22" long x 8.5" high cabinet.



There are several differences between the two year models. The Antique Radio Collectors Guide also mentions a Halowat Model TR-R but this model is not part of the Mike Parker radio collection and therefore could not be reviewed by either of us. The 1926 TR-5 model uses five Type UX-01A's and an additional rheostat that controls filament voltage to the first RF stage. The later 1926 model uses both four 01A tubes and a type UX-112 tube in the final amplifier stage. It has a 3-tap wavelength selector switch on the front panel. One would

expect the selector switch to be the earlier 1925 model but the late Mike Parker of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society determined this was not the case. Mike owned both these two models and contributed much to the Halowat article which appeared in my Antique Radio Classified article on Hallock and Watson in June 2006.

The 1925 model's three variable 250 mmf capacitors were made by the General Radio Company and used counterweights while the 1926 model's tuning capacitors were the Premier Company Crowfoot brand, low-loss type. The 1925 model came with an instruction pamphlet, while the 1926 model had an instruction card and a station card list under the cabinet lid. Later 1926 model TR-5 variants used a brown, instead of a black, Bakelite front panel with Kurz-Kasch knobs and an engraved border line around the perimeter of the front panel. It had no front phone jacks, and the on/off switch was moved to the lower center of the panel.

Hallock and Watson continued making the 1926 TRF as a lower cost model while their All Wave Five model was introduced at the Pacific Northwest Radio Exposition in October. This obsolete 3-dial set was in production until late 1926 or early 1927 and was the second to last radio manufactured by Hallock and Watson the "Oregon Radio Pioneers" who were reduced to selling Stewart-Warner radios and later pinned their financial future on becoming official Fade dealers, servicing and repairing other manufacturers radios and the manufacturing broadcasting transmitters for KOIN and other radio stations.



A Message from The V-P

by Vice-President Mike McCrow

I'm sorry to report that there was no entry in the Iverson Craftmanship contest. I declared it cancelled due to lack of interest.

We did however vote and pass a motion to postpone the event to the March, 2013 meeting. One rule change is that all radios past and present will be allowed, as long as there are before pictures. The other rules remain the same, as well as the judges. Bring in your favorite restoration to display.

There are so many people in our society that can make antique radios sound and look beautiful. This can be an event for displaying our craft, as well as a competition. Yes we will have a winner, first place for the Iverson craftmanship award. That is not all this event is about.

Bring in your favorite restoration with at least one picture before you restored it, and let the rest of us enjoy it as much as you do. The fun is displaying and checking out what each of us have done. Dust off those beauties from the past, or bring in your latest completed project, and lets have a good time in March.

Mike

Roster Updates

by Rick Walton

Returning member:



Booze, Tim R
1250 NE 52nd Ave
Portland, OR 97213-2812
503-288-5339
20's thru 30's Radio-Phonograph
timbooze@msn.com

From the Bench of WRNO

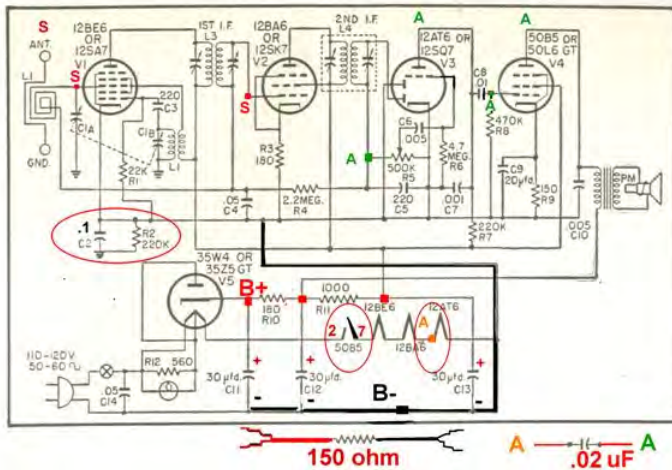
by Sid Saul

Once Upon A Time

Once again, we find ourselves going back in time, the year is 1955. The repairman has just finished repairing the TV, his testers and tools back in the truck, and he is just about ready to make out the bill. "Wait, I have a small radio in the closet that needs fixing, but I don't want to spend good money on a radio, after all *radio* is on the way out!"

The man said he could save time and money on the repair. He pulled three items from his pocket. A 150 ohm 2 watt resistor, a .02 uF 400 volt capacitor, and a 10 uF 450 volt electrolytic capacitor, all with 12 inch leads attached to their ends. He said the most probable cause of failure is a tube. "Usually it is the rectifier or power tube since their filaments use more power than the rest."

fig.1



He explained the filaments in the ac-dc sets are in series. If one tube goes out, they all go out. He simply clipped the resistor across each tube's filament pins, until all the other tubes lit up. Sure enough, shunting pins 2 and 7 on the 50B5 with the resistor did the trick. I was amazed when the set came to life. So fast and without a tube machine!

Next, he clipped the same resistor from B- to B+, where C11 and R-10 join right after the rectifier tube. He said there will be a small spark and a pop heard in the speaker if the power supply is good, also a test for the speaker.

C12 didn't spark, he unsoldering one of the cap leads and shunting it with the test electrolytic, the spark returned. He explained that B- can always be found at the filter cap's negative side. I asked, "Will these tests hurt the radio?" He said, "no, just keep it brief."

There were a few more tests to perform before going back to the truck for the correct capacitor. He wanted to check if a signal could make its way from the loop antenna all the way to the speaker. Keeping the resistor clipped to B-, he briefly touched the other end to the places he marked on the paper he labeled with an "S", for *signal* he explained. Sure enough, touching the loop antenna made the familiar pop in the speaker, completing the test. He said he wanted to hear how much volume the set put out before rapping things up. He pulled out the .02 uF capacitor, clipping one end to any of the tube filament pins, a source for 60 cycle audio, and the other end, to the places he marked with an "A", for *audio*, I would guess.

Wouldn't you know a growl was heard in the speaker? He clipped the lead to the volume control and demonstrated that the control worked fine. I asked why he didn't clip the resistor to the chassis instead of the B- thing. He explained that B- is not the same as chassis ground. To reduce the shock hazard in these sets, B- is floated above ground by C2 and R2.

He said the first thing he notices when looking at these diagrams, is that sometimes a 220,000 ohm resistor is paralleled with a capacitor of around .1 uF, one side connected to the chassis, the other side to B- making these radios safer to handle. Otherwise, the power line connects strait to the chassis. "This sounds like a potentially fatal accident," I said. He agreed and said goodbye.

So, until next time from the *Wednesday Radio Night-Out Bench*. See you at our 2012 Christmas party!

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

- 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

WANTED: *Mystery Controller for a Philco 39-55. I believe I saw one for sale at the swap meet. Joe Bandzi, joejoe@juno.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, wb6jhi@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