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# CALL LETTER



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## CALL LETTER

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, a non-profit organization, incorporated in the state of Oregon. Meetings of the Society are held on the second Saturday of each month, normally, at the Buena Vista clubhouse located at 16th and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon. Meetings convene at 10 o'clock A. M.

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Editor-in-chief.....Jim Mason  
90 N. W. 150th Ave.  
Beaverton, OR 97006  
Ph: 644-2343.

Contributing Writer....Tom James  
Power Supply.....Bobbie Kibler  
Our People.....Hugh Ranken  
Advertising Mgr.....Art Redman

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Feature articles are contributed by members under various by-lines. Please send all contributions to the editor.

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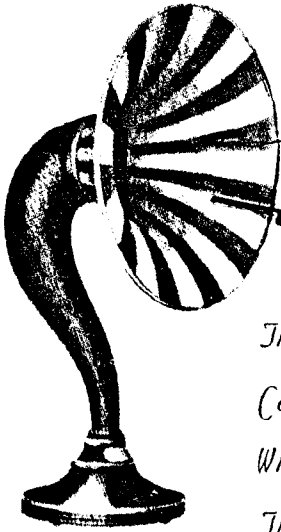
Call Letter address: P.O. Box 02379  
Portland, Oregon 97202

## MINUTES OF THE JULY 10, 1982 MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of NWVRS was called to order on July 10, 1982 by President Bill De Vey. Minutes for the meeting of June 12, 1982 were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted. There was nothing of a critical nature to report on good and welfare. New member Steve Holden was introduced, as was guest Mike Claussen.

OLD BUSINESS: Tom James reports he is mounting coils and parts in the Club radio project and will soon be ready to start wiring. Tom asked for volunteers to assist on wiring. Don Iverson has donated a speaker base to the project and asked that a suitable horn be provided from the membership. Jerry Talbott reported on the joint swap meet with Seattle on July 18 and presented suggestions for the car pool. Jerry reports no new developments on a joint swap meet with Tektronix and probably nothing till fall. Jerry states he will continue to look into possible different locations for our upcoming swap meet in October. Suggested that a location be decided upon at our August 14 meeting so he will have time to prepare advertising. Dick Karman reports he has talked again with OMSI. They are now receptive to plans for a very small advance display in August which would promote interest in a full display in November and early December.

NEW BUSINESS: Art Redman has tendered his resignation as Advertising Manager because of other commitments. His resignation was accepted and Jerry Talbott was appointed as new ad manager. It was decided that our annual picnic be held at the Club House after the meeting of August 14. This will be pot luck as in the past. George (Rudy) Rudolph suggested, and asked for discussion on, having an occasional informal auction after our



# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## Inside Stuff---

The constitution of the club  
Of the Northwest V. R. cats,  
Calls for swap-meets twice a year,  
But doesn't specify "where-ats".  
Where will the swap-meet be set up  
To please everyone just right?  
Thus long and stormy arguments  
At the Buena Vista site!

The Homey folk all say "Right here",  
Amid the trees and greenery--  
We can sit down and eat and chat  
And trade and sell with scenery.  
The far out guys would rent a park  
Or fairground from the county;  
They'd charge hefty table fees  
To pay the whoppin' bounty.

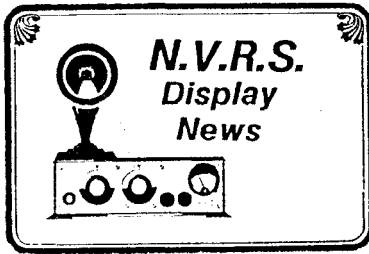
The median bunch are wishy-wash,  
With not much to trade or sell.  
They don't want it too far afield,  
Because gas is higher than (the dickens)  
The Cathedral group is adamant--  
(They won't be left in the lurch)  
They say it's so symbolic,  
They opt for St. Whoozit's (church).

If you're looking for a punchline  
To this silly tale of woe;  
When swap-shop's up for space again,  
You tell us where to go!

\*\* \*\* \*

Mamma Goose # 19

Higgledy Piggledy, my black hen,  
She lays eggs for gentlemen---  
Sometimes one, sometimes two  
No radios here, the yolks on you!



WJDK

The program which was scheduled for this time will not be heard so that we can bring you this special . . . . .

Remember when those "special" broadcasts would get in the way of your "favorite adventure show"?

Well, special things are getting in the way even as I write. I don't have anything to say about displays because there is nothing new to say but our next meeting will have some special things I'd like to talk about.

Jerry Talbot and I volunteered to loosely organize the first club auction for "execution" at the August meeting. Members will be asked to bring radios and equipment and register them with us at the start of the meeting. Then during the meeting/picnic we will put those items on the "block". The highest bidder takes it home. A modest 5% will be maintained by the treasury to finance future club activities. We anticipate having a lot of fun and hope that you will too.

Everyone loves a picnic. bring the kids, the wife, the grandmother, the pet boa constrictor. Bring the groceries which the POWER SUPPLY d-rects and come to the first Picnic/ Auction.

We now return you to the normally schedule programing !!

# Bits and Pieces

Members displaying their latest acquisitions set the theme for the July Club display. Joe Tompkins brought a fine AC Dayton 5 tube, one of the XL models dating to about 1925; an AK model 32, and his latest acquisition, a 3 tube regenerative home built set. Don Iverson showed a Ware Neutrodyne, a little known make by Ware Radio Corp., New York City. Jerry Talbott showed a 1940 Stewart-Warner table model and a home made crystal set from the '20's. Rudy Rudolph displayed an air craft direction finder, Bob Campbell a Philco table model 38-62 and Chuck Kibler a neat 4 tube RCA dating to 1953. An outstanding contribution to the display was guest Mike Claussen's Philco cathedral, a most desirable set in excellent condition. Jim Mason's very early TV was probably the most unique item in the display. Made by Western Television Corp., Chicago, it is equipped with a 17 inch, motor driven disc; the screen is a 4½ inch magnifying bulls-eye type lens. It is probably the only TV model listed in the early Radio Collector's Guide. Jim was winner of the "Ladies Choice" displaying a nice Majestic portable.

\* \* \*

Flashback: Turning again to old newspapers, let's look back fifty years for some of the headlines of July and August 1932. The Morning Oregonian for July 30, 1932 reports that Franklin Delano Roosevelt will open his campaign for the presidency with a radio address over KGW between 5 and 6 P. M. Titled "Explaining the Democratic Platform", it will be governor Roosevelt's first address to the nation since accepting the Democratic nomination. This, it was claimed would be the first time for a presidential candidate to appear on a nation wide hook up. (Too,

it was probably the fore runner of his many famous "Fireside Chats" that did much to instill some measure of hope in those very unsettled years. Reagan has tried a similar approach but lacks the persuasive sincerity of F.D.R.)

On August 14, 1932 President Hoover delivered his acceptance speech for nomination and re-election. Republican party spokesmen became more optimistic in their news releases "Times are getting better" - "Much credit is due the President" - "Governor Roosevelt's strength has reached its peak after his nomination at the Democratic Convention in Chicago". (This, in the face of double digit unemployment, bank closurers, business failures and the rout of the bonus army from Washington, D.C. Sounds familiar).

Fascinating, these old papers - sort of like reading a 'who-dunnit' after having peeked at the last chapter.

\* \* \*

**GODFREY RETURNS.** At age 78, Arthur Godfrey, self styled "old redhead", has returned to radio doing a three minute daily talkshow. Starting in 1929 and spanning a period of more than fifty years, he became famous for his whimsical, off-beat commercials, these often had sponsors holding their breath but results were usually fantastic. According to an Oregonian press release the show, titled "The Time of Your Life", is planned to be aired by 300 stations. So far I haven't seen a listing for it locally.

Hugh Ranken

## Wireless Quote Of The Month

Doctor J.H. Dellinger, of the U.S. Bureau of Standards, told Radio News that the problems facing radio in 1926 were that:

"There are limited times and places where substantial perfection of radio service can now be found. Thousands of persons are now listening in their own homes to wonderful musical programs and nationally important subjects and events, with never a blemish of acoustic imperfection. The great problem of radio engineering and industry is to extend as rapidly as possible the areas and times in which this perfection is available."

"We shall probably never wholly rid ourselves of interference, but it is being steadily overcome. The increase of power which is going on in many stations is doing a great deal to overcome both the natural interference (static) and electrical interference from various sources. Campaigns of education are assisting greatly in the mitigation of interference from electrical apparatus and radiating receiving sets in different localities. The replacement of spark and other broadly-tuned transmitting apparatus by continuous-wave apparatus, and the holding of transmitting stations on their assigned frequencies rigidly, are bringing the solution of station interference."

"The problem of fading is still with us, but the great progress in interconnection of stations is bring the superlative service rendered by local stations to wider and wider circles of listeners. My general feeling of gratification over the present situation arises from the fact that this is an era of widespread recognition of the inherent difficulties of radio and of substantial progress in eliminating them. A notable instance is the main result of the 1925 National Radio Conference; viz., the decision to limit the number of broadcast



Wireless Quote, Page 2.

stations. With this principle recognized, it can be expected that much better progress can be made in the welding of the whole system of broadcast stations into a coherent group with the minimum possible amount of interference."

Source: Radio News for March, 1926. Page 1359.

Coming next month: Doctor Dellinger on the greatest problem facing radio circa 1926.

Contributed by Art Redman.

###

( Minutes of July meeting continued)

meetings. He suggested a 10% sellers fee go to the Club Treasury. Jerry Talbott moved that such an auction be combined with our August picnic; Dick Karman seconded and the motion carried. It was suggested that non-radio items could be included in this auction. Dick Karman and Jerry Talbott volunteered to act as auctioneers. Jim Mason reports that former Club member Ralph Stokes wants to sell his radio collection as an entire lot, the price \$1200.00. Jim Mason displaying a Majestic portable was winner in the Ladies Choice selection. Dick Karman moved and Rudy Rudolph seconded that, because of the picnic and auction, we forego a regular "Show 'n Tell" for August. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Hugh Ranken,  
Secretary

# RADIO STATIC

During WW 2 radio equipment was very scarce. Hams had donated some of their usable equipment and parts. (They were not going to be able to use it anyway, Amateur radio had been shut down for the duration of the war). People had given away radios in the scrap drives. So radio equipment was not easy to come by. Certain parts were very hard to find, some tube types were very hard to locate - (you think you have a hard time finding a tube now? - it is a snap compared to those days.) Most radio equipment went to the military. The radio repairman used many devious schemes to keep the public's radios in working condition. Adaptors would be made to use a different tube; sometimes the socket would be changed. It would be impossible to list all the various problems and solutions, every case was unique in its self. And once in a while we may have had the proper part needed.

There was a limited activity in the building of radios. Someone would have an accumulation of parts and through scrounging around would find some more and then proceed to build some radios using what he had gathered up. The normal way to build a radio is to design it first, then get the needed parts, but these people did not have that luxury. Resistors and condensers were seried, paralleled and even seried-paralleled to provide the needed value for a specific application.

One day a radio was brought into the shop I was working at that had been made in this period. It has been over thirty years since that day, so it is hard to remember everything about that radio, but I will never forget the unusual tube lineup. It had a 12 volt, two 6 volt and two 1.5 volt battery tubes. The two 6 volt tubes were in series and paralleled with the 12 volt tube across a 12 volt filament transformer. There was no high voltage transformer,

# POWER SUPPLY

Please circle August 14 on your calendars for the Club picnic, and plan to come for some fun and food.

The Power Supply will furnish coffee, iced tea, lemonade, and also all the plates and cups. Bread will be furnished also. All you have to do is bring your silverware and a hot or cold dish. Single fellows might bring pickles, olives or relishes, etc.

Let's have a great turnout. It should be a lot of fun!

BK

## RADIO STATIC (continued)

just the filament transformer. The B plus was supplied by a selenium rectifier - the battery tube filaments were supplied by a voltage divider in this circuit. The workmanship was good. I don't recall the name on the cabinet, but it was a nice wooden one. Maybe it was an overrun from some larger company.

At any rate, this was another of the little segments that makes radio such a fascinating hobby. It once again shows that unique quality called "Yankee Ingenuity".

Don Iverson

# Old Time Radio

Following is a list of Portland firms advertising radios and related items in the radio section of The PORTLAND TELEGRAM Oct.-Dec. 1925.

Brown Radio Shop, 172 Tenth St.  
Chown Hardware Co.\* - 147 Fourth St.  
The Electric Corporation - 285 Couch St.  
G.M.S. School of Radio - Grand Ave. & E. Alder  
Gevurtz Furniture Co. - Third & Alder Sts.  
Gould Battery & Service Co. - 10th & Flanders  
The Hunter-Walsh Co. - 446 Stark St.  
Hynson Electric Co. - 66 Sixth St.  
The J. K. Gill Co.\* - Fifth & Stark Sts.  
The L. C. Warner Co. - 307-309 Pine St.  
Langhorne & Co. - 11 N Sixth St.  
Lectro Mfg. & Sales Co. - 68 Sixth St.  
Lipman Wolfe & Co. - 921 SW Morrison  
McCormick Music Co., Inc. - 187 Broadway  
Montgomery Ward & Co.\* - 27th & Vaughn Sts.  
Opperman Radio Shop - 343 Salmon  
Philbin Manufacturing Co. - 323 Russell St.  
Portland Music Co\* - 227 Sixth St.  
The Radio Den - 405 Alder St.  
Radio Headquarters - 20th St. & Hawthorne Ave.  
Radio Research Laboratories, Inc. - 122 $\frac{1}{2}$  Grand  
Stubbs Electric Co. - 75 Sixth St.  
Weed's Radio Shop - 83 Fifth St.  
Vern L. Wenger Co.\* - 244 Alder St.  
Willard Storage Battery Co. - Ninth & Everett  
Union Manufacturing Co. - 914-16 Union Ave.

\*Currently still in business

# Olé! by T.J.

July and August are traditionally known as the "DOG DAYS" in certain areas, and certainly there are quite a few of these "Dogs" around in the old-radio collectors realm. But in amongst the bummers are a few jewels out there, to wit:

- ✓ Ed Charman-- found a nice Eveready #1 with bulbs, stand, and speaker last month which was inadvertently missed last month by ye ole' ed. Additionally, Ed found an Emerson "Desk Set" radio, sans pens, with orig. tubes, set in beautiful condition. Was shown at last meeting but was not noticed by everyone present, evidently, as it was not rated in the popularity contest of "Show-n-tell". This humble person would have given it an A-One.
- ✓ Jerry Talbott-- 1920's crystal set, home brew; Early AC set; variometer; telegraph key; phones; 2 boxes of galena; 1938 Sear's 4610 console w/ telephone type dial for auto-tune, w/ original manual; 1936 Sear's 4503 w/ imitation cabinet material; 1940 Stewart Warner # 03-5R5, unusual shaped wooden cabinet, very different; 1942 Sear's #7085 portable, two-tone leather cab.; 1946 Sear's table set; 1957 Sear's # 7224 multi-band portable, comparable to contemporary Zenith and RCA's. Jerry says he missed one other Sear's set; you see he likes to find them by the "Half-Dozen", saves gas and time I guess!
- ✓ John Mc. Carrell found a Hallicrafters "House Radio", an eleven tube AM, 4 tube FM job in a Scott cabinet, John says it's like the one in "Flick of the Switch" p167.
- ✓ Joe Tompkins-- Had a bunch of tubes dumped in his lap in a sort of "Coals to Newcastle" deal. Joe says about 300 early varieties (no WD-11s) mostly pre octal, some neo-vintage. nice windfall when the price is right!
- ✓ Jim Mason-- added a real "vintage" set to his stock of "GOODIES" in the form of a Radiola Grand. The cabinet is not the best but the innards are fairly intact and I believe completely restorable. Oh yes I forgot, there are no WD-11s in the sockets but this can be remedied, no doubt, by the "NOSÉ" route, as is the case with certain other much more modern tubes.

So much for this month, thanks fellows for input to the column.

See you at the picnic! tj/82

# Miscellany

## REPORT ON JOINT SWAP MEET

A small contingent from our club journeyed to Seattle for the joint swap meet with the Puget Sound group July 18. There was a good assortment of items, among which I "bagged" a Radiola Grand to add to my inventory of early battery radios. After the swap meet we toured their permanent display and heard a very interesting talk by Seattle member John Schneider on the current status of AM stereo. Hopefully, joint swap meets will be a regular thing in the future.

(Ed.)

Cover picture courtesy of Bob Campbell.

(Cartoon Clippings will return next month)



Philco's new model 31-XK features inclined panel, dual-band coverage and push-button tuning for 8 stations.

# Yesterday J.

Voices of the trade, 1933

It has often been said that all the good circuit ideas were thought of years ago-- only we didn't have the mechanical equipment with which to take advantage of them. And every day the truth of this statement seems more apparent. Reflexing was born (and shelved) in 1924. Now it is back again in RCA's new auto-radio. So manufacturers may be expected to go in for reflexing in a big way. RFL. is up to it's ears in research. There is some question whether anything but space is to be gained. Incidentally, this brings two-tube supers, predicted some months ago, even closer.

Even Phonographs are far from a dead issue. Only the other day we listened to some translucent records made of cellulose acetate, cut in the hill-and-dale manner (this was Edison's original method), which reproduce faithfully up as high as 10,000 cycles. They add at least another octave to the usual scale, and will be used to put over really high-class "corned music" this fall. Radio may or may not be included.

Factories are rapidly clearing up their stock of old type tubes, such as the 6A and 26. It is rumored that when they are gone, replacements will be brought out with dome shaped bulbs. These will be interchangeable but more rigid construction. Thus to jack the price up a few pennies.

The Stokowski-Bell "binaural" transmission scheme, tried out over land-wires with some success, has the broadcast boys worried. It does for sound transmission what the stereoscope did for photographic stills back in grandma's day; provides a third dimension and realism. Already there is talk of shooting a trial program over two air channels for simultaneous reception with two receivers. Maybe two receivers in every home!

> (You young squirts-- Did you think Stereo was something new? ) ed/ 82 <

# SWAP SHOP

WANTED Pushbutton station selector for 1940 Zenith console, chassis # 12A1. Steve Holden, 2617 SE 138th Loop, Vancouver, WA 98664. (206) 254-9563.

The following are ads from the July issue of THE HORN OF PLENTY, newsletter of the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association:

## ITEMS FOR SALE

Riders 1-23 plus index (1-5 combined). Mike Baute, (206) 524-5111.

1928 Gilfillan highboy console, exceptional styled cabinet, \$100; 1928 Kolster doored highboy console, rebuilt some years ago, also \$100. Steve Von Talge, (206) 633-0070.

## ITEMS WANTED

Meter and manual for tube tester type TV-10/B. Also need power supply for HRO receiver. Vince Anello, (206) 743-4973.

Philco 70 or 7A chassis, Philco 90 chassis, also Philco or AK cathedrals. Lee Williams, (206) 481-9415.

Information on Morrow converter 5FBR or equivalent; cabinet for Majestic Charlie McCarthy radio. Any information on Cornell-Dubilier capacitor analyzer # BF70. John Keene, 2312 B St., Bellingham Wa 98225. (206) 734-2888.

Any model or parts for King radios. Helmer Malmstrom, (206) 743-1808.

National 1-10 receiver, with coils; plug-in coils for National SW3, also for National FB7. Jim Barrows, 15121 41st Ave. SE, Bothell, WA 98011. (206) 337-4880.