

# Call Letter

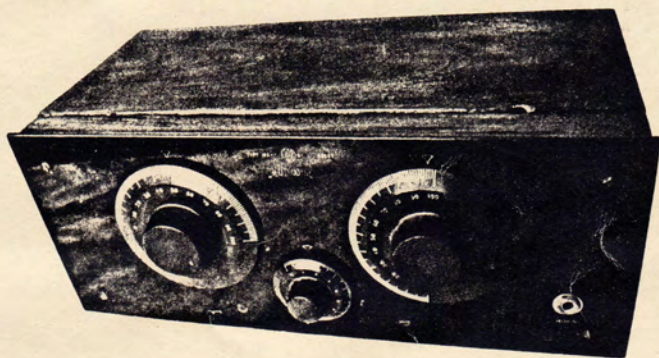
of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, Portland, Oregon

Volume 20

November 1994

Number 11

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**Knob-Swap at the November 12th meeting**

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Celebrating two decades in print!

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# The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

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 \$15.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year.

The Call Letter has been a monthly publication since 1974. It was founded by our first president Harley Perkins. Through several editors and with the assistance of numerous members the Call Letter has continued to be a publication that both informs members of the society's business and that has supported the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held monthly (except July and August) at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum, 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd street) in Portland Oregon. They generally convene at or about 10 AM and 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 radio sales, auctions, and "swap meets" which are advertised in the Call Letter and are held at various facilities in and around Portland.

## Society Officers:

President	Ed Pittaway	(503) 645-2883
Vice President	Jerry Talbott	(503) 649- 6717
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387
Secretary	Ken Seymour	(503) 642- 9115
Member at large	Speed Feldschau	(503) 390-3928
Call Letter Editor	Dick Karman	(503) 281-6585
Museum Curator	Frank Rasada	(503) 246-3400

The Society's address is:

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Post Office Box 82379

Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

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# November 1994

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### The Call Letter:

Editor, Dick Karman, (503) 281-6585

Binding and Distribution, Gordon Phillips (503) 234-3517

**Is your newsletter getting  
to you in one piece? If you are  
having difficulty with delivery, or have  
recently moved please call Gordon  
Phillips and let the Society know.**

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 for the quality, timeliness or accuracy of the items 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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## Dues Are Due

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Beat the rush. Send your membership dues before they are overdue. The domestic membership is still \$15 a year. It's a great price. Come to the meeting and transact business with treasurer Ed Charman, or mail it to the post office box.

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# November Meeting

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By Gordon Phillips

At our November 12th meeting we will have a swap or buy and sell of radio knobs. Many of the members have extra knobs but they like to hang on to them in case they might need them at a future date. Most knobs come in groups of two or three. Nearly all of us have a lot of single knobs that we have no idea of what kind of a radio they belong to. Lets bring those single knobs and give others a chance to find the knobs they might need. If you need a particular knob, it would help to bring a sample knob of the radio needing the knob. If you have to buy a knob or have one made by some of the people that do this work, you will have to pay their prevailing price. So don't feel that you have to give them away real cheap. If you really need a particular knob, be ready to pay a decent price. That way the members will be willing to sell their spare knobs. PLEASE BRING YOUR KNOBS.

The NWVRS T-Shirts and Caps should be ready for the Saturday November 12th meeting for those members that ordered them. The costs were \$7.50 for the T Shirts. The mesh back caps were \$3.45. The solid back caps were \$3.95. We still have available one NWVRS medium wind breaker lined jacket for \$19.40. Please bring the exact change if possible.

## President's Note

The November meeting is the meeting designated for nomination of officers. The floor will be open for nominations. If you want to nominate someone who cannot be present please check with them to be sure that they will accept the nomination. The success of our society depends on members willing to serve.

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## Good & Welfare

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We are please to announce that our President **Ed Pittaway** has recovered and is back on his feet. We wish him a return to complete strength.

We are saddened to hear that member **Don Iverson** is in Good Samaritan Hospital after surgery which was necessary. Without the full details we understand that it involved some cancerous cells. We hope the doctors got them all!

The Call Letter was notified by member Galen Feight that former member **Glen Worskenkowski** passed away a few months back. We offer sincere sympathy to his family.

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## SWAP SHOP

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WANTED Pre-1960's crystal sets. Factory or home brew; partial or complete; or just spare parts. Galen Feight (503) 231-9708.

FOR SALE Empty cabinet for RCA Westinghouse "RA" panel has extra holes in it. \$10+delivery Bud Larson, 1325 Ridge way, Medford, OR 97504.

FOR SALE Over 200,000 Tubes, panels, speakers, chassis, electronic surplus, and supplies - R5-D3 Surplus, Bob Lee, 6111 SE 82nd Ave. Portland (503) 774-6560.

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## Acquisitions

Acquisitions is for members to tell others what vintage equipment has been added to collections in the Northwest.

We are looking for your acquisitions. You can give your list to Gordon Phillips at meetings, mail them to the post office box, or drop them through the mail slot at the Editors home (2515 NE 37th Ave, Portland, OR 97212).

● No Acquisitions submitted this month !



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# October Show Draws Crowds

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From Dick Dielschneider

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The Northwest Vintage Radio Show & Sale held on October 22 drew crowds of buyers and sellers. The attendance was in part due to a complimentary story about one of our members which ran in the metro edition of the Oregonian, as well as member Liles Garcia placing the information on the Internet. From the former we picked up many local folks, some of who joined the society. From the latter we entertained buyers from as far away as Vancouver, British Columbia, and Phoenix, Arizona. Additionally, Gordon Wilson of Edmonton, Alberta came to photograph the event for publication in the Canadian vintage radio newsletter.

Buyers and interested folks started to come in 10 to 15 minutes after we opened and were there right up until 1 PM. Buyers and sellers were still very apparent right up to the last. I appreciate the fact that sellers stayed up until the closing hour, and so does the public.

Gordon Philips, Marylou Dielschneider, and Shirley Bosch sold coffee and maple bars (making a profit for the society) instead of Karen's Catering. Karen is off on maternity leave, but we hope to see her back next time.

As a footnote, there is talk about moving the swap meets and shows to another location. I encourage all members who want to have a say in the matter to attend the November 12th business meeting.

(Photos by Liles Garcia)

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Don't forget the December Business Meeting and  
Christmas Luncheon December 17th, 1994

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# The Beginner

PT 2

The BEGINNER will be a feature article in the Call Letter for the next five months courtesy of member **Bud Larson**.

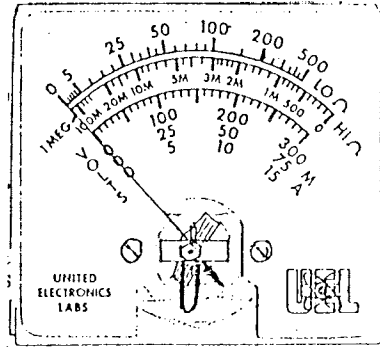
Bud is a Chief Electronics Technician, U.S. Navy Retired.

## The Volt Ohm Meter

One almost indispensable tester all of us should have is the Volt Ohm Meter (VOM). It can check AC and DC voltages, resistance (ohms), and DC milliamperes (mils).

Most tests can be made with an inexpensive (less than \$25) instrument. The meter pictured below is analog. It follows changing conditions better than the more modern digital meters.

To learn how to use the VOM first inspect it carefully. Is there a fresh dry cell battery in the ohm meter? An old cell usually drifts on resistance checks. Make sure that the test leads make secure connections to the jacks and the wires are not broken or frayed.

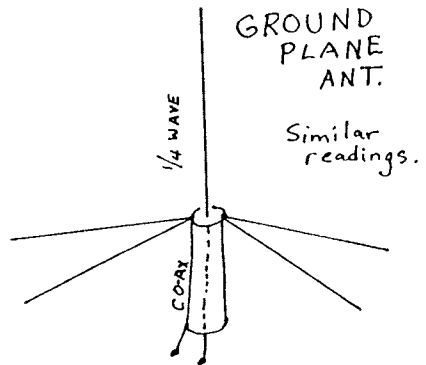
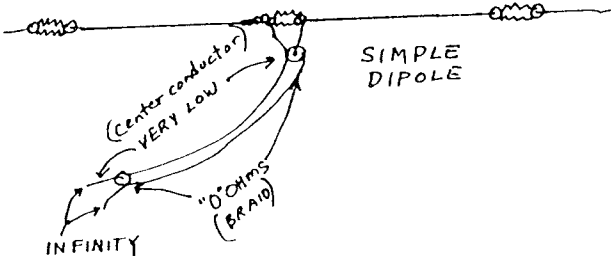


To test the meter begin on the low ohm setting. Touch the probes together and adjust the knob to so that the meter reads "0". **CAUTION:** Never apply voltage while the meter is on the ohm settings less the windings be destroyed, or the fuse link be blown. Experiment with some low value resistors between the probes. The reading you get should be somewhat close to the value indicated by the color code. The newer inexpensive meters are surprisingly accurate, compared to the cheap VOM of several years ago. The Ohm reading should be within 10 to 20%. Not precise but close enough for equipment testing. A



loud speaker should read about 2 ohms, even though it says 8 ohms. 8 ohms is the AC impedance, not the DC resistance.

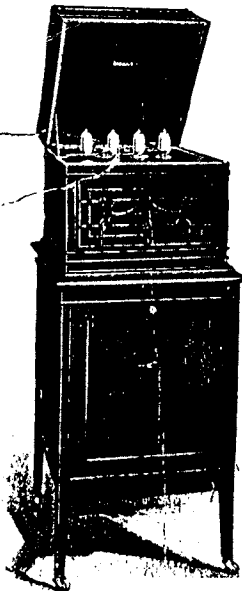
A simple test you can do yourself is an antenna check. -- Have your receiver signals disappeared? Does your signal strength meter "wave" erratically? The antenna or a connector may be loose or shorted. Soldering the connectors may have melted the insulation. On a dipole or ground plane antenna there should be an open circuit (infinity) measured between the outer conductor and the center pin of the connector. If a low ohm reading is observed, you have a problem. Disassemble and inspect for an internal short. If it looks OK test the cable as before. If there is still a low ohm reading the cable may be bad or there is a short in your antenna. Disconnect the feed line from the antenna and test again with the wire ends well apart. The problem can usually be isolated by testing one thing at a time. The cable should show a near "0" reading from the braid's lower end to the upper end. The center conductor will show a little more resistance depending on the cable type.



# Two Supreme Achievements

## in RADIOLAS

### RADIOLA GRAND



Radiola Grand and Mahogany Stand with "B" Batteries, tubes and full instructions \$350.00

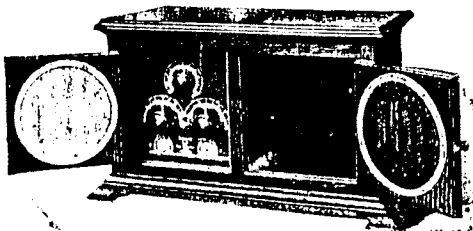
The finest principles of radio detection, amplification and loud speaking are embodied in the new Radiola Grand.

The Radiola Grand has been especially designed to receive broadcasting stations operating on the standard wavelengths of 360 and 400 meters but an additional range is available up to 550 meters. By means of the resonant loud speaking chamber, the entire family may receive broadcast music and other entertainment and instruction.

A telephone jack is provided in order that head telephones may be employed for the reception of broadcasting over great distances.

An exceptional feature of this instrument is its amplifying system which has been developed to such an extent that practically no distortion of speech or music exists.

### RADIOLA IV



Radiola IV, complete with 4 tubes (1 spare), all batteries, headset with telephone plug and silk covered leads for antenna and ground \$275.00

Radiola IV is a self contained console-type broadcast receiver. The cabinet contains a regenerative receiver, a detector, two stages of audio frequency amplification, a new loud speaker of unsurpassed tone quality and all necessary batteries.

Radiola IV is not only a highly efficient receiver, embodying the latest developments in design, but is also a thing of beauty that will grace a drawing room or library.



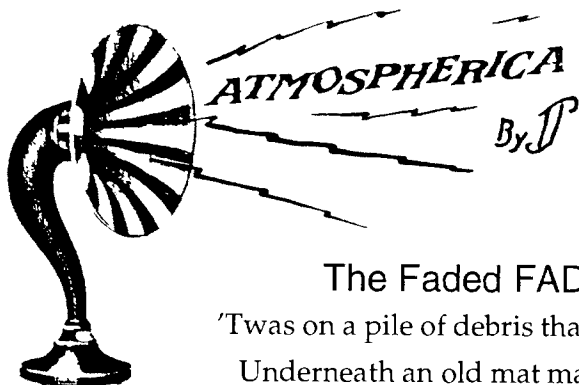
This symbol of quality is your protection

**Radio Corporation**  
of America



Sales Department, Suite 2067  
233 Broadway, New York City

District Office  
10 South La Salle St. Chicago, Ill.



## The Faded FADA

'Twas on a pile of debris that I found her  
Underneath an old mat made of straw.  
With the trash of the times scattered 'round her  
I could scarcely believe what I saw!  
Her name-plate was blurred, I could see,  
But the class of her chassis was great,  
It was only a guess that she once was  
The best Neutrodyne in the State!  
All six tubes from her sockets were taken,  
And her coils had been stolen away,  
The finish on her cabinet forsaken,  
And all the works saturated with clay.  
I took her home to restore all the glory  
Of the twenties when she'd had her day,  
But alas the "finis" to the story,  
Was the check from the guy in L.A.

**History:** Twenty years ago when our society was new, everyone remembered the scratchy reception of the 30's and 40's. It was blamed on atmospheric conditions, defined as the cause of breaks in serious reception. Atmospheric conditions soon were referred to as atmospherics. Tom James, a founding member, thought that our newsletter should have some breaks in serious reception and started to write poetry, titled first *Atmospherics* and later *Atmospherica*. Tom and his wife Dorothy are gone, but the **Call Letter** continues to publish Tom's works as a *break in serious reception*.

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# Additions to the Roster

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## Some NEW; some reNEW

Thompson, David L (503) 228-7022  
3521 SW Gale Avenue  
Portland,OR. 97201

Humbird, Walter (503) 642-0202  
20130 SW Almond St.  
Aloha, OR.

Copeland, Don (503) 236-4478  
1413 SE Salmon ST.  
Portland, OR. 97214

Bookout,John R (503) 644-0235  
10459 NW Lost Park Dr.  
Portland OR. 97229

Walton, Rick (503) 284-5648  
3024 NE 49th Avenue  
Portland, OR.

Hurd, Lynn (503) 649-9152  
4880 SW 195th CT.  
Aloha, OR. 97007

Bloomberg, Gerald I (503) 287-6984  
3104 NE Siskiyou ST.  
Portland, OR. 97212

Hay, Robert D (503) 690-9354  
Beaverton, OR. 97006

Knight, Artie-Rene (503) 292-5499  
5438 SW Seymour CT.  
Portland, OR. 97221

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You're all invited to the December Business Meeting and Christmas Luncheon December 17th, 1994

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# Out on a Long, Long Limb



Copyright 1941 - Philco Corporation

DRAWN FOR PHILCO BY S. J. Ray

*This cartoon by S. J. Ray is another in the series being drawn for Philco by America's leading editorial cartoonists to interpret the spirit of Philco's soldiers of production. It is being posted on bulletin boards of the Philco factories as a symbol to the men and women of Philco of the purpose and significance of their work in the united effort for Victory.*

AS this is written, American arms have taken the offensive. In less than a year after Pearl Harbor, American industry has equipped our fighting forces to carry the war to the enemy. And Axis dictators begin to talk in plaintive tone of black horizons and impending doom!

than ever before, the war production pledge of Philco's soldiers of industry is "More-Better-Sooner."

The electronic miracles developed in the Philco laboratories, the radio communications equipment, fuzes, shells and storage batteries produced by Philco workers are today fighting for freedom in the planes, tanks, ships and guns of many battlefields. When Victory is won, their heritage of amazing inventions will bring new comfort, convenience and entertainment to the homes of the nation.

To the men and women of Philco who have had a part in this vast program of preparation, these events are an incentive to new and still greater achievements. The road ahead, though long and hard, is full of hope and promise. Now, more

*Free Limited Offer . . .* While available, a full size reproduction of the original drawing by S. J. Ray will be furnished gladly upon request. Simply address Philco Corporation, Philadelphia, Penna., and ask for Cartoon Number 35D.

## PHILCO CORPORATION

"Our Secret Weapon."  
Tune in Friday evenings, over your local Columbia Station.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

America is conserving its resources for Victory. As you save on all products of peace-time consumption, remember too to preserve the things you own. Trained service men everywhere are leaving civilian life to serve vital military needs. So be careful to maintain the condition and prolong the life of your Philco products.

**RADIOS, PHONOGRAPHS, REFRIGERATORS, AIR CONDITIONERS, RADIO TUBES \* \* \* INDUSTRIAL STORAGE BATTERIES FOR MOTIVE POWER, SIGNAL SYSTEMS, CONTROL AND AUXILIARY POWER**



The Army-Navy "E" flag awarded to Philco, located in Philadelphia, Chicago, Toronto, N. J., and London, U.K.



# The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

## Membership Renewal & Survey

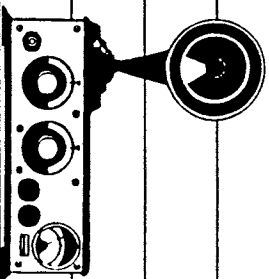
### Membership Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (      ) \_\_\_\_\_



Dues: \$15 per year (enclose check with this form)

I do not wish to have my name and information included in the annual telephone directory.

I will Help with (check as many as you can):

Swap Meets

Serving as an Officer

Scrapbook

Museum Upkeep

Meeting Refreshments

Contests

Membership Recruiting

Photographer

Historian

Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Writing, \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Calling, \_\_\_\_\_ Folding, \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing, \_\_\_\_\_ Typing

(no individual is expected to give more than an average of 3 hours each month, many months less time is required.)