

Call Letter

of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society Portland, Oregon

Vol. 20

December, 1994

No. 12

December Meeting and Christmas Fun

December 17th, 1994

3 PM Business meeting

5 PM Christmas Dinner



Celebrating Two Decades In Print

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

December 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 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.

December Meeting

NOTICE:

- NEW TIME:3 PM Business meeting
- 5 PM Christmas Dinner

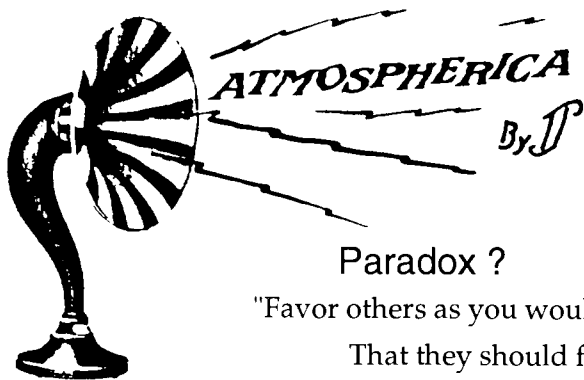
The business meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society will include the election of officers to serve for 1995. Additionally, a calendar of events for the 1995 season will be discussed.

NWVRS name tags can be ordered by members. The cost is \$6.00 payable in advance. See Gordon Phillips. T-shirts and baseball caps will be available at the December meeting for those that ordered them.

The Christmas dinner will begin at or about 5 PM. Families are asked to bring a salad or a desert. The turkey and all of the traditional trimmings will be provided. Families who wish to attend should call Dick Dielschneider at (503) 246-1062, or leave him a message. He'd like to know how many to expect and what you will bring (salad or desert).

Dues Are Due

Membership dues are due before the end of the year. Domestic membership (within the United States) is still \$15 a year. It's a great price. Pay treasurer Ed Charman, or mail it to the post office box. Membership fees keep the organization running.



Paradox ?

"Favor others as you would
That they should favor you"
Such is the precept, I am told
Of a rule with golden hue.
As I went shopping for a gift
To sweeten the Christmas meet,
I found two dollars went as far
As anvils kicked with feet !
I did the best I could, my friend,
To spend that paltry sum;
I felt like a child of seven,
Buying a ten cent stick of gum !
When Christmas time is coming near,
Don't you think it really strange
That with all that moral teaching
They don't dock prices for a change?

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*.

Officers' 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 officers at meetings if the President is unavailable.

The Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of every business meeting and for receiving and preparing all of the society's correspondence.

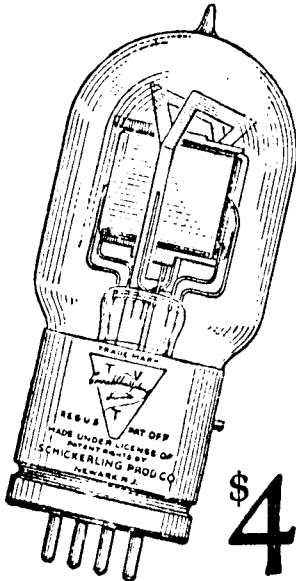
The Treasurer

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.

The NEWEST Schickerling Tube!



MODEL S-1600

a 5 volt, standard base
16/100 amp., Oscillator,
Detector, Amplifier. Plate
voltage, 16 volts to 90
volts. Operates on a 20
ohm rheostat with a 6
volt storage battery or 3
to 4 dry cell batteries in
series.

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Model S-400 Amplifier . . . \$3.00
Model S-700 Special Oscil-
lator and Power Tube for
all multi-tube sets . . . \$7.00
3 volt— $\frac{1}{10}$ amp. Miniature Base
Model S-600 Det.-Amp. . . \$3.00

**A standard base
5 volt tube consuming but
16/100 amperes!**

THINK of it! A big husky tube with the equal volume and sensitivity of the quarter ampere tube, yet consuming only 16/100 ampere filament current!

This combined Detector, Oscillator, Amplifier tube is the true economy tube for multi-tube sets. Imagine—a 5 tube set equipped with these new Schickerling tubes will consume only 8/100 of an ampere as against 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ amps using the usual $\frac{1}{4}$ ampere tubes.

Can be used in all sets now using $\frac{1}{4}$ amp. tubes, with absolutely no changes necessary.

Call at any authorized Schickerling dealer—at our factory—or at any of our branches and listen to an actual demonstration. It's the most convincing test.

Sold with a written 10 day guarantee

SCHICKERLING PRODUCTS CORP.

Executive Offices and Factory

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Jefferson Bldg., 1015 Chestnut Street

Chicago Sales Office:

220 South State Street

Address all correspondence and mail orders to executive office and factory at Newark or to our nearest branch office.

SCHICKERLING RADIO TUBES

With the Stabilizing Triangular Plates

Sold only by authorized Schickerling dealers

NWVRS Meeting Minutes

By: Ken Seymour

The November 12th, 1994 meeting was called to order by President Ed Pittaway at 10:07 AM with 38 people in attendance. The minutes of the September meeting were accepted as published in the Call Letter. The treasure's report was read by Ed Charman and was approved as presented.

There were no guests attending the November meeting. The President mentioned that club membership fees are now due and encouraged members to send them into the Treasurer before the end of the year.

Good Wishes

Jerry Talbott reported that Don Iverson is in Good Samaritan Hospital. Evidently an infection has delayed his exit. The club wishes Don well and a speedy recovery. In addition, the club sent him flowers.

Old Business

Dick Dielschneider reported that the last swap and sale was very successful. It had a significant turnout compared to previous swaps. Dick attributed this to a somewhat larger focus on advertising.

New Business

Jerry Talbott made a motion that the club waive the yearly dues for board members, the Call Letter editor, and the coffee person as an incentive to attract volunteers and encourage new participation. The motion was accepted and approved subject to the bylaws of the organization.

Jerry then mentioned that it was time to make nominations for next years board members. The following names were nominated for the respective offices:

President: Ed Pittaway volunteered and Greg Bond was nominated.

V.P. Jerry Talbott declined to run and Speed Feldschau was nominated.

Treasure: Ed Charman volunteered.

Secretary: Ken Seymour volunteered.

The final list of board members will be confirmed at the next meeting.

It was proposed that a new temporary meeting place for the club be taken up for discussion. Some members were concerned that the meetings were perhaps an inconvenience for Frank and Mary Rasada during their construction phase of the museum. Frank then mentioned that he had no concerns about this issue. A motion was then made to stay at the present location. It passed unanimously and members verbally expressed appreciation to the Rasada's for their hospitality to the club.

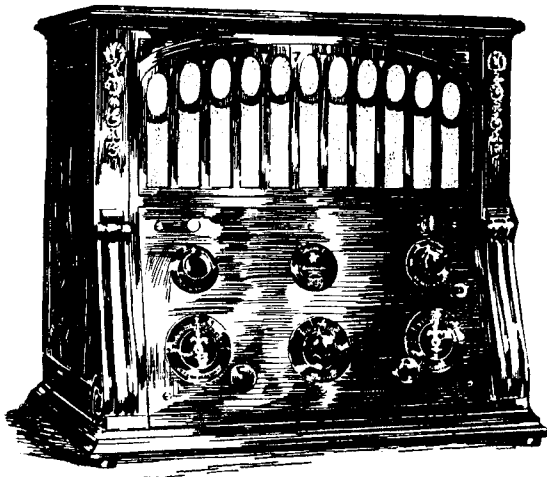
Leads & Needs

Mike Parker (503-235-7187) has an RCA 106 floor speaker for \$150. It was also mentioned that it would be nice for a way to leave hot tips for club members. Ken Seymour volunteered to look into voice mail and would report at a future meeting on the findings.

Next Month

The next meeting will be held on December 17th. The business portion begins at 3:00 which will be followed at 5:00 for the annual Christmas dinner hosted by the Rasada's. Members are encouraged to bring salads and deserts to the dinner.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 where members then went out and swapped knobs.



The Beginner

PT 3

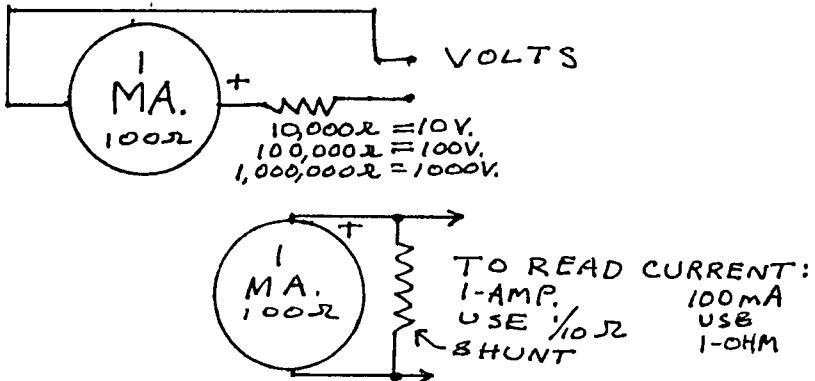
The BEGINNER will be a feature article in the Call Letter for the next four months courtesy of member **Bud Larson**. Bud is a Chief Electronics Technician, U.S. Navy Retired.

The Volt Ohm Milliammeter

Last month we learned how to use the ohmmeter function of the VOM. This month let's see how the various scales are applied.

Basically, the voltmeter really reads current. A 1000-ohm-per-volt instrument draws one milliampere (1/1000) at full scale. If our meter has a resistance of 100 ohms and there are no resistors in series, full scale is only one-tenth of a volt: not very useful. To read more than one-tenth of a volt we must add resistance in series: called multiplier resistors. To measure 10 volts, for instance, a total of 1000×10 is needed. A 10,000 total less 100 ohms for the meter equals 9900 ohms. To be practical, use 10,000 ohms for 10 volts full scale reading, 100,000 ohms for 100 volts, and 1,000,000 (one megohm) for 1,000 volt maximum. Commercial meters may use complex switching schemes and odd supplies.

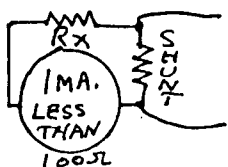
You could build your own meter. A 0 to 1 milliammeter only has to be multiplied in your head by times 10, 100, or 1,000. A Dymo label next to the meter can say "times 10, times 100, etc. to remind you of the full measurement. You would use precision resistors rated for enough power so they won't



be "fried" when set on the higher voltages. One can use several resistors in series that add up to the total. This enables the use of regular resistors which are premeasured using an accurate ohmmeter to check the total resistance.

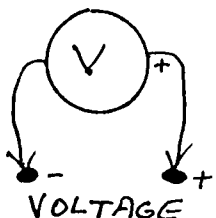
To measure more than one milliampere (mil) we must use a resistor across the meter (called a **shunt**). Most of the current goes through the shunt and for our 100 ohm, one-mil meter to read 1 ampere full scale we will use 1/10-ohm shunt which gives 1/1000 of the current through the meter and 999/1000 through the shunt. Divide 999 into 100 (meter resistance) and you get very close to one-tenths ohm. If that value is not available, its easy to use the copper wire table in the ARRL Handbook to find the resistance per foot of #20 wire, for example, (heavy enough to safely carry one amp). 1,000 feet of #20 copper wire has 10.128 ohms resistance so divide 10.128 into 1000 to get the length of the wire that has 1/10 ohm, e.g. 9.87 or almost 10 feet. To save space this wire be wound around a spool or a pill bottle and connect the ends across the meter.

If your meter is not 100 ohms resistance, you can put a resistor in series to total 100 ohms to simplify calculations.

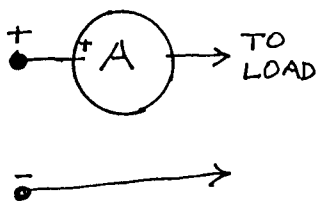


ADD R_x IN SERIES
TO TOTAL 100Ω
TO USE EASY
FORMULA FOR
CURRENT MEASUREMENT.

FOR METERS LESS THAN
100 OHMS INTERNAL
RESISTANCE.



HOOK VOLTMETER
ACROSS SUPPLY



HOOK AMMETER
IN SERIES WITH
LOAD.

Black Thread and Ford Coils

By Pete Petersen WY7Z

In my old neighborhood, Gene and Kenny were my close friends when we were in the fourth and fifth grades. Gene lived on a corner and I lived two houses up from him. One day we decided to put up a string and a tin can telephone between our two houses. Empty tin cans and spools of heavy black thread were quickly provided by mothers who were happy to supply whatever might keep us out of mischief. The lady that lived in the intervening house gave us permission to put our telephone line across her back yard and through her tree after we promised not to fall and break our necks.

It took many tries and much broken thread before the telephone was a success. Volume was adequate, as I recall, in spite of the thread being supported in improbable ways and rubbing against tree limbs. We tried without success to put up a second line between Gene's and Kenny's houses. Their houses were separated by a broad avenue with a grassy median (wide enough to play football on) and the distance between their houses was too great. Once we succeeded in stringing a thread between their two houses but it sagged so low that a passing truck took it away. Some other method was needed.

I don't remember whose idea it was, but a wireless system was proposed, using a Ford Model T spark coils. Ford coils were marvelous things, housed in a nicely joined wood case with a vibrating current-interrupter on one end. They produce a voltage high enough to make a blue spark jump across a half inch gap. By asking around the neighborhood we found several men who gave us old coils which they no longer needed. Batteries were free also. Service stations were happy to give away batteries that would no longer start a car but had enough power for our purposed.

The transmitters we built were simplicity itself; a Ford coil, a home made spark gap, wires for aerial and ground, and a switch to turn the battery on and off. Of course we knew nothing about amateur radio, licensing, transmitting frequencies, Morse code, or the other niceties.

Being completely untuned, these transmitters properly covered the entire radio frequency spectrum. That was good in a way because and broadcast receiver, tuned to any frequency would receive our signals. Fortunately there was no television to interfere with them and we never heard any complaints about interfering with radio broadcasts. The latter was probably because this was a working class neighborhood where radios were usually operated by the man of the house after dinner when we were doing homework or were in bed.

With our family receiver dials set anywhere to hear the buzz of our transmitters we communicated with something similar to Morse code. Kenny was one beep, Gene, two beeps, and I, three beeps. Various combinations of long and short beeps meant let's play ball, go to the movies, or many other pastimes.

This system lasted less than a year. Gene and his family moved away first, and Kenny's family left a few months later. I never saw or heard from Gene and Kenny again. I still have my Ford coil and spark gap though, I can be set up to answer in minutes.

SWAP SHOP

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

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.

FOR SALE Grebe Syncrophase MU 2 in good condition. It uses 199 tubes. No tubes included. \$400.00 Rudy Zvarich (503) 255-2227.

LEADS Silvertone Console. Make offer Julia Moran (246-2913). Recordio Console R/P Recorder, Wilcox Gay #53. Make offer Lee Jensen (289-9048).

NWVRS Displays

By Gordon Phillips

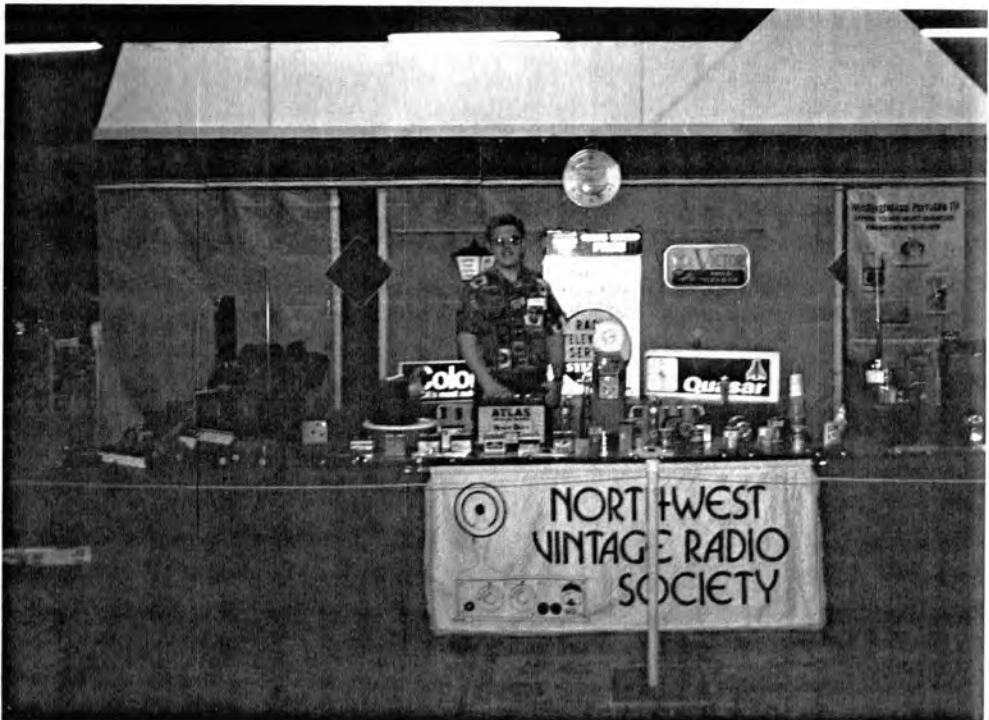
Each year there are several events at which our society participates. In February our society displayed members' radios at the *Sounds Of Nostalgia* show at the Salem Fairgrounds. In July it was the *Concourse D'Elegance* Vintage Automobile Show in Forest Grove. In October it was at the Northwest Car Collectors show that was held at the Multnomah County Expo Center. Each one of these displays bearing the name of our society was headed by Dan Howard.

One of the reasons that the October 22nd swap meet was moved up from the second Saturday in October was to be able to distribute flyers advertising the Show at the Multnomah Art Center and inviting interested people to become members. Many flyers were given out by those attending the displays. Flyers were handed out at each of these events.

The photos on the facing page are of the display at the Northwest Car Collectors show, *The Road To Yesterday, Radios You Can Take On The Road*. This display was the creation of Dan Howard who owns the majority of the display items. Other radios were furnished by Dick Howard, Steve Bafus, Gordon Phillips and Bill Timoszic (a friend of Dan Howard who flew out here from Michigan to attend this meet). Others who helped with this meet were Brian Toon and Myron White.

Volunteers that helped at the Sounds Of Nostalgia show were Jim Mason, Jerry Talbot, Speed Feldschau, Mrs Feldschau, Sonny Clutter, Mrs Clutter and of course, Dan Howard. Those helping at the Concourse D'Elegance were Jerry Talbot, Jim Mason, Gordon Phillips, Brian Toon, Rudy Zvarich and Dan Howard.

We appreciate Dan for his work in presenting our society in a favorable light.



Acquisitions

Acquisitions is for members to tell others what vintage equipment has been added to collections in the Northwest. You can give your list to Gordon Phillips at meetings, or drop them through the mail slot at the Editors home (2515 NE 37th Ave, Portland, OR 97212).

Jim Mason

- 1929 Viking (Ozarka) tombstone model 91.
- 1932 Philco Jr. cathedral model 81.
- 1940 Motorola model 50xc.

Gordon Phillips

- 1940 Silvertone Radio Phonograph table model.
- Model 5741, 1951 Silvertone Clock Radio chassis # 132-896,
- 1929 Gloritone cathedral model 26-p,
- Circa 1932 Philco cathedral model 70.

Speed Feldschau

- Zenith Tombstone model 6S128,
- 1937 Midwest 17 tubes model 170.

Richard Bosch

- 1938 Airline 93BR-42B Table set
- 1940 Arvin 524A metal table set
- 1947 Coronado 43-8190 Table set
- 1951 Crosley II -100U Table set
- 1925 DeForest-Crosley DC-5 Table set
- 1939 Emerson CW 279 Table set
- 1937 FADA 260G Table set
- 1935 Kaddette Jewel 41 Table set
- 1940 Lafayette BB22 Table set
- 1950 Meck DA601 Table set
- 1957 Microphone ("Mike radio")
- 1949 Philco 49-1401 Table set
- 1954 Regency TR1 transistor
- 1947 Remler 5300 Radio/Phono
- 1947 Remler 49 Table radio
- 1947 Remler 551 table radio
- 1946 Setchell Carlson 416
- 1948 Setchell Carlson 408
- 1949 Stewart Warner B51T1 (air pal)
- 1937 Zenith 9S-232 Tombstone
- 1953 Zenith K412R Table set

Increase the Range of your AERIOLA SR. with the new AC AMPLIFIER



THE new A C Amplifier, to a considerable extent, increases the reception possibilities of the Aeriola Sr. With head telephones and the A C Amplifier reception ranges of one hundred to three hundred miles become possible for the owner of an Aeriola Sr., depending on local conditions. Used with the Vocarola loud-speaker, the Aeriola Sr. and A C Amplifier fill a whole room with music and speech received over distances of ten to thirty miles.

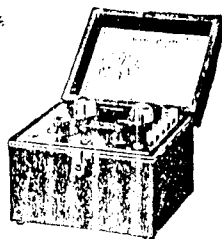
Anybody can make the simple connections required, including mother and the girls.

See this New Amplifier at Your Dealer's

Radio  **Corporation**
of America

Sales Dept. Suite 2067
233 Broadway
New York City

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



AERIOLA AMPLIFIER

Model AC

Complete with 2WD-11A
vacuum tubes
(without batteries)

\$68.00

VOCAROLA LOUD-SPEAKER

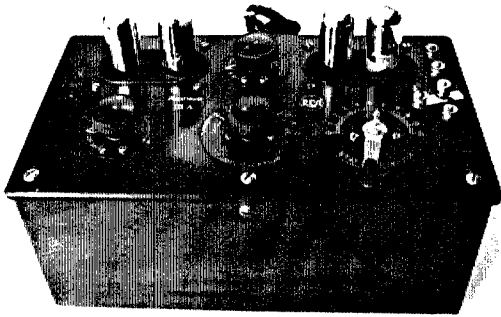
Model LV

\$30.00



*This symbol of quality
is your protection*

*Before buying radio
apparatus, always
consult the book
"Radio Enters the
Home." Price 35
cents by mail or at
your dealer's.*



The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Membership Renewal & Survey

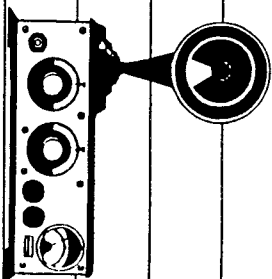
Membership Renewal

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.)