

The **Call Letter**

October, 2007
Vol. 33 — No. 10

ANTIQU



RADIO



SALE

10 AM - 4 PM

Saturday

October 13



American Legion Hall

Corner of 3rd & Main
Aurora, Oregon

Presented By



For information, please contact:
Brian Toon (503) 266-5527 or
Dick Bixler (503) 690-2557

Visit us at
www.nvrs.org

Over **30** years in print!

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).

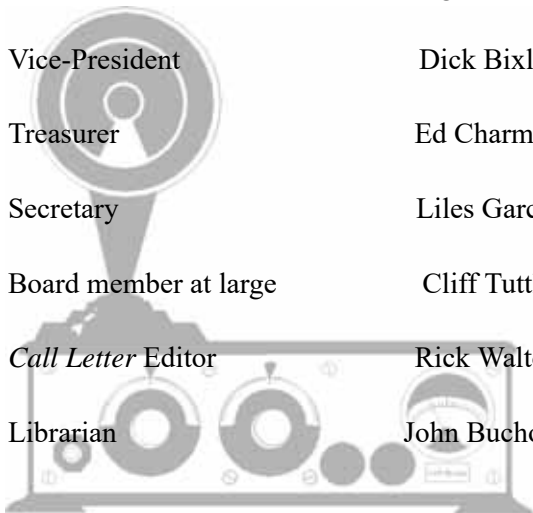
Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio show, and radio sales which are advertised in the *Call Letter* and are held in and around Portland.

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 2007:

President	George Kirkwood	(503) 648-4809 radiogeo@hevanet.com
Vice-President	Dick Bixler	(503) 690-2557 RF2AF@comcast.net
Treasurer	Ed Charman	(503) 654-7387 enamrahc@peoplepc.com
Secretary	Liles Garcia	(503) 649-9288 landn2@verizon.net
Board member at large	Cliff Tuttle	(503) 666-7005 kiptuttle@aol.com
<i>Call Letter</i> Editor	Rick Walton	(503) 656-4104 rwalton@easystreet.net
Librarian	John Bucholtz	(360) 693-7135 BonJonBuck@webtv.net



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On the cover: The flyer created by Blake Dietze to advertise our Fall Radio Sale in Aurora.

The next meeting is on November 10, 2007.

For October: Fall Radio Sale and Swap Meet in Aurora.

For November: Special guest speaker!

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

Next Call Letter Deadline: November 1, 2007.

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, Rick Walton

I think of this as a late-blooming issue because it took me so long and right up to the last minute to get it all together. Noticeably absent again is Voilá. Jay thinks we'll just have to wait for all the Swap Meet acquisitions. The Swap Shop is empty, too. There is a new addition to the Radio Service list, though. The article on Lee DeForest was submitted by Art Redman some time ago and (I think) has run previously in the *Call Letter*. As always of late, we've reprinted another of Mike Parker's informative and often amusing *In the Shack*, this time from March, 1998.

As our cover announces, it is time for our Fall Radio Sale. I regret that I can't attend this one. Too bad, too, because I've got a lot of stuff to sell.

New Swap/Sale Feature

In the ever- and on-going effort to boost interest and participation in our semi-annual Radio Sales, it was decided at the last meeting that we will hold two silent auctions at the upcoming sale.

Sinatra, Bennett,
Norah.

Portland's only station for classic American standards
of yesterday and today. Sunny 1550 KKAD.

Listen online at: www.sunny1550kkad.com



NWVRS Meeting Minutes

Liles Garcia, NWVRS Secretary

President George Kirkwood called the September 8, 2007 meeting of the NorthWest Vintage Radio Society to order at 10:00 AM. Liles Garcia read the minutes of the August meeting, and the meeting minutes were approved as printed in the September Call Letter. Ed Charman gave the Treasurer's report; it was approved as provided by Ed. John Bucholtz reported that the library is doing fine. John also mentioned that members can return library books at our October Swap Meet; but he will not bring any books for members to check out. Norm Trujillo recently joined our Society, and attended our meeting today. Members gave Norm a round of applause. Members gave Rick Walton a round of applause for his continuing excellent work on our Call Letter. There were approximately 30 people at our meeting today.

Old Business

Swap Meet Silent Auction – Cliff Tuttle described a silent auction method for our Swap Meet. Members discussed a few different methods for having silent auctions. We will have two silent auctions at our Swap Meet – one at approximately 9:15 AM and one at approximately 1:00 PM.

Networking and Outreach – Vice-President Dick Bixler outlined the promotions that he is working on for our Swap Meet. Members gave Blake Dietze a round of applause for making the colorful posters for advertising our Swap Meet. Members gave Dick Bixler and Liles Garcia a round of applause for their efforts on outreach and networking.

New Business

Website – Pat Kagi needs the correct email address for responding to our website.

Leads and Needs

Larry Tobkin needs an output transformer for a Philco radio.

Blake Dietze needs a 10 inch Zenith speaker with a 1500 ohm field coil. He also needs an output transformer to go with the speaker.

John Bucholtz will be bringing a stock of tubes to our Swap Meet.

The program topic for our meeting was "Radio Advertising And Memorabilia." Members showed and discussed the items that they brought.

The meeting was adjourned.

NWVRS 2007 Calendar of Events

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

- October 13** NWVRS Fall Swap/Sale at Aurora American Legion Hall, Aurora, Oregon.
- October 13** North Kitsap Amateur Radio Club Hamfair. Bremerton, WA. ARRL sanctioned event. Kitsap Fairgrounds. Info: contact Ron Sefton, N7EM, (360)779-5418, ronsefton@hotmail.com or Horace Ory, (360)779-2215, ory001@comcast.net. www.nkarc.org/hamfest/index.html
- October 27** Swap-Toberfest, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Oregon. (Ten miles west of Salem). Info: contact Fred Rodley at n7lqd@aol.com. www.swaptoberfest.net/
- October 27** Mount Baker Amateur Radio Club Flea Market, Lynden, WA. ARRL sanctioned event. Always last Saturday in October. Info: [contact k7iey@netscape.net](mailto:contactk7iey@netscape.net). www.qsl.net/k7skw/.
- October 27** Amateur Radio Open House. Delta Amateur Radio Society. Delta, BC. http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event_ID=1108
- November 4** Maple Ridge, ARC Swap Meet. 12460 Harris Road Pitt Meadows, Maple Ridge B.C. Canada. www.qsl.net/ve7rmr/
- November 10** NWVRS monthly meeting 10 am; tailgate swap 8:30. Nomination of officers for 2007. Special guest speaker!
- December 8** NWVRS monthly meeting and annual Holiday Party 10 am. Election of officers for 2007.

Website Suggestions Requested

Pat Kagi, our new web master, is looking for suggestions for website content. What do you, the members, want to see on the website? Contact Pat and let him know. E-mail him at kagi.pat@con-way.com, or phone him at (360) 694-6149.

Photo Display

Photos by Rick Walton

Because your editor and photographer misplaced his notes from the last meeting, I can't list the owners of the displayed objects. Four of those who displayed the radio ephemera were Sonny Clutter, George Kirkwood, Frank Olberding, and Brian Toon. I think there were others but it seems I lost my memory with my notes.







They Went to Seattle...

Photos by Blake Dietze

NWVRS members attended the August Swap Meet in Seattle held by the PSARA.



Lee de Forest In Lents 1911

By Judith Bunch

Historical Research by Joyce Gray

From *Good Neighbor News*, December 1999. Page 8.

Submitted by Art Redman

Doctor Lee de Forest took his room key from C.H. Doane at the Bethel Hotel, 109 North Main (now SE 92nd Avenue) and shook his head.

A wireless station had been installed recently one half mile from the center of Lents, Oregon (now Southeast Portland beyond SE 82nd Avenue) and was capable of receiving messages from San Francisco. Director of the Paulson wireless system and employed by the independent Federal Telegraph Company, de Forest had come from California to see what was causing trolley lines at Lents to interfere with the messages.

“In all my experience with Wireless,” he told Mrs. Doane, “I have never encountered a condition like the one here.” DeForest figured the problem stemmed from the O.W.P. Cazadero Line and a nearby high-tension line of the local streetcar system. As cars came along the tracks at Lents, wheels attached to the trolley wires flashed sparks, thus interfering with the wireless waves. The only disturbance-free time was when the cars stopped running between three and four in the morning.

“It is as though the cars are trying to send indecipherable messages all on their own,” he muttered on his way upstairs.

The next day, de Forest met with officials from Portland Railway, Light and Power Company out at the station to discuss grounding or fencing off waves. The first method involved placing two resistance coils one-quarter of a mile apart on the streetcar line near the station to ground the sparks. If that didn't work, wires would be strung parallel with existing wires to catch the sparks and hold them prisoner.

In 1906, 33-year-old Dr. de Forest had invented the audion (later called the triode) making long range reception possible and providing the foundation for the modern electronics industry. Because of his invention, sometime in the future, voices would be sent through the air shrinking the globe and changing forever the lives of people living on our planet. It has not been revealed which method cleared up the airwave interference at Lents, but it does represent one of the steps that led to our modern conveniences: long distance telephone, radio, AM/FM bands, television and surround stereo.



Editor's note: This "In The Shack" article is from the March, 1998, Call Letter!

March Madness

This article is probably going to prove for good that I really am madder than a March Hare! Several things have occurred that may have me, at least, mad at myself.



But first, I have compiled some more radio related trade names to add to the list of this continued search for obscurity.

Here are 5 more "DYNE" names not listed previously "IN THE SHACK"

- MEGADYNE
- PERIDYNE
- TETRADYNE
- UNIDYNE
- VIDEODYNE

And 10 more names ending in "TONE", these clearly outnumber the "DYNES" in amount, now up to 118!

- AMPL-TONE
- CHEERTONE
- CONSOLSTONE
- ELECTRO-TONE
- MAGI-TONE
- MAGIC-TONE
- NEW-TONE
- OVERTONE

TEMPOTONE
WAL-TONE

In last month's "IN THE SHACK", my article "No Birthday Radio" touched on the subject of how I perceived my changing attitude toward collecting and how we, as admirers and caretakers of the objects we collect, may experience changes in our perception.

I had asked for input on this subject and I soon got a phone call from member Steve Lohse, of Corvallis, OR. Steve and I had quite a discussion and he provided some helpful insight. He brought up a good point based on the fact that we simply become so familiar with our collection that we look at what we have in a different perspective. Steve suggests that we should think of the items in our collection in terms of not yet having them and what it was like when you first found it, or you always wanted it and just finally acquired it. I admit that there is a certain feeling of excitement at this point and will try to recapture that feeling about my collection. maybe that is the way to really determine what and what not to keep in your collection. But I think that the better lesson is to not take for granted what you have, not only radios but anything that you have acquired. After all, you wanted it in the first place! Then if something is still just "Ho Hum", you can always take it the next swap meet, maybe that is how all that stuff gets there!

And now for the maddest moment of all....well, it is going to be hard for me to admit this but....well, alright, I got a radio for my birthday after all! Yes, I SUCCUMBED, just after "No Birthday Radio" was published. I was talking with member Dan Howard and he mentioned that he was selling some battery sets from his father, Dick Howard's collection. And sure enough, there was an odd brand battery set that I couldn't live without, a MARWOL Jewel 3-dial, made in New York, ca. 1925.

Even more ironic was the fact that on the very day of my birthday he brought it by the house and I bought it! Go figure!

I guess that I am only human after all in addition to being mad as a March hare. Many thanks to Steve Lohse for is input. And to Dan Howard for the new addition to my collection that I have that new feeling of excitement over. Here we go again!

QSO you next time.....IN THE SHACK.

Guest Speaker in November

Make it a point to mark your calendars for November 10. That's the day of the November meeting, and on that day we will be privileged to have as our guest speaker Ken Lomax, who served on the staff of the Oregon Historical Society until 2006. His long and continuing involvement in audio preservation will undoubtedly be of interest to all who attend.

Roster Additions

These are two members to add to your roster. Norman joined in May but his name has not appeared on the roster until now, which we regret. Todd has recently rejoined, and we welcome him.

Olmert, Todd
8433 SW Terwilliger Blvd
Portland, OR 97219
(503)246-4141

Trujillo, Norman
808 NE 141st St.
Vancouver, WA 98685

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

Radio Service

These members have indicated they are willing to perform radio repairs:

Roger Brown – (503) 693-6089

Blake Dietze – (360) 944-7172, wb6jhj@ix.netcom.com

Todd Olmert – (503) 246-4141

Tony Ranft – (360) 944-8489 or ranft@saw.net – 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.

Leads and Needs

Questions about restoration of vintage radio? Visit radiolaguy's web site often for this information plus lots of other interesting displays, photo's, 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>

The Back Page

This photo from the April, 1927, issue of Radio Mechanics is not attached to a particular article, but seems, in a way, to bolster the magazine's slogan, "The fun of Radio is in doing it yourself."

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Radio Mechanics



NO USE TO BE IMPATIENT!

There are movies always, but the time to test out a new set is just the minute it's finished.

Radio Sale Location

Here is a map to Aurora. The American Legion hall is just off of Highway 99E at the corner of 3rd and Main Street NE. Exits off I-5 to Aurora are clearly marked from either direction. Really, you can't miss it.

