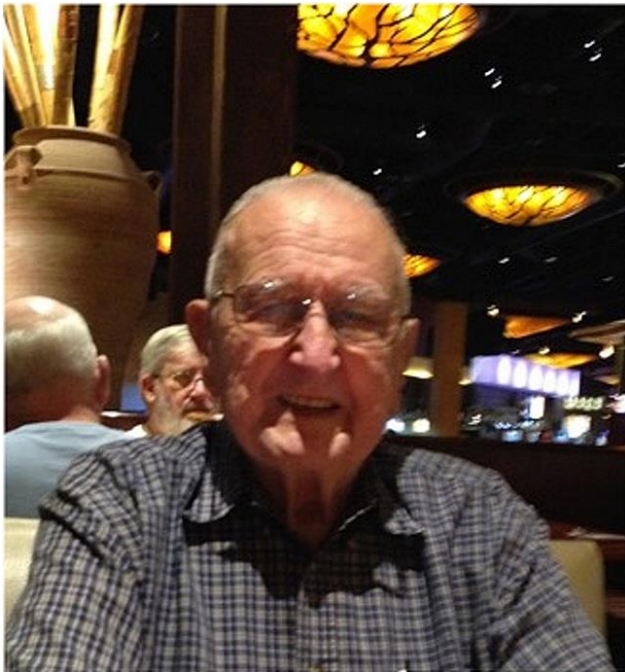


The

Call Letter

March 2016

Vol 42, #3



Gordon Phillips

Silent Key

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.

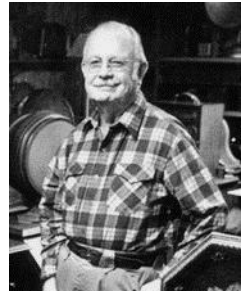
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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 9:30 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 2016:

President	Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	tranny53@frontier.com
Vice-president	Bryon Toon (503) 266-5527	
Treasurer	Ed Tompkins (360) 573-3895	edtomp@Q.com
Recording Sec'y	Liles Garcia (503) 649-9288	landn2@frontier.com
Corresponding Sec'y	Pat Kagi (503) 694-6149	kagi.pat@con-way.com
Board member at large	Mark Moore (503) 286-5224	mark@pdxhistory.com
Librarian	Damon Vandehey (503) 459-1777	
Editor	Don Hanson	vanguard4@lycos.com

On the Cover

Longtime member Gordon Phillips passed away 2-7-2016 at age 98.
(Photo provided by Mike Phillips via Sonny Clutter.)

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Announcements

March Meeting

The next meeting will be on March 12 and starts at 9:30 AM
There will be an auction including ~500 NOS tubes in 12 lots.

March Feature

Program Topic for March 2016 meeting will be Tube Shortwave Radios.

Spring Swap Meet

Our Spring Swap Meet will be on April 9, 2016. See page 12 for details.

Visit our web site at:

www.nwvrs.com

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/nwvrs

A Letter from the President

Greetings everyone. It looks like we are off to another good year. I am happy to report Pat Kagi has the file he needs to start completing the Roster for 2016. It looks like we will be having some auctions in the near future. Pat has received some of the pictures from the upcoming auction that is slated to take place at our spring show and sale. Also Charley Kent is bringing 500 tubes to be auctioned at the March meeting. Brian Toon picked up a nice RCA console for the March auction. We had our board meeting following the meeting in February. It was decided that we would have our annual trash-bash in June. Charlie and Rick are gearing up for another fun spring show and sale April 9th at the Eagles Lodge. I can't wait for that. In July we will be having our Speed Feldshau memorial picnic and swap. That event is always a good time, and good food. Spring is coming. Get your radios ready for the show!

Mike

Meeting Minutes - February 13, 2016

President Mike McCrow called the February 2016 meeting of the NWVRS to order at 9:30 AM. Members pledged allegiance to our nation's flag. Bill Roberts and Jonathan Yakimow attended today as guests--welcome Bill and Jonathan!! We had 54 people at our meeting today. Mike told everybody that Bob Campbell and Gordon Phillips recently passed away. Rick Ryan is recovering from a recent hospital stay. Mark Moore is recovering well also. We will have a Board Meeting after the meeting today. Ed Tompkins, Chris Butler, and Dave Eaton recently completed an audit for our Society's funds. They reported that our funds are OK. Bruce Baur mentioned that the Vintage Tek Museum will be moving in about a year, and is looking for a new location. Members voted to approve the minutes of the January meeting as printed in the February Call Letter. Ed Tompkins updated the group on our Society's finances. Members discussed how to sell approximately 100 radios over the next few months. Damon reported that he has some new library books. Rick Ryan said that there are still Swap Meet tables available. Leads and Needs: Bill Meloy brought an Abox for sale; it is an early battery box. Dave Wise has some matched PNP transistors if anyone needs them. He needs a coil spring foot for a phonograph turntable. The Program Topic today is "Rare and Uncommon Radios". Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought. The Program Topic for our March meeting will be "Tube Shortwave Radios". The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Liles Garcia, Secretary

Editor's Note - Please have Call Letter Contributions in by March 26.

Calendar of Events

March 19. MicroHams Digital Conference. Redmond, WA. This is an ARRL sanctioned event. <http://www.microhams.com> . Register at <http://www.microhams.com/mhdc/microhams-digital-conference-2016/>

April 9. NWVRS Spring Swap Meet. See flier on page 12 for details.

April 9. Yakima Hamfest. Yakima, Washington. Selah Civic Center, 216 South 1st Street, Selah, WA. <http://yakimaamateurradioclub.com/yakima-hamfest/>

April 9 & 10. Communications Academy. South Seattle Community College, Seattle, WA. This is an ARRL sanctioned event. <http://commacademy.org/>

April 22. Idaho State Convention. Boise, ID. This is an ARRL sanctioned event. <http://voiceofidaho.org/> Contact: Larry Bickham, WA7ZZS. (208)453-1666, wa7zsz@arrl.net

May 1. Maple Ridge Swap Meet. Pitt Meadows, BC. http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event_ID=1774

May 14. Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Stanwood Middle School, Stanwood, WA. Contact: Fred Laun, w7pig@arrl.net <http://www.scarcwa.org/>

May 20-22. Washington State Search and Rescue Conference. Longview, WA. <http://www.wasarcon.org/>

May 20-22. River Radio Campout 2016. Pateros WA. Free "dry" camping along the Methow River at Pateros. Always the weekend prior to Memorial Day Weekend. Contact Roger W7CH w7ch@arrl.net (509)687-3919. <http://lakechelanradioclub.webs.com/> Flyer in PDF. (195K)

June 10-12. 48th Annual Apple City ARC Hamfest. Apple City ARC. Dryden Gun Club. Dryden, WA. <http://www.qsl.net/w7td/> .

June 11. KARS Hamfest. Kootenai Amateur Radio Society. Post Falls, ID. Always the 2nd Sat in June. For information contact Bonnie, KG6QQM, 208-683-2939 or KG6QQM@ARRL.net or John, n7ju@arrl.net

June 11. Port Ludlow ARC Annual TailGate'r. Port Ludlow, WA. <http://www.n7pl.org/>

Silent Keys

Bob Campbell



Robert Coleman “Bob” Campbell became a silent key on February 8, 2016. He is a veteran born in 1933 and was eight-three years old. Bob was a long time member of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society and past president. He was a spirited collector with a rough exterior and had much passion often to the dismay of other members until they discovered his inner good nature. He loved to share

information on local radio lore especially the fact that the best IF frequency for Portland radios is not 455 kHz because it is the second harmonic and is the same frequency as KEX at 1190 kHz.

Both Crosley and Long Radios held his special interest. He found and sold two Long Brothers fence chargers for one dollar and owned a Long Model F-5. Another passion of Bob was to collect short wave sets having plug in coils and he built several radios using plans published in the late 1930s that he bought in his youth and kept for seventy years. In addition, he restored Hudson cars and wore his blue Hudson insignia jacket to NWVRS meetings in the 1980s and 1990s and beyond until the jacket wore out.

Ramona his wife and daughter Ruth survive him. At meetings and swap meets, he leaves a void where he had a table next to his friend Ray VanderZanden another silent key. - Art Redman. (Photography by Chris Butler.)

Ed Pittaway

Fellow Society Member Ed Pittaway passed away on February 9. You can read his obituary notice on the funeral home's website:

<http://www.springerandson.com>. - Liles Garcia

Gordon Ormsby

Fellow Society member Gordon Ormsby passed away on February 29. He passed away at his home in Corvallis with his wife, Marion, and his family nearby. Our society made a \$100.00 donation to the Corvallis Community Band endowment fund, in his memory. - Mike McCrow

Gordon Phillips

My first memory of NWVRS is tied to my first meeting Gordon Phillips. Charlie and I attended a meeting at the Buena Vista Club House to learn more about the club; Gordon was the first member to greet us at the door. He introduced us to members until the meeting started steering us to sit in the front row. Gordon sat next to me and held my hand during the entire meeting. Being treated so warmly we joined that day. Later we shared awarding ribbons which he enjoyed, and finally I remember us getting in trouble as we sat on the sidelines at meetings when he shared comments in his 'whisper' voice that wasn't much of a whisper. The week before Gordon's move to be with his family, we visited him. I cried when saying goodbye knowing it would be our last time together. - Wendy Johnson-Kent

Longtime member Gordon Phillips has passed away. As those of you who knew him, he moved to Henderson Nevada several years ago and maintained his membership and kept in contact with some of us. His son called me informing me of his passing and that Gordon had asked him to let me know so I would inform the rest of our group. For those of our newer members who did not know Gordon, you would have loved him, he was a great person in so many ways. Gordon passed away peacefully and in relative comfort in the presence of family and friends, he was 98 years old.

I don't recall the year when I first became acquainted with Gordon but I'm pretty sure it was in the late 1980's. He was someone you immediately took a liking to. I really didn't get to know him well until he started hosting the "folding party" after Ed Buhite gave up his membership in NWVRS. He like, Kem Sypher served us drinks and snacks at the monthly get-to-gather when we would assemble the "Call Letter". He always had a project he had been working on or just completed and would proudly show us the progress or completed product or latest acquisition.

One particular project that sticks most in my mind was one that most of us would never attempt, a Philco model 20 cathedral. I remember when he first walked out of the basement of an estate sale in the early '90s carrying that radio. It looked more like a candidate for the garbage dump than a restoration project. Its chassis was solid rust, the cabinet had gotten so damp the top portion (normally tall and rounded) literally looked as if had melted like a piece of soft plastic that had been subjected to extreme heat. A few months later, Gordon presented that radio completely restored and I'll sure one of our NWVRS members has it in his (or her) collection.

I could go on with fond memories of Gordon's charm, wit and as a down to earth "Good Guy" but space here is limited. I'll just end with saying, he was a good friend, I have really missed him and the folding parties have not been the same since he moved from Portland. - Sonny Clutter

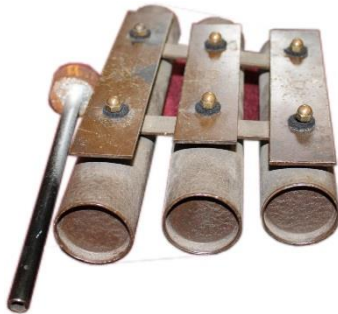
Monthly Feature

Rare and Uncommon Radios

Photography by Chris Butler

George Kirkwood

“Smithy”
By C. E. Smith



Blake Dietz Freedson '33-'34 2-stage TRF and NBC Chimes

Dick Howard



Dan Howard



Brian Toon

Meissner Shortwave and Preselector



Ed Tompkins

Philco Tropic 46-888

“Foreign Sales Only”

1946





Sonny Clutter

Standardyne "Multivalve"

Standard Radio



Brian Wegener

Peacock - La Grande

Battery Set



Liles Garcia

Hallicrafters S-20



Hammarlund Super-Pro
Fourteen Tubes

From Radio Company to Dealer

By Art Redman

Now Ready

Our blue print of the De Luxe Ultradyne, which is conceded the peer of all Superheterodynes. Complete parts for construction of this set—

\$97.00

Langhorne & Co.

316 Commonwealth Bldg.
11 North Sixth St.

C.S. Finley owner of the Langhorne Radio Company located at 11 NW Sixth Avenue (pre 1932 street addresses) between SW Stark and SW Washington announced the inauguration of a new radio service that offered an opportunity for radio enthusiasts to conduct their experiments under the supervision of qualified experts beginning December 11, 1927. The new system was a set building service providing all working equipment for the radio apparatus.

For a nominal charge, radio fans had access to the Langhorne Radio Company shops, where experiments of any character or a set of practically every design was worked out. All tools, schematic diagrams, and blue prints of practically all the

current circuits were available. In reality, they were Remler and other super-heterodyne kits. In brief according to Finley, "everything except the actual radio parts is included in the service". Their experts offered suggestions to set builders and to aid them in rectifying any trouble.

This part less statement by Finley was false. During 1927 they sold Remler parts, Madison Moore One Spot IF transformers, their own 48 kHz coil, Camfield coils and capacitors, Silver-Marshall coils, Stewart-Warner parts and Infra-dyne IF amplifiers.

The Langhorne laboratories hours operated from 8:30 am to 10 P.M. daily except Sundays. The operating rooms 314 and 316 were in the Old Commonwealth Building. The show rooms and technical laboratories were transferred down from the third floor during November 1927 to the ground floor. The original Commonwealth Building was razed in 1948 to make way for the current building at 421 SW Sixth Avenue.

The Langhorne Radio Company, in addition to conducting service work was the northwest service agents for Silver-Marshall, Camfield Radio of Chicago, and the Madison-Moore Radio of Denver, Colorado. They also sold the Remler nine-tube superhet kits, and along with their own assembled eight-tube superhet set the Deluxe Ultradyne.

The Company in January 1928 without founder Thomas J. Langhorne began radio repairs and sold Stewart-Warner sets giving up the radio assembly and kit building business when that market expired within a year. The chief reason for radio manufacturing assembly beginning in 1924 was to avoid RCA patent laws by assembling superheterodyne kits for the consumer and selling their own IF coils and radio.

“Fans to get Expert Help: Langhorne Encourages Building of Homemade Sets,”
From The Oregonian, December 11, 1927, page 57.

Swap Shop

Temporary Ads: Run for 3 months unless reset requested (each month adds one asterisk *)

Permanent / Semi- Permanent Ads: Marked with a hash mark #



Powerstat Variac \$35 OBO

Variable autotransformer made by Superior Electric. 120 Vac in and 0 to 140 volts ac out; rated at 7.5 amps. Great for testing appliances or old radios. New cord-works good. Contact Craig Wohlgenuth at 360-573-6616 or e-mail cw2engineering@comcast.net

** Wanted: A Dial Glass, with three bands and dial pointer for Philco 41-260 Console or any other Philco. Also in the June 2010 Call Letter I had an article on my Minerva Tropic Master Model W117 that I sold and I would like to buy it back. I will be at the April swap meet so anybody can bring the dial glasses or the Minerva.
Homer “Jim” Myers 1-509-525-6264

For Sale: to purchase NWVRS hats, jackets, name badges, or T-shirts, please contact Wendy Kent at (503) 281-9335

Special Sale: Large collection of high-end quality radios that range from mid-1920s to late 1950s and into the 1960s for sale. Only NWVRS, PSARA club members and personal guests are invited! For appointment call Steve Berglund 206-244-6428

Amplitrex tube testing service. Highly accurate tube testing with computer printout. Can test 211, 845 and other rare and hard to test tubes. Will trade testing for tubes, parts, etc. robertwstephens@frontier.com

**Letter to the Mayor of Oregon City
From President Mike McCrow**

This is a letter I sent to the Mayor of Oregon city, about the demolition of the Buena Vista house, after Dick Howard alerted me to the situation. - Mike

Mayor Dan Holladay
625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Mayor Holladay. One of our members has brought to my attention that the Buena Vista house has been slated to be demolished. Our society, the Northwest Vintage Radio society currently meets once a month at the Abernethy Grange Hall in Oregon City. During the late 1970's and early 80's our society met at the Buena Vista house. Many of our members from that era have very fond memories of meetings at the clubhouse. It would be a sad day for many of us when this place of history is lost forever. I realize that sometimes the cost to remodel or to make repairs on the building can be expensive. Possibly it could be recognized on the national historic list, as a historic building. That could mean that funding might be available to help with its restoration, and to save it from destruction. I would be interested in knowing if you and the city council could open this topic for discussion, and any outcome you may have arrived at. Thank you for your attention with this matter.

Sincerely,

Mike McCrow

18840 SW Butternut St.
Beaverton, OR 97078

tranny53@frontier.com

ANTIQUUE RADIO SHOW & SALE

Saturday, April 9th, 9:am - 1:pm



Presented by the
Northwest Vintage Radio Society

at the North Portland Eagles Lodge
7611 No. Exeter St. Portland, OR 97203

You can see and purchase vintage radios from the 1920s - '70s. Short wave, plastic, consoles, wood, radio tubes & audio equipment will be available.

Low cost tables are available for vendors as well as outside spaces. For more info, contact Charlie at (503) 891-4615.

AUCTION (near end of sale)



**FREE PARKING
FREE ADMISSION**

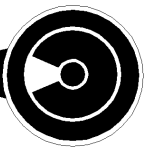
for more information, see our website www.NWVRS.org

**...it's always
a Sunny Day at...**

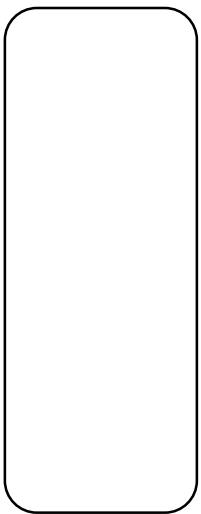
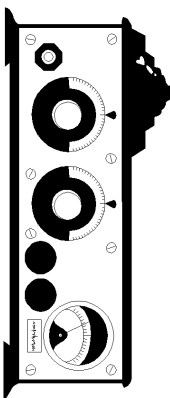


**In the Portland Metro area tune your
vintage sets to some of the
great music of the last 50 years.**

KKOV 1550 AM



NW Vintage Radio Society
P.O. Box 82379
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