

The

Call Letter

July 2017
Vol 43, #7



Koyo "Little Pal" Radio

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.

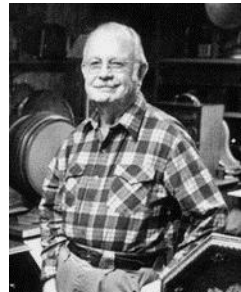
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

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

On the Cover

Koyo “Little Pal” portable radio Photography by Dan Howard

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Announcements

NWVRS has an opportunity to participate in the Maker Faire at OMSI on September 16-17. If you would like to volunteer to share your knowledge with the public and get more people interested in NWVRS, contact Brian Wegener at spudweg@gmail.com or 503-936-7612.

July Meeting

Our July meeting will be the annual Speed Feldschau Memorial Picnic and Radio Sale on July 8 and starts at 9:00 AM. Setup starts at 8:00 AM

Editor’s Note

Please have next month’s Call Letter Contributions in by **July 24**
>> **Thanks to newly retired member Kem Sypher for graciously hosting our Monday night folding parties!! Or as he puts it, “I am now officially retired and a full time bum!” Congrats Kem!!**
>> **& Thanks to Blake Dietze for assuming photography duties!!**

Visit our web site at:

www.nwvrs.com

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/nwvrs

NWVRS Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2017

President Pat Kagi called the June meeting of the NorthWest Vintage Radio Society to order at 9:30 AM. All present pledged their allegiance to our nation's flag. Louise Beckman attended today as a guest, and she brought four radios for sale today. Many thanks to Louise for bringing her radios to our Society!!

Brian Wegener needs some people to help him with our Society's participation in OMSI's "Maker's Faire ". Please let Brian know if you are interested. Members voted to have our Trash Bash at our August meeting. Also, several members volunteered to help with our July picnic. Pat would like to assemble a list of parts radios that members have. The group discussed whether we need security at our Swap Meets. We decided to talk about this more at future meetings. Damon brought two new books for our library.

Members gave Don Hanson a round of applause for his excellent job as our Call Letter editor. Members voted to approve the May meeting minutes as published in the June Call Letter. The Program Topic for our August meeting will be "Antennas". The carry-over topic is "Post-War Hallicrafters radios". The Program Topic today is "Foreign Radios". Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought. Several radios were auctioned to people present. Dick Howard gave a very interesting and informative presentation on "Early Portland Broadcasting". Members gave Dick a round of applause for his excellent presentation. The meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by Secretary Liles Garcia

Calendar of Events

July. 8th Annual KUH Pigroast. Springdale, WA. Contact Ray, (509)258-7078 cdknray@wildblue.net

July 8-9, 2017. Salmoncon. Pacific Northwest QRP Group annual weekend outing. North Bend, WA at Valley Camp. <http://valleycamp.org/> Contact Wayne McFee nb6m@att.net . <https://sites.google.com/site/pnwqrpqgroup/>

July 14, 15, & 16. 8th Annual Kuh Pig Roast. Springdale, WA. [Flyer in PDF](#). (226K)

July 14, 15, & 16. Glacier Waterton International Peace Park Hamfest. (Always the third weekend in July) Glacier Meadows Campground, 13 miles west of East Glacier on MT Hwy 2. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://www.gwhamfest.org/> [2015 Photo Gallery](#) .

July 15. Coos County Radio Club annual Hamfest and Swapmeet. North Bend, OR. <http://www.coosradioclub.net/> (Always the third Saturday in July)

July 22. Chehalis Valley ARC 19th Annual Pacific Northwest Ham Radio Tailgate Swapmeet. Lewis County Fairgrounds. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* [Flyer in PDF](#). (168K) Contact John Ellingson, K7OSK. k7osk@boatanchor.com. <http://www.cvars.org/>

July 28-30. 39th Annual KBARA HamOut and Meeting. Oldtown, ID. Contact Scott, KA7FVV at ka7fvv@yahoo.com . <http://www.kbara.org/> [Flyer in PDF](#) (177K)

August 4-6. 62nd Annual Pacific Northwest DX Convention. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Spokane, WA <http://pacificnwdxconvention.com/>

August 12. Arctic ARC Hamfest. Fairbanks, AK. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://www.k17kc.com> . Contact John S Slater, KL1AZ, (907)488-5209. hamfest@hughes.net

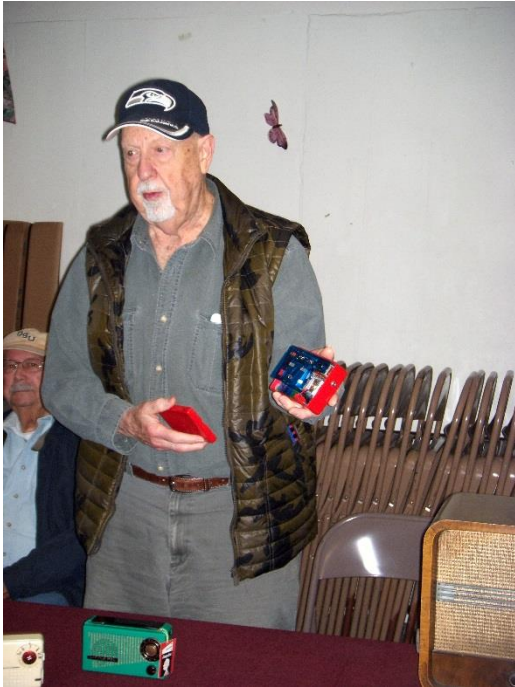
August 19. 7th Annual Clark County Amateur Radio Club (CCARC) Ham Fair, Vancouver, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* Salmon Creek American Legion Hall, 14011 NE 20th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98686. 9am-1pm. Contact Vanessa McCoy, KE7UBB, 360-601-7408 or 360-818-4807, clarkcountyhamfair@w7aia.org . www.w7aia.org/hamfair.htm [Flyer in PDF](#). (3.5 MB)

Monthly Feature: Foreign Radios

Photography by Blake Dietze and Dan Howard



Brian Toon - Philco branded import and Tesla with push buttons and dial



Sonny Clutter with Sharp (no speaker), Koyo "Little Pal" with four submini tubes, and Parrot. All from Japan.

Joe Burchyski

**Phillips
All Transistor**

**Used in Liberia,
1960s Peace Corps**

Made in Holland



Alan Shadduck

**Nordmende
"Sterling Transista G"
AM / FM / SW
1957 battery set
Made in W. Germany**

Family Heirloom

Tex Sloat – Northwest Radio Pioneer

By Dan Howard

In February, 1987, long-time society member Francis W “Tex” Sloat was profiled in the Sunday Oregonian. After rediscovering the story recently, I wanted to introduce (or reintroduce) Tex Sloat to the NVRS membership.

Tex Sloat was born in Hood River June 23, 1905. As a teenager, he got interested in radio during the earliest days of broadcasting. Tex came to Portland in 1924 to help move and rebuild station KQP, a forbearer of KOIN.

Although he was interested in radio throughout his life, he also served as a forest ranger, policeman, radio announcer, radio repairman, operated a movie theater, was a private pilot, and manufactured antennas. He eventually retired in 1977 after serving thirteen years as a deputy sheriff in Clark County, Washington. The Oregonian referred to him as a radio “engineer,” a title which he eschewed.

The Oregonian photo shows Tex in the basement of his La Center, WA home. Tex had an enviable vintage radio collection and was a member of the Antique Wireless Association and the NVRS for many years as well as many other wireless and ham clubs. He spent decades researching early northwest broadcasting and authored several *Call Letter* articles.

In his later years, Tex spent much of his time at a family cabin in remote British Columbia, where the second picture was taken in the early 1990’s. Tex is shown at the mic of his generator-powered station, operating W7AHK (portable) VE7.

Tex succumbed in January, 1999. More details of his life can be found on the DVD of his 1991 presentation to the NVRS in the Society library. The Oregonian article is available on line through the Multnomah County library.



Oregonian photo



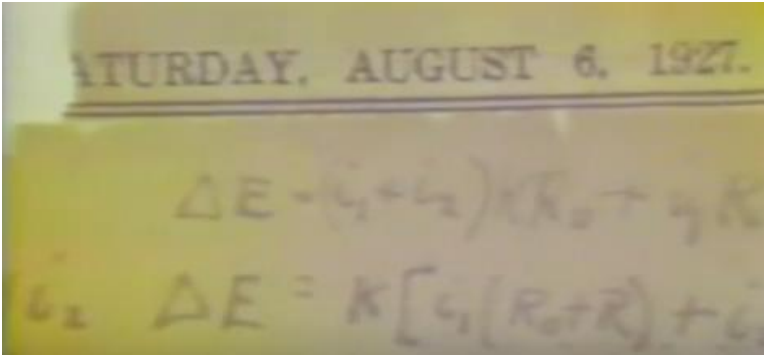
Tex at the mic

Source: “Radio Pioneer, Collector Still Hams It Up” by Leverett G Richards, The Oregonian 1 February 1987 p. B6.

Oregonian photo by Ed Vidinghoff

Photo of Tex at the mic provided by the Sloat family, courtesy of Dick Karman.

Negative Feedback by Sid Saul



Part One: Whenever a new radio schematic presents itself, I do become a little anxious. First the easy stuff. Is this single stage or push-pull? Then the more esoteric parts of the circuit. If it's FM I look for detector diodes. The automatic volume control remains my favorite, and if there's an eye tube, well it's better than ice cream before dinner. Hard to imagine my wasted youth shying away from schematics and theory altogether. It was like never learning to read, only looking at the pictures.

At thirteen with a fresh Novice ham license secretly praying I would never be called upon to understand this stuff. To this day my lack of knowledge doesn't get in my way of experimentation. Never stopped me at age six from destroying my dad's TV set, nor my uncle's pride-n-joy upright floor radio. Uncle Jack never trusted me alone with his radios after that. And my dad never let me play with the car polisher ever again. Even after my pleading that the picture tube looked dusty when I removed the back of the cabinet. 'Boy can I still feel it.' If only those picture tube wires didn't get coiled around the buffer wheel and ripping out the base of the picture tube. It never got in the way of near electrocution from my grandfather's sign transformer.

I was correct in my assumption. It was the perfect spark transmitter I was wishing for. With my long wire antenna and ground, every radio in the surrounding neighborhoods could hear it. But not without first throwing me across my bedroom, half stunned but

somehow still alive. I think I lost hearing for the day and some short term memory loss. Fast forward another fifty five years. Still a creature of habit, although more invincible today as my recent electrical shocks feel about average. My interest lately has been on secondary windings of audio output transformers. And not because they are safer than the primary. I look for a connection to the first audio tube cathode or perhaps grid. More about this in part two.

August 6, 1927, Harold Black, an engineer for Bell Labs was to make one of the most important discoveries of the twentieth century. For the better part of a decade he looked for a more efficient amplifier for long distance telephone. As phone lines traveled over greater distances, so the need for amplification, but leading to unwanted distortion. Black's discovery came to mind as he was riding to work on a commuter ferry. I should mention that he lived in Jersey and worked in New York. His idea for negative feedback happened the very instant the statue of liberty came into view. Not that he received inspiration from the lady, just a clarification. 'Quick' he thought. 'Get it on paper before the idea fades'.

But as fate would have it no paper to draw on was at hand. His first stop was to buy a newspaper. Sure enough there was a misprinted blank page in which to draw showing only the date. The date was important when applying for his patent. It took nine years for approval. The patent office didn't think his idea would work or had merit. Did I mention I think I lost my hearing? Before I forget, I carried that heavy transformer and the start of my mental impairment to school for show-n-tell. All the kids were bringing mundane items such as their fathers' favorite hunting rifles or war souvenirs. Remember it was still the fifties. Someone tipped off the janitor. Probably some safety issue before I could plug it in. To this day I remember the janitor saying to the principle in her office, 'This could start a fire and ruin every radio in the entire school'. Where my transformer spent the rest of the day. The kids sure missed a great show, and everyone made it home. Until next time from your aspiring radiotrician. Sid

SEA-PAC 2017 Show Report by Dan Howard

Started in 1982, this was the 35th annual SEA-PAC Ham Convention in Seaside, OR. Flea market set up started mid-day Friday June 2nd and the convention opened to the public on Saturday morning.

As the largest ham convention in the Northwest, your registration includes access to a number of commercial vendors, seminars, and special activities in addition to the flea market. We were blessed with perfect 70 degree beach weather this year and the building was packed all day Saturday.

Though I may have missed some in the crowd, I recall only about 6 NVRS members in attendance this year, with about the same number of PSARA members coming down from Washington. Prior years have seen a few more members buying and selling.

Per usual, there was a ton of ham radio equipment, old and new, telegraph keys, tubes, antennas, military electronics and test equipment. Collectable radios were scattered here and there, but the emphasis was definitely ham-related. My favorite radio was a very early National HRO complete with all the accessories in the original box.

The club from Astoria had some memorable signage this year including this notice on a Tektronics Type 531 oscilloscope AKA “Divorce-O-Meter.” Rumor has it that this item went home with a lucky NVRS member....





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NWVRS Picnic Features: Sweet Music from the 1930s

Big Band Music from the 1940s 'Happy Days' Music from the 1950s

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Dick Karman has been an NWVRS member since 1979

If you would like period entertainment or just music at a special event, indoors or out, call **Reliving Radio** for availability. He brings everything *except the audience*.



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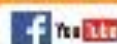


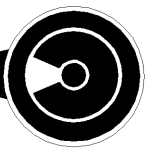
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of the
Good Guys**

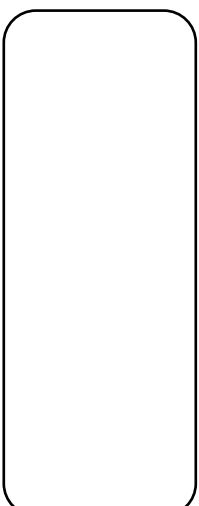
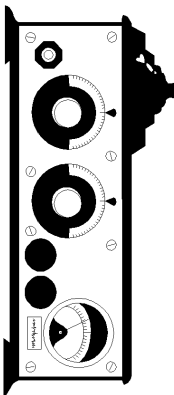
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