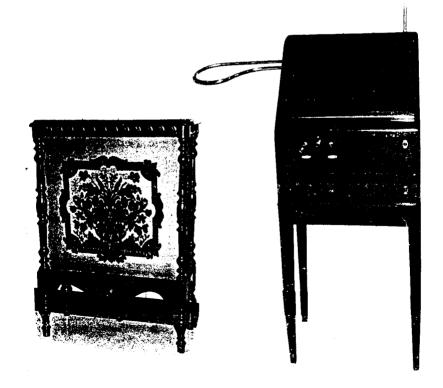


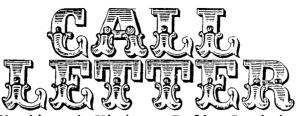
VOLUME 15

JANUARY 1989

NUMBER 1

### RCA THEREMIN





The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 NWVRS has been dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Antique Radio & Wireless apparatus.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society meets at the Buena Vista Club House (Atkinson Park) 16th & Jackson Street, Oregon City, Oregon. (Note: take Washington St. to 15th, up 15th hill to Jackson, turn left to 16th).

Meetings are held at 10:00 AM on the Second Saturday of each month except for summer vacation in July and August. The meetings are an opportunity to exchange information and advice. Annual Dues:

Regular Membership.....\$15--Associate Membership.....\$12--Renewals are due on January First

\*\*\*\*\*\* 1989 NWVRS OFFICERS & STAFF \*\*\*\*\*\* PRESIDENT.....DAN HOWARD....503-761-7799 VICE PRESIDENT....DOUG DAVEE.....503-752-1648 TREASURER...... ED CHARMAN.....503-654-7387 SECRETARY......NORRIS JACKSON.503-642-5625 

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* NWVRS MAILING ADDRESSES \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Membership Applications & Renewals: Northwest Vintage Radio Society P.O. Box 02379 Portland, Oregon 97202

All Newsletter Business/Information:

4041 NE Wistaria Drive Portland, Oregon 97212

Call Letter



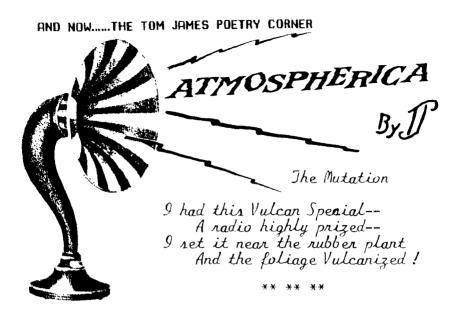
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********* 1989 STAFF *********
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The CALL LETTER and The HORN OF PLENTY are
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The Call Letter and The Horn Of Plenty are
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memberships. NWVRS/PSARA are not responsible

for any buying /selling transactions

incurred, or for any other use of the contents of this publication.





Question of Jime

Where are the Bilkies,
Or hanstiehls of yesteryear?
The Laurels or the (helseas,
Some folks held so dear?

The Insulines and Sentinels,

The Jesse Trench, Deluxe,

The Amscos and Distantones,

And the Murads? Gadzooks!

Do you wonder if the Sonys,

Hitachis, or Sanyo,

Will ever stir the memories,

As those names of Long ago?

Remember When---

your wife said the batteries are dead, and it meant a trip to the store?



### Radio Waves

#### By Dick Karman

The year was 1922. The Roaring Twenties had begun. Warren Harding was in the middle of his short term in the office of President of the United States. The Teapot Dome scandal was "brewing" in the Southwest. The nation could still look over its shoulder and see reflections of World War I. But there was light on the horizon. As much as it is today, technology was changing the way men thought and what they expected of the future.

Radio was the technology of the day. It had grown from *sparks across the ether* to commercial communications. Tragedies like the Titanic, only 10 years earlier, had already been averted by it's use.

The Scientific American, under managing editor Austin Lescarboura published a "popular guide to practical radio-phone reception and transmission and to the dot-and-dash reception and transmission of the radio telegraph, for the layman who wants to apply radio for his pleasure and profit without going into the special theories and intricacies of the art."

This smartly-bound work titled <u>Radio for Everyone</u>, is a "must own" for radio historians. Under the heading of With an Eye to the Future, Lescarboura accurately predicted:

"The distribution station is to be equipped with the latest developments of the Bell System, including the use of electrical filters and new methods whereby, as the business grows, several wave lengths can be sent out simultaneously from the same point, so that the listening station may receive at will any one of several services sent out at the same time.

"The Telephone organization will provide channels through which any one with whom it names a contract can send out his own programs, just as the company leases its long-distance telephone wire facilities for the use of newspapers, banks, and other concerns."

This type of foresight and observation is responsible for the progress that radio has made down through the years.

To the men and women of that decade and other decades we should be grateful. Sixty-seven years later few of them are alive to receive our thanks, but without the development of radio none of the technological advances today would be possible.



### **PSARA Meeting Minutes**

Seattle, Washington Sunday DEC. 11, 1988

The Business Meeting was attended by twentyfour members and two second time guests who were voted in as new members; they are Mr. Bob Dye of Bremerton and Mr. Larry Keen of Seattle.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>: Bert Whitaker compiled changes to the Membership List; these changes are listed on page 7 of this issue. Eric Lofquist mentioned availability of club name tags; a list was, and will be again, circulated for interested members.

Steve Von Talge mentioned the low attendance of the last contest; a number of possible remedies were advanced. Matt Thornton suggested to mention our contests in the IEEE Bulletin to attract visitors.

NEW BUSINESS: The President brought up the fact that the NWVRS of Portland, Ore. at their Dec. 10, 1988 meeting voted in favor of a resolution that would make members of PSARA eligible to membership in NWVRS and vice versa. (this was clarified by telephone after this PSARA meeting had adjourned, to mean: A Full, Charter or Hororary member of one club would be regarded as an Associate in the other; conversation between Jerry Brannon, PSARA President and Dan Howard, NWVRS President). A number of proposals were made by members in general support of this concept and were agreed upon in general terms. However, in view of above telephone conversation after the meeting and possible minor conflicts with PSARA by laws this matter will have to be taken up again.

John Schneider motioned for a PSARA/NWVRS joint membership list which was agreed upon by the membership. Bert Whitaker motioned to cut off from membership any members not paid up by the February meeting of each year; seconded by Steve Von Talge and passed. Ken Korhonen requested funds for a club photo album; approved by members.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Max A. Kaplan, Secretary PSARA



## **PSARA Coming Events**

Shoreline Museum Seattle Washington

January 15, 1989

11:00 AM Swap Meet

1:00 PM Business Meeting

Presentation: Bert Whitaker on "Trouble Shooting".

Show and Tell: open.

February 19, 1989

11:00 AM Swap Meet

1:00 PM Business Meeting

Presentation: John Schneider on Refinishing Radio Cabinets.

Show and Tell: open.

March 19, 1989

11:00 AM Swap Meet

Annual PSARA Auction.

Times to be announced later.

For additional PSARA information contact:

Max Kaplan 206-851-4187.

14902 84th Ave. Ct. NW.

Gig Harbor, Washington 98335

\*\*\*\* PSARA ROSTER CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS

New Phones:

Bill Dyment, 206-782-3563 John Schneider, 206-527-3198

Dan Yerkovich, 206-284-9564

New Address: Frank Banks

206-941-2965

28232 27th Ave. S.

Federal Way, Washington 98003

\*\*\*\*\*\* P S A R A WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS (and re-instatements)

Bob Dye

8709 Karolena Pl. N.E.

Bremerton, Wa. 98310

206-692-0220

Colin Halgren

2205 Oakes Ave.

Everett, Wa.

206-252-3892

WELCOME Larry Keen

P.O. Box 20548 Seattle, Wa. 98102 206-641-7656



# Ole!

(acquisitions)

Ted Benson

Radiola 20 & 100A speaker

Thompson 8-70 Concert Grand 6 Tube Neutrodyne

A-K Hornspeaker

Jerry Brannon

Kemper K-5-2

Radiola 25

Sonny Clutter

Grebe Console

Dave Dintenfass

Peirce 260 Wire Recorder

Ken Korhonen

Emerson Projection T.V.

Ernie Neumann

1946 RCA 630 TV

Jerry Talbott

1931 Crosley 124M Grandfather Clock radio

1938 Philco console 38-116, 15tube

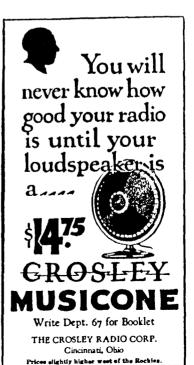
1946 Coronado 43-8190, white bakelite & blue marbeled plastic trim.

#### QUIETING NOISY ELECTRIC CLOCKS

Servicemen may be confronted with noisy clock motors when servicing combination clock radios. Many times this difficulty is due simply to lack of lubricant. The following method is offered as a cure for sealed units.

Remove the sealed motor from the frame and mount it above a 60 watt lamp bulb. Place a few drops of oil around the gear on the motor unit. When the heat drives the air within the motor out, as indicated by small bubbles, remove the bulb. Cooling will draw in the oil. Several trys will quiet the most grinding ones and will make them run smoothly.

E. E. Schultz, Jr. Estes Park, Colorado





### THE FIRST ELECTRONIC SYNTHESIZER by Lila & Sonny Clutter

Most of us in our youth took music lessons, be it violin, plano etc. But what if Theremin lessons were sugggested? How many of us would know what a Theremin was or how it was played? The Theremin could be called the first electronic synthesizer. The unit with its legs stood about 4' high (excluding the antenna) in a solid mahogany cabinet. The front of the cabinet is sloped toward the rear forming a music rack, the "pitch" antenna extends vertically from the right rear and the volume antenna forms an open loop on the left side of the cabinet. The electronics is reminiscent of a modified Radiola 17 chassis with the tuning capacitor removed, an unusual tube lineup and two large "tank type" coils on either side. The Theremin was supplied with the beautiful Radiola 106 speaker.

The inventer, Leon Theremin, was a young physicist born in Russia. He came to the U.S. in 1927 to demonstate his new musical instument which was played by the motion of the musical and the space surrounding the instument. Leon met and collaborated with a young lady (also from Russia). The lady was Clara Rockmore a child prodigy who begin playing the plano at age 2. After extensive touring of Europe she ended up in New-York City and later performed in concert as a "Thereminist". Most concerts were for the rich and fashionable and were attended by invitation only.

In 1927 Thereimin licensed RCA to manufacture the Theremin. RCA's kickoff promotion sought to assure the public that anyone could learn to play this instrument. This proved not to be the case, you see the Theremin, played without reference to fingerboard, keys, or frets required the artist to have perfect pitch in addition to precise control over finger, hand and body motion. For these reasons the Theremin proved to be the most difficult of all instruments to play. Thus the Theremin was not a commercial success. Few musicians knew the basic fundamenmentals for giving lessons. After RCA's initial production of a few hundred units, the Theremin was discontinued.

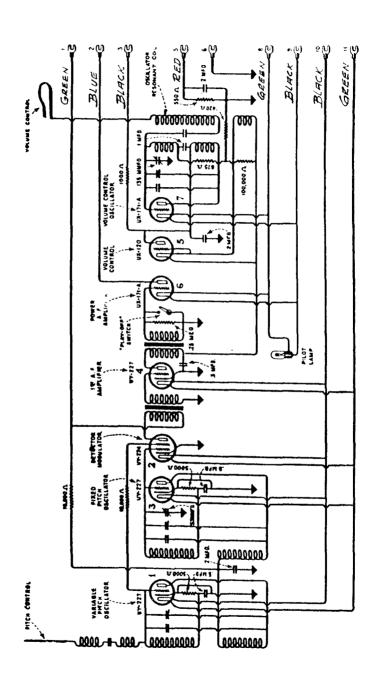
At this point Professor Theremin perceived the importance of developing artists and professional playing techniques. Clara Rockmore was just the person to achieve this. In the early 30's she gave her first solo performance and held the audiances spellbound. She went on to be a guest performer and solo artist with many symphony orchestra's for the next 20 years.

Although Professor Theremin's invention was not a huge success, it was no less a marvel of engieering for its time. Professor Theremin, without the aid of an oscilliscope, understood how the complex wavesnaping characteristics afected sound. He incorporated a pure sine wave oscillator to control the volume of his instrument and harmonic rich waveforms to produce the sound of the Theremin. The music of his invention can be heard in many of the old movies, popular tunes and even TV themes.

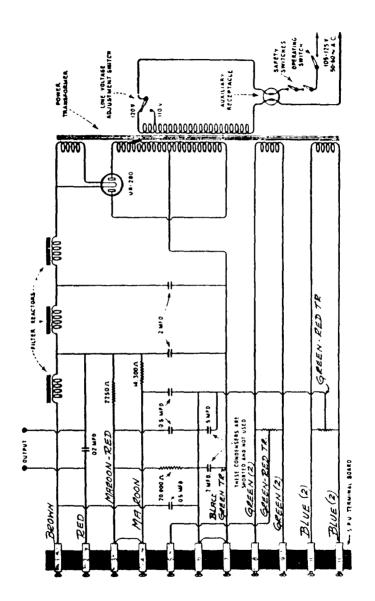
THE THEREIMIN IN CONCERT?---YES, Clara Rockmore can be heard on compact disc, titled: The ART of the THEREMIN WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE THEREMIN? The author's welcome your visit or phone (503) 254-9296.

Information for THE FIRST ELECTRONIC SYNTHESIZER was in part, taken from the pamphlet supplied with the compact disk, THE ART OF THE THEREMIN, Delos International 2210 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90403.











# SWAP SHOP

### WANTED .....

Zeniths: Royal 2000, Super VIII, 15-U-273, Grebe sets and parts, Brunswick Panatrope & Superhetrodynes, G.M. 140 Cabinet or set, G.M. 211A Chassis, Rider 21,22 & 23.

Edwin Buhite 503-288-9727

4041 N.E. Wistaria Dr. Portland, Oregon 97212 Blue type 26 tubes, 3 in good working condition. Mark Campbell (no phone)

1836 N.E. 169th Seattle, Washington 98155

Western Electric model 300 or 202 desk phones. Wire recorder casettes for Peirce model 260. Dave Dintenfass 206-784-4803

7901 8th Ave N.W. Seattle Washington 98117 Akai Tape Decks with cross field heads, all or parts. good quality turntables, casette decks, any "EKCO" (British) radios or parts.

Colin Hallgren 206-252-3892

2205 Oakes Ave. Everett, Washington 98201

Zeniths with robot or clam shell dial.

Also E.H. Scott and McMurdo-Silver.

Zenith cabinet for model 12U158 or 12U159. Art Corbus (phone # below).

Grunow 801A or cabinet only. ETCs for sale Darrel Forsberg 206-363-0754.

12209 First Ave. N.W. Seattle, Wa. 98177 Chevrolet 1947-1953 pickup radio.

Jerry Brannon 206-854-4234.

22324 100th Ave. S.E. Kent, Wa. 98031

Kinescope Recorder (device used to record TV programs on 16mm film, prior to the advent of video tape). "Skychief" radios (1940s portables) colored plastic, catalin and colored leatherette radios, Scott radios of the 30s & 40s, pre 1950 TV sets and literature, Sams 1-100, Mirror and art deco radios Sparton mirror-in-lid TV, blue OlA, Zenith Stratosphere. Ken Korhonen. 206-932-9363.

Portable radios Raytheon or Magnavox (tube or transistor) Zenith 200, Eico RA-6, Sony TR63, Wiltron 2001. Jerry Talbott (phone # below).

Information or pictures of Grebe consoles,
Early TVs (prior to 1950) early Magnavox "A"
tube. Murdock "55" headphones.
Sonny Clutter (phone # below)

\*\*\* WANTED \* Arvin Metal Radio using 2 or 3 tubes. purchase or have trades including Sparton Mirror Glass 1567 chassis, 6V car radios, Arvins etc. Dan Howard 503-761-7799 2940 SE 118th Ave. Portland, Oregon 97266 5 ALE..... Kennedy 281 Receiver and 521 Amplifter \$650--Zenith Super VII \$195--(Vintage Radio pg 116). Riders Radio Manuals Vols I-XXII (22 Vol.) with Index. make offer. Jim Barrows 206-337-4880 15121 41st Ave S.E. Bothell, Washington 98012 Queen Anne Cabinet Speaker for battery set (\$?) Glen Bricker 503-942-3717 1030 N. 11th Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424 Motorola Modified Mobile VHF Transmitter & Receiver (1940's, lots of Loctal tubes) \$25--Heathkit Mohican 1962 Shortwave gen. coverage solid state 12VDC \$35--, RCA Q34 export model short wave, wood, \$40--. Max A. Kaplan 206-851-4187 (daytime) 14902 84th Ave. Ct. NW Gig Harbor, Wa. 98335 Radiola 33 with speaker \$100--Matt Thornton 206-284-4624 4201 W. Bertona St. Seattle, Washington 98199 Hoffman beautiful 21" 1953 blonde console TV with doors. Looks & works like new \$75--Sonny Clutter 503-254-9296 14407 NE Fremont St. Portland, Oregon 97230 E.H.SCOTT 16A 28-tube AM-FM exc. cond. Sell or Trade: (see want ad). Art Corbus 206-784-2482 or home 206-783-6151 5704 11th Ave., NW Seattle, Washington 98107 Precise 300 1950 Oscilloscope, 7JP1, Man. \$45--Phillips Philetta 51 german set non exp. \$50--Radiola III \$50--, Sparton 1567 con. \$150--, Zenith 980 con. \$175--, Zenith 78342 \$175--, misc. Transistor sets. Sell or Trade. Jerry Talbott 503-649-6717 or 627-1675 1440 SW 239th Ave. Hillsboro, Oregon 97123 Zenith 4R Mint \$450--, Kolster 6J \$75--Dick Howard 503-775-6697

9999 SE Frenchacres Dr. Portland, Ore. 97266

Swap .....

A.K. Horn Speaker for Thompson Horn

Ted H. Benson 503-752-5859
675 NW Stewart Pl. Corvallis, Oregon 97330

Scott 1931 "All-Wave" (two dial) mint original finish, Warrington cabinet, owner's manual, plug-in coils. Trade for: European pre-WWII radios, German military WWII receivers, or American 1920's big name sets, I.G. DeForest-Paragon-Tuska-Kennedy-Grebe-Federal or similar of Equal value. Max Kaplan (phone # above).

A.K. Cathedral, Rek-O-Kut Challenger lathe,
Bogen MXM Mixer-preamp with loZ mike in.
Edwin Buhite (see want ad & phone # above)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 OREGON CITY NWURS 10:00 RM Meeting
15 SEATTLE WASHINGTON PSARA 11:00 AM Swap Meet 1:00 PM Meeting	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	January 1989			

# **EDITORIAL**

As the NWVRS Minutes indicate the question of paid advertising in this newsletter has not yet been resolved. Your editor has repeatedly asked for clarification of rates and agreements.

I've recently learned that the 1988 rates were \$2.50 per month. This situation is unrealistic. The December NWVRS meeting resolved nothing on this matter.

PSARA has made their wishes clear on this matter! Your editor concurs with PSARA!

During 1988 Postage and Printing costs increased to the level of 85c per copy in June. Merger of the newsletters have made it possible for your editor to take advantage of quantity discounts. Presently, the cost is close to 50c per copy. The consolidation of newsletters is therefor saving NWVRS about \$42-- per month. Those folks in NWVRS who want additional paid advertising should consider locating some free printing and helping with the newsletter.

Your editor considers that JA MAC PRODUCTS has a permanent place in the Call Letter, they have been with us at least twelve years (longer than most of our present members). Your present editor has no plans to make room for any additional paid advertising.

January 1989 (the 169th issue) begins the 15th year of publishing the CALL LETTER every month and the 10th Year of THE HORN OF PLENTY. So far as we know, this is the oldest West Coast antique radio club publication.

E.J.B.



## **NWVRS Meeting Minutes**

Oregon City, Oregon December 10, 1988

The Dec. 10,1988 meeting of the NWVRS was called to order at 10:11 AM by President Dan Howard. The TREASURER'S REPORT was given and accepted with a current balance of \$1513.41. Guests as well as new members were welcomed.

OLD BUSINESS: Doug Davee inquired about the status of the club radio project (the project was initiated during the June 13, 1981 meeting by Don Iverson. By unanimous vote, a five tube TRF battery set would be constructed in the form of the club logo design). Judging by member response, the club radio project has remained inactive for some time. Call Letter editor Edwin Buhite addressed current advertising rates. Edwin and other members feel that the current rate is inadequate. Recruiting additional advertisers should be pursued also. No immediate formal action on this issue to report. Club name tags are available from Don Copeland.

NEW BUSINESS: Cross-participation has occured

between the PSARA and the NWVRS with positive results. A motion was made by Edwin Buhite to grant regular members of both clubs to participate in each club's contests, events and other non-voting activities. Second to the motion was made by Jerry Talbott. Motion passed by unanimous vote. President Dan Howard will advise the PSARA President of our action.

Ted Benson suggested putting the area of interest of each member on the club roster. Edwin Buhite remarked that the PSARA has in use a matrix for this purpose and will report on more details in the next meeting. Glen Bricker announced that a broadcast station in Cottage Grove would like to recruit two experienced radio collectors to participate in an interview program. Two programs have been scheduled for Dec. 16 and Dec. 19 at 8:30 AM. Participants would share their knowledge of vintage radio during this 100th anniversary in the celebration of radio.

The election of 1989 club officers was held.

The results as follows: President: Dan Howard

Vice President: Doug Davee

Treasurer: Ed Charman

Recording Secretary: Norris Jackson

Next month's contest category will be for the most challenging restoration project. Please bring a "before" picture if available. The 100th anniversary of radio was celebrated by the NWVRS with several wonderful radio displays by Ed Charman, Ray Nelson, Jerry Talbott, Ed Buhite Sonny Clutter, Dan Howard and Larry Jochim. A delicious decorated cake was provided by President Dan Howard and Jerry Talbott Brewed His special blend of coffee.

LEADS AND NEEDS: were given. The membership consoled Ray Nelson For missing that catalin set at an estate sale for \$22.50!

MEETING ADJOURNED at 10:51.

Norris W. Jackson, NWVRS Secretary

## JA MAC PRODUCTS SPEAKER RECONING ALL MAKES J.B.L. University Altec E-V

High Fidelity Auditorium Speakers, Horns 503-252-2929 8600 NE Sandy Blvd

Portland, Or 97220

### **NWVRS** Coming Events

January 14, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Contest Bring your most challenging completed restoration project AC or Battery set of Pre-1940 Vintage.

February 11, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Contest Radios-Parts-Accessories

Manufactured by Northwest Companies March 11, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Swap Meet Noon: Swap Meet ends.

April 8, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Display-Talk Documentation: Collecting & Preservation May 13, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Swap Meet Noon: Swap Meet ends.

June 10, 1989

10:00 AN Business Meeting July.....Summer Vacatiom August.....Summer Vacation Sept 9, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Annual Auction October 14, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Annual Contest November 11, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Swap Meet

December 9, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Annual Election of Officers.

#### KNOB PULLER

Removing stubborn knobs has always presented a problem. The most effective means I have found is to use a shoestring. A shoestring will fit easily behind the knob without scratching the cabinet and has the strength to do the job.



Gunderson's Burlington, lowa

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Speaker Reconing & Cabinet Restoration

### I ASSIC DADIO S



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