

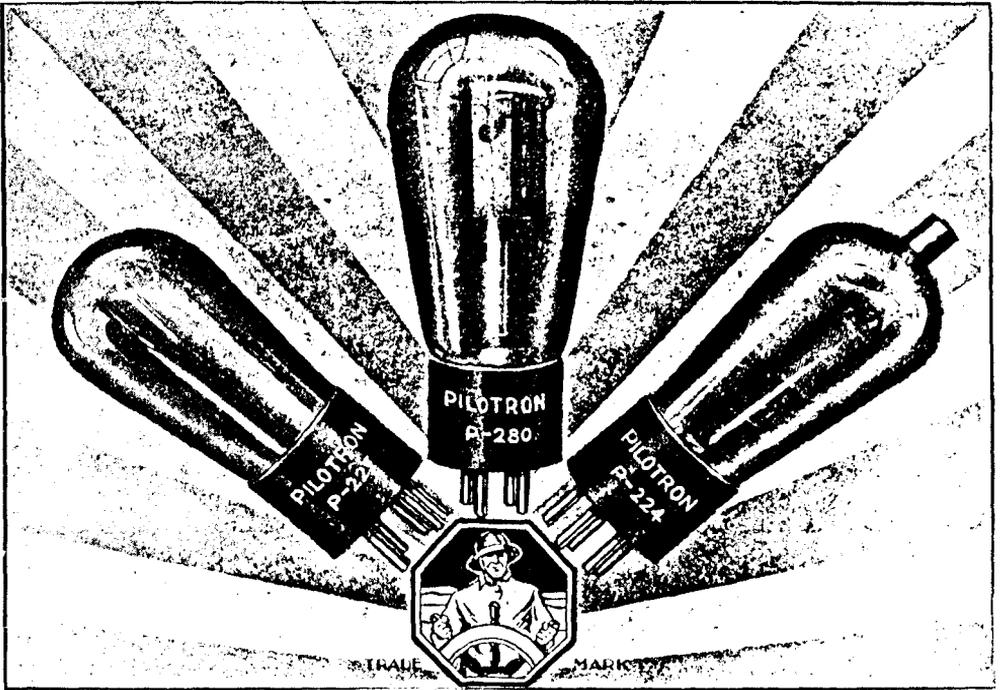


# CALL LETTERS

VOLUME 15

MARCH 1989

NUMBER 3



## RADIO PILOTRON TUBES

"Endorsed by Professionals"

# CALL LETTER

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

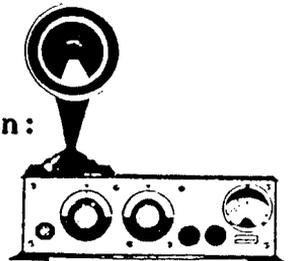
## \*\*\*\*\* NWVRS MAILING ADDRESSES \*\*\*\*\*

### Membership Applications & Renewals:

Northwest Vintage Radio Society  
P.O. Box 82379  
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

### All Newsletter Business/Information:

Call Letter  
4041 NE Wistaria Drive  
Portland, Oregon 97212-2963



# ▼ Contents

| ITEM                                     | PAGE  |
|--|-------|
| Pilotron Tubes.....                      | 1     |
| Introduction.....                        | 2     |
| Contents.....                            | 3     |
| Atmospherica from April 1979.....        | 4,6   |
| Radio Waves by Dick Karman.....          | 5     |
| NWVRS Swap Meet.....                     | 6     |
| Letter, Information Needed.....          | 7     |
| PSARA Meeting Minutes & Welcome.....     | 8     |
| PSARA Announcements & Coming Events..... | 9     |
| PSARA Auction.....                       | 10    |
| March Calendar.....                      | 11    |
| Ole!.....                                | 12    |
| NWVRS Meeting Minutes.....               | 13    |
| Swap Shop.....                           | 14,15 |
| NWVRS President's Message.....           | 16    |
| NWVRS Coming Events & Welcome.....       | 17    |
| JA MAC PRODUCTS .....                    | 18    |
| Radio Estate Sale.....                   | 18    |
| Radio Owl (H.O.P. only).....             | 19    |
| NWVRS Ads (C.L. only).....               | 19    |

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The CALL LETTER and The HORN OF PLENTY are published monthly as the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society and the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association. The Call Letter and The Horn Of Plenty are available only as part of the NWVRS/PSARA memberships. NWVRS/PSARA are not responsible for any buying /selling transactions incurred, or for any other use of the contents of this publication.

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# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## The Jonah Set

Have you ever heard the tale;  
Partly funny, wierd, and sad,  
About that jinx Majestic,  
That the Jacob's family had?

It came the thirteenth, Friday;  
On Sunday they gathered 'round  
To hear their favorite service  
From a station there in town.

All they heard was a roaring,  
The static, a fearful din.  
There wasn't a station going  
That could drive a signal in!

And yet-- when church was over--  
From two hundred miles away,  
You could hear the jazz-band playing  
From Spokane's K & A .

The thing was temperamental,  
And had that evil quirk--  
Whenever they wanted a program  
It always seemed to shirk.

Papa reached into the back  
To adjust a tube, when BOOM!  
He found himself a-sittin'  
Across the living room!

(continued on page 6)



# Radio Waves at the Experimenter

---

By Dick Karman

## Transformer on Pulsating Current

**Question:** Can you use a one-half K.W. transformer-coil and Gernsback electrolytic interrupter to good advantage on a pulsating current, due to the irregular speed of the generator, with a maximum of 110 volts?

**Answer:** You should have no trouble in operating your one-half K.W. transformer-coil with this interrupter on the pulsating current. A little patience in adjusting the interrupter will possibly be required before obtaining the maximum results. The current obtained at the secondary terminals will be alternating. If the transformer is built efficiently, it can be operated directly by the pulsating current without the use of the interrupter. In the latter case a suitable resistance or impedance should be inserted in the primary circuit for controlling the amount of current consumed.

This tidbit was extracted from the The Electrical Experimenter of November 1916. The page number was 512, and the question was asked by Roland Stroup of Oklahoma. This is the earliest magazine that this writer owns and it continues to be one of the most enjoyable.

The Electrical Experimenter boasted the largest circulation of any electrical publication of it's time. The subscription rate was changing from \$1 per year to \$1.50 per year and Mr. Gernsback himself was the president of the publishing company.

Some of us may not know what an interrupter is. In researching it, the question is a simple one. I knew them, in the thirties to be called vibrators: or motor driven devices made to change direct current to alternating.



*(Atmospherica, cont. from page 4 )*

*Their son was helping mama  
Move furniture round one day,  
When that heavy monster toppled  
And broke his foot, they say!*

*Papa Jacobs had had enough,  
And he told his family so.  
There was no doubt about it,  
"Old Maj" would have to go!*

*He gave it to his hired hand--  
(The loss made the old boy wince)  
And that dad-gummed old receiver  
Has played perfect ever since!*



NORTHWEST  
VINTAGE RADIO  
SOCIETY

PRESENTS

S  
W  
A  
P  
M  
E  
E  
T

Location: Buena Vista Club House  
16th and Jackson  
Oregon City, Oregon

When: Saturday, March 11, 1989  
from 8:30 A.M. to Noon. Note: The  
Swap Meet will be interrupted by  
a brief business meeting.





THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
BUILDING 30  
(602) 621-2585

January 12, 1989

M. A. Kaplan  
Puget Sound Antique Radio Association  
14902 - 84th Avenue Ct. NW  
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Dear Mr. Kaplan:

I am presently seeking information for a book I am writing on the history of the portable radio. Perhaps it might be possible to place a request for information in your publication, as follows:

Information Needed

As you may know, after the Second World War, Sylvania and Raytheon attempted to promote their subminiature tubes for use in tiny pocket portables. I am seeking information about any such sets that were actually made and sold to the public, especially in the late forties. Also, I would like to know of persons who have actual sets that contain subminiature tubes—pocket portable or otherwise (such as the Ekeradio, Privat-Ear, Crosley JM-8, and Hastings FM, Jr.—all from the fifties).

So, far my research indicates that few or none of the major radio makers built tiny personal portables with subminiature tubes. I am eager to hear from people who worked in these companies who might know why they decided against making such radios.

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Schiffer  
Professor

MBS/ds



# PSARA MEETING MINUTES

---

Seattle, Washington  
Sunday February 19, 1989

The Business Meeting was attended by thirty members plus six guests: Mr. R.M.Gray of Renton, Mr. V.Vogt of Seattle, Mr. C.Wallace of Seattle, Mr. K.Lamond of Auburn, Mr. P.Ivester and Mr. E.Beetz both of Seattle.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The membership voted to have the constitutional by-laws reviewed and ammended where necessary. A committee of three: Jerry Brannon, Lee Ray & Bert Whitaker, was established for this purpose.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The times for the March Auction were established as follows: The Silent Auction begins at 11:00 AM and bidding ends at 11:45 AM. The Oral Auction begins at 12:30 PM. A minimum value of \$1 per item was agreed upon.

John Schneider motioned that any moneys realized from any auctioned museum property be used toward the purchase of a lockable, secure library cabinet, voted in by present members. Several ideas were advanced as to what type of material should be admitted to the museum. Members voted to screen incoming museum material to decide what should be admitted. A committee was established to screen present museum material and ready excess material for auction.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**



Max A. Kaplan,  
Secretary PSARA

## WELCOME

PSARA WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

Ken Lamond  
1902 R St. NE  
Auburn, Washington 98002



# PSARA ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

1 **THE RCA CATACOMB REPRINT:** The following members' copies are in and should be picked up from Art Corbus, \$2.90 each. Dick Mueller, Ron Sallabedra, Bobby Korpi, Lee Egnew, Lauren Countryman, Greg Izzi and Bill Dymont.

2. **CLUB LIBRARY BOOKS FOR TRADE:** Lee Williams announces the following material as excess and up for trade: Radio Riders, Vol. VI one each, Vol. VII three each, Vol. VIII three each, Vol. IV two each, Vol. X two each. At the same time the library is short on Vols. XIV, XV, XVII, XX, XXI, XXII & XXIII. In addition: Rider, Vols. I-V Abridged and Video Tapes: "THE RADIO COLLECTOR" still are missing - please return as soon as possible. Contact Lee directly for any action on above items.

3. Lee Williams, Museum Curator, announces that a general clean-up of the museum is in progress. Many items that do not fall into a 1920-1930s RADIO category will be culled out for auction. If you have an item(s) in the museum that you wish to keep, inform Lee of this as soon as possible. Lee's phone is 206-481-9415. Lee says it would help greatly, if you would tag your museum items with your name. Any future items for the museum will be screened; please-do not place any items into the museum without letting Lee know about it.

## PSARA Coming Events

Shoreline Museum Seattle Washington

March 19, 1989

11:00 AM Swap Meet & Annual PSARA Auction begins with the Silent Auction bidding.

11:45 AM Silent Auction bidding ends.

12:30 PM Oral Auction, Auctioneer John Aikin

April 16, 1989

11:00 AM Swap Meet

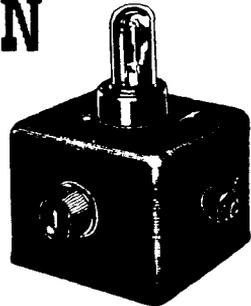
1:00 PM Business Meeting  
Presentation: open  
Show & Tell: open.

For additional PSARA information contact:

Max Kaplan 206-851-4187  
14902 84th Ave. Ct. NW.  
Gig Harbor, Washington 98335



# PUGET SOUND ANTIQUE RADIO ASSOCIATION



## AUCTION

Shoreline Museum  
N. 175th & Linden Ave.  
Seattle, Washington

(ONE BLOCK WEST OF AURORA AVE. OR ONE  
MILE WEST OF INTERSTATE 5. EXIT #176)

Sunday, March 19, 1989  
11:00 A.M. Silent Auction  
12:30 P.M. Oral Auction



# March 1989

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

|  |    |    |    |    |    |  |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|--|
|  |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11<br>OREGON CITY<br>NWVRS<br>Swap Meet<br>8:30 AM     |
| 12   | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 CORVALLIS<br>OREGON<br>RADIO<br>SALE<br>SEE PAGE 18 |
| 19 SEATTLE<br>WASHINGTON<br>PSARA<br>Auction<br>11:00 AM | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25   |
| 26   | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |

YESTERDAY U.S.A.

All of your favorite old  
 Programs and Music are still  
 on the Satellite. Satcom 4,  
 transponder 15, audio 6.2



# *Old!*

---

(acquisitions)

Douglas DaVee

1924 Ware model TV Reflex Neutrodyne  
using three 199 tubes in a Gramophone  
style console.

Gerhard Watzig

Bendix 55L2U Radio in fine condition.

Jerry Talbott

1935 Fada 170 console, original shipping  
carton.

1938 Zenith 15S372 15 tube motor drive  
console.

1949 Meui-Lei Radio hat novelty set

Ken Korhonen

Emerson Catalin

Hugh Miller

1938 Radio Berlin, 16mm Film

U.K. Army Wireless Set #38

1944 Kleinfunk-d

1934 Knight 1 tube all wave

John Hirsch

Philco 37-610

Westrad Tombstone

John Schneider

Philco 37-610

Walt Kiefner

Radiola III, Mint

Utah 50 Wire Recorder

1961 Motorola Astronaut TV

Max Kaplan

TWO good WD-11 for 25c each!

Crosley 51 Portable

1929 Phillips (Dutch)

Edwin Buhite

Bell & Howell auxillary speaker

Newcomb TR16



# N W V R S MEETING MINUTES

Oregon City, Oregon February 11, 1989

The February 11, 1989 meeting of the NWVRS was called to order at 10:14 AM by President Dan Howard. The TREASURER'S REPORT was given and accepted with a current balance of \$1950.24. Members were reminded, if they have not already, to submit dues for 1989. Welcomed visitors to todays meeting were Roy Lyons of Mollala and David Spear, Mayor of Oregon City.

**OLD BUSINESS:** A motion was made to require Call Letter advertisers to be members of the NWVRS or PSARA. Motion Carried. Another motion was raised that would allow the board of directors to establish Call Letter advertising rates. Motion passed. Edwin Buhite expressed his appreciation for the help he received on this months Call Letter. Edwin would like to receive additional items (including photographs) from members to add to future Call Letters. Ed Charman announced that the fee for NWVRS business cards would be \$45 per 1000. Most members feel the club should explore other services for possibly a better rate. The Callahan estate will be up for sale to club members at the end of March. Mrs. Callahan is seeking another collector to provide an additional evaluation of the collection. A motion was made and passed to authorize payment to Jerry Talbott to purchase a book from the Chamber of Commerce. The book will assist Jerry in researching additional meeting places for the NWVRS.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The March swap meet will begin at 8:30 AM and will be interrupted by the club business meeting. David Spear, Mayor of Oregon City announced that a gas furnace will be installed in the club house. A motion was made and passed to combine NWVRS and PSARA club rosters. A motion was made to make long-time Call Letter advertiser JA MAC an honorary NWVRS member. Motion Carried. Members were reminded of the PSARA club meeting next week (Sunday Feb. 18).

**LEADS AND NEEDS:** Were given & the meeting adjourned at 11:10 am

Feb. Display Contest Results  
PACIFIC NW RADIO COMPANIES  
1st: Dick and Dan Howard  
2nd: Jim Mason  
3rd: Doug Davee

*Norris W. Jackson*  
Norris W. Jackson,  
NWVRS Secretary





# WANTED\*\*\*\*\*

Zeniths: Royal 2000, Super VIII, 15-U-273.  
 Scott 333 Tuner, Brunswick Panatropes. Grebe:  
 CR- series & Four letter series wireless and  
 AC sets. Bell & Howell 1",3" or 4" Lens for  
 Filmosound 16mm Projector Models 156 to 399.,  
 accessories, speakers, amps & parts for same.  
 Riders: 21, 22, 23. Edwin Buhite 503-288-9727  
 4041 NE Wistaria Dr. Portland, Oregon 97212  
 Military Radio equipment of WWII and earlier,  
 especially German, Japanese and Italian.  
 Forest Service, Aircraft, other portable and  
 mobile communications equipment before 1945.  
 Manuals & almost any paper relating to above.  
 ALSO: simple regenerative shortwave kit  
 Radios: Philmore, Knight, Revell etc.  
 Hugh Miller 206-487-3047 Mornings & Weekends  
 6400 Maltby Rd. Woodinville, Washington 98072  
 RCA 621 7" TV Set circa 1946, Sparton and other  
 Mirror-in-the-lid TV Sets, Kinescope Recorder,  
 Radios: colored plastic, catalin and colored  
 leatherette, Sky Chief (1940 leatherette port)  
 SCOTT Radios of the 30s & 40s, SAMS 1 to 100.  
 Pre-1950 TV sets and literature, mirror and  
 Art deco sets, Blue glass OIAs, Zenith Strato-  
 sphere, Emerson 729 & 779 plastic not catalin,  
 Trav-ler & Emerson Literature, Electronics  
 Magazine (1930s), Radio Retailing & other  
 trade magazines, literature on early TV broad-  
 casts (1920-1950). Ken Korhonen 206-932-9363  
 4022 41st Ave. SW Seattle, Washington 98116

# FOR SALE\*\*\*\*\*

AMI E-120 Juke Box  
 Frank Banks 206-941-2965  
 28232 27th Ave. S. Federal Way, Wash. 98003  
 "Vintage" TVs 1949 Muntz 16" \$20--, 1952 Moto-  
 rola 17" bakelite \$15--, 1950 GE 14" console  
 \$15--, 1953 Emerson 14" suit-case portable  
 \$10--, 1964 Seals Toshiba early CT-V 14" \$25  
 Jerry Talbott 503-649-6717  
 1440 SW 239th Ave Hillsboro, Oregon 97123  
 \*\*\*\*\*



# NWVRS President's Page

Bravo! The display of Northwest radios at last month's meeting was terrific. Thanks to all of you who brought out such neat sets and accessories. The response to the topic of Northwest manufactured sets was enthusiastic. How about making "Northwest manufactures" a category in the big contest in October? The Sounds of Nostalgia show in Salem went very well. The display looked great when I dropped by late in the morning. Several members reported getting leads. Displays like this are a good way to spread the word about our club and to generate new memberships. Thankyou to all who participated.

It's SWAP MEET TIME. Last year at this time we were getting ready for our Spring auction. This year we thought that the membership might enjoy an extra swap meet even more. Let's all use this opportunity to show the wives that we are doing our part for Spring cleaning. As has been mentioned at the meetings and in the publicity, I will be there to open the door at 8:30 this time so that the early birds won't have to sell from their trunks. Show up when ever you like though. We plan to leave the clubhouse open until about 11:30 or 12:00. I hope to see you all there.



*Dan*  
Dan Howard  
**THE MOST  
POPULAR  
HEADSET**  
*in the  
World*  
**Sales prove it**



\*\*\*\*\* **NWVRS Coming Events** \*\*\*\*\*

Buena Vista Club House Oregon City, Oregon

March 11, 1989

8:30 AM Swap Meet & Business Meeting.

Noon: Swap Meet ends.

April 8, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting & Display-Talk

Documentation: Collecting & Preservation

May 13, 1989

8:30 AM Swap Meet & Business Meeting.

Noon: Swap Meet ends.

June 10, 1989

10:00 AM Business Meeting

July.....Summer Vacation

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

8:30 AM Swap Meet & Business Meeting.

Noon: Swap Meet ends.

December 9, 1989

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

## *WELCOME*

\*\*\*\*\* N W V R S WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS \*\*\*\*\*  
(and reinstatements)

Cliff Cole

Ken Flockhart

Jerry Madsen

Steve Neal

Sherrill Williams

Speed Feldschau

Jack Kerwin

Gloria Michelle

P.N. (Nick) Stoughton



# **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**

## **Radio Estate Sale**

The radio collection of Larry Callahan  
will be sold: Sat. March 18 10AM - 4PM  
Sun. March 19 10AM - 4PM

Location: 2725 NE Pilkington  
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

**RADIOS: BATTERY, CATHEDRAL, CONSOLE, TABLE  
PORTABLE, PHILCO 41-616 REMOTE, SPLITDOORF  
R500, GREBE, MAGNAVOX ETC. 68 SETS.  
VACUUM TUBES-SOME RARE, CHASSIS, SPEAKERS  
AMPLIFIERS, TEST EQUIP, PARTS, MANUALS,  
MAGAZINES. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
call Lee Callahan 503-753-7701  
or Doug Davee 503-752-1648**



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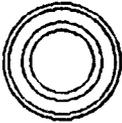
Repair and Restoration  
Fine Craftsmanship Since 1955

— Any — Make — Model — Year —

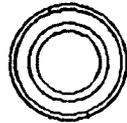
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Speaker Reconing & Cabinet Restoration

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Woodacre, CA 94973  
(415) 488-4596



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R5-D3

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PORTLAND OREGON 97206

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RADIO, TELEPHONE, TEST GEAR,  
COMPONENTS, TUBES, X-FORMERS

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BOB LEE BUS.(503) 774-6560

—1920—1925—1930—1935—

1970—1975—1980—1985—

