



# CALL LETTERS

VOLUME 17

APRIL 1991

NUMBER 4

## “A THING OF BEAUTY” THE “RF22”



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# 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 CALL LETTER was founded in 1974 by Harley Perkins (our first President). Editors have served as follows: 1975/77 Bob Bilbie, 1977/78 Bob Hay, 1978/79 Tom James, 1980 Bill DeVey, 1981/83 Jim Mason, 1983/87 Richard Karman & 1987/91 Edwin Buhite.

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society meets at the Buena Vista Club House (Atkinson Park) 16th & Jackson Street, Oregon City, Oregon. (Note: take I-205 & Exit at Park Place, take first right onto Washington St. continue to 15th, left 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: 1991 Regular Membership \$15--  
Renewals are due on January First**

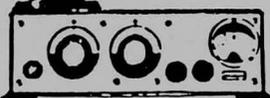
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***** 1991 STAFF *****		
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The CALL LETTER and The HORN OF PLENTY are published monthly as the official publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society and the Puget Sound Antique Radio Association.

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. All transactions are on an "as is" basis with the new owner assuming all responsibility. Items listed as "LEADS" are from non-members and provided to assist you in locating radios.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks to Ray Nelson for all the fine photos in the March 1991 issue.



# The PSARA President's Desk

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By PSARA president Max Kaplan

A sunny St. Pat's day proved to be too great a lure to be out doors, which made the March Swap Meet and Auction well attended affairs.

Even though we could have done with some additional auction material, our invitational auctioneer "Dishonest John" made sure that bids came in quick succession and about 32 items came under the hammer in short order. Our thanks to John. Much thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Russel Anderson, who again set up and manned their computer to keep track of all auction items and bidders. Most people probably don't realize the problems we would face to do this work by hand.

Mr. David Dintenfass will bring some selected Ampex tape machines to the April meet; be sure to attend this show-and-tell. See you all then.

Max

## K Y G

---

### The Pioneer Station De Luxe

by F.W. Sloat, W7AHK

Willard P. Hawley's station, KYG, was located at 400 East 22nd Street, Portland, Oregon. The license with the call KYG was issued March 28. Prior to this date he operated on experimental license 7XG and broadcast a musical program on March 7, 1922. At this time only one other station was broadcasting an advertised program in Portland, Austin's 7XF. Hawley was a member of the well known paper-mill family of Oregon City. His identification was, "Hello All Ships And Stations, KYG in Portland Broadcasting."

The 5 watt transmitter was constructed by Northwestern Radio Manufacturing Co., and the order from Hawley was to build the "best transmitter money could buy." The station was the show-place of radio in Portland at that time, being equipped with a Victrola, Magnavox attachments for playing records on the air, a Steinway piano with a special sounding board, and a well decorated studio. Receivers were a Norco for the broadcast band and a Colin B. Kennedy for the long waves.

Signals from KYG were heard in Hawaii and the east coast of the U.S. KYG did not operate very long. The transmitter was later installed at Benson Polytechnic school as KFIF and later became KBPS.



*In the early days of broadcasting new stations were coming on the air almost daily. At school we would ask, "Boy did you hear WLW or etc etc last night?" It was sort of a contest to decide who had the best receiver.*

*Most stations were low powered of the "little 5 watter" class. the demand for parts for their construction made them scarce and very expensive. Make-shift apparatus was much in evidence. Oregon had two stations which could have been called deluxe installations. Even their receivers were Colin B. Kennedy.*

*We call this story.....*

## **"THE BIG BOYS"**

by F.W. Sloat W7AHK

In the spring of 1923 the listeners were amazed at the strong signals from experimental stations 7XL and 7XQ. Both were owned by the Northwestern Electric Co., which is now Pacific Power in Portland. 7XL was atop the Pittock Block in downtown Portland. The sister station 7XQ was in the Condit generating station on the White Salmon river in Underwood, WA. Along with the transmission of the company's business, phonograph records were played. This delighted listeners throughout the United States and Canada. 7XQ, located only two or three miles from the writer's home really rattled the Brandes. The transmitters were designed by E.F. Pearson, company electrician and a former amateur who owned a spark station at Reno, Nevada. Construction was by Dave Shore, the plant superintendent at Condit and Carl Twidwell, company electrician. Mr. Pearson related to the writer the difficulty even a large company had in obtaining the necessary parts for what was then a high power transmitter. Three 204 tubes were used, one as oscillator, one as modulator and the third as speech amplifier. This was the same lineup used by the famous KDKA. 7XL's antenna stretched above the Pittock block, was suspended on one end by a smoke stack and on the other end by a wooden mast. A motor generator supplied two thousand volts, and nine amperes were put into the antenna. A Colin B. Kennedy universal receiver tuned from 180-26,000 meters. The equipment at Underwood was the same. The purpose of the system was for load dispatching, a carry-on of the company's spark set up in 1916. (see the Hallock And Watson story, in the Call Letter and Horn of Plenty for Dec. 1990).

Communication with Hawaii was easy and the greatest two-way communication was with the steamer West Islip. The ship, using her radio-telegraph system, gave her location as approximately 2,700 miles from Portland. It reported reception as great and the passengers were dancing to the phonograph music.

CONCLUDED ON PAGE 14



# Ole! (acquisitions)

---

## Sonny Clutter

1936 Zenith 12A58

12-tube console

1938 Sparton "Polo Club" black

deco bakelite

1940 Addison 2 Maroon/yellow

## Catalin

1940 Addison 5 Marble Red,  
yellow trim Catalin

1948 Philco 48-1000 (first post war  
Philco TV) 10"

1949 Philco 49-1002 10" TV

1949 Tom Thumb camera radio

## Ed Curry

1927 Radiola 103 Speaker

1931 Philco 70 Cathedral

Set of Rider manuals

1923 Croley Console

1925 Grebe MU-1 Synchronphase

## Richard Dielschneider

1939 Zenith 7S343 Chairside

1939 Zenith 6S362 Console

1940 Stewart Warner 11-9B

## Console

1947 Philco 47-1230 radio/phono

## Console

1939 GE H-87 Console

1938 RCA 86K Console

1938 Grunow 941 Console

1934 Gilfillian 32 table model

Wurlitzer 616 jukebox

## Tony Hauser

1950 Packard Bell 5RC4 light  
yellow clock radio

1957 GE P-726A Mint Green  
Portable transistor

1970 Sonnet Ladybug  
novelty transistor

1970 Panasonic R-70  
"Panapet 70"

Late 70s Look sound  
radio sunglasses.

## Max Kaplan

WWII Japanese Navy  
Model 99 Het. Freq. Meter

WWII German Army  
Radione R-2 Receiver

## Scott Macgregor

1930 GM 130A The  
Sheraton highboy

1935 Philco 118 Console

1935 Kadette 66X wood table set

1946 Stewart Warner  
61T26 bakelite

1960 Sony TR620

## Jim Mason

1954 Hallicrafters TW2000  
7-band portable, Mint

## Ray Nelson

1965 Kroy T-880 8 transistor  
(CD nomenclature at 640 only)

1962 Motorola X50E

1925 Shorty Shortwave adapter

1926 Utah Super Flex (bell  
shaped beehive) horn speaker

1938 Belmont 526 Bakelite

1950 Rex Ray 4 tube plastic  
radio (marketed by Rexall)

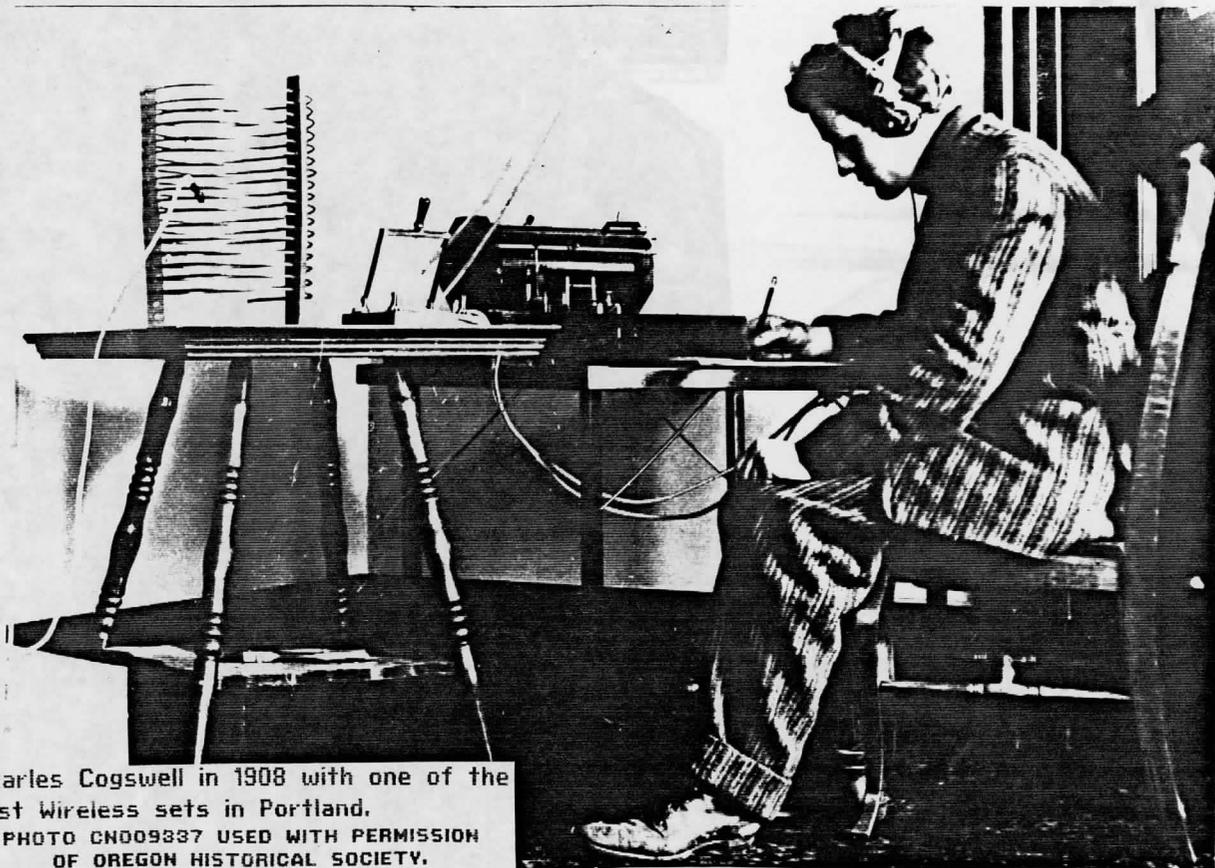
Homebrew crystal set

in Havana cigar box with  
coil wound on Quaker oats box

## Jerry Talbott

1946 Zenith 6D015 bakelite



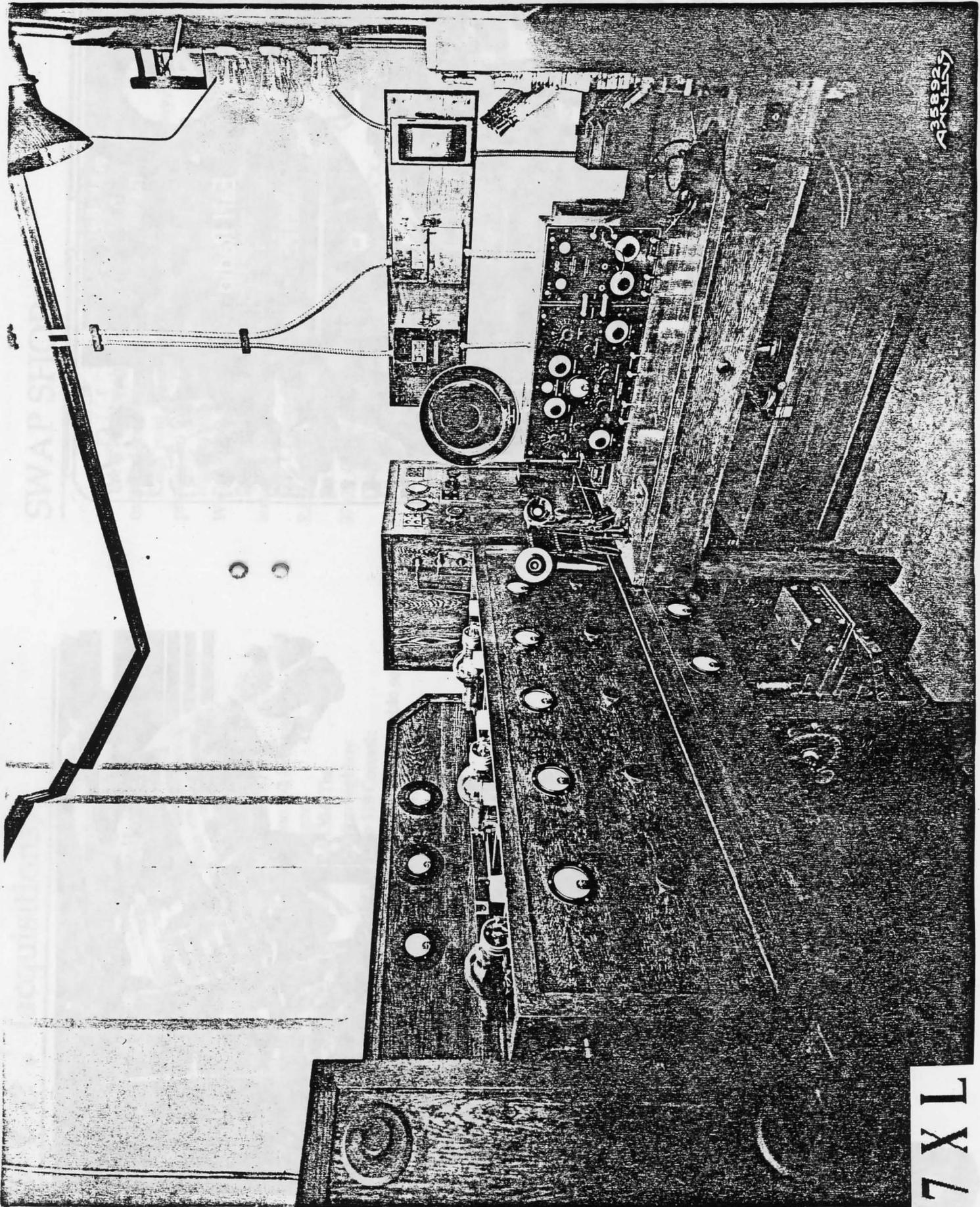


Charles Cogswell in 1908 with one of the first Wireless sets in Portland.

PHOTO CND09887 USED WITH PERMISSION  
OF OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Thanks to Art Redman for arranging it.





ALLIS

7XL



I.H. Peck beginning endurance test of Earl Radio using those Blue Arcturus tubes in August 1929.

PHOTO CNO14538 USED WITH PERMISSION  
 OF OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.  
 Thanks to Art Redman for arranging it.



# SWAP SHOP

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## WANTED

Pre WWII Foreign made radios, tubes and literature. Also WWII foreign military electronics. Max Kaplan (206) 851/4187

Cash paid for crank phonos & Cath. Radios, Buy/sell/repair crank phonos Ed Curry (206) 353/2661

Information and/or literature on a 1928 Kolster K-38 Highboy. Alan Wallace (206) 526/8102

Pre WWII Zenith consloes, chairsides, 1930 GE knobs, 6&12 volt Delco auto radios. Vince Creisler (206) 630/4735

GM Chassis for model 110-180-190. Al Lemke 10004 206th Ave NE Redmond WA 98053 (206) 868/8165

Crosley Chassis model 48. Jerry Talbott 1440 SW 239th Hillsboro OR 97123 (503) 649/6717

Catalin, Prefer FADA 1000, 156 or MOT50CX. want to buy locally. Dave Friedlund 36006 SW Bald Peak Rd Hillsboro OR (503) 628/1439 eves.

## FOR SALE

Radio & TV Tubes, parts, test equipment. Bob Lee at R5-D3 Electronic Surplus. 6111 SE 82nd St Portland OR 97266 (503) 774/6560

Loudspeakers, Horns, HiFi, Speaker Re-Coning: Ja Mac 8600 NE Sandy Blvd Portland OR 97220 (503) 252/2929

Champagne bottle radio, plays good \$175--, Philco 70 Cath. plays good \$225--, Radiola 20 with 099 tubes batt set \$155--, Radio Owl timer one ear damaged \$35--, AK 55 w/spkr plays good \$150--, Zenith t/s radio 4-T-26 \$65 Ed Curry (206) 353/2661

100s of vintage radio magazines. Send LSASE with \$.52 postage and indicate you want "magazine list." Jim Clark 1292 Starboard Okemos MI 48864 (517) 349/2249

Tektronix 321A Scope New CRT, Probe, Manual \$200--. 1927 RCA Phono motor & tonearm assembly \$20-- Jerry Talbott 1440 SW 239th Hillsboro, OR 97123 (503) 649/6717

## LEADS

Hoffman "Easy Vision" 877 (ch. 171) \$95-- Union Gospel Mission Thrift Store in Tigard, OR.

Guild model 638B treasure chest radio \$90-- St. Vincent DePaul in Tigard, OR



# NWVRS Meeting Minutes

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## Oregon City, Or -- Sat. March 9, 1991

The March 9th 1991 meeting of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society was called to order at 10:15 AM by our President Dick Karman. The minutes as published in the Call Letter were approved by consensus. Members were welcomed and Guests were introduced. Dick Karman announced that the April meeting would be an audio visual show & tell program. Dick asked members if they had any slides that could be shown. Jim Mason said he had some. Ray Nelson asked for suggestions for a guest speaker for the June meeting. Dick Karman suggested inviting the group called Marconies Cronies for a question and answer session.

Dick introduced Frank and Mary Rasada to the members. Frank gave details about the items he had for sale at his building in Multnomah. He invited all of the members to come and look at the building.

Ed Charman gave the Treasurer's report. It was approved as presented. Ed Charman also announced he still has books and calendars for sale. He also reported, 28 people have not paid their dues.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Sonny Clutter asked for the N.W.V.R.S. Members to vote on accepting Frank Rasada's offer to let us participate in occupying a portion of his building in Multnomah by a gentleman's agreement. Sonny Clutter then made a motion to proceed with the agreement with Frank & Mary Rasada. It was seconded by Ed Buhite. Discussion followed. Ray Nelson spoke well of accepting Frank & Mary's offer. The vote was taken. A yes vote of 25. The motion passed.

A question was raised by some of the members as to whether an attorney would be needed to draw up an agreement. Frank Rasada said there wouldn't be any costs involved for N.W.V.R.S. using his building. He didn't see the need for an attorney. A few of the members thought it might be advantageous to have an attorney for the transaction. Rather than a motion to this effect, it was suggested that an agreement be written up by some of the NWVRS members and if necessary, have an attorney look at it.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Speed Feldschau spoke to the members about having a Swap Meet at his place in August of this year. He then made a motion to have the Swap Meet in August at his place. It was seconded by Gerhard Watzig. After a short discussion, the vote was taken. It passed unanimous.



It was announced that Harry Auda's wife had passed away.

**LEADS AND NEEDS** were discussed.

Speed Feldschau asked if a charge for tables should be made at the August Swap Meet to help defer advertising expenses. Meeting Adjourned at 10:50 AM, so the Auction could proceed.

*Gordon Phillips*

Gordon Phillips, NWVRS Secretary

## 1991 N W V R S SCHEDULE

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April	13 Video/Audio presentation
May	11 Swap Meet
June	8 Guest Speaker, final meeting at Oregon City (if approved by NWVRS Board of directors)
July	Summer Break
August	Sale at Speed's
September	14 Auction & Meet at the Rasada Radio Museum (if approved by NWVRS board of Directors)

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EDITORIAL

### N W V R S Meeting Place

by Edwin J. Buhite

At the November 1990 NWVRS Meeting, Sonny Clutter announced the Rasada Radio Museum in Portland and Frank's invitation for NWVRS participation and to hold meetings at the Museum.

The December NWVRS Meeting included discussion of the possible move to this new location. Having met in Oregon City for 17 years, some of us were not ready for a change without more information. President Karman appointed a fact finding committee. Before the January *CALL LETTER* went to press, all members of the committee were in agreement with the recommendations favoring the re-location of meetings to the Rasada Radio Museum. Much discussion over the details has continued at the regular meetings. The membership has voted in support of this move, with no opposing vote. Many of us expected that action would be completed by now.

According to the NWVRS Constitution and By-Laws: "The Board shall be responsible for the time and location of the regular business meetings". "The President shall set the time and place for the board of directors meetings".

When will this action be taken?



# "Big Boys" FROM PAGE 5

An attempt to break a record for long distance voice communication was scheduled in conjunction with the United Press to take place from Portland to Australia. This failed when they failed to take into account "the land down under" lies on one side of the International Date Line and Portland on the other. With federal regulations changing and many stations coming to 360 meters the company's radio operations were moved to other frequencies.

The writer wishes to thank Pacific Power for their Help



## Vintage Radio Programming

KFBK 1530 Sacramento, California - 50,000W  
10PM - Midnight Sat. - Sun.  
(received by Klaus Beckmann in Alberta)

KKEY 1150 Vancouver, Washington  
8PM - 9PM Mon. - Fri.  
1PM - 3PM Saturday.

KSLM 1390 Salem, Oregon  
9PM - Midnight Sun. - Thu.

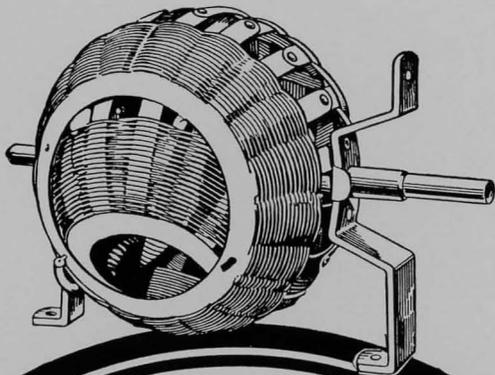
Yesterday USA - Satellite Superstation  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week  
Satcom 4 Transponders 15 & 21  
Galaxy 3 Transponder 7

## Puget Sounds

Recently Dick Karman loaned me the book PUGET SOUNDS, published by Superior. It is a superb publication of broadcast history, which I highly recommend. The original is out of print, however, another publisher named "Orcas" picked it up. The price is \$14.95. Max Kaplan located a source for these books. If You're interested let us know at the April meetings. Edwin Buhite



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