

VOLUME 17

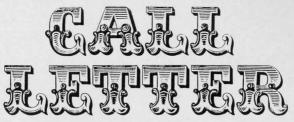
SEPTEMBER 1991

NUMBER 9



KILBOURNE & CLARK MFG. CO.

101 Spokane Street Seattle, Wash.



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 Northwest Vintage Radio Museum 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd St.) Portland, Oregon Museum Phone (503) 246/3400.

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

1991 NWVRS OFFICERS

President Dick Karman 503-288-1285 Vice President Ray Nelson 503-233-5063 Treasurer Ed Charman 503-654-7387 Secretary Gordon Phillips 503-234-3517 Correspondent **Edwin Buhite** 503-288-8719 503-761-7799 Past President Dan Howard



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************ 1991 STAFF **********
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Our thanks to James Mason for providing the

photo of Kilbourne & Clark horns.

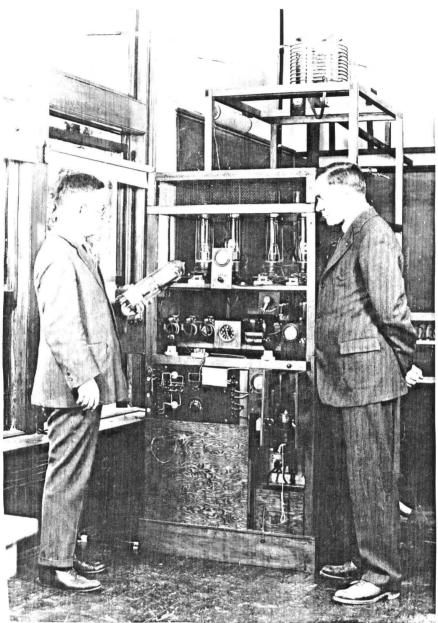
1930'S ZENITH LOGO WATCH

Beautifully reproduced on a black dial Goldtone
Quartz Watch with over 1" face (men's) 3/4"
face (women's) A leather band & 1 year warranty.

State Logo
A or B
Preference
Men's
or
HAUID
To reserve your watch send \$49.50 check or
money order (includes tax and shipping)
To: NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO MUSEUM

9453 E. Arkansas St. Bellflower, CA. 90706





1926 at Corvallis Oregon KOAC's 500 watt transmitter Built by J. Jordan, L. Weniger and W. Weniger.



OUR THANKS TO OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR ALLOWING US TO USE PHOTO CHO12045. OUR THANKS TO ART REDMAN FOR ARRANGING IT

FROM THE P S A R A PRESIDENT'S DESK By PSARA president Max Kaplan

Having just returned from a trip to central Europe early Sunday morning, I was sorry to be prevented from attending the annual super swap. I havn't yet talked to anyone about it, but I feel I probably missed a few good deals by being absent. "Speaking of good deals".... I ran into two flea markets while overseas and I can state, there are no "good deals" over there as their asking prices, (for similar European merchandise) are about 3 to 5 times higher than here. Anyway, hopefully, a good time was had by all at the swap meet.

We are still trying to locate a second name list of people interested in the purchase of the book "PUGET SOUNDS". As soon as we locate it, we can cross check with the first list and proceed with the purchase. Anyone who has or knows about this list, please contact me.

I hope there will be a big turn-out for the September business meeting as we will have our annual PSARA officer election. Thanks to all of you for helping me along during this last year.

Max A. Kaplan

P S A R A COMING EVENTS September 15 Annual Election of Officers 1:00 PM 20 Monthly Meeting 1:00 PM October November 17 Annual Show & Contest 1:00 PM



N W V R S COMING EVENTS **** NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO MUSEUM **** 7675 SW Capitol Highway (at 32nd St.) Portland, Oregon Museum Phone (503) 246/3400 Sep. 7 1991 Work Day at Museum 7:00 AM Sep. 14 1991 Auction 10:00 AM Oct. 12 1991 Contest, Officer Nomination 10:00 AM ______ *** FINAL SWAP MEET IN OREGON CITY *** Nov. 9 1991 Swap Meet 8:00 AM # **** NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO MUSEUM **** Dec. 14 1991 Annual election of Officers 10:00 AM Jan. 11 1992 Annual business meeting ... 10:00 AM Feb. 8 1992 Contest 10:00 AM Mar. 14 1992 Auction 10:00 AM Apr. 11 1992 Meeting 10:00 AM May 9 1992 Swap Meet 8:00 AM June 13 1992 Meeting 10:00 AM 1992 Summer Vacation July Aug. 8 1992 Annual Summer Swap - Speed's 8:00 AM Sep. 12 1992 Auction 10:00 AM Oct. 10 1992 Fall Swap Meet 8:00 AM Nov. 14 1992 Contest, Officer Nomination 10:00 AM Dec. 12 1992 Annual Election of Officers 10:00 AM OTICE Saturday September 7th 1991 will be a work day at the Northwest Vintage Radio Museum beginning at 7:00 AM. Clearing the first floor by moving the radios into the main museum display room is the project of the day. This will prepare the first our September 14th Vintage Radio for Auction. Lunch and dinner will be provided for those able to participate on this work day. Please call Sonny Clutter 254/9296 or Edwin

Buhite 288/8719 if you are planning to help out on the September 7th work day, so the Rasadas

will know how much food to prepare.



North Sw 32nd ave Portland > 4 Easy Exit From Rasada Museum SW 315+ AVE Multroma SW intersection Barana 50lern 7

HELLO RAINEY

by F.W.Sloat W7AHK

Foreword - It was with some misgiving this material was submitted to editor Ed. The story has been kicked around for some time and may be boring to some of the readers. Experiments with the induction telephone system is said to have been made in the 1880's by professor Trowbridge of Harvard University, The Englishman Sir W.H. Preece and others. Thomas Edison used large conducting plates fastened under railroad cars but nothing practical was ever accomplished.

The writer first heard of the Stubblefield system some 20 or more years ago. Recently the press reported some of Stubblefield's kin had requested the Smithsonian institution recognize him as the inventor of the radio-telephone. The request was refused by representatives of the institution.

The writer's investigaton started with a letter to the Murray, Kentucky, Chamber Of Commerce, requesting imformation on an address by their secretary James L. Johnson to the Kentucky Broadcasters Association on May 18, 1961. The Chamber kindly replied by sending a copy of the speech "Nathan B. Stubblefield, Father Of Radio." It is quite long and space does not permit the full reproduction here. Information in the speech was that a public demonstration was given to news-paper reporters and the St Louis Post Dispatch scored a "tremendous scoop" with the front page story of the event. A query to the Dispatch was made and they promptly replied with a page from their old issue of January 18, 1909. It is yellow with age and a photo copy is displayed here.

A search for possible patents showed Stubblefield was granted patent 887,357, filed April 7,1907. The drawing in the official Gazette



depicts a simple loop of wire with a microphone and a receiver in series and a switch to cut in one or the other. While checking on this patent in the library we were attempting to make a photocopy of page 365 in the Gazette when a kind lady, awaiting her turn, offered to assist. Some remark was made about radio research and the page was inadvertently placed on the machine face up. Out came a bright copy of page 366- "Manure Spreader, Patent 887,359". Needless to say, I was somewhat embarrassed. Now, bad omen or not, here is the story, with information taken from the Post Dispatch.

"Hello Rainey.... Hello Rainey"

These four words, claimed James Jounson, in his address to the Kentucky Broadcasters, were the first four words ever broadcast by radio.

It was January 10, 1902, and on a farm near Murray, Kentucky, the eccentric Nathan B. Stubblefield was demonstrating his "wireless telephone" to a reporter from the St. Louis Post Dispatch. The transmitter, located on the front pourch of the Stubblefield home was described as follows: The apparatur, by wich vibrations of the electric current are produced, is concealed in a box about four feet high and one and a half feet deep. Two wires of the thickness of a lead pencil coil from it's corners and disappear through the wall of the room and enter the ground outside. On top of the box is an ordinary telephone transmitter and a telephone switch. The ground rods were described as steel tipped with hollow nickel plated balls of iron, with an inverted metal cup below each ball.

The reporter described Stubblefield as a recluse. "He has the thoughtful absent air. He is accentric and his neighbors shun him. He protects



IRELESS TELEPHON

Nathan Stubblefield Raises Vegetables for Market in Order That He May Live, But Has for Ten Years Devoted All of His Spare Time to Electrical Experiments, Until Now He Has Perfected a Wireless Telephone System Over Which Messages Are Distinctly Heard at a Mile.

NATHAN STUBBLEFIELD, a Keebucky truck-farmer, chims to have de-covered telephoning without wires. At a public sabilition in Morrey, Col-lewsy County, Kv., on Jan 1. he convinced a thousand people at the truth of Mr claim.

MATHAN STURBLEFIELD AS H AT THE WIRELESS



CATCLING WIKELESS MESSAGES A MILE BACK THE WOOD ON THE STUBBLEFIELD FAPM.



INVESTOR STURY SPECIAL FECHIVING MESSAGES AT THE STATION SOO YARDS FROM HIS HOUSE.

TELEPHONES ON PASSENGER TRAINS---A NEW CONVENIENCE OF TRAVER THE AUTHORITY OF THE AUTHORITY

his melon patch with electric wires which announce to him the presence of intruders. Like other Kentuckians he knows how to use his shot gun. His melon patch and his orchard, therefore, are not often molested. Nathan B. Stubblefield was born in Murray, Kentucky, in 1860, the son of William Jefferson and Victoria Stubblefield. As a youngster he read everything he could find on electricity. He became acquainted with the work of Tesla, Hertz and other scientists of the time. In 1888 he patented a vibrating telephone and a year later followed with a patent on a storage battery. For a while he operated a small telephone system which was reported to be very efficient.

At least two friends of Stubblefield have testified that he demonstrated his wirelees telephone to them as early as 1892. An attourney Rainey T. Wells, testified he heard Stubblefield call, "Hello Rainey" over the system in the above year. Continuing with the interview, the reporter wrote, "Stubblefield talked on to some length re his system and that "in a short time when my improved and more powerful apparatus is finished, I will go to Washington and patent my invention. Long before I heard of Marconi's efforts or of the efforts of others to solve the problem of the transmission of messages through space without wires I was working on this. I can now telephone one mile without wires and with the larger apparatus, on which I am now working, I will demonstrate that a message can be sent much further. The system can be developed until messages can be sent all over the world."

"Now", said Stubblefield, "Go where you wish and sink the rods into the ground and listen for a telephone message." They were in a corn field about one mile from the house where the sending equipment was located. The Post Dispatch article



continues, "I took four rods from Stubblefield. Each pair of rods was joined by an ordinary insulated wire about 30 feet long. In the center of these was a telephone receiver. Two of the rods were sunk into the ground, about half of their length, and with plenty of play. I placed the receiver to my ear and waited. In a few minutes came the signaling buzz and the voice of Stubblefield's son saying, "Hello, can you hear me?" He went on, playing a mouth organ. Stubblefield leaned against a tree, saying nothing, but with a look of triumph on his face".

The demonstration was made to a group of experts at Washington D.C. The press reported, "He has done with words, by underground current, what Marconi has done with the clicking of instruments by ether waves" Other tests were made and these brought a hoard of promoters and swindlers to the farmer's door. He became involved in a stock promotion deal which was common at the time. The Wireless Telephone Company Of America was incorporated in 1902 to promote Stubblefield's invention. He was reluctant to join, he was more interested in improving his equipment—but he needed financing to go ahead. He was issued 500,000 shares of worthless stock in the New York based operation. It did not take him long to realize the company was only interested in selling stock and he severed all connections with them.

He was found dead in his shack on March 28, 1928. A monument was erected at the Murray State University with the words: "A KENTUCKIAN INVENTED RADIO THREE YEARS BEFORE MARCONI. NATHAN B. STUBBLEFIELD IN 1892."

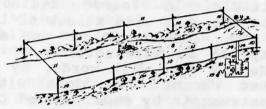


887,357.

U. S. PATENT OFFICE.

WIRELESS TELEPHONE.

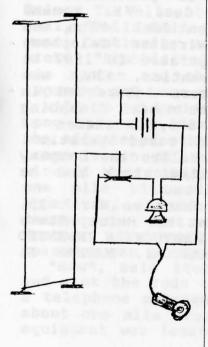
887,357. WIRELESS TELEPHONE. NATHAN B. STUBBLEFIELD, Murray, Ky., assignor of twelve and one-half one-hundredths to Conn Linn, five one-hundredths to R. Downs, five one-hundredths to B. F. Schroader, five one-hundredths to George C. McLarin, five one-hundredths to John P. McElrath, two and one-half one-hundredths to Jeff D. Roulett, and one-twentieth to Samuel E. Rynum, Murray, Ky. Filed Apr. 5, 1907. Serial No. 366,544.



1. In a system of the character described, the combination with a vehicle, of a comparatively small coll of conducting material mounted thereon, electrical transmitting and receiving mechanism including a source of electrical energy connected to the small coll and carried by the vehicle, a stationary aerial coll of much greater magnitude than the small coil having its opposite stretches or sides extending along the opposite sides of the path of travel of the vehicle and elevated above the same and above the vehicle coil, and electrical transmitting and receiving mechanism connected to the greater coil and including a source of heavy electrical current.

2. In a system of the character described, the combination with a vehicle, of a coil of conducting material mounted thereon, electrical transmitting mechanism, a source of electrical energy connected thereto, receiving mechanism, means for connecting either the transmitting mechanism and source of electrical energy or the receiving mechanism to the coil, a stationary coil of greater magnitude surrounding the path of travel of the vehicle and comprising a plurality of convolutions of conducting material, the different convolutions being insulated one from the other, means for supporting the coil in an elevated position, electrical transmitting mechanism, a source of great electrical energy connected to said transmitting mechanism, electrical receiving mechanism, and means for electrically connecting either the transmitting mechanism and source of electrical energy or the receiving mechanism to said coil of greater magnitude.

3. Means for communicating between a plurality of stations which consists of an aerial electrical coil of great magnitude, means for supporting the said coil, a station electrically connected to the great coil and comprising transmitting and receiving mechanism that includes a source of heavy electrical energy, and a plurality of other separate stations simultaneously in coacting relation with the aerial coil, each of said latter stations comprising a coil of conducting material spaced from but in coacting relation with said great coil and be-



Edwin Buhite

1959 Zenith B515G, 1965 Zenith M730 Walnut AM/FM, 1955 E-V Horns six from the Patrician & Georgian.

Sonny Clutter

1923 Northwestern SR-25 5 tube Portland battery
set, 1930 R.C.A. R-28-P Round top, 1930 Stewart
Warner R-1236-A small deco tombstone, 1953
Emerson 713 mini wood set, 1955 Emerson 811 mini
bakelite, 1957 Emerson 847 deco trans port,
Westinghouse H380T5 Green bakelite table set.,
Unusual chassis made entirely of bakelite forerunner to the printed circuit., 1946 Setchell
Carlson white & red bakelite (the small frog
radio).

Richard Dielschneider

Airline 74BR-1504B, Airline 62-1101 console, Arvin 422 metal, Firestone S-7404-2 console, G.E. F96 console, G.E. L-916 console, G.E. M-125 console, 1946 Musicaire 576 table set (looks like console), 1942 Philco 42-1008 radio-phono-console Philco 57 table set, 1941 Seeburg 8800 phono, 1941 Seeburg 9800 phono, Silvertone R-301 console, Sparton 1068 console, 1938 Wurlitzer 600 phono, Zenith 5-S-250 console, Zenith 8-S-463 console, Zenith 12-S-568 console.

Speed Feldschau

G.E. military transmitter & receiver for B29 bomber: in factory original sealed cartons, Majestic 5A410, Sparton 1268 Blue mirror dial console, Westinghouse WR210 table set, 1936 Zenith 5-S-128 chairside, several vintage tube testers.

Steven D. Martin

Transistor sets: Motorola 6X31N, Regency TR5 & TR5C, Emerson 911, Admiral 7M16.

Jerry Talbott

1936 Silvertone all wave tombstone, 1950 Pye VT4 British 12" wood table TV, 1951 Hallicrafters 5R52 2band bakelite clock radio.



SWAP SHOP

WANTED

Rider Radio Repair manuals Volumes IV, V, XVIII, XX, XXI, XXII and XXIII are needed for the PSARA Library. Ken Korhonen (206) 932/9363 Instruction Manual for Regency ACT-T-720A Digital Flight Scanner. Al Atworth P.O.Box 125

Snohomish WA (206) 568/2698

Philco 48-701 TV; Kennedy 311 one tube battery portable; Colonial & Lyric cathedrals. Sonny Clutter 14407 NE Fremont St. Portland OR 97230 (503) 254/9296

Atwater Kent 10C; 1955 Heathkit AT-1 Transmitter. Jerry Brannon 22324 100th Ave SE Kent WA 98031 (206) 854/4234

Blue OlAs, UV-99s. Catalin, Art deco & other unusual radios. Emerson & Sparton radios, Early TV Sets & literature. Ken Korhonen (206) 932/9363 1929 Scott Symphony radio, either the 4 or 5

tube set, having a large "shamrock" styled escutcheon. This set is not chrome plated. Jim (517) 349/2249.

Transistor radios: Zenith, Motorola, Regency etc. will trade. Also, small tube portables. Steven D. Martin 815 N. Hayden Rd Apt.B-204 Scottsdale, Arizona 85257 (602) 994/3162 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, Speaker Re-Coning: Ja Mac 8600 NE Sandy Blvd Portland OR 97220 (503) 252/2929

Vintage Radios, Stereo gear, parts and tubes. Steve Von Talge at The Old Technology Shop 7712 Aurora Ave. N. Seattle WA 98103 (206) 527/2829 or (206) 783/2543.

** NOTICE **

Will the person who purchased the Airline Movie Dial console at Speed's Swap please call Doug Davee for the bandswitch knob you dropped. (503)



The Silent Tower



by Leland I. Anderson

The life story of Nikola Tesla might well have been the imaginative product of a fiction-spinning writer. Some of his exploits even jar those who have made a searching inquiry into his work. One outstanding example is the behemoth tower and laboratory that he established on Long Island. Only last year (1967) the newly created Brookhaven Town Historical Trust designated the Tesla laboratory building as a historic site. The building is located 65 miles from New York City, on Route 25A between Rocky Point and Wading River, and now occupied by Peerless Photo Products, Inc.

The story of the famous tower and laboratory had its beginning in 1899. Tesla journied to Colorado Springs and erected an experimental station to test his hypothesis of wireless power trans-

mission. There, he produced the greatest point-to-point discharges achieved by man with a gigantic form of the oscillation transformer now bearing his name. The outer winding of the two-section transformer secondary was 51 feet in diameter! Currents reached 800 amperes, and when operated at night the ground would glow from sparks between the grains of sand.

Having convinced himself of the soundness of his hypothesis, he returned to New York City early in 1900 and proposed a World System of wireless transmission. J.P. Morgan immediately put up \$150,000 for trans-atlantic communication. Famed architect Stanford White, who was fatally shot a half-dozen years later on the roof of old Madison Square Garden over a love triangle, agreed to design the tower and laboratory for the site to be named Wardenclyffe.

By mid 1901 the large brick laboratory building and octogonal massive wooden tower began to take form. The building, which doubled as a transmitting station, housed a 200 KW Westinghouse alternator to excite the system. Four 7 foot high oil filled steel tanks contained the transformers; four others housed the condensers, and one special tank contained an elaborate assemblage of coils and regulating apparatus intended to give every imaginable regulation control that could be forseen. Only two such units were ever made, designed by Tesla and Westinghouse engineers, one delivered to Wardenclyffe and the other retained by the Westinghouse Pittsburgh oper-

The large skeletonized sphere topping the 187 foot tower was completed in 1903. It was 68 feet in diameter and weighed 55 tons, but was never enclosed with metal plates as originally designed. a 10x12 foot wall lined by tile, wood and steel, descended to a depth of 120 feet beneath the tower. Excitation currents passed through a 16 section telescoping shaft that rose under air pressure 300 feet from the bottom of the well to contact the spherical terminal. Large multi-strand cables connected the shaft termination to the periphery of the sphere.

On July of 1903 initial tests were conducted on the system. Local residents were aroused at night by startling lightning-like flashes, but no one knew exactly what the activities were at the plant because the whole operation was shrouded in secrecy. In a few years Tesla was no longer seen as a frequent visitor to the laboratory. The workers vanished. The project had reached an irrecoverable financial disaster. Morgan, who had invested in

a project to capitalize on milti - channel wireless message transmissions across the Atlantic, was not the least interested in power transmission --- which Tesla viewed as the ultimate goal.

The laboratory was eventually abandoned. Lloyd Espenschied has written that he visited the laboratory in 1908 when abandonment became known. He saw one of Tesla's radio controlled submarine boats built and demonstrated before 1900. According to an inventory taken in 1915 there were two (see, for example, photographs in the June, 1916, p. 88, ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTER). But the place was vandalized soon thereafter -- by those as grave robbers in search of gold. All brass fittings were stripped from slate starting box panels, steam engine fittings, motors, generators, etc. Four truckloads of records, papers and books were strewn around. (Some of these materials may yet be lingering in the area.) A onetime caretaker remarked that half the garages in the vicinity were suppled from the laboratory. Exhibit cases containing Tesla's lecture apparatus, 1000 tubes and bulbs in various stages of evolution, and instruments that were given to him by Lord Kelvin, all disappeared.

Tesla's method of wireless power transmission, never publicly tested, was covered by patents 787,412 and 1,119,732 issued in 1905 and 1914 respectively. Reprints of published articles, such as those appearing in the ELECTRICAL WORLD and ENGINEER, March 5, 1904 and January 7, 1905, and other brochures covering his work at Shoreham, Long Island, have now become collector's items.

Our thanks to the Antique Wireless Association for allowing us to copy this information from Sept. 1968 THE OLD TIMER'S BULLETIN. Our thanks to Sonny Clutter for arranging it.

If anyone out there hasn't yet joined the the AWA, I have Just one question: what are you waiting for? The latest issue of THE OLD TIMER'S BULLETIN has a picture of the Kilbourne & Clark transmitter, Grigsby-Grunow Majestic information and much more.

R I D Mobile

I am helping a friend locate some radio equipment for an interesting project. He is a collector of Hudson cars and owns a 1941 Hudson sedan formerly used in radio signal detection by the Radio Intelligence Dept. of the F.C.C., from 1940 thru the war period. The complete story of the RID service is in the AWA Review #5 and is facinating reading.

The '41 Hudson is in excellent original condition and complete with the equipment shelves where the radio equipment was. My friend wants to reinstall the correct radio gear as the car was when in service, so as to have an authentic display. The gear need not be in working order or even complete internally as long as exterior appearance is satisfactory.

Here is a list of equipment the car contained:

- Finch Loop Antenna (mounted thru the roof)
- Hallicrafter SX-27D 27 to 143 MC Receiver
- Hallicrafter SX-28 540KC to 43MC Receiver
- AR-67 RCA Low Frequency Receiver
- Telecorder Wax disc recorder (by Dictaphone)

If you have any of the above or know the whereabouts of same, I would greatly appreciate the info and asking price.

thanks, Rudy Zvarich 2227 NE 102nd Ave Portland OR 97220 (503) 255/2227