

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 4 )\*

Salem Communications Corporation

(Name of Issuer)

Class A Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

794093104

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2004

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)  
 Rule 13d-1(c)  
 Rule 13d-1(d)

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP No. 794093104

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Columbia Wanger Asset Management, L.P. 04-3519872

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

Not Applicable (a)

(b)

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

NUMBER OF

None

SHARES

BENEFICIALLY

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

2,216,000

OWNED BY

EACH

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

REPORTING

None

PERSON WITH -----  
8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
2,216,000

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
2,216,000

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*  
Not Applicable [ ]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9  
10.9%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*  
IA

13G

CUSIP No. 794093104  
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1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON  
WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*  
Not Applicable (a) [ ]  
(b) [ ]

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER  
NUMBER OF SHARES  
None

6 SHARED VOTING POWER  
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY  
2,216,000

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH  
None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
2,216,000

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
2,216,000

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*  
Not Applicable [ ]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

10.9%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*

CO

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CUSIP No. 794093104

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Columbia Acorn Trust

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

Not Applicable

(a) [ ]

(b) [ ]

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

SHARES

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

1,584,100

OWNED BY

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

REPORTING None

PERSON WITH 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

1,584,100

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

1,584,100

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*

Not Applicable

[ ]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

7.8%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*

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Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:

Salem Communications Corporation

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

4880 Santa Rosa Road  
Camarillo, California 93012

- Item 2(a) Name of Person Filing:
- Columbia Wanger Asset Management, L.P.  
("WAM")  
WAM Acquisition GP, Inc., the general  
partner of WAM ("WAM GP")  
Columbia Acorn Trust ("Acorn")
- Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:
- WAM, WAM GP and Acorn are all located at:  
  
227 West Monroe Street, Suite 3000  
Chicago, Illinois 60606
- Item 2(c) Citizenship:
- WAM is a Delaware limited partnership; WAM  
GP is a Delaware corporation; and Acorn is a  
Massachusetts business trust.
- Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:
- Class A Common Stock
- Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:
- 794093104
- Item 3 Type of Person:
- (d) Acorn is an Investment Company under  
section 8 of the Investment  
Company Act.
- (e) WAM is an Investment Adviser  
registered under section 203 of the  
Investment Advisers Act of 1940;  
WAM GP is the General Partner of the  
Investment Adviser.

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- Item 4 Ownership (at December 31, 2004):
- (a) Amount owned "beneficially" within  
the meaning of rule 13d-3:  
  
2,216,000
- (b) Percent of class:  
10.9% (based on 20,369,642 shares  
outstanding as of November 3, 2004).
- (c) Number of shares as to which such  
person has:
- (i) sole power to vote or  
to direct the vote: none
- (ii) shared power to vote or  
to direct the vote:  
2,216,000
- (iii) sole power to dispose or  
to direct the disposition  
of: none
- (iv) shared power to dispose  
or to direct disposition  
of: 2,216,000

- Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:
- Not Applicable

- Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of  
Another Person:

The shares reported herein have been acquired on behalf of discretionary clients of WAM, including Acorn. Persons other than WAM and WAM GP are entitled to receive all dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, those shares. Acorn is the only such person known to be entitled to all dividends from, and all proceeds from the sale of, shares reported herein to the extent of more than 5% of the class.

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:

Not Applicable

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:

Not Applicable

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group:

Not Applicable

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Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: January 10, 2005

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.  
for itself and as general partner of  
COLUMBIA WANGER ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

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Bruce H. Lauer  
Senior Vice President and Secretary

The undersigned trust, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

COLUMBIA ACORN TRUST

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

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Bruce H. Lauer  
Vice President, Treasurer and  
Secretary

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 1

Joint Filing Agreement dated as of  
January 10, 2005 by and among Columbia  
Wanger Asset Management, L.P., WAM  
Acquisition GP, Inc. and Columbia Acorn  
Trust.

EXHIBIT 1

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

The undersigned hereby agree to the joint filing of the Schedule 13G to  
which this Agreement is attached.

Dated: January 10, 2005

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.  
for itself and as general partner of  
COLUMBIA WANGER ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

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Bruce H. Lauer  
Senior Vice President and Secretary

COLUMBIA ACORN TRUST

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

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Bruce H. Lauer  
Vice President, Treasurer and  
Secretary