



Broadcast News

August 2008

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings

It's 100 degrees outside now...a good reason to stay inside and write this column. I understand that our last meeting was well attended, with quite a few people. But, only three radios to talk about and no junk auction! So the topic for the upcoming meeting is to bring one or two of your favorite radio items to share with the membership. So, everyone should be able to bring something. I have some interesting things for the auction. This topic should lead to a topic of your least favorite item for the September meeting. That would be something that you have kept, but never gotten around to restoring. Something that you like well enough to keep, but not well enough to put in the time needed for a good restoration. I think this could result in seeing quite a few interesting items, and give others a chance to comment on how they would go about restoring it. I could envision members swapping their un-liked item for someone else's, just to look at something different. Anyway, the meeting is at the Hometown Buffet on 63rd and NW Expressway on August 9th, beginning at 7 PM with the meal preceding.

I missed the last meeting to attend the MARC meet in Lansing, Michigan. It was a good meet. Upon arriving on Thursday evening, I saw that the normal "gang" of collectors was there. Many had already set up their tents and tarps over their flea market spots. The flea market officially began Friday at 7 AM, with no selling allowed before. I unpacked and set up my table about 6:30, covered it with a blanket, and went looking for something I wanted to purchase at 7, but didn't really see anything impressive. Julie removed the blanket and opened for business at 7. I found a variety of interesting things throughout the day. Our spot was located in about the middle, the second row from the big tent, so it was a convenient location. I believe there were about the same number of vendors as last year, but looked like a little less, as they were more consolidated. The merchandise available was very similar to other meets.

There were a lot of interesting AC sets, along with some battery equipment, and of course, plenty of consoles. There did not seem to be as many parts as previous years, but tubes were plentiful. I did not sell a lot, but then I didn't take that much along either, saving room to being back new goodies. The weather on Friday was great, but warmed to about 84, which was hot for all the Michigan residents. Friday evening was the program which consisted of complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. An impressive musical group played a variety of folk music, with several radio collectors offering their vocal selections. Most interesting was a woman playing a hammer dulcimer with the group. Club members were introduced and thanked, and the results of the contest judging were announced. I took along my two varieties of Radiola Specials and won first place in the early RCA category. The contest entries were there in the same room, for everyone to enjoy.

On Saturday, light rain came at about 7 AM, and I never got back set up for sales. When the rain started, the sellers under the large tent seemed to have a lot of business, but it soon dwindled and everyone was packing up. The auction was moved up an hour, to 1 PM, but I did not see anything that I was very interested in, so we headed back to Oklahoma about 11 AM. I had a full vehicle and could not have squeezed in too much more and still had room for the items left in Missouri that I purchased on the way up. I'm looking forward to our August meeting, and hope to see everyone there.

The OKVRC Monthly Breakfast will be held at 8:30 AM, Wednesday morning, August 6, 2008, at the new Denny's just off of I-40 and the Douglas exit on Douglas Blvd. The address of the restaurant is 3130 S. Douglas Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73150

Report for the OKCVRC Meeting of July 12th 2008

The skies were dark, the lightning flashed, and the rain came down over Oklahoma City on the evening of July 12th. But the summer storm did not prevent about fourteen club members from showing up for OKVRC's regular second Saturday of the month meeting at the Hometown Buffet in Oklahoma City. We enjoyed dinner from about 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, before beginning the night's activities.

Club President Jim Collings was out of town on business, so club Vice-president Roger Knop covered for Jim. Some club business was discussed first. Roger filled us in on some of the recent radio swap meets and events. Club Treasurer Gene Robinson announced a plan to make the electronic version of the club's bulletin available as a bonus to club members currently receiving the paper edition. It is hoped that if more members opt for the electronic version, it will save the club printing and mailing expense. Despite this, the paper edition of the club newsletter will always be available to all members who prefer that medium. Gene noted that the club's finances were improved a bit recently, thanks to a generous donation of radios to the auction at last April's convention in Midwest City.

The topic for tonight's meeting was Current Projects. It was an opportunity to share with fellow club members projects you are working on, or recently completed. Club members would then be able to share advice on how to solve problems encountered while restoring that set. Bill Jones brought a completed project: a mid-fifties Emerson table model in an attractive modern trapezoidal-shaped cabinet. At first glance the cabinet appears to be wood grain plastic, it is actually real wood, artfully shaped. Bill explained some of the problems in refinishing the thin wood cabinet. He used lacquer thinner rather than conventional wood stripper when preparing the cabinet for refinishing, as stripper tends to leave a rougher wood grain behind which results in a less-smooth finish.

Roger showed a mid-fifties Traveler table radio, also in a fifties-era cabinet, this time made of plastic. Roger obtained this particular set at an estate sale, for the princely sum of fifty cents. A spirited and informative discussion followed among club members on the best ways to restore plastic cabinets. Various techniques were discussed, along with what products, like Novus plastic polish, work the best.

Your club secretary brought in the chassis and front panel assembly for a 1924 Zenith Super Eight battery set. This is one of Zenith's earliest floor models; a six-tube TRF radio built into a library table type cabinet. My hope is to find among our members a solution to a couple of problems facing me in restoring the set. First, there is no schematic in Rider's number one or even in a Zenith factory manual. Also, the back of my set is missing. If anyone has the schematic to a Zenith Super 7,8,9, or 10 series radio, or a back panel for one of these sets that you would like to sell, please send me an E-mail! (jptyrrell@sbcglobal.net)

After the presentations, there was a discussion of various web sites that offer restoration tips. No one brought items for a donation auction this month so we finished earlier than usual. Business was wrapped by 8:30.

Thanks to everyone who came to the meeting. See you next month.





The Oklahoma Vintage Radio Collectors (OKVRC) publishes the Broadcast News monthly for the presentation of historical information and enjoyment of club members and friends. Articles on subjects of interest to radio collectors, news of club activities, and restoration information are always welcome. Articles should be sent to the Broadcast News Editor, c/o OKVRC, PO BOX 50625, Midwest City, OK 73140-5625 or e-mailed RXRADIO@AOL.COM. Unless otherwise noted, articles can be reprinted freely, as long as proper credit and reference is given. Electronic copy of articles can be obtained from the editor of Broadcast News.

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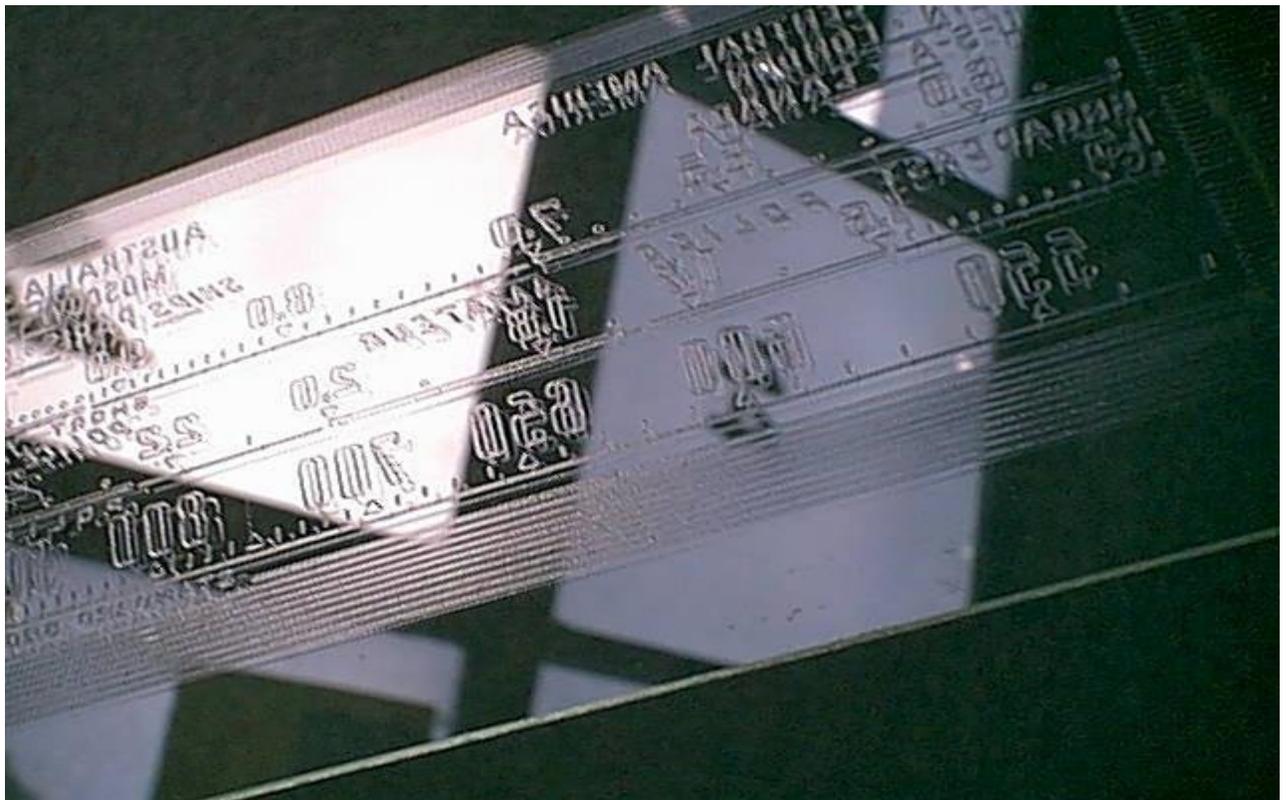
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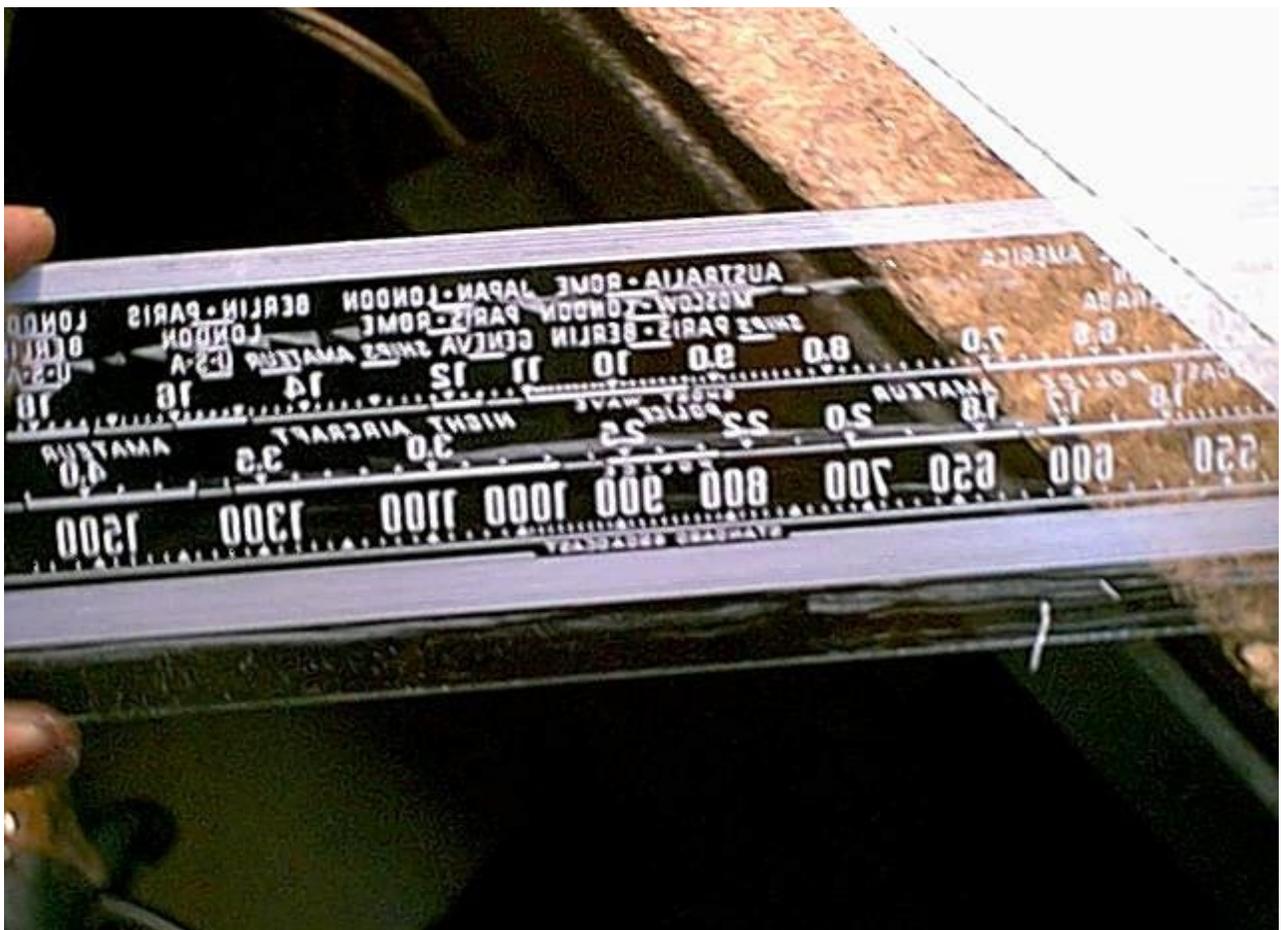
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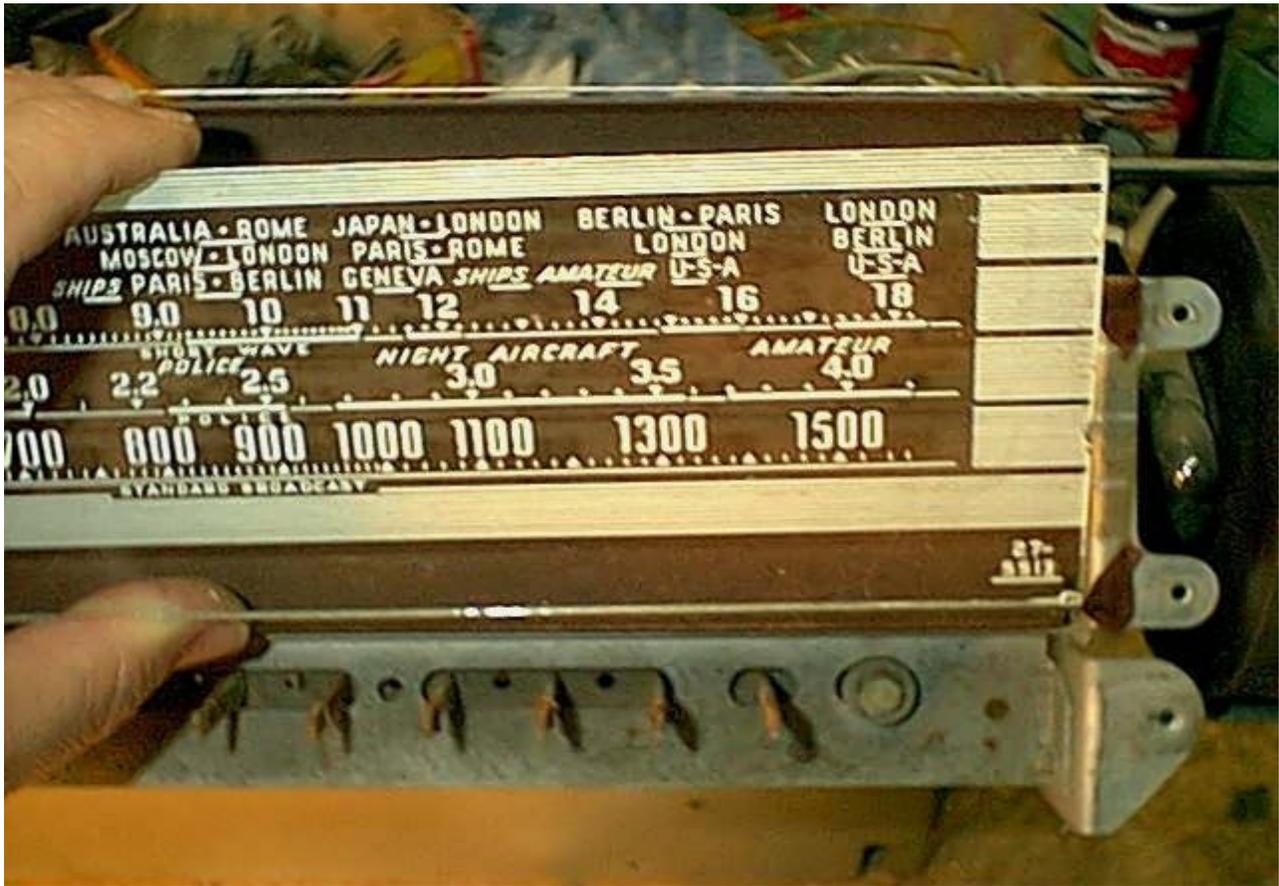
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Restoring a 1940 Philco dial Scale



With most of the paint already flaked off, I found that the glass was molded or etched. So, I decided to try a technique that worked well on an auto radio dial. Basically, I used Testors (tm) model paint, and squeegee'd it on with a razor blade. Keeping up even pressure, I wanted to only have a slight film left on the clear areas... When the paint had dried, I went back with a new razor blade, and carefully scraped the glass to remove the last of the film. It didn't take all that long... Pic 3 shows the dial almost done. Pic 4 is just before final cleanup of a few rough areas, and re-installation.





OKVRC CLASSIFIED ADS

Send all ads to editor OKVRC, Attn: editor, Broadcast News, PO BOX 50625, Midwest City, OK 73140-5625 Or E-mail directly to RXRADIO@AOL.COM

Advertising policy: Member's ads are FREE. Small donations will be accepted for non-member's ads.

- WANTED:** Transmitters, Receivers, Ham gear, Boat Anchors Radio, Test Equipment, Tubes, Parts, you name it. Call Tom Laszynski at (405) 741-1176 or e-mail me at k8jrm@arrl.net.
- WANTED:** Dial bezel and dial pointer for a E. H. Scott Receiver, Model SLR-H or Navy RBO-2. Also, need metal Identification plate for a Navy RBO-2 receiver. Contact Tom Laszynski at either k8jrm@arrl.net or 405.741.1176.
- WANTED:** Any radio related German items. Especially WWII radios, tubes, and accessories. I'm a buyer also for Grundig, Telefunken radios and tubes from the 1950-1965 era. Frank Karner (405) 769-4656 fkarner@cox.net
- WANTED:** I'M YOUR BUYER for tube amplifiers- music, PA, any type! Also amplifier tubes, tube testers, etc. Frank Karner (405) 769-4656 fkarner@cox.net
- WANTED:** I need some 6FG6 Tubes (European number is EM84) to get me thru the winter's work. Also need a few 6BR5 (EM80) tubes. Thanks! Frank Karner fkarner@cox.net (405) 769-4656
- WANTED:** Briggs & Stratton (BASCO) radio items: Crystal radio, tube sockets, A-B-C power supplies, boxed parts, radio advertising and promotional items. Dale Boyce (414)353-0734 or radioman@wi.rr.com
- WANTED:** Someone to repair a broken bakelite case (some pieces missing). John Reynolds, (405) 590-2716 or email jhreynolds8787@yahoo.com.
- WANTED:** Bakelite case for Philco Boomerang model 49-501 deco radio. Cracked, nice or restorable...whatever condition you have! Frank Karner, 12432 Elizabeth Cove, Midwest City, OK. 73130. E-mail:

fkarner@cox.net (405) 769-4656

WANTED: Parts for a 1925 SUPER ZENITH 27. This is similar to the Super Zenith VII, except for the AC power supply, meter. I need the AC power supply (Maybe there are 2 used?) and perhaps some small parts.

THANKS! Frank Karner (405) 769-4656 fkarner@cox.net

FOR SALE: ANTIQUE RADIO RESTORATION VIDEOS. Volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4 are currently available. Check my web page for more details and special deals! Go to <http://www.bretsoldradios.com/>

FOR SALE: Magnet wire, 200C, all gauges 10-40 awg. Local (405) 745-9473. Toll Free- 866-745-9473. Mike LaPuzza

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FOR SALE: House wiring antenna networks, "Aircore" choke Baluns, Balun Isolation transformers and amateur 1KW "Aircore" 1 to 1, 1 to 4 and 1 to 9 "pigtail" weatherproof Baluns. L.W. Rousseau (405)842-0125

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