



Broadcast News

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings

Our Fall Swap Meet last month was a great success. I had several people comment that it was the best meet we have had! Attendance was about the same as normal, with a few collectors from Texas, and a few from the Tulsa club, but we had lots of merchandise. I believe most everyone went home with something new. I know that I sold the majority of what I brought and came home with almost the same amount of new stuff. I believe everything sold in the silent auction. Usually we have items left that did not sell and they end up in the donation auction. I believe part of the success was that items were fairly priced. There were not a lot of things priced at top retail, which is what I see at all of the out of town meets I attend. The auction had some contested bidding, with a few of the donated items bringing good prices. The raffle brought in a significant amount of money for the club, and overall we paid for the cost of renting the facility. Thanks to all who helped in any way to make this a successful meet. There are some photos of the meet attached.

This month's monthly meeting will be on Saturday November 8th at Spencer's Barbeque and Smokehouse, 9900 NE23rd St., Oklahoma City, OK. The meeting starts at 7 PM, with the meal beforehand. The topic is "**Miniatures**". The trend in electronics has always been to make things smaller and smaller. So bring your items that are small and compact. In the 1920's they made very small horn speakers which are very cute. Then in the 1930's the trend was to make radio receivers as small (and cheap) as possible. Then there are the micro transistor radios from the early 1960's. These are things I could think of, but I'm sure there are other categories of small items. So, bring what you have to talk about and share with the other members. It should make for an interesting evening. And of course you can bring anything else you would like to show, or talk about. Don't forget the donation auction at the end of the meeting! I'll be bringing a Hallicrafters metal set that was donated.

On another note, our annual Christmas party would normally be held on Saturday December 13th. We have not had any volunteers to host this event at their home yet, but the date can be moved to meet a host's schedule. If you are willing to host this event, it is not hard as we have it catered. Let me know if you are interested, or have questions. If there are no

volunteers, we can have it at my home. We will have the traditional white elephant/dirty Santa gift exchange.

The VRPS annual convention will be on November 14th thru 16th in Mesquite, TX, at the Hampton Inn Convention Center. (The same location as previous years). This is one of the largest radio meets in the country, and it's right here in our area, so everyone should try to attend. In the past, I've given you a big write-up of all the events, but they are fairly similar every year, so I won't repeat myself. The theme for this year's is Radio Goes to War. Of course the main events are auctions on Friday evening and Saturday, and viewing the contest entries. If you have never been to a large event like this, you can learn a lot, as there is a lot of equipment to view. If you need details drop me a line. I hope to see many of you there.

Report for the OKVRC Convention and Swap Meet 10/11/201

Autumn is upon us, and the weather was a little unsettled last Saturday for our Fall Convention and Swap Meet. It rained the day before but was quite nice by the time we all got there. And get there we did! We had a pretty good turnout, including some collectors who had come from Tulsa or even out of state.

Member and guests were arriving at the Midwest Community Center before the building opened at eight. There were plenty of donuts and pastry, and lots of hot coffee to enjoy while waiting for even more sellers to show up. There were about three and a half rows of tables, about the same as last April's convention. There was a fair collection of sets, more cathedrals than last time but not very many twenties battery sets. There were also a fair amount of later (post 1960) items) and some nice novelty radios too. I swore that after practically filling my car with new treasures last spring, I would limit myself to one purchase, hopefully a nice twenties battery or early AC set. No luck on that, but I ended up bringing home a mint, working Magnavox AM-FM Stereo "Penthouse" two-piece table radio. It dates from the mid-late nineteen sixties, right at the very end of the vacuum tube era. I normally collect only pre-war radios, but I really like it! It looks great in front of my fireplace, and it's good to have something in my collection I can listen to stereo FM with! There were also lots of parts, knobs, tubes, and junk sets available as well. Plenty of radio related books, manuals, magazines, and novelty items were offered also.

No contest to enter our favorite items in this time, we have to wait till spring for that. There were a fair number of items in the silent auction, including a couple of farm sets that went for very reasonable prices. After the silent auction was finished, we all took our places for the regular auction. There was lots of stuff up for grabs, thanks to some generous donations. Plenty of parts, tubes, test instruments, complete and partial radios, books and magazines were auctioned off. Most items went for a buck, sometimes several items for a buck, but a few premium items brought much more. Almost everyone took something home.

We had two fine restored sets that were raffled off. The first was a Philco model 40-910 "Secretary" radio. It was deigned to sit on the floor under your desk, and was operated using simple foot controls. It was something of an unusual item and was only offered for one

year (1949). The second was an RCA model 65U “Golden Throat” radio-phono (1947). Both items were fully restored by club members and donated for the raffle. And both went home with their lucky winners!

The proceeds for the auction and the raffle went a long way in helping keep the club in the black. Thank to everyone who came, especially those who came from out of town. Hope to see you all again at the spring convention. Don't forget to come to Spencer's Barbeque for our next regular meeting, on November 8th





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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