



Broadcast News

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings

March 14th is our monthly meeting at Spencer's Barbeque and Smokehouse, 9900 NE 23rd St., Oklahoma City. We gather at 6 PM for food and fellowship with the meeting beginning at 7. We will finalize plans for publicity, and brainstorm for other ideas to make our April 11th Annual Swap meet bigger and better. The topic for the meeting will be crystal detectors. I'll bring many of mine, and hopefully others will have some also. If you have a complete set with an interesting detector, that is acceptable also. At the end of the meeting we will have our usual donation auction. I will bring the rest of the donated books to be auctioned.

There are still many of you who have not paid the annual \$15 dues to cover the expense of this publication. If you have not paid, please send your check to OKVRC, PO Box 50625, Midwest City, OK 73140-5625. Those who have not paid will be dropped beginning with the May issue. If you are unsure of your dues status, you may email me at jrcradio@cox.net, and I'll advise.

Here are details for the Swap meet: On April 11th our OKVRC annual meet will be held at the Midwest City Community Center, beginning at 8 AM. This is our big meet with a swap meet, contest, silent auction, and live auction. We have the facility only until Noon, so events need to move along. We get in the door officially at 8AM, but usually they will let us in a little earlier. The swap and contest tables will be set up. The event will have free admission, but donations for coffee and doughnuts will be appreciated. The silent auction will end at 9:30 AM, followed by the contest judging with the live auction beginning at 10:30. There will be a raffle for at least one donated radio, a restored deco Majestic Model 5LA50. We usually have many nice items on display, and just coming to see the contest items would be worthwhile, but there are always interesting items in the swap meet and auction. Everyone is urged to bring items to show off for the contest. You may enter two items in each category. The only restriction is that items that won a first place ribbon last year can not compete, but can be displayed. I believe that displaying your favorite pieces is an important part of radio collecting. It makes collecting more enjoyable. It's no fun having a room full of great radio items, and never showing them or sharing them with others.

Here are the Contest Categories:

1. Battery and Crystal Receivers, Pre-1930
2. Tombstone and Cathedral Receivers
3. Horizontal Wooden Receivers
4. Metal Sets after 1926 (includes amateur receivers and transmitters)
5. AC/DC Bakelite or Plastic Receivers
6. Transistor Radios
7. Console Receivers (includes radio/phono combos and televisions)
8. Portable Receivers (any tube radio with a handle)
9. Foreign Made Receivers and Equipment, (tube type).
10. Homebrew and Kit Receivers
11. Hi Fi Audio Equipment, tube type
12. Accessory Items (tubes, speakers, antennas, test equipment, etc.)
13. Open Category (anything that doesn't fit in another category)
14. Best Restoration (this can be displayed in any category, but will be judged on restoration quality. Documentation of condition before restoration is encouraged)
15. People's Choice (ballot of favorite display of all who attend)
16. Best of Show (one of the first place winners from the other categories)

Don't forget that the VRPS spring auction to be held at the Senter East Building, 224 Chamberlain St., in Irving, TX (Dallas) on March 21st. It begins at 10 AM, but the doors open at 6AM. This auction compliments their annual convention in the fall. It is an auction only, but is worth attending. It's not as large as the auctions during the fall convention, and there are not as many expensive items as in the fall, but there are always a few nice things. There tends to be more parts available and sets for parts or restoration. So it's a good source for getting what might be needed to complete your restoration. It wraps up in the late afternoon, so it can be just a one day trip, if you can get an early morning start from Oklahoma. It is worth attending.

Report for the OKVRC Meeting 02/14/2015

I'm looking out my window this Saturday morning (2/28), watching the snow fall. It's about 22 degrees outside, and it's hard to believe that two week ago it today it was almost eighty degrees outside! Warm weather makes folks more willing to leave their snug nests, so we had a better than average crowd of about eighteen or so members and spouses at Spencer's Barbeque in Midwest City for our February meeting. It was also Valentine's Day, so the club provided gift bags of chocolate truffles for the ladies. We enjoyed dinner from about 5:45 to 7:00 before Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order. Jim discussed some upcoming radio events and swap meets, including our own April 2015 Spring Convention and Swap Meet. It's only about six weeks away, so start thinking of things you want to sell, auction off, or display in the contest.

When the announcements were finished we settled down to enjoy the evenings program, a viewing of Volume One the of Brett's Old Radio's series on Antique Radio Restoration.

When most of us older collectors started looking for radios (I won't tell you how long ago I started, let's just say I remember with pain having to pass on a \$5 Zenith Cathedral because the allowance I got for mowing my parent's lawn didn't cover it!), learning to repair antique radios meant getting advice from fellow radio collectors and retired radio repairmen. Radio repair books were limited to old books that were around when the radios were in use. I got much help from a 1946 copy of Marcus and Levy's Elements of Practical radio Servicing that I found at a used book store. Today of course there are many contemporary books written for collectors, these new books cover cosmetic as well as electronic restoration, and teach how to use modern test equipment in your work. There are plenty of resources on line now as well, including a lot of helpful YouTube videos. It's much easier now!

One of the best resources available is the video series produced by collector Brett Menassa. I have Volume One Antique Radio Restoration, Volume Two Advanced Restoration, Volume Three Plastic Radio Restoration, and Volume Four Wood Cabinet Repairs and Refinishing. They are available (along with excellent radio grill cloth), at Brett's EBay store. Brett also has another video on radio circuit alignment; I'm planning to buy it soon.

In volume one Brett walks us through the restoration of a 1936 Philco "skyscraper" style tombstone table radio. He gives us a general overview superheterodyne theory before going step-by-step through the repair and cabinet restoration of this particular set. The video is about two hours long so we were not able to view the last half hour or so, but if anyone wants to watch any of them, I'll loan them to club members. Just drop me an e-mail or call; I can bring them to the next club meeting. The videos are designed for beginners, but still have a lot of information that pros will appreciate. Watching them is well worth your time!

We finished up the evening with a continuation of the auction of the generous donation of radio related items from Mr. Jerry Kincaide. More parts, test equipment, books, junk sets and other odds-and-ends were up for grabs, almost everyone took something home. See you at the March meeting!



Here are some pics from some of our earlier swap meets





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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MEMBERSHIP:

OKVRC Membership is \$15.00 per year. You are invited to join us in our celebration of Vintage Radio by sending your check to OKVRC, PO BOX 50625, Midwest City, OK, 73140-5625. **If your membership has expired, you are in jeopardy of being dropped from the Broadcast News distribution list, so please send in your dues today.**

OKVRC CLASSIFIED ADS

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

- WANTED:** Tube Testers! Interested in models from Hickok, Triplett, Sencore, B&K, Heathkit, Mercury, Jackson, Precise, Stark, Marconi, and Realistic (Radio Shack). Contact Jim Ray, email jabray71@hotmail.com or call (405) 514-8046.
- 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) 840-4146 or radioman@wirr.com.
- FOR SALE:** Magnet wire sizes 10 ga to 40 ga. Coaxial cables and antenna wire. Mike LaPuzza, Clear Signal Products, Inc. (405) 745-9473 email: wire@coaxman.com.
- FOR SALE:** Radio Chassis Holders. These maintenance stands hold a chassis while working on it. Small stand - \$37.50, and Brackets \$2.50 plus shipping. Large stand - \$55.00 and brackets - \$2.50 plus shipping. Contact Steve Strong at (405) 634-7547 or e-mail scstrong1@cox.net.
- SERVICE:** Old Radio Restoration and Servicing by Raymond Cady. Let me make it like new again. Email: rcady@uco.edu or call (405) 820-8014. Edmond, OK.
- WANTED:** Old comics wanted. Send lists to Dan Giddings, PO Box 3961 Glendale, CA 91221-3961

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