

Know Anyone Interested In Vintage Radios?

**Then be sure to sure to tell them about the annual
Antique Radio Swap Meet Contest and Auction!**

**At the Midwest City Community Center
100 N. Midwest Blvd
(North of Tinker AFB)**

FREE ADMISSION!

**Sponsored by the
Oklahoma Vintage Radio Collectors**



www.okvrc.org



Broadcast News

Online at www.okvrc.org

September 2015

Volume XXIV, Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings

Our next meeting is Saturday, September 12th at Spencer's Barbecue and Smokehouse, 9900 NE 23rd Street with dinner at 6, and the meeting beginning around 7PM. Our meeting topic is a continuation of the themes we have had in recent months. We had three dial battery radios, one dial battery radios, and now this month we will discuss early AC table model radios which use separate speakers. These were made in only a few years from 1927 to 1929. So, that would include metal box Atwater Kents, early RCA Radiolas (Models 17, 18, 33, 44, 60), Crosleys (Gembox and Showbox), etc. These are the most commonly seen examples, but there are numerous other sets of this type made by many other manufacturers which are not as common. Hopefully someone has a few of these to bring, but the common sets are needed also. Of course, you can bring anything else that you would like to show, talk about, or need help with, in addition. Don't forget items for the donation auction. I believe there will be quite a few interesting items this month.

Mark your calendars for our swap meet next month, October 10th at the Midwest City Community Center, 8 AM. Also a volunteer is needed to host the Christmas Party. It's not too much work, as it is catered. It's a great way to show off your collection!

Julie & I went to Radiofest, the ARCI meet held in Burr Ridge, Illinois (south Chicago suburb), on July 31st thru August 2nd. This was the first meet held at this location, at the Quality Inn. It was a good meet, with attendance higher than previous years. The meet began with the Friday evening auction. I like their auction format. Seller's pay a flat fee of \$7 to enter their item in the auction, and can put a reserve, such that if the bid does not get that high, the item will not sell. Buyer's pay a 10% premium on the sales price. The auction was conducted by Jim Sargent of the Dallas area, so it went smoothly. There were a lot of high priced items which did not sell, but many items sold at fairly high prices. There was very little junk. I sold half of the items I entered, with one doing especially well. I only purchased a few things. The downside of the auction was that they were not able to check anyone out until after the auction was finished and all the items had been entered in the computer. Due to their security, I was not even able to take my items that did not sell out, until after a long, long wait to check out.

The flea market began on Saturday morning. Spaces were tight, and some were assigned in a grassy area on the far end of the hotel. I did not know they were there until mid-morning, so I likely missed out on some buys. There were a few dealers who had to set

up inside the meeting room, also. Overall, I found some nice items and sold most all of the significant items I brought. It got hot in the afternoon, even with a breeze, so almost everyone shut down by about 3 PM. It was going again strong by 9 AM on Sunday. Saturday night there was a \$45 a plate banquet, but we played hookie and found a fabulous nearby Italian restaurant.

Photos of the winning contest entries were posted on the club website very quickly. There were some very nice items, especially in the Zenith display. Our member, Jack Bauman, who now lives in the St. Louis area won a first place with his Valleytone battery set made there in St. Louis. It also received an award for historical documentation, and the People's Choice award.

It was a very good meet, and I believe the improvements they made will make it the meet of choice for many collectors. They eliminated the pizza after the auction, and enacted some other cost saving measures, which should have allowed the ARCI to come out a little ahead, rather than losing money on the meet as in the past, and continue its success. Except for the VRPS in Dallas, this is the closest major meet to OKC, just less than 800 miles. I would recommend it for all to attend next year.

Report for the OKVRC Meeting 08/08/2015

August has arrived in Oklahoma, with a bit of a respite from last month's scorching temperatures. I've harvested six cantaloupes from some seeds I planted this spring, and lots of tomatoes too. But working in the yard in the summer heat gets old, and soon I'm back indoors working on a radio or two. Recently I picked up a Philco 37-84 cathedral table model at an estate sale. It should be easy to fix since it has only four tubes, and the cabinet is in excellent shape. I'll be bringing the cabinet to the September meeting in hopes of getting some tips from club members on the best way to touch up a few blemishes on it.

We didn't have the huge turnout we had at last month's meeting, but sixteen members and spouses made it to Spencer's Bar-b-que for our monthly meeting. We enjoyed dinner from about 5:45 to 7:00 when Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order, and brought us to date on some radio news. Jim also told us about a recent large radio meet he attended in Chicago. My dad was born in Chicago (1914) and had a lot of great stories about life there. Too bad he didn't keep that huge Stromberg-Carlson console his father owned!

Last month's program was on five-tube, three-knob tuned radio frequency battery radios, typically built between 1923 and 1925. Our club members brought in a great selection to share. This month we decided to continue our march through radio history by covering late battery era tuned radio frequency battery radios. These sets replaced the confusing three-knob tuning arrangement with a single tuning knob, like radios of today. Tube count ranged from five to eight 01A's, but the vast majority used six. The extra tube usually was due to an additional RF stage, which added another tuning capacitor as well. All four tuning capacitors were typically then linked to the single tuning knob through belts or levers.

Your club secretary brought in two six-tube, single knob TRFs to share. The first was a Federal Orthosonic model E 10-60 from 1926. I chose this one to bring because it is the most elaborate and nicely built battery sets I have in my collection. The cabinet and controls are quite ornate, and the chassis inside is a work of art. The top side has polished metal shields

around each tube, and the tuners are enclosed in a shielded enclosure as well. Underneath the chassis, the various stages of the radio are enclosed in individual copper boxes. The radio is also very large and heavy. Unfortunately, the result all this elegant engineering was a product that was a bit like Cinderella arriving at 10 minutes before midnight. AC radios would arrive a year later, and all battery sets would become obsolete overnight, except in rural areas where electricity in the home was not yet available

In addition, I brought in an Atwater-Kent model 33, also from 1926. Atwater-Kent made many single-knob battery TRF radios; most (models 30, 33, 35, 48, and 49) are six-tube. Models 32 and (super rare) 50 are seven-tube. The design of these Atwater-Kent sets is strikingly different from sets like the massive Federal. The Atwater-Kent sets are compact in size, with sleek lines and a minimum of ornamentation.

Jim Collings brought in a very early and unusual example of a single knob tuner battery radio; a Kennedy model 22 from 1924. This set also has only five tubes, and uses a somewhat different circuit form a conventional TRF. It is also has a single multi-gang tuning capacitor, instead of a row of tuning capacitors linked together, as is used in most early single knob radios. This gives the Kennedy model 22 a rather compact size as well.

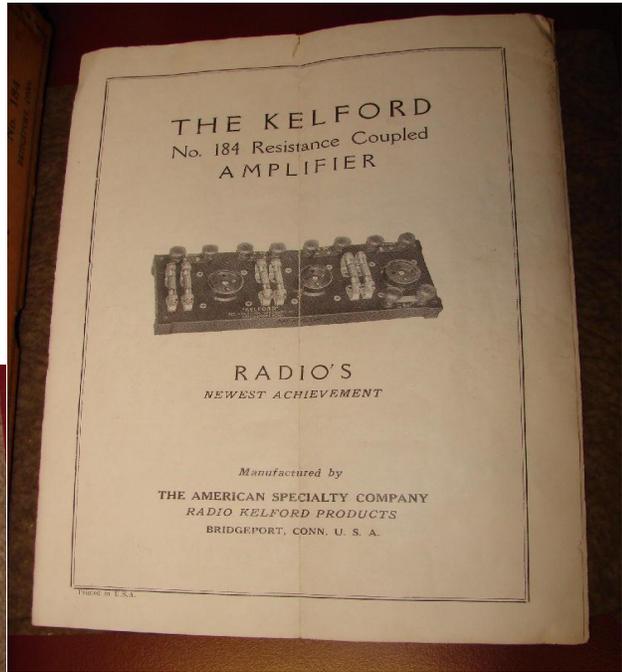
Having covered late battery sets in our August meeting, we have decided to have a program at the September meeting on early AC sets. These would be the sets that resemble some of the late battery era single-knob sets but replace the batteries with a heavy AC power supply and the O1A tubes with 26, 27 and 71 tubes. So if you have one, bring it in! It can't be much heavier than the Federal I lugged in to our last meeting. Also, feel free to bring along any radio related items you would like to "show and tell" with the club.

Soon it was time for the donation auction. We had more nice items donated by Jack Ramsey. Two B&W portable televisions, five Ryder's television manuals, a power strip, a tube substitution guide, a flat of parts, a small portable radio from the forties, and a Sony VCR all found new homes. See you next month!

Accessory Corner by Jim Collings

Kelford No. 184 Resistance Coupled Amplifier

This month's featured item is a Kelford No. 184 Resistance Coupled Amplifier. This was made in 1924 by the American Specialty Co., Bridgeport, Connecticut. Resistance coupling was a cheaper way to get audio amplification without the use of audio transformers. It took three tubes to get enough gain to power a loud speaker, compared with the two tubes needed with transformers. Resistance coupling was required in some circuits, as for amplification of signals from scanning disc televisions. The photo above shows the Kelford with three 201-A tubes, but other 4-pin tubes could be used. Daven made similar amplifier, but also produced their own hi-Mu tubes to use with it. Audio transformers cost about \$5 each in this time frame, and the Kelford No. 184 sold for \$8. So this was a complete unit ready for use without required assembly, at a lower cost than an amplifier with transformers. This and similar amplifiers (Allen-Bradley or Daven), are seen occasionally for sale on eBay, sometimes built into a homebrew radio. They are nice items for a collection, but seldom put to use.



Pictures from August Meeting





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.

BOARD:

President	Jim Collings	jrcradio@cox.net
Secretary	Jim Tyrrell	jptyrrell@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Jim Ray	jabray71@hotmail.com

BROADCAST NEWS STAFF:

Editor	Raymond Cady	cadyraymond1@gmail.com
Contributing Editor	Art Hoch	artdrhs@yahoo.com
Contributing Editor	John L Reynolds	tack1@flash.net

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

*Send all ads to: 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:** 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: cadyraymond1@gmail.com or call (405) 820-8014. Edmond, OK.
- WANTED:** Old comics wanted. Send lists to Dan Giddings, PO Box 3961 Glendale, CA 91221-3961
- FOR SALE:** Stromberg Carlson elaborate console, looks like a block front dresser with doors and Queen Ann legs, unrestored \$100. Zenith 7S240 shutterdial chairside, refinished, working, \$200. Jim Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013 (405)-755-4139.
- FOR SALE:** Atwater Kent 10B 1928 (aka "Breadboard"). This radio is in pristine condition, has an external power supply. The Breadboard comes housed in a cabinet that has been refinished and this cabinet appears to have been made for the radio. Fielding believes he is the second owner of this radio. Please call 580-223-6072 to discuss details where the radio came from, price, etc and arrange to view the radio.
- FOR SALE:** Collection of 115 radios (100 tube), 2200+ tubes, caps, resistors, horn speakers, Riders, Sams, books, variac, iso transformer, battery eliminators, tube tester, signal generators, extra speakers, old advertisements, spare parts and pieces, etc. Bulk sale, not piecing out. Serious interest only. Call for details... Art Hoch, 620-241-5465.

OKVRC EDITOR: Broadcast News
PO BOX 50625
Midwest City
OK 73140-5625