

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

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings

It's almost here! Our Spring Swap Meet/Convention is on Saturday April 9th at the Midwest City Community Center. Here is a schedule of events and the approximate timing:

7:30 AM Activity in the parking lot begins

8:00 Doors officially open for swap meet, silent auction, and contest display setup

9:30 Silent auction ends

10:00 Contest judging begins

10:45 Main auction begins

12:00 noon Meet ends (we are supposed to be out by then, but I do not think there is another group renting the facility immediately).

The categories for the contest were listed in the last issue of the Broadcast News, and may be listed again this issue if the editor has room. I expect to see a lot of great items in the contest. We will have the People's Choice Category, where each of us can vote for the display which we like the best. Remember, that additional items of support, like advertising, are encouraged, and may be the tie breaker in the judging. This is especially true for the best restoration category, as photos taken before restoration are needed to show how much work was done. The raffle this year will be for a beautiful General Electric fancy cathedral radio with original finish. It was restored to good working order by Raymond Cady, and was purchased from a Jim Sargent auction in Dallas and donated to the club. I believe it is the nicest item we have had in one of our raffles, which have helped the club pay for the cost of renting the facility. Don't forget to bring items for the the silent auction and main auction and more for the swap tables. These are the perfect way to get rid of your unwanted items. Tell all of your friends who may have an interest in our hobby about the meet. This meet is one of our sources for finding new members. Be sure to bring a few items from your

collection to show off in the contest. Half the fun of collecting is showing what you have to other collectors, and talking about them. We should have good out-of-state attendance.

Julie and I attended the VRPS auction in Irving, Tx, on March 19th. We handed out quite a few flyers for our meet, and I know several people are planning to attend. The auction was a little smaller than in the past. It started about 9:30 and was over by 2 PM. There were not many very nice expensive items, but quite a few lots of parts, tubes, and items needing restoration. Most of the better radios were from the Les Sims estate. I sold mainly tubes and a few smaller items, and brought back some different things, with enough cash left over to cover the hotel, so it was a successful auction. I enjoyed seeing many collector friends, and several of our members were present.

Report for the OKVRC Meeting 03/12/2016

During my teenage years, so long ago that the only on-line chat room was channel 7 on the CB radio, I worked at restaurants. There I noticed strange phenomena. On cold, damp, even rainy days, we often were extra busy. Rain brought people out! Well, that must apply to our OKVRC club members as well, as we had the best turnout for one of our regular monthly meetings that I have seen in a while: over twenty members showed up. We had some members we haven't seen in months!

The venue was, as always, Spencer's Bar-b-que. Club members began arriving before 6:00 PM and we all enjoyed dinner until about 7:00, when Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order. After some announcements were dispensed with, we began the evening's program.

I'm afraid I may have sown some confusion with last month's report. I said we were going to continue our serial march through radio history by covering radios from the nineteen forties. As it turned out the decision had been made to instead have a tutorial on repair of Bakelite cabinets. What a good choice that was! Our large turnout crowd got a real treat. We will cover forties radios at our May club meeting, after our April Convention and Swap Meet at the Midwest City Community Center.

If you have been collecting radio as long as I have, (I made my first purchases with my busboy wages in the late nineteen seventies!) you probably remember when Bakelite sets were a dime-a-dozen. In recent times, nice examples have become quite valuable, if in good condition. But what do you do when you find one with a cracked or broken cabinet? Bakelite and other plastic materials used in old radios are very brittle, and many of these sets got dropped once or twice over the decades. With the techniques that were demonstrated to us tonight, such damaged sets can be made good-as-new.

Gary Swymeler is one of several club members who have mastered the art of restoring cracked and broken plastic radio cabinets so that the damage is not only repaired, you would have never known had ever taken place. Gary explained the process in detail, and showed us the various materials used, most of which can be obtained at Hobby Lobby. He showed us the results of some of his projects, and they look amazing. Club member Bill Jones showed us a 1939 Crosley model 39C he had restored using similar methods. Club member Mike Troxin brought in several plastic radios he has restored or is restoring. These include a beautiful red DeWalt Caitlin radio, also a Crosley "Dashboard", a Zenith "Racetrack" and a Philco "Flying Wedge". Isn't it amazing how many radios have acquired nicknames from

collectors over the years? Now if only I can find that “Walton’s” Zenith or “Breadboard” Atwater-Kent at a barn sale someday!

As usual, we wrapped up the evening with the usual donation auction. A Zenith radio, a nice 1” speaker, several boxes of tubes, two Emerson portable radios, a small CRT, an early twenties homebrew chassis, several boxes of parts and a tombstone style radio cabinet went to new homes. Thanks to our members who shared their knowledge with us, and brought in examples of their expert restoration skills. Everyone learned lot.

Next month of course, will be the spring meet. Don’t miss it! Let’s everyone bring in at least one item for the contest. And everyone please bring in items to sell. Last fall we had far too few sellers, I went home with nothing that day, perhaps this spring I will be luckier. We will also be raffling off a beautiful cathedral radio. See you there!

Pictures from the March Meeting

Gary Swymeler giving his presentation on repairing Bakelite cabinets



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.**

Here are the Contest Categories to aid in your planning:

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. Art Deco and Novelty AC operated Receivers
9. Foreign Made Receivers and Equipment, pre 1957.
10. Homebrew and Kit Receivers
11. HiFi 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)

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 cadyraymond1@gmail.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:** Giant Zenith 12S370 console, original finish, \$600; Atwater Kent 10C (4700) breadboard, nice working, \$800; Crosley 50, \$75, Crosley 52, \$75; Burns black celluloid horn, perfect, \$300; RCA AeriolaSr, \$100; Paragon RA-10/DA-2, \$800; Get these before they go to the VRPS auction! Jim Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013 (405)-755-4139.
- FOR SALE:** Would you like to play your digital music collection on your antique radios? You need an AM transmitter. This transmitter has USB and SD card connections plus a built in FM tuner. It will Bluetooth connect to a smartphone or tablet. Enjoy your music! Only \$75 cadyraymond1@gmail.com or call (405) 820-8014. Edmond, OK.

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