



Broadcast News

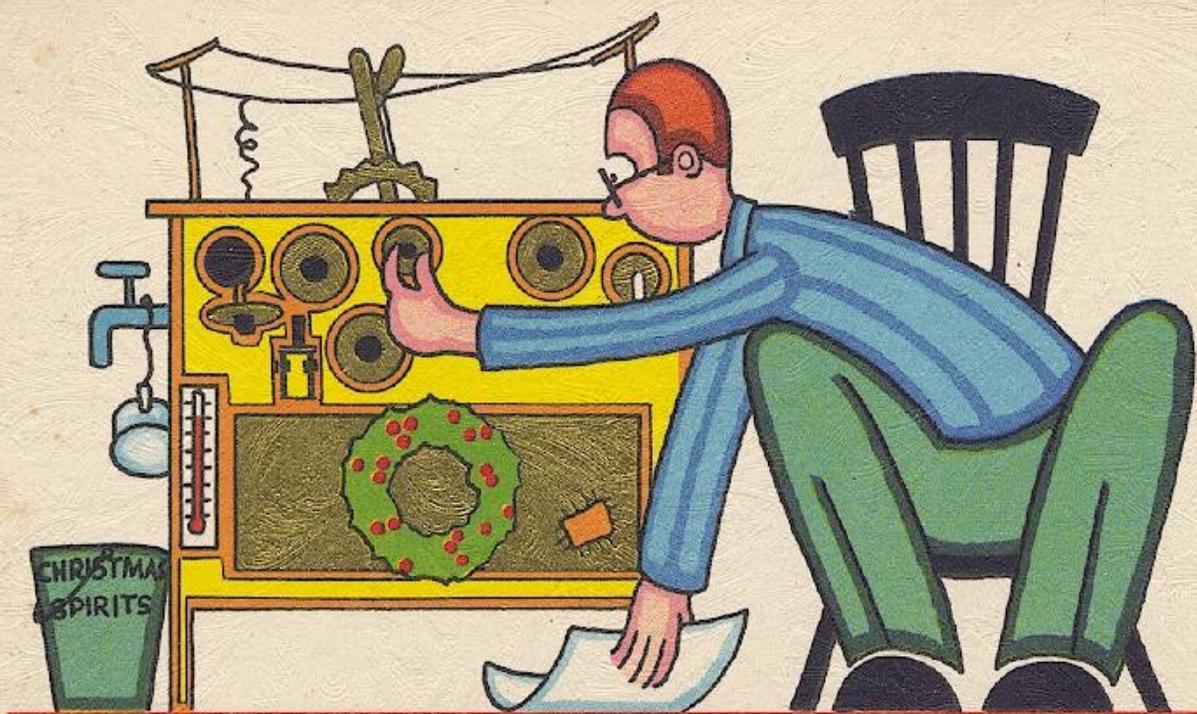
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December 2016

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings



Tune in! I'm broadcasting
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
to you

OKVRC Christmas Party!!

This year our Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 10th, at my home again: Jim and Julie Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013. We will be ready to eat at 7:00. The menu will be the same as last year. The club is subsidizing a portion of the meal again this year. Please RSVP at 755-4139 or jrcradio@cox.net, by Monday, Dec. 5, to aid in planning for the number of meals needed. We will have the traditional white elephant/dirty Santa gift exchange after dinner. So everyone needs to bring a gift valued at ~\$10. So for a couple, two gifts will be needed. The gift exchange has been a lot of fun in the past, depending on how many items get stolen from their original recipient. We are hoping for a big turnout at the party, and of course all are welcome. I'm hoping there will be some musical entertainment after the gift exchange, so bring your instrument. All the women, even those who do not normally attend the meetings, are encouraged to attend and socialize. Sorry that there are not too many recently acquired items in my collection, so you will be seeing a lot of the same old stuff again.

Dues for everyone will be due at the first of the year in January, for the coming year. The old staggered dues payment system has been abandoned. So your dues are due unless you recently joined, or paid at the swap meet. Dues are reasonable, at just \$15 per year. Mail your check to OKVRC, PO Box 50625, Midwest City, OK 73140-5645. Dues can be paid at the Christmas Party, if desired.

The VRPS meet in Dallas (Mesquite) was held Nov. 18-20th. This is one of the largest meets in the country, and was a very good meet. Attendance was good, and seemed to me to be a little more than last year. Quite a few of our members attended. I did not get an exact total on the auction sales, but I believe that more than \$40,000 worth of equipment sold in the auctions. The Friday auction was for tubes and paperwork first, beginning in the late afternoon, and then other items later in the evening. This was the \$10 minimum bid auction, but there were some nice items. It seemed to me that it was a buyer's auction. Prices were reasonable, and I purchased quite a bit. The number of items was down from last year, so the auction concluded at about 9:30. The Saturday auction of nicer items began at 11 AM and was concluded at about 4:30, as the number of items was down here also. I believe the auctions' volume was reduced because last year everything sold very cheap since there were so many items, and buyers did not want to take losses again this year. I thought that the Saturday auction was more of a seller's auction, as prices went pretty high. Of course there are always bargains at any auction. The set handlers had promised to get each seller's first 10 items put up on the block, so, at one point, there were some pretty lousy items put up to finish off these preferred lots. But then when they were gone, more desirable items were sold. Then, nice items were sold up until the end. I worked at the computer recording sales for both the Friday and Saturday auctions, and it all went well without any glitches. The contest had some impressive items, with about the same number of entries as last year.

Edison was the featured manufacturer, and there were three displays of Edison items and ephemera in addition to other nice items on display. It was certainly a meet worth attending.

Please make plans to attend the Christmas Party. The more the merrier and I'm sure it will be a fun time.

Report for the OKVRC Meeting 11/12/2016

After an unusually warm autumn, it's starting to cool down a bit here in central Oklahoma. The days are growing short, the leaves are falling, and the holidays are just around the corner. For the first regular club meeting since the October Convention and Swap Meet in Midwest City we only were able to attract a modest turnout of about ten members. The large private room that we normally meet in was reserved for a large retirement party, so we met in the smaller semi-private room in the main restaurant seating area. We had it all to ourselves and it was just the right size for us!

Club members began arriving before 6:00 PM at Spencer's Bar-b-que, and we all enjoyed dinner until about 7:00, when Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order. Jim discussed some upcoming events of interest to radio collectors, including the big VPRS meeting and auction in Mesquite, Texas, which took place the following weekend. This year I actually got to go to it, along with several other OKVRC members. We all had a great time, and I brought home several new radios for my collection. In fact, there was so much great stuff at the auction one could easily end up coming home with a car full if one did not exercise some self-control. If you have never been to the VPRS meet, give it a try some time. The variety of radios, phonos, TVs and related items there for you to bid on is amazing.

The evening's program was on radios made in California. While electronics manufacturing has pretty much disappeared from the Golden State in the last few decades, California once was a hub of radio manufacturing. Most of the companies were smaller than their larger and better known competitors in the Midwest and on the East Coast, but they produced many memorable products. In fact the first "Cathedral" radios were produced in California in the late twenties by such companies as Jackson-Bell, Avalon, Echophone, and Aztec. It wasn't until 1931 when Philco began mass-producing Cathedral radios in response to Depression-era needs for cheaper sets, that these radios became popular nationwide. Almost all of these California companies have long disappeared, but some of the radios they built have survived, to be treasured by radio collectors today.

Club President Jim Collings brought in several California built radios to share. Jim showed us a small 1931 Jackson-bell "Peter Pan" Cathedral built in Los Angeles. The speaker grill forms a figure of Peter Pan blowing a trumpet. The trumpet was lost but a replacement was made and carefully installed into the grill. We also got to see a Magnavox AC-3 amplifier made in Oakland, California. Jim also showed us a couple of interesting early twenties "Miracle" radios built by Uncle Al's Radio Shop in Los Angeles. These unusual radios combine crystal detectors with vacuum tubes for additional amplification. Jim brought in both Model 2 and Model 3 of these radios. The appearance of these radios and the way

they were put together suggests they were built pretty much by hand in a small workshop. Jim also showed us an early microphone built in Los Angeles.

Only a few items were up for grabs in the donation auction, but all found new homes.

The annual OKVRC Christmas party will once again be at Jim and Julie Colling house this year. You won't want to miss an opportunity to see Jim's fabulous collection, and enjoy a great evening of food and fun with your fellow club members. See you there!

Don't Miss Out. Look At All The Fun We Had At Last Year's Party



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 cadyraymond1@gmail.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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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 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@wi.rr.com.
- FOR SALE:** Magnet Wire different sizes available at reduced prices. Contact Mike (405) 376-9473 email: orders@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:** Nice Zenith 12S370 empty cabinet, \$100; RCA Radiola RC (RADA) \$200; Fender Super Reverb Vintage Guitar Amplifier, \$900. Wanted: Tubes and Tube type Amplifiers. 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. Optional Bluetooth connection to a smartphone or tablet. Enjoy your music! Only \$85 with Bluetooth or \$75 without Bluetooth. cadyraymond1@gmail.com or call (405) 820-8014. Edmond, OK.



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