



Broadcast News

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jim Collings

Happy New Year! It's the start of another year and I hope that everyone will have a great year in 2017! Hopefully you can keep any resolutions made and surpass new goals. I plan to get my radio junk more organized so I can find things when I need them. Then there are a few items in my collection which need some repair. Hopefully everyone can achieve goals for their collections, also.

The Christmas party was a big success. I believe everyone had a good time. The food was good, but the dirty Santa gift exchange was a little more tame than in previous years. The musical jam session afterward was a lot of fun, and many joined in the singing, even those who were not playing an instrument. If you did not stay for it, I believe you missed the best part of the party.

Our next meeting will be on Jan 14th at Spencer's Barbecue and Smokehouse at 9900 NE 23rd Street, OKC. As normal, we will start the meeting at 7 PM, so arrive earlier to eat. As we discussed at our last meeting, we will continue to feature locations where radio items were made. This month it is the state of New Jersey. So find your items made in New Jersey and bring a couple to share at the meeting. Here are some suggestions: Adams-Morgan, Brandes, Garod, Kolster, Mu-Rad, Splitdorf, Edison, and Thompson. Also some AC/DC sets labelled Radiola from the 1940s were made by the Victor division of RCA in Camden, NJ. I'm sure there are others. I have a few interesting sets to bring, so there should be plenty to talk about. Also, since we did not have a regular meeting last month, please bring the items you have been saving for the donation auction at the end of the meeting.

Dues for the year (2017) are due if you have not already paid. Send \$15 to OKVRC, PO Box 50625, Midwest City, OK 73140.

In the next issue I will list all the upcoming antique radio meets to aid in your vacation planning.

Report for the OKVRC Christmas Party 12/10/2016

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! The OKVRC Christmas Party was, as always, a great success. Once again Club President Jim Collings and wife Julie graciously opened their beautiful Edmond home to us for the event. For club members it was a chance to once again see Jim's great collection, as well as enjoy each other's company and a really great dinner!

Club members began arriving well before 6PM at Jim's festively decorated home, and as guests arrived, we all enjoyed soft drinks, snacks, wine, and conversation as we waited for dinner. We all checked out the many phonographs, console radios, juke boxes and music boxes, and as always, got listen to Jim's twenties vintage baby grand player piano and classic 78 rpm jukeboxes. Jim also took us upstairs to show us the rest of his vast collection. It is spread across several rooms, and while I have seen most of it before, it never ceases to amaze me.

Soon the food arrived, and it was time to sit down to a great dinner. The excellent catered meal included breaded beef, ham, and salmon with rolls and several different vegetables. For those who saved room, there were several deserts to choose from.

After dinner, we played the "dirty Santa" game. Each guest brought along a small gift, which was placed under Jim and Julie's Christmas tree. We each then picked a number from a hat, and in that order picked a gift from under the tree to open. The "dirty" part of the game is that instead of picking a new gift from under the tree, you can "steal" an already opened gift from someone else, who then picks a new gift. A wide range of gifts were opened, ranging from bottles of wine to Christmas items to at least one vintage radio. I usually get one of the more offbeat items, and this year I got a strange industrial grade nutcracker. I am thinking of planting a pecan tree in my backyard to replace an apple tree destroyed by a storm a few years ago. So I just might have a use for the nutcracker! A few of the better gifts were "stolen" at least once, and we all had a lot of fun.

After the gifts were opened, (and stolen), we continued to enjoy coffee and conversation for a while longer. As nine o'clock rolled around, many guests began to say their goodnights. But those of us who stayed for Jim's traditional Christmas jam session were in for a real treat. Not only did we have Jerry Brown and Jim, but also we were also joined by the very talented duo of Jerry Myers and Carolyn Esmon. We had as many as three or four guitars playing together, producing some sweet sounds. We got to hear a wide range of musical numbers ranging from traditional Christmas carols to classic rock. We all enjoyed the music for at least a couple of hours after most of our friends had left. It was a great way to wrap up a wonderful evening.

Thanks again Jim and Julie for again hosting the holiday event, and also those who provided the entertainment, it was a great evening. I wish each of you a happy and prosperous 2017. Hope to see you at next month's (1/14) OKVRC meeting at Spencer's bar-be que in Midwest City!

Accessory Corner by Jim Collings

Sterling No. R-411 Vacuum Tube Tester



This month's featured item is Sterling No. R-411 Vacuum tube Tester. This was made in mid 1920s by the Sterling Manufacturing Co., Cleveland, Ohio. It is a home tube tester designed to test only 200-A, 201-A, 112, and 171 tubes. The tube to be tested is removed from the radio and placed in the socket of the tester. Then the plug from the tester is placed in the socket in the radio. Power from the radio is used, and the black button on the tube tester is depressed to read the tube quality. The meter reads: POOR, FAIR, and GOOD. The instructions indicate that 112 and 171 tubes will read off the scale when good. It is a compact little unit in an oval metal case about 3 by 5 by 2 ¼ inches in size. Sterling made numerous models of similar testers, but this is the smallest one I've found. Often they are found still in their original box, making them nice items for a collection.

Christmas Party Pictures





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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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.**



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Or E-mail directly to cadyraymond1@gmail.com

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- 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:** 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.

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