



OK Vintage Radio Collectors

BROADCAST NEWS

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About OKVRC

Oklahoma Vintage Radio Collectors (OKVRC) publishes *Broadcast News* monthly for the presentation of historical information and enjoyment of club members and friends.

Broadcast News always welcomes submissions of articles on subjects of interest to radio collectors and restorers, and club activities news.

Send Articles to:

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OKVRC MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to join us in our celebration of Vintage Radio by sending your \$15 annual membership fee by check to:

OKVRC
PO BOX 50625
Midwest City, OK, 73140-5625.

Membership payment also accepted at any of our monthly meetings and our semi-annual club swap meets.

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.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Jim Collings

This month's meeting will be at the Sonoma Lake Clubhouse, 1712 NW 159th St, Edmond, OK, on February 10th. We will begin eating around 6PM with the meeting beginning at 7PM. The topic will be Crosley. Almost everyone should have a Crosley in their collection as they made radios from the early 1920's up thru the 1950's. They also made automobiles and refrigerators, but I don't expect anyone to bring anything this large. So bring a Crosley or two.

Dorothy has been handling the food, with a changing menu every month. The actual cost is divided up among the attendees, so it is an inexpensive meal. Thank you Dorothy!

We should have an interesting array of Crosley sets. As usual you may bring anything else that you would like to show and/or talk about. If you haven't paid your dues yet, they were due last month for 2018. The low \$15 membership fee can be sent to the club's PO box, or paid at the meeting.

Now is the time to plan vacation time for the year. There is a list of radio events this year included in this issue. It's not too early to get your entries ready for our big spring meet. It will be on April 14th at the Midwest City Community Center.

See you for Crosley night! (I understand the menu is Chili and Cornbread – a Superbowl special.)

2018 Antique Radio Events

Jim Collings

Feb. 9-10, 2018	<u>HVRA Convention</u>	Houston, TX
March 17, 2018	<u>VRPS Spring Auction</u>	Irving, TX
March 22-24, 2018	<u>Carolinas Chapter AWA Meet</u>	Charlotte, NC
April 14, 2018	<u>OKVRC Annual Meet</u>	Midwest City, OK
April 13-14, 2018	<u>Green Country Hamfest</u>	Claremore, OK
May 11-12, 2018	<u>DVHRC Antiques Radio Show</u>	Kutztown, PA
May 18-19, 2018	<u>NARC Radio Daze</u>	Plymouth, MN
May 19, 2018	<u>VRPS Spring Swap Meet</u>	Irving, TX
June 2, 2018	<u>HLARA Summer Sizzler</u>	Tulsa, OK
July 12-14, 2018	<u>MARC Extravaganza</u>	Kalamazoo, MI
August 14-18, 2018	<u>AWA Conference</u>	Rochester, NY
August 24-25, 2018	<u>ARCI Radiofest</u>	Addison, IL (Chicago Area)
September 15, 2018	<u>VRPS Summer Swap Meet</u>	Irving, TX
Sept. 14-15, 2018	<u>DVHRC Antiques Radio Show</u>	Kutztown, PA
October 13, 2018	<u>OKVRC Fall Swap Meet</u>	Midwest City, OK
Nov. 16-18, 2018	<u>VRPS Annual Convention</u>	Plano, TX

*Report for the OKVRC Meeting DATE**Jim Tyrrell*

It was a VERY cold winter evening here in central Oklahoma, although without any snow (we are in a major drought). Despite this we managed to get an excellent turnout for our usual second Saturday of the month meeting of the OKVRC. It was the first of the year, it was completely dark and cold outside, yet we managed to attract over fifteen members, spouses and guests to our club meeting and dinner at the clubhouse of the Sonoma Lakes subdivision in Edmond.

You might remember that we met in September at that same clubhouse. Club members Ray and Dorothy Cady reside in that community, and were kind enough to obtain permission from their homeowners association for us to meet there. We are hoping to meet there from now on except for the Spring and Fall Meets and Christmas Party. I certainly hope we can, because it's a really nice facility, a great alternative to noisy restaurants where it is increasingly difficult to arrange a private room.

Guests began arriving before 6:00 PM at the clubhouse and immediately began tucking into a delicious meal (arranged by Ray and Dorothy) of lasagna, salad, rolls, beverages and brownies. There was enough for seconds and even leftovers to take

home. The cost? Only four dollars per person! That is about a third to a fourth of what dinner at Spencer's cost us.

After a (very filling) dinner, Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order and we got started on the night's program. Actually, we had something unusual, a dual topic program. The first topic was a demonstration of cabinet restoration techniques, delivered by Dorothy Cady. This is something many of us have been eagerly waiting for a long time! Like most radio collectors, I can get (most) dead sets to play by finding and replacing the usual suspects: bad capacitors, resistors, tubes, and so on. But I'm not much good at restoring cabinets. With fewer and fewer radios being found with "mint" cabinets these days, learning how to restore "rough" cabinets is something I am eager to learn.

Dorothy started out by demonstrating how to restore cabinets that are still in good shape using products like Howard's Restorer and Feed-and-Wax. We also saw how to save labels inside cabinets, and how to safely clean hardware like knobs and dials. She then demonstrated more advanced techniques like repairing damaged veneer, and for the real basket case,

[Continued on page 4]

A few Photos from Our OKVRC January Meeting



[Report continued from page 3]

how to strip off the old finish before refinishing. Dorothy also provided us an excellent handout summarizing all she taught us. It even includes a list of suggested supplies. If you missed the meeting and would like a copy, let one of the club officers know. I learned a lot and plan to use that new knowledge on several radios I am working on now.

The second half of our program was: Radios from the Great Lakes region of the US. We have already had programs on some of them, such as Zenith, Silvertone, and Airline, but there are many more. Jim Collings brought several items to share. We first got to see a Radio Lamp horn speaker from 1924. It is an attractive and functional table lamp, with the neck and shade of the lamp providing the neck and bell for a working horn driver in the base! Radio collectors today proudly display horn speakers, but many housewives in the twenties found them ugly. This amazing lamp / speaker combo allowed you to sit in your easy chair, read the paper and listen to the radio, with light and sound provided by one device! Jim also showed us a Federal Junior crystal set from about 1922.

It is built into a base that looks a lot like an early desk phone. The Federal Telephone and Telegraph Company (Buffalo, NY) was well established in those fields before it branched into radio. Jim also showed us a Gibbs J32 double-button carbon microphone, built in Chicago.

Jim Ray brought in one of his wonderful post-war European table radios. It is a 1961 Sierra SA5110A made by Aristona (Phillips) in Holland. Like so many of those European sets, it still has the shortwave band US sets abandoned after the war, along with broadcast AM and FM, a tuning eye, and that incomparable sound quality of those European radios of that era.

We finished up a great evening (and an excellent meal) with our usual donation auction. A Magnavox speaker, two clock radios, a GE AM-FM pocket radio from the seventies, a Seaburg power supply, a Radiola 44 cabinet, a turntable, a Stromberg-Carlson chassis from the thirties, and a Crosley cathedral radio cabinet all went to new homes.

See you February at the Sonoma Lake clubhouse. Don't miss out on a chance for a great dinner and a great time!



OKVRC Classified Ads



Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers

Jim Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013 (405)-755-4139.



Briggs & Stratton (BASCO) radio items

Crystal radio, tube sockets, A-B-C power supplies, boxed parts, radio advertising and promotional items. Email Dale Boyce at radioman@wi.rr.com or call (414) 840-4146.

Old comics

Send lists to Dan Giddings, PO Box 3961 Glendale, CA 91221-3961.



Magnet Wire Sizes and price vary. Contact Mike at (405) 376-9473 / orders@coaxman.com.

Electronic components Price varies by item. We sell capacitors, dial lamps, vintage cassette and reel to reel belt kits with instructions, and more for antique and vintage devices. Visit WJOE Radio, LLC, at www.wjoe.com

Edison Diamond Disc Phonograph, Oak, Lab Model with 20 records \$250. Contact Jim Collings (405)-755-4139.

Radio Chassis stands \$37.50 small / \$55 large. These maintenance stands hold a chassis while working on it. Prices do not include brackets at \$2.50 or shipping. Contact Steve Strong at (405) 634-7547 or e-mail scstrong1@cox.net.

Quilted Radio Covers \$10 Tabletop/\$20 console Protect your antique radio from dust, water, and other damage, and show off your radio pride. Contact Dorothy Cady (405) 206-9985.

AM Transmitter \$85 with Bluetooth, \$75 without. Play your digital music collection on your antique radios with an AM transmitter. Comes with USB and SD card connections and built-in FM tuner. Bluetooth option lets you connect to a smartphone or tablet. Contact Raymond Cady (405) 820-8014 / cadyraymond1@gmail.com.



Services

Antique Radio Restoration and Servicing Edmond, Oklahoma. *Let me make it look and run like new again.* Contact me at:

Email: cadyraymond1@gmail.com

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Website: goldenageradiorestoration.com



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We're on the Web!
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Happy February Birthday to
Jim Lankford &
Markus Thomerson



Accessory Corner - ERLA Selectoformer Type A
Jim Collings

This month's featured item is the ERLA Selectoformer Type A. This is a small radio frequency transformer made during the mid-1920s. I've seen these loose, but this is the only one I have seen with the box and paperwork. The ones I've seen previously had red labels. I'm not sure they were used in manufacturer sets. The paper work indicates that it will replace a variocoupler to improve reception and selectivity, and can also be used as an antenna trap. I think it is just an RF transformer or coil that can be used in earlier circuits to improve reception. It's a nice little item to add to a collection.

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