



# OK Vintage Radio Collectors

## BROADCAST NEWS

Online at [www.okvrc.org](http://www.okvrc.org)

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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.

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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

### NEW MEETING LOCATION

On Saturday, Sept. 9 we will meet at the Sonoma Lake clubhouse, [1712 NW 159th St., Edmond, OK](#). Doors open at 6PM, with the meeting beginning around 7PM. Obviously, this is not a restaurant, so we will have pizza, dessert, and beverages delivered. Attendees are expected to pay their share of the tab. We will see how this works out. Since our previous location treated us poorly the last two months, squeezing us into the small room when the larger one was empty, and the food is repetitive and costly, we decided to try this out.

The meeting topic is radios and related items made in Chicago. There were so many manufacturers in Chicago that we narrowed them by eliminating Zenith, Silvertone, and Airline. Manufacturers you can bring include: Admiral, Air Castle (sold by Spiegel), Audiola, Clarion, ERLA, Fairbanks-Morse, General Television, Gloritone, Grunow, Hallicrafters, Howard, Kellogg, Knight (Allied Radio), Majestic, Mohawk, Motorola, Scott, Stewart-Warner, and Travler. There are many others I did not list for you to choose from, so everyone should have something to bring.

In addition, we will make final plans for our swap meet next month on October 14th at the Midwest City Community Center. And we'll end the meeting with our donation auction, so please bring something for the donation auction. I know there will be a complete 1920s battery set available, among other things. It should be a good after-the-meeting auction. Don't miss out!

Julie and I attended the [ARCI Radiofest](#) meet held in Addison, Illinois. It was held at the Medinah Shriner's facility, with the Hilton Garden Inn located adjacent, so everything was very convenient. It was a good meet! The meet began at 6:30 on Thursday evening (after registration) with the auction. It was a fairly large auction that was conducted by Jim Sargent of the VRPS, with the assistance of Frank Rasada. Most items sold, except for a few with high minimums, and selling prices were fairly high. I only purchased a couple of items, and sold all that I entered. The auction is different from most other radio auctions, and I like the concept. Rather than charging the seller a commission, the seller pays a \$7 per item fee upfront, whether the item

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**PRESIDENT'S PAGE (CONTINUED)**

sells or not. Then there is a 10% premium assessed to the buyer. The auction lasted until after 11 PM, but I did not stay until the end, as most items that I was interested in had come up earlier, and I wasn't winning anything due to the high prices realized. It ended up being a late night, as all the auction items needed to be removed that night.

The flea market officially began at 7AM on Saturday morning, with sales prohibited before that time. It was on the Shriner's parking lot and across the road from the hotel. There were plenty of sellers, but the lot was not full. I sold a few of my larger items, but surprisingly most of my \$1-each-small-parts were sold, leaving very little to donate to the club before I left. I did not purchase too much— mostly small items, but no tubes. During the day, several programs were presented followed by a banquet in the evening. Sunday was somewhat dead; I was only able to identify two new sellers. We won one of the door prizes for sellers, \$50, but had to wait until after the donation auction to collect. I normally stay away from these end-of-meet auctions because everything is discards from others and often too large, but they sell cheap. I ended up with a couple of smaller items.

Except for the VRPS in Dallas, this is the closest major meet to OKC, just under 800 miles. I urge everyone to attend next year.

One of the pluses for this meet is that I get to see a number of collectors that do not attend many of the other meets; I had a good visit with Jack Bauman who is a long-time OKVRC member, but now resides in the St. Louis area. He sends his greetings!

Last weekend I attended the Jim Sargent auction in Garland, TX. He had collections from Midland, Texas, and Arkansas. Included were numerous battery radios. Most had tubes and sold at very reasonable prices, despite Internet bidding. I filled my car. There will be more at an auction next month.

I see that the HLARA is having their fall swap meet on September 23rd in Tulsa. Check out their website for more info: [www.HLARA.org](http://www.HLARA.org). Don't forget our swap meet next month, October 14th at the Midwest City Community Center. I hope to see you at the September meeting.

*Report for the OKVRC Meeting August 12, 2017**Jim Tyrrell*

Summer is starting to wind down here in Oklahoma; I actually had to turn the heat on for a couple of minutes in my car this morning on the way to work. Last month I needed the A/C at 5:00 AM! But the normal gripes about the weather seem a bit silly when so many folks down along the gulf coast are dealing with a real tragedy, the devastation wrought by Hurricane Harvey. Let's all be sure to keep them in our thoughts and prayers and send some help to a legitimate relief organization.

The weekend of our most recent meeting at Spencer's Bar-be-que in Midwest City was quite a change after last month's broiling heat; it brought cool refreshing rain! About fourteen of our OKVRC members joined us, but once again the restaurant management would not let us use the large meeting room, even though it was empty, and we were stuck using the much smaller semi-private area to the left of the kitchen. We are looking at alternative venues for our meetings, since Spencer's does not seem to appreciate the business we bring them. More on that issue elsewhere in this newsletter!

We enjoyed dinner as usual until about 7:00 PM when Club President, Jim Collings called the meeting to order. We covered some club business, including the Jim Sargent auction in Garland, Texas, and the Antique Radio Club of Illinois auction. We then moved on to the night's program, which was the opposite of last month's "boat anchor" (big) radios—really small radios and radio-related items.

**(Continued on page 3.)**

*(Continued) Report for the OKVRC Meeting August 12, 2017*

Jim Collings started out showing us a really tiny input transformer, a gift from Lester Agee. We then got to see a small circa 1921-1922 Baldwin type H horn speaker, and another small horn from about 1924, an Amplion Dragonfly model AR102.

Most Amplion horns were made in England, but Jim's is a US made model. The neatest item Jim brought in was a tiny translucent celluloid horn speaker, maker unknown. How this delicate item managed to survive the passage of generations is remarkable in itself. We then got to see a miniature inverted cone speaker made by Thermatrol, dating from about 1926. Jim also showed us a tiny Howe crystal radio from the late twenties, and a Crosley "Pup" radio from about 1925. These little one-tube sets use a WD-12 tube and are just a smaller repackaging of the Model 50 one-tube wood cabinet set. The Bonzo dog statue Jim brought in last month was used as an advertising promotion for the Pup. If you've seen the prices the Pup commands on E-bay, you know that these sets remain popular with collectors.

Ray Cady brought in a very early transistor radio, a 1956 Philco T7. It uses germanium transistors and is powered by two D cell batteries. We also got to see a Zenith Royal 30 billfold model in a hard-plastic case, and a 1965 Zenith transistor radio made in Japan. Ray also showed us a Precore AM transistor pocket radio from the late sixties. These radios were very cheap and often used as give-away items to entice people to come in and test-drive a new car or listen to an insurance sales pitch. They were supposedly made for almost ten years.

Mike Swinney brought in a Zenith transistor pocket "Royal 500" radio from about 1957. This is one of the very first transistor pocket radios made (hand-wired, not PC Board) and is quite rare. Mike's is in excellent condition too! Mike also showed us a General Motors model 5775 tube-type portable from around 1941. This is one of the smallest tube-type portables made in the pre-war

era, and bears a strong resemblance to the better-known RCA model BP-10 from the same year.

Your club secretary brought in two very small AC-DC table models, and an Arvin two tube (!) in white metal cabinet from about 1937. Most AC-DC sets from this era used five tubes (Superhets) or four (if regenerative), but Arvin managed to build a two-tube model that drives a loudspeaker and works quite well. I also brought in a four-tube Travler set from about 1939, in a brown Bakelite cabinet. Another item I brought was a small "Audition" travel clock-radio from about 1971. It combines a mechanical clock with a transistor battery radio. It is also brand new in the box! And lastly, I brought in an AM-FM Coby "Micro Receiver" built around 1995. It is the smallest radio AM-FM I have seen (1.5" W X 3.25" H X 0.75" D) with a slide rule dial, telescoping antenna, and a speaker. It works surprisingly well for its tiny size.

We finished up the night with our usual donation auction. An Airline Viscount radio, some capacitors, electronics magazines, TV service manuals, a GE speaker, a book on radio repair, a GE radio chassis, and a Stewart-Warner farm radio found new homes.

See you next month!



**1956  
Philco T7**



**1957 (ish)  
Royal 500  
(aka the  
Owl)**

*More Images from the August Meeting*

Arvin (1937-ish) Two-Tube



Little Gem Midget Cone



Thermatrol (1926-ish) Inverted Cone Speaker



Travler (1939-ish) Four-Tube



Celluloid  
Horn Speaker  
(maker  
unknown)

1924, Amplion Dragonfly model  
AR102





# OKVRC Classified Ads



## √ WANTED

### 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](mailto:radioman@wi.rr.com) or call (414) 840-4146.

### Old comics

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

## √ For Sale

RCA Radiola RC (RADA) \$200. Contact Jim Collings (405)-755-4139.

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

Fender Super Reverb Vintage Guitar Amplifier \$900. Contact Jim Collings (405)-755-4139.

Magnet Wire Sizes and price vary. Contact Mike at (405) 376-9473 / [orders@coaxman.com](mailto: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](http://www.wjoe.com)

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com)

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[www.okvrc.org](http://www.okvrc.org)

*1959 RCA Victor Transistor Radio AD*



**"In the darkness,  
light finds its way to  
shine even brighter."**

Sarah Jane Moerbe  
[Fox News 8/28/17](http://Fox News 8/28/17)

*Our prayers and our  
thoughts are with our  
Texas neighbors and  
friends. We know  
their light. - OKVRC*

View this original RCA Victor Transistor Radio advertisement found on YouTube. Click the image or copy and paste to your browser the following web address:

<https://youtu.be/oXIN3AwB5Ng>



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