



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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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*.

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

It's here! Our Spring Swap Meet/Convention is on Saturday April 14th at the Midwest City Community Center 200 N Midwest Boulevard in Midwest City.

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)

I hope to see everyone there. It is our largest event of the year and should be a

great meet. In recent years it seems to be getting better and better. I have heard from several people from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area who are planning to attend, and I suspect we will have our normal contingent of Kansas and Arkansas collectors. The Tulsa HLARA will also be well represented. Tell your friends and anyone who may have an interest about the meet. **Print out and distribute the flyer.**

This meet is one of our biggest sources for finding new members. There are always new collectors in our local area to be found who would benefit from our group. The more people that attend the meet, the better the meet will be. Be sure to bring things to swap and some unusual or nicer items for the contest. The categories for the contest were listed in the last issue of the *Broadcast News*. The categories for the

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Report for the OKVRC March 10, 2018 Meeting

Jim Tyrrell

Spring is slowly arriving here in central Oklahoma, after freezing weather for the last two meetings; it was nice to have a bit of a warm-up. When I first moved to Oklahoma (twenty years ago come October) everything was brown outside. I was told that things green up around tax time, when we have to give some green to the feds. Well, it's starting to get green out there, and the IRS is calling. But at least no tornados...Yet!

Next month, of course, is our Spring Convention and Swap Meet at the Midwest City Community Center. This is the usually the nicer of the two meets, since we generally have a better turn out because we have the contest. Last year we did not have a large number of items in the contest; I didn't bring an entry myself, but will make up for it this year with an entry of Day-Fan radios. So, on April 14th; be sure to attend, be sure to bring a contest entry, and if at all possible, bring items to sell. It's been a long winter; I've got some money burning a hole in my pocket, and will be unhappy if I don't bring something home! If that isn't enough to convince you to come, we will also be raffling off a restored Atwater-Kent table radio, you won't want to miss a chance at that.

With the roads were dry and the weather mild, we were to get a turnout of about fourteen club members, spouses and guests to for our usual second Saturday of the month meeting of the OKVRC. It was again held at the Sonoma Lakes subdivision clubhouse in Edmond, thanks to club members Ray and Dorothy Cady, who reside in that community. Once again Ray and Dorothy provided the meal. This month we had the choice of either tuna or chicken casserole, along with rolls, beverages, deserts and beverages. As always, the feast cost only five dollars a person, with leftovers to take home.

Guests began arriving before 6:00 PM at the clubhouse and immediately set to work on enjoying the evening's meal. After everyone was well fed, Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order and discussed efforts to more closely coordinate our events with the Tulsa antique radio club. Then we got started on the evening's program: radio repair. If you attended last months' meeting you got to see Ray and Dorothy's excellent presentation on how to refinish and restore antique radio cabinets. This month, Ray and Dorothy gave us an overview presentation on how to get that radio playing. As with last month's presentation on refinishing, they gave each of us a convenient hand-out summarizing the program, so we didn't need to take notes.

Ray and Dorothy gave us a step-by-step process for bringing old radio sets back to life. It is a subject too involved to go into great detail on in this article, but

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Report for the OKVRC Meeting March 10, 2018

Jim Tyrrell

I'll bring copies of the handout they gave us to the Spring Convention in case you would like to have one. A few general points:

- 1) Unless it is a battery set, check the power cord right off. If the insulation is worn or crumbled, replace it first. This is for safety.
- 2) Most filter capacitors not replaced in the last thirty-forty years or so years are almost always bad. It's a very good idea to replace them before powering up a set.
- 3) Check all tubes with a Tube Tester and replace bad ones. Be sure the tubes are in the assigned sockets; sometimes they get mixed up or bad tubes are put in empty sockets.
- 4) Clean all controls including the volume control, with tuner / contact cleaner. They are almost always dirty. Lubricate the tuning capacitor, and restring the dial cord if broken.
- 5) Check the wiring to the speaker and make sure all of the conductors are present and in good shape. Replace any crumbled wires.

If you plug in your radio after performing the above steps, there is a good chance it will play. If it doesn't, you will have to dig a bit deeper. Even if it does work, chances are you will need to do more work, such as alignment, to bring it back to its original performance. It often comes down to how much time you have to devote to working on the set. Either way, it is always thrilling to hear a

radio you are working on crackle to life for the first time in decades. There are plenty of resources, in print or on line, to help you with your project.

Club members brought along some radios from their collections that they have been working on to share. Ray brought along the 1931 GE T-12 that they used the previous month to demonstrate cabinet restoration. There also was a gorgeous 1932 Jackson Bell Tiffany Tone with a nice lyre shaped speaker grill that uses 24A, 80 and 45 tubes. Club member Elena brought several radios from her collection which we got a chance to see. These included a Philco model 40-120, a Zenith model H615 with a beautiful brass surround on the front panel, and an interesting pink Westinghouse clock-radio. Even though these sets have not yet been restored we got to hear them play since they are all AC-DC sets. It is generally safe to power up AC-DC sets without checking them out first since there is no power transformer. Elena also brought in a mid-thirties tombstone radio (sorry I can't remember the make) which we did not power up. It had the original filter capacitors in place and that would have damaged the power transformer if they were shorted. Always better to be safe!

We finished up with our usual donation auction. A HP audio oscillator, some tubes and speakers, and a turntable went to new homes.

Thanks to everyone who came to the meeting. See you at the Spring Convention. Don't miss it!

President's Column
(Continued from Page 1)

contest were listed in the last issue of the Broadcast News. The goal is to have a category for anything you would like to display. I expect to see a lot of great items in the contest. Half of the fun of collecting is showing what you have to other collectors, and talking about the items. We will have the People's Choice Category again this year, where each of us can vote for the display which we like the best. Remember that additional items of support, like advertising, photographs, matching accessories, and other documentation are encouraged, and may be the tie breaker in the judging. This is especially true for the best restoration category, as your before-

restoration photos are needed to show how much restoration was done. Don't forget the silent auction and main auction to re-home unwanted items.

Bring Your Raffle Cash

We will again have a raffle. An original finish 1935 Atwater Kent Model 148 tombstone set was donated, and was restored by the Cadys for this purpose. It is a quality, seldom-seen set in the Atwater Kent line. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. The secondary prize in the raffle is a deluxe set of remastered old radio shows. There is no admission fee, but donations for coffee and donuts will be appreciated.

This 1935 Atwater Kent Model 148 tombstone was donated for the auction by president Jim Collings and restored by Raymond Cady to fully-working condition.



Come take a look at the Atwater-Kent as you arrive. It will be at the front table.





OKVRC Classified Ads



√ WANTED

Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers

Jim Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013 (405)-755-4139. Email: jrcradio@cox.net

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.

√ For Sale & Services

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

Quilted Radio Covers Protect your antique radio from dust, water, and other damage, and show off your radio pride. Contact Dorothy Cady (405) 206-9985 or via email at dcady1@gmail.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.

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.

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

Email: cadyraymond1@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 820-8014

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The Atwater Kent (Radio) Hour

The Atwater Kent Hour (aka **The Atwater Kent Radio Hour**) was a top-rated radio concert music program heard on NBC and CBS from October 4, 1925, to December 17, 1934, with stars of the Metropolitan Opera often making appearances.

The radio program paralleled the rise of the Atwater Kent Manufacturing Company, which was started by Arthur Atwater Kent Sr., who was born on December 3, 1873, in Burlington, Vermont. Already the owner of the Kent Electric Manufacturing Company, which he began in the back room of his father's machine shop, in 1921, Kent produced his first radio components, selling do-it-yourself kits consisting of "[breadboards](#)" that could be assembled by early radio enthusiasts. In 1925, the Atwater Kent Manufacturing Company became the largest maker of radios in the United States. The company also sponsored the popular "[Atwater Kent Hour](#)", a top-rated radio concert music program heard on NBC and CBS from 1926 to 1934. The show became one of the most popular and acclaimed regular radio programs of the era. At its peak in 1929, the company employed over 12,000 workers. Source: <https://en.Wikipedia.org>

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