



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



Our next meeting is on Saturday, Feb 9th at the Sonoma Lake subdivision Clubhouse, 1712 NW 159th St. in Oklahoma City. The actual meeting starts at 7 PM, but we eat dinner at 6 PM, and most members arrive early for that. This month, chili is on the menu, prepared by the Cady's. The cost for the meal is always \$5 per person, and the menu varies from month to month. Last month our topic was novelty radios, or things that did not look like radios but were. This month we will feature just the opposite,

things that look like radios but are not. So, I believe this will be our first meeting to feature non-radio items. There are lots of things that are made to look like a radio but have other uses. Examples are flower vases, cookie jars, pencil sharpeners, thermometers, etc. This would also include items which feature radios on neckties and other clothing, coasters, and any number of things that are shaped like radios. The cathedral shape is most common. So, it should be an interesting meeting, as everyone has something radio shaped that they can bring. At the end of the meeting we always have a small auction of items that are donated to support our treasury, so bring something radio related that you don't need, but someone else will need.

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President's Page Cont'd.

Opposite you will find a listing of most of the important 2019 radio meets in the US, especially around our area. Hopefully you can make plans to get get time off to attend some of them, especially our meets.

Our big annual spring meet is April 13th at the Midwest City Community Center, our normal swap meet location. There will be some changes this year, as we have to set up the tables ourselves, and tear them down at the end. Also, we will have the facility rented for all day. This would give us the opportunity to have a program or class in the extra time. Also, there could be some lunch available, if desired. These are things we can discuss at the meeting. Your thoughts and ideas are welcome. If you can't attend the meeting, please send your thoughts or ideas to me (jrcradio@cox.net).

I have not been to any other meets recently to provide any reviews, so more radio activity is needed

Lastly, if you have not paid your \$15 dues, they are due. Send them to the club's P.O. Box in Midwest City. (See front page.)

I'm looking forward to our meeting. I hope to see everyone there.



1: Jim Colling's Charlie McCarthy Radio

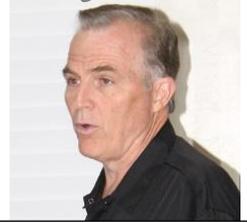
2019 Antique Radio Events

- Feb. 8-9, 2019 [HVRA Convention](#)
Houston, TX
- March 16, 2019 [VRPS Spring Auction](#)
Irving, TX
- Mar. 21-23, 2019 [Carolinas Chapter AWA Meet](#), Charlotte, NC
- April 13, 2019 [OKVRC Annual Meet](#)
Midwest City, OK
- April 12-13, 2019 [Green Country Hamfest](#)
Claremore, OK
- May 10-11, 2019 [DVHRC Antiques Radio Show](#), Kutztown, PA
- May 17-18, 2019 [NARC Radio Daze](#)
Plymouth, MN
- May 18, 2019 [VRPS Spring Swap Meet](#)
Irving, TX
- June 29, 2019 [HLARA Summer Sizzler](#)
Tulsa, OK
- July 19-20, 2019 [MARC Extravaganza](#)
Kalamazoo, MI
- August 2-3, 2019 [ARCI Radiofest](#) Addison, IL (Chicago Area)
- Aug. 13-17, 2019 [AWA Convention](#)
Rochester, NY
- Sept. 21, 2019 [VRPS Summer Swap Meet](#), Irving, TX
- Sept. 20-21, 2019 [DVHRC Antiques Radio Show](#), Kutztown, PA
- October 12, 2019 [OKVRC Fall Swap Meet](#)
Midwest City, OK
- Nov. ? 2019 [VRPS Annual Convention](#)
Plano, TX



January 12, 2019 Meeting Report

Jim Tyrrell



January is here, along with a new year. Funny how much faster they fly by as we grow older! When we were kids it seemed a year was an eternity. Hard to believe we are in the last year of the decade already. We are deep into winter here in Oklahoma. It's been a cold one, at least for this warm-blooded native Californian, but if one is tempted to gripe, we only need to look at what winter is like in places such as Northern Germany where my brother lives, except for the three winter months every year he spends in Southern California, getting away from all that snow!

No snow for us, but it was a chilly January evening as OKVRC members, spouses and guests met for our monthly club dinner and meeting at the Sonoma Lakes subdivision clubhouse in Edmond. The turnout was decent considering the weather; about thirteen members were willing to leave their warm firesides to join us. We don't have a fireplace at the clubhouse, but we had something far better—box after box of delicious hot pizza! We all had more than enough to eat, along with some desert items and lots of



beverages to enjoy. And as usual, there were some leftovers to take home.

After dinner Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order and made a few announcements about upcoming events and auctions. We then began the night's program: novelty radios. Yes, we did this topic a few years back, but it's a fun topic to repeat. You never know what folks will bring in.

Novelty radios got started in the nineteen thirties. Some were radios housed in cabinets that resembled other objects, such as a Coke cooler, a globe, a jewelry box, or a wine cask. The thirties also brought the advent of small table radios stylized to commemorate celebrities (Charlie McCarthy, various Disney characters, the Dionne Quintuplets) or events (1939 World's Fair, 1939-1940 Golden Gate Exhibition). Production of novelty radios resumed after the war. Many new radio models were introduced, including the famous Hopalong Cassidy.

With the introduction of transistors, production of novelty radios exploded and hundreds of different models were produced. Many cheap models were made for advertising purposes and were often given away. Novelty radios are still being made today, and since the newer ones are plentiful and cheap, they are a good way to introduce young people to the radio collecting hobby.

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Meeting Report Continued

Club members shared novelty radios from their collections.



Jim Collings brought in a small Jackson-Bell Peter Pan cathedral radio from about 1931. Jim also showed us his late-thirties Charlie McCarthy radio (see page 1), along with some Charlie McCarthy records.

Mike Swinney showed us a very rare 1939 Golden Gate Exhibition radio.



The Guild Radio and Television Company of Inglewood, California made nothing but novelty radios, they were pioneers in the realm of nostalgia. They made sets that looked like everything from a crank telephone to a sewing box to a roll-top desk. The company existed from mid-fifties to the late sixties, and many of their unusual radios have survived.

Your club secretary also brought in a Guild "Spice Chest" radio made in the late fifties. The Spice Chest radio is actually the only radio in my collection that actually belonged to a family member, my great aunt. It sits in my kitchen and still works great.



Your club secretary brought a "knight" radio from the early seventies, a good example of the sort of made-in-Japan novelty radios made at that time that were designed to sit on your desk or dresser and provide decor as well as a functional radio. The knight is a cast metal statue about eight inches high

that sits on a base that contains a simple AM radio. The knight's sword is removable for use as a letter opener.



Lastly, we got to see a radio styled to look like a miniature Rock-Ola jukebox made by Yuletide Concepts. It provides not only music to enjoy, but lights up as well. This set is fairly recent in age and shows that novelty radios are still a lot of fun today.

We finished up another great evening with our usual donation auction. A metal box for a military power meter, a Bendix radio, a loop antenna, a collection of radio literature, and a Zenith table radio from the late thirties were up for grabs. Most items went for a buck but the Zenith brought in eleven dollars.

Thanks to everyone who brought radios to share, and to Ray and Dorothy for the food and use of the clubhouse. See you next month; hopefully it will be a little warmer!



OKVRC Classified Ads



√ For Sale

1940 Wurlitzer 700 Juke Box. \$2,500. Contact Jim Collings, (405) 755-4139 or jrcradio@cox.net.



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 send e-mail to 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.

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

√ Services

Quilted Radio Covers. Protect your antique radio from dust, water, and other damage, and show off your radio pride with a quilted radio cover custom made to your needs and color preferences. For more information or to request a custom order, contact Dorothy Cady by phone or text at (405) 206-9985. Or check in with her at one of our monthly club meetings.

Antique Radio Restoration and Servicing. Edmond, Oklahoma. *Let me make it look and run like new again.* Contact me at: cadyraymond1@gmail.com or (405) 820-8014. Visit my website at: goldenageradiorestitution.com.

√ WANTED

Old Comics

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

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.

Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers

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

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**To our members
and their loved
ones . . .**



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