



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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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



First in Radio . . .

on everyone's mind should be preparation for [this year's annual spring meet](#). It's at the typical location for our meets, the Nick Harroz Midwest City Community Center, [200 N Midwest Blvd, Midwest City, OK 73110](#). The doors open at 8 AM on April 13th when we will need to set up the tables before the swapping can begin. Another change is that we will have the facility all day, but I expect activity to wind down by about noon. This is our big meet with an equipment

contest, swap meet, silent auction, and live auction. I've listed the contest categories elsewhere in this edition of the *Broadcast News*, and they are changed up a little from last year. A category for phonographs has been added due to the interest there has been in them at recent meets. Most important is that we need to get publicity out on the meet, so that more people are aware and can participate. If you have a publicity source please advise me, or go ahead and get the word out.

Our March Meeting . . .

will be at the Sonoma Lake Clubhouse located at [1712 NW 159th St, Edmond, OK](#), on Saturday March 9th,

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President's Page Cont'd.

with pot luck dinner at 6 PM, and the meeting at 7. Bring a dish to share.

This month's meeting topic, as decided at the last meeting, will be radios in different colors. That means sets which are not brown, black, or white. So hopefully we will see Maroon, Blue, Turquoise, Red, Chrome, Tortoise Shell, and Yellow receivers and other radio items. In addition, we will be finalizing plans for our big meet. Don't forget to bring something for the donation auction.

In upcoming events . . .

the VRPS is having their Spring auction on March 16th. It will be held in [Irving, TX. at the Irving Garden and Arts Center, 906 S Senter Rd](#), a change from last year. The start time is 9:30 AM. It is an auction only, but is worth attending. It's not as big as the fall convention auctions, but there are always some good items as well as restoration parts available. Contact me for more details, if needed. See you at the meeting.



2019 OKVRC Swap Meet Contest Categories

1. Battery and Crystal Receivers, Pre-1930
2. Tombstone and Cathedral Receivers
3. Horizontal Wooden Receivers
4. Metal Sets after 1926 (includes amateur receivers and transmitters)
5. AC/DC Bakelite or Plastic Receivers
6. Art Deco and Novelty Receivers
7. Transistor Radios
8. Foreign Made Receivers and Equipment, tube type.
9. Homebrew and Kit Receivers
10. Accessory Items (tubes, speakers, antennas, test equipment, etc.)
11. Phonographs, Acoustic or Electric
12. Open Category, anything that does not fit in another category
13. Best Restoration (this can be displayed in any category, but will be judged on restoration quality. Documentation of condition before restoration is encouraged)
14. People's Choice (ballot of favorite display of all who attend)
15. Best of Show (one of the first place winners from the other categories)

Do you know which category(ies) you are going to enter your radio(s) into? All you have to do is bring your radio with you, fill out a very short form, add pictures or background info (if applicable), and place the radio and entry form on a contest table.

February 9, 2019 Meeting Report

Jim Tyrrell



The Groundhog was wrong!



[Punxsutawney Phil](#), the nation's premier four-footed meteorologist and weather forecaster, emerged from his burrow in Gobblers Knob, Pennsylvania, on February 2nd, failed to see his shadow, and made the following statement: "Faithful followers, there is no shadow of me. A beautiful spring it shall be!" He meant well.

Though Oklahoma's cold winter drags on, we are not alone. The *Polar Vortex* in the upper Midwest has produced record cold, and in my native Southern Cal, there was snow in Los Angeles and in Orange County. For the first forty years of my life, that never happened. If this is *Global Warming*, I'm confused!

It was a cold but clear February evening in Oklahoma as OKVRC members, spouses, and guests met for our monthly club dinner and meeting at the Sonoma Lake subdivision clubhouse in Edmond. Despite the brisk weather, we had a fairly good turnout of about fifteen. And the dinner was wonderful: hot chili with grated cheese, fresh chopped onions, Fritos and saltine crackers on the side, accompanied by hot coffee or soda and vanilla ice cream

for dessert. Where else can you get a meal like that for only five dollars?

After dinner our club president, Jim Collings, called the meeting to order and made a few announcements, the focus of which was the upcoming Swap Meet and ways to promote it, as well as our modified contract that now includes the use of the facility all day instead of only for the morning, and the fact that we have to set up and take down our own tables and chairs. That gives us the opportunity to consider alternative ways to arrange tables. More discussion is needed and planned, and your input for ideas or suggestions is welcome. Email, mail or otherwise send them to the newsletter editor. Telephoning's OK too.

Club Treasurer, Jim Ray, then gave us a report on the club finances. Under Jim's careful stewardship, the club is quite solvent. Due to fundraising activities, such as the auctions and the raffle at the swap meets, we have been able to cover all of our annual spending needs, including facility rental for swap meets, fees associated with updating and maintaining our website, and the ever-increasing postage and printing costs of mailing the newsletter. We even sometimes have had enough to cover the food for the Christmas party.

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Interested in vintage radios?

Join us for the spring 2019 Antique Radio Swap Meet, Contest, and Auction.

Free Admission!

Saturday, April 13, 2019, 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Where:

Midwest City
Community Center
100 N. Midwest Blvd.
(North of Tinker AFB)
Midwest City, OK



What:

Raffle tickets for a fully-restored antique radio, door prizes, fresh coffee, donuts, and many antique radios for sale. There also will be a silent auction, live auction, and contest!

Sponsored By:

Oklahoma Vintage Radio Collectors

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February 9, 2019 Meeting Report Continued

We then began the night's program: novelty items that are styled to look like radios but aren't. Last month, we did novelty radios — radios that look like something else — so this topic was kind of a twist on that.

We generally start out our program with show-and-tell, where anyone can display an item or two. Club members Raymond and Dorothy Cady displayed a 1941 Bendix Bakelite table radio that they picked up for a couple of bucks in a recent club donation auction. The radio was a mess; it was covered in many layers of different colors of paint starting with white that had bubbled and peeled in spots. While Raymond recapped, aligned, and otherwise restored the chassis, Dorothy spent days removing the paint using a variety of solvents (including oven cleaner and brake fluid) and tools (like a plastic credit card and paint scraper). Though a challenge to remove, all of that thick paint also seemed to have protected the cabinet underneath from damage, and the restored radio, in its natural black color, is stunning. And it plays as good as it looks! Goes to show that you can take a junk set and turn it into a showpiece with enough hard work. They plan to enter it into the Spring Swap Meet contest.

Ray and Dorothy Cady's Bendix before, during, and after restoration.



Front view of radio before restoration.



Side of radio showing paint bubbling.



After the first stripping. Beige, copper, and pale blue paint layers now show.



Four more layers (harder to see here) include bright blue, green, off-white, and tan, plus (finally) the original black Bakelite.



Chassis inserts from bottom of Bendix cabinet. While not unique, it's certainly a bit rare for desktop radios.



Here's the Bendix fully restored to its original form of black Bakelite with beige knobs.

February 9, 2019 Meeting Report Continued

Club member Elena often brings in an interesting item or two. This month she brought in a small black-and-white portable TV from the mid- to late seventies. What was unusual was the make, TG&Y, which was a five-and-dime chain store that started in Oklahoma, and at its peak had about 1,000 stores coast-to-coast.



Our members then displayed their radio-looking-items-that aren't-radios. Jim Collings showed us a painted cathedral radio earthenware pot (see the President's Page for the picture). Mike Swinney brought in a very similar item, made from a little heavier material. Jim also showed us a vintage cast iron bank that looks like a 1929 Majestic console radio, and a pressed-wood radio replica.



Club members and musicians Jerry Myers and Carolyn Esmon showed us an Avon bottle and a birdhouse shaped like thirties radios. They also brought along a tabletop Crosley Fan / Heater that resembles a late twenties Crosley Dynacone speaker! Crosley may have used the same tooling to build parts for both. Raymond Cady also brought in a radio-styled cookie jar and the actual Western Royal radio after which it was modeled.



We always end our meetings with our usual donation auction. This month we had a LOT of stuff up for grabs, thanks to a generous donation from the wife of Brian Foster, a former TV repairman. Items included parts cabinets and tube caddies filled with tubes, parts, capacitors, resistors, and integrated circuits; test equipment (oscilloscope, capacitor analyzer, and several multimeters); and lots more stuff. In fact, there was so much that I can't list it all here, but it was a great fundraiser for the club and we all got to take something home. See you next month!



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

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.

Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers

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

OKVRC BOARD:**President:**

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A Helpful Tip for Radio Repairs

You've placed the nut into the nut driver socket. You concentrate on squeezing the driver into that tiny space between wires and tubes and other such potential hazards. You're moving slowly, getting just the right angle when . . . plunk. You hear the nut hit somewhere inside the radio, but you didn't see where it landed or where it bounced to finally settle. You search but still can't find it, and it looks like your only option is to upend the radio and hope it falls out where you can find it. What if it doesn't fall out? What if you don't find it right away? How long will you look for it before you dig through your parts drawers to find a replacement and hope the lost nut never shorts out your beloved radio? But wait . . . there's an alternative.

My mother used to say "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and my dad, well he was the kind of guy who figured out how to prevent the problem before it became one. Guess I take after both of my parents because after being warned about loose nuts inside radios, just before I was about to screw in the first of four chassis mounting nuts, I decided to slip the nut into the driver socket then put a piece of Scotch tape across the top of the socket. I figured the bolt would tear the tape open as I screwed it down and thus I would not risk losing the nut inside the radio. WOW! It worked even better than I expected. So don't lose your nuts; tape them on. *~ Dorothy Cady ~*

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