



# 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.

Membership payment is due in January for that year. 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 COLUMN

Jim Collings

### *Our June Meeting is on!*

After considering our options, the board has decided to go ahead and hold our June 13 meeting with dinner starting at 6 PM in our usual place – the Sonoma Lake clubhouse at [1712 NW 159th Street, OKC](#). We are planning a few changes for safety, however.

- Feel free to wear a mask if you want to. The clubhouse will be sanitized before the meeting as was done for March's meeting.
- Food will be provided as individually-wrapped snack items with ice cream bars of some kind for dessert. Soda will be in cans for individual serving. We do not yet know how or if we can safely handle coffee, but we are thinking about it.

Our topic will be your favorite radio(s). Bring one or more that you would like to show and tell us about. Also bring something for the donation auction. I have had plenty of time to save up a



few things to donate. Hope you have, too.

With all of the summer meets having been cancelled, it seems as though the only radio things happening are the on-line auctions. Jim Sargent had one last weekend, with another planned for June 27th. At the last one, all of the tubes sold for sky high prices, but I was able to purchase a few other items at reasonable prices. The next online Jim Sargent auction will be worth checking out.

It seems like collectors have been having time now to do restorations. I have had numerous requests for tubes and other parts. I'm happy to search for needed items to help get more sets working.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the meeting!

*Jim Collings, President*

## April 2020 Meeting Report



Since we did not have an April 2020 meeting, thought you might enjoy some highlights from previous April meetings.

### April 2008 – Jim Tyrrell, Secretary

“The main topic of discussion was the OKVRC Spring Convention / Swap Meet at the Midwest City Community Center. As some of you may remember, we were unable to hold last fall’s swap meet there because of renovations to the building, although we held a limited swap meet in the parking lot. The renovations are finally being completed, and we will be able to hold our spring event in the newly remodeled center. All of the events that could not be held during last fall’s parking lot meet, such as the contests, auction, and silent auction, we will once again be able to have.”

**See. Stuff happens.**

**(And all of the time, apparently).**

### April 2010 – Jim Collings, President

“I attended the VRPS auction in Irving, Tx, on March 20<sup>th</sup>. It was at a new location, a Bingo hall, but was a nice facility to hold the auction. It rained hard most of the morning, and that affected attendance. There were not many very nice expensive items, but quite a few lots of parts, tubes, literature, and items needing restoration. A portion of an estate was included. I believe I only brought back one item that I took, but returned with a lot of different items that you will see at our meet. I did not make any super buys or get anything for my collection, but I enjoyed seeing many collector friends. Fortunately, the auction ended fairly early, as a portion of the trip back to OKC was in the snow.”

**Oklahoma (and Texas too).**

**Where the weather can be a grand surprise!**

### April 2013 Jim Tyrrell, Secretary

“We then moved on to the subject of tonight’s program: Art Deco, particularly as it applies to radios. But just what is “Art Deco”? Art Deco is a boldly modern visual arts style that first appeared in post-World War One Europe, and soon dominated decorative arts, architecture, and advertising through the inter-war years. It’s one of those things that is hard to describe in words, but there is no mistaking it when you see it. . . Art Deco, sometimes also called “Machine Age”, features include dramatic geometric forms, representing faith in technology and progress. Art Deco declined in the post-World War two era, but never really went away. . . Art Deco slowly percolated its way into the world of consumer radios in the late twenties, and by the thirties influenced the design of a large percentage of radios and related consumer electronics.”

**See Page 3 for photos of Art Deco radios shared at our 2013 meeting.**

## Art Deco Inspired Radios

Jim Tyrrell's concealed-horn Operadio speaker from about 1925.



Dale McLellan's 1936 Truetone, a "Moderne" style bakelite set.



"The highlight of the night: A 1939 World's Fair Catalin radio!"  
Jim Collings.



Your club secretary [Jim Tyrrell] brought in a 1936 Philco and a 1934 Grunow table model, both with a lot of Art Deco influence.



Art Deco inspired quilt by [www.Sewingquarter.com](http://www.Sewingquarter.com) [as seen on [YouTube](https://youtu.be/tMo0gPvDxQs) <https://youtu.be/tMo0gPvDxQs>].



## *Bits and Pieces and Just a Little Humor*

*Dorothy Cady*

**In** the name of the best within you, do not sacrifice your sense of life to an enemy that would claim your precious mind. . . Do not let your fire go out, spark by irreplaceable spark. Do not let the hero in your soul perish in lonely frustration for the life you deserve, but have never been able to reach. . . The world you desire can be won, it exists, it is real, it is possible, it is yours.

- John Galt

(From the book and movie by Ayn Rand, *Atlas Shrugged*.)

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### *The Tale of a Red Portable Radio*

*By Dorothy Cady*

I didn't start out to be the constant companion of millions. My father (Hugo Gernsbach) never told me I would one day become ubiquitous. Apparently, he did, however, manipulate societal desires to ensure that I suddenly became the scientific interest of thousands of little boys to help draw them into technical careers. (I think I remember a few little girls, too, that oohed and awed over me.) No. I never set out to . . . never mind. I digress. You want to know my tale, not my history. So, let me begin.

I was born in the 1950's. Strong. Lean. Portable. And red. A young man picked me out from among many other radios and took me home with him. He was my constant companion; keeping me free of dust and showing me off to his friends at beach parties and ball games. He barely let me out of his sight. He switched me on

as soon as he woke up in the morning, and did not dial me off until bedtime. Even then, his mom had to yell at him to shut me off and go to sleep. (He seemed to really like the modern music I played.)

Later when my owner realized girls were pretty interesting, too, he took me along on dates - picnics and something he called makeout sessions. That was the life! I was always wanted. Always with my friend. But one day, my friend went off to college, and he didn't take me with him.

Perhaps it was because I wasn't quite myself anymore. I found it increasingly difficult to precisely tune in the stations he wanted to listen to. My filters and capacitors were just plain worn out. (Of course, sand in the chassis and that annoying little mouse who wanted to strip my wires didn't help any.) I no longer had the same feeling of power. Someone told my friend that I needed to be rectified . . . no, that's not right. I needed a new rectifier. Yes. That's it. Oh and my mechanical power switch, that was shot. So, I was abandoned. Honestly, I don't really know how long I sat in that stuffy old box in the back of a closet. I think they moved me a few times to other places, some that smelled pretty old and damp.

But that no longer matters. One day at a garage sale, my friend's parents fished me out of the box and sold me to an older couple who, so they said, really appreciated old radios. They took me home and (ouch) disassembled, fixed, repaired, painted and made me beautiful once again.

I wonder if I'll ever have a girlfriend.



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**Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers:** Jim Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013. (405)-755-4139 or [jrcradio@cox.net](mailto:jrcradio@cox.net).

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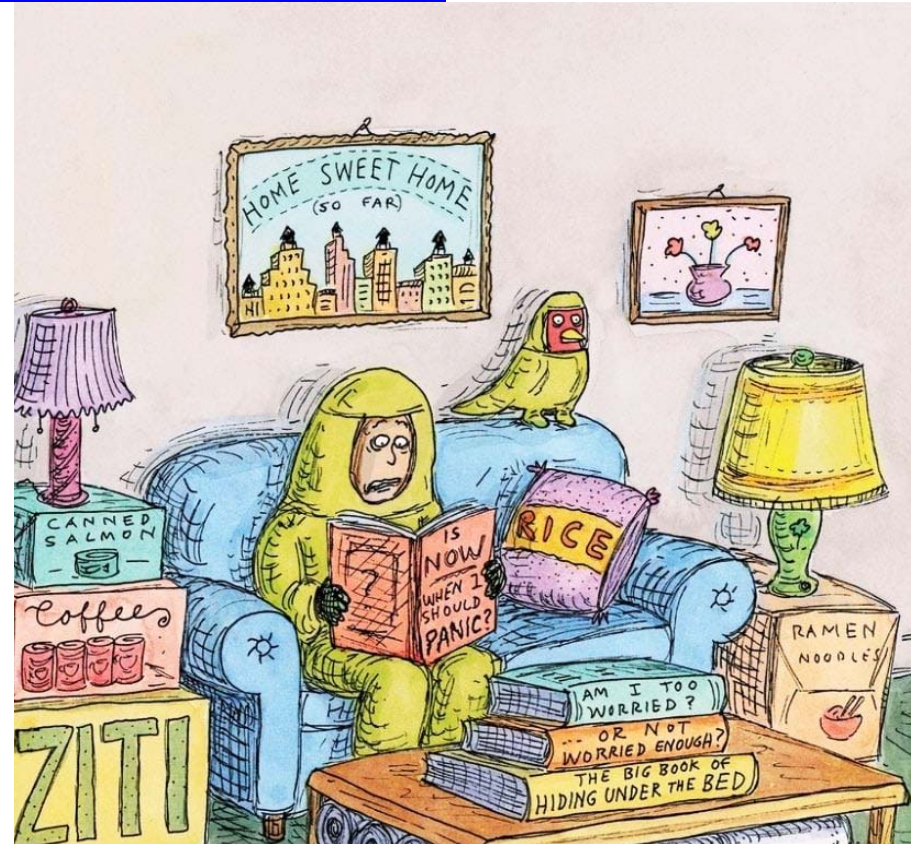
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*Happy Birthday to You!*

*Happy birthday to all of our  
Tune birthday members!*

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