



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 may be reprinted freely, as long as proper credit and reference is given. Electronic copy of articles can be obtained from the editor of the *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 is accepted at any of our monthly meetings and our semi-annual club swap meets. Membership payment is due in January for that year.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Jim Collings



Jim and Julie Collings

Our July meeting will be on the 10th at the [Sonoma Lake Clubhouse, 1712 NW 159th St., Edmond, OK.](#) It should be a very interesting topic, as tube testers were made as early as the 1920's and are still being made today. They vary from nothing

more than filament checkers to sophisticated testers able to quantify mutual conductance. I should be able to bring a few, and almost everyone has one, so bring yours.

On the menu will be pizza, as that is very convenient. It will be available at 6 PM with the official meeting starting at 7. **If you can, please bring something for the donation auction.**

At the August meeting next month we need to have our annual election of officers. So if you would like to be an officer, or would like a change of our current officers, be sure to attend.

The HLARA Tulsa club will hold their annual Summer Sizzler meet on Saturday, July 31st at the Asbury United Methodist Church, 6767 S. Mingo Rd., Tulsa, OK, and begins at 8 AM. It is structured similar to our April meets, with an ongoing swap meet, a raffle of a radio, and a contest. However, there is no silent auction, but lunch is served just before the donation auction. It is always a good meet, and is close enough for our members to attend. I would urge everyone to check it out. Admission is free. Go to their website (HLARA.org) for the contest categories and more details.

~ Continued on Page 2 ~

President's Column (Continued)

Jim Collings

The only other radio event nearby is the Jim Sargent auction on the Saturday of our meeting, July 10th in Granbury, TX. You can bid online at any time through collector.com, at any time, so you do not need to attend. There are some interesting collectible radio items. So check it out.

See you at the next meeting with your tube tester and something for the donation auction.

Jim Collings, President



Pic A: Jim Collings' Essex Aerophone detector



Pic. B: Jim Collings' Bradley-



Pic. C: Jim Collings' Temple Speakers.



Pic. D: Jim Collings' Midget Speaker

Meeting Report for June 2021

Jim Tyrrell

June and summer are here in full with warm weather, no tornados, and enough rain that I haven't had to run my sprinklers much; it seems like we are getting a break after the problems of the past year. This weekend, I went for a nighttime walk in my neighborhood. Down by our pond, there were fireflies like I have never seen in my life. Got to love summer here in Oklahoma!

It was a very pleasant warm Saturday evening this June as about thirteen OKVRC members met for our regular club dinner and meeting at the Sonoma Lake subdivision clubhouse in Edmond. Dinner was pizza with beverages and Julie Collings' ever-popular brownies, and as always, at a great price of five dollars per person.

Jim called the meeting to order and shared a few updates regarding the VPRS swap meet in Duncanville, Texas, and the Summer Sizzler event held by the Heartland Radio club in Tulsa. That meet is normally held in June, but this year it will be on July 31st. I've been to it twice, and it is well worth the drive.

We then got started on the evening's program: **New in the Box**. For about a century, consumers have been bringing new electronic products into their homes. These are almost always in some sort of box or carton, which generally gets thrown away when no longer needed. Occasionally, radios and radio-related items turn up in their original packaging. They're fun to collect, and more common than you may think.

Club member Elena brought in a huge new-in-the-box Variac (Pic.3), one of the largest I've ever seen. She also showed us two Zenith radios—a portable with an attractive copper grill (Pic 1), and a small table model from the late thirties (Pic 2).

Your club secretary showed some more recent new-in-the-box items, including a Sonnet multiband portable radio from 1972, a Sears mini boom-box radio from 1982 (a Walkman style unit for headphone listening with a main unit dock), a small Sun-Mark (Pic. 4) clock radio (C battery powered) from 1968, an even smaller Audition travel clock radio from 1971, a brand new Windsor cassette player-recorder from 1983, and a Realistic Stereo Cassette Adaptor from about 1978 (a gadget lets you to play cassettes on your eight track player, and it works! ~ **Cont'd. on P. 4** ~



Pic. 1: Zenith portable.



Pic. 2: Zenith Tabletop.



Pic. 3: Variac.



←Pic.4: Sun-Mark clock radio.

I also shared a National Panasonic AM-FM pocket radio from about 1978 (Pic. 5). National Panasonic is only sold in Japan; my brother bought it for me when he was over there. The only item of any real antiquity I brought in was a Trimm headphone from 1923. It consists of a single headphone, on a wooden handle, which the user had to hold up to their ear. These were popular with ladies, since regular headsets tended to get stuck in their hairdos.



Pic. 5: National Panasonic pocket radio—gift from my brother.



Pic. 6: From <https://hair-and-make-up-artist.com/womens-1920s-hairstyles/>.



Pic.7: 1923 Trimm headphone.

Jim Collings brought a great selection of early radio items (see Page 2 for photos), all in pristine original packaging. Jim showed us a Freshman double adjustable crystal detector, an Amesco Orthophone, a Steinite Interference Eliminator, a Murdoch model 358 fixed condenser, a Baldwin single headphone, a Strom Jr. crystal set, and a Temple Comparator, which allows you to hook up to five sets of headphones at once to your radio. We also got to see a Stromberg-Carlson audio filter, a NA-ALO Midget cone speaker, and an Allen-Bradley resistance coupled three-tube audio amplifier. The last item was used with the experimental scanning-disk television receivers of the late twenties. What is remarkable is that all of Jim's items are from the twenties or earlier!

Jim Ray brought in the piece de résistance of the evening: a brand-new, in-the-carton, B&K Tube Tester! I didn't catch the date but I think it was early sixties. Most tube checkers that have survived are pretty beat-up looking; I've never seen anything so pristine.

We ended a great evening with the usual donation auction. Thanks to all who came and especially to Ray and Dorothy for reserving and preparing our room.

Jim Tyrrell



Pic. 8: Jim Ray's B&K Model 747-B tube tester that he brought in. It was still in its original box. (Come see it at our July meeting.)

WANTED

Briggs & Stratton (BASCO) radio items Crystal radio, tube sockets, A-B-C power supplies, radio advertising, boxed parts, & promotional items. Email Dale Boyce at: radioman@wi.rr.com, or call (414) 840-4146.

Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers:

Jim Collings, call (405)-755-4139 or send an email to: jrcradio@cox.net. Or visit me by appointment at: 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013

Old Comics: Send list of available comics to Dan Giddings, PO Box 3961, Glendale, CA 91221-3961.

SERVICES

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***Happy Birthday to our July
Birthday Members!***

***May all of the flies in your life's
ointment always be fireflies.***



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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