



OK Vintage Radio Collectors

BROADCAST NEWS

Online at 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.

Send Articles to:

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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 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



Our June meeting will be on June 12th at the [Sonoma Lake Clubhouse, 1712 NW 159th St., Edmond, OK](#). We gather at 6 PM for food and fellowship with the meeting beginning at 7. The topic for the meeting will be "new in the box."

Occasionally a radio item is found that is still in its box, never used. These finds are not too common.

More often the original box has been saved, and is still with the item, but it has been used. So, bring things in either category. These are most often accessory items, but radios in their boxes are sometimes found. My experience is that radios found were not popular items, so they were never sold, or at least were never put to use. But, of course there are exceptions; it will be interesting to see what shows up at the meeting. As usual there will be a donation auction at the end of the meeting, so bring something that someone else can use.

Radio meet activity is starting to rev back up. There was a large sale of a radio collection in Tulsa last week. I did not go, but some of our members did attend. Most sets were in working condition. I am advised that most everything was being sold, even the multitude of console radios, and there was a lot of interest among the general public. Hopefully, we can find a way to shift some of that momentum to Oklahoma City.

Several of the out-of-town clubs have held swap meets, usually for just a part of a day. There has been a lot of interest, with collectors from quite far away attending. Jim Sargent of sargentauction.com will hold an in-person and on-line auction on July 10th (our meeting day). Also the VRPS (vrps.org) will hold a tail gate swap meet in [Duncanville, TX](#), on June 19th, 8AM. The Homeland Antique Radio Association (HLARA) will hold their Summer Sizzler on July 31st in Tulsa.

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President's Column (Continued)

Jim Collings

The [Northland Antique Radio Club](#) will have their Radio Daze on September 10th and 11th in Plymouth, MN. This is a week before the meet in [Kutztown, PA](#). The [Iowa Antique Radio Club and Historical Society](#) has planned an auction for August 28th in Marshalltown, IA. Then the [AWA](#) will hold their annual conference on October 5th-9th in Rochester, NY. So there are a multitude of events coming up. Contact me for more details, or check each club's website.

The estate of a former member may be made available for members of the club to come and select items. This would be a 100 mile trip, but worth the effort. I'll advise when more data is available.

See you at the meeting on Saturday.

Jim Collings, President



1 & 2 Both images are of Jim Collings' display of tubes that he used in his presentation on tubes. He began with tubes used for battery radios, and moved on to tubes that used heaters and cathodes in the late twenties. He also shared that globe tubes were "pretty much out of fashion" by 1933, and that Sylvania made the globe-shaped tools longer than any other manufacturer.



Meeting Report for May 2021

Jim Tyrrell

It was a very pleasant and warm Saturday evening this May as about fourteen OKVRC members met for our regular club dinner and meeting. The larger turnout indicates folks are getting vaccinated, and are less scared of going out. Dinner was pizza, beverages, and dessert. It's always a hit with the members, and all for only \$5 each.

As sort of a good omen, we got to see a beautiful wild turkey walking majestically around the pool area just outside the room where we were meeting. And just as we were starting dinner, Club Member Steve Davis, along with his son, Harley, walked in. Steve was wearing a Santa Fe railroad conductors hat, and both dad and son were dressed in overalls having both just come from a day of volunteer work at the Oklahoma Railroad Museum. Before long everyone was talking about trains, steam locomotives, and taking Amtrak cross-country. It seems like a lot of OKVRC members like trains, too!



3 Steve and Harley Davis.

President Collings called the meeting to order, and made a few announcements, primarily concerning the previous month's Spring Convention. All agreed it was a success, despite the modest turnout. Jim then moved on to the evening's program, which was about Vacuum Tubes, something most people think of as being as obsolete as the horse-and-buggy. But it is hard to underestimate their impact on the twentieth century. Without tubes there would have been no radio, television, computers, medical electronics, radar, sound movies and much more. While vacuum tubes have given way to solid state devices in nearly all electronics, they were the building blocks that made almost all electronics possible in the first place.

Jim Collings brought in a very impressive collection of extremely early and rare tubes, from before 1910 to about 1930. He showed us an ultra-rare spherical Deforest Audion, the first triode made, and then progressed through the development of tubes over the next twenty-five years or so, showing us examples of the various types. Someone remarked that we should have been filming the presentation to make a YouTube video. There was more covered in Jim's presentation, so check out the pics.



4 Jim Collings discussing the VT1 and VT2 tubes that used low-grade gold on the tubes.

Your club secretary brought in a collection of mostly mid-twenties tubes in their original boxes. Tubes in the twenties were packed in rather large cartons with a lot of packing material, and data sheets for that tube type. The boxes often had attractive artwork on them as well. I got most of them at a swap meet in California, when I was in college (a long time ago). I paid a buck a piece for them which seemed like a lot of money at the time.



5 Jim Tyrrell with his collection of tubes he bought all at the same time, most for \$1 each, "one lucky Saturday at the Orange County [California] fairgrounds . . . 40 years ago. "



6 Jim Tyrrell's Arturis blue glass tube.

Club member Ilana Steinhorn always brings in something interesting, and this month we got to see a "Commands set" aircraft radio from World War II, and a "Peerless Reproducer" loudspeaker from the mid-twenties.



7 Ilana's WWII military commands set.



8 Peerless Reproducer loudspeaker.

Thanks to all who came and especially to Ray and Dorothy for reserving the room and getting it prepared. Please come to the June meeting if you can. We miss those of you who have not been able to come lately. And you won't to miss out on the great programs, like the one we had in May!

~ Jim Tyrrell ~

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 June
Birthday Members!***



Perfect Birthday

On your birthday I wish you much pleasure and joy;
I hope all of your wishes come true.
May each hour and minute be filled with delight,
And your birthday be perfect for you!

By Joanna Fuchs

(Retrieved from: Poemsource.com)

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