



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 for the 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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Midwest City, OK 73140

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cadyraymond1@gmail.com

Unless otherwise noted, articles may be reprinted freely, as long as proper credit and reference is given. An electronic copy of most articles can be obtained from the editor of the Broadcast News.

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

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Jim Collings



OKVRC Christmas Party!!

Our Christmas Party will be at the home of Jim and Julie Collings, 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013. The date is **Saturday December 11th. Please arrive around 6 PM**, as the catered meal will be ready soon after. The

OKVRC is again subsidizing a portion of the meal. This is made possible through purchase and sale of items in our monthly donation auctions, and raffle proceeds at our meets. Please bring a dessert to keep the cost lower, if you are a baker. **Please RSVP to the Collings at (405) 755-4139, or jrcradio@cox.net by Monday, Dec. 6th, if possible.**

We will have the usual white elephant/dirty Santa gift exchange. So everyone needs to bring a gift valued at ~\$10. These have been a lot of fun in the past. We will have Christmas singing later in the evening, so bring your instrument if you would like. We are hoping for a big turnout, and of course all are welcome. Call if you need directions. It's one of our few events where the women are especially included and get to socialize.

VRPS Dallas Meet

Julie and I, as well as others from our club, attended the VRPS meet in Dallas (Plano) the weekend of Nov. 15th-18th. It was a good meet, and was held at this location again after cancellation last year due to the pandemic. We got there on Thursday afternoon, and found that collectors were already unloading their items for the Friday afternoon auction. So, we took advantage of this, and got the car partially unloaded. Thursday evening is an unofficial dinner at a nearby restaurant, which we attended, allowing for more time to socialize before all the activities began.

President's Column (Continued)

On Friday afternoon the auctions began, with the tube and paper auction, followed by the main Friday auction, after a break for dinner. There were no rare tubes in the tube auction, and fewer items than normal in the Friday auction. So, the auction ended at a reasonable time with everything reaching the auction block. There were not many lots of unsaleable junk. Overall, Friday was a buyer's auction, as items sold for reasonable prices.

The silent auction on Saturday morning was fairly small, with not too many items offered, but some things sold very well. I think it was scheduled too early, as it ended at shortly after 9 AM, and many potential bidders never made it to the auction area. But it is a nice way to sell smaller items that do not meet the minimum \$10 bid in the other auctions. The main Saturday auction began at about 11:15 AM, a little after the scheduled beginning time. I expected it to be a seller's auction based on previous years, but prices were fair overall, with some bargains. There were fewer spectacular items than previous years, but those offered sold well. All but one of my lots sold, and I made a few purchases at reasonable prices. An interesting note is that most of the consoles did poorly except for high tube count Zeniths. There were not too many passes, and I believe all the items were put up for bids. Again, there were fewer items than in the past, so the auction was over in plenty of time to get ready for the. I worked the computer and moved sets during the auctions, and everything went fine, with no glitches. Checkout went smoothly, too.

The contest was very good this year. I liked a display of Crosley portable battery sets, and the nice display of vintage microphones. Most items had been meticulously restored and looked great.

The Saturday night banquet and contest awards presentation was typical of past meets. The catered barbeque on the menu was good. The entertainment was on the history of radio station WRR in Dallas, presented by two of their staff.

The Sunday morning swap meet was fairly typical—poor. There were only a few collectors with new items that we had not seen in the auctions. I did not put out anything to sell. Overall it was a very good meet, and we will definitely plan to attend again next year. It was great to see and socialize with old friends that we missed seeing due to the cancellation last year.

It is not too early to pay your membership dues for 2022. They are \$15 for the year, and can be mailed to our PO Box in Midwest City, brought to the Christmas party, or paid at our January meeting.

Please make plans to attend our Christmas Party. The more the merrier and I'm sure it will be a fun time. Julie and I are looking forward to seeing everyone.

Jim Collings, President

November 6, 2021 Meeting Notes

Jim Tyrrell

We held our usual second-Saturday of the month a week early this month. Why, you might ask? It was because our Club Treasurer, Jim Ray, and his wife Bernadette were celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the second Saturday of the month. You certainly don't have a 50th wedding anniversary every day, so congratulations to Jim and Bernadette!

Perhaps because of the different date or lingering Covid-19 fears, we had a pretty meager turnout for our November meeting; about six of us made it. We used the back room of the club, which turned out to be just the right size for our group. Dinner was our usual favorite, pizza, and once everyone was fed, Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order and we started the evening's program on *unusual or different items from our collections*.

Members bought in some really cool items! Ilana brought in a very sophisticated military frequency generator from the World War II era. It was in amazing condition and even had the original canvas cover, something I have never seen before. She also opened a *mystery box*, one of many that her late husband had boxed up years ago. It turned out to be a nice Philco Transitone table radio.

Jim Collings showed us an Emerson in an unusual "Stradivarius" cabinet from the thirties, and a late eighties era retro "Hypersonic" JC Penny AM-FM cassette radio in a clear see-through cabinet in a cathedral shape, with pink neon fluorescent lamps inside! These "see-through" electronics were quite popular for a few years, and included televisions, radios, even telephones. The bright pink florescent lamps made it very eye-catching when lit up. But the unquestioned star item brought in was Jim's American Marconi four-stage audio amplifier from around 1920. This item was originally from the Ford Museum (why would they ever want to sell it?!) and was certainly one of the largest and most impressive early audio amplifiers I have ever seen. Jim mentioned that the American Wireless Association sold one of these at their auction for \$5000. If it was as nice as Jim's, the buyer got a real bargain.

(Continued on Page 4.)



1) Ilana's military frequency generator from the World War II era.



2) Ilana's "Mystery Box" held this Philco Transitone table radio.



3) Jim Colling's see-through pink-neon cabinet.



4) Jim's American Marconi four-stage audio amplifier.

Nov. 6, 2021 Meeting Report Continued



5) Jim Tyrrell's Lloyd's portable eight-track player.

Your club secretary brought in a Lloyd's portable battery powered eight-track player from the late seventies. This unit is basically a mono boom-box with one speaker. It also has an AM-FM radio, and can be powered using batteries, AC wall current, or a car cigarette lighter. It's a very versatile unit that still works great. I serenaded our group with one of my surviving eight track tapes; Billy Joel's "The Stranger" from 1977.

Club member Dorothy Cady brought in a really off-beat item, which looks a retro reproduction radio that resembles a fifties portable. It actually is a lunch box with no electronics inside. It certainly fooled me when I first saw it. And she admitted that, as a newbie to radio collecting, the online picture of it fooled her, too. But she still finds use for it as a container for her art brushes and fabric painting pens.



8) Dorothy's radio lunch box.

We finished off a fun and different meeting with our usual donation auction. Some early catalogs, some transformers, a Zenith Transoceanic speaker grill, some boxes of tubes, and a Stewart Warner radio chassis went to new homes.

Thanks to those who made it to this month's meeting, and I hope to see all of you at Jim and Julie's home in Edmond for the annual Christmas Party. It's going to be lots of fun.



6) "The Stranger" by Billy Joel. The eight-track label.



9) A close-up of Jim T's Lloyd's eight-track player.



10) Ilana's mystery box also revealed old papers from the packaging date.

Jim Tyrrell, Secretary



**What a
Wonderful Radio
Life.**

WANTED (and not just for Christmas)

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.

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.

SERVICES (offered by other than Santa)

Have a vintage radio that needs restoration or repair?

Ray Cady at (405) 820-8014, cadyraymond1@gmail.com, or visit our website at:

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Santa image retrieved from:
<https://www.amateurradio.com/another-christmas-story-part-ii/>

***Happy Birthday to our December
Birthday Members!***



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