



OK Vintage Radio Collectors BROADCAST NEWS

Online at www.okvrc.org

Volume XXXII, Issue 6

June 2022



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Jim Collings

Our meeting this month will be on June 11th at the Sonoma Lake subdivision clubhouse, [1712 NW 159th St, Edmond, OK](#). The meeting will begin at 7 PM with dinner beforehand, about 6 PM. **Please RSVP to 405-306-9985 for an accurate food count.** It should be a fun meeting, as our topic is test equipment, but excluding tube testers. We have featured tube testers previously, but never had a session on other types of test equipment. So, it should be an interesting meeting. Bring your test equipment to show. This can be an unusual or vintage item, or a piece that you regularly use. Also on the agenda is continued discussion on finding a different venue for our swap meets. The goal is to get out of the rut we have been in at the Midwest City location, to attract more collectors, and expand the meet. Any ideas will be appreciated. Also please remember to bring something for the donation auction. I have 4 complete tube radios to bring for the donation sale, none of which are made from plastic, but some of them do work.

The HLARA Summer Sizzler is Saturday July 23th. This is the Tulsa club's annual swap meet and contest. It will be held at the same location as recent years at the [Asbury United Methodist Church, 6767 S. Mingo, Tulsa](#). It officially starts at 9 AM with set-up at 8 AM, and lasts thru the early afternoon, with free lunch. I've always enjoyed this event! It is similar to our April meet with an ongoing swap meet, contest, and auction at the end. Check out their website at HLARA.org for the contest categories and more info. I recommend that everyone attend!

Julie and I went to the Radio Daze meet in Plymouth, (Minneapolis) Minnesota sponsored by the Northland Antique Radio Club, (NARC), on May 20th and 21st. This annual event was cancelled due to the pandemic, so it had been three years since we had attended. It was good to see and visit with friends we had not seen in quite a while. First on Friday morning was a visit to the Pavek Museum where admission was free for the meet attendees. They had made some changes and had some different displays from my last visit, and no longer showed a large selection of early battery radios, but instead had more focus on some more modern items of more interest to younger folks. There were also

Continued on Page 2

updated displays of microphones and audio items. The [Pavek Museum](#) is very impressive, and is the best radio museum I have toured. Friday evening was the auction, with collector Frank Rasada from California, as the auctioneer. There were a fair amount of things for sale, and very little junk. They have a set fee for entering auction items, plus an additional fee to set a reserve. So, there is no commission charged. This method seems to work well for their club, limiting the number of items entered, and mostly making them more valuable items. There were some nice items; I won a few. Radio prices were fairly high (seemingly a current trend now) with better items bringing more money than in the past few years.

Saturday morning the flea market was to start at dawn, and I got out there about 7 AM when quite a few vendors were just beginning to get set up. So, I did my typical thing of scouring the flea market for anything I had to have, and setting up a little later. It was also cold, but the temperature did not keep people away. I purchased enough to fill the remaining space in the car, and one person was giving away his unwanted items. I sold only a few items. Soon, there were very few vendors left, so we took the opportunity to get an earlier start home, as a rainy drive was anticipated. We had a good time at the meet, and will probably attend again. It is the first larger meet of the year, and not too far away.

I hope to see everyone at our meeting. Be sure to bring something for the donation auction.

Jim Collings

May 2022 Meeting Notes

Jim Tyrrell

May is here, and spring in Oklahoma is beautiful as always. The lawns are green, the tomato plants are starting to flower and produce tiny fruit that in couple month's will be so numerous I'll have more ripe tomatoes than I know what to do with. But while gardening is a chore, it has some unusual benefits. Two week ago I was weeding the vegetable patch when a wild turkey landed in my yard not fifteen feet away. He only lingered for a couple of minutes before flying over the fence to my neighbor's yard.

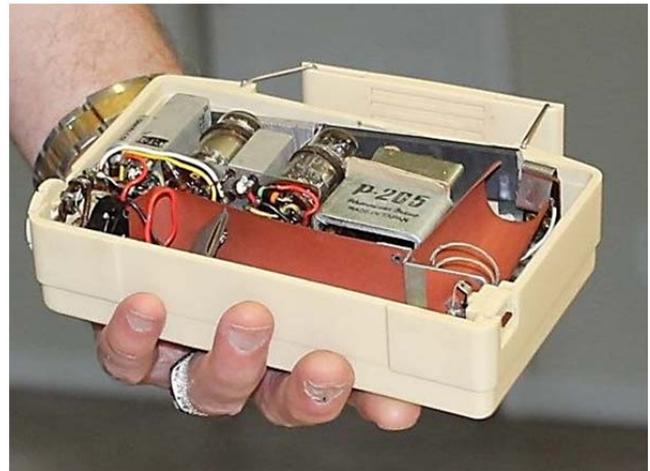
It was another pleasant spring day for our usual second Saturday of the month OKVRC meeting at the Sonoma Lake club house. We had a smaller than usual turnout of about nine members. Our dinner was pizza, and there was plenty left over for those who wanted to take some home. Most everyone did!

After everyone was fed, club president Jim Collings called the meeting to order. We discussed last month's Convention and Swap Meet at the Midwest Community center on April 9th. While the meet was certainly a success, we considered some ways to improve turnout. The meet also turned a profit for the club, thanks to a generous donation of radios that were auctioned off. Once the announcements were over, we got started on the evening's program: radios and equipment made by relatively unknown manufacturers. Common radio brands were around for decades and produced **(Continued on Page 3)**

Meeting Notes Continued

millions of sets; they make up the majority of surviving sets. But there were some smaller manufacturers that had much smaller outputs due to smaller manufacturing facilities or to having been in business for only a short period of time. These are much harder to find and great fun to collect.

Jim Collings brought in an *International*, which is a tiny plastic set from the early sixties. Its size would lead you to think it is a transistor, but it is actually a four tube! (See the two images below for an outside and inside view of Jim's *International* radio.)



Jim also showed us a small "Tom Thumb" portable from 1946. The same chassis was also used in a combination radio-camera unit until the company was sold. The highlight of the night was Jim's Boston Scale and Machine radio receiver from around 1921. This very rare set houses the tuner in one cabinet, and the detector and a two stage amplifier in the second. Most two-piece receivers of this period placed the detector in the tuner cabinet, with the amplifier by itself in the second cabinet. Jim's set is also in amazing condition for being 100 years old.



Club member Carolyn brought in a 1951 Hallicrafters *Continental* model 5R30A series Bakelite tabletop radio (left). This tabletop model came in more than one color, and what drew Carolyn to this one is its peachy color. The radio has both Broadcast and Shortwave bands. The center control knob is the on-off-volume control, while the left knob is for tuning, and the right knob is the bandswitch. The different model numbers within the 5R30A series denote the color of the cabinet and knobs. Hallicrafters is certainly well known for their Ham radio receivers, but Carolyn's is one of the few built for the commercial market.

(Continued on Page 4)

Meeting Notes Continued

Ilana brought in a large Pilot table radio from the late forties (image right). This impressive set has a rotating band scale that turns a cylinder 90 degrees inside the set when you switch bands, giving you a unique band scale for each of its four bands.



Your club secretary brought in a 1924 *Imperial 5* receiver. I purchased this radio in the late seventies at a swap meet in Pasadena, California. In the decades since, I have never seen another, in the flesh or on line. There is also no mention of the company in the Alan Douglas books, so they must have been short lived.

I also brought in an *Apex* cathedral radio from around 1931 (right side below the next paragraph), a *United Motors* small AC-DC set (made in Detroit) from the early thirties, and a *Minerva* plastic table set from around 1941. All of these are unusual makes.

I also brought in a *Crown* portable radio from the late sixties (left side beneath this paragraph). It has four bands: long wave, broadcast or medium wave, short wave, and FM. Its wood and chrome cabinet is unusual for that era, and also is quite attractive. It sounds great, too.



We finished up a fun program with our usual donation auction, which included a Zenith Bakelite cabinet, lots of tubes (receiving and transmitting), old copper coils, electrolytic capacitors, a Jensen loudspeaker, an Eclipse audio mixer panel, some QST magazines, numerous books, and a VTMV, all of which went to new homes.

Thanks to everyone who came to our May meeting. We had lots of fun. Even the auction was a bit spirited.

See you at the next meeting!

Jim Tyrrell

SERVICES

Vintage Radio Repair & Cabinet Restoration

Quality work. Reasonable prices. References available. For chassis repair and cabinet restoration, contact: RAYMOND CADY (405) 820-8014 or cadyraymond1@gmail.com or DOROTHY CADY (405) 206-9985 or dcady1@gmail.com.

Need Something Custom Made?

Sometimes you just need something custom made, like new felt for your vintage phonograph platen or a laser-cut duplicate of a wood speaker grill. Check with Rick at 405-595-4586 to see how I might be able to help you out.



FOR SALE

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

Magnet Wire for Sale Sizes and prices vary. Call Mike at (405) 376-9473, or send email to orders@coaxman.com.

AM Transmitters for Sale Play anything wirelessly on any or all of your vintage AM radios at once with a single plug-and-play transmitter. Contact Raymond Cady at cadyraymond1@gmail.com or 405-820-8014.

WANTED

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

Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers Wanted Call or email **Jim Collings** at (405) 755-4139 or jrcradio@cox.net. Visit me, by appointment, at: 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013.

OKVRC membership includes free classified ad postings. If you'd like to include an ad, send it to the Newsletter Editor (email: cadyraymond1@gmail.com).

About OKVRC

Oklahoma Vintage Radio Collectors (OKVRC) publishes the *Broadcast News* to share historical information, and provide enjoyment for club members and friends.

We like to keep up with our members and always welcome submissions of articles on subjects of interest to radio collectors and restorers, and club activities news.

Please send articles to:

OKVRC News Editor

PO BOX 50625

Midwest City, OK 73140

or email to:

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 INFORMATION

You're invited to join us in our celebration of Vintage Radio by joining us and signing up at a meeting, or by mailing your \$15 annual membership fee check to:
OKVRC, PO BOX 50625, Midwest City, OK, 73140.



Happy Birthday to
 our June birthday
 members!

OKVRC BOARD MEMBERS

President:

Jim Collings: jrcradio@cox.net

Vice-President & Webmaster

Dorothy Cady: dcady1@gmail.com

Secretary:

Jim Tyrrell jptyrrell@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Jim Ray: jabray71@hotmail.com

BROADCAST NEWS STAFF

Editors/Photographers:

Raymond Cady:

cadyraymond1@gmail.com

WEBSITE & MEETING INFO

www.OKVRC.org

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month (except April and October) at the Sonoma Lake subdivision clubhouse:

[1712 NW 159th St, Edmond, OK](http://1712NW159thStEdmondOK)

April and October are our swap meet months; they replace our regular meeting for those two months.

OKVRC EDITOR
 Broadcast News
 PO BOX 50625
 Midwest City, OK 73140-5625