



# OK Vintage Radio Collectors BROADCAST NEWS

Online at [www.okvrc.org](http://www.okvrc.org)

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## *PRESIDENT'S COLUMN*

Jim Collings

The topic for our meeting this month on May 14<sup>th</sup> will be radios and equipment made by relatively unknown manufacturers. These will be sets with brands you have never heard of previously. There are lots of companies like this, covering all eras. Most notable are the small compact wooden mantle sets made in the early 1930's during the depression. Many of these have unique brands. I have a few interesting sets in mind to bring. The meeting will be at the Sonoma Lake Clubhouse, 1717 NW 159<sup>th</sup> St., Edmond, OK 73013. Dinner will be available at a cost of \$5 per person beginning at 6 PM, with the actual meeting starting at 7 PM. The donation auction at the end of the meeting will include some tubes, parts, and coils recently discovered by a previous donor. There is a group of large transmitting tubes which should be nice for display, but please remember to bring your unneeded items for the auction. In addition to the topic, we will discuss the swap meet for ideas to make it bigger and better in the future.

Our April swap meet last month was a success! Unfortunately, the turnout was poor. There were not too many out-of-towners in attendance. More items in the swap area were needed. But, I believe everyone who attended had a good time. The collection of fairly nice sets, which were donated to the club were placed in the silent auction, so this was the highlight of the meet. Prices were reasonable. So much so, that I ended up purchasing about half of them. The raffle item, the Hotel Radio Corp. chairside set donated and restored by the Cady's also contributed to the financial success of the meet. The club appreciates all the donations which help defray the cost of renting the facility. Thanks to all who helped! Thanks especially to those who got there early to set up and stayed late to help tear down and clean the facility.

The summer season of radio swap meets is back in place after two years of coronavirus cancellations. The big meet in Kutztown, Pa will be held this weekend. Closer to home, the Northland Antique Radio Club will hold their Radio Daze in Plymouth, MN on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. They always have a nice smaller meet, with a large Friday night auction. It also is a chance to visit the Pavek Museum, a very nice collection of vintage radio items. Also, Jim Sargent will have his on-line auction of radio gear on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the day of our meeting.

See you at the meeting, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Sonoma Lake clubhouse, and bring your off-brand sets, and donation items!

*Jim Collings, President*

### Vintage Radio Repair & Cabinet Restoration

Quality work. Reasonable prices. References available. For chassis repair and cabinet restoration, contact:

RAYMOND CADY  
(405) 820-8014  
cadyraymond1@gmail.com  
or

DOROTHY CADY  
(405) 206-9985  
dcady1@gmail.com

### FOR SALE: Motorola B1000W

This early Motorola stereo has built-in fold-away speakers. The left and right speakers have a SE amplifier with transformers, and a single-tapped transformer setup as a PP amp for the center channel.



Contact: Dorothy Cady at 405-206-9985 for more info and photos.

**This is a fundraiser. Please make an offer.**

### 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.

### FOR SALE Magnet Wire

Sizes and prices vary. Call Mike at (405) 376-9473, or send email to [orders@coaxman.com](mailto:orders@coaxman.com).

### WE BUY Old Comics

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



### How Can I Help You?

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 he might be able to help you out.

### FOR SALE AM Transmitters

Play anything on your vintage AM radios with a plug-and-play transmitter. Call or text Raymond Cady at 405-820-8014.

### WANTED: Tubes and Tube-type Amplifiers

Call or email Jim Collings at (405) 755-4139 or [jrcradio@cox.net](mailto:jrcradio@cox.net). Visit me, by appointment, at: 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013.

## *April 2022 Meeting Notes*

*Jim Tyrrell*

Spring is here in Oklahoma, with the welcome return of warm weather, all the beauty of spring flowers, and the less welcome things like risks for “severe” weather, the need to spend time every weekend keeping the yard presentable, and spring bugs. This last week we had some pretty torrential rain on two days, but thankfully no hail or tornados. During last Wednesday’s rainstorm I discovered a small green frog on my bedroom carpet! How he got in the house. I have no idea, but I took him down to the neighborhood pond and he happily jumped into the water and splashed away.

Spring also brings one of our favorite activities, our clubs Spring Convention and Swap Meet at the Midwest City Community Center. Attendance was down, and some events cancelled during the Covid-19 epidemic, so we were hopeful I of a good turnout. We were not disappointed. Members and guests were arriving at the Midwest Community Center before the building opened at eight, and there was plenty of donuts and coffee for everyone to enjoy while waiting for sellers to arrive and set up. More folks trickled in as the morning wore on. There were about three rows of sales tables, with more stuff for sale than I recall at any of our COVID-era meets. There were mostly table models made from wood, plastic and Bakelite, and from the thirties, forties and fifties. There were also some other radio-related items for sale, such as tubes, knobs, speakers, magazines, books, records, and manuals, along with a few pieces of test equipment and assorted odds and ends. I picked up a big Zenith table radio from the thirties, non-working but reasonably priced, along with a tiny 78RPM portable phono from the forties. I was tempted by other items I saw, but resisted because my collection is starting to crowd me out of my house!

We usually have a raffle, with three tickets for ten dollars, for a restored radio. The prize this year was something unusual, a coin-operated “hotel” radio, restored by Ray and Dorothy Cady. These were found in many hotel and motel rooms back before televisions became common. These do show up for sale occasionally, but all the ones I have ever seen were table models. The one we raffled off at our meet was a chairside model and in blonde wood . . . something very unusual. Club member, Arron, was the lucky winner.

Once the meet was over, some of us stayed behind to help load vehicles and put away tables, as we had to be out by noon. Thanks to everyone who came, especially those who traveled long distances to be here. We are hoping for an even better turnout for the fall (October) convention, since we will be having the contest, so finish restoring that set that has been sitting on your workbench. Then you can share it with us in the fall, and maybe win a ribbon (and the associated bragging rights).

If you can, please try to make it to the regular Club Meeting this May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Sonoma Lake clubhouse. We’ll save some food for you!

*Jim Tyrrell, Secretary*

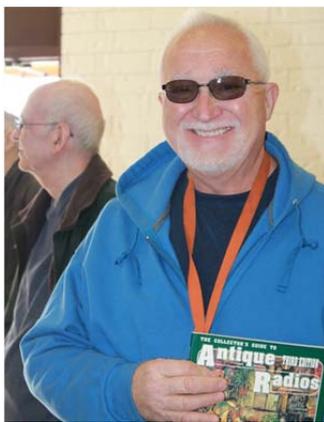
### April 2022 Swap Meet

We had a lot of fun and there were some GREAT radio buys. Have a look. Hopefully you will be able to join us in October for our fall swap meet!

These two cathedral radios and one tombstone radio were part of the early setup of some of the awesome radios up for sale in the silent auction.



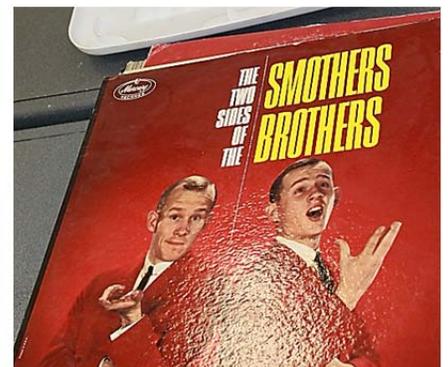
This Beautiful wood Motorola AM radio with shortwave was offered for sale by Jerome Thomas of JT's Old Radios for only \$40. It didn't last long!



Lots of fun. Lots of smiles.



Love a great Zenith radio? Me, too. The black dial face, carved wooden speaker grill, tiger stripe wood grain, and oh . . . the escutcheon. This one even has all of its knobs and pointers. That's one lucky buyer.



Where else can you find an authentic Smothers Brothers record in great condition for only \$2?



Sorry I didn't get a better photo of you, Aaron. 😞

Aaron (far right) had no idea he would be the winner of the raffle drawing, taking home the Hotel Corporation chairside radio that the Cady's restored. With his purchases and winnings, Aaron went home a true winner.

OKVRC appreciates Aaron and everyone who bought raffle tickets in support of OKVRC.

A special thanks to Terrill Cavnar of Moore, Oklahoma, for his generous donation of radios and related items that, with the exception of a couple of radios to be restored for future raffle at OKVRC swap meets, helped us raise funds to support and sustain OKVRC.



***If it was a Working Radio, did the Manufacturer's Name Really Matter?***

*Dorothy Cady*

**“In studying the history of civilization in the United States, the Railroads are generally credited with having shaped the American landscape, but it was Radio that brought America together and formed the cultural bonds between Americans from all walks of life. Through the programs that Radio brought into the home, every listener could learn from and identify with his neighbors in every corner of the nation.”** *The [Museum of Yesterday](#).*

While thinking about May's meeting topic of radios and equipment made by relatively unknown manufacturers, my thoughts strayed to today's economy and the Great Depression. The next thought I had turned out to be more of a question: since radio was so important to people during the Great Depression, what does it matter which company made that radio for you? Every home that had a radio to listen to back then also had a connection to others. In today's connected world, it is possible to see some correlations between the era of the Great Depression and today's world, especially for the past couple of years and the next couple of years ahead of us. Yes, we have much more technology and thus more connection, but today's technology is more about the technology and the company that provides it. It seems to me that these types of companies (Facebook, Google, and TikTok, for example) are more about what you as a consumer can do for their bottom line than they are about the world and the connection people can make through the use of these technologies. Early radio manufacturers cared much less about the money and more about the value of the communication they were bringing to everyone. So, it seems fitting that we will be sharing during the May meeting some of those radios that were manufactured by companies whose names today often are only known because we hold in our hands one of the functional works of art they created. So, dig through your stash of radios, working or not, and find those outliers. May's meeting will be a fitting place to share our appreciation for each and every one of them.

## 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](mailto: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 May birthday members and to their loved ones celebrating a birthday in May!

### OKVRC BOARD MEMBERS

#### President:

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### WEBSITE & MEETING INFO

[www.OKVRC.org](http://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.

And a HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to all of you wonderful moms, and to those of you who care for others just like a Mom does . . . with love and kindness.

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