



# OK Vintage Radio Collectors BROADCAST NEWS

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

*Volume XXXIII, Issue 2*

*February 2023*

## ***PRESIDENT'S COLUMN***

***Jim Collings***

The February meeting will be at our new venue! We will meet at the Golden Corral, [1501 S. Sooner Rd. Oklahoma City 73110](http://www.goldencorral.com). (I call this Del City, but the address is OKC). The meeting will be on Saturday February 11th with dinner at 6 PM, and start of the meeting at 7 PM. There is a separate room near the back with an outside door nearby to bring in our radios. We hope to have a sign near the room to make it easier for our members and guests to locate the room.

The topic will be a continuation of last month's topic but a decade later. We will discuss radios and equipment made in the 1960s. This decade marks the beginning of stereo equipment, and a large influx of transistor radios from Japan. I have very little from this era in my collection, so it will be up to other members to provide interesting items for us to talk about. I know that others have nice sets from this era. As usual you may bring anything else that you would like to show and/or talk about. Also, please bring something of interest for the donation auction. Last month's offerings were not well received and it was difficult to get anyone to even take the items. If you haven't paid your dues yet, they were due last month for 2023. The low \$15 membership fee can be sent to the club's PO Box, or paid at the meeting.

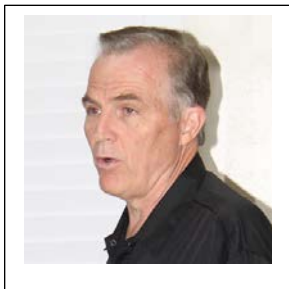
Now is the time to plan vacation time for the year. I've included in this issue of the newsletter a list of scheduled radio events for this year. (See page 5.) There are a few others yet to be scheduled that I can update you about when available. It's not too early to plan for our big spring meet. It will be on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Midwest City Community Center.

See you for 1960s night!

***Jim Collings, President***

## Report for the January 2023 OKVRC Meeting

### *Jim Tyrrell*



It's a warm winter day here in Oklahoma, almost too pleasant to be indoors writing a newsletter column, but now that the car is washed and put away, it's a good time to knock this one out. Our notoriously changeable weather has been all over the map, with freezing weather with ice for a few days, and warm pleasant weather a few days later, sometimes you seem to almost get a years' worth of weather in one week!

It was a cool but pleasant evening as OKVRC members gathered for our first monthly club of meeting of 2023 at the Golden Corral Buffet in Midwest City, on Sooner Blvd., just north of the I-40. This time we were given the private room with a door directly to the outside, very convenient for bringing in sets. I sure hope we can keep this room, as we had the best turnout in months, including some members we haven't seen in a while. The food was excellent, and I think we have made a good decision in choosing the Golden Corral as our new home for our meetings.

After dinner, which included several return visits to the buffet, Club President Jim Collings called the meeting to order, and we discussed some club business. All agreed that the Christmas Party was a success, despite the lower than average attendance. Club treasurer Jim Ray advised us that the club is quite solvent. Then we got started on the night's program: radios from the fifties.

I am too young to remember the fifties of course, but old enough to remember the late seventies, when we were bombarded with fifties nostalgia in the popular culture, reflected in movies like "Grease", and TV shows like "Happy Days". They made it seem like the fifties were an idyllic era of malt shops, poodle skirts, cool cars and drive in movies. Perhaps after the volcanic upheavals of the sixties and early seventies, such as Vietnam, race riots, Watergate, and political assassinations, Americans wanted to look back to a more peaceful time. Were the fifties really that innocent? Maybe not, but we would like to believe so.

Dorothy Cady brought in a bright red plastic Juliet model RT6 "El Personel" AM radio from the late fifties. Jim Ray brought in a couple of examples of German radios from the same era. Jim has brought in some fine German sets in the past, but what was remarkable about these is both are very compact. We got to see a 1958 Lowe Opto Olympic, with three speakers, and a 1959 Telefunken model 5061. These high quality sets have shortwave bands as well as AM and FM, and sound great.

Club member Ilana brought in one of the largest sets we got to see tonight, an AM-FM Zenith table set, one of the type which has the tone control in the center of the tuning dial. Jim Collings showed his Zenith Royal 500 transistor radio from about 1956. These early transistor sets are hand-wired instead of using a printed circuit board. Jim also showed us a Shure model 55 microphone from the fifties, and three General Electric model 427 radios from 1957. These are sometimes called "Atomic" radios because they have the standard image for atomic energy right on the tuning knob. These sets were offered in several colors; Jim's sets are turquoise, red and brown. They all have power cords that match the color of the radio's

**Meeting Report (Continued)**

cabinet!

Your club secretary brought in a Crosley model 56PB portable radio which can run on batteries or AC in a stylish Bakelite cabinet. I also brought in a small RCA Victor model 8-X-545 in a nice simulated wood cabinet, and a Zenith 5G01 table AM set in brown Bakelite with a handle on top. I also showed a General Electric model 572 from 1955, in a brown plastic cabinet.

We finished up a great evening with our usual donation auction. A box of wire, some telephone parts, a movie film cabinet, a tube amp, a portable DVD player, a knife sharpener (!), a couple of farm radios, and a few other odds and ends all found new homes.

Thanks to everyone who came. Let's try to get an even better turnout in February. I'll see you there!

*Jim Tyrrell*



**January OKVRC meeting at Golden Corral on Sooner Rd in Oklahoma City.**



**Jim Collings' General Electric model 427 "Atomic" radios from 1957 in three colors: red, turquoise, and brown.**



**Donny and his dad made it to the meeting this month. Really glad to see you doing so well!**



**See more images from the meeting on page 7 of this newsletter.**

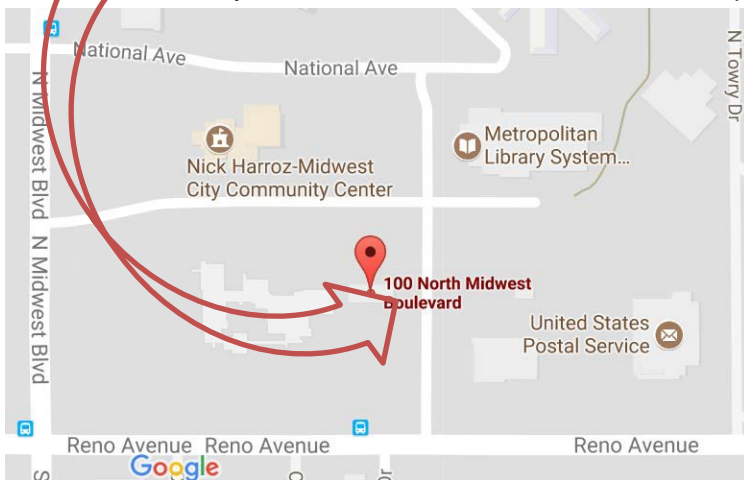
# Vintage Radio Swap Meet and Auction

**FREE**

Admission, Radio Appraisals, & Repair Consultations

Saturday, April 8, 2023, 8:00 a.m. to Noon

**Nick-Harroz Midwest City Community Center**  
100 N. Midwest Blvd., Midwest City, OK  
(North of Tinker AFB)



**DONUTS & FRESH COFFEE**

*Get your raffle tickets for a chance to win a vintage radio. It's currently in restoration, so we will let you know which radio it will be before the*

## Schedule (Subject to change)

- 8:00 a.m. Facility and vendor set-up
- 8:30 a.m. Public admitted & silent auction begins
- 10:00 a.m. Silent auction ends
- 10:30 a.m. Raffle & door prize drawings
- 10:45 a.m. Live auction of vintage radios/items
- 11:30 a.m. Vendor and facility cleanup begins



## BRING YOUR VINTAGE RADIOS



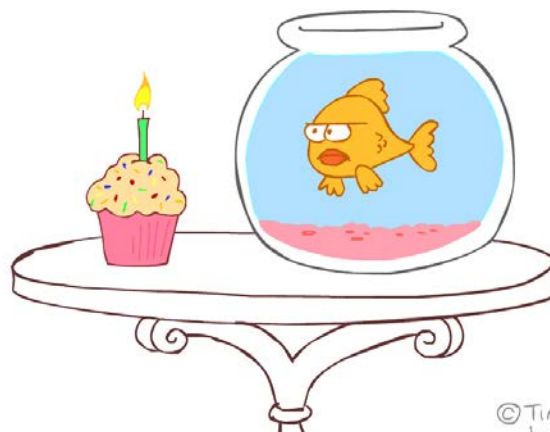
FREE Appraisals (by Jim Collings)  
FREE Repair Consultations (by Raymond Cady)

Event Sponsor: Oklahoma Vintage Radio Collectors

## 2023 Antique Radio Events

March 10-12, 2023	<a href="http://hvra.org/index.php/2023-annual-hvra-convention/">HVRA Convention</a> ( <a href="http://hvra.org/index.php/2023-annual-hvra-convention/">http://hvra.org/index.php/2023-annual-hvra-convention/</a> )	Houston, TX
March 18, 2023	<a href="http://vrps.org/SPRING_AUCTION.html">VRPS Spring Auction</a> ( <a href="http://vrps.org/SPRING_AUCTION.html">http://vrps.org/SPRING_AUCTION.html</a> )	Irving, TX
March 23-25, 2023	<a href="http://cc-awa.club/">Carolina Chapter-AWA Meet</a> ( <a href="http://cc-awa.club/">http://cc-awa.club/</a> )	Charlotte, NC
April 8, 2023	<a href="http://okvrc.org/">OKVRC Spring Swap Meet</a> ( <a href="http://okvrc.org/">http://okvrc.org/</a> )	Midwest City, OK
May 12-13, 2023	<a href="https://dvhrc.com/">DVHRC Antiques Radio Show</a> ( <a href="https://dvhrc.com/">https://dvhrc.com/</a> )	Kutztown, PA
May 19-20, 2023	<a href="https://www.northlandantiqueradioclub.com/">NARC Radio Daze</a> ( <a href="https://www.northlandantiqueradioclub.com/">https://www.northlandantiqueradioclub.com/</a> )	Plymouth, MN
June ?? 2023	<a href="https://www.hlara.org/sizzler.html">HLARA Summer Sizzler</a> ( <a href="https://www.hlara.org/sizzler.html">https://www.hlara.org/sizzler.html</a> )	Tulsa, OK
August, 4-5, 2023	<a href="http://antique-radios.org/">ARCI Radiofest</a> ( <a href="http://antique-radios.org/">http://antique-radios.org/</a> )	Addison, IL (Chicago Area)
Sept. 15-16, 2023	<a href="https://www.dvhrc.com/docs/Upcomingshowinfo.pdf">DVHRC Antiques Radio Show</a> ( <a href="https://www.dvhrc.com/docs/Upcomingshowinfo.pdf">https://www.dvhrc.com/docs/Upcomingshowinfo.pdf</a> )	Kutztown, PA
Sept. 27-30, 2023	<a href="https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/annual-conference/">AWA Conference</a> ( <a href="https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/annual-conference/">https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/annual-conference/</a> )	Rochester, NY
October 14, 2023	<a href="http://okvrc.org/">OKVRC Spring Swap Meet</a> ( <a href="http://okvrc.org/">http://okvrc.org/</a> )	Midwest City, OK
Nov. 17-19 2023	<a href="http://vrps.org/">VRPS Fall Convention</a> ( <a href="http://vrps.org/">http://vrps.org/</a> )	Richardson, TX

**Happy Birthday to our February OKVRC Members!**



© Tim Hodges  
Lil' Antiques Table.com

## 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](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com) or DOROTHY CADY (405) 206-9985 or [dcady1@gmail.com](mailto: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 405-595-9685 or by email at [Black85vette@gmail.com](mailto:Black85vette@gmail.com) to see how he may be able to help you.

### THIS AD SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

Membership includes free classified ad postings. If you'd like to include an ad, send it to the Newsletter Editor. Email: [cadyraymond1@gmail.com](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com).

## FOR SALE

### 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. Supports Bluetooth plus input via flash drive, SD card, and FM tuner all included. Contact Raymond Cady at 405-820-8014 or [cadyraymond1@gmail.com](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com).

## WANTED

### Briggs & Stratton (BASCO) radio items wanted

Crystal radio, tube sockets, A-B-C power supplies, radio advertising, boxed parts, and promotional items. Email Dale Boyce at: [radioman.boyce.dale@gmail.com](mailto:radioman.boyce.dale@gmail.com), or call him at: (414) 840-4146.

### WE BUY Old Comics

Send your list of available comics to Dan Giddings, 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](mailto:jrcradio@cox.net). Visit me, by appointment, at: 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK 73013.

### THIS AD SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

Membership includes free classified ad postings. If you'd like to include an ad, send it to the Newsletter Editor at: [cadyraymond1@gmail.com](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com).

## *Advice on Cleaning Your Radio Knobs*

*Dorothy Cady*

Many vintage radio officianados have advice (or shared knowledge) on how to clean the knobs on your vintage radio cabinet. It can be both challenging and time consuming to clean the krud out of those little crevices. However, **Dorothy will be doing a presentation at the March meeting on how she cleans radio knobs and escusheons.** But for now, here are a few techniques other collectors have used.

*Chaz from Alberta, Canada on the Antiqueradios forum:*

‘I use a brass dremil tool to get all the crud and stuff out of the cracks in the knobs.’

*Unusual Designer on the Antiqueradios forum:*

“I have had good results [on bakelite knobs] getting grunge out of deep recesses with a bit of COMET kitchen cleaner (Powder) and a toothbrush.”

*Arthur's Hallicrafters Kitchen & Audio Lab (YouTube)*

“What I have is distilled water and a generic version of pine-sol . . . mix 50-50 with warm water . . .” and run two cycles in an ultrasonic jewelry cleaner.

*Alan Vega on eHam.net*

“A Q-tip with just a smear of Pledge on it will clean the dirt from grooves in knobs and also hard to reach places.”

*Brookdaleville from Austin, Texas on IDPRJ.com*

“I clean Strat knobs with an old, soft nail brush, warm (not hot) water and a tiny bit of dish soap.” (Strat knobs are on guitars, not radios.)

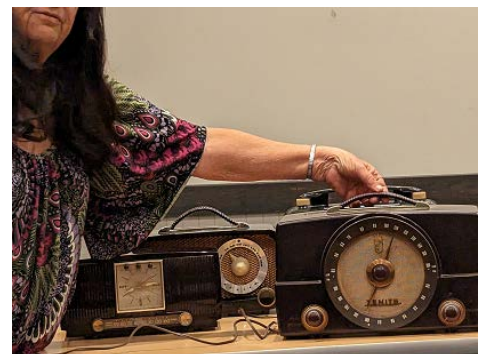
My (Dorothy’s) first piece of advice regarding cleaning vintage radio knobs is to know what they are made of. While soaking a Bakelite knob may be fine, you would not want to do the same with a wooden knob. **Join our March meeting to learn more from Dorothy Cady.**



Dorothy's Red Juliet model RT6 “El Personal” AM radio.



Jim Ray's 1958 Lowe Opto Olympic and 1959 Telefunken model 5061.



Ilana's AM-FM Zenith table set with the tone control in the center of the tuning dial.

## 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 attending and signing up at a meeting or swap meet, or by mailing your \$15 annual membership fee check to: **OKVRC, PO BOX 50625, Midwest City, OK, 73140.**

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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 Golden Corral, [1501 S. Sooner Rd. OKC 73110](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1501+S.+Sooner+Rd.+OKC+73110)

We hold Swap Meets in April and October, currently in MidWest City.