



# OK Vintage Radio Collectors BROADCAST NEWS

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

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## President's Column - Jim Collings

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## 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 16<sup>th</sup>. Note that this is the third Saturday of the month, a deviation from our normal second Saturday meetings. Please begin arriving after 6 PM, as the catered meal will be ready to eat at 6:30. The OKVRC is again subsidizing the meal. This is made possible through the purchase and sale of items in our monthly donation auctions, and raffle proceeds at our meets. **Please RSVP** to the Collings by phone or text at 405-755-4139, or by email at <mailto:jrcradio@cox.net> **by Monday, Dec. 11th.**

## President's Column (Continued)

We will have the usual white elephant/dirty Santa gift exchange, so everyone who wants to participate needs to bring a gift valued at about \$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 is time to pay your annual dues for the club. They are just \$15 per year. You may pay in person at the Christmas party or at the January meeting. If you prefer, you can send payment to our PO Box: OKVRC, PO Box 50625, Midwest City, OK 73140.

Julie and I attended the VRPS meet in Dallas (Plano) the weekend of Nov 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. It was a good meet, and was held at the Doubletree. We got there on Thursday afternoon, and found that collectors were already unloading their items for the Friday afternoon auction. We took advantage of this, and had a less stressful day on Friday, allowing us to unload the items scheduled for the Saturday auction, also. On Friday afternoon the auctions began, with the tube and paper auction. There were less tubes and paper than in previous years, so the auction also included the records. But it ended near the 5 PM scheduled ending time. After a short break to grab a bite to eat and relax, the Friday night auction which is designed for less expensive items with a \$10 minimum bid, began. This auction had fewer junky items than in the past, and most items sold well. I spent the most in this auction, as I bought tubes, and cylinder records.

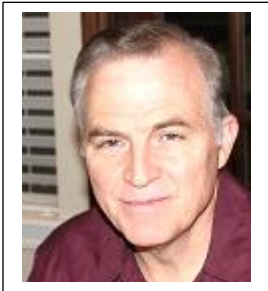
The silent auction on Saturday morning was fairly small, with not too many items offered, but I sold a few things. I think it was scheduled too early, as it ended at 9 AM, and many potential bidders never made it to the auction area. But it is a nice way to sell smaller items that do not meet the minimum \$10 bid in the other auctions. The main Saturday auction began at 11 AM. There were many high quality items, and most items sold at nice prices. I took several battery set items from my collection, but they sold very poorly. I took a loss on everything, but I had purchased them at the peak in radio prices. The consoles in the auction did very poorly, also. Most AC sets sold at nice prices, and there were not too many passes, and many items that did not receive a bid were offered as donations to the VRPS. The auction stopped before 5 PM, and everything was put up for sale. Some items went at high prices even near the end, but the more common AC sets sold cheap near the end.

I worked the computer and moved sets during the auctions, and everything went fine, with no glitches. Checkout went smoothly. Bill Werzner of Houston helped Jim Sargent with some of the auctioneering, and did a good job.

*~ Continued on page 4 ~*

## November Meeting Report

*Jim Tyrrell*



Since I was attending a retirement party for a co-worker and could not attend the meeting, I had help getting this report prepared for you. The day was one of those almost-perfect Oklahoma weather days for our Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. It made it easier for David Stell to bring in the large collection of his radios for his presentation. And wow was it a great collection! It might not be as easy to tell from these photos

There are differences between the various models that he owns, but David definitely showed and explained them to us. His presentation was about the origins and iterations of the General Electric P780 radios of 1959 to 1965. These are early transistorized portable radios. His presentation was, among other things, interesting insight into at least one radio manufacturers decision making regarding how and why to make changes to their radio models from one year to the next, as well as to see the progression of improvements made to them. Here are a few items of interest from David's presentation:

- Tone control is pretty much a treble-cut device to better balance the tone.
- The ferrite core antenna is about eight inches long. To tune it, you rotated the radio.
- The cabinets were made from essentially an ABS plastic, and are hard to crack.
- The front grill and dial were made out of Zamack, which is a metal allow that was chrome plated. The cases were a ginger color until the P783 then they were brown.
- These radios were built mainly from 1959 to 1965.
- Model numbers for the radios are shown on a label in the battery compartment.



Both images are David's full display of his P780s collection.

**President's Column (Continued)**

The contest was excellent this year, as always. I was impressed by a WW I trench receiver/transmitter used by the US, that I did not know existed. I also liked a display of Acme single units forming a receiver.

The Saturday night banquet featured a live presentation of a 1940's radio show. Overall, it was an enjoyable trip.

*Jim Collings*



2023 VRPS Convention Hotel. Image source: <http://www.vrps.org/CONVENTION2023.html>.



**#1 AIR CASTLE 136**  
very nice



**#2 Philco 70**  
very, very nice

The two raffle items offered at the 2023 VRPS Convention. Image Source: <http://www.vrps.org/CONVENTION2023.html>.



This year's convention theme was Emerson. Image Source: <http://www.vrps.org/CONVENTION2023.html>.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

*Services*

**Custom Laser Cutting**  
Need felt for a platen, a wood speaker grill, an escutcheon? Contact Rick for information at [Black85vette@gmail.com](mailto:Black85vette@gmail.com).

**Radio Repair/Restoration**  
Quality work. Reasonable prices. For chassis repair and cabinet restoration contact Ray and Dorothy Cady at 405-820-8014 or [cadyraymond1@gmail.com](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com).

*Wanted*

**Tubes & Tube-type Amplifiers**  
Contact Jim Collings at (405) 755-4139 or [jrcradio@cox.net](mailto:jrcradio@cox.net). Meet me by appointment at 14704 Carlingford Way, Edmond, OK.73013

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

*For Sale*

**AM Transmitter**  
Play anything wirelessly on any AM radio with only one plug-and-play AM transmitter. Bluetooth, flash drive and SD card slots, and built-in FM tuner included. Contact Ray at [cadyraymond1@gmail.com](mailto:cadyraymond1@gmail.com).

*Wanted*

**We Buy Old Comics**  
Send list of available comics to Dan Giddings, PO Box 3961, Glendale, CA 91221.

## *Tulsa Christmas Party Report*

*Dorothy Cady, Vice President*

Our Tulsa sister group, HLARA, held their Christmas party on December 1<sup>st</sup> this year, a bit earlier in the month than usual. That was not the only change they made this year. Instead of ordering barbeque, which had to be picked up and set up by one of the HLARA board members (usually Gene, I believe), this year they hired the Asbury Church Chef to cook the meal and set it up for buffet service. He had a helper, if that is the correct term for her, who brought the deserts to the buffet table first. (A woman after my own heart. But I owe her an apology; I never found out who that woman was.) The chef prepared green salad, fresh greenbeans, potatoes au gratin, sliced ham, rolls, and . . . wait for it . . . four kinds of pie for desert, one of which was apple with a caramel topping. It was all so good! And the Chef was quite kind and thoughtful. While we were eating, he came around to the tables, encouraged us to have seconds and/or take food home, for which he put containers for us on the buffet table. More than one person took him up on it. Raymond and I stay overnight when we go up for the Christmas party, so we took a snack to have later in our hotel room.

The official list of attendees total to 27. In addition to club members and their significant other, some of the Ham club members also attended. This was not the first time HLARA had invited the Ham club, so that was not a change this year. It was great to get to meet some people we had not yet met and to

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## Tulsa HLARA Christmas Party (Continued)

hang out with those with whom we have become good friends.

After dinner, the Dirty Santa gift exchange was on. Everyone was quite polite until several radio gifts had been opened. Then the dirty part of the game began. Multiple radios had more than one temporary owner. It even took a husband and wife team to finally end up with the one fully restored radio among several radio gifts that had been opened. There were no awful gifts in the group; I think everyone ended up with something they could value. Raymond brought home a Vacuum Tube Volt Meter that he is working to restore, and I brought home a wireless doorbell.

Copies of the words to Christmas songs were provided for all of us so that we could sing along to the Bing Crosby and choir Christmas carol recording played on the overhead speaker. It was a nice way to end the party, and very nice to have Jerome Thomas sitting at the table with us and singing along, too. (For those of you who aren't familiar with the HLARA's Christmas party traditions, Jerome often played the carols on a keyboard while singing them for us. Of course, we always were welcome to sing along, and many of us did.)

Raymond and I always enjoy both the Tulsa HLARA and our OKVRC Christmas parties. We think of them as a wonderful way to complete another year with people we respect, appreciate, and love spending time with.

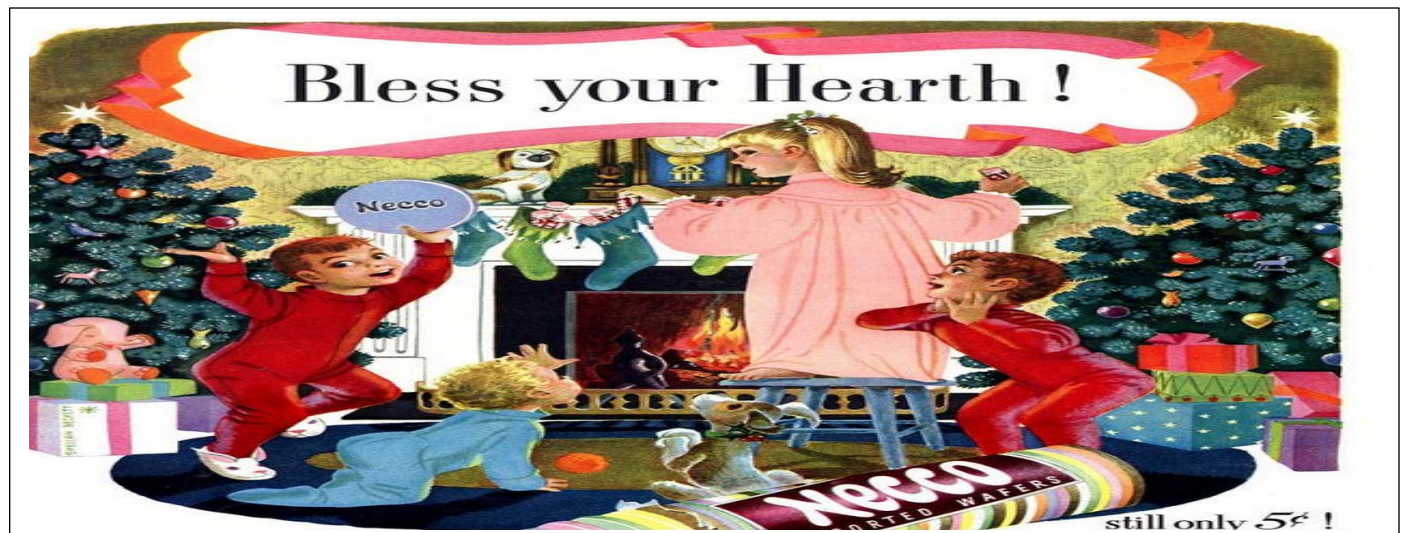
We will see you soon at the OKVRC Christmas party. Please remember to let Jim and Julie know whether you will be attending and whether you will be bringing someone special with you so they can order the right amount of food. For those of you who may not be able to attend, we hope you will have a wonderful Christmas and a new year that brings you great joy.

*Dorothy and Raymond Cady*



**HLARA 2023 Christmas Party. No decorations this year, but we had fun.**

Source: Radioafficion.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](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 at 6 PM on the second Saturday of each month (except April and Oct.) at Golden Corral,

[1501 S. Sooner Rd. OKC 73110](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1501+S+Sooner+Rd,+Midwest+City,+OK+73110/@35.625,-97.517,15z)

We hold Swap Meets in April and October, currently in MidWest City, but we will move to Mustang in 2024.