



The Alabama Historical Radio Society Newsletter

May 2009



A NOTE FROM THE PREZ

April was a great month with all the activities that were enjoyed by the active members. Robert's classes continue to be well attended; the next one will be May 16. If you haven't attended one of Robert's classes, be sure and sit in. I don't think you will want to miss another one.

Two carloads of us attended Pete Sides' 101st birthday celebration in Montgomery on the 11th (his actual b'day is the 10th). There were over 30 people there to help him have another birthday to remember. He is already looking forward to 102.

Marvin Shepherd continues to perform his magic on our Scott Philharmonic. We received the additional parts that were chromed in St. Louis. Marvin has the cabinet looking like new.

We moved the Sparton 'Sled' to its final resting place in the museum. I think it will attract lots of attention. Our museum is looking great, and the guest book is getting lots of entries. During the Hamfest, I gave one of the 'out-of-town' guests a tour of the downtown and Huffman sites.

Speaking of Hamfest, we had a very nice display for all to see and even sold some of our surplus 'stuff'. We also had a very nice donation of equipment that weekend.

We placed our 'telegraphing mannequin' at the railroad museum in Calera (see story below). Now we will install the keyer and sounder for a realistic display.

Our prayers were answered and our wonderful 'news' lady came through her surgery just fine, so we can have another first class newsletter this month.

That's all folks! Come join in the fun and help us with all this work we have generated.

Dave

Heart of Dixie Railroad Club Museum Display

The next time you visit the Heart of Dixie Railroad Club Museum in Calera, check out the display, as shown in photo below. The mannequin on the right was provided by the AHRS and dressed in period clothing. The shirt came from Hop Hays, as did as the authentic railroad telegraph sounder and key. Hop and Margaret are looking for a period vest for the mannequin, which will be the icing on the cake. The pants and shoes came from a local thrift store, and the socks came out of Dee's drawers. Ha... He also has on a bow tie, which would have been worn around the 1920's. The folks at the Heart of Dixie Railroad Club Museum in Calera, Alabama were very pleased with the way it turned out. They are looking for an old wood desk that would also be from the 1920's By the way, we also need an old green visor that will help cover up that hairdo.





DEE'S RADIO SHOWS

This has really been a busy few weeks. I am still working on bookcases for the library. I just finished up the QST shelves and have them populated with all the QSTs from 1930 thru 2008. The very early issues through 1929 will be kept in plastic boxes for safe keeping; however, you will still be able to look through them. Come by any Saturday and look them over. I still have one more bookcase to finish up, and the library will be complete. Dave Cisco, John Outland, and I went to Walmart today and found some plastic boxes that the early QSTs fit in. We removed the old brown paper wrapping that probably was not acid free. They should remain in better shape in those boxes, plus you can now see the magazines.

I have started listening to my Jack Benny collection every night. Thanks to old age and a feeble mind, I can enjoy the shows over and over again. All I need to do is wait about two years before I repeat the process, and it's like listening to brand new shows. Who said growing old is "Heck"?

I always enjoy looking the radio shows up on the internet and seeing what happened back stage so to speak. You may recall Jack would occasionally threaten his "girlfriend" Mary with sending her back to the May Company. Well, the May Company was actually a part of her early life before Jack. Mary was related to the Marks Brothers. Her name was Sadye Marks. Jack met her at a Passover Seder. They were married in 1927. She worked for the May Company at that time. When she joined the Jack Benny program, she adopted the name Mary Livingston.

I plan to buy the book about Jack Benny written by his daughter Joan entitled "Sunday Nights at Seven."

See ya'll next time,

Dee Haynes

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MEETING TIMES

We meet nearly every Saturday of the month at 09:00 at the Alabama Power Building on Parkway East (aka Centerpoint Parkway) in Huffman. The organization's space is accessed from the rear of the building, so park around the back (by means of Huffman Road, which runs parallel to the Parkway). Entry is via the door on the right.

Come to the Monday Night Meetings, TOO, on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM!

FREE ELECTRONICS CLASSES

The first Saturday of the month, there are electronics classes free to members. Topics include test equipment, Resistors and Capacitance testing, Inductors and coil winding, to name only a few subjects!

We hope to see you there!



WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING DUES!

Membership dues are \$25 a year, payable beginning in January. If you have questions about the dues, you can contact Julian at 205-879-3619. **Dues can be mailed to AHRS @ P.O. Box 130307, Birmingham AL 35213.**

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