



The Alabama Historical Radio Society Newsletter



Alabama Historical Radio Society
SUPERFLEX

June 2015



NOTE FROM PRESIDENT TOM

Hello, all!

June is the last month of our fiscal year (July 1 - June 30), and it has been a good year! Our membership has grown. Our major projects have been successful, when the weather cooperated. We have received a record amount of donations of old radios, radio parts, test equipment, magazines and books, which allows us to generate money for additional museum quality radios, for additional library books and magazines, test equipment, new radio parts and to cover our operating expenses. Your dues also help with these expenses.

An up-to-date dues list is available at each workday, if you are unsure of your status. Many of you are not local and receive our newsletters only, while some non-locals are dues-paying members. It is all good as you have an interest in who we are and what we do. So, whatever your situation, thank you for your support!

We have some challenges coming up. We are storing old radio equipment, military radios, commercial two-way, test equipment, tubes, magazines and more in the Church Annex across from the Shop. The areas we use for storage are going to be renovated beginning in mid-July, requiring us to vacate over half of our storage area. To be out of the way by mid-July, many of the items currently being stored are under evaluation to keep or take to the dump. This is a challenge in that we are charged with preserving many of these items for future generations. There are over 35 large receivers, signal generators, transmitters, test equipment, console radios and stuff labeled "DUMP," which will be given to members or hauled to the dump to make room for the more desirable items being moved from the renovated areas. There will be several opportunities to make a donation and take the more desirable items home with you. We have over a dozen console radios which need a home. You just have to haul them off!

Upcoming Club Events

- **Ham Fests:**

Huntsville, AL Aug 15-16
Helena, AL Oct TBA
Stone Mtn., GA Nov 7-8
Two Boat Anchor Ham
Fest: Dadeville, AL
Oct 3.

- **Antique Radio Events**

Music City Vintage Radio Club
1604 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN
37210. They have a Summer
Meet in July and a Fall Meet in
October. Dates TBA.

It was on a recent work day, as Mike, Willie and I were putting up new shelves, when we learned from some building service folks in the area, that the renovations were planned. The shelves we just built must be moved along with everything else.



Mike Woodruff and Willie Henderson with new shelves



Ham and Shortwave Radios must be moved



More Ham and Shortwave Radios to be moved



Old Radios and Speakers that must be moved



More Old Radios to be moved



Some of the many consoles to removed from storage



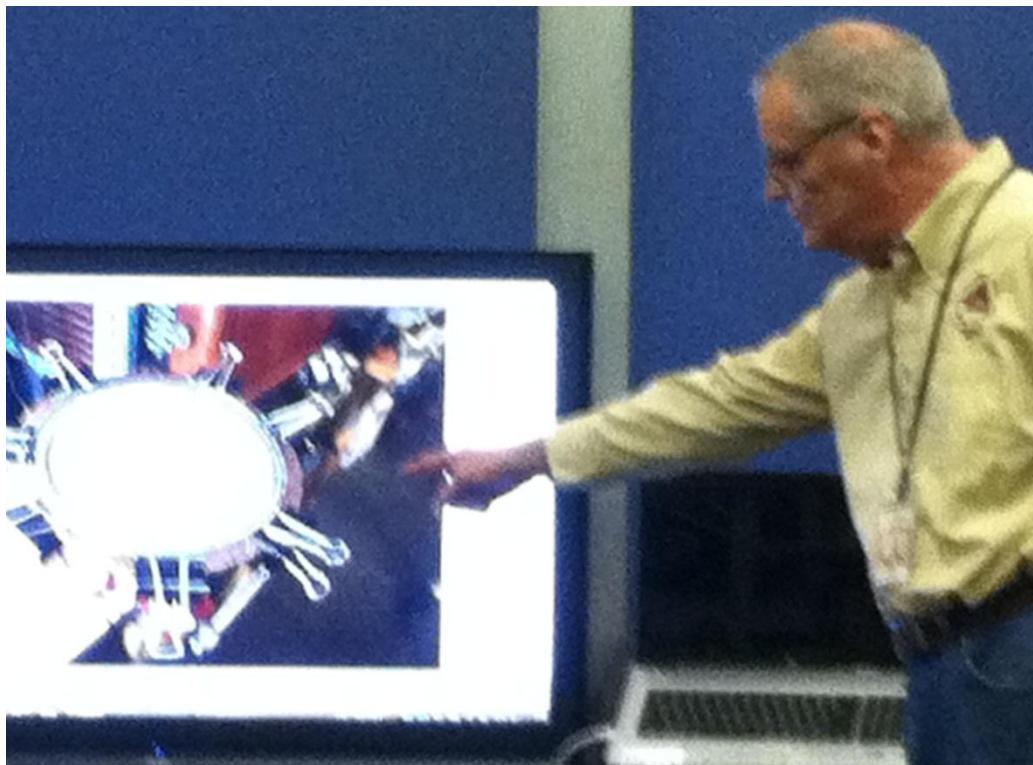
Audio Items which must be moved

We have until July 18 to have the renovation area cleaned out. Therefore, several Thursday workdays will be scheduled to facilitate this move. The following Thursdays will be scheduled work days (9 a.m. to noon) to help get this stuff moved: June 11, June 18, June 25, July 2, July 9 and July 16. If we finish early, some of these later dates may be cancelled. Regular Tuesday and Saturday work days will continue.



Recent Tube Sorting Work Party

In the May monthly meeting, Dee Haynes reviewed his latest speaker repair and all of the issues he faced. Thankfully, member Chris Story is a master welder and was able to separate the speaker magnet assembly and re-weld it once the rewound field coil was installed without damaging the speaker frame, magnet or new coil. Then Dee reinstalled the speaker cone, checked out the speaker performance and, presto, the speaker is ready for shipment back to the customer.



Dee pointing out speaker under repair at May Night Meeting

The June Meeting is our Annual Meeting, where new Officers and Board of Directors are elected. These offices are for one-year terms and must be filled each year. The Nominating Committee submitted a list of candidates for the coming 2015-2016 fiscal year:

President - Tom Killian
Vice President - Steven Westbrook
Recording Secretary -Mike Woodruff
Treasurer - Don Letchman

Board Members: Dave Cisco, Dee Haynes, Dave Johnson, Mike Lord, John Outland, Robert Frye, Ray Giles (new).

All of these nominees have expressed their desire to continue serving in their current capacity. In addition to those names submitted by the Nominating Committee, nominations from the floor will be taken at the meeting prior to the vote.

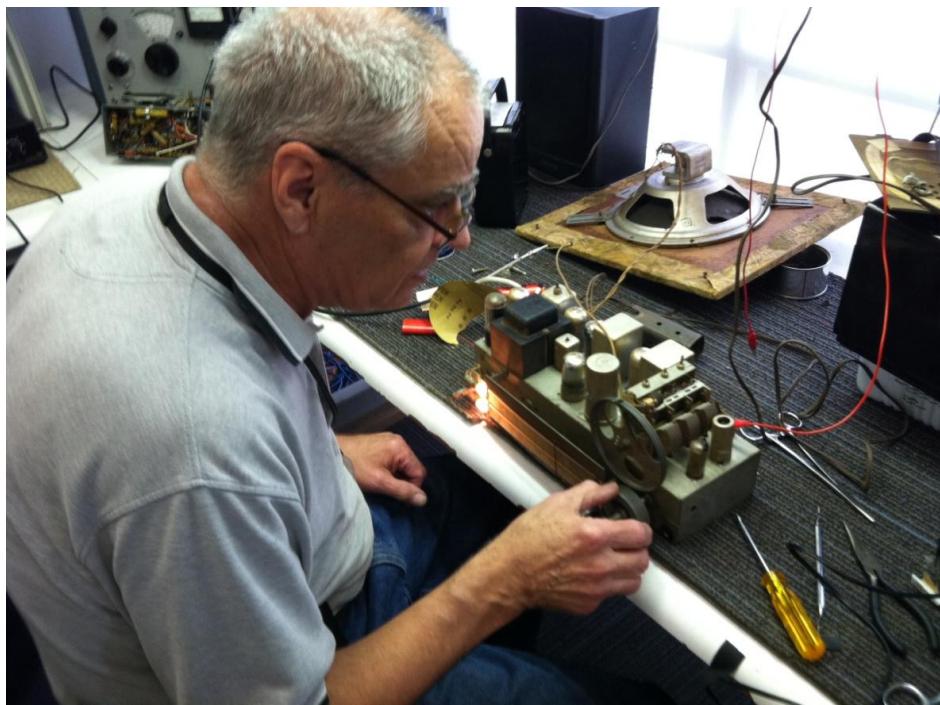
Robert Frye taught his last radio class on June 6, as he will be undergoing a medical procedure which will require his full attention and time, for the next several months. We will keep in touch with Robert during this time and will let you know how things are going. Robert is upbeat about the future and his recovery from the operation. Please pray for Robert and Margaret during this important time in their lives.

For the next several months the radio class, taught on the first Saturday of each month, will be a work day for the students with mentors there to help them repair their class radios. The first of these classes will be on July 11, the second Saturday in July, as the first Saturday is July 4, a holiday.

I like to include pictures of members working at the shop benches, especially when there is some good mentoring going on.



Dave Johnson mentoring Ray Giles (L) and Don Letchman



Dee Haynes working on another basket case



Ken McEwen, Maurice Hill and Willie Henderson at the bench

I feel like someone out there is wondering why I have pictures of the same people in newsletters. I will tell you that it is because they come to the Shop and participate, helping do the grunt work and also learning to repair radios in some cases and sharing the joy of showing others how to fix old radios in other cases. I promise you this, if you come, take part and help this Society succeed, your picture will be in the newsletters more than you probably want it to be.

There are many reading this that have never been to the Shop, Alabama and possibly the United States, and may never visit them. I would like you to send me a picture of you and your favorite radio or piece of electronic equipment with a brief description of the item. Also, please include a brief bio of yourself and how you got interested in radio. If you have a unique or interesting work or repair bench, please send me a picture of it. Tell me about your most useful piece of test gear. For all who receive this newsletter, your pictures are welcome, also. There is room for everyone here! I will publish the pictures and narratives that are most interesting. Please keep all pictures rated "G." Thanks!

Our next Monday Night Meeting is on June 22, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Shop in Birmingham. There will be a Board Meeting at 6 p.m. prior to the membership meeting. This is the Annual Meeting with election of Officers and Board of Director Members. Please come, enjoy the fellowship and support your Society!

Until next time!

President Tom

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A NEW THESAURUS? TV CAN HELP

By Hoyt Harwell

Here's Dee Haynes' introduction of Hoyt: I'd like to introduce you to my friend, Hoyt Harwell. He is retired from the Associated Press, where he was correspondent in charge of the AP's Birmingham office. I knew Hoyt when I worked in Birmingham as a teletype repairman. For several years after his retirement, he wrote a weekly article for the "Senior Living" publication that many of you may have read over the years. He lives in Hoover, where his reportorial experience helps him tell the difference between news and come-ons, or teasers. I hope that occasionally, Hoyt will drop us a line or two for our newsletter. So, take it away Hoyt.

Should a modern-day Peter Roget want to compile a thesaurus, he would do well to begin with the word "later" and then turn on television news programs for synonyms. Merely for fun, I have been jotting down all the clever ways those TV folks have of saying "later."

My list reached about 50, and that's many more than would be needed for a thesaurus. Then I stopped counting, from a combination of disbelief and weariness.

A viewer could get the impression the TV folks are more interested in telling you what's later than what's now. For instance: we'll be right back, when we return, we'll talk about that later, we'll tell you when we return, we'll iron it all out, more after the break, meanwhile stay with us, next, we're working on it, see you at 9 (10, 11), details later, tune in at 5 (6) for the latest. Those are just for starts.

Here's another batch: up next, we'll take a look at that, just ahead, when we come back, coming up next, details coming up, stay tuned, still ahead, find out how, a little bit later, we're going to talk about that in just a few minutes.

Ready for more?: we're keeping an eye out, we'll continue to follow this situation, we'll show you later, all that is just ahead, stick with us, stand by, there's much more to come, just ahead, still to come, we'll be back right after this, we'll explain when we return.

Another bunch: there's more, we'll find out more, we'll have some advice, find out what you can do about it, we're going to have a live report, we'll talk all about it coming up next, find out what's working, we'll show you how it works, we'll explain coming up; we'll have much more later.

The following probably do not exhaust the list: we'll tell you what you need to know, we'll have an update, we'll take a closer look, see how, we'll have, we're going to break it down for you, I'll tell you more, I'll have that for you.

If you listen real closely you might even get a smattering of news instead of hearing that something is coming up later. But you might not, if the news people are talking to each other instead of to you.

The obvious question from you is why I have nothing else to do but keep up with all these "later" substitutes. You deserve an answer, which is that it gave me something to do other than go to the kitchen or make a pit stop.

Thesaurus means treasury or storehouse, so I give the TV news folks credit for developing an over-flowing treasury or storehouse of ways to get around saying "later."



Gloria Winters

OLD TIME RADIO BITS

As some of you probably know about me, I haven't watched TV other than maybe local news or maybe even Fox News for national stuff for around 30 years. The last sitcom I

watched with regularity was MASH. A whole generation of TV has passed me by since the 1970's. My TV watching kind of went out with the advent of color TV.

When I was a kid we were too poor to own a TV. The only time I got to watch TV was when I visited my Aunt Ollie who lived in Woodlawn. There were shows like Howdy Doody, Roy Rogers, Your Show of Shows, Ed Sullivan, What's My Line, and so on.

Well, guess what, boys and girls, a lot of those shows are back on if you can hook up with YouTube on the internet. I usually set aside about one or two hours every evening to take in a show or two. Last night, it was two episodes of Sky King, co-starring my boyhood heart throb, Gloria Winters, who played Sky King's niece.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gloria_Winters

To watch a few episodes of "Sky King":

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sky+king+tv+episodes+season+1

Tonight I may tune in The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet way back when Ricky Nelson was around 8 or 9 years old. Anyway, I just wanted you to know that there are hundreds of shows available on the internet for the watching if you just spend a little time to look for them.

Here's a shot of the Nelson family taken in the early 1950s:



Nelsons: Ozzie, Harriet, David and Ricky

You still can't take me away from my favorite pastime, OTR. At night, I listen to "The Alltime Oldies Radio Theater Channel on my WIFI radio. 10 p.m. brings you "Our Miss Brooks," followed by the 15-minute daytime show, "One Man's Family," then another daytime show, "Vic and Sade." I can still remember my grandmother closing the door to her room so that we wouldn't interrupt her episode of "One Man's Family". You don't

have to have a WIFI radio to listen to some of these shows. Here is a link If you want to take in these shows:

<http://tunein.com/radio/Alltime-Oldies-Radio-Theater-Channel-s105504/>

This just in: It's a bit late for Memorial Day, but I wanted to add this 60-minute radio show to my list of shows. The setting is WWII and has dozens of actors and actresses you may recognize. This is a good show and might occasionally bring a smile or a tear to the eye, so if you have 60 minutes to spare, take a listen.

<http://www.oldtimeradiodownloads.com/drama/shilling-for-luck/shilling-for-luck-1944-xx-xx>

Maybe that's enough to keep you busy for a while. If you are looking for a special program, just let me know.

Dee Haynes

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SATURDAY MEETINGS

We meet every Saturday (unless a Holiday weekend) at 9:00 a.m., at the one-story AHRS Shop at the corner of 8th Avenue North and 18th Street, (1801 8th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203). Birmingham, AL 35203). Use the rear (Southeast) entrance.

SHOP ON TUESDAYS

The Shop is open on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. until around 11:30 a.m. when we go to Marilyn's Deli and Dog for lunch next door. Note that parking can be a problem on Tuesdays, so you may have to find street parking occasionally.

REGULAR MEETINGS

We meet on the fourth Monday night of each month, too, at 7:00 p.m. Please come join us!



DUES! DUES! DUES!

Membership dues are \$25 a year, payable beginning in January. If you have questions about your dues, you can contact Don Letchman at 205-967-8557. Dues can be mailed to AHRS @ P.O. Box 131418, Birmingham AL 35213.

FREE ELECTRONICS CLASSES

One more great benefit from becoming a member of AHRS--free Electronic classes!

Classes are taught the first Saturday of each month (except when something special is taking place, then we agree on what Saturday).

We start from the beginning Ohms Law, inductors, resistor and Capacitors color codes, as well as what each component does within the radio circuits. We also teach how to use test equipment used in the repairing of radio. We teach troubleshooting radio troubles, as well as how to read a radio diagram. There are coil winding classes, and one-on-one repair help. Come join these classes!

Who to Contact

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