

The Alabama Historical Radio Society Newsletter

Alabama Historical Radio Society
SUPERFLUX

February 2017



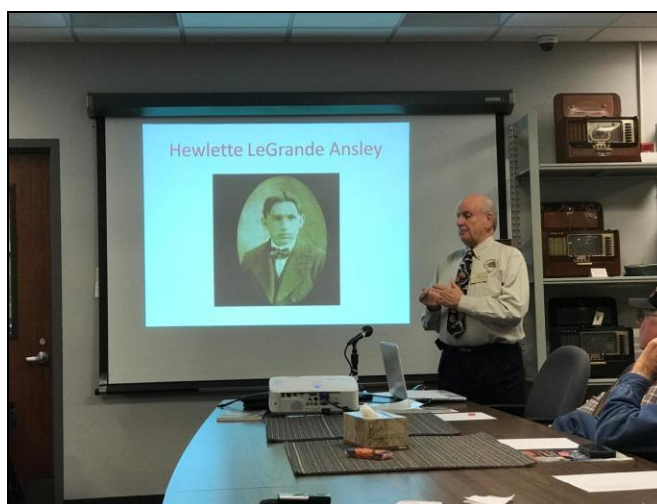
NOTE FROM PRESIDENT TOM

Hello, All!

The new Board of Directors was elected by acclamation at the January Monday night meeting. The following Directors will take office immediately: Dave Cisco, John Outland, Charles McCrary, Willie Henderson, Jim Cawthon, Ray Giles, Dave Johnson, Julian Brook and Tom Killian.

The new Board's first board meeting will be on February 16. The Board will meet each quarter and when special meetings are called. Please give the Board your support as they lead your Society forward.

Also, at the January meeting, Dave Cisco presented a program on a local radio pioneer, Hewlette LeGrande Ansley, also known as "Pop" Ansley. A DVD of the presentation was produced by member Ed Boutwell and is available for viewing at the Shop. Hopefully, it will be on our website soon. Dave spent a great deal of time researching Mr. Ansley, aided by the newly-found papers and pictures provided by Pop's granddaughter, Sally Gates, in Columbus, Georgia. The largest number of members to attend a night meeting attended this night meeting, primarily to see Dave's presentation. Thank you, Dave, for your hard work!



Dave Cisco talking about an early Birmingham radio pioneer.



Dave Cisco showing one of the pictures of Pop Ansley.

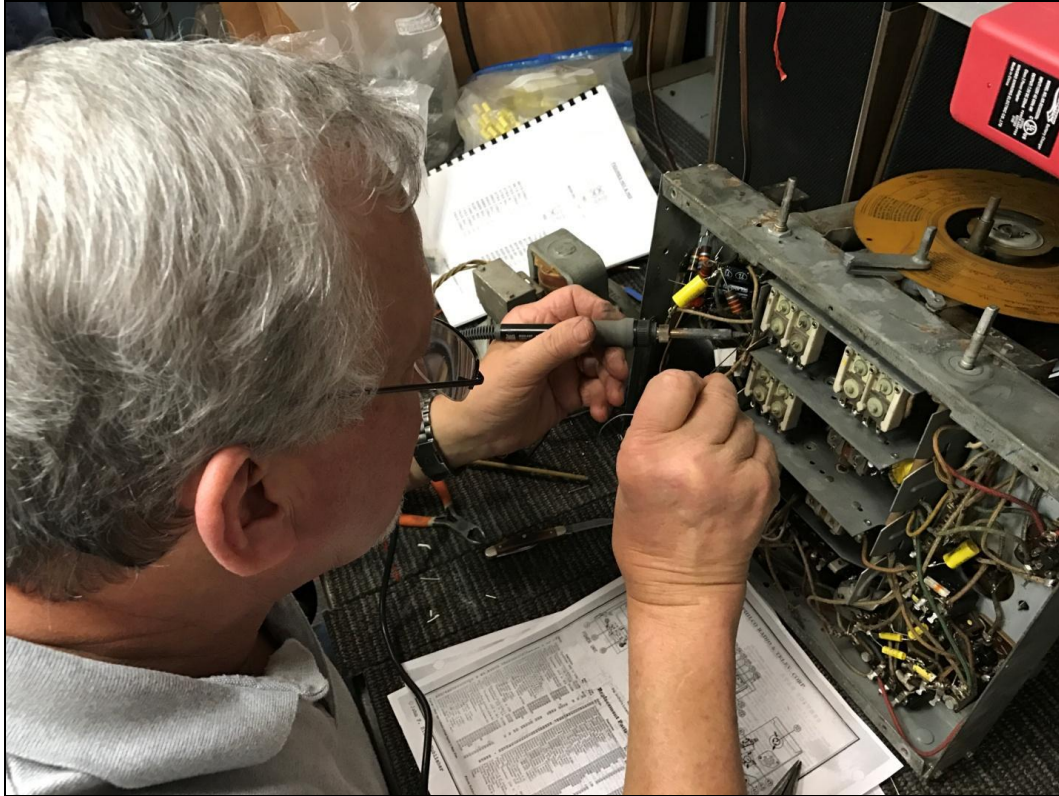


Members eagerly waiting for the program to begin.

The Shop continues to be active each Tuesday and Saturday with radio restoration, mentoring of new members and weekly examples of the finished, restored radios. Several pictures are included. If you want to be in a picture, come to the Shop and work in the Shop and you will get the opportunity.



Jamie Anderson cleaning a plastic radio he picked up at the auction.



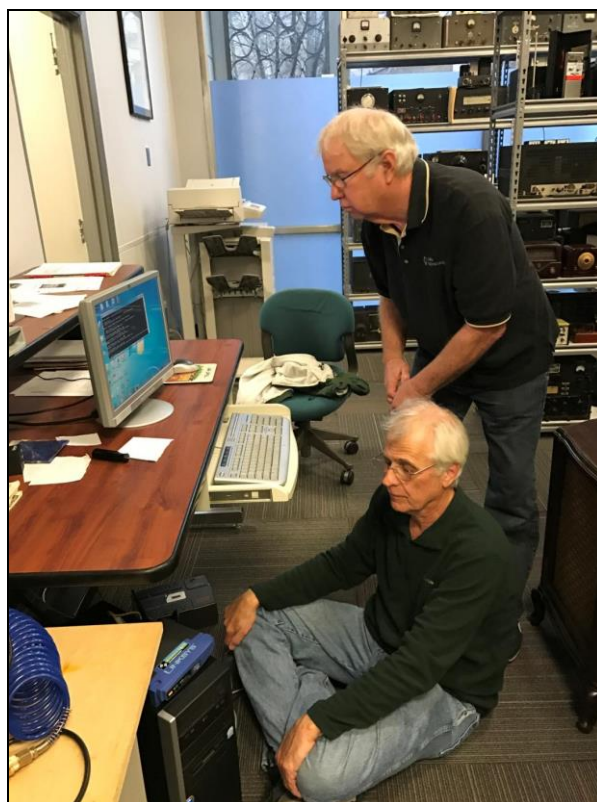
Doc Holliday soldering in a new capacitor. He averages repairing one radio a week.



Jim Cawthon showing Don Letchman and student member, Milo Jones, how to lubricate a phonograph.



Dave Johnson mentoring high school student member Milo Jones on radio repair.

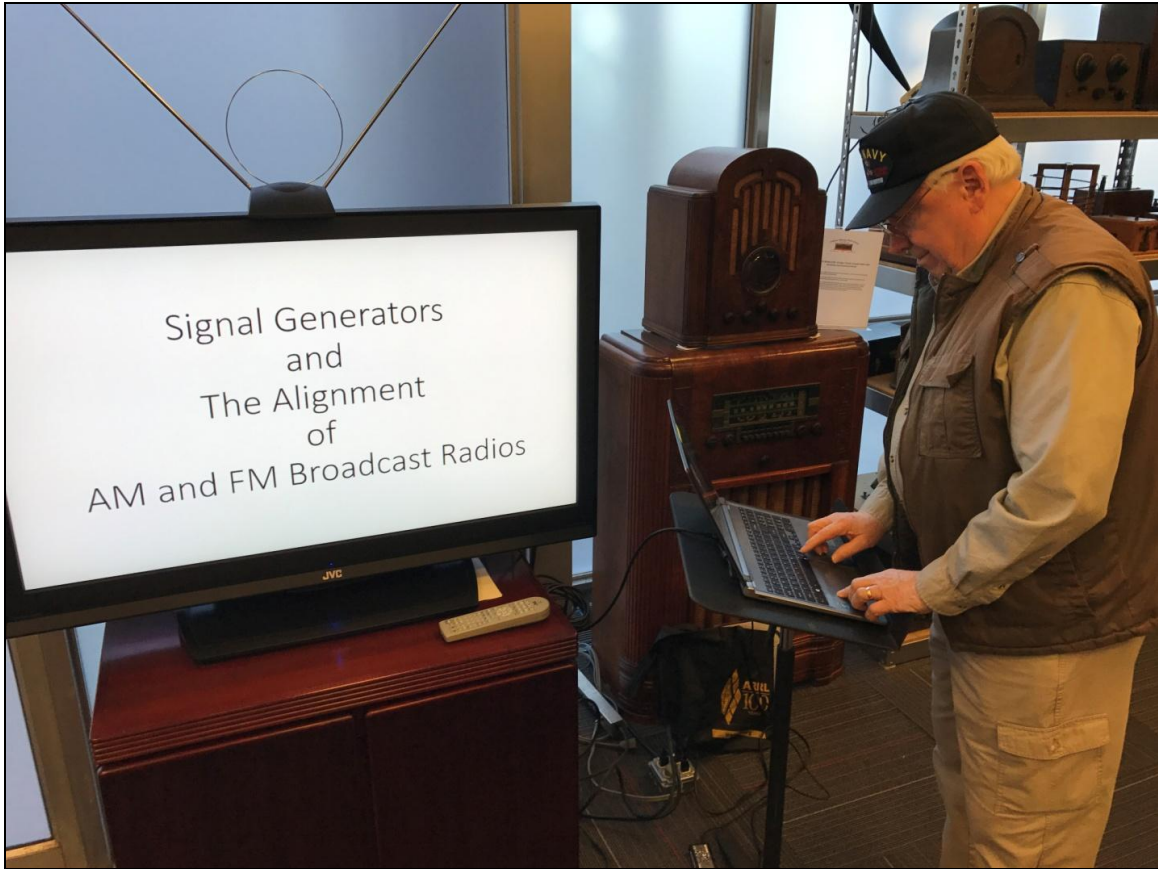


Jim Cawthon and Larry Lokey (seated) working on the Society computer.



This is a morale radio restored by Frank Parker. It was very rough when he found it in the Annex.

The February Radio Class featured instructor, Jim Rogers, demonstrating how to align radio circuits. He let the students try their hand at peaking the IF transformers, once the smoke cleared from an errant connection. Well, it worked before class! Jim does a good job and is interested in teaching the students with hands-on activities.



Instructor Jim Rogers setting up the power point program for Radio Class.

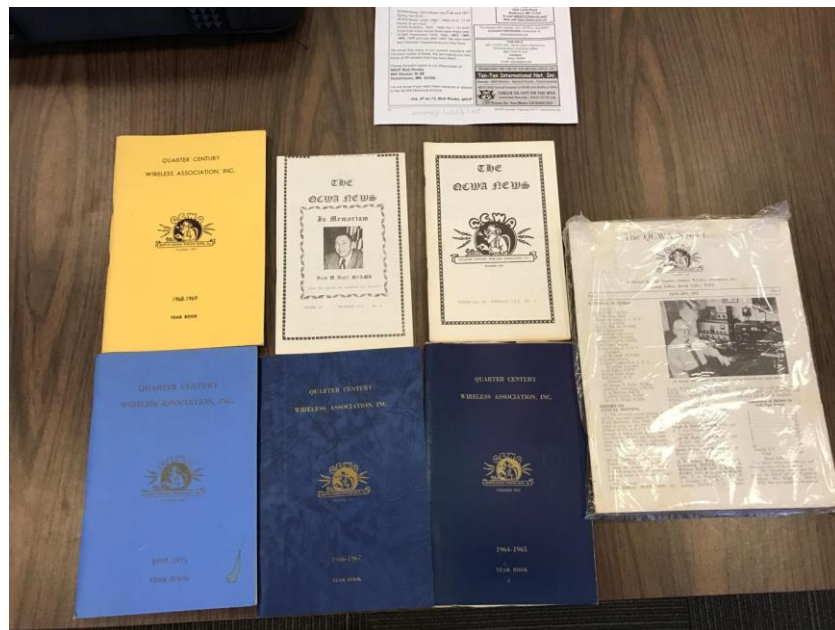


Jim Rogers explaining the test setup for alignment practice to the students.

The March Radio Class will be on March 11, the second Saturday, as the Birmingham Hamfest will be on March 4, the first Saturday when class is normally held. Dave Johnson will instruct, giving Jim a well-deserved break. Dave will pick a radio at random from our collection of radios needing repair and go through the steps he would take to evaluate and restore the radio. Dave worked for Sears when he was very young, repairing radios and broken electronics. He owns a well-respected electrical contracting company in town and is a charter member of the Society. If you want to learn the practical way to repair an old radio, you must attend this class.

We had a treat on a Saturday workday at the Shop when Celeste Cisco prepared bean soup full of ham (left over from the Christmas party), cornbread and for dessert, homemade rice crispy treats. As you can imagine, the food vaporized quickly. Thanks to Celeste for an unexpected treat!

The Society Library is one of the finest in the South, with a large variety of books and magazines. Imagine the publisher of a national magazine looking for copies of their publications because they do not have them in their collection. Dave Cisco saw an ad placed by the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. (QCWA) and researched our collection of QCWA publications and found almost half of the issues the publisher was seeking. These will be mailed to the publisher, where they will be scanned and returned to our library. Once again, our value has been exposed by this action by Dave.



Books being shipped to the QCWA to be scanned for their collection.

The next Monday night meeting will be on February 27th, at the Shop in Birmingham, beginning at 6 p.m. Following the business meeting, there will be an interesting program on old radios. Also, we will discuss our participation in the upcoming Birmingham Hamfest, which is the following Friday and Saturday.

Thank you for supporting the Society! Come see us when you are in the area on Tuesday and Saturday mornings and on the fourth Monday night of each month.

President Tom

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OLD TIME RADIO BITS

Everyone is probably familiar with the television series Gunsmoke. Some may be familiar with the radio show that ran for ten years. It was a serious western drama, with good conquering evil. Four years ago this month, I wrote an article on Gunsmoke for our monthly newsletter. In case you would like to refresh your memory on that one, it can be found [here](#).

Borrowing from that article, "Like any show that becomes an integral part of America's broadcast culture, the show and its characters have been analyzed many times. However, nearly every article seems to center on Marshall Matt Dillon - the stereotypical lawman of the untamed frontier. Such a man was tough, brave, possessed a level of integrity that could not be challenged, and, of course, was fast on the draw. Killing was a part of the job, whether he liked it or not."

Matt Dillon's deputy was Chester Proudfoot. He wasn't the sharpest person on the series but he was loyal. Whatever the marshal told him to do, he did it. The two other main characters on the show, Miss Kitty and Doc Adams, cared deeply for the deputy, even though you couldn't always tell. In many ways, Matt, Chester, Kitty and Doc were a family. Like any family, each person has their role and for the most part sticks to it.

But what happens when one of the characters steps out his role? On July 20, 1958, on the 328th show of the series, this situation occurs. Chester's father comes to Dodge City, and due to a letter believes that Chester is the marshal. Rather than hurt a member of the family, the characters go along with the charade, some reluctantly. Chester becomes the marshal and Matt is his deputy. Of course, a few of the family want to make Chester's father proud of him, so they arrange a fake robbery. And as might be expected, things don't go as planned.

This particular show definitely does not fit the mold that had been cast for Gunsmoke. Still it is a very enjoyable show and many people consider it one of their favorites. We get to see another facet of the tough personality of the lawman, and the loyalty that family members have for each other. The show is available [here](#). I believe it is worth 25 minutes of your time to listen to it.

Until we meet again in the theatre of the mind....

Larry Lokey

larry@otronmp3.com

Website - otronmp3.com

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 INFORMATION

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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2017 Hamfest and Swap Meet Schedule (for AL, GA, TN and MS)

02/18/2017 Southeastern Antique Radio Society

Location: Jim R. Miller Park, Marietta, GA

Website: <http://sarsradio.com>

02/25/2017 Dalton Hamfest

Location: Dalton, GA

Website: w4drc.webstarts.com/hamfestintro.html

3/03/2017 Alabama Section Convention

Location: Birmingham, AL

Website: <http://www.w4cue.com>

03/18/2017 The Great Southern Hamfest

Location: Thomasville, GA

Website: <http://www.thomasvilleamateurradioclub.com>

03/25/2017 Ides of March Hamfest

Location: Union City, TN

Website: <http://www.reelfootarc.com>

04/29/2017 CARS Swapmeet Hamfest

Location: Pooler, GA

Website: <http://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/>

06/03/2017 Atlanta Hamfestival

Location: Marietta, GA

Website: <http://atlantahamfest.com>

06/17/2017 Knoxville Hamfest & Electronics Exhibition

Location: Knoxville, TN

Website: <http://www.w4bbb.org>

11/11/2017 Montgomery Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2017

Location: Montgomery, AL

Website: <http://www.w4ap.org/news/Hamfest.htm>