

The Alabama Historical Radio Society Newsletter



July 2018

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT DAVE



Greetings to All!!!

Our web site continues to attract attention both locally and nationwide. Recently, a man and his wife from Seattle, Washington, who viewed our web site, called to arrange a tour of the museum. They were most impressed with the displays and our commitment to radio history.

I hope everyone had a very enjoyable Independence Day holiday, as we celebrated the 242 birthday of our great country!!

There was good attendance at the June meeting. I want to thank members Ron Studdard and Jim Rogers for the interesting and informative program about the cosmetic and electronic restoration of a Colonial Globe radio. Jim provided details on the problems and solutions they experienced with the unique power supply. Ron is continuing with the exterior restoration of his radio. We hope to include pictures of the finished project in a future newsletter.

We continue to receive donations, both locally and from Georgia and California. We are currently in the process of arranging the logistics for a large donation of radio equipment from Florida.

I am pleased to see the shop days and class day well attended, even though this is vacation season.

Work is continuing improvements to the museum area at the shop. Reg Olson and John Outland have taken the lead in this endeavor. The plan is to bring more organization and logic to the displays. The efforts intend to arrange the displays by manufacturer and/or chronologically. In the process, we have moved the large, multi-format copier to the basement. The unit is still plugged-in and immediately available for large format copying. We replaced the copier in the shop with an all-in-one copier that takes up less space.

Member Mike Spanos is preparing a program for the July meeting that you don't want to miss!!! The title is "The Origins of the Beam Power Tubes, Especially the 6L6 and its Brothers & Sisters." Mike is a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker. Bring you electronic and audio questions; we may have a "Stump the Spanos" session.

This concludes my comments for this month, so come on down to the shop on Tuesdays and Saturdays and find a project to work on or just enjoy some conversation with the group.

See you there!!!

President Dave

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JULY

Dave has covered everything going on around the Shop this month and some pictures are included to show these activities.

There are several student members of our Society, and they have been busy repairing stereo receivers and tube-type jukebox amplifiers.



Student member Leo Barnhart working on the power supply of his jukebox amplifier.



Student member Milo Jones working on his stereo receiver with Dee Haynes looking on.

Dave mentioned the Monday night meeting on the fourth Monday in June and the program by Ron Studdard and Jim Rogers. Ron has made the restoration of his Globe 700 radio a labor of love. When he finishes it, there will be a picture of it in our newsletter.



Ron Studdard is showing the progress on restoring his Globe 700.

Jim Rogers, who has been helping Ron with some of the more difficult trouble shooting, also explained some of the circuit irregularities they found in the power supply and IF sections. One thing to remember is that if someone who knows little to nothing about radio repair and who has tried their hand at "fixing" a radio you are interested in, it may be time to walk away. Someone had a shot at "fixing" the Globe 700 Ron now has, and Ron has worked over a year to undo the "fixing". Ron is soon to be rewarded for his efforts!

Radio class is taught on the first Saturday of each month and attendance is great, with instructor Joe Minor leading the class. At the July meeting, he brought in member Jim Rogers to refresh the class on oscilloscopes and their use on radio circuits. There is a scope on each work bench, but they are not used much on trouble shooting radios. Joe wanted to give the class another look at scopes with the idea that they may be used more on the benches.

After Jim's presentation, Joe continued power supplies. We watched a YouTube video on the replacement of rectifier tubes with solid state devices. Many of these devices are available on the internet but be cautious; they generally only contain the diodes and don't have the resistance built in to reduce the voltage output. You need to drop the output voltage anywhere from 25 volts to 60 volts when you replace a rectifier tube with diodes. It takes high wattage resistors to accomplish this. Hopefully, these commercial solid-state replacement devices come with instructions to add this resistance. It is like replacing a selenium rectifier with a diode in an old radio. We have found that a 100-ohm 2 watt + resistor will usually drop the voltage to a level that is acceptable in this case. However, the tube rectifiers require much higher resistance and wattage to drop the voltage.

Joe gave the class a pop quiz with 10 questions covering things taught in radio class over the last six months. He did allow the use of reference books and calculators. The class covered the answers together and it was refreshing to see what we had actually learned in class!

The next radio class will be held on August 4 at the Shop in Birmingham, beginning at 9 a.m. Come learn how to fix old radios.

The next Monday night meeting will be held on July 23 at the Shop in Birmingham, beginning at 7 p.m. As Dave mentioned earlier, Mike Spanos will present the program. Mike never disappoints! Come enjoy some fellowship and a great program.

Work on the Shop displays continues, and a picture will document the progress.



Radios are being placed in the new displays by George Webb, Dee Haynes (on ladder) with Reggie Olson directing.

We have given Reggie the "Disco" award as he tells members that "this radio goes here," "this radio goes here" and so on.

Thank you for supporting your Alabama Historical Radio Society! Please become an active member and join us on Tuesdays and Saturdays for fellowship and to help us restore radios for our Museum and for our clients. See you there!

Until next time!

Tom Killian

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OLD TIME RADIO BITS

Everyone knows the story of Elvis Presley on the *Ed Sullivan Show*. The censors decided that the cameras were only allowed to shoot Elvis from the waist up – right? The answer is maybe. As it turns out, his first appearance on the *Ed Sullivan Show* was September 9, 1956, and *YouTube* has the [video for all four songs](#). When viewing these short videos, most of the shots were from the waist up, but not all. Check them out and decide for yourself. It is interesting to note that Ed Sullivan was not the host that night, because he was recovering from an accident.

Most people think this was Elvis' first television appearance, but it wasn't. That honor goes to the city of Shreveport, Louisiana, and a show called *Louisiana Hayride*. On March 3, 1955, Elvis made his first television appearance. A video of that show doesn't seem to exist. His first radio appearance on the *Hayride* was on October 16, 1954. *YouTube* has the [audio from that show and a recreation of Elvis' performance](#).

Now that I may have your attention, let's finally get down to the subject of this month's article – the *Louisiana Hayride* show. The show originated on radio and was broadcast from the Shreveport Municipal Memorial Auditorium from 1948 to 1960. It was the show to be on if you wanted to become a country music star.

Louisiana Hayride was broadcast on KWKH. The station has an interesting history. The station's founder was William Kennon Henderson, Jr. The station originally broadcast on a frequency of 850 kc with a power of 10,000 watts. This frequency was also used by WWL in New Orleans, as well as WABC in New York.

Having to share a frequency with other stations didn't sit well with Henderson. He wanted his programming to be heard nationwide. He was in constant conflict with the Federal Radio Commission. Unfortunately, Henderson had to declare bankruptcy and lost the station. Eventually after several frequency changes, KWKH ended up on 1130 kc as a clear channel station with a power of 50,000 watts.

It is on this frequency and with this power that *Louisiana Hayride* became famous. It was so popular that a 25-station network was set up to broadcast portions of the show. The *Hayride* could be heard far beyond Shreveport and became a Saturday night ritual for many listeners. In popularity, it was second to the *Grand Ole Opry*.

OLD TIME RADIO BITS (continued)

Unfortunately, I don't seem to have many of the shows in my collection. The ones I do have can be found [here](#). Fortunately, *YouTube* does have a few shows or songs from shows featuring Elvis, George Jones, Johnny Horton, Johnny Cash, Faron Young and others. Here is the [search link for YouTube](#).

There is a documentary narrated by Hank Williams, Jr entitled [Louisiana Hayride Story](#), which I found to be very interesting. Obviously, he talks about his Dad at the *Hayride*, but the story is about the *Louisiana Hayride* show.

A couple of years ago, there was a 20-volume set released with music from the *Hayride*. Obviously, I can't post this on the internet, but if you are interested, drop me an email.

So Old Time Radio doesn't just include shows broadcast on the big networks. There were regional shows that were just as important to the history of radio broadcasting. *Louisiana Hayride* is one of the best examples. Most of the material for this article was found on *Wikipedia*, particularly [Louisiana Hayride](#) and [KWKH](#).

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

Larry Lokey

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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!

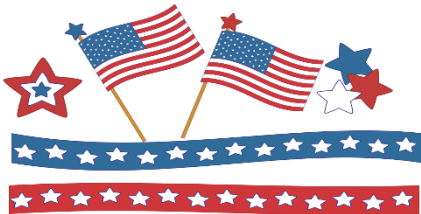
FREE ELECTRONICS CLASSES

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 radios. 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!

DUES INFORMATION



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Membership dues are \$25 a year, payable beginning in January. If you have questions about your dues, you can contact Treasurer Mike Woodruff at 205-823-7204. Dues can be mailed to AHRS at P.O. Box 131418, Birmingham AL 35213.

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2018 HAMFEST AND SWAP SCHEDULE



Editor's Note

The next few pages have the 2018 Hamfest and Swap Schedule for the Southeastern United States. I have not edited these—they are copied directly from the ARRL site.

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/21/2018 | Cullman ARC Hamfest

Location: Hanceville, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cullman Amateur Radio Club

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

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/21/2018 | Florida Traders Net Tailgate

Location: Orlando, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Jack Moyer, K4KDI

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/18/2018 | Southeastern Division Convention (Huntsville Hamfest)

Location: Huntsville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Huntsville Hamfest Association

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

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/18/2018 | TARCFest XLII

Location: Tampa, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tampa Amateur Radio Club

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

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

10/06/2018 | Cy Harris Free Flea

Location: Oakland Park, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Broward ARC (W4AB)

Website: <http://browardarc.net/free-flea/>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

10/12/2018 | 53rd Annual Melbourne Hamfest

Location: Melbourne, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society

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

Learn More

2018 HAMFEST AND SWAP SCHEDULE (continued)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

10/27/2018 | Jacksonville FREE Hamfest

Location: Jacksonville, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: North Florida Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://nofars.net/home/hamfest>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/03/2018 | Fall 2018 LARC Hamfest

Location: Lakeland, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lakeland Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://lakelandarc.org>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/03/2018 | Georgia Section Convention (Stone Mountain Hamfest)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club

Website: <http://stonemountainhamfest.com/>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/09/2019 | Montgomery ARC Hamfest 2019

Location: Montgomery, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

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

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/10/2018 | Alabama Section Convention

Location: Montgomery, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

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

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/10/2018 | SPARC Fest

Location: Pinellas Park, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.sparc-club.org>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/17/2018 | Flamingo Net / UMARC Free Flea

Location: Coral Gables, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Flamingo Net / University of Miami ARC

Website: <http://FlamingoNet.8m.net>

2018 HAMFEST AND SWAP SCHEDULE (continued)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

12/07/2018 | West Central Florida Section Convention (Tampa Bay Hamfest)

Location: Plant City, FL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council

Website: <http://fgcarc.org>

Learn More