

The Alabama Historical Radio Society Newsletter

Alabama Historical Radio Society
SUPERFLUX

February 2016



NOTE FROM PRESIDENT TOM

Hello, All!

The Shop continues to be busy this year with fifteen plus members on Tuesdays and Saturdays, having fellowship, working on their radios, customer radios and helping others learn how to restore old radios. If you have not visited the Shop lately, come by and see what's going on. Also, if you are in need of a radio project, a magazine to read (and take home - we have thousands of old issues free for the taking), check out a book from the library or just want to have a cup of coffee, a cookie or a soft drink, come on down. There is something of interest for everyone. I like to include pictures of shop activity and have some for this month.



Doc Holiday (foreground) and Maurice Lovelady repairing old radios.

Upcoming Club Events

2016 Ham Fests

<http://www.GARS.org>

BirmingHamFest, AL

3/04/2016

<http://birminghamfest.org>

Fort Walton Beach Hamfest,
FL

3/18/2016

<http://www.w4zbb.org>

Mobile, AL Hamfest

4/09/2016

<http://www.w4iax.net/>

Atlanta, GA Hamfest

6/04/2016

<http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

Montgomery, AL (MARC)

11/19/2016

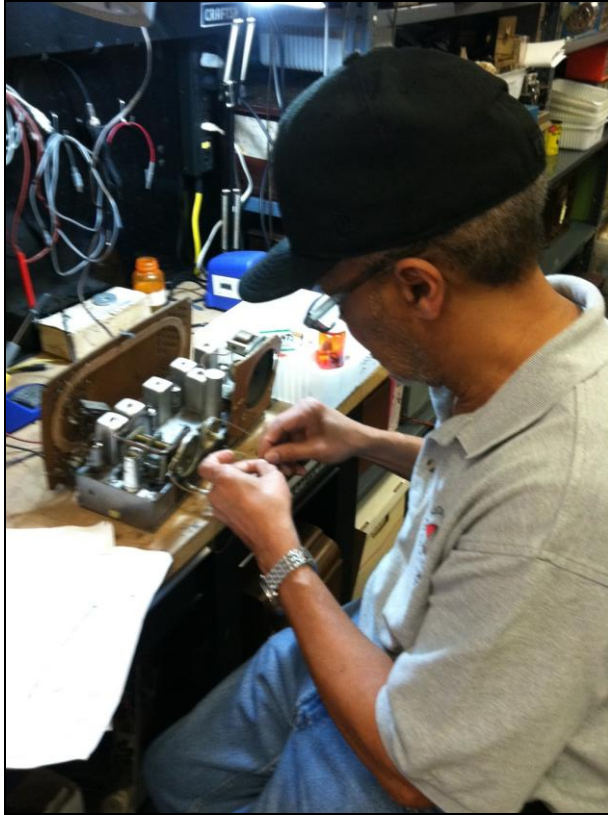
<http://www.w4ap.org/news/Hamfest.htm>



Frank Parker working on one of his recent radio acquisitions.



Steven Westbrook and new member, James Grant, looking at a service schematic.



Maurice Hill finishing repair of a customer's radio.



Dave Johnson and Ed Boutwell looking over a donation from Ben Franklin (early local radio pioneer).



John Outland checking a vacuum tube in the tube room.

Marvin and Lindsay Moss made their second trip to the Shop from Marietta, Georgia (six hours round trip) with a truck load of Marvin's lifetime radio, electronic parts, computer and magazine collection as he continues to downsize. They plan one more trip before they move in August. One more reason to come by the Shop and check out this donation.



Members Jim Rogers, Dee Haynes and Tom Hayes, help unload Marvin Moss' latest donations. Marvin Moss is in the background with a local friend.



Second donation from member, Marvin Moss.

On January 22, a large group from the Gardendale Senior Citizen's Center toured the Don Kresge Memorial Museum at the Alabama Power Company Headquarters atrium in Birmingham. Helping with the tour were Dave Cisco, Steven Westbrook and Dee Haynes. The group was split into smaller groups for easier discussion of the various displays. This fulfills one of the Society's objectives of educating the general public about the development of radio communication through the years.



Gardendale Senior Citizens tour the Don Kresge Memorial Museum.

Member Ken Adkisson brought by his latest radio acquisition, a 1924 Freshman Masterpiece which sold for \$60 in 1924. That's \$814 in 2015 dollars. He has a nice write-up on the radio's history, but it is too long for this newsletter. I can send it to any who might be interested. The radio was purchased from an antique shop in Camden, Maine, in August of 2015. It came with the original box and shipping label, when shipped from the factory in 1924. Ken had to do some work on it and now has it playing well.



Ken Adkisson with his 1924 Freshman Masterpiece.

Always showing maximum effort, Dave Cisco was caught getting down with his library work. He now has four shelves of great books available for check-out in the Library



Dave Cisco doing his thing in the Library.

The 2016 Birmingham Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual Ham Fest on March 4 and 5 at the Zamora Temple in Irondale. The Society is playing a major role again this year with a Forum at 1 p.m. on Saturday, the 5th, on the history of the Hallicrafters. There will be a PowerPoint presentation, a video showing how Hallicrafters strengthened the country's World War II radio communications and a display of Hallicrafters radios. There will also be a few door prizes for those in attendance. On the exhibit floor, the Society will have historical displays of radios, TV's and military communications equipment. There will also be radios and equipment for sale to help in the funding of Society restoration and educational efforts during the year. Please plan on coming to the Forum and on visiting our displays at the Ham Fest.

There are several important Society events scheduled this Spring, including our sixth annual Legends of Broadcast set for April 21 at the Shop in Birmingham. Area radio and TV personalities are invited to gather and have fellowship, tours, a good meal by Marilyn's Deli and Dog, and to sit around for several hours and tell stories on each other. This event has resulted in some great video of story-telling, including stories from some who are no longer with us. The response to this year's event puts it on track to be our most attended Legends yet. Thanks to all who have made this event the success it has been and will be this year!

Another event quickly following the Legends is the annual Swap Meet on April 23 at the Shop parking lot in Birmingham. Beginning at 7 a.m. and ending around noon, vendors, including Society members, will be set-up and selling, trading and sometimes, giving away lots of radios and associated items. There is no charge from the Society for vendor space; however, there may be sales tax requirements from the City of Birmingham. There will be more information to follow. Please save the date and plan on attending!

Speaking of Legends, our own Legend, Ed Boutwell, finally sat down in front of a video camera (for two sittings) and recorded about four hours of memories. This has been an ongoing challenge for several years, as Ed is the camera man for these interviews and he is hard to schedule. A good team helped prod Ed into finally getting something on tape. Larry Lokey and Dave Cisco helped Ed prepare for the taping. Most of Ed's stories can be watched; however, some bleeping will be required.

The Radio Class scheduled for February 6 has been rescheduled for February 13. Robert had to be out of town on the 6th. The subject will be Scopes and there will be some hands-on training at the Shop.

The March Radio Class will be moved to March 12, the second Saturday in March, as the Birmingham Ham Fest is on March 5, the first Saturday of March.

The next Monday night meeting will be February 22, at the Shop in Birmingham, beginning at 7 p.m. There will be a Board meeting at 6 p.m., prior to the general meeting. The Program will be a preview of our Forum presentation for the upcoming Ham Fest. A nominating Committee has been selected to seek nominations for Society Officers and a portion of the Board. The committee is Mike Lord, Dave Johnson (Chairman) and John Outland. If you have an interest in running for office, please contact one of these members. The election will be at the Annual Meeting on June 27.

President Tom

205-967-7000

music.tomdj@gmail.com



OLD TIME RADIO BITS

In 1973, Jack Benny broadcast his first Farewell Party Special, and being a big fan of Jack, I propose to write my first of maybe several Farewell Party Newsletters.

Yes, I'm hanging up my pen, but maybe not for a month or two. I plan on an occasional newsletter that will highlight OTR, or other subjects directly related to the shows or the old radios on which you heard them. Jack Benny did two shows, the first in 1973 and the second in 1974. He planned a third show, but his death ended that plan. At age 72 I don't plan on dying after two years like Mr. Benny, so there may be more than two.

This month I will highlight shows that did not originate in the U.S. The first is a show called "Squad Cars," which aired in South Africa. "Squad Cars" was one of the most popular radio shows of South Africa. It began in the late 1960's and continued till June of 1985. Here is a website that has over 70 episodes:

<http://otrarchive.blogspot.com/2009/04/squad-cars-sa.html>

This show is a good police show and could be compared with the "Dragnet" series with Jack Webb.

The next show is "The Adventures of Paul Temple." Here is a quote from the following website where you can listen to many of the shows:

<http://www.radioechoes.com/the-adventures-of-paul-temple>

Paul Temple is a fictional character created by British writer Francis Durbridge (1912–1998) for the BBC radio serial, "Send for Paul Temple" in 1938. Temple is an amateur private detective and author of crime fiction. Together with his journalist wife (Louise Temple, née Harvey, affectionately known as "Steve" after her pen name "Steve Trent"), he solves "whodunit" crimes with subtle, humorous dialogue and rare "action". Always the gentleman, his use of the phrase "by Timothy" was the nearest he ever got to swearing.

By the way, folks, this is my 10th anniversary. I first started this newsletter on February 2006. Time sure flies when you are having so much fun. And, to keep up the tradition, I just finished listening to "The Roy Rogers Show," while writing this newsletter.

So, as Roy would say, "Goodbye, good luck and may the good Lord take a likin' to you."

Dee Haynes

205-243-4630

k4hfx@bellsouth.net

Jerome Anthony Fiore, Sr., age 75, of Vestavia Hills went to be with the Lord on February 2, 2016. He was also known as N4JF to amateur radio operators globally. He was an avid operator for six decades, making contacts worldwide and collecting mementos from many cultures, since obtaining his license at age 14. He will be missed by many in the amateur radio community.

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!



©wondercliparts.com

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

President – Tom Killian

205-967-7000

music.tomdj@gmail.com

Vice President – Steven Westbrook

205-305-0679

spwestbro@bellsouth.net

Recording Secretary – Mike Woodruff

205-823-7204

michael_woodruff@hotmail.com

Treasurer – Don Letchman

205-967-8557

dletchman@bellsouth.net

Member and Instructor – Robert Frye

205-482-0562

RLF100243@aol.com

Web site – Bob Lovell

bob@dixiwebdesigns.com

Web Address:

<http://ahrs.org>

E-mail Address:

ahrs2000@gmail.com

Newsletter – Patsy Desaulniers

patwrite@gmail.com