



February 2011



A NOTE FROM DAVE

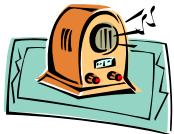
We have spent most of our spare time in January getting ready for the big move. We have filled almost 200 boxes with our parts, tools, radios, etc., and still have lots to do. I get asked almost daily when the big move will take place and have to answer...we really don't know...but any time now.

We did take time out for a wonderful program by Mack White on record changers and topped off with how he has restored sound from some old recordings. Dee has covered this in his column, so I will leave the details to him.

If you haven't paid your dues for this year, please either mail them or give them to our treasurer, Tom Killian.

That's all for now. A big thanks to all who have given of their time to help with the moving chores. We hope all who can will come on Saturdays, or we will probably have some more during-the-week work sessions. See you then.

Dave



DEE'S RADIO SHOWS

Hello All,

OK, all you opera fans, how about a digitally remastered cut of Enrico Caruso's version of "La donna è mobile." For a few of us who appreciate some of the finer things in life, it doesn't get much better. And who better than to do the remastering but our own Mack White. Mack outdid himself at the Monday night meeting of the AHRS when he did a program about repairing and restoring record changers. To put the icing on the cake, he showed us how he took an old cylinder recording of Enrico Caruso's hit from the opera *Rigoletto* by Giuseppe Verdi, and, using modern computer software, removed all the scratches and other problems and made it sound like a brand new CD. Mack played the before version, then the after version. I almost fell out of my chair, and so did a few others.

The program was mostly question and answer, and there were a lot of really good questions. The next time you see Mack, be sure to ask him if he had ever removed the spring from an old windup Victrola. As a kid, I removed the mainspring from a clock and learned that, after I dressed my wounds, I should have left it alone. By the way, a record player mainspring is a lot bigger than a clock spring and can be very dangerous.

Mack also told us that we could replace the Rochelle salt crystal in an old phono cartridge with a new ceramic crystal. As you can see, you can learn many valuable things at our Monday night meetings. Below, you see Mack with a modern ceramic cartridge.



So, why not come to the next meeting, which, according to my calendar, is the last day of the month.

Dee Haynes

243-4630 or k4hfx@bellsouth.net



Editor's Note

Many thanks to Joe Minor for the article on ***Monitor for Voltage and Current for Vintage Tube Radios***, which follows. I hope that many of you will be inspired to write an article for the newsletter in 2011. You can e-mail them to me at patwrite@gmail.com or to Dee and Dave at their e-mail addresses above.

While I am writing, I would encourage you to read the February 2011 issue of **CQ**, which has an article by Mike Ferro entitled "*Infested with Bugs*." He writes about my husband Tom's handmade bugs. Excuse me for bragging a bit, but I am proud of him!!

Monitor for Voltage and Current for Vintage Tube Radios

By Joe Minor – K4JOE

I have wanted to build a voltage and current monitor for the work bench to use when I work on the vintage tube radios. I purchased a 150 Volt voltmeter, a 500 mille-amp ammeter, and 1 amp ammeter for \$5.00 each at the Huntsville, AL HamFest (2010). All are A.C. type meters.



This is a speaker that I purchased a local thrift store for \$1.00.



The grille and speakers are removed.



This is the Box for the meters.



Next I cut a piece of cardboard to make a template.

Place meter templates on cardboard.



Then mark the location of the components and cut the AC receptacle hole.



Cut $\frac{1}{4}$ inch plywood for the faceplate.



Transfer cardboard template to plywood and cut the AC receptacle hole in the plywood.



Cut holes for the other components in the plywood.



“Dry” fit the components.

Once the components are “dry” fitted, they are Removed and the face plate is spray painted gray.

Mount and Wire components.

NOTE WELL

Black Wire = HOT

White Wire = NEUTRAL

Green Wire = GROUND



Check the meters. Here you can see about 120 volts and about 270 ma on the 1 amp Ammeter.



Now about 120 volts and about 260-270 ma on the 500 ma ammeter.



The face plate mounted into old speaker box.



Finished Monitor.

About 115 Volts and a little over 250 ma. This will be plugged into the Variac and the Vintage Radio will be plugged into the Monitor so I can monitor the voltage and current as the voltage is increased by the Variac.

Parts List

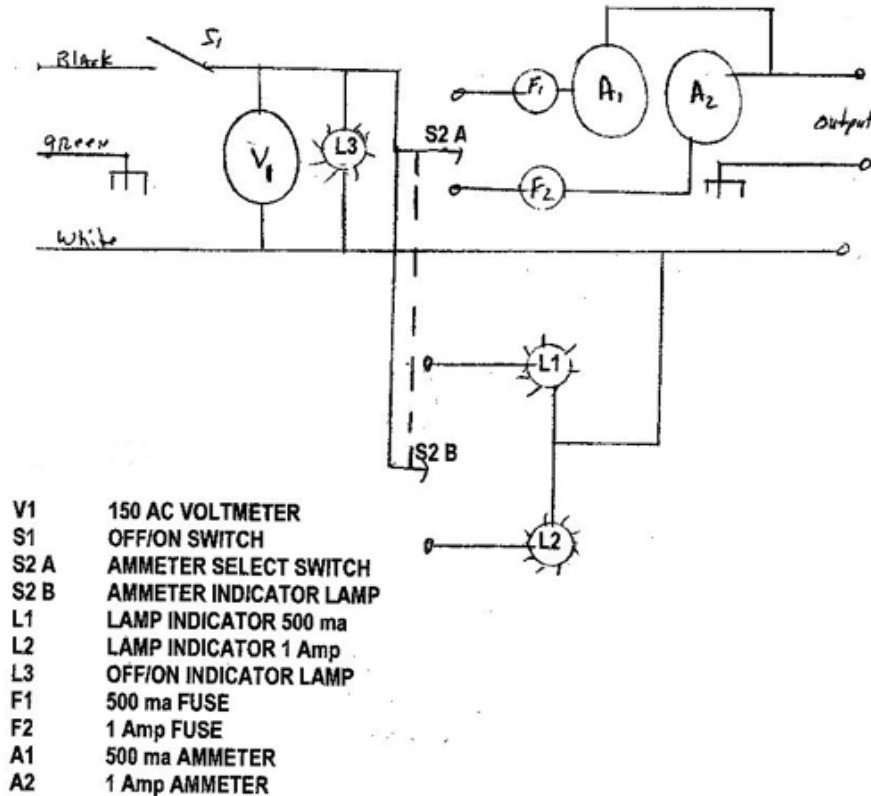
Speaker Box	Thrift Store	\$1.00
S1 = off/on Switch	Junk Box	0.00
S2 = DPDT Switch	Radio Shack	3.69
V = Volt meter	Hamfest	5.00
A1 = 0.5 amp ammeter	Hamfest	5.00
A2 = 1 Amp ammeter	Hamfest	5.00
L1 = Lamp (Red)	Junk Box	0.00
L2, L3 = Lamp (Green)	Radio Shack	3.49
F1, F2 = Fuse Holder	Radio Shack	3.98
500 ma Fuse	Junk Box	0.00
1 Amp Fuse	Junk Box	0.00
120 volt outlet	Junk Box	0.00
AC Power cord	Junk Box	0.00
Total		\$27.16

Come on down to Robert's class the first Saturday of each month.

See you there,

73's Joe K4JOE

Schematic



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!



DUES ARE NOW DUE

Membership dues are \$25 a year, payable beginning in January. If you have questions about your dues, you can contact Tom at 205-967-7000.

Dues can be mailed to AHRS @ P.O. Box 131418, Birmingham AL 35213.

WHO TO CONTACT

President – David Cisco

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