



## The Alabama Historical Radio Society Newsletter



January 2010



### ***A NOTE FROM DAVE***

Well, it's time to start a new year for our group.....2009 was a really good year for us. We topped it off with a great Christmas party attended by more than 50 members and spouses/friends. Kyle entertained us with his accordion, and we had a wonderful spread of food.....I'm sure no one went away hungry. Dee gave us a report on the 'Dee and Dave Show,' which we presented to about 500 people in 2009. Tom gave us an upbeat report on our finances.

We added to our museum and set up the telegraphy display at the Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum in Calera during the year. We organized the storage facility in the 'ANNEX' downtown. We fixed several radios for the general public, also.

The only sad news is that we lost four active members and three great friends of our Society during the year. Claude Gray, our 100-year-old member and Pete Sides, our 101-year-old member will be missed. Also, Ed Farrell and Oren Anderson were active almost up to the day they passed away.

We have lots to look forward to this year; as an example, we will have elections in March, and I hope we can encourage more members to seek an office. We will be able to move our Scott radio downtown to the AHRS museum and also the DeForest radio will be moved to a cabinet in the museum.

Last year, we added nine new members, and I hope we can add at least that many this year. Well, I hope y'all can understand my enthusiasm for the many exciting things we have going now and the many possibilities for this year. COME JOIN IN THE FUN and help us make 2010 a year to remember.

*Dave*



## **DEE'S RADIO SHOWS**

Welcome to a new year, folks, and to help usher it in I went to bed around 10 PM New Year's Eve. Today, New Year's Day, I watched a close game between Auburn and Northwestern. I was a little sad for Northwestern; they haven't won a bowl game since back in the 40's. Oh well--

### **War Eagle!!!**

Tonight, I enjoyed watching Georges Prêtre lead the Vienna Philharmonic in the breathtakingly beautiful Musikverein in High Definition. Yes, High Def. TV has me hooked. I am still very particular about what I watch though, and the Vienna Philharmonic passes muster with me.

But high definition still doesn't out-perform the **Super High Definition** of my imagination. I can still see Fibber opening his hall closet and being covered with its contents.

I can still see Rochester driving Jack Benny to the Rose Bowl in his Maxwell automobile. I can still see Connie Brooks trying unsuccessfully to slip down the hall past Principle Osgood Conklin's office door at Madison High. Oh, and don't forget that knockdown gorgeous blonde slinking into Sam Spade's little low budget office. Was that a pair of 38's she pointed at him or were they 45's?

After you watch a show on TV, even in High Def. you're still stuck with your memory to recollect what you saw. The present is only a fleeting moment in time. Thanks to the memory and your imagination, radio out-performs TV in all categories. If you're under 60 years old you probably don't remember much about the old radio shows, so give them a try. You may just get hooked. At least you can watch a radio show without opening your eyes. If you are interested in a particular show and don't know where to find it, just give me a buzz or an email.

I'm back to watching Fibber McGee and Molly on the MP3 player. A few days ago I listen to an episode where Gale Gordon played a Ham Radio operator. He talked with someone in the Philippines. Being a Ham myself, I am interested in finding other old radio shows where Amateur Radio plays a part. Maybe you can help me. I know there are some out there, but I can't remember them.

See you next time.

*Dee Haynes*

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## ***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 4<sup>th</sup> 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***

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