

April 2014



NOTE FROM PRESIDENT TOM

Hello, All!!!

The Shop continues to evolve, especially in the Broadcast Display Area (BDA). Don Letchman has been polishing on the 1000 watt AM transmitter, which is now overlooking the DJ studio area. He has replaced the chrome trim and side panels, previously removed for a more in-depth overhaul. The original idea was to rebuild the transmitter and sell it to somebody. Well, we are moving to Plan B, since the rebuilding work stopped some time ago. The transmitter will not be made to operate, will not be sold (unless an unbelievable offer comes in) and will become a unique part of the BDA. Over time, the parts inside the transmitter will be remounted and labeled for identification as a learning tool. It will show the complexity of old radio to our public tourists.

We have taken in some poor radio candidates for repair, and I may be the one that has done this the most. It is tough telling someone that they have an “ugly baby,” but we are going to have to be more selective in what we agree to repair. There are only a few members working on these repair jobs, and the repair work is backing up, to the point that we may have to discontinue taking in any more radios for repair from the public. Repairing member radios has been a full-time job, as most of the new members need help repairing their radios. Teaching members to repair their radios is one of our objectives and should take priority over working on the general public’s radios.

We still have radios at the Shop which cannot be identified as to ownership and whether they need to be repaired or are donations to be used for parts and taken to the church annex. With the limited space available in the Shop, many of these unidentified radios will be moved to storage or sold to members.

Several members have brought numerous radios to the Shop for identification, repair, or for other reasons, and the Shop is becoming a storage area instead of a repair area. As part of the Shop cleanup, these radios will be identified and then removed to the church annex. We simply do not have room to store your radio collection at our Shop.

Tuesday was added as a workday to supplement the reduced amount of work done on Saturdays. There are things that need to be done, such as labeling the radios on display, moving parts radios and general stuff to the church annex, repairing radios, etc.

Much of our Society history has been spread out on the conference table for a few days--a lot of looking and handling. Help is needed in organizing this stuff into some reasonable order for historical purposes. I may have given folks the idea that I have a plan for all of this and folks don't want to upset my plan. Trust me, I have ideas, but I need the help of knowledgeable members on what it is we are looking at, its historical value, and how we might use it in the future. I value your input and actively seek your help!

According to our By-Laws, the annual meeting will be held during the second calendar quarter of each year. This meeting is scheduled for June 23, at the Shop at 7:00 p.m. At this meeting there will be election of officers for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2014. The nominating committee has recommended the re-election of the current officers and Board of Directors. Nominations from the floor will be taken at the April, May and June membership meetings, with election at the June meeting.

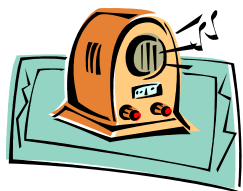
We have the Legends of Broadcast event on April 24, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Shop. I do not have an exact count, but based on information from our contact team, we should have the most attendees ever from the local broadcast world.

We have a monthly membership meeting on April 28, beginning at the Shop at 7:00 p.m. We will have a Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. before the membership meeting. The program will be about the upcoming Swap Meet on May 31 at the Shop. Please come and support your Society!

Robert Frye's next Radio Repair Class is scheduled for May 10, which is the second Saturday in May. Robert will be undergoing medical tests just prior to the first Saturday in May (our normal class day). Please pray for him and Margaret for a good outcome.

President Tom

205-967-7000 or music.tomdj@gmail.com



OLD TIME RADIO BITS

Hello Folks!

Well, it's Friday morning. It's raining outside, and I'm sitting here at my computer trying to figure out just what to write for this month. This job is worth more money. I think I'll ask for a raise. Do you think that I should ask Tom to double my salary? Dr. Bob is trying to teach me something about Quantum Mechanics and molecular theory. Maybe I can figure out how to double zero and get something other than zero?

Do any of you remember “Billybob Clapsaddle – Spy for the FBI”? Isn’t it about time I wrote another spoof? If I did, does anybody wish to attempt doing another radio show like we did at the Birmingham Public library a few years ago? I thought I would retire Billybob and start another short story with a detective named Llewellyn Pertwee, Confidential Investigator.

So many questions, so few answers.

I’m still listening to my WiFi radio. Each weekday at 3:00 P.M., I tune in *The Adventures of Superman* followed by *Magic Island*. Like *Superman*, *Magic Island* is a juvenile science fiction radio show. It is 15 minutes long and is continued from day to day. I don’t recall hearing the show as a youngster. It may not have been broadcast in the Birmingham area. But, that’s the beauty of the internet. You can listen to these old shows and go back to a time when the only thing you worried about was your mom or dad calling you in from the back yard because it was past your bedtime.

You can tune in to one of the stations I listen to at:

<http://radio.macinmind.com/>

Click on the MP3 button near the top and listen to streaming audio 24/7. (*Superman* comes on at 3:00 P.M. or, if you miss the 3:00 P.M. show, try again at 8:00 P.M.

You may recall that one of our members Howard Bynum passed away a few weeks ago and several of you donated money to his widow to help with expenses. Kathy Bynum wishes to thank you all for your assistance.

That’s all for now. Don’t forget to tune in next month for Larry’s OTR Bits and check out his web site:

larry@otronmp3.com
Website - otronmp3.com

Dee Haynes

243-4630 or k4hfx1@charter.net

MEETING TIMES

We meet every Saturday (unless a Holiday weekend) at 09:00 AM, at the one-story AHRS Shop at the corner of 8th Avenue North and 18th Street (1801 8th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203). Use the rear (Southeast) entrance.

Also, we have opened the Shop on Tuesdays at 09:00 AM until around 11:30 AM when we go to Marilyn's Deli and Dog for lunch next door. Note that parking can be a problem on Tuesdays because it is a business day and the lot is usually filled, so you may have to find street parking occasionally.

We meet on the fourth Monday night of each month, too, at 7:00 PM. 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 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.



DUES! DUES! DUES!

Membership dues are \$25 a year, payable beginning in January. If you have questions about your dues, you can contact John Outland at 205-354-5258. **Dues can be mailed to AHRS @ P.O. Box 131418, Birmingham AL 35213.**

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