

# Spring 2008 Newsletter

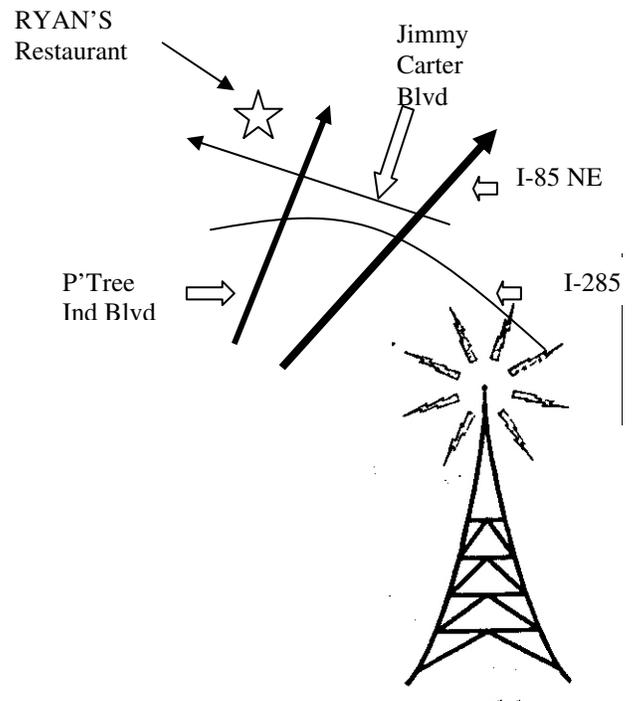
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Caution: Performing repairs on radios could be dangerous. SARS assumes no responsibility for accidents resulting from any information contained in this web site or newsletters.

**JOIN SARS!** Dues are \$15 per calendar year. Join after June 30 and dues are pro-rated to \$7.50 for the remainder of the year. Send payment to the SARS address above.

## SUPPORT YOUR CLUB!

The Southeastern Antique Radio Society meets on the second Monday of each month at RYANS Restaurant, 7045 Jimmy Carter Blvd. Norcross, GA 30093. Meetings start at approximately 6:30 PM. Most attendees arrive early and eat before the meeting. In addition to club business, meetings have a "Show and Tell" session where members bring in items to display and discuss. All are encouraged to participate in this activity. See the monthly schedule elsewhere in the newsletter and the map below.

**ANNUAL DUES ARE  
NOW PAYABLE! ONLY \$15!  
JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!**



## SARS RADIO CLUB

### Winter BULLETIN

**February 2008**

Check out our website! <http://www.sarsradio.com>

# **GENERAL INFO**

**Southeast Antique Radio Society  
113 Laurel Ridge Drive  
Alpharetta, GA 30004**

**Club Officers:**

**President: Mark Palmquist**

**Vice President: Gary Beale**

**Publicity & Membership and  
Newsletter Editor: Bob Niven**

**Secretary: Jim DelPrincipe**

**Treasurer: Tom Knutson**

**Webmaster: Rich Rodgers**

**Next Swap Meet: June 21st, 2008 at 8:00 AM at the Fairfield Inn, Exit 9 off  
GA 400, 11385 Haynes Bridge Rd. Alpharetta, GA, FREE to buyers and  
Sellers. Bring your own tables, it's OUTSIDE!**

Check <http://www.sarsradio.com> for details. See directions on Page 8.

**Next Meeting: Monday, May 12, 2008**

**Show & Tell Topic TUBES-Tiny, Strange, Giant, Valuable      Discussion: Component  
replacement**

**RYANS Restaurant Norcross 6:30 pm (Formerly Fire Mountain)**

## SARS President's Page Spring 2008

The radio club got off to a great start this year with the Winter indoor megameet held at the Doubletree Hotel on February 23. With an event like this, you never know what to expect. We hoped to have at least as many vendors and buyers as last year, but were surprised when all of our available space was sold out an hour before the official 8:00 AM start of the event. The Doubletree staff quickly found us some more tables and we managed to squeeze them into the "emergency lane" that Sam Mashburn had created earlier that morning at 3:30 when he went down to check out the floor layout. Next year it is likely that we will be accepting advance paid reservations for tables to ensure that no one traveling a long distance to the meet will be disappointed. Thanks to some members who graciously shared their table space, no one got shut out this year.

There were some great buys at the auction, which had to be changed to a "walkaround" auction owing to the lack of space. Thanks to auctioneer Marty Reynolds for helping all that great stuff find a new home, and to our registration staff of Harriett Cane, Teresa Rodgers, Club Secretary Jim DelPrincipe and club Treasurer Tom Knutson for ensuring that everyone got signed, sealed and delivered. Tom reported that the event was "break-even" financially, which was more that we had hoped for, and that several new members signed up at the event.

The good attendance was due in part to the publicity afforded by our Webmaster, Rich Rodgers, and our Publicity and membership chairman, Bob Niven. All of the board members, including VP Gary Beale pitched in to personally call each member the week before the event to make sure that everyone was informed.

For me the highlight of the morning was the entertaining and informative talk given by WSB radio personality Mike Kavanagh on the early history of WSB radio. Who knew that the first transmissions were from a 100-watt rig that had to be cooled down with ice from the drugstore downstairs after a couple of hours of transmission? Listeners all the way out in Lawrenceville, Georgia (20 miles away) sent in letters asking for radio stamps and QSL cards. Mike brought some great museum-quality program schedules and radio stamps from the early days and told of how anyone with some kind of musical talent could walk in the door and have a good chance of being heard on the radio that same day.

We have set a date for our Summer Outdoor meet which will be held at the Fairfield Inn in Alpharetta on Saturday 21 June. This date does not conflict with any local Ham Radio events. We *are* advertising in ARC classified. We are also looking for members who would be willing to host a Saturday meeting at their home to allow other members to see their radio collection.

We always welcome suggestions on how to improve our club and the events we host. Don't hesitate to leave suggestions with our Webmaster at <http://www.sarsradio.com/feedback.htm> .

Best regards, Mark Palmquist, SARS President 2008

# Marconi

## Biography

**Guglielmo Marconi** was born at Bologna, Italy, on April 25, 1874, the second son of Giuseppe Marconi, an Italian country gentleman, and Annie Jameson, daughter of Andrew Jameson of Daphne Castle in the County Wexford, Ireland. He was educated privately at Bologna, Florence and Leghorn. Even as a boy he took a keen interest in physical and electrical science and studied the works of Maxwell, Hertz, Righi, Lodge and others. In 1895 he began laboratory experiments at his father's country estate at Pontecchio where he succeeded in sending wireless signals over a distance of one and a half miles.

In 1896 Marconi took his apparatus to England where he was introduced to Mr. (later Sir) William Preece, Engineer-in-Chief of the Post Office, and later that year was granted the world's first patent for a system of wireless telegraphy. He demonstrated his system successfully in London, on Salisbury Plain and across the Bristol Channel, and in July 1897 formed The Wireless Telegraph & Signal Company Limited (in 1900 re-named Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Limited). In the same year he gave a demonstration to the Italian Government at Spezia where wireless signals were sent over a distance of twelve miles. In 1899 he established wireless communication between France and England across the English Channel. He erected permanent wireless stations at The Needles, Isle of Wight, at Bournemouth and later at the Haven Hotel, Poole, Dorset.

In 1900 he took out his famous patent No. 7777 for "tuned or syntonistic telegraphy" and, on an historic day in December 1901, determined to prove that wireless waves were not affected by the curvature of the Earth, he used his system for transmitting the first wireless signals across the Atlantic between Poldhu, Cornwall, and St. John's, Newfoundland, a distance of 2100 miles.

Between 1902 and 1912 he patented several new inventions. In 1902, during a voyage in the American liner "Philadelphia", he first demonstrated "daylight effect" relative to wireless communication and in the same year patented his magnetic detector which then became the standard wireless receiver for many years. In December 1902 he transmitted the first complete messages to Poldhu from stations at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, and later Cape Cod, Massachusetts, these early tests culminating in 1907 in the opening of the first transatlantic commercial service between Glace Bay and Clifden, Ireland, after the first shorter-distance public service of wireless telegraphy had been established between Bari in Italy and Avidari in Montenegro. In 1905 he patented his horizontal directional aerial and in 1912 a "timed spark" system for generating continuous waves.

In 1914 he was commissioned in the Italian Army as a Lieutenant being later promoted to Captain, and in 1916 transferred to the Navy in the rank of Commander. He was a member of the Italian Government mission to the United States in 1917 and in 1919 was

Appointed Italian plenipotentiary delegate to the Paris Peace Conference. He was awarded the Italian Military Medal in 1919 in recognition of his war service.

During his war service in Italy he returned to his investigation of short waves, which he had used in his first experiments. After further tests by his collaborators in England, an intensive series of trials was conducted in 1923 between experimental installations at the Poldhu Station and in Marconi's yacht "Elettra" cruising in the Atlantic and Mediterranean, and this led to the establishment of the beam system for long distance communication. Proposals to use this system as a means of Imperial communications were accepted by the British Government and the first beam station, linking England and Canada, was opened in 1926, other stations being added the following year.

In 1931 Marconi began research into the propagation characteristics of still shorter waves, resulting in the opening in 1932 of the world's first microwave radiotelephone link between the Vatican City and the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo. Two years later at Sestri Levante he demonstrated his microwave radio beacon for ship navigation and in 1935, again in Italy, gave a practical demonstration of the principles of radar, the coming of which he had first foretold in a lecture to the American Institute of Radio Engineers in New York in 1922.

He has been the recipient of honorary doctorates of several universities and many other international honors and awards, among them the Nobel Prize for Physics, which in 1909 he shared with Professor Karl Braun, the Albert Medal of the Royal Society of Arts, the John Fritz Medal and the Kelvin Medal. He was decorated by the Tsar of Russia with the Order of St. Anne, the King of Italy created him Commander of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, and awarded him the Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown of Italy in 1902. Marconi also received the freedom of the City of Rome (1903), and was created Chevalier of the Civil Order of Savoy in 1905. Many other distinctions of this kind followed. In 1914 he was both created a Senator in the Italian Senate and appointed Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order in England. He received the hereditary title of Marchese in 1929.

In 1905 he married the Hon. Beatrice O'Brien, daughter of the 14th Baron Inchiquin, the marriage being annulled in 1927, in which year he married the Countess Bezzi-Scali of Rome. He had one son and two daughters by his first and one daughter by his second wife. His recreations were hunting, cycling and motoring.

Marconi died in Rome on July 20, 1937.

From [\*Nobel Lectures, Physics 1901-1921\*](#), Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1967

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## **Preservation Recording, Copying, and Storage Guidelines for Audio Tape Collections**

Magnetic media (audiocassettes, audiotape, videotape, computer disks, etc.) are inherently unstable, with an approximate shelf life of 25 years. This does not mean that every tape will self-destruct in 25 years, but rather that the signs of deterioration begin to appear by this time. Common problems that occur as magnetic tape ages include: binder degradation (sticky tape or shed), flaking or loss of magnetic particles, and substrate deformation (deterioration, stretching, and shrinking of the tape backing). Factors such as good environmental and storage conditions, tape quality, and restricted use of master tapes will help extend the longevity. Every time a magnetic tape is played, it is subjected to wear and scratching as well as to potential damage from loading and ejection. Guidelines for recording, copying, and storing audiotapes to extend their useful life are outlined below.

### **Preservation Recording Recommendations**

Libraries and archives can better preserve the information on magnetic audiotapes by recommending that original recordings are captured on high-quality tape, with a good microphone and as little background noise as possible. Follow these guidelines to obtain a good quality recording.

Always use new, high quality, brand name tapes, 90 minutes or shorter (60 preferred). Longer tapes are thinner and less durable.

Use cassettes that are screwed together instead of welded. This allows for disassembly in case of tape or cassette damage.

Avoid chromium dioxide tapes; they have a shorter shelf life.

Record on one side only to prevent print through; this is when the sound on one layer of tape is imprinted onto the next.

Use the best quality recording equipment possible, and eliminate background noise. Make sure equipment is working properly and keep it well maintained.

Regularly clean recording and playback equipment. Dust and debris can damage tape.

Microcassettes should not be used at all because they are extremely fragile and impermanent.

### **Preservation Copying for Audiotape**

Audiotape preservation requires reformatting (copying information onto a more stable format), maintaining proper environmental conditions, and refreshing periodically. A key strategy to preventing loss is to maintain multiple copies. Long-term preservation of magnetic media is expensive, requires active measures at several stages throughout the life of the information, and requires a commitment by the institution. The amount of care a magnetic tape receives should be proportionate to the perceived value of the information it contains. Most institutions do not have the time, budget, or personnel to make multiple copies of every item, so priorities must be established.

Current recommendations for preserving an audio collection include creating two copies of each recording.

Preservation master: a copy of the original audiocassette on ¼", 1.5 mil, reel-to-reel polyester tape. The master is used to make use copies.

Use/reference copy: a digitized copy of the master saved onto a CD-ROM for access.

The original cassette would be retained, but not used. This represents the ideal and may be too expensive for a small archives to implement. It requires purchasing equipment and supplies, and perhaps hiring or contracting with an audio technician to do the copying. Alternatively, a less costly option is to dub two copies of each audiotape onto new audiocassettes. This option is not as safe in terms of preserving long-term access as the previous one. One copy serves as the master, the other as the use copy. The master should be stored according to environmental standards for magnetic media. The original recording and the copies should be stored separately. The master is used only to make new use copies. The recordings should be transcribed and indexed as well. Save multiple copies of the transcription on alkaline paper and in electronic form. The transcription serves as the archival master since the tapes will eventually deteriorate. The transcription can also be used for reference and for interlibrary loan.

#### **Storage Guidelines**

Store tapes according to the environmental standards for magnetic media, which specifies cool and dry conditions. Temperature: 40°-65° F (+ or - 2°); Relative Humidity: 30% (+ or - 3%).

Store all tapes vertically in acid free protective boxes or containers that protect them from dust and debris. Do not store them on wood shelving or in a basement or attic.

Do not expose tapes to direct sunlight.

Store tapes away from magnetic fields and sources of vibration.

Tapes should be wound evenly and smoothly on cassettes or reels before storage.

Wear cotton gloves when handling original or archival tapes; fingerprints can cause damage to the tape.

#### **Resources**

"Capturing Analog Sound for Digital Preservation: Report of a Roundtable Discussion of Best Practices for Transferring Analog Discs and Tapes."

Washington, DC: Council on Library and Information Resources and Library of Congress, 2006.

<http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub137abst.html>

Oral History Association. "Oral History Evaluation Guidelines." Pamphlet Number 3: Adopted 1989, Revised Sept. 2000.

[www.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha/EvaluationGuidelines.html](http://www.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha/EvaluationGuidelines.html).

Ritchie, Donald A. *Doing Oral History*. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1995.

Van Bogart, W. C. *Magnetic Tape Storage and Handling: A Guide for Libraries and Archives*. Publication 54. Washington, DC: Council on Library and Information Resources, 1995.

## SARS Meeting Dates for 2008 - Mark Your Calendars!

Date	Show & Tell Topic	Meeting Topic	Speaker
May 12	TUBES-Tiny, Strange, Etc.	Component Replacement	Mark Palmquist (floor open to other topics)
June 9	Portable or Promotional Radios	TBD	TBD
July 14	Record, Tape & Wire Players/Recorders	TBD	TBD
August 11	Metal & Military Radios	TBD	TBD

## Upcoming Radio Events 2008

Date	Event	Location	Contact
May 31	CCAWA	Spencer, NC	<a href="http://cc-awa.homestead.com">cc-awa.homestead.com</a>
June 7	ATL Radio Club Hamfest	Jim Miller Park Marietta, GA	<a href="http://www.atlantahamfest.com">www.atlantahamfest.com</a>
June 21	SARS Summer SWAP Meet	Fairfield Inn Alpharetta	<a href="http://www.sarsradio.com">www.sarsradio.com</a>
July 10-12	Lansing MARC	Lansing, MI	<a href="http://www.michiganantiqueradio.org">www.michiganantiqueradio.org</a>
July 12	Lanierland ARC Hamfest	Gainesville, GA	<a href="http://www.lanierlandarc.org">www.lanierlandarc.org</a>

Directions to Fairfield Inn – From Atlanta go North on GA 400 to Exit 9 Haynes Bridge Road. Turn left toward Alpharetta. Take a right Fairfield Inn and go around back.

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Wood radios For Sale. I have about 40 radios still available. All of them play. Call Joe Debari in Barnesville, GA at (770) 358-0798 or Cell (770) 468-0626**

**Audio Amps, speakers and such. Gary Beale [BeOfService@gmail.com](mailto:BeOfService@gmail.com)**

**Grill Cloth, many types at reasonable prices. Contact Sam Mashburn [Semashburn@earthlink.net](mailto:Semashburn@earthlink.net)**

**Radio Dial Covers and radio repairs. Contact Mark Palmquist [mark@sarsradio.com](mailto:mark@sarsradio.com)**

**Circuit Board Design/Fabrication. Contact Bob Niven [bniv@hotmail.com](mailto:bniv@hotmail.com)**

**Private Radio Estate Sale, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Douglasville, GA More info to follow by Rich Rodgers**