

Winter 2009 Newsletter

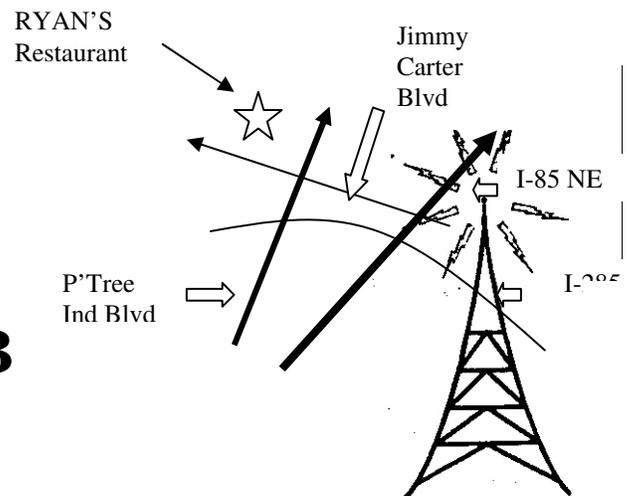
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Caution: Performing repairs on radios could be dangerous. SARS assumes no responsibility for accidents resulting from any information contained in this web site or newsletters.

JOIN SARS! Dues are \$12 per calendar year. Join after June 30 and dues are pro-rated to \$6.00 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 RYAN'S 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 \$12!
JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!**



SARS RADIO CLUB

Winter BULLETIN

February, 2009

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

GENERAL INFO

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

Club Officers:

President: Gary Beale

Vice President: Mark Palmquist

Secretary: James C DelPrincipe

Publicity & Membership: Bob Niven

Treasurer: Tom Knutson

Newsletter Editor: Marty Reynolds

Webmaster: Rich Rodgers



**Next Swap Meet: February 21, 2009 at 8:00 AM at the DoubleTree Hotel,
Barrington Ballroom, 1075 Holcomb Bridge Road, Roswell, GA 30076
Telephone (770) 992-9600**

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

Next Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2009

RYANS Restaurant Norcross 6:30 pm

Discussion Topic: Onset of DT by Sony VP A. Deutscher

Show & Tell: Cathedrals / Radio mfg.s beginning A-C

Forward

Here comes 2009's first newsletter. SARS interests have for some time run slightly off the consumer radio mainstream. Medical quack devices, test equipment, HiFi from it's beginning days, electricals with machine-age looks such as fans, and television. Yes TV which is the subject of our next 2/9 meeting and our 2/21 winter swap meet.

I suggest a SARS web site visit for a bio on each speaker. But here I must note the 2/9 event will be held a week before the required DT cut-over and the 2/21 will be held four days after same occasion. The speakers for both events are remarkable & I look forward greatly to hearing them

We've got the 2/17 DTV landmark date bracketed. And I say Well Done to Bob Niven for arranging these agendas.

The swap meet will have a judged display of collected TVs. Judges will be Bill Jakson of WAGA (fox 5), Don Patterson, and myself. Don has one of the most amazing collections there is and has been in the business since the 50s beginning as a TV store service helper.

Now besides the contest judges, there's several other SARS members with collected sets. Joseph Simonetti & dad, Gordon Hunter, Dave Smith, Dave McClendon and others come quickly to mind

That the interest is wider spread is evidenced by the Television Museum at Hilliard, OH. In fact there's a current AWA Bulletin column that covered the restoration of a RCA remote TV-pickup truck from the 40s.

The outside appearance of the truck alone challenges the mirrored Spartans for machine-age / art-deco eyewash.

While on the subject of collecting early electronics, here's another SARS persuasion. I must report this is under composition on a busy ham collector's weekend. Right now we have the AWA event called the Linc Cundall most benefiting stations with gear made 1946 or earlier. And for 9 concurrent hours is the Classic Exchange. This is for amateur gear from any era. I've been a contributor to this for ages & still host the CX web site.

So as I type, I listen for uncontacted morse (cw) stations on 40 and 20 meters in the background.

Electronic history, a subject largely introduced by radio, now covers a lot of ground

----In this issue----

- **Broadcast receiver archeological dig**
The Sears/Silvertone 4500A
- **Philco pre-WW2 Hi Fi Broadcast receivers**
- **Upcoming year AND 2/21 meet schedule**

REMINDER: 2/21 MEET PRE-REGISTRATION HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Five-tube Archeological Project



Those that attended the last meeting might remember the above. As the meeting ended Bob Niven told me I could only keep it if I failed to identify it's guts and return it to service. It was some sort of pre-octal tube set in a quarter-inch home made plywood cabinet.

The deal conditions were easy, I can do a hookshot to a dumpster as well as Dr. J.

So I take the thing home & pull the tubeless chassis thinking it's probably a five tube superhet that's missing it's resistance line cord. AKA curtain burner. But no, inside is found a tiny power transformer. And it's a TRF, not a superhet. Furthermore the rectifier wasn't the expected 25Z5 but a 4-pin item like an 80. And on top of that, the cabinet-maker thought the critter would benefit from a superhet's loop antenna. So he wound one inside the back panel. Ooooooh, the mis-guided pain.

Based on this I begin scanning the 1946 Mallory "Encyclopedia of Radio." This shows every maker's set & tube consist since the beginning. It gives the Mallory pots & capacitors should they be needed to return each of these sets to life.

Passed the P-initial sets & went back to the chassis for another look-see.

Begorrah! When the light hit the chassis just right you could make out "Model 4500A" So back I go to the Encyclopedia start & find the first set so tagged was a 5-tube Sears. A 5-tube sears with a 1V rectifier diode. So I find it's Rider's page on <http://nostalgiaair.com> and comes then the epiphany. The reason for the tiny transformer was it was an autoformer.



An autoformer takes 25% the steel for a 2:1 stepup as an isolation transformer. The arithmetic's easy and I'll be glad to show anyone in person.

see bottom
center

But there is no isolation and this set had a hot chassis. In fact it may have dropped a few Sears customers in their tracks since in mid-1936 they replaced the autoformer with a regular transformer

So the set got tubed up and it's speaker tears fixed with Weldbond. Good elderly tubular Mallory (of course) electrolytics were bunched for the AWOL filter block,. Then tried it out on a isolation transformer with an attached antenna..

Clark Howard emerged right where Gabriel Heater might have 72 years ago.

In ending I'm showing the 4500's home per the first Bunis appraisal book. It'd be a neat counterpoint to the ply-woody



Is this a great hobby or what!

30s Philco High Fidelity

This is no Ron Ramirez anthology. It's only a butterfly kiss on the 116 series of sets built from 1936 thru 1939. Two reasons have prompted this. The first is failing to bid on one at the last swap-meet closing auction. And the next is complete discovery of it's innards after that auction

I've been interested in equipment from the dawn of hi-fi for ages. Capehart, Scott, Crosley WLW, Zenith Stratosphere and the Philco 116 and 690 series. Here only the 116 will be discussed

The 116's history became evident from the Mallory Encyclopedia tour for the little Sears just discussed. Looks like it began in 1936 with the 116X model. Just before the onset of octal tubes. It's audio outputs were push-pull 6A3s running "class A" for about ten watts.

The 1937 & 1938 versions used octal tubes & the outputs were the electrically-equivalent 6B4Gs. The last of the sequence was 1939 where the outputs were changed to a twenty-watt class AB1 6L6G circuit.

All editions seem to have had a discriminator circuit to bypass possible drift and keep the set tuned "on the nose." And here I must say at least the 38-116's cabinet styling was good-plus-plus.

The 38-116's big difference was use of "passive radiators." These are speakers without voice coils whose cones are driven by the sound-connected pressure variations inside the cabinet.

The same scheme was exploited by James B Lansing speaker company in the late 60s. Their trade-name was "Linear Efficiency." This, I thought, was the introductory date for the idea.

But what do I know? As the French say, "the more things change, the more they stay the same."

SARS Meeting Dates for 2009 - Mark Your Calendars!

Date	Show & Tell / alternate	Meeting Topic	Speaker
02/09/09	Cathedrals / A-C radios	DT emergence	Sony VP
03/09/09	Tombstones / D-G	TBA	TBA
04/13/09	Ugliest / H-K	TBA	TBA
05/11/09	40 & 50s FM / L-M	TBA	TBA
06/15/09	Speakers: HiFi to Horn / N-P	TBA	TBA
07/13/09	Brightly colored radios / Q-S	TBA	TBA
08/10/09	Dark Bakelite / T-U	TBA	TBA
09/14/09	Your Favorite / V-W	TBA	TBA
10/12/09	Electronic music / X-Z	TBA	TBA
11/09/09	Your favorite collectible	TBA	TBA
12/14/09	Christmas @ VP's		

Upcoming Radio Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
02/09/09	Monthly SARS Meeting	RYANS Norcross	http://www.sarsradio.com
02/21/09	SARS Winter Megameet	DoubleTree Hotel Roswell	http://www.sarsradio.com
02/28/09	Dalton Hamfest	Dalton, GA	http://www.w4drc.com
03/21/09	Kennehoochie Hamfest	Marietta, GA	http://www.w4bti.org
03/26/09	Spring Meet in the Carolinas	Charlotte, NC Sheraton Hotel	http://www.cc-awa.org

Nearly off the radar are:

1/31 CC-AWA tailgate @ Mebane, NC
 2/7 Richmond Va FrostFest
 2/14 Orlando Hamcation

"Megameet" Schedule of Events

Friday, February 20

Dinner (spouses welcome) at 6:30 PM
Red Lobster
1050 Holcomb Bridge Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
Telephone (770) 998-8573
Must RSVP to Rich no later than 2/12

Saturday, February 21

06:30	Doors Open for Dealer Set Up and Registration
07:15	Coffee Available
08:00	Selling Begins
09:30	Items Brought to Auction Table (Limit of 30 items or lots)
09:45	No Additional Items Accepted at the Auction Table
10:00	Auction begins
11:00	Auction ends
11:00	Final Chance to Purchase 50/50 Raffle Ticket
11:00	Judges Review of Antique Televisions
11:15	Table tear-down is suspended
11:15	Judges announce winner of the Antique Television Contest
11:15	50/50 Raffle Winner Announced
11:15	Rick Zender's Presentation Begins
12:30	Swap Meet Ends
01:00	Gather at nearby restaurant (TBD)
01:00	Vacate DoubleTree Hotel

DON'T FORGET TO PRE-REGISTER FOR THE 2/21 MEET.
WE RAN OUT OF TABLE SPACE
LAST YEAR AND HAD TO REQUEST "DOUBLE-UPS"

Contact Rich Rodgers and send check for \$15.00 for first table (\$10.00 for extra tables)
to SARS address 113 Laurel Ridge Drive, Alpharetta, GA 30004

Driving note:

Take GA-400 Exit 7 and head WEST about 1/2 mile. The DoubleTree is across the street from the Red Lobster. Turn LEFT onto Dogwood Road and go to the top of the hill.