



# AWA 2010 WORLD CONVENTION

RIT INN AND CONFERENCE CENTER, ROCHESTER, NY • AUGUST 17-21, 2010

THEME: 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA; SYLVANIA; MIDGET RADIOS

I would like to welcome you personally to the 49th annual AWA Convention. This year we have made the most comprehensive improvements in our history. We listened to all your comments and I think you will be pleased with our responses. Our two auctions, two dinners, two flea markets, and much more make the AWA 2010 World Convention the one to put on your shortlist of attractions this year.

We are open to the general public for the second year. If you are returning from last year you will recognize many of our innovations. If you haven't been with us for a while, consider giving us a try. We are all working very hard to please you.

The Convention will be held, once more, at the Rochester Institute of Technology Conference Center, which offers special nightly rates of \$94.00 for a single or double. For info or reservations, call (585) 359-1800. The Conference Center has restaurant facilities, and other lodging and eating places are nearby.

Advance registration is encouraged, and you may register via PAYPAL at the Convention website: [www.awaconference.com](http://www.awaconference.com). A mail-in registration card is included with this issue.

The Conference Center is reached from Exit 46 of the New York State Thruway (I-90): take I-390 north to NY 253 west, to NY 15 south. For visitors arriving by air, the location is about seven miles from the airport. There is shuttle service 6 a.m.-11 p.m. Specify the RIT Conference Center.

For more information, please see the "Conference Doings" section of the "Membership News" column in this issue. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me personally by email, snail mail or telephone. Please take the time to read this schedule as a number of our policies have changed.

### AWA World Convention Chairperson

ROY WILDERMUTH, W2IT  
w3rlw@rochester.rr.com  
585.899.6703

### Programs

GEOFFREY BOURNE  
LAUREN PECKHAM

### Contest

GEOFFREY BOURNE  
CHRIS BACON

### Finance

STAN AVERY  
BARNEY WOOTERS

### Registration and Flea Market

DAWN VAN ZILE

### Ladies Luncheon

GRETCHEN PERERA

### Entertainment

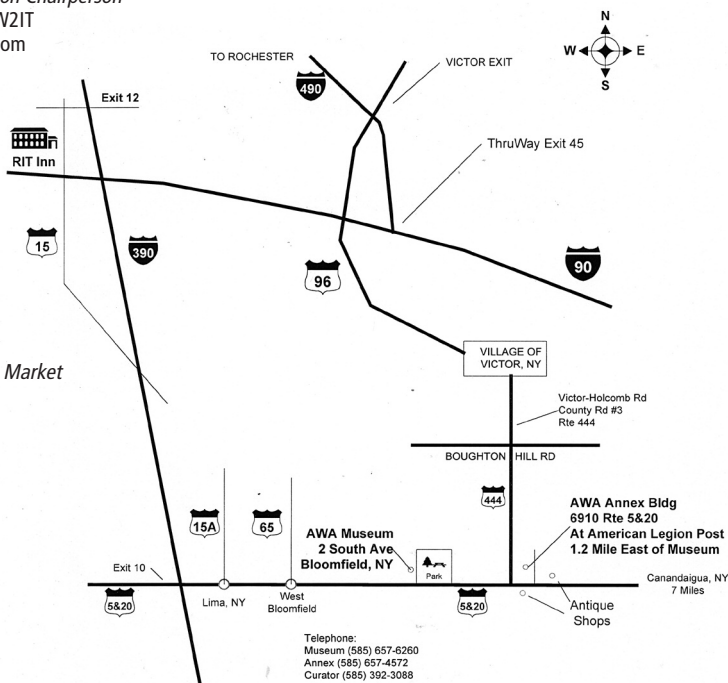
BOB HOBBDAY

### Promotion

MARC ELLIS

### Auction

BRUCE ROLOSON



### AWA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS MUSEUM VILLAGE GREEN, BLOOMFIELD, NY

Refer to map above. Directions from hotel: Right (south) on Rt. 15. At Avon (9.5 mi.), left (east) on Rts. 5 and 20. At Bloomfield (16 mi.), left at brown "Radio Museum" sign near Holloway House restaurant. Go approx. 200 ft. and park. Museum is on the left. HOURS: Sunday, August 15, 2-5 p.m. and Sunday, August 22, 2-5 p.m.

# AWA CONFERENCE AGENDA

**NOTE: Most Presentations and Seminars are held in the Seneca-Onondaga Rooms. For other events, where rooms are not specified, check lobby signs.**

## TUESDAY (8-17-10)

- Noon Registration opens.
- 5 p.m. Larry Babcock Auction preview.
- 7 p.m. Presentation: The Macmillan Expedition and Don Mix. John Dilks
- 8:30 p.m. AWA Cinema Pub, Showing *Empire Of The Air, Colossus, The Forbin Project*

## WEDNESDAY (8-18-10)

- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration continues.
- 9 a.m. Larry Babcock auction.
- 3 p.m.-7 p.m. AWA Museum Campus open.
- 7:30 p.m.-11 p.m. "Begger's Ball," A party in the Flea Market tent with free pizza.

## THURSDAY (8-19-10)

- 6 a.m. Round-the-clock Flea Market opens. Food service will be available on-site Thursday-Saturday.
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration continues.
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Book Fair. *Note:* Booksellers may be open on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- 10 a.m. AWA Members' Forum. Be ready with questions, discussion topics, suggestions, regarding the operation/mission of our club and Museum.
- 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon. An upscale event with special guests Carole Perry and Susan Wildermuth.
- 1:15 p.m. Presentation: Little Midgets for Big Spies. Bart Lee.
- 2:45 p.m. Key & Telegraph Seminar. Tom Perera, W1TP, Moderator. Bill Holly: Collecting the Key Makers. Bill Burns: Submarine Cable Pioneers. Gil Schlehman: The Discovery of the Mecograph Vertical Key
- 6:15 p.m. Presentation: The Evolution, History, and Archaeology of Alaskan Wireless Stations. Morgan Blanchard
- 8:30 p.m. Moonlight Restorations Seminar. Marc Ellis, Host.

Buford Chidester: Sizing Internal Speaker Cones. Bill Fizette: Restoration of an HBR Receiver. Bruce Howes: Painting Sheet Metal

- 8-11 p.m. Old Equipment Contest check-in. Salon A, B, C.

## FRIDAY (8-20-09)

- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Book Fair.
- 8 a.m. Old Equipment Contest (last-minute check-in.)
- 9 a.m. Old Equipment Contest (judging.)
- 10 a.m. Presentation: Lee de Forest, Inventor of Sound Movies. Mike Adams. *Most people believe that the movies were transformed from all-silent to all-sound in 1928 with the release of Warner Brothers', "The Jazz Singer." That production used a process that synchronized the film with a phonograph disc. But ten years earlier, inventor Lee de Forest was already patenting and demonstrating his PhonoFilm system, a technology that recorded the sound on the film in the form of modulated light. Throughout the 1920s, de Forest was involved in both the art and science of film, and this is what makes him important beyond just the technology. This presentation is about both electronic invention and early film making with Lee de Forest as the scientist and the writer, producer, director, and exhibitor of the content, some of which will be shown in this presentation.*
- 11:15 a.m. Presentation: The Military Re-enactor. Gib Buckbee. *Well-known military historian Gib Buckbee presents a military re-enactment with a twist!*
- Noon Contest viewing.
- 1:15 p.m. Presentation: The All Red Line. Bob Murray and Bruce MacMillan. *Operations and Equipment at the Bamfield, B.C. Canada station of the Submarine Cable to Australia and New Zealand, 1902-1930.*
- 2:30 p.m. Pre-1912 Wireless and Electrical Apparatus Seminar. Lauren Peckham

and Felicia Kreuzer, Moderators.  
*Discussion and display of items shown by members. Be sure to bring an early item from your collection.*

- 3:45 p.m. Review of Amateur Operations.  
Tim Walker—Salon A
- 2-5 p.m. Main Auction check-in. Seneca-Onondaga Rooms.
- 5 p.m. Social Hour. Charades Bar.
- 7-9 p.m. AWA Members' Banquet. Iroquois Ballroom.
- 9-11 p.m. Auction Preview. Seneca-Onondaga Rooms.
- 9-11 p.m. Old Equipment Contest viewing.  
Salon A, B, C.
- 11 p.m.- Midnight Contest pickup.

## **SATURDAY (8-21-10)**

- 6:00 a.m. AWA Hamfest (all day.)
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Book Fair.
- 8 a.m. Auction Preview continues.
- 8:30 a.m. Vacuum tube and Paper Collectibles.  
Auction-Iroquois Ballroom.
- 10 a.m. to noon General Auction, *continuing from paper-collectibles; includes communications gear and gear donated to support Museum maintenance.*
- 1-4:30 p.m. General Auction continues.
- 4:30 - ? p.m. Auction pickup and payout.

## **2010 REGISTRATION POLICY**

Persons wishing to attend the Banquet, the Ladies Lunch or persons requesting specific Flea Market spaces must pre-register. Banquet and luncheon tickets will be unavailable after pre-registration closes. All Flea Market spaces are first-come-first-served after pre-registration closes. We **STRONGLY** suggest that you pre-register for the 2010 Convention.

## **GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

### **FLEA MARKET POLICIES**

The AWA Flea Market will be available after the Wednesday evening Party and will run continuously until Saturday 5:00 p.m. Flea Market spaces may be reserved *only* during pre-registration. After the close of pre-registration, spaces will be available on a first-come-first-served basis. Sellers who have not reserved spaces may select any unreserved space. Collectors will tour the Flea Market to collect space fees. Make sure you have your space receipt displayed or you will be liable for space fees. All spaces not occupied Saturday morning at 6:00 a.m., even if previously paid for, are considered available for purchase. Please remember that items containing hazardous substances such as Mercury are not allowed. Non-radio-related items are subject to review. If you have any questions please contact the Flea Market manager.

New York State sales tax forms will be available, and a copy will be provided in pre-registration materials. The AWA is a not-for-profit organization and is not subject to sales tax. Neither AWA nor the RIT Inn and Conference Center are responsible for the security of

personal property in the Flea Market area. We are asked to confine market activity to the designated area to avoid the NY State Thruway right-of-way. At the time of this printing we are considering a return to the use of a shuttle to and from nearby parking areas. Please refer to the Convention web site for updates on this issue. All parking must be in marked spaces. Vehicles illegally parked will be towed at their own expense. This is a town fire law. Parking under the tent is not allowed and will result in your car being towed. This is a fire and safety issue.

### **AUCTION POLICIES**

There will be two separate auctions this year. Your registration includes the cost of auction materials for the primary registrant. Additional auction cards are issued only upon payment of full registration fee. A bid is a contract under New York law. The AWA recommends that you do not allow others to use your bidding number. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY CHARGES.** There will be a \$20.00 fee for failure to pay auction charges.

# 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE — EASY REFERENCE

	<b>TUESDAY AUGUST 17</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18</b>	<b>THURSDAY AUGUST 19</b>	<b>FRIDAY AUGUST 20</b>	<b>SATURDAY AUGUST 21</b>
6:00 a.m.			Round-the-Clock Flea Market Opens		AWA All-Day Hamfest Opens
8:00 a.m.		Registration Opens	Registration Opens Book Fair Opens	Book Fair Opens Contest Check-In	Book Fair Opens Auction Preview
8:30 a.m.					Vactube & Paper Auction
9:00 a.m.		Babcock Auction		Contest Judging	
10:00 a.m.			Members' Forum	Lee de Forest	General Auction
11:15 a.m.				The Military Reenactor	
11:30			Ladies' Luncheon		
Noon	Registration Opens			Contest Viewing	Auction Stops
1:00 p.m.					Auction Continues
1:15 p.m.			Midgets For Spies	The All Red Line	
2:00 p.m.				Auction Check-in Until 5 p.m.	
2:30 p.m.				Pre-1912	
2:45 p.m.			Key and Tel		
3:00 p.m.		Museum Campus Opens Until 7 p.m.			
3:45 p.m.				Amateur Operations	
4:30 p.m.					Auction Pickup and Payout
5:00 p.m.	Babcock Auction Preview			Social Hour	
6:15 p.m.			Alaskan Wireless		
7:00 p.m.	Macmillan and Mix			Members' Banquet	
7:30 p.m.		Begger's Ball Until 11 p.m.			
8:00 p.m.			Contest Check-in Until 11 p.m.		
8:30 p.m.	Cinema Pub		Moonlight Restorations		
9:00 p.m.				Contest Viewing & Auction Preview	
11 p.m.- 12 a.m.				Contest Pickup	

BY GEOFFREY BOURNE AND CHRIS BACON  
CONTEST COORDINATORS

# OLD EQUIPMENT CONTEST

## AWA 2010 ANNUAL CONVENTION

*The themes of this year's contest mirror the triple theme of this year's convention:  
100 Years of the Radio Club of America, The Midget Radio, and Sylvania.  
See the "Membership News" section for a discussion of these topics.*

### THEME CATEGORIES FOR SYLVANIA

#### 1. The Early Years—Cutting and Washington.

Any and all early C&W equipment is welcome here!

**2. Early Light Bulbs.** This category is for incandescent light bulbs of the 1901 to 1931 era by Bay State Lamp Co., Novelty Lamp Co., Nilco, and Hygrade. Exhibits demonstrating the steps required to replace a filament in a burned-out light bulb would be of interest.

**3. The Middle Years—Colonial, King, and Silvertone.** This category is for battery and electric sets from the mid-1920s to WWII. Philco and other radios that use Locktal tubes are also welcome.

**4. The Postwar Years.** Sylvania's consumer elec-

tronics division was in its heyday from about 1950 into the 1970s. This is where radios, televisions, and test equipment from the "golden era" would be displayed.

**5. Tubes, Tubes, and More Tubes!** From 1924 onward, Sylvania was a major manufacturer of electron tubes. Their best known development is the Loktal tube in 1938, but they also produced many other unique and specialized designs.

**6. Other Products.** Sylvania was, and still is, involved in many other types of products, such as specialized lighting, precision materials, phosphors for fluorescent light bulbs and picture tubes, semiconductors, and military equipment. Any Sylvania products or memorabilia of general interest may be entered here.

### MIDGET RADIO CATEGORIES

7. 1930s    8. 1940s    9. 1950s    10. 1960s

### RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA CATEGORIES

**11.** This category is for exhibits pertaining to the Radio Club of America itself, especially its history, its pioneering spirit, and its educational programs.

**12.** This category is for biographical exhibits focusing on noteworthy Radio Club of America members past or present.

### STANDARD CONTEST CATEGORIES

**13. Passive Receivers.** Any detecting device, not including vacuum tubes or solid state amplifying devices whose purpose is to convert radio energy into intelligent signals.

that were used to improve radio receiving capabilities. Bring in a fine example of either type.

**14. 1920s Superhet Receivers.** Any receiver which employs the super heterodyne circuit and is from the 1920s can be entered here.

**17. Cathedrals, Tombstones and Consoles 1930s and 1940s.** These are probably the most recognized styles of antique radios. Just about everyone remembers one that had been in their family. So bring in that Philco 90 or any other cathedral, tombstone or console radio. We will split the category if enough entries show up.

**15. 1920s Tuned RF Receivers.** During the 20s the TRF was one of the most widely produced radios. It was sold in kit form, factory assembled or built from scratch form plan in a magazine. This is where you would enter a Freshman Masterpiece, an AK 20 etc.

#### 18. Military Radio

- A. WW I
- B. WW II
- C. Korean Conflict
- D. Vietnam
- E. Misc.

**16. 1920s Regenerative & Reflexed Receivers.** The regen and reflex are two of many different circuits

**19. Portable Radios.** Any battery-operated portable radio may be entered in this category. We may split the category into decades so a transistor set does not compete with a 1920s tube set. So bring in anything from an early portable radio of the twenties to a Zenith Transoceanic of the fifties or sixties.

**20A. Horn Speakers.** Any sound reproduction device can be entered here as long as it employs a horn or bell for amplification.

**20B. Cone Speakers.** When radio sets attained greater power output levels, the magnetic speaker unit was designed with large cone surface areas for better sound reproduction. There are many fine examples of this type of speaker; i.e. Tower Adventurer, Western Electric...

**21. Test Equipment.** There were many makers of test gear. A short list would include Supreme, Superior, Hickok, Weston, Read-Rite, General Radio, Simpson, Rider, RCA. So bring in the unusual or the common.

**22. Tubes.** You can display a single tube or a collection. There should be a common theme, such as historical significance, technological breakthrough, etc.

**23A. Mechanical Television.** Bring in a scanning disk or a mirror screw set. It can be original or a modern replica.

**23B. Electronic Television.** Enter any television set, black-and-white or color; kit or factory.

---

## THE AMATEUR RADIO CATEGORIES

**24. Spark Transmitters and Artifacts.**

**25A (Homebrew) and 25B (Commercial) Vacuum Tube Transmitters and Receivers.** Some of the sets for this class are old, some not so old. While the predominant entries have been amateur-constructed, commercial equipment is welcome.

---

## THE CRAFTSMAN CATEGORIES

**26. Restoration of Appearance.** The purpose of this category is to display examples of rebuilding and refinishing the cabinets and containers that were used to house radio receivers. There is no requirement for a particular kind or size of set to be entered. A description of the work done will be considered an important part of the entry. The critical element is the appearance of the radio, including woodwork, escutcheons, dials, knobs and other visual details.

**27. Restoration of Operation.** This is the category for those craftsmen who artfully substitute modern components for old failures. The new electrolytic in the old can is an excellent example. Another is the transistorized tube. Perhaps the replacement of pot-metal parts by silver-gray-colored epoxy castings has been accomplished by one of us. If so, please bring in the set that incorporates that restoration. An entry should be accompanied by documentation showing

the basis of the update that preserves the quality of the original.

**28. New or Rebuilt.** Previously we have encouraged entries that showed the conference attendees how substitutions and reconstructions would provide vital parts or pieces. We also encouraged craftsmen who had made an old function come alive again to bring their work for review. Do you remember the Federal receiver that was entered several years ago and the operating Marconi coherer detector from a few years later? We want to continue that tradition, so bring in your retrospective designs and your reconstructions. There is no requirement for particular devices or circuits.

**29. Open Category.** Enter any item that does not fit into the listed categories.

---

## THE CONTEST AWARDS

### ELLE CRAFTSMAN

Given in memory of Bruce Elle to a builder of a high-quality radio receiver of an old or new type.

### MATLACK TRANSMITTER

Given for excellence in constructing or restoring transmitting equipment.

### RALPH O. WILLIAMS DISPLAY

Recognizes the informational value and quality of an exhibit in the contest at the AWA conference.

### THOMPSON BEST OF SHOW

Awarded in honor of early amateur Eunice Thompson, W1MPP, for the top entry in the Old Equipment Contest at the Annual Conference.

### PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Awarded to the entry that receives the most favorable votes from attendees and visitors to the contest. All entries including displays are eligible for this award.