



ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

"MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

SEPTEMBER 2017 VOLUME 1 NO. 3

"Museum Sparks" is a quarterly newsletter for the Friends of the Antique Wireless Museum and AWA Technology Explorers. Our welcome to our new members! We are very pleased to have you join AWA. Thanks for your support of the AWA Museum. Each quarter, "SPARKS" will provide general information, latest news, new exhibits and happenings at the Museum. "SPARKS" will also be posted on the AWA web site at www.antiquewireless.org for convenient referral.

"RADIO FAB LAB" CLASSES AT THE MUSEUM:

Radio Fab Lab classes began September 9 with 22 new Technology Explorers enrolled. To date, they have

- been introduced to Ohm's Law,
- learned how to use the digital multi-meter (DMM) they received in their supplies kit,
- been introduced to Morse Code, learned 4 letters, and received a message sent in Morse Code,
- built a code practice oscillator to practice with,
- built a low power audio amplifier,
- built a crystal set.
- and there are eight more exciting classes to go.
- As a bonus for scouts, there will be a 13th session to earn their Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge.

Based on the excitement in the room, the new “AWA Technology Explorers” are enjoying themselves and learning at the same time. And, they get to keep all the tools, DMM, and projects they build.



WHAT'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?

Well, there is always something new at the Museum. We have received Town approval to build a 28 foot by 28 foot all-purpose room in the Museum. This room will allow us to host meetings, provide classes and programs, and could be used for parties. It is scheduled for completion in January.

We have produced a three minute promotional video with Don Alhart as a special guest. Don is the Dean of Broadcasters in Rochester with over 51 years of on air experience. The video can be viewed on our web site at <http://www.antiquewireless.org/awa-preview-video.html> or the AWA Facebook page at

https://www.facebook.com/pg/antiquewirelessmuseum/videos/?ref=page_internal (you do not need to be a member of Facebook to view the video). So far the video has had 3400+ views. You can follow URLs by using CTRL+CLICK)

AWA MEDIA CENTER:

Did you know that AWA has a library/media center on the AWA Campus that houses 7,000 books, 15,000 magazines and catalogues, and 600,000 documents, photographs, slides, tapes, records, and CDs on communication technology? The Dr. Max Bodmer Media Center is located just behind the Museum building and houses the Bruce Kelley Library, archive storage, a very large collection of schematics and operating manuals, and artifact storage. The Library is open for your research on communication technologies on Tuesdays 10 am to 3 pm and by appointment. This is a research library and materials must be used at the Library.

2017 AWA ANNUAL CONVENTION:

The AWA Annual Convention was held Tuesday August 16 to Saturday, August 19 at the RIT Inn in Henrietta. The convention included 3 full days of informational and educational programs, an outdoor flea market, a book fair, an auction, lots of good food, and 4+ days of good fellowship.

RECENT VISITOR TOURS:

On August 7th, we had a special guest visit from Adda W3QBZ from Pennsylvania who celebrated her 94th birthday with a trip to the Museum. Adda was a delightful visitor. She had a very serious conversation with Lynne Bisha, Curator, about how to fix the problems she has with one of her transmitters.



We also hosted a bus tour from Pittsburgh, seniors from the Highlands at Pittsford, and a meeting of the Drumlins Amateur Club from Wayne County.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

An AWA display is a part of the “1964 Canandaigua Exhibit” at the Ontario County Historical Society Museum which opened July 8, 2017. The exhibit will be on display until at least January 2018. Overall, the exhibit is based on a 1964 picture of the main street of Canandaigua, NY. Dave Hayden and Greg Russell have identified the history of most of the buildings in the picture and have found that about 50 buildings are no longer there. AWA was asked to develop an exhibit of 1964 era communication and entertainment artifacts for a display in the exhibit. This has been a real fun project and we are pleased to be part of the “1964 Exhibit”.

Later this year, watch for announcements for “AFTER HOURS AT THE MUSEUM” program series. This will be an ongoing series of programs/presentations on Wednesday evenings every other month. Such programs as a live radio show production by the Bloomfield Home Companion Players, Iconic Women in Radio with Karen Noske, a historical look at Telegraph and Rochester Tombstones by Bruce Roloson, Curator Emeritus, and a wide variety of other topics. This series should be great fun, educational, and entertaining and as a member of the Museum, you will receive a 50% discount on program tickets.

AWA WEB SITE and FACEBOOK:

For ongoing contact information, membership applications, news, announcements, program schedules, AWA history, and lots of useful links to other radio sites, please visit www.antiquewireless.org or the AWA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/antiquewirelessmuseum (using CTRL+CLICK to follow the URLs.)

VOLUNTEERS OPPORTUNITIES AT AWA:

Did you know that the AWA and AWA Museum are operated by a 100% volunteer staff? We are always looking for volunteers at AWA and especially guides for Tuesday and Saturday Museum hours. We will train you and what a great way to learn all about the history and technology of 200 years of communications. The Museum Staff works at the Museum on Tuesdays doing a wide variety of work. If you would like to come out and volunteer, we can always use the help. Just call 585-257-5119 on a Tuesday or Saturday or leave a message or just show up at the Museum on a Tuesday. It is fun and very rewarding.

MUSEUM HOURS:

The Museum is open on Tuesdays from 10 am to 3 pm and Saturdays from 1 pm to 5 pm. We are closed on major holidays and holiday weekends so our volunteers can enjoy the holidays with their families.

Don't forget, as Members of AWA, your admission to the Museum is always free.

Bob Hobday

Deputy Director