



ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

"MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

SEPTEMBER 2018 VOLUME 2 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, "**MUSEUM SPARKS**" will provide general information, latest news, new exhibits and happenings at the Museum. "**MUSEUM SPARKS**" will be posted on the AWA web site at www.antiquewireless.org for convenient referral.

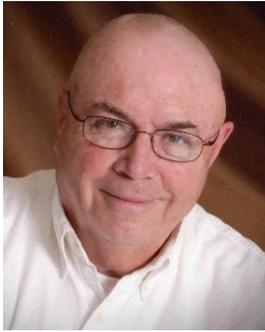
AWA DIRECTOR THOMAS PETERSON JR RETIRES:

At the Annual AWA Convention Members' Meeting, after 17 years as AWA Director, Tom Peterson announced his retirement. AWA wants to thank Tom for his leadership, his commitment, his generosity, and his thoughtful, steady hand on the AWA tiller. Under Tom's watch, AWA has achieved international recognition as a premier communications historical organization with a world-class museum and collection. Thank you Tom.

Tom will continue to be a Trustee on the Board of Trustees. He said "He is not going anywhere and remains committed to AWA's success."

ROBERT HOBDAY ELECTED AWA DIRECTOR AND BRUCE ROLOSON ELECTED AWA DEPUTY DIRECTOR:

With the retirement of Director Thomas Peterson Jr, the AWA Board of Trustees has elected Robert Hobday N2EVG of Honeoye Falls, NY as AWA Director and Bruce Roloson W2BDR of Apalachin, NY as AWA Deputy Director.



Bob has been a member of AWA since 1984 serving as a Museum Historian and a volunteer on the Museum Staff. In 2009, Bob was elected as AWA Deputy Director.

Bob is a graduate of Union College with a BA in Industrial Administration. He worked at Rochester Gas and Electric for 32 years advancing to Manager – Pricing. In 1997, he was one of two team leaders that created Energetix, a subsidiary and finally an affiliate of RGE, where he advanced to Managing Director – Strategic Issues. Bob is a Fellow in Radio Club of America and a recipient of their Jack Poppele Award.



Bruce has been a member of AWA since 1967 and has held every office at AWA including President and all other officer positions, editor of the AWA Journal, and AWA Conference chairman. Bruce is currently AWA Museum Curator Emeritus.

Bruce is a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology and worked at Westinghouse as an engineer in tube production and high voltage lab work. He went on to have a long, successful career in several management positions at New York State Electric and Gas Corporation. Bruce is a Fellow in Radio Club of America and recipient of their Ralph Batcher Memorial Award.

AWA APPOINTS DAVID KAISER AS ASSOCIATE AWA CURATOR:

David Kaiser of Rochester NY has been appointed Associate AWA Curator. David is an AWA life member, a Trustee on the AWA Board of Trustees, Editor of the AWA Journal, and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of radios, television, and especially Stromberg-Carlson equipment (made in Rochester.)

WHAT’S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?

Museum Staffer Bill Jaker WB8RAE, recently had to move into an assisted living facility in New Jersey due to health issues. This is a double blow for an active amateur radio operator (ham radio operator) like Bill. The move from independent living in your own home to assisted living is difficult enough, but to lose your ability to continue as an active ham radio operator is crushing. Bill was a regular each day on many radio nets and talking with friends across the country and the world.

But help was on the way with the support of Bill’s sister Bette Barr. Once Bill was settled in his new living center, Curator Lynn Bisha W2BSN, Curator Emeritus Bruce Roloson W2BDR, Ned Asam W2NED, and Dan Waterstraat W2DEW developed a new ham radio station at the AWA offices in Bloomfield NY using Bill’s Elecraft K3 ham gear and a new antenna. Using new Elecraft K3 RemoteRig boxes, the internet service available in Bill’s new room, and enlisting the help of AWA member Bill Zukowski N2YEG of New Jersey for the final installation, Bill Jaker was back on the ham bands. He is thrilled and could not be happier.

AWA wants to thanks Bill's AWA friends and fellow staff members for their thoughtfulness and their dedication to getting Bill back the air. If you happen to contact Bill WB2RAE on the air, say hello and tell him you read his story at AWA. He is a great guy and extremely knowledgeable about broadcast radio and television. Hopefully this will set a model for helping other ham operators who have to enter assisted living centers.



Lynn Bisha demonstrating the K3 remote access equipment at the AWA Convention prior to installation at Bill Jaker's apartment in New Jersey.



The K3 ham station at the Museum.

MUSEUM ARTIFACT IDENTIFIER CARDS:

When you visit the Museum, always browse through the display shelving. Tom Bavis continues to add identifier cards on artifacts. David Kaiser, Associate Curator, continues to add interesting and unique items on those shelves each week.

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS:

["AFTER HOURS AT THE MUSEUM"](#) – A SERIES OF BIMONTHLY PRESENTATIONS:

[After Hours at the Museum](#) are led by experts from academia, industry and the Museum. The series will cover a broad spectrum of entertaining topics from the history of radio and television to the latest developments in communications and entertainment technology. Our region continues to generate an extraordinary amount of wireless innovation and our

communities are rich with creative and technical expertise. *After Hours at the Museum* is designed to be entertaining and informative for adults and young adults and will be held in the Museum for 90 minutes on Wednesday evenings.

On July 11th Bruce Roloson presented “Telegraph and Rochester Tombstones”. Many of the pioneers of the US telegraph industry were from Rochester and are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester.

On September 5th, Bob Hobday presented “The Impact of Radio on Society”. Unlike other major communication technologies, the “magic” of radio had an almost immediate and amazing impact on society. Bob provided a fascinating (at least I thought it was fascinating) look at the growth and reach of radio in the United States.

The next presentation is “WWII British Spy Radio and the Spies Who Served” by Bill Hopkins on November 7, 2018 beginning at 730 pm. Learn about Churchill’s major effort to “set Europe ablaze” by parachuting agents into occupied Europe and see the B-2 British spy radio in a suitcase they used. Many of the agents were women.

This series has been great fun, educational, and entertaining. The programs are held in the Museum on Wednesday nights beginning at 730 pm. The Museum opens at 7 pm for visitors to enjoy the Museum. Light refreshments will be served. Adult admission is \$10 including admission to the Museum, but as a member of the Museum, you will receive a 50% discount on your program ticket.

Presentations are already being scheduled for 2019. For March we have scheduled a return engagement of the live radio show and music in March by popular request of the sold out crowd last March. May’s presentation will feature the Irish music of the popular local group *Almost Irish*. If you know of a presentation that you could recommend, please let contact Bob Hobday.

RADIO FAB LAB MINI COURSE:

During 3 consecutive Thursday mornings in October, Museum Staff will present a focused 3 part series we call Radio Fab Lab Mini to local home schoolers. The Mini course will introduce the students to basic electrical/electronic principles and measurement, the history of telegraph, Morse code and a code practice oscillator, and software defined radio (SDR). We have also been asked to provide the same course to a group of home schoolers from the Buffalo area. This is very exciting for Museum Staff and we are looking forward to the courses.

2018 AWA ANNUAL CONVENTION:

The AWA Annual Convention was held Tuesday evening August 14 to Saturday, August 18 at the RIT Inn in Henrietta. The convention included 4 full days of informational and educational programs. The programs were outstanding this year in addition to an outdoor flea market, a book fair, an auction, lots of good food, and lots of wonderful fellowship. Convention

Chairman Bruce Roloson organized a wonderful event and then could not attend due to a knee replacement operation. Bummer!

2019 AWA ANNUAL CONVENTION:

The 2019 Convention will be held Tuesday August 13 to Saturday August 17, 2019 at the RIT Inn in Henrietta. The dual themes for the 2019 Convention will be “Evolution of Loudspeakers” and “Audio Brands”. Please place those dates on your calendars. This year’s convention was a super time and I expect 2019 be even bigger. Don’t miss it.

MAKE PRESERVATION OF COMMUNICATIONS HISTORY YOUR LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS:

Can you help make a difference in a child’s future – spark their interest in science and technology? Can you make a senior’s trip down memory lane a highlight of their day? Yes, you can through a thoughtful gift to AWA.

Help AWA provide for the preservation and sharing of communications history by making a charitable gift to AWA through your will or trust. There are many creative and flexible options that can benefit you, your loved ones and AWA in its commitment to preserving history. If you are updating your will or trust, consult your tax advisor on the many options available.

With the passage of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015, individuals, age 70 ½ and older, may direct any sum up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to any qualified charitable organization, including Antique Wireless Association, EIN 16-1501004. While this outright gift would not produce a charitable income tax deduction, it would fulfill your required minimum distribution requirement without increasing your taxable income. Again, please consult your tax advisor to determine whether this is a financially attractive option for you.

VOLUNTEER 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 historians for Tuesday and Saturday Museum open 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. Historians are also needed for Saturday afternoon Museum hours. If you would like to come out and volunteer, we can always use your help. Just call me at 585-314-7310, call the Museum at 585-257-5119 on a Tuesday or Saturday, or just show up at the Museum on a Tuesday or Saturday and say “I’m here to help.” It is fun and very rewarding.

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.)

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 a Member of AWA, your admission to the Museum is always free.

Bob Hobday

Director

585-314-7310