



ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

"MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

DECEMBER 2018 VOLUME 2 NO. 4

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

"**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.

MICHAEL MIGLIACCIO ELECTED AWA SECOND DEPUTY DIRECTOR:

At the AWA Board of Trustees's meeting Mike Migliaccio N3HLM of Manchester, NY was elected Second Deputy Director.

Mike majored in electronics and electrical disciplines, graduating with a four-year degree in 1974 from Spring Garden College. Michael holds a Master's of Science degree in Public Safety from Saint Joseph's University and a two year degree in sciences for healthcare professions. After graduation, he was accepted to the Defense Logistics Agency three year acquisition management intern program and was assigned to the Defense Contract Administrative Service (DCAS) in Philadelphia as an Industrial Specialist. His assignments included RCA Government Systems in Camden, NJ where, among other contracts, he monitored production of the radios for the NASA space shuttle program.

He returned to the DLA intern program as a supervisor of interns, trainer, training monitor and course developer eventually working as a full time instructor. Seeking a change, he became a Safety and Occupational Health manager for the Naval Publications and Printing

Service being responsible for safety and occupational health at printing facilities of U.S. Military bases in the northeastern U.S. He ended his career with safety oversight of all defense operated printing facilities worldwide.

His interests include all things radio; he has been an AWA member for over 26 years and a member of FISTS CW Club since 1999.

Mike is a welcome addition to the AWA Management Team and brings a wealth of experience, skills and knowledge to the Team.



WHAT'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?

AWA ANNOUNCES AN EXPANSION OF THE MUSEUM BUILDING:

The last few years have been a period of significant growth for the Antique Wireless Association. Together we have re-developed the world-class Antique Wireless Museum that has amazed and entertained over 7,000 visitors since its opening in its new location in 2013. We have more than tripled the Museum artifact collection and we now own the AWA campus of four buildings on five acres. All this has been accomplished without debt through the many generous donations of our members and friends. Yet, much remains to be done to finish our Museum and AWA campus. Our Mission continues as we strive to leverage the outstanding knowledge of our members, our tremendous collections and incredible volunteer staff into a beacon of learning, enlightenment, and introduction to STEM – Science Technology, Engineering, and Technology.

Phase III proposes to build a 1920 square foot addition on the east side of the Museum building to house amateur radio exhibits, multiple working ham radio stations, and office/working space for the Registrar's volunteer group.

The proposed development will provide:

- A major new exhibit hall dedicated to amateur radio for the touring museum visitors.
 - The exhibit space will feature fully functional equipment from significant decades of amateur radio as well as static displays.

- Our plan is to create multiple operating ham stations to be made available to licensed amateurs such as is done at ARRL's W1AW.
- Museum Technical Staff is already at work restoring equipment to be used.
- Space to put James Millen's W1HRX 1930's AM station back on the air after a long hiatus.
- Although available as a major new exhibit for visitors, the new ham shack will have its own rest room and could be used for events/meetings/classes after hours without the Museum being open.
- Space for the Registrar's volunteers to process the many donations received each week. Currently, that volunteer group does not have enough space available in their location in the back of the Museum building to work efficiently.
 - As an additional bonus, transfer of the Registrar's operation to the new addition will make additional exhibit space available in the Museum.

Our goal is to raise \$165,100. We already have donations and commitments for almost half of our goal. Your generous donation will help us achieve our Phase III goal! You may donate by going to the AWA web site at www.antiquewireless.org/Donate.

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 November 7, 2018 an enthusiastic audience enjoyed the presentation of "WWII British Spy Radio and the Spies Who Served" by Bill Hopkins. We learned about Churchill's major effort to "set Europe ablaze" by parachuting agents into occupied Europe and we able to examine the Museum's B-2 British spy radio in a suitcase they used. Bill also presented the backgrounds and accomplishments of several of the agents parachuted into Europe many of which were brave women.

The schedule of presentations for 2019 is:

January 16 “Civil War Balloon and Observation Post” – by Chris Lynn, Genesee Country Village Museum

March 20 “Live Old Time Radio Show and Music” – by the West Bloomfield Congregational Church Bloomfield Home Companion Players

May 15 “A Night of Irish Music” – by Almost Irish, a popular local Irish band

July 17 “Finger Lakes Wine Industry and a Wine Tasting” - by Will Ouweleen, Eagle Crest Vineyards

September 18 “History of WHAM Radio” – by Ed Gable, AWA Curator Emeritus

November 20 “Tourism in the Finger Lakes” – by Valerie Knoblauch, President, and CEO, Finger Lakes Visitor Connection

This series has been great fun, educational, and entertaining. The programs are held in the Museum on Wednesday nights beginning at 7:30 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.

2019 AWA ANNUAL CONVENTION:

This year’s Annual AWA Convention will be held August 13 to 17, 2019 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center in Henrietta, NY. The dual themes for the convention are “Evolution of Loudspeakers” and “Audio Brands”. The Convention Committee is already planning programs. Please visit www.antiquewireless.org for more information as it becomes available. Mark your calendar and don’t miss this year’s Convention. The Convention is your chance for fellowship, three days of interesting, educational and informative programs, the book sale, the flea market, the equipment contest, the auction, extended hours at the Museum, and excellent food all packed in four and a half days. The Annual AWA Convention is a unique experience. 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