



ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

"MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

DECEMBER 2019 VOLUME 3 NO. 4

"**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 WEB SITE and SOCIAL MEDIA:

For ongoing contact information, membership applications, news, announcements, program schedules, AWA history, and lots of useful links to other radio sites, please visit

Web Site: www.antiquewireless.org

AWA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/antiquewirelessmuseum

AWA Staff is working to enlarge our reach on social media thanks to efforts of Criss Onan, Mark Erdle and Mike Migliaccio.

AWA Twitter handle is @antiquewireless

AWA Instagram name is @antiquewirelessmuseum

AWA 2020 SPRING MEET:

The AWA Spring Meet will be held Saturday, May 2, 2020 in Veteran's Park, Bloomfield, NY (across from the Museum). The Meet will include a flea market, book sale, and large auction. In addition,

the Antique Wireless Museum will be open for visitors during the Meet. Renew your friendships and make new friends. Find those “bargains” you just can’t live without at the Meet.

AWA 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

PUT THE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR: The 2020 Annual Conference will be held at the RIT Inn and Conference Center on August 12 to 16, 2020. The Conference theme will be “The Evolution of Amateur Radio”. The conference will include opportunities to renew old friendships and create new ones, a flea market, a book sale, an equipment contest, a large auction, food events, and 17 informative presentations covering the conference theme and other areas of communications technology. The attendance last year was about 160. The conference concludes on Saturday morning with a large auction. If you have any questions, contact the Conference Chairman Criss Onan at conan@fastmail.com.

AWA’S EXPANSION OF THE MUSEUM BUILDING:

Phase III proposes to build a 1920 square foot addition on the east side of the Museum building to house amateur radio exhibits and multiple working ham radio stations.

Our goal is to raise \$165,100. We currently stand at just over \$120,000. 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 HAPPENINGS:

“AFTER HOURS AT THE MUSEUM” – A SERIES OF BIMONTHLY PRESENTATIONS:

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.

The 2020 series has just been announced:

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| January 15 | “2 nd Lt. Myron Adams, US Signal Corp, from Bloomfield, NY” – Leif HerrGesell |
| March 18 | “Beer Making in New York and a Beer Tasting” – the Other Half Brewing |
| May 20 | “The Heyday of Radio” – Donovan Shilling |
| July 15, 2020 | “Iconic Women in Radio – Rosa Rio” – Karen Noske |
| September 16 | “A Songwriter Sings His Songs” – Brian Ayers |
| November 18 | “Songs and His Guitars” – David Knight |

This series has been great fun, educational, and entertaining. The presentations are held in the Antique Wireless 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 admission ticket.

RADIO FAB LAB - 2020:

Radio Fab Lab is a series of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) related classes for youngsters age 9 to 16.

The Museum has just started two series of classes. On Tuesday, January 7th, a series of six classes for homeschool students enjoyed their first class.



There also is another Radio Fab Lab series on Saturdays that will start January 11.

If you know of a student who would like to attend future Radio fab Lab classes, send an email to Bob at Education.AWAM@gmail.com. Information is also posted on our web site at www.antiquewireless.org.

LEARN IT, BUILD IT, FIX IT:

Beginning March 7, "the Learn It, Build It, Fix It" classes will teach you how a tube guitar amplifier works, how to build a tube amp from a kit, how to test the amp, and how to fix amps. Information

about this series in the AWA web site at www.antiquewireless.org/2020-LIBIFI . Send your questions to Education.AWAM@gmail.com.

AWA TO HELP TEACH “WAVES” AT BLOOMFIELD SCHOOL:

New York State Education Department has added a state required curriculum topic on “waves” in the fourth grade curriculum. In support of the Bloomfield Central School District, AWA will present a power point presentation on waves (based on one of topics taught in AWA’s Radio Fab Lab) in each of the three fourth grade classes. Then the students will be bussed to the Museum to be introduced to some Morse Code and build a Code Practice Oscillator that they can take home. AWA Staff is very excited to cooperate with the BCSD teachers on this program.

THE JUNIOR HISTORIAN PROGRAM:

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM:

To provide students with the opportunity to enhance their learning, presentational and interpersonal skills by providing historian training at the Antique Wireless Museum.

ROLE OF THE MUSEUM HISTORIANS:

The role of a volunteer historian is to “tell the stories” behind the artifacts on exhibit as they guide visitors through the Museum. “Telling the stories” requires learning the histories and facts and developing an interesting, cohesive, educational, and entertaining interpretation of the exhibit.

JUNIOR HISTORIAN PROGRAM - HOW IT’S DONE:

- Each student would agree to volunteer for a minimum of five Saturday afternoons at the Museum (1 pm to 5 pm) or 20 hours. During summer months, volunteer hours could be 10 am to 3 pm on Tuesdays.
- They would take several museum tours, shadowing the tour(s) given to visitors by senior historians.
- Each student would choose one or two exhibits as their focus and develop their own “stories” and presentations.
- Once a student is comfortable with their presentation(s), they would present it to a senior historian for feedback and coaching. As appropriate, the senior historian would ask or share typical visitor questions in anticipation of doing actual tours.
- Once satisfied and comfortable, they would then accompany a senior historian on visitor tours presenting their chosen exhibit’s story. The senior historian would be available to answer visitor questions if the student is not able to answer the questions.
- If the student chooses to volunteer for longer periods of time, they would have the opportunity to add additional exhibits and perhaps progress to a full historian status. *We would welcome and encourage them to do that!*

Our first Junior Historian candidate has started his training and is doing very well. This is a great educational opportunity for students to gain presentation experience and enjoy the rich history

exhibited by the Museum. Contact me if you know of a candidate for the Junior Historian Program at Director@AntiqueWireless.org.

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.

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 if a major holiday falls on a Tuesday or Saturday so our volunteers can enjoy the holidays with their families.

AWA MEMBERSHIPS:

Don't forget, as a Member of AWA, your admission to the Museum is always free. Your support as members is important to AWA. If you have friends or relatives that would appreciate and support the educational opportunities offered by the Museum, please make them aware that there are many membership options offered beginning at only \$20 per year. See the AWA web site at <http://www.antiquewireless.org/membership-class-choices.ht> for details.

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