"MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

JUNE 2022 VOLUME 6 NO. 2

"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.

Hi Everyone,

It is very hard to believe that half of 2022 is already history.

WHAT IS NEW AT THE MUSEUM?:

MUSEUM HAM SHACK ADDITION:

Construction is proceeding as I write this newsletter. The foundation walls and floor have been poured and the contractor is framing the addition. It is very exciting to finally see it being built. We are anticipating having the building completed by end of summer or very early fall. Once completed Museum Staff has a ton of work to do to create the working amateur radio stations and amateur radio displays.

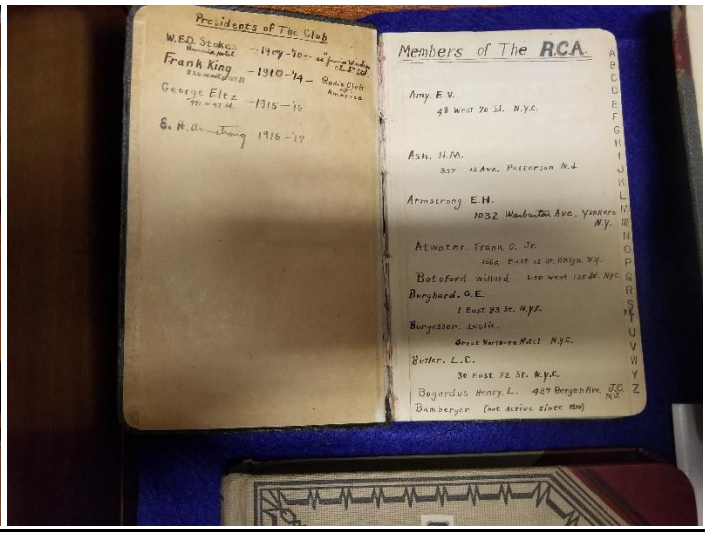
MUSEUM EXHIBIT:

There is a new exhibit in the Museum displaying items from the Radio Club of America ("RCofA") archives housed at AWA. RCofA is the oldest radio club in America founded in 1909. This new exhibit has been designed by AWA Assistant Curators Felicia and Jim Kreuzer.

RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA
NEW YORK

NEW YORK

1909


Presidents of The Club
Members of The R.C.A.

YORK
Making New Friends, Keeping Old Friends

Radio Club of America
THE ARMSTRONG MEDAL
Harry W. Houck

AWA SPRING MEET:

The Annual AWA Spring Meet was held in Veteran's Park, East Bloomfield (across from the Museum) on Saturday May 7. There was an open flea market to buy and sell those special treasures, a book sale, and a big auction of surplus and duplicate items from the Museum. About 150 visitors attended the Spring Meet this year.

ANNUAL AWA CONFERENCE:

Conference Chairman Mike Migliaccio and his committees have been very busy planning the Conference. The Conference provides five days full of presentations, a flea market, a book sale, a large auction, great food, and chance to renew your friendships and make new friends. The 2022 AWA Annual Conference will be held October 4 – 8, 2022 at the RIT Inn. The dual themes of the 2022 Conference will be "100 Years of Car Radios" and "Evolution of Audio". Details and registration information are available on the AWA website at www.antiquewireless.org. Please put October 4 to 8 on your calendars.

"*AWA Shares*' - AWA MONTHLY MEETINGS ON ZOOM:

AWA will present monthly Zoom meetings/presentations on the third Wednesday of the month at 8 pm Eastern time on a wide variety of topics. The one hour meetings will be open to all and are FREE! After each "AWA Shares", a recording of the presentation will be posted on the AWA YouTube Channel.

The *"AWA Shares"* Zoom calls are free and open to all. Participants on the calls must register for each session so that we may be certain we have sufficient Zoom capacity. Registration details will be posted on the AWA Website as available at https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/awa-shares/.

EDUCATIONAL CLASSES:

LEARN IT, BUILD IT, FIX IT CLASSES:

The Learn It, Build It, Fix it Class ("LIBIFI") is a multiple series of classes for adults on various electronic subjects. These classes have been developed and taught by Dave Minchella, KE2GE, a local expert in electronic design and repair.

The latest LIBIFI series "Tube Based Guitar Amplifiers" will begin Saturday, July 23rd.

LEARN IT, BUILD IT, FIX IT CLASSES

LEARN HOW A TUBE GUITAR AMP WORKS

BUILD A GUITAR AMP OR AMP MODS

FIX YOUR AMP – *REPAIR* YOUR AMP

7/23, 7/30, 8/6/2022 – LEARN THE THEORY

- **Safety**
- **Introduction: sound & waveforms**
- **Audio amplification & music**

- **Basic electricity & electronics**
- **Passive & active circuit elements**
- **Active circuit elements: the vacuum tube**
- **Vacuum tubes in guitar amplifiers; class of operation**
- **Test & measurement equipment**
- **How to solder & soldering equipment**
- **Basic construction tools and techniques**

8/13, 8/20, 9/3/2022 – HANDS ON

- **Soldering review**
- **In-class building of your kit, mods or repair with help & guidance**
- **Final testing**

Cost: The cost for the six classes is $180 and includes a one year, on-line membership in AWA. The student must purchase and have available the tube project by 8/13/2022, supply soldering equipment and tools. Sessions will be held on Saturdays 9 am to 1pm at the Antique Wireless Museum, 6925 Route 5, Bloomfield, NY.

For more information and registration form, visit:

https://antiquewireless.org/homepage/learn-build-fix-classes/

Send questions to EducationCoordinator@AntiqueWireless.org

Registration is now open. Details about the course and the registration form is also posted on the AWA website at https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/learn-build-fix-classes/.

AWA ON EBAY:

With the constant generous influx of donations of equipment to the Museum, there are sometimes duplicates to what we have or surplus to what we have or need. These gifted items are not part of the Museum's permanent collection. As deemed duplicates or surplus, AWA lists these items on eBay to relieve storage requirements and to make them available to members and collectors who can use them. These items are listed on eBay at https://www.ebay.com/usr/awa_surplus_sales and https://www.ebay.com/usr/awa_museum_store.

AWA MUSEUM STORE:

Digital copies of past issues of the "*Old Timer Bulletins", "AWA Journals*" and "*AWA Reviews*" are available for purchase in the AWA Museum Store and now are on flash drives. The AWA Museum Store offerings can be reviewed at https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/store/.

AWA PROJECT PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS AVAILABLE:

AWA Museum Technical Staff (AKA "The Skunk Works") has produced some very high quality Printed Circuit Boards ("PCBs") and the bare PCBs are for sale. These are bare PCBs only and no other components are included. They come with a suggested parts list to allow you to complete the project.

These bare PCB's are now available at https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/purchase-pcb-items/ :

- **PCB 1: Regulated Variable Power Supply High Voltage @ $16.50 postpaid US**
- **PCB 2: AM Broadcast Transmitter @ $20 postpaid US**
- **PCB 3: "Signal Sniffer", AF & RF Signal Tracer @ $16 postpaid US**
- **PCB 4: Capacitor DC Leakage Tester @ $25 postpaid US**
- **PCB 5: Universal Battery Eliminator (to provide power to operate battery set radios) @ $38 postpaid US**
- **PCB 6: The "AM Slider" is a low cost, synthesized signal source designed specifically for AWA's Low Power AM Transmitter @ $18 postpaid US**
- **PCB 7: The '48 Special is a tube guitar amplifier inspired by the Fender Champion 5C1 built between 1948-1952 @ $30 postpaid US**
- **PCB 8: a tube-based, universal classic moving magnet phono preamplifier @ $30 postpaid US**
- **PCB 9: Universal Preamp Power Supply @ $30 postpaid US**

In addition, AWA also offers a Morse Adaptive Technology Trainer or "MATT" which is a complete kit to build a code practice oscillator to learn and practice Morse Code. This kid-friendly kit can be completed without soldering (a 9 volt battery is not included). Kids love it! It would make a great educational gift for a youngster 8 to 14. It is available for $19 postpaid US at https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/purchase-kit-items/

THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER'S FORUM:

This member's forum is open to AWA members only. Members may apply to join the group by emailing Mark Erdle at Mark@AntiqueWireless.org. You can also register on line at https://groups.io/g/Wireless-History.

AWA WEB SITES 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

1BCG Site: www.1BCG.org

AWA YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX55peBhzeX1qps_VYXdLBA

AWA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/antiquewirelessmuseum

AWA Twitter handle is @antiquewireless

AWA Instagram name is @antiquewirelessmuseum

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

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 to conduct Museum tours. You do not need to be an engineer or a historian. We will train you and what a great way to learn all about the history of 200 years of communications technology. In addition, the Museum Staff works at the Museum on Tuesdays doing a wide variety of work. If you would like to come out and volunteer at AWA, we can always use your help.

Currently we are looking for help in several skill fields:

- **Education Outreach: We are looking for experienced teachers to help develop and teach our Radio Fab Lab and other educational outreach classes**
- **Volunteer Coordinator: We are looking someone with experience in the development and coordination of volunteers.**

If you would like to help AWA, please call me. My cell phone number is 585-314-7310 or call the Museum at 585-257-5119 and leave a voice mail message. Volunteering at AWA is fun, educational and very rewarding.

Keep safe my friends.

Bob Hobday

President@AntiqueWireless.org

585-314-731