



# ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

## "MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

MARCH 2022 VOLUME 6 NO. 1

"**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](http://www.antiquewireless.org) for convenient referral.

Hi Everyone,

### AWA SPRING MEET:

The Annual AWA Spring Meet will be held in Veteran's Park, East Bloomfield (across from the Museum) on Saturday May 7 beginning at 7 am. The will be 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. The Museum will be open from 10 am to 5 pm. The admission to the Spring Meet is \$5 and an additional \$7 for a seller's flea market space. Admission to the Spring Meet includes a free admission to the Museum.

### 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 will be available on the AWA website at [www.antiquewireless.org](http://www.antiquewireless.org). Please put October 4 to 8 on your calendars.

## **WHAT IS NEW AT THE MUSEUM?:**

### **MUSEUM HAM SHACK ADDITION:**

We have received all the building permits, signed the builder contract, and will break ground the week of April 11. YEA! The construction is expected to take 3 to 4 months. After the building completion, Museum Staff has a major operation to install the working amateur radio stations, antennas and displays.

### **MUSEUM EXHIBIT:**

#### **1BCG TRANSMITTER:**

On a cold winter night on December 11, 1921, members of the Radio Club of America were able to send the first amateur radio message from a small shack in Greenwich, CT to be received by American Paul Godley in Ardrossan, Scotland. This transatlantic test proved the value of shorter wavelengths – long considered worthless to long distance communications and through their success ushered in the age of global shortwave radio communications.

For the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the 1BCG accomplishment in 1996, AWA members Bob and Mike Raide constructed a replica of the 1921 transmitter. That replica 1BCG transmitter is now on display in the Museum. This replica transmitter was on the air for the 75<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the historic December 11, 1921 achievement.

For further details on the historic accomplishment in 1921 and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, please visit the AWA special event website at <http://www.1BCG.org/1BCG>.

#### **“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 “Basic Radio Repair 101 began Saturday, March 5th and has just concluded.



The next LIBIFI class will be “Tube Guitar Amplifiers” and will begin June 18, 2022. Registration is now open. Details about the course and the registration form will be posted very soon 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](https://www.ebay.com/usr/awa_surplus_sales) and [https://www.ebay.com/usr/awa\\_museum\\_store](https://www.ebay.com/usr/awa_museum_store).

## AWA PROJECT PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS AVAILABLE:

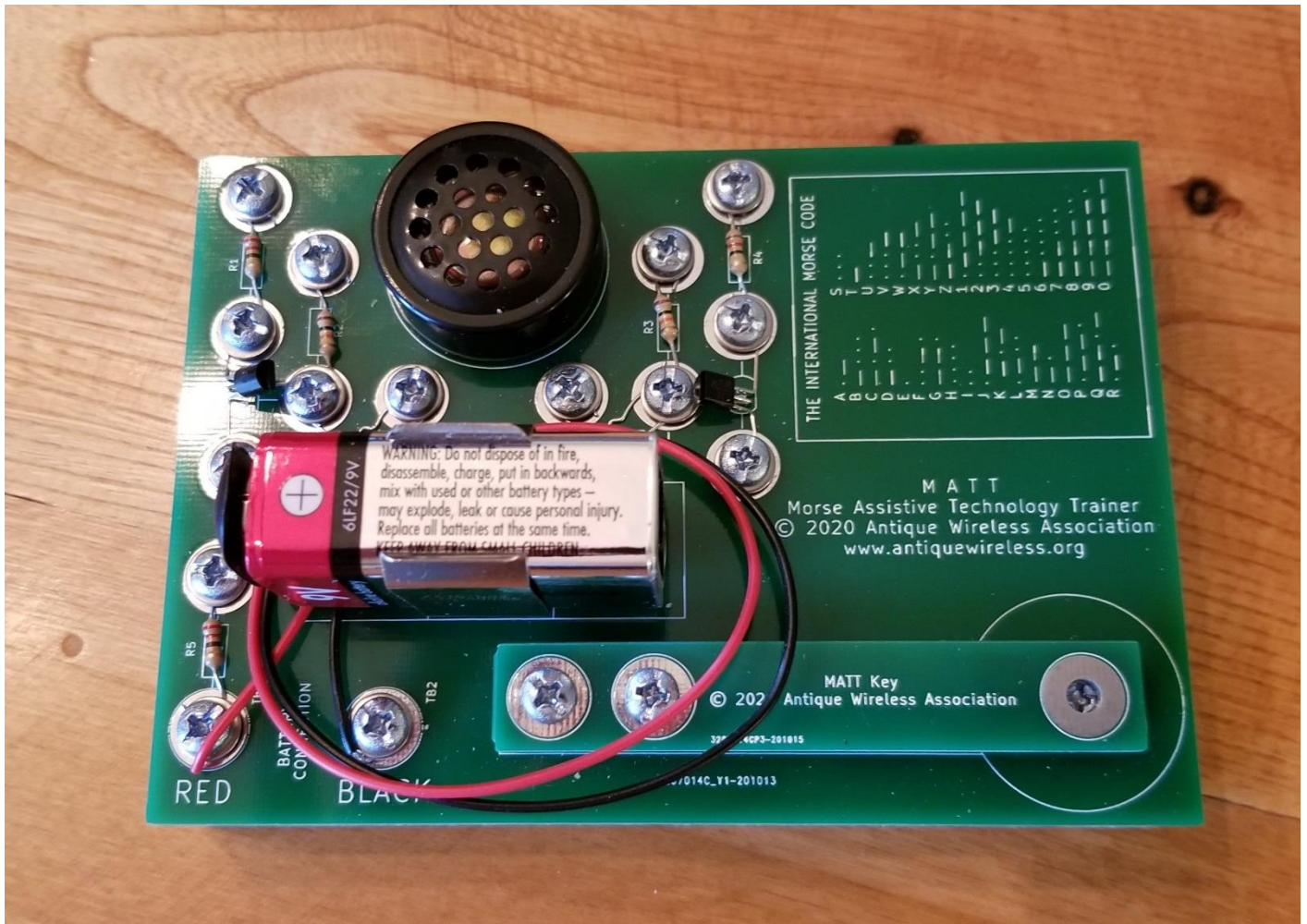
AWA Museum Technical Staff (AKA "The Skunk Works") has produced some very high quality Printed Circuit Boards ("PCBs") and the bare PCBs are for sale. These are bare PCBs only and no other components are included. They come with a suggested parts list to allow you to complete the project.

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](mailto: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](http://www.antiquewireless.org)

1BCG Site: [www.1BCG.org](http://www.1BCG.org)

AWA YouTube Channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX55peBhzeX1qps\\_VYXdLBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX55peBhzeX1qps_VYXdLBA)

AWA Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/antiquewirelessmuseum](http://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:**

- **Grant Writer: If you have experience in grant writing.**
- **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**

**585-314-7310**

**President@AntiqueWireless.org**