



ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

"MUSEUM SPARKS"

A QUARTERLY MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER OF THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS MUSEUM

MARCH 2021 VOLUME 5 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 for convenient referral.

Hi Everyone,

I hope this finds you all healthy. It is my hope that the vaccines will help us enjoy a much better 2021 although we will have to wait a few months for that to happen.

IMPACT OF COVID-19:

It seems that the rate of vaccinations is rising. That is great. My wife and I have had both of our shots and would encourage you to get your vaccinations if you have done so already.

The Museum has been receiving guests by appointment only. Those appointments are not just limited to Tuesdays or Saturdays. If you would like to visit the Museum, please call 585-257-5119 and leave a voicemail message with your name, telephone number, requested date of your visit, the number in your party and we will return your call. We ask that you give us at least a five day notice so we can arrange for volunteer staff to be at the Museum for your visit. You may also make a reservation on the AWA website at <https://antiquewireless.org/homepage/museum-visitation/>. Please come visit us. We miss you!!

ANNUAL AWA CONFERENCE:

The dates for the in-person 2021 AWA Annual Conference is scheduled for Tuesday October 5 through Saturday October 9 to allow for more time for COVID vaccinations to be administered throughout the population and to take effect. Please mark those dates in your calendar. The Conference planning has already begun by Joe Fell, Conference Chairman, and his team.

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. The class will be taught by Dave Minchella, KE2GE, a local expert in electronic design and repair. The current LIBIFI class series “Radio Repair 101” began April 10, 2021 to a sold out class of eight students. The class is based on tube radio repair using the famous “All America Five” super-hetrodyne radio design. The class size was limited in number due to the requirements for social distancing.

Registration information and signup for future LIBIFI class series will be posted on the AWA website, Facebook, Twitter, and Craig’s List (Rochester).

RADIO FAB LAB CLASSES:

Due to the restrictions on schools caused by COVID-19, students have had to make many adjustments in their studies and schedules. This has been a very difficult time for students. As a result, Museum has decided to postpone the 2021 Radio Fab Lab classes until summer or early fall.

WHAT IS NEW AT THE MUSEUM:

MUSEUM EXHIBITS:

Usually I am able to announce changes in the Museum, however, Museum projects and operations are temporarily limited due to the COVID pandemic. There are several changes at the Museum are on the drawing board, so stay tuned.

MUSEUM HAM SHACK ADDITION:

One of the items on the drawing board is an addition to the eastside of the Museum building to house a working amateur radio station or as amateur radio operators or “hams” call it, a ham shack. To date, we have received over 250 donations to the Ham Shack Development Fund totaling \$132,543 toward our goal of \$165,000 (83% of goal).

In an effort to complete our goal, two anonymous donors have pledged \$18,000 as a one-for-one matching offer. That is right! For each dollar you donate or pledge in 2021 they will match your donation dollar for dollar. What a fabulous offer and what a generous way to push us to our goal.

Now is the perfect time for us all to make the ham shack a reality. Please join me in making a 2021 donation and watch our donations double toward our goal.

To make your donation double, please send your donation or your 2021 pledge to AWA, Attn: Robert Hobday, PO Box 421, Bloomfield, NY 14469 or you may make a donation online at <https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/donate-on-line/>. Thanks.

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.

LET'S GROW AWA MEMBERSHIPS:

Let's Grow AWA Together! And, Have Some Fun!

If You Believe in AWA... Accept the Challenge!

The challenge is to help introduce 200 new members to AWA.

- 🎁 Thoughtful gift for a friend, that's heard about AWA from you.
- 🎁 Encouraging gift for your friend to share the fun, fellowship and learning offered by AWA.
- 🎁 A fun gift to spark their interest in communication history.
- 🎁 A meaningful gift for a young person to spark their interest in electronics and technology.

If you believe in AWA.....Give a gift...or two...or more! As a current AWA member, you may purchase as many gift memberships as you like. Gift recipients must not have held AWA membership during the past three years. Gift rates are good for their first year of membership only. Offer expires December 31, 2021.

You may choose from two different types of gifts, both good for the new member's first year of membership (you may order as many of each type as you would like):

- 🎁 \$30 – new member receives four quarterly AWA Journals and one annual AWA Review mailed to their home
- 🎁 \$20 – new member has read only, on-line access to the four quarterly AWA Journals and annual AWA Review

Please enter my order for _____ gifts at \$30 each and for _____ gifts at \$20 each. My check or payment information for a total of \$_____ is enclosed

To order: You may order online at <https://antiquewireless.org/homepage/gift-memberships/> or you can email this form when complete to Dean@AntiqueWireless.org. AWA accepts PayPal at WM3D@ARRL.net. For mail-in orders, please complete this form, enclose your check or credit card information and send to: AWA Gift Memberships, PO Box 421, Bloomfield, New York 14469.

Be sure to include your name and address. AWA will send a gift card, welcoming letter and new member information to each gift recipient. Questions? Email Dean@AntiqueWireless.org

YOUR Name: _____

YOUR Address: _____

YOUR Phone Number: _____

YOUR Email: _____

Payment by:

_____ PayPal to WM3D@ARRL.net

_____ Check enclosed payable to Antique Wireless Association

_____ Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

RECIPIENTS Name: _____

RECIPIENTS Address: _____

RECIPIENTS Phone Number (if known): _____

RECIPIENTS Email Address (if known): _____

Type of Gift Membership: \$30 _____ or \$20 _____ to be applied to a one-year membership for this recipient.

Please list additional recipient's gifts on a separate sheet. THANK YOU!

AWA PROJECT PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS AVAILABLE:

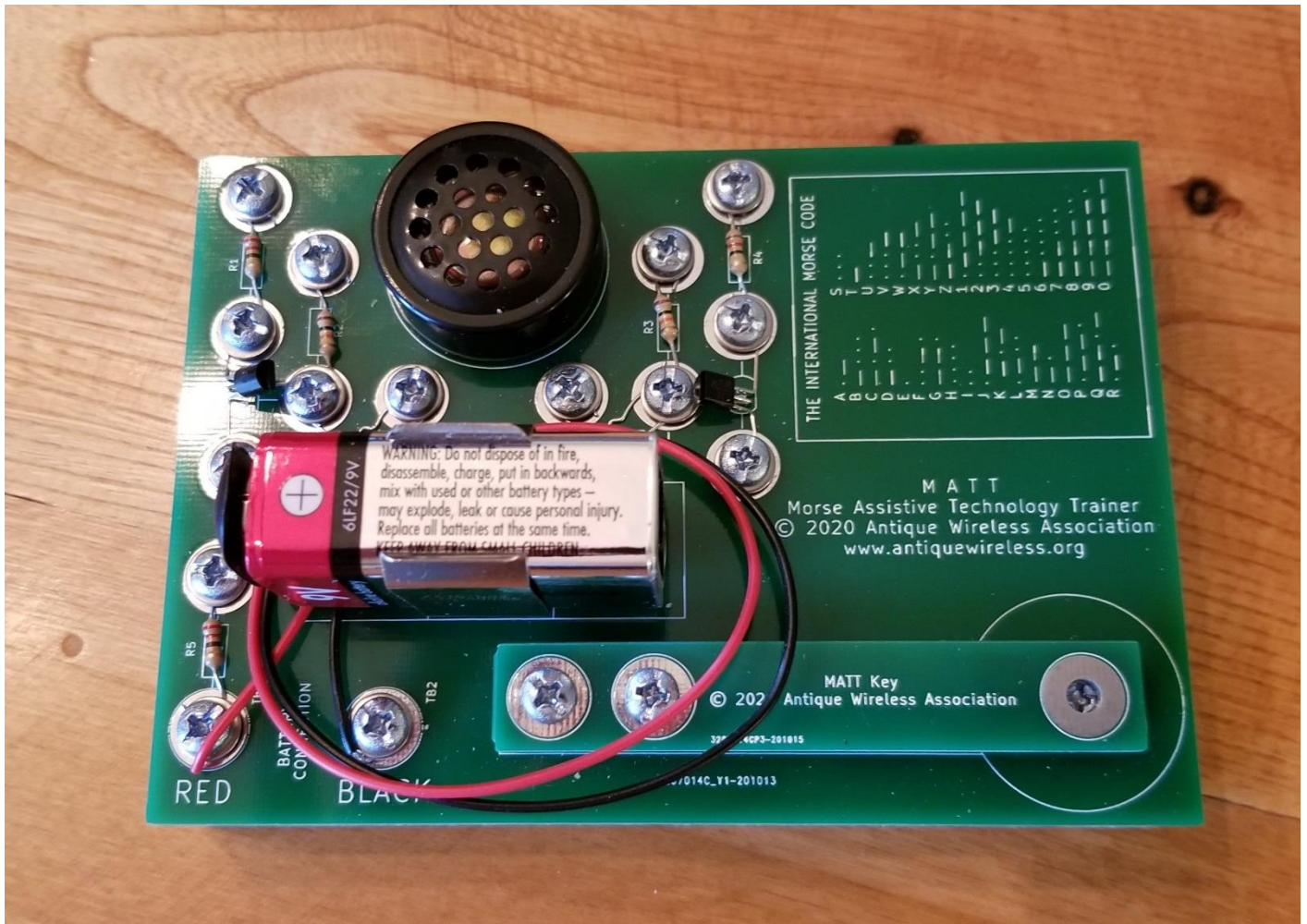
AWA Museum Technical Staff ("AKA The Skunk Works") has produced some very high quality Printed Circuit Boards ("PCBs") and the bare PCBs are for sale. These are bare PCBs only and no other components are included. They come with a suggested parts list to allow you to complete the project.

These 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

In addition to the five PCBs available, 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 gift for a youngster 8 to 14. It is available for \$16 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, Deputy Director, at Mark@AntiqueWireless.org. You can also register on line at <https://groups.io/g/Wireless-History>.

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 Mark Erdle and Criss Onan.

AWA Twitter handle is @antiquewireless

AWA Instagram name is @antiquewirelessmuseum

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.

Specifically, we looking for a volunteer to do grant writing. If you have experience in grant writing and 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 and very rewarding.

UNTIL NEXT TIME:

Everyone please be careful and stay well. But, this too will pass. And, it will pass more quickly if we all adhere to the medical recommendations. Keep safe my friends.

Bob Hobday

Director

585-314-7310

Director@AntiqueWireless.org