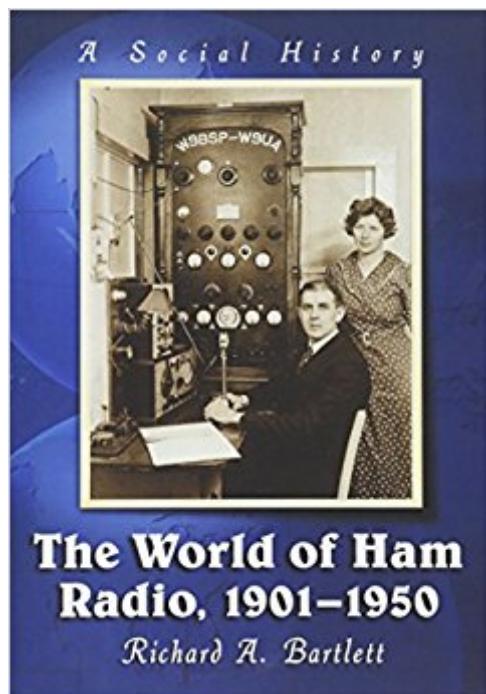


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# The World Of Ham Radio 1901-1950: A Social History



## **Synopsis**

During the first fifty years of the twentieth century, ham radio went from being an experiment to virtually an art form. Because of the few government restrictions and the low monetary investment required, the concept of ham radio appealed to various people. More than just a simple hobby, however, ham radio required its operators to understand radio theory, be able to trace a schematic and know how to build a transmitter and receiver with whatever material they might have available. With the advent of World War II and the increased need for cutting-edge communications, the United States government drew upon the knowledge and skill of these amateur ham radio operators. This book explores the history of ham radio operators, emphasizing their social history and their many contributions to the technological development of worldwide communications. It traces the concept of relays, including the American Radio Relay League, from contacts as close as 25 miles apart to operators anywhere in the world. The book highlights the part played by ham radio in many of the headline events of the half century, especially exploration and aviation "firsts". The ways in which these primarily amateur operators assisted in times of disaster including such events as the sinking of the Titanic and the 1937 Ohio River flood, are also examined.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Wonderful book...a welcome and long-overdue addition." --Communication Booknotes Quarterly

Richard A. Bartlett, a Florida State University professor emeritus, lives in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Enjoyed the first few chapters, but quickly got bored with one polar exploration story after another. Also, anticipated more depth and detail covering WWII.

An excellent book on the early history of ham radio. Not technical, but covers the transition from spark to CW, phone and newer modes. Interesting history of all the major expeditions to the polar regions using ham radio, its importance during natural disasters, and World Wars. Details the efforts of the ARRL to form a united effort to establish coast-to-coast relays, and effectively represent amateur interests in government and international regulations. The various military branches' radio schools during WWII, their training methods, and programs was particularly interesting. Highly recommended.

What a wonderful and detailed story about the beginnings of Amateur Radio as we know it today! Somewhat slow in parts when the author goes into great detail about the "early days", but it is a thorough, enjoyable and well-referenced text about my lifelong hobby, Amateur Radio.73,BillW3MSH

Just got my ham license Nov 7/0216 after countless hours of study..fascinating "read" it is history written as adventure, saving lives is what it is all about...over and over for the last 100 years

Nicely done! The only thing that was a bit off-putting was that many of the images from the book are not available in the Kindle version due to copyright... not the author's fault, of course... A social history, yes, but readers without a ham background may have trouble following along in places. Overall, this is a great effort by Bartlett!

Good read! Good history! Gives a good historical perspective for ham operators, especially newbies.

Thus far I am still reading this book but I have found it very well written and just full of great history. To my amazement the author is the brother of Bart Bartlett who was a neighbor and good friend who helped me many times when I was a teenager and just getting into Ham Radio. I use to listen to Bart's code practice transmissions from Belmont, CA to get my code speed up which was a great benefit to me when I became a Radioman in the U S Navy.

Excellent Book.

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