

**Report to the ARRL Board of Directors
International Affairs Vice President
January 2018**

Thank you for the privilege of serving as ARRL IAVP. It is my pleasure to report to the ARRL Board and detail my activities on behalf of ARRL since the July 2017 board meeting. If you have a question regarding anything in my report or my activities as ARRL IAVP, please email or telephone me at your convenience

Summary of meetings and conventions attended

IARU Region 2 Executive Meeting - Guayaquil, Ecuador September 2 & 3
ARRL Executive Committee meeting – Windsor, CT October 14,
ARRL Administration and Finance Meeting – Windsor CT November 11

ARRL COMMITTEES

Executive Committee -- I participated in the Fall Executive Committee Meeting and provided the EC with an update on my IARU activities and the proposals of the Travel Expense Group.

Administration & Finance Committee -- Vice Director Morine was unable to attend the meeting in person due to a prior conflict so I was asked to attend in his stead and address any questions regarding the suggestions of the Travel Expense Working Group.

OTHER ARRL DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES

At the request of President Roderick, I assisted General Counsel Imlay in the preparation and review of presumably non-controversial and clarifying changes to the Articles of Association for consideration by the Board.

IARU REGION 2 ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF ARRL

Traditionally the IAVP has been the Area B (ARRL) representative on the IARU Region 2 Executive Committee. Though ARRL is the largest member society in Region 2, it is but one of 9 members of the Executive Committee and has a single vote. An understanding of the diverse cultures and circumstances of the member societies in the region, as well as, the ability to develop relationships and build on common interests is necessary to effectively represent ARRL in Region 2 meetings and activities.

IARU Region 2 Treasurer

ARRL dues are a significant source of funding for Region 2 activities. Last year at the Region 2 General Assembly in Chile, I was elected Region 2 Treasurer. As Treasurer I am responsible for all financial matters from the mundane such as collecting dues and disbursing funds to preparing the Budget and proposing policy changes. In the past we encountered significant delays in day to day financial operations due to US Banking policies. At the R2 EC meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador last September, I proposed and secured approval to establish a US based operating arm of Region 2. We have now formed the operations entity and have already seen significant improvements in day to day financial transactions.

The Region 2 EC appointed me Chair of a subcommittee responsible for evaluating the current Revenue and Expenses policies and practices in the Region. The subcommittee was also charged with revising the

rules to provide for a more effective expenditure of the Region 2 Defense and Promotion of Amateur Radio Funds. I will be providing subcommittee progress reports at the next quarterly R2 EC Skype meeting later in January. CITEL, the Regional Telecommunications Organization (RTO) in Region 2 and CTU, the Caribbean Telecommunications Union are working to enhance the ability of local administrations to improve the communications response to disasters such as Hurricane Maria. Region 2 EMCOM is looking at improved WINLINK capabilities as a possible tool. AS the ARRL Team found in Puerto Rico, special skills are necessary to deal with island disasters. Unlike a disaster on the mainland aid can't simply be trucked to the site. I expect the subcommittee will propose that Region 2 allocate funds for one or more locally sited Emergency Communications Workshops geared to the unique needs of the Caribbean Islands. Assuming there is support for this effort, I would hope ARRL would support this effort with presenters who have experience in the special problems encountered in Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. I would expect that travel and accommodation expenses of presenters would be covered by R2 **PARF**. The challenges are significant; the availability of staff, language, traditions, travel and logistics questions, come to mind, but this could be a worthwhile effort.

OTHER Joint Efforts with ARRL

ARRL together with Region 2 has presented two recent Amateur Radio Administration Courses (ARAC). ARAC's are intended to inform Telecommunications Administrators in Region 2 countries about international amateur radio regulations and best practices to employ cooperative and effective regulations within their respective countries. Jon Siverling, WB3TRA and Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK have been the primary instructors at these courses. The courses have been well received and we have already seen positive results for local and visiting amateurs, particularly in Central America. The Region 2 EC would like to continue the offer the courses more often and in locations convenient for area Telecommunication Administrators. I would encourage Board support of this activity.

IARU REGION 2 ACTIVITIES IN PREPARATION FOR WRC19

In coordination with IARU, Region 2 has appointed Flavio Archangelo, PY2ZX as the IARU Region 2 CITEL Coordinator. CITEL is the Regional Telecommunications Organization (RTO) in Region 2. Regions 1 and 3 have similar RTO's. In the current ITU process, the Regional Telecommunication Organizations are viewed as representing the majority or consensus views in their respective regions. As a result, it is extremely important that we effectively and persuasively present consistent positions on issues affecting amateur radio at CITEL and the various preliminary meetings (PCC, WG, SG) where the CITEL positions are discussed and formed. Frequently PY2ZX and ARRL's Technical Specialist, Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, will attend CITEL and preparatory meetings. They work cooperatively to represent amateur radio interests. Jon brings his considerable skills and the technical resources of ARRL to the table, while Flavio compliments that work by showing a cooperative and consistent position of the amateur radio interests throughout Region 2. This coordinated approach is part of a plan called for in the IARU Matrix where the appropriate subject matter experts participate in preparatory meetings and ultimately WRC19 to represent amateur radio interests.

Current IARU Issues in CITEL The primary issues currently of interest to amateur radio in CITEL are:

1. Protecting current allocations.
2. Simplifying the Administrative Process for frequency coordination in the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Service.
3. The Revision of the IARP, the International Amateur Radio Permit. (NOTE: CITEL has already taken major steps to make travel reciprocity a reality with Region 1)
4. Generating support in CITEL and constituent administrations for IARU WRC-19 initiatives.

Foreign Members

No recent IAVP report would be complete without mentioning our foreign members. Today the strong US dollar makes it even more expensive for many of our foreign members to maintain ARRL membership. Despite the additional expense and the lack of any voice in ARRL governance, 9,094 foreign members (5.72% of our membership) still find great value in ARRL and ARRL membership. We need to value their commitment and recognize the wisdom of listening to them just as we listen to division members.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Bellows, KØQB
International Affairs Vice President