

Greetings.

The new year started out, as always, with a day at Ham Radio University. The key-note speaker was none other than Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, ARRL C.E.O. While starting out on that high-note, unfortunately the year continued on a wintery note with visits to clubs in the Hudson Division curtailed and/or cancelled due to weather. Our first club visit did not occur until the last weekend in February !

Over the course of the year, Vice-Director Bill Hudzik W2UDT and I made visits to over 30 club meetings and hamfests, often splitting a day to cover more ground. Field Day this year was once again an example of that, as we each clocked over a couple of hundred miles over the event.

We held a Division leadership meeting using Go-To-Webinar, the first webinar the Division has held. It was a great success as we were able to hold a meeting without fear of weather cancellation. (I write this as a full blizzard expecting to leave us over a foot of snow is raging outside my door.)

In the late summer, Tom Gallagher NY2RF joined me as we attended The World Maker Faire at the Hall of Science in Queens, N.Y. The event, which had a large Amateur radio presence, was attended by well over 100,000 do-it-yourselfers and makers. What is so exciting is that the attendance is mostly of people younger than 30 – youngsters and millennials, the future of radio science! ARRL was there providing code/oscillator kits and literature for the event, which was jointly hosted by the Hall of Science ARC and The Garden School.

In October, Tom and I were the guest speakers at a joint meeting of the clubs in Troy, Schenectady, Saratoga, and Albany. The Troy ARA provided us with the use of their space, and over 100 members from the northern tier attended the meeting.

Once again I participated in the premier NLI event of the year: Op-Santa. Over 5,000 special needs kids come to the party which is held at JFK Airport. They get gift bags, lunch, and a special visit from Santa who taxis into a hangar, disembarks and travels through the crowd to say hello to his admirers. New York City ARES has provided the communications for this event for 20 years. Once again, this year it was ably coordinated by David “Lefty” Lefkowitz, KB2KAB, and Staten Island ARES.

Bill continues as a volunteer Letter Manager for the NJDXA 2 Land QSL Bureau (28 years) and serves as a member of both the Board’s Historical Committee and the HF Band Plan Committee.

We are starting off the new year with 2 nights of webinars for our cabinet members. I am scheduled to be the keynote speaker for Ham Radio University (HRU), the NLI Section Convention on January 6, 2018. Bill will once again be taking part as a forum instructor.

In closing let me say that Bill Hudzik and I are both proud to serve you, the members of the ARRL Hudson Division. It is our privilege, and we thank you.

Mike Lisenco, N2YBB
Director, Hudson Division

Bill Hudzik, W2UDT
Vice-Director, Hudson Division