

Midwest Division Director's Report
The American Radio Relay League
2013 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors – January, 2013

During the past year, Vice Director Rod Blocksome KØDAS and I attended and spoke at several ARRL conventions. We both attended the Nebraska State Convention in Lincoln in March, with Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer WJ1B. Rod and I gave presentations at the Kansas State Convention in Salina in August with Chuck Skolaut, KØBOG, ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent and 2nd Vice President Bruce Frahm KØBJ. In November, I led the ARRL Forum at the Iowa Section Convention in Davenport with Larry Wolfgang WR1B, QEX Editor. Rod was Program Chairman for the Central States VHF Society Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in July. At the invitation of Rocky Mountain Director Brian Milesosky N5ZGT, Rod attended the New Mexico State Convention in August and made two presentations and was the keynote banquet speaker on "The Search for Amelia Earhart's Airplane." In October, Rod attended the ARRL National Convention in Santa Clara, CA, and gave a presentation on "Collins Radio and the B-29 Superfortress."

I participated with Chris Imlay W3KD and Dan Henderson N1ND in a Webinar for Volunteer Counsel in March. Rod, his wife Elizabeth, and I helped with the ARRL Expo at the Dayton Hamvention. I spoke at the Hamvention Amateur Radio and the Law forum about the ARRL Volunteer Counsel program and the Amateur Radio Legal Defense and Assistance Fund guidelines.

Rod traveled to the Perry, IA Hamfest in February, and the Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association hamfest in April. I did ARRL forums and presentations at the Ararat Shrine Hambash in Kansas City in April, the Joplin, MO and Cedar Rapids, IA hamfests in August, and attended the St. Louis Halloween Hamfest in October. I also presented programs at the Mississippi Valley DX / Contest Club in St. Louis in June and the St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club in October. Rod also gave programs at the Washington, IA ARC, Muscatine, IA ARC, Cedar Valley ARC and Collins ARC.

Rod has served on the ARRL's National Broadband Committee, Microwave Band Plan Committee, and Historical Committee. I have served on the Executive Committee and attended that committee's meetings in St. Louis in March and Denver in September, and helped review and edit various filings with the FCC. I am also Chairman of the Amateur Radio Legal Defense and Assistance Committee.

Rod wrote a short article on the project to restore the radio position on FIFI (the only flying B-29) back to operational status. The article was titled "Collins Radio and the B-29 Superfortress" and was published in August 2012 QST.

Rod and I continue to publish a monthly Midwest Division Newsletter, which is posted on the Midwest Division's website at <http://www.arrlmidwest.org/>.

During the last year, we were pleased to welcome the following new ARRL Affiliated Clubs in the Midwest Division:

- Grandview Radio Operators of Grandview, Missouri
- Northwest Amateur Radio & Electronics Association, of Bridgeton, Missouri (Affiliated status reactivated)
- Denison Repeater Association of Denison, Iowa
- Kansas City Contest Club, of Stilwell, Kansas
- Kansas Antenna Club in Johnson County of Overland Park, Kansas

ARRL memberships in the Midwest Division increased by 1.6% from December, 2011 to December 2012. All four states in the Division showed an increase. Missouri led the way with 2.2%, followed by Nebraska with 1.7%, Iowa with 1.0%, and Kansas with 0.8%.

Respectfully submitted,

Cliff Ahrens, KØCA

Midwest Division Director

and

Rod Blocksome KØDAS

Midwest Division Vice Director

January, 2013