**Central Division Report 2nd ARRL Board Meeting - 2017 20 July 2017**

Carl and I are honored to serve as the Vice Director and Director for the Central Division ARRL Membership. As noted at the January 2017 Board meeting we are proud of the Milwaukee Radio Amateur’s Club effort to celebrate their 100th year as an ARRL Affiliated Club. The result of research done by Headquarters over 30 years ago indicated that the MRAC was in the first group of clubs affiliated with the ARRL and was found to be the only club remaining from that first group of affiliations. We also note that this year the Riverland Amateur Radio Club of Onalaska, WI is celebrating 45 years of continuous ARRL Affiliation. Two actions of ARRL Special Service Clubs were recorded in the first half of 2017 with the renewal the DuPage ARC's Special Service Club (Claredon Hills, IL) affiliation and the new approval of the Bloomington Amateur Radio Club, (Bloomington, Indiana) as an ARRL Special Service Club.

We are also pleased to report the new affiliations of both the SUFARS - Suburban UHF Amateur Repeater Society, (Schaumburg, IL) and the Rend Lake College Amateur Radio Club (Ina, IL) as new ARRL Affiliated Amateur Radio Clubs.

After decades of service to the ARRL as the Central Division representative the Contest Advisory Committee, Mr. Greg Clark, K9IG (Franklin, IN), resigned from that Committee. We are grateful for the long service to the League represented by Mr. Clark’s tenure. Mr. Craig Thompson, K9CT (Tivoli, IL) has accepted the position as the new Central Division representative to the CAC.

Vice Director Carl Luetzelschwab attended the ISS / ARISS School Contact at Blair Point Elementary School in Peru Indiana on March 9th. The contact was held in the Peru High School auditorium, but it did not involve any of the high school students. The auditorium was used it was large enough to hold the approximately 650 third through sixth grade students from Blair Pointe Elementary School.. Carl reported that the amateur radio contact and arrangements performed flawlessly.

Director Carlson worked with the Chicago Chapter of the IEEE-EMC Society to hold a special April Meeting Workshop entitled “Man-Made Noise and the Impact to Radio Communications – The Changing Environment”. All Central Division amateur radio operators were invited to attend. The special speakers for the event were Greg Lapin (N9GL) the Co-chair of the Spectrum and Receiver Performance Working Group of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Technological Advisory Council and Ed Hare (W1RFI) IEEE Vice-President of Standards and American Radio Relay League Laboratory Manager. They presented ongoing work to characterize the modern environment of man-made radio noise; describe the impact to radio communications; and they explained the ongoing work with regulatory agencies and industry groups such as the IEEE and ANSI to help prevent harmful interference to licensed users of the radio frequency spectrum. The event was attend by over 225 local amateur radio operators. At the conclusion of the Workshop meeting, a group donation was made to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund in the amount of $756.

The Central Division was pleased to approve the sanctioning of 24 events as ARRL Hamfests in the first half of 2017. Both Carl K9LA and Kermit W9XA represented the ARRL at twelve Hamfests and Club meetings in the first half of the year.

7 January West Allis ARC Swapfest Waukesha, WI

22 January Wheaton Community Radio Amateur Hamfest St. Charles, IL

17 February Tri-Town Amateur Radio Club Hazel Crest, IL

5 March Sterling Rock Falls ARS Sterling, IL

30 March Milwaukee Radio Amatuer's Club Milwaukee, WI

11 April North Shore Radio Club meeting Highland Park, IL

19 April IEEE-EMC Society Chicago - Amateur Radio Noise Fermilab, IL

7 May The DeKalb Hamfest Sandwich, IL

13 June West Allis Amateur Radio Club meeting West Allis, WI

18 June Six Meter Club of Chicago Hamfest Wheaton, IL

8 July Indianapolis Hamfest Indianapolis, IL

9 July Fox River Radio League Hamfest Aurora, IL

Director Carlson is honored to serve on several ARRL Board Committees. He attended the March 24th Administration and Finance Committee Meeting and the March 25th Executive Committee Meeting held in Denver, CO. Also, he has attended 11 teleconferences in support of the following Committees;

ARRL Administration and Finance Committee

ARRL-EMC Committee (Chairman)

ARRL Ethics and Election Committee

(ad-hoc) Education Sub-Committee - ARISS

(ad-hoc) ARRL PSC/VHF Contest Revitalization Committee

The Central Division will again host the W9DXCC Specialty Operating Convention in Schaumburg, Illinois on Friday and Saturday September 15-16. The 65th W9DXCC Convention is proud to announce that ARRL President Mr. Rick Roderick K5UR will be the Keynote Speaker. We hope that you will consider attending the W9DXCC Convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kermit A Carlson, W9XA

ARRL Central Division Director

Carl Lutzelschwab, K9LA

ARRL Central Division Vice Director