

Hudson Division Report to the ARRL Board of Directors
A look back at 2014, a look forward to 2015

2014

2014 was a magnificent year. The ARRL Centennial Celebration was truly a multi-tiered event that was enjoyed throughout the year. January 1st began with an explosion of sound on the air as we started the year with the Centennial QSO Party, including the W100AW and W1AW portable operations. That melody continued throughout the year, culminating in an unbelievable “Red Badges Day” with literally thousands of QSOs on December 31st.

The Centennial Convention which took place in Hartford in July, along with the Regional events, saw the participation of thousands of members throughout the United States. And the July event was truly international in scope as we saw visitors from around the world join us in our celebration.

Throughout the weekend, every forum saw capacity crowds. The Centennial Banquet had over 900 guests. The Wouff Hong event was the largest such event ever held, with around 600 participants pre-registered. The signing of a new Memorandum of Agreement with FEMA, and the stirring key-note speech by Craig Fugate KK4INZ, FEMA Administrator, signaled a new and stronger relationship between our organizations.

The new, activist approach to have PRB-1 protection extended to those who live in deed-restricted communities took a remarkable turn when, with the concerted and dedicated efforts of so many members – from the Board through the rank and file – began to see results first with the introduction of HR-4969, then with the visits to Congressional representatives and their staffs in Washington, through the in-District visits to local offices, through the letter writing/email campaigns. Thousands of constituent letters were hand delivered, which sent a very loud message. Working in concert, these efforts allowed us to get nearly 70 co-sponsors of the bill in a matter of weeks. Unfortunately, the session ended as we fully hit our stride. However, bolstered by our successes, the quest begins anew in the new, 114th Congress. I am proud of the work done by those who participated in this quest and honored to have worked with them. I look forward to the challenge of the New Year.

Here are some highlights from 2014 and goals for 2015.

- ❖ Keynote Speaker at Ham Radio University, NLI Section convention.
- ❖ Began second year as Director.
 - Elected to Executive Committee.
- ❖ Continued participation on ARRL Centennial Steering Committee.
 - Attended monthly meetings at ARRL HQ.
 - Participated in the ARRL Centennial Celebration.
 - Master of Ceremonies for Banquet
 - “The Novice” in the Wouff Hong ceremony
 - Helped obtain 5,000 letters of support for HR-4969
 - Awarded ARRL Centennial Celebration Medal of Honor.

- ❖ Saw grass-roots pilot program become full blown ARRL Legislative policy.
 - Made numerous trips to Washington, D.C. to obtain support for HR-4969
 - Spent many days in D.C. meeting with Representatives and their staffs seeking support.
 - Met with Congressional representatives in the Hudson Division.
 - Travelled locally throughout the Division obtaining support and co-sponsors.
 - Responsible for obtaining 28% of all co-sponsors on HR-4969
- ❖ Participated as member of the HF Band Planning Committee.
- ❖ Continued Hudson Division Cabinet meetings in each Section.
 - Less travel for members.
 - More participation per meeting.
- ❖ Continued rotation of the Annual Hudson Division Awards.
 - Rotated venue to NLI Section, first time hosted there in 10 years.
 - Raise over \$4,500 for ARRL legislative issues advocacy.
- ❖ Travelled nearly 7,000 miles attending meetings and hamfests throughout the Hudson Division.
 - 300 miles alone on Field Day.

2015

- ❖ Continue participation in ARRL Legislative strategy.
 - Visit Congressional and Senate offices in order to obtain support for resubmitted Congressional Bill and newly submitted Senate Bill.
 - Continue efforts within the Division for updated Bills.
- ❖ Seek Board support for a Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund.
 - Start new fund to raise monies for issues advocacy.
 - Raise funds.
 - Offset some costs associated with the ARRL national legislative advocacy effort.
- ❖ Continue efforts within Division to increase ARRL membership.
- ❖ Hold general membership meeting for Hudson Division.
 - First time ever in Division.
 - Webinar format.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Lisenco, N2YBB
Director, Hudson Division