

## ARRL Ad-Hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century Report to the Board – January 18, 2013

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**Committee Charge:** Given that: (a) it is essential to enhance the League's outreach to potential Amateurs among America's youth; (b) the League's centennial in 2014 will highlight not only the accomplishments of the past but also point towards Amateur Radio's future; and (c) meaningful plans to excite young Americans about Amateur Radio today and in the future must take into account the ideas, lifestyles, and experiences of youthful Amateur Radio operators; this committee has been tasked to seek input from youth and also from adult Amateurs working with young people, and to furthermore make recommendations to the Staff and the Board of Directors on such topics.

**Members of the Committee:** Emily Bishop WE4MB, Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ, Sterling Coffey N0SSC, Nathaniel Frissell W2NAF, Andrea Hartlage KG4IUM, Joel Monza KC2SNL, and Brian Milesosky N5ZGT (Committee Chairman and ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director)

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The ARRL ad hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century, established in accordance with Minute 31 of the July 2011 Board of Directors meeting, continues to be quite active after several rounds of email correspondence and teleconferences over the past six months, thanks to our engaged young members who bring with them unique perspective, experience, as well as excitement and concern for the future of amateur radio.

Since its last report to the Board, the ad hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century has focused most of its time towards the position of Assistant Section Manager for Youth (or Scouting, or other variants) that many ARRL sections have appointed. This specific position is not an *official* station-level or section-level appointment, however many Section Managers have found good reason to create it. Our committee spent considerable time engaging ARRL's Section Managers to learn who holds this position within their field organization (if at all), what their appointees do in that role, and how much interaction there is between their appointee and his/her Section Manager or other field organization appointees. Over 50 Section Managers responded to our Committee's inquiry with their valuable feedback, for which we are appreciative. We learned that not all Sections had such positions filled and, of those sections that did employ such a position, roles and responsibilities were inconsistent from section to section and, in some cases, loosely defined.

With feedback from Section Managers in hand, the Committee -- also drawing from its own experience engaging youth and being involved in amateur radio as youth -- has begun drafting a suggested comprehensive set of roles and responsibilities for the position of Assistant Section Manager for Youth (or variants thereof) including ways the person appointed to such a position could maximize his or her effectiveness in that capacity. We intend to brief our findings to the Section Manager community for additional feedback. The outcome of our research could serve in a number of ways including (a) offering existing appointees with additional ideas and resources, (b) helping promote this particular role to Section Managers who currently do not have it filled but

may be interested in doing so, and/or (c) exploring the idea of a potential *official* station-level or section-level appointment along these lines.

The Committee also spent time revisiting certain topics previously discussed. Our objective is to provide a set of recommendations stemming from all discussions to date in our July 2013 report to the Board.

The ad-hoc Committee on Youth in the Second Century is grateful for the opportunity provided by ARRL's Board to work on such a crucial topic as youth and amateur radio, especially as the League prepares to embark on its second successful century.

Respectfully submitted,

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