

# Historical Committee Report

Document #18

January 2017 (Rev. A)

Significant ARRL historical preservation and display work continue at ARRL Headquarter under the leadership of Bob Allison, WB1GCM and Michael Marinaro, WN1M and several additional dedicated volunteers. The historical committee is consulted and kept informed of their work via email and occasional visits to ARRL HQ. The following detailed report of their volunteer activities was prepared by Michael Marinaro, WN1M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rod Blocksom, K0DAS, Chair  
Tom Frenaye, K1KI  
Dick Norton, N6AA  
Bob Allison, WB1GCM, Staff Liaison  
Michael Marinaro, WN1M



HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTATION #4-"THE FIRST ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION"-DELEGATES BADGE

## HISTORICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES AT HEADQUARTERS

### YEAR OF 2016

The period is marked by the inauguration of the Heritage Museum; several document discoveries and the completion of the initial phase of two projects.

#### DISCOVERIES

- Register of the *first* members of the ARRL initially maintained by Secretary Clarence D. Tuska. Loose bound school notebook with individual type written pages in alphabetical order by last name. Calls and names with membership numbers listed. Also found separately, in correspondence files - the original letter of conveyance by Tuska (at Atwater Kent) to K.B. Warner and copy of K.B. Warner response letter. Item is under study with initial effort to establish the correlation of entries with the listings in the first edition of *The List of Stations* of 1914.
- First edition, signed copy of Clinton D. DeSoto book-*Two Hundred Meters and Down*.
- Ledger maintained by K.B. Warner containing *Original ARRL Constitution* of 2/28/1917 ; revisions and amendments to 12/18/1923 and printed pamphlets of the *Constitution and By Laws* through 7/1/1954.
- Six envelopes of records of the QST Publishing Company.

#### ON GOING ACTIVITIES

- Document Archive maintenance (Phase I)–*Word* and *Access* programs.
  - Secretary Minutes -8 file drawers
  - *Word* programmed- 140 file drawers
- Executive Correspondence and Report Archive (Phase II) maintenance.
  - *Access* programmed -140 archival boxes, 1500 line entries, 12 fireproof file drawers and a safe. Program is in accumulation phase.
- Media-slide, video and film collection supplementation.
- Vintage Technical Library maintenance –shelving 700 *Excel* recorded volumes..
- Exhibitions and displays.
  - Lobby-vintage equipment displays. Currently the seventh consecutive display features the first Heathkit Amateur products-the AT-1 transmitter and AR-2 receiver kits.
  - Laboratory area-portion of equipment collection and period operating station setups arranged for viewing.
  - CEO Conference Room curated- Unique items of historical significance displayed and artifact safe stored (Maxim log books; Maxim key; Constitution and amendments; and various documents). Periodic updating intended.

- Museum Equipment Collection securely stored. 400 individual items have been recorded in an *Excel* database. Donations are accepted and included or auctioned.

### NEW AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- Initial postings to the new Heritage Museum section on the ARRL web site have been made with five narrative articles presented. Additional postings are in process and the format for the presentation of unique collection equipment is being evolved. The team members are learning the methods and process for posting.
- Resumption of identification and cataloging of the 35mm slide collection. The collection will be centralized on a separate hard drive with those currently on a external systems.
- Identification and approval of disposal of surplus telegraph equipment from the equipment collection is underway.
- Planning for the modernization of the Laboratory display area is underway with bids requested for lighting, shelving and glass replacement.
- Guidance is sought regarding the disposition of the considerable accumulation of ITU and IARU material which has not been cataloged as yet. Centralized but not organized.
- Preparation of a master directory of the archival, library and vintage equipment data bases maintained by the Archivist and Laboratory staff is in process. The intent is to have these programs accessible to all staff.

### The Team

- Operating Event Support. In various capacities team members participated in the planning and execution of the 1BCG Transatlantic reenactment. The Historian has been tasked to research and present the basis for other similar historically commemorative events.



The Historical Committee team at Headquarters presently consists of four principals – Bob Allison, WB1BCM Assistant Laboratory Manager who is liaison to the Committee; Michael Marinaro, WN1M volunteer acting as Historian, Archivist and Curator and a member of the Committee ; Jonathan Allen, K2KKH/1 volunteer acting as custodian of the Museum equipment and Archivist; and Pete Turbide, W1PT volunteer technical restorer and maintainer of the Museum and donated equipment. There are other occasional participants.

Organizationally Allison and Marinaro inform the CEO and Committee chairperson of their activities and interact directly with department managers to accomplish the prescribed objectives of the team on behalf of the Committee. The team aggressively pursues recruits as succession, continuance and knowledge of the activities is of concern.

Michael Marinaro  
Bob Allison  
12/27/2016

Rev A - Additional news of historical importance just arrived.

Tom Gallagher just received a treasure-trove of high definition scans from David Littleton, the grandson of Paul Godley, 2ZE of transatlantic fame. The scans include copies of Godley's logbooks compiled while in Scotland waiting for the transatlantic signals in December 1921.

Tom was able to inspect the logs in their original, but obviously not retain them. We would like the original at some point, but meanwhile the scans make good working copies.