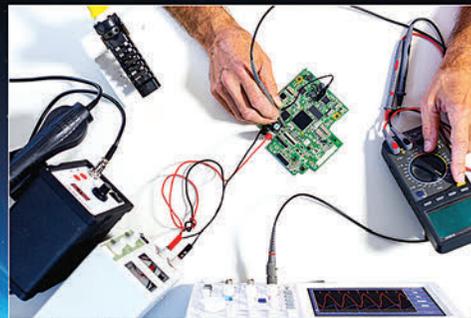
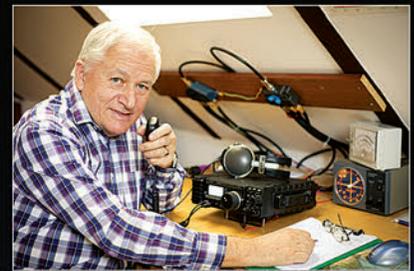
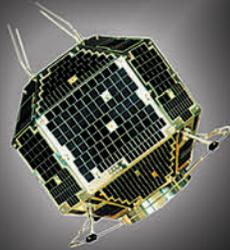


# 2015 Annual Report



**ARRL** The national association for AMATEUR RADIO®

American Radio Relay League



# Annual Report

---

# 2015

About ARRL, What is Amateur Radio? .....	2-3
A Message from ARRL's President .....	4
Annual Report of the Chief Executive Officer .....	5
The Year in Review .....	6
Audited Financial Statements .....	32



**Our co-founder, Hiram Percy Maxim.** A celebrated inventor and entrepreneur, Maxim created the American Radio Relay League in 1914 to help facilitate the relaying of messages via Amateur Radio. This first “network” of organized amateurs helped send messages farther than any one station could reach at that time.



**Station manager Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, operating at W1AW, The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station.**

## About ARRL

Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim and Clarence Tuska, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Today, with over 167,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. Our mission is simple:

**“To promote and advance the art, science, and enjoyment of Amateur Radio.”**

We base our mission on what we call the **Five Pillars: Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology, and Membership.**

*Many people become Amateur Radio operators because of their interest in radio technology and experimentation. ARRL is a leader in helping amateurs learn about technology and advance the state of the art.*

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

## What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur Radio (ham radio) is a popular service and hobby in which federally licensed participants operate communications equipment. The hobby of Amateur Radio is a mix of public service, fun, and experimentation. The Service of Amateur Radio is a core element of neighborhoods and municipalities across the United States. In times of disaster, Amateur Radio has repeatedly been the only means of communication into or out of an affected area, providing critical information to authorities at the time when it is most needed. Licensed amateurs proudly serve their communities voluntarily, without compensation. Although amateurs get involved with radio for many reasons, they all have in common a basic knowledge of radio technology and operating principles, and pass an examination from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to earn a license to operate on radio frequencies known as the "Amateur Bands." These bands are radio frequencies reserved by the FCC for use by hams at intervals from just above the AM broadcast band all the way up into extremely high microwave frequencies.

**Radio amateurs serve their communities in many situations in which reliable wireless communications are needed. Here's Jerry Clement's, VE6AB, mobile setup for the MS Bike Tour that was held in June 2015 in Alberta, Canada. Jerry's equipment allows him to see the entire event route and communicate with event officials and other amateurs serving at the event.**  
[Jerry Clement, VE6AB, photo]



**Radiosport events offer an engaging way for amateur operators to test their stations and hone their skills. Here, Kevin Jacobson, AD7OI, of Phoenix, Arizona, participates in the 2015 running of the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest from Hayden Peak. He made contacts with stations up to 400 km away from his location. [Tammy Jacobson, photo]**





## A Message from ARRL's President

The year 2015 was a time to reflect on how to carry the energy and enthusiasm of the Centennial into the future. We did that in a number of ways.

A committee composed of Board members and Headquarters staff met electronically throughout the year to formulate an updated strategic plan for ARRL. Combining their previous experience in strategic planning with suggestions from members and examples of strategic plans from other organizations, this committee developed a plan to be submitted to the Board of Directors in January 2016.

Legislative advocacy was increased to address the proliferation of communities having private land-use regulations that make it extremely difficult, if not outright impossible, for many Americans to have antennas. To develop our operating skills and knowledge of radio in preparation for serving the public when disasters occur, and to offer American youth the opportunity to get involved in the life-changing experience of Amateur Radio, we must be able to have efficient and effective antennas for our home stations. ARRL arranged introduction of legislation in the United States Senate and House of Representatives that will extend the common-sense provisions of PRB-1 to communities having private land-use regulations. These bills do not grant a blank check to do whatever one pleases, without regard for the nature of the communities in which amateurs live. Rather, they create the opportunity for amateurs and homeowner associations to negotiate with one another following the time-tested provisions of PRB-1. ARRL officials' efforts on Capitol Hill, abundantly supported by letters, e-mails, and phone calls from thousands of League members throughout the country, brought this advocacy to an unprecedented level of success by the end of 2015. We do not know what the final year of the 114th Congress will bring, but ARRL is committed to relentless advocacy on this subject, and urges all members to continue to press the subject with their Congressmen/women and Senators.

After the fun of the Centennial operating events, members wanted to know what ARRL would think of next. Toward the end of 2015, we announced the 2016 National Parks on the Air operating event, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. This event is designed to offer a fun and educational technical and operating challenge, as we figure out how to put stations on the air from a variety of locations throughout the country, ranging from parks and trails to museums and historic sites. As they activate NPS units, amateurs will find opportunities to introduce other visitors to Amateur Radio, and will certainly learn more about the areas from which they operate.

In 2015, we explored how ARRL can make effective use of social media to communicate, at little or no cost to the organization, to existing and prospective amateurs and to the public in general. In addition to what was done at the national level, a number of ARRL Sections and Field Organization officials used Twitter and Facebook to show and tell about their activities.

In 2015, the Board made the difficult decision to authorize a dues increase for the first time in more than a decade. Because of members' generous voluntary donations and careful financial management, it had been possible to accomplish the League's objectives for many years without raising dues. However, eventually the Board and management had to conclude that a significant dues increase was necessary in order to catch up to some degree with inflation since the last rate was set. Members do, and should, expect a great deal from our League. One of those expectations is prudent financial management and planning, and we will continue to act responsibly in that regard even when it requires decisions that pinch.

As this is my final report to you as President, I would like to thank all members for your dedication to ARRL's mission: to advance the art, science, and enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

73,

Kay Craigie, N3KN  
President

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

---



## Annual Report of the Chief Executive Officer for 2015

*To The Board of Directors of The American Radio Relay League*

This is my final Annual Report to the ARRL Board of Directors as Chief Executive Officer and Secretary. It has been a rare privilege to be able to express my passion for Amateur Radio through a 44-year career here in Newington.

The ARRL's Centennial Year in 2014 was a tough act to follow. I believe we succeeded. As President Craigie predicted as that sparkling year drew to a close, the buoyant spirit of the Centennial lived on as the ARRL began its second century. This was reflected in an increase in the membership count of almost 3% in 2015, to 170,528 — our 9th straight year of membership growth.

FCC Amateur Radio licensing also increased during the year, by 1.3% to 735,405, driven by exam and licensing activity that was much closer to 2014 levels than we had anticipated. Our dedicated Volunteer Examiners are keeping the VEC Department busy, not only with processing applications for new licenses but — significantly for an organization that does better reaching Extras and Generals than Technicians — with upgrades. After declines in the number of upgrades each year from 2007 to 2013, that trend was reversed in 2014, and in 2015 we saw the most upgrades since 2008.

While we needed a breather on the operating front after the remarkable on-the-air activity spurred by the Centennial, National Parks on the Air promises to enliven 2016 as we join the National Park Service in celebrating its own 100th birthday.

We achieved excellent progress on the Amateur Radio Parity Act in the first year of the 114th Congress, which if signed into law will provide much-needed relief for radio amateurs whose residences are now subject to arbitrary private land-use prohibitions on outdoor antennas. Under President Craigie's leadership, the ARRL's team of volunteers, staff, and advisers has brought us closer than ever to a positive legislative outcome on this important issue. May we reach this goal in 2016!

In November, the International Telecommunication Union held a 4-week World Radiocommunication Conference in Geneva to consider modifications to the international Radio Regulations. More than 3 years of effort channeled through the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) resulted in the adoption by WRC-15 of a new secondary allocation to the Amateur Service at 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz. This is less than we had hoped and argued for, and is subject to a rather severe power limit, but it came only at the end of a long, uphill battle. While the United States and other administrations can authorize more privileges for their amateurs as long as harmful interference is not caused to the primary services in and around the 60 meter band, they are under no obligation to do so. It will take the best efforts of ARRL and our colleagues in the IARU to achieve a satisfactory implementation of this new international allocation.

As 2015 drew to a close, the Strategic Planning Working Group was putting the finishing touches on its final report to the Board. It is a well-organized document that should provide a firm foundation for setting priorities and developing more detailed operational plans for each of the next several years. Harold Kramer, WJ1B, who is retiring as Chief Operating Officer in early 2016, was one of the principal contributors to the Working Group. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Harold for his steadfast support and creative ideas throughout his 11 years of service on the ARRL staff.

My own retirement will occur just a few weeks after Harold's. It is with a mixture of pride and humility that I look back on what ARRL has accomplished since I was elected General Manager in 1982. Pride, because of the challenges that Amateur Radio has faced and overcome through the ARRL's leadership, and because our national association has built a team of dedicated and talented staff and volunteers with the strength to face future challenges. And humility, because none of it would have been possible without the sacrifice and active involvement of so many other passionate radio amateurs, in this country as well as abroad.

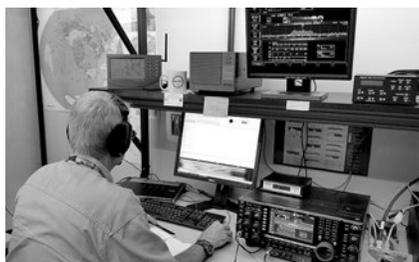
Sincere 73,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Sumner".

David Sumner, K1ZZ  
Chief Executive Officer



Broadband HAMNET members conducted a demonstration on mesh networking technology. [Mike Corey, K11U, photo]



Army MARS station at Camp Mabry, operated by Lew Thompson, W5IFQ. [Paul English, WD8DBY, photo]



In June 2015, the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) participated in a National Mass Care Exercise in Austin, Texas.

## Public Service

Recognition of Amateur Radio as a public service is listed in the Federal Communications Commission's Part 97 Regulations governing Amateur Radio:

"(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the Amateur Service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

ARRL's volunteer Amateur Radio operators help their communities and nation, in good times and bad, through community events, disaster response, and various outreach programs. The premier Amateur Radio public service program, The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®), marked 80 years of service in 2015.

## Emergency Preparedness

### Amateur Radio Activities in 2015

**2015 Hurricane Season** — The 2015 Atlantic hurricane season was considered an average one, with 11 storms, four of which were classified as hurricanes. There were two major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher), neither of which impacted the United States. Two tropical storms (TS) did make landfall in the US — TS Ana and TS Bill — both having minimal impact.

The 2015 Pacific hurricane and typhoon seasons were far more active. The hurricane season produced 26 storms; 16 hurricanes (11 major hurricanes). The heaviest impact was felt in Hawaii, Mexico, and the Southwest US. The typhoon season produced 27 storms, 18 typhoons, and 8 super-typhoons. US insular territories (Guam, Saipan, Micronesia) were heavily impacted. Amateurs provided assistance on Yap and Saipan islands. Ham Aid kits were deployed for response efforts in the Mariana Islands. These kits were later moved to Guam, to be staged there for future response efforts.

**SATERN National Mass Care Exercise** — In June 2015, the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) participated in a National Mass Care Exercise in Austin, Texas. The exercise included participants from local, state, and federal agencies as well as many VOADs (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster). SATERN invited representatives from ARES and US Army MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System) to serve as exercise evaluators. Mike Corey, K11U, served as the ARES evaluator and Paul English, WD8DBY, served as the US Army MARS evaluator. SATERN focused on testing communications support capabilities, which included Amateur Radio as well as commercial satellite communications.

**SimCom 2015** — Wisconsin ARES members were part of a major interoperability exercise in Winnebago County in May 2015. The exercise focused on testing voice and digital communication capabilities during field operations. Exercise participants tested their skills in data sharing, bridging/patching radios, fixing network failures, contingency communications, and HF/VHF/UHF communications.

**Washington Landslide** — For the second year in a row, Washington state amateurs assisted in response to a major landslide. Amateurs in Woodland, Washington responded with local emergency management when a landslide blocked Interstate 5, leaving many motorists stranded. In 2014, Washington amateurs assisted with landslide response in Oso, Washington.

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

**FEMA National Partnership Day** — In October 2015, FEMA hosted its first annual National Partnership Day at FEMA Headquarters in Washington, DC. ARRL was invited to participate and was represented by ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U, and ARRL Emergency Preparedness Assistant Ken Bailey, K1FUG. The event, which was attended by many National VOAD partners, allowed participants to set up demonstrations for FEMA HQ staff and network with other VOADs. This is anticipated to be an annual event at FEMA HQ, with regional events being held across the country.

**Virginia Tech Satellite Project** — ARRL, FEMA, and researchers at Virginia Tech have partnered to develop a new Amateur Radio satellite to aid in disaster response. The new satellite is scheduled to be launched in 2017 and be at an altitude that would allow for reliable coverage across the United States.

## Other Activities

In May 2015, ARRL HQ released the new version of the ARES Manual. This updated manual was the product of a working group that consisted of representatives from the ARRL field organization, ARRL HQ staff, and national partners.

ARRL was awarded the Heinrich Hertz Award from the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) in May 2015. The award cited ARRL's "unwavering support for the public safety community."

## ARRL Field Organization

The ARRL Field Organization is an integral part of ARRL's strength — especially at the local and ARRL section levels throughout the country. There are 71 sections in the ARRL, and each one is managed by a member-elected ARRL Section Manager who, in turn, appoints volunteer leadership staff and station appointees to help guide and support the interests of ARRL members and Amateur Radio operators at the local and state or section levels. The ARRL Field Organization comprised nearly 7700 appointees in 2015, and the Assistant Section Traffic Manager position was officially added to the roster.

Headquarters staff members Steve Ewald, WV1X; Leona Adams, W1LGA, and Chuck Skolaut, KØBOG, gave administrative support and guidance to the Field Organization. In 2015, six balloted elections took place, and we welcomed 17 brand-new Section Managers. In September, the Field Organization Team coordinated the Section Managers' Workshop — an orientation and training event in Newington — and hosted 19 new Section Managers who had started their first terms of office over the past 2 years.

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test and the SKYWARN Recognition Day, co-sponsored by the National Weather Service and ARRL, were held in the fall. These long-standing annual events attracted considerable activity in communities, states, and ARRL sections throughout the country and on the Amateur Radio airwaves.



Virginia Tech has approached the US Government to fly the Phase 3-E space frame into High Earth Orbit (HEO) in order to support scientific payloads as well as serve as an Amateur Radio satellite. During the AMSAT-DL Annual Meeting on 4 July 15, the AMSAT-DL membership approved the concept, agreeing to allow Phase 3-E space frame that is currently stored in Germany to be shipped to Virginia Tech in the US for further construction, testing, and preparation for eventual launch to HEO should the US Government formally agree to fund such a mission.



ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U (left), accepts the Heinrich Hertz Award on behalf of the League from NPSTC Chairman Ralph Haller, N4RH. [Photo courtesy of NPSTC]



ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, was part of the US delegation to WRC-15.

## Advocacy

ARRL is Amateur Radio's proactive advocate and representative voice in achieving regulatory and legislative success. Through our efforts in Washington and on the international stage through the auspices of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), ARRL works to ensure that access to the Amateur Radio spectrum remains available and free from interference as well as from acquisition by commercial interests. Our Media and Public Relations strategies focus on promoting Amateur Radio to the news media and to the world at large.

### WRC-15

ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, and Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, served on the US delegation to the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15), held in Geneva in November. WRC-15 resulted in a global secondary allocation to Amateur Radio at 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz. The global allocation, while subject to a substantial power limitation, represents a significant victory for radio amateurs worldwide, particularly in the majority of countries that had not previously permitted amateurs access to 60 meters. WRC-15 was an unqualified success on the defensive front, as the conference ended without any significant negative impact on existing Amateur Radio allocations.

A significant threat to the 2 meter and 70 centimeter amateur bands was averted in the final days of WRC-15, as the agenda for the 2019 conference was determined. Weeks of concerted effort by amateur attendees were required to remove these two bands from a 2019 agenda item considering spectrum for telemetry, command, and control of satellites with short duration missions. The 2019 agenda presents the opportunity to harmonize the amateur 6 meter allocation around the world, and presents a number of spectrum defense challenges, particularly at 5.7 GHz and 47 GHz.

### IARU

The ARRL serves as the International Secretariat of the IARU, supporting the officers and other volunteers of the worldwide federation of national Amateur Radio organizations. The most important mission of the IARU is to serve as the voice of Amateur Radio at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and regional telecommunications organizations, and most of its efforts in 2015 focused on WRC-15 activities. In addition to Price and Siverling, the IARU team at WRC-15 included IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH; IARU Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, and radio amateurs from Canada, Venezuela, Brazil, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Senegal, Kuwait, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.

### International Education and Goodwill

A student from Nepal attended the annual USTTI Amateur Radio Administration Course in Newington, September 28 – October 2, 2015, with units taught by a number of ARRL staff members. This class

continues to be a valued outreach initiative to international decision makers who have as much of a say as anyone from the United States. CTO Price was the lead instructor for the course, and Assistant to the CEO and Meeting Planner Lisa Kustosik, KA1UFZ, coordinated the League's participation with USTTI.

### Regulatory Items

The Regulatory Information Office plays a leading role in several areas of work at ARRL Headquarters. It is responsible for interfacing with the ARRL Volunteer Counsel and Volunteer Consulting Engineer programs, which are a first resource for amateurs needing assistance in those areas. It also works with those Headquarters staff



The ARRL Board met in January for its 2015 Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. [LJB Special Photography photo]

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

members who deal with the Field Organization on issues such as the Amateur Auxiliary, and regulatory issues that might impact amateurs on the state and local level. The office also maintains a good working relationship with the FCC on an assortment of issues.

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 was a major focal point for the Regulatory Information office during the year. The office provided support to numerous volunteers and staff who were actively lobbying members of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate, seeking support for the Act. Between March and December 2015, the office coordinated collection and distribution of almost 15,000 letters written by ARRL members supporting HR 1301 and S 1685. In addition, the ARRL began use of the RallyCongress web service to more efficiently facilitate contact by ARRL members with their elected officials in Washington. By year's end HR 1301, introduced by Representative Adam Kinzinger of Illinois, had secured 116 cosponsors in the US House, while S 1685, sponsored by Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi, had successfully been voted out of the US Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for consideration by the full Senate. The work on this legislation will continue as the highest priority.

ARRL reviewed hundreds of bills introduced into the various state legislatures during 2015, assessing their potential impact on Amateur Radio. When a bill is found to pose a potential problem, ARRL Headquarters works with the Section Leadership in that state to develop a plan for addressing the concerns. We then work with them on ways to resolve the issues with the individual members of that state's legislature. The primary area of concern with state legislation is bills that would negatively impact Amateur Radio mobile operations, generally as the result of distracted driving legislation proposals.

Every month, the Regulatory Information office addresses dozens of member questions relating to the Part 97 rules. They range from questions about frequency allocations and the use of specific modes on the air to queries about reciprocal operating agreements with other countries. The office also works with amateurs who are addressing local antenna zoning restrictions in their cities and towns. While ARRL cannot supply or fund attorneys for individual situations, we do provide resources to the membership and their personal attorneys to help them bring these issues to a favorable resolution.

## Media & Public Relations

An all-new Public Relations Committee (PRC) was formed in 2015, at the January Board meeting. Led by Media & Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, the new PRC was comprised of amateurs with decades of experience in producing and creating online and social media. While traditional media (including *QST* and *The ARRL Letter*) continues to work well for ARRL, there is plenty of room for expansion to new media: podcasts, short videos, and concentrated social media outreach.

The new PR Committee believes in a "long game" strategy, and outreach to the non-amateur community must be pursued fervently if Amateur Radio is to have a significant presence 20 to 30 years from now. Expanding ARRL's messaging, and Amateur Radio-related messaging in general, as a go-to resource for STEM education and community service, will be the focal items moving forward.

PR continued to work closely with the Regulatory & Advocacy Department and ARRL General Counsel, to create and promote messaging for the Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, including online information campaigns on Facebook and Twitter, and assistance with the video "The Amateur Radio Parity Act: Separating Fact from Fiction."



**Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) introduced the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 on March 4.**



## PRB-1 Bill Signed Into Law in Michigan and Colorado



**On March 10, 2015, there was a ceremonial recreation of the recent signing of Michigan's PRB-1 Bill (PA 556) in Lansing. Participants, from left to right, included: Ed Hude, WA8QJE, Michigan ARRL State Government Liaison; Dale Williams, WA8EFK, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director; Jessica Averill, Legislative Director for Senator Rick Jones; Governor Rick Snyder; Larry Camp, WB8R, Michigan ARRL Section Manager; Senator Rick Jones (Bill Sponsor), and Butch Hedges, Michigan ARRL Local Government Liaison. This bill was the culmination of approximately 10 years of work by numerous Michigan amateurs. [Photo courtesy of Patrick Yockey, Michigan Senate Majority Communication Office.]**



**Colorado Gov John Hickenlooper (seated) signs the PRB-1 bill. Looking on were (L-R) Sen Chris Holbert; Colorado State Government Liaison Robert Wareham, N0ESQ; Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WM0G; Colorado ARES member Richard Anderson, W9BNO, and Rep Kevin Van Winkle. [John Maxwell, W0VG, photo]**



*Facebook remains the cornerstone of ARRL's online presence. 2015 saw an increase of 11,000 "likes" to our page, from 49,000 to just over 61,000.*

*ARRL also saw significant activity on their Twitter and YouTube accounts.*



## Outreach Through Discovery

In 2015, Kutzko, along with PR Committee member Ward Silver, NØAX, developed the Outreach Through Discovery program. OtD is a 2-year outreach plan to identify groups similar to ARRL and encourage them to integrate Amateur Radio to benefit their own interests through targeted messaging. The Maker/DIY movement and amateur astronomers are two potential audiences for targeted Amateur Radio recruitment.

## Social Media and Podcasts

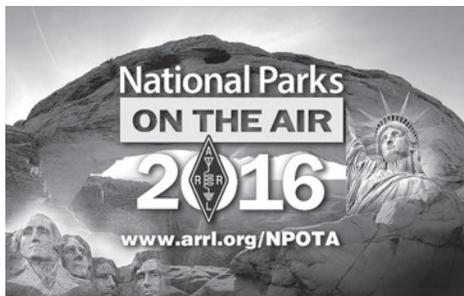
Facebook remains the cornerstone of ARRL's online presence. 2015 saw an increase of 11,000 "likes" to our page, from 49,000 to just over 61,000. ARRL's primary Facebook demographic is males aged 45 – 54, comprising 24% of our online audience. 49% of our Facebook audience viewed our page on a mobile device. Throughout 2015, PR began "promoting" content on Facebook, paying money to expand the reach of specific messages. By informing Facebook of our desired audience through their demographics and our use of selected "keywords," these minor investments more than doubled our reach on specific campaigns, including the promotion of the Amateur Radio Parity Act video, "Separating Fact from Fiction."

The PRC has a continued focus on expanding our Twitter audience. Followers of ARRL's five Twitter feeds grew from 46,400 to 53,600.

In September 2015, funds were approved for FY2016 for a social media intern for ARRL's PR department. We look forward to more targeted engagement with a younger demographic via social media in 2016.

## National Parks on the Air

Throughout 2015, Kutzko worked on the creation and development of National Parks on The Air (NPOTA). Similar to ARRL's highly successful Centennial QSO Party on-air event, NPOTA is a year-long event that promotes Amateur Radio use from 484 qualified National Park Service (NPS) units throughout 2016, in honor of the NPS Centennial in 2016. Kutzko, along with ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Assistant Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, will co-administer the event. Membership has been asking for more on-air activities similar to the Centennial QSO Party, and NPOTA was designed in part to fulfill that request. This is the first time ARRL has worked with a non-amateur organization for an on-air event. The official announcement of the program was made on October 15 via *QST*, social media, and a national press release. A Facebook group and Twitter feed were created specifically for NPOTA aficionados, and at the end of December 2015, anticipation for NPOTA was extremely high. We feel this event will be a huge success.



*ARRL has a commitment to educational outreach with America's students: to engage young people in the magic of radio, inspiring them to further personal investigation in the sciences and engineering, and to expand their horizons to promote global goodwill through contact with cultures around the world.*

## Education

Education is one of the most basic ways in which ARRL serves Amateur Radio. From expanding the knowledge base of amateurs worldwide, to promoting Amateur Radio in the classroom, ARRL's educational materials and programs represent the world's most comprehensive knowledge base of Amateur Radio. In addition, ARRL has a commitment to educational outreach with America's students: to engage young people in the magic of radio, inspiring them to further personal investigation in the sciences and engineering, and to expand their horizons to promote global goodwill through contact with cultures around the world. Our outreach mission to all citizens also includes expanding interest and understanding of the science of radio and the application of wireless technology in daily life.

## Licensing Instruction

In 2015, ARRL produced a new *ARRL Technician and General Class Instructor's Manual* that coordinates with *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 3rd edition* and *The ARRL General Class License Manual, 8th edition*, revised in 2015. The PowerPoint modules that correspond to the lessons published in the book can be downloaded from the ARRL website by ARRL Registered Instructors.

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

The Education Department produced three issues of *Radio Waves*, an e-newsletter for instructors and teachers. Distribution now exceeds 11,000. The fall issue was also published in print form, principally to be used for public and legislative relations. A total of 569 instructors and 82 teachers signed up to be added to our Instructor/Teacher database in 2015.

## Education & Technology Program (ETP)

Our impact in classrooms continues to grow as the reach of our donor-funded professional development opportunity, the *Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology*, expands. The Teachers Institute (TI) program is a fundamental component of the Education & Technology Program portfolio of resources made available to teachers in US schools to advance the integration of electronics, radio science, STEM, and the hands-on learning offered by employing ham radio in school curricula.

We completed three sessions of the Teachers Institute, which included two sessions of the *Introduction to Wireless Technology* (TI-1), and one session of *Remote Sensing and Data Gathering* (TI-2), with 32 participating teachers from 21 states. A new initiative, involving asking donors to fund a seat at the TI, is generating a positive response. In December, a donor stepped forward to fund an on-site TI in Colorado in 2016. This member's donation was matched by his employer.

Three School Station Grants and three Progress Grants were awarded through the ETP grant program in 2015. School Station Grants are for full Amateur Radio stations to be installed on-site at schools, and Progress Grants are for the purchase of ancillary equipment and resources needed for supplementing existing stations or exploring wireless technology topics with students.

## ARISS — Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international Amateur Radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS).

In the United States, sponsors are the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) topics and interest in STEM careers among young people by providing opportunities for young people to interview crew members on the ISS during live 10-minute Q&A sessions conducted via Amateur Radio. Supported by Amateur Radio volunteers around the world, the ARISS program organizes scheduled contacts between crew members aboard the ISS and students in classrooms or informal education venues. Before and during these radio contacts, students, teachers, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies, satellite communications, radio science and wireless technology through Amateur Radio. In addition, the program provides opportunities for Amateur Radio experimentation and evaluation of new technologies, and provides a contingency communication system for NASA and the ISS crew.



*Our impact in classrooms continues to grow as the reach of our donor-funded professional development opportunity, the Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology, expands.*



ARRL Instructor Larry Kendall, K6NDL, leads the July 2015 Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology workshop at ARRL Headquarters. ARRL's Education & Technology Program (ETP) empowers teachers to use Amateur Radio to help teach STEM topics in the classroom at all levels of academia. [Sean Kutzko, KX9X, photo]



ARRL Instructor Matt Severin, N8MS, explains how to receive satellite telemetry data to a group of teachers participating in the ARRL Teachers Institute professional development workshop on Remote Sensing and Data Gathering.



**A student in Dearborn, Michigan, interviews astronaut Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, during a scheduled Amateur Radio contact on October 27, 2015.**

The ARISS program celebrated its 15th anniversary of operations in November. From the year 2000, through the end of 2015, ARISS supported 980 scheduled contacts with educational organizations around the world. As of December 31, 2015, 44 states in the US and 50 other countries have been host to an ISS contact scheduled by the ARISS program.

During 2015, the international program team successfully executed 18 US (12 direct, 6 telebridge) and 52 international (29 direct, 23 telebridge) Amateur Radio contacts in schools and other educational venues. (Direct contacts are supported by an Amateur Radio ground station at the venue site; telebridge contacts are supported by Amateur Radio stations operated by ARISS international volunteers at remote locations around the globe.) More than 21,000 students and an equal number of educators and other adults experienced the thrill of witnessing a personal, real-time interview with a crewmember on board the ISS in 2015 via the ARISS program.



**Students at New Mexico Military Academy, in Roswell, New Mexico receive some preliminary instruction in preparation for an ARISS interview session with astronaut Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, on September 16, 2015.**

In May 2015, the new Ham Video transmitter, which was developed by the ARISS Europe partners working with the European Space Agency (ESA), was powered on to begin transmitting in "blank transmission" mode. This was the first step in readying the new capability for transmission during scheduled educational contacts. (Blank transmission mode is intended to provide a signal for radio amateurs developing ground stations to receive digital image transmissions from the ISS station.)

On three occasions during 2015, radio amateurs and students worldwide enjoyed special slow scan TV (SSTV) events organized by the ARISS Russia partners. In late January and February and in April, the Amateur Radio station in the Zvezda module of the ISS transmitted SSTV images from Russian space history in celebration of Yuri Gagarin's birthday and first flight. In July, images were transmitted to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Apollo-Soyuz space mission. These images were received by ground stations and shared by schools, educational organizations, and ham radio operators worldwide.

In 2015, ARISS leadership focused on strengthening working relationships with other international partners, and initiated a series of contacts and meetings with the aim of refreshing and rebuilding sustaining relationships at NASA. In August, the ARISS International partners met in Tokyo in conjunction with the Japan Amateur Radio League's (JARL) 90th anniversary convention. Meetings there tackled revisions of terms of reference, organization of a new sustainability and funding committee, and the opening discussions about plans to develop upgraded Amateur Radio equipment for the Columbus module of the ISS. Sustaining funding from NASA's Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) Program and the ISS Program Office provided for essential ARISS operations support at Johnson Space Center.



**Students at Riversink Elementary School in Crawfordville, Florida assemble for a scheduled Amateur Radio contact with astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, IZ0UDF, on February 26, 2015.**

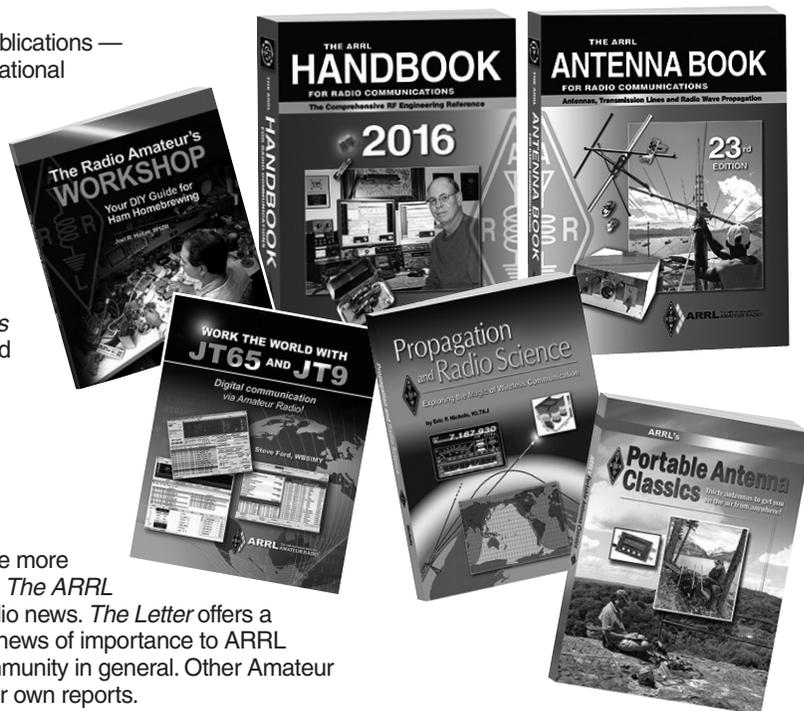
# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

## ARRL Publications

ARRL provides the highest quality Amateur Radio publications — journals, license manuals, books, software, and educational courses. In 2015 the ARRL published several book titles, including *The 2016 ARRL Handbook*, the 23rd edition of *The ARRL Antenna Book*, *ARRL's Portable Antenna Classics*, *Work the World with JT65 and JT9*, *The Radio Amateur's Workshop*, and *Propagation and Radio Science*, just to name a few.

In addition to printed books, we publish digital books on the Amazon Kindle platform. In 2015, the ARRL published digital versions of *The ARRL General Class License Manual*, *The Radio Amateur's Workshop*, and *Propagation and Radio Science*.



## ARRL News:

### Keeping Members Informed

#### The ARRL Letter

Sent at no charge via e-mail 50 times each year to the more than 103,000 ARRL members who elect to receive it, *The ARRL Letter* is the standard bearer for current Amateur Radio news. *The Letter* offers a thorough and reliably accurate overview of the latest news of importance to ARRL members in particular and to the Amateur Radio community in general. Other Amateur Radio news outlets often cite *The ARRL Letter* in their own reports.

#### Breaking, Current News on the ARRL Website

The ARRL Web home page features a “news crawl” — continually updated news of interest to the Amateur Radio community. The site attracts approximately 500,000 unique visitors each month; “page views” are around 200,000 per day. Ranked by page views, Amateur Radio news is the most-visited area.

#### Amateur Radio News in *QST*

Each month, *QST*, the ARRL's flagship publication and membership journal, features a variety of news. The monthly “Happenings” column includes an overall news summary, while other departments, including “Public Service,” “Amateur Radio World,” “How's DX?,” “Eclectic Technology,” “The World Above 50 MHz,” and “Exam Info,” focus on special-interest news. Feature articles report on news of major events, such as the semiannual meetings of the ARRL Board of Directors.

#### The ARRL Audio News Webcast/Podcast

The weekly ARRL Audio News provides a digest of top news each week in radio newscast format for airing on repeaters and nets. Produced and recorded by Sean Kutzko, KX9X, this service is available from the ARRL website as well as Apple iTunes. Almost 250 repeaters and other Amateur Radio outlets in the US and around the globe reported that they were airing ARRL Audio News in full or in part.

#### ARRL/W1AW Bulletins

News staff also prepares a full menu of general and special-interest bulletins, including regular information about DX, satellites and Keplerian elements, propagation, and news bulletins. ARRL/W1AW bulletins are transmitted over the air every weekday (except holidays) from the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW, and are distributed via e-mail to ARRL members who subscribe.

#### ARRL.org

ARRL's website received 17,154,834 unique page views this year, a nearly 4% decrease from 2014, while total users of the site increased 4% this year.

Work began on the National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) pages in 2015, and generated interest from users when they went

#### Top Unique Page Views on ARRL.org for 2015

ARRL landing page — 2.4 million

LoTW — 464,000

User log-in — 455,000

FCC search page — 296,000

Licensing/Education — 274,000



## Periodicals

In addition to a wide variety of books, CDs, and software, ARRL publishes three periodicals, *QST*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.

**QST** — 2015 marked *QST*'s centennial. Throughout the year, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the world's premier Amateur Radio publication in various ways. Each 2015 issue of *QST* featured one article reprinted, in its original layout, from a past issue of the magazine. Because the first issue of *QST* appeared in December 1915, the December 2015 issue served as the official "anniversary" issue, featuring the *QST* Centennial logo (which had been used on each cover throughout 2015) prominently, and offering a special look back at "A Century of *QST*" via a feature article, as well as cover images and headlines from "100, 75, 50, and 25 Years Ago."

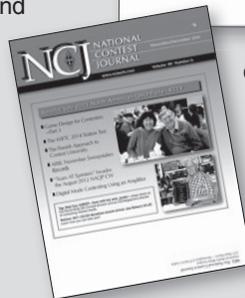
A commemorative edition of the December 1915 issue of *QST* was published in print and digital formats.

**The Digital Edition of *QST*** — Readership has remained steady the past year, averaging about 20,000 readers per month. Our Android application has, however, proven to be a problem since the summer of 2015. Nxtbook, our digital publishing service provider, was made aware of the issues with the application, and through research on our end and theirs, they came to the conclusion that a completely new application needs to be created. We have been notified this will be completed by the end of 2016's first quarter.

The desktop browser remains the number one way members are viewing digital *QST*, with around an average of 11,000 users a month. The iOS/Apple application increasingly follows the desktop

browser in usage, averaging nearly 4,000 users a month. Due to the Android application issues throughout the year, it is hard to gauge appropriate analytics on the usage throughout the year.

March 2015, the annual Antenna Issue, was the most-viewed issue of *QST*, with nearly 21,000 unique readers. The least-viewed issue was December, with just above 13,000 unique readers. At this same time, however, the commemorative digital edition of the December 1915 issue of *QST* was released, and analytics for this on its own show just under 7,500 unique readers and over 174,000 page views.



**QEX** — The Forum for Communications Experimenters, *QEX* is published 6 times a year. Under the editorship of Kazimierz "Kai" Siwiak, KE4PT, *QEX* remains the source of advanced technical content for the amateur community, and beyond. Circulation remained stable throughout 2015, with approximately 6,500 subscribers.

**NCJ** — *NCJ*, the National Contest Journal, is a bimonthly publication designed for the specific interests of the contest community. While the subscriber base is relatively small at 1,700 individuals, this figure has been stable over several years, reflecting the loyalty of the readership. Editor Pat Barkey, N9RV, maintains the high standards that *NCJ* readers have come to expect.

(continued from page 13)

live in October. From October 2015 through December 2015, the NPOTA page accumulated 9,777 unique page views. The Amateur Radio Parity Act page was also created in 2015, producing over 33,000 unique page views throughout the year.

Chrome surpassed Internet Explorer and Firefox in 2015, as the browser of choice among our members and guests. Over 2.5 million visitors used Chrome to view our website in 2015. Firefox and Internet Explorer were used by just over 1.5 million viewers.

## 2015: *QST* Magazine's Centennial

ARRL celebrated 100 years of *QST* magazine by featuring this *QST* Centennial logo on the cover of each issue published in 2015. Additionally, each issue contained one article from a past issue of *QST*, in its original layout, which offered an interesting retrospective of the way the magazine used to look. Iconic cartoons by Phil "Gil" Gildersleeve, W1CJD, also made several appearances throughout the year, and as a final hurrah at the end of the year, ARRL published a commemorative edition of the first issue of *QST*, which originally appeared in December 1915.



# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

## Technology

Amateur Radio has always been about incorporating the latest technology, from the development of regeneration in the 1910s to current applications of digital communications modes and software-defined transceivers. Many people become radio amateurs specifically to experiment with electronics and radio technology.

## The ARRL Laboratory

### The Lab Staff and Volunteers

The ARRL Laboratory does a lot of the technical heavy lifting for ARRL's HQ operation. It also supports the League's advocacy efforts on a number of fronts, assisting with technical reports and filings as needed. It is staffed by a number of highly skilled employees and volunteers. In 2015, the employees in the Lab were Ed Hare, W1RFI, Laboratory Manager; Zack Lau, W1VT, Senior Laboratory Engineer; Bob Allison, WB1GCM, Senior Test Engineer; Mike Gruber, W1MG, EMC Engineer, and Tony Nesta, AA1RZ, Administrative Assistant. A number of people also helped out as HQ volunteers for the Laboratory, including Lori Kosior, N1SMK; Pete Turbide, W1PT; Martin Ewing, AA6E; Mike Marinaro, WN1M; Jonathan Allen, K2KKH, and Bill Knapp, WA1WK.

### Amateur Equipment Testing

Testing for the popular *QST* "Product Review" feature continues to be the most visible part of the ARRL Laboratory's work. In 2015, Bob Allison tested a record 37 items for Product Review, including 7 HF/6 meter multimode transceivers. This process has been made easier due to several pieces of new test equipment acquired in 2014 and 2015. On many occasions, the Lab's test results led to improvements of the products, with thanks from the manufacturers.

It is important that the Laboratory keep up with improvements in test equipment and new technology. The donation and purchase of new test equipment continued in 2015, with the acquisition of two new Keysight model N5182B digital signal generators. Keysight arranged the purchase of these as retired "demo" models. It also donated software upgrades for our N9020A spectrum analyzer and the N5192Bs. Sigilent donated a model SDG-2122X arbitrary-waveform generator that will be used to test noise blankers and AGC in receivers, among other things.

### Equipment Testing In the Field

Bob Allison and Mike Gruber tested convention attendees' 2 meter and 70 centimeter handheld radios at the Dayton Hamvention and at the ARRL National Convention in Orlando. Matthias Zapatka, AJ4BB, did this testing for ARRL at Pacificon, and helped at Dayton. Other volunteers who helped were Kermit Carlson, W9XA; Pete Turbide, W1PT; Bob Gold, W0KIZ, and Dick Bray, W8IHG. This public outreach was very well received at all events. In 2015, more than 264 handhelds were tested for FCC emission compliance. (The Lab has tested 915 handhelds to date, over several years' time.) Makes and models of handhelds that consistently failed compliance on harmonics or other spurious emissions are noted as not being acceptable for advertising in ARRL publications. The results from several years of testing were compiled into a "Technical Correspondence" column that was published in the November 2015 issue of *QST*.

### Advocacy and Industry

Ed Hare continues to serve on the IEEE EMC Society Standards Development and Education Committee, the EMC Society Board of Directors and the ANSI ASC C63® EMC Committee. This work keeps head-of-the-table seats for



ARRL Lab Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, works with the Keysight 89600 VSA software on the Lab's Keysight MXA-9020A spectrum analyzer. [Steve Ford, WB8IMY, photo]



ARRL Laboratory volunteer Matthias Zapatka, AJ4BB (left), testing handheld radios for emission standards compliance at Pacificon, the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, in October 2015. Matthias is seen with ARRL member Marilynn Jordan, W6MCJ, of Lake Arrowhead, California.



Tektronix Senior Applications Engineer Alan Wolke, W2AEW (center), demonstrates the new MDO4104B-3 oscilloscope to ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM (left), and ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI. [Steve Ford, WB8IMY, photo]



Visitors to the Lab sometimes spend a lot of time looking through the Lab's display of vintage equipment and operating vintage stations. This complete Collins S-Line was eventually displayed in the lobby at ARRL Headquarters.



The ARRL Lab has a Faraday cage that allows it to perform measurements free of noise and interference. This photo shows the impressive array of test equipment the League uses to test equipment for QST's "Product Review" feature.

*Electrical noise from power lines and other devices continues to be the largest category of noise that the Lab staff deals with. This is usually handled using the cooperative process that the ARRL has worked out with FCC staff.*

Amateur Radio at important industry tables, in positions of leadership, demonstrating to industry and regulators that Amateur Radio continues to make positive contributions to modern technology.

Working closely with the IEEE EMC Society, the ARRL helped form an IEEE Working Group to develop an industry Recommended Practice for the resolution of power-line noise complaints by electric utilities. This work is expected to be completed in 2016, with a document ready for balloting by the end of the year.

### Radio Frequency Interference (RFI)

The Lab also worked on a number of RFI issues, handling about 400 RFI cases for members, including 186 new cases. These continue to include interference from grow lights. In one case of grow-light interference in the state of Washington, the FCC issued a Citation and Report and Order to the operator of a grow light, but interference continues and the FCC has taken no further action. See the story at [www.arrl.org/news/fcc-cites-washington-resident-for-causing-interference-on-amateur-frequencies](http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-cites-washington-resident-for-causing-interference-on-amateur-frequencies) for more details.

Electrical noise from power lines and other devices continues to be the largest category of noise that the Lab staff deals with. This is usually handled using the cooperative process that the ARRL has worked out with FCC staff. The Lab also worked out a procedure with A&T to handle complaints about U-Verse installations. Fortunately, most U-Verse systems are clean, but the sporadic problems that do turn up now have a process to help resolve them more easily.

### History

Volunteers Mike Marinaro and Jonathan Allen have catalogued an impressive amount of equipment and old paper archived material. Over 1,400 pieces of equipment that had been in long-term storage were inventoried, described, and catalogued. During the year, a donation of a complete Collins S-Line was received, cleaned up and put on display in the ARRL Lobby.

Mike Marinaro discovered two ancient Amateur Radio logbooks with the call signs 1ZM and 1AW (H. P. Maxim), dated 1919 and 1920, respectively. The logbooks were neatly tucked away in a file and are in excellent condition, looking like they were just written.

### Technical Information Service

Under the leadership of the Laboratory's Senior Engineer Zack Lau, W1VT, the Lab staff provided, through the Technical Information Service, support for more than 4,000 member questions in 2015. The use of the ARRL technology forums has been slow but steady, replacing some part of the individual service provided one-on-one to members. See [www.arrl.org/forum](http://www.arrl.org/forum).

### Donations

The Connecticut State Police Amateur Radio Club (W1SP), donated a 70 centimeter DMR Motorola MotoTurbo repeater to the Lab. This complements the D-STAR system that has been in operation in the Lab for a few years. The DMR system is linked with other ARES MotoTurbo repeaters in the state, as well as other ARES groups around the country.

A steady stream of donated radios and equipment continues to arrive at ARRL HQ. Although some of this equipment is kept for use in the Lab, much of it is sold at auction, raising money to help fund a wide range of ARRL programs and services. These donations also include various pieces of test equipment. As companies are retiring older test equipment, members are sometimes helping it make its way to the Lab. The sale of this equipment is part of the overall Lab planning to continue to keep its test equipment state of the art and in current calibration.

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

## Membership

ARRL membership climbed for the ninth consecutive year, to 170,528 members by year end — growth of 4,864 members over 2014, and the highest membership total in 19 years. Much of this growth is attributed to reaching prospective, new, and previously active members. When you join ARRL, you become part of the association's vision to strive for every member to **get involved, get active, and get on the air.**

## Family and Friends

A national study conducted for ARRL in 2015 by Readex Research found that friends and family significantly influence individuals to become involved in Amateur Radio. Likewise, ARRL is a growing family — bringing together the most active radio amateurs and radio clubs. We serve our extended family through high-quality publications, programs, and services. The collective strength of our members provides beneficial influence and resources that support a vital Amateur Radio Service — and that helps the whole ARRL family!



Our big team of ARRL staff, officials, and volunteers supporting ARRL exhibits and activities at the 2015 Dayton Hamvention.

## The Value of ARRL Membership

At the ARRL Board Meeting in July 2015, the Directors adopted the first increase to ARRL basic membership dues in 15 years, effective January 1, 2016. One might argue an increase was long overdue. Few organizations navigated the recent recession and related increases in costs without increasing dues at least once or twice in these most recent years. We've done much to stave off an increase — being more efficient, and learning to do more with less. Here is a look at all of the new benefits that ARRL has pursued for its members in the last 15 years:

- The digital edition of *QST* and related apps for viewing *QST* on mobile devices (More than 122,000 members have signed up to receive a monthly e-mail announcement for the latest edition of *QST*)
- The Searchable ARRL Periodicals Archive and Index: [www.arrl.org/qst](http://www.arrl.org/qst)
- Expanded Product Reviews in *QST* and video product reviews
- ARRL Publications for Kindle
- Improved member interaction through social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Online Exam Review: [www.arrl.org/examreview](http://www.arrl.org/examreview)
- Logbook of The World (LoTW)
- The 2014 ARRL Centennial Celebration, including national and regional conventions, and some of the most popular on-air operating events of all time including the Centennial QSO Party and W1AW portable operations
- Preservation of ARRL and Amateur Radio history
- Free License Renewal Assistance
- Increased liaison with national-level disaster organizations, the Ham Aid program, Emergency Communications Training Courses, and the ARES E-Newsletter

## Membership Growth

2013 — 162,215 (growth of 1.21%)

2014 — 165,664 (growth of 2.13%)

2015 — 170,528 (growth of 2.94%)



ARRL International Secretary Rosalie White, K1STO, and ARRL Warehouse Clerk Michael Scharr greet members at ARRL EXPO, at the 2015 Dayton Hamvention.



In spring 2015, the majority of the students in Ken DeLucca's, WA3KD, Radio Communications Techniques class at Millersville (Pennsylvania) University, decided to pursue their Amateur Radio licenses. Thirteen students became Technician class hams, with three students upgrading to General on the same day.

- ARRL Education Programs: resources for Amateur Radio license instruction, and outreach to students, teachers, and schools
- Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS)
- ARRL's ongoing response to antenna restrictions, the Amateur Radio Parity Act, and zoning regulations
- ARRL's relentless defense of our spectrum from commercial interests and against spectrum pollution
- Improved awareness for Amateur Radio by increasing our liaison with Congress and Capitol Hill
- Representation on national and international technical standards bodies
- Improved ARRL Lab test procedures and test equipment that contribute to unbiased Product Reviews and advances in Amateur Radio equipment performance

### Affinity Benefits

In February 2015, ARRL introduced Liberty Mutual Insurance as its new benefit provider for discount auto and home insurance. Through Liberty Mutual's extensive network of local agents and offices, members can seek a free insurance quote and see if they qualify for additional ARRL group savings and discounts. ARRL's entire suite of

member benefit programs can contribute to individual savings many times over the cost of annual membership dues. Additional benefit programs include the ARRL Equipment and Club Insurance Programs, and the ARRL Visa credit card. A summary of these member-discount programs can be found at [www.arrl.org/member-discounts](http://www.arrl.org/member-discounts).

### HQ Member Volunteers

We are fortunate to have many members who live nearby our headquarters in Connecticut who serve as volunteer tour guides and in other roles assisting our staff. Nearly 800 tours were given to thousands of visitors to ARRL Headquarters in 2015.

### ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Program (VEC)

The Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) system was created to oversee licensing activities and ensure the ability of the Amateur Service to continue to grow and prosper. The ARRL VEC program is one of 14 in the US and has maintained a strong and visible presence in the Amateur Radio community. We have over 30 years of service, operating as a knowledgeable information source for a wide range of licensing issues.

### Amateur Radio Exams, Exam Oversight and Licensing Administrative Services

ARRL VEC is by far the largest of the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) groups in the country, coordinating approximately 70% of all Amateur Radio exams. For the second year in a row, we have conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions in a year, an important milestone for the ARRL VEC. A total of 7,358 ARRL sponsored exam sessions were administered in 2015, compared to 7,216 in 2014. 38,261 exam applicants were served in 2015, compared to 39,184 in 2014. Exam elements administered decreased slightly from 51,647 last year to 50,004 this year.

ARRL VEC continues to participate as a member of the National Conference of VECs Question Pool Committee. The five-member committee prepared a revised General class question pool (Element 3) for examination use by the amateur community. The new pool became effective on July 1, 2015, and it will remain valid until June 30, 2019.

As one of three FCC-authorized Club Station Call Sign Administrators, ARRL VEC processed and transmitted 1,322 club licenses for the FCC in 2015. ARRL is also one of five FCC-authorized 1 x 1 Special Event Call Sign Coordinators and has processed nearly 90% of the 12,389 Special Events authorized and documented in the 1 x 1 database since the program's inception in September 1997.



ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, is the new NCVEC vice chair.



# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

We have issued or renewed over 1,600 International Amateur Radio Permits (IARPs) since the program was established in June 1999. IARPs permit instant operating authority by US Amateurs when traveling to participating Central and South American countries.

ARRL VEC also processed and transmitted electronically to the FCC 10,069 address changes and license renewals for ARRL Members in 2015. This service to members continues to be a strong draw.

The ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner Honor Roll recognizes the top five ARRL Volunteer Examiners per division according to the total number of exam sessions they have participated in since their accreditation.

The Honor Roll appears quarterly, in the March, June, September, and December issues of *QST*. Participating as a Volunteer Examiner is a fun and rewarding activity.

In 2015, 2,129 new Volunteer Examiners (VEs) have been added to our program, bringing the total number of ARRL Accredited VEs to more than 25,000. We've seen an increase in the number of applications from General and Extra class radio amateurs who want to give back to their community by serving as ARRL examiners and instructors.

ARRL VEC manages the License Class Certificate Program (formerly known as the Amateur Extra Class Certificate Program), which acknowledges the success of licensed operators.

## Amateur Radio Licenses: The Upward Trend Continues

The total number of US amateurs in the FCC database continues to grow each year. As of December 31, 2015, the amount of licensees reached an all-time high of 735,405. Technician, General, and Extra class licensees peaked as well, growing at the end of 2015 to 363,885, 172,443, and 139,991, respectively.

The two charts on the right illustrate new and upgraded FCC license activity over the past 5 years. Results through the end of 2015 demonstrate that while new amateur licenses issued are down by 4% from last year's record-setting pace, they are 11% above the typical totals from previous years. Upgraded licenses are up 6% compared to last year.

## Radiosport

Radiosport refers to the competitive side of Amateur Radio — on-air competitions and achievement awards. Most competitions occur over a weekend, while the achievement awards document a lifetime's worth of on-air accomplishments. Since 1935, the ARRL DX Century Club (DXCC) awards program has been one of the standard-bearers for measuring an amateur's abilities. On-air contests promote operating skills and technical expertise and also foster international goodwill. Contesting and operating awards, along with the very successful Logbook of The World (LoTW) database, are some of the most used and appreciated benefits we offer our members.

## Awards and Operating

The Field Services and Radiosport (FSR) Department supports a plethora of ARRL's core Amateur Radio programs. Throughout the year, we work with tens of thousands of members who are active or interested in a wide range of topics, including:

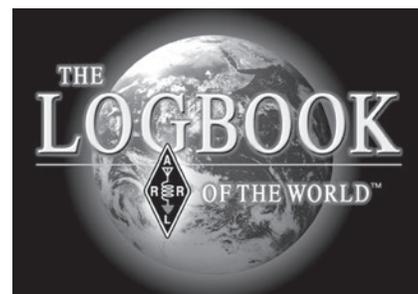
- Emergency Preparedness and Public Service
- Hamfests and conventions — Supplying speakers and materials
- The Official Observer program
- Contests and special operating events — ARRL sponsored 23 on-air activities in 2015

NEW FCC LICENSES					
Totals Issued Per Year: 2011 Through 2015					
YEAR	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
TOTALS	24,072	27,082	28,886	33,241	32,077

UPGRADED FCC LICENSES					
Totals Issued Per Year: 2011 Through 2015					
YEAR	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
TOTALS	10,337	10,283	9,325	10,556	11,224



After giving a motivational speech to students, TV personality Ariel Tweto called CQ from the Pilot Station School Radio Club, WL7CXM, in Alaska, during the February 2015 School Club Roundup. [Donn Gallon, KL7DG, photo]





Award/Program	2014	2015
<b>DXCC</b>		
Credits Received	1,353,746	1,193,617
Credits Processed	1,387,758	1,244,651
Applications Received	15,719	14,650
Applications Processed	15,981	15,093
<b>Logbook of The World</b>		
Total QSO Records	650,922,928	724,842,580
Active Certificates	110,294	122,294
<b>WAS</b>		
WAS Certificates	1,525	1,231
WAS Triple Play	427	239
<b>CQ WPX Award</b>		
Applications	640	603
LoTW Credits	223,117	213,023
<b>VUCC</b>		
VUCC Applications	406	285
Grids Credited	26,580	16,394
<b>Awards</b>		
Average Paper Awards Processing Time	3 weeks	2 weeks
Average LoTW Awards Processing Time	2 days	2 days
<b>Outgoing QSL Bureau</b>		
Cards Received	780,900	727,350
Card Shipped	729,050	725,550

- Operating awards (DXCC, WAS, VUCC, WAC, ARRL's Centennial) — the best operating awards available come from ARRL
- W1AW, the flagship station of the ARRL — On-air bulletins, emergency operations center, and guest operating
- Field services — Holding elections for Section Managers and helping our field volunteers do their jobs on the front lines
- Logbook of The World and electronic awards confirmations and record-keeping — 84,000 registered users around the world
- The famous ARRL QSL bureau — Providing a cost-effective way to send and receive classic QSL cards from around the world
- Support for club groups and affiliation — More than 2,000 clubs are actively affiliated with ARRL

FSR's 22 departmental staff and local HQ volunteers work full-time to provide enjoyment and support to ARRL members and volunteers alike. The department provides and supports opportunities and valuable roles for amateurs in all walks of life and with all levels of experience and interest. Ham radio in the US continues to

thrive on the air and among the public thanks to ARRL's members, volunteers and staff at HQ all working together.

### Awards

The Awards branch began processing Centennial QSO Party awards in March 2015, with several thousand Challenge QSO Party and W1AW/WAS awards being sent out to qualifying participants.

Logbook of The World now has over 84,000 users, with a database of over 745 million QSOs. LoTW's popularity is unprecedented, as many hams now use LoTW as the sole means of submitting their applications for DXCC, WAS, and VUCC.

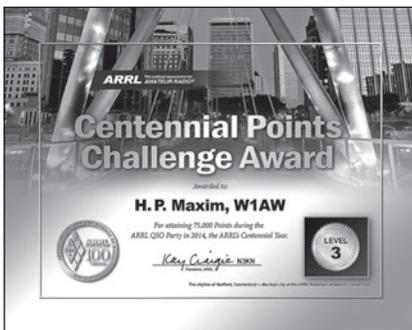
Due to a significant amount of applicants utilizing the Online DXCC program and Logbook of The World, data entry staffers have noticed a decrease in the average size of traditional paper applications, and as a result, applications are processed more rapidly.

### Clubs

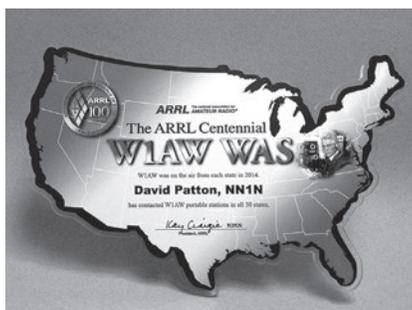
The number of ARRL Affiliated clubs increased by 4%. After adjusting for inactive clubs, the total number of ARRL affiliated clubs is 2,364.

In 2015, we supported 79 sanctioned conventions and 402 sanctioned hamfests. Interestingly, conventions increased by eight and regular hamfests decreased by five, resulting in a slight increase over last year's events.

We distributed pennants with the new Special Service Clubs (SSC) graphics to all ARRL active SSC clubs. Going forward, all new SSC clubs will receive a pennant with their initial SSC certificate and welcome letter. As always, the Field Organization is given the opportunity to present the SSC banners and certificates.



The leveled certificate for the Centennial Points Challenge Award.



The W1AW Worked All States plaque.

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

## W1AW

W1AW is the flagship Amateur Radio station of the ARRL. It remains the highlight of the ARRL tour. Visitors are encouraged to operate W1AW while on their visit.

To maintain the station's on-the-air code practice and bulletin transmissions presence, two new transceivers and one new HF power amplifier were installed to replace aging transmitting equipment.

Representatives from a company providing commercial lightning protection systems surveyed W1AW to determine the station's lightning safety system. Overall, W1AW received a clean bill of health, with just some minor suggestions to consider to complement its current protection scheme.

Annual spring and autumn antenna/tower inspections were conducted as usual, with no significant issues detected. The inspections are conducted by a certified antenna and tower company operating out of Mason, New Hampshire.

W1AW continues to support the CW Code Proficiency award by providing two Qualifying Runs each month, with three separate West Coast stations providing one Run per month as well.

W1AW received, as a donation, one TP1-Iambic Electronic CW Touch Paddle, and one USKI-5 Universal Sequencer and Keying Interface from QSK, LLC.

W1AW finally achieved DXCC Honor Roll!

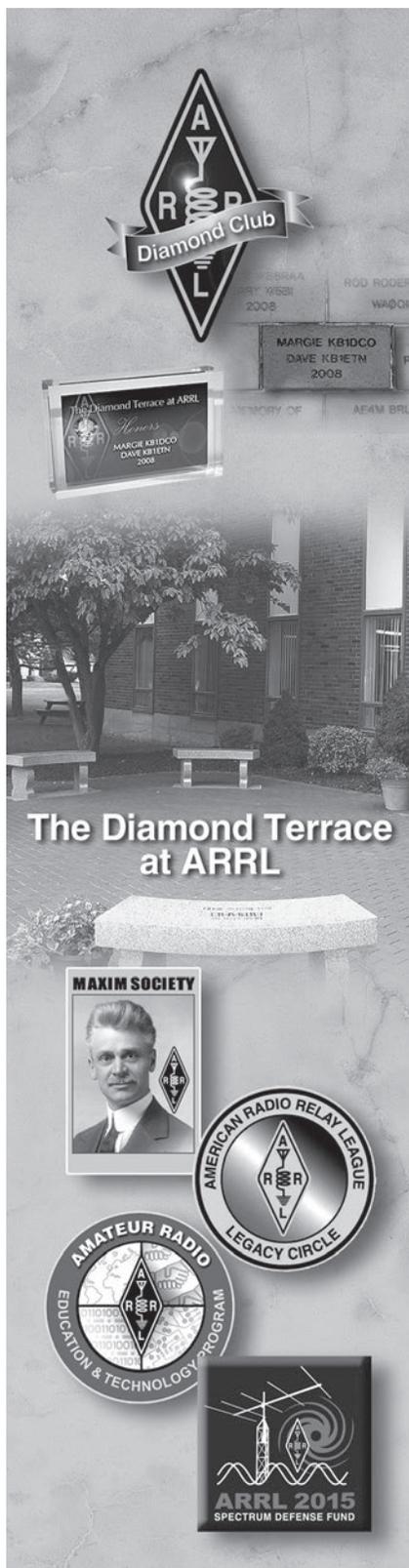
W1AW was active in the New England QSO Party, Field Day, Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA), and the CQ World Wide SSB DX Contest.



W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL Headquarters, is a popular destination for radio amateurs from around the world.



One of three operating positions at W1AW. Visitors to W1AW are encouraged to get on the air.



The Diamond Terrace at ARRL

## Development

### Overview

The Development Office enables individuals, clubs, and foundations to give back to ARRL and Amateur Radio; the avocation — and the organization — that has provided so much enjoyment, direction, and friendship in their lives. Through their contributions, members support ARRL's many programs and services not covered by membership dues.

In 2015, the Development Office raised \$1,792,755. This support was directed to the Spectrum Defense Fund, the Education & Technology Fund, the Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund, ARRL's Endowment Fund, and ARRL's general fund (unrestricted). Additional donations were made toward Ham Aid, Historic Preservation, the Lab Fund, the Legal Research and Resource Fund, and Operating Programs. The Development Office also gratefully accepted many bequests and planned gifts as directed by deceased members in their estate plans.

The Second Century Campaign (SCC), concluded in 2014. However, the Development Office is still receiving contributions in the form of pledge payments and new gifts. At the end of 2015, the SCC is credited with raising \$7,686,148 through cash donations and pledges, as well as through planned gifts. All contributions are directed to ARRL's Endowment, ensuring that ARRL has a solid financial base to remain a dynamic and vigorous organization well into the future.



Of special note, Dave Bell, W6AQ, and Alice (Sam) Bell, W6QLT, of Encinitas, California, donated an original Andy Warhol screenprint, entitled "Superman (Myth) 1981 F&S II.260 Screenprint 38 x 38" Edition 155/200 to ARRL in May 2015. This valuable print was sold at auction by Christie's in New York City later in the year for an astonishing \$150,000. Proceeds from the sale of this print, per Mr and Mrs Bell's wishes, established The Dave Bell, W6AQ, Endowment Fund.

### The ARRL Diamond Club

The Diamond Club is an annual giving program allowing individuals to renew their membership as well as provide unrestricted contributions to support ARRL. Participation in the Diamond Club also offers special benefits and recognition at various levels. Diamond Club members at the Brass level or higher can place an engraved brick in the Diamond Terrace, a beautiful patio framing the entrance to Headquarters. Messages on these bricks include tributes to Silent Keys, Elmers, friends and family, DXpeditions, and other special memories. To date, there are 1,896 engraved bricks in the Diamond Terrace, with 178 placed just in 2015. The year closed with 1,815 Diamond Club members, and \$323,646 in revenue.

*In 2015, the Maxim Society welcomed 18 new members, bringing total membership in this distinguished group to 189.*

### ARRL Maxim Society

ARRL's Maxim Society recognizes donors whose lifetime contributions to ARRL have reached \$10,000. In 2015, the Maxim Society welcomed 18 new members, bringing total membership in this distinguished group to 189.

### Legacy Circle

The ARRL Legacy Circle acknowledges individuals who have provided for ARRL in their wills or other estate plans. Gifts received in this capacity — unless otherwise designated — provide unrestricted revenue to be used wherever resources are most needed, either through the ARRL Endowment, or to assist in offsetting operational costs.

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

## Spectrum Defense Fund

The Spectrum Defense Fund provides critical resources to support the efforts of ARRL key volunteers and staff who work to keep Amateur Radio frequencies intact and available. In 2015, donations contributed \$311,066 to help preserve our limited spectrum resources.

## Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund

The Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund was created by the ARRL Board of Directors in 2015 to assist with educating our elected officials, staff and agencies in Washington, DC about critical Amateur Radio issues. The current focus is on the Amateur Radio Parity Act, HR 1301 in the House and S 1685 in the Senate. However, efforts are ongoing to keep our friends on Capitol Hill informed and favorably inclined to our avocation.

## Education & Technology Fund

This important fund provides the financial resources for the Education & Technology Program, including Teachers Institutes, a professional development program for teachers. The Education & Technology Program also provides grants to schools in the form of radio equipment, related software and curriculum support.

The program is funded entirely through donor contributions, and in 2015, appeals garnered \$190,256. ARRL is grateful to have the support from several generous supporters, including the Dayton Amateur Radio Association. Additional support is provided by Yaesu, Ham Radio Outlet, and Parallax, Inc.

## Combined Federal Campaign

ARRL was approved for participation in the 2015 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The CFC is a payroll giving program for federal employees that runs concurrently with the United Way Community Campaign every fall. In 2015, ARRL received \$33,704.18 in CFC commitments.

## Honoring ARRL's Long-Term Members

Every year, the Development Office recognizes individuals who have reached the 40-, 50-, 60-, 70-, and 80-year anniversaries of their ARRL membership. We were pleased to continue this tradition in 2015.





## ARRL FOUNDATION

Administering Programs to Support the Amateur Radio Community



The 2015 Goldfarb Scholarship is awarded through the ARRL Foundation to an active Amateur Radio licensee who intends to pursue a bachelor's degree in a business-related, computer, medical, nursing, or engineering field. Awarded to one high school senior each year, the scholarship is the result of a generous endowment from William Goldfarb, N2ITP (SK).

**Jacob Nuñez-Kearny, KF7DSY, of Mesa, Arizona, is the recipient of the 2015 William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship**

*The Education & Technology Program also provides grants to schools in the form of radio equipment, related software and curriculum support. The program is funded entirely through donor contributions, and in 2015, appeals garnered \$190,256.*



Dayton Amateur Radio Association President Don Dubon, N6JRL, announced a \$100,000 commitment to ARRL's Second Century Campaign from the club. Second Century Campaign Committee member Mike Valentine, W8MM (left), and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, presented Mr Dubon with a plaque acknowledging this generous pledge.



Fellow Maxim Society members W. Paul Trouten, W8PI, and Mike Valentine, W8MM, catch up on news over the past year.



Longtime ARRL supporters and Maxim Society members, Glenn, W0GJ, and Vivien, KL7YL, Johnson.



Second Century Campaign Committee members Dennis Shapiro, W1UF, and Ken Byers, K4TEA, celebrate the campaign's success in raising \$7.6 million for the ARRL Endowment.

### 15th Annual ARRL Donor Recognition Reception

The Annual Donor Recognition Reception, held every year on the Thursday evening before the Dayton Hamvention in May, invites ARRL's most generous members, including Maxim Society members, Legacy Circle members, and 2015 leadership donors, to come together for a celebration of generosity and Amateur Radio. The 2015 reception, held on May 14, featured ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U, as the keynote speaker. Following tradition, ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, gave a warm welcome to guests, and later in the night the newest Maxim Society members were introduced.



In May 2015, Dave Bell, W6AQ, and his wife, Alice (Sam) Bell, W6QLT, of Encinitas, California, donated an original Andy Warhol screenprint, entitled "Superman (Myth) 1981 F&S II.260 Screenprint 38 x 38," Edition 155/200, to ARRL. The print was sold at auction by Christie's in New York City later in the year for an astonishing \$150,000. Proceeds from the sale of the print, per Mr and Mrs Bell's wishes, established The Dave Bell, W6AQ, Endowment Fund.



ARRL Development Manager Lauren Clarke, KB1YDD, welcomes the newest members of the Maxim Society. From left to right are Clarke; Constance Barsky, WD8ODC; Steven Katz, N8WL; Ian H. Keith, N8IK; Ron Tingle, K4ML, and William Smith, W9VA.



## 2015 ARRL Leadership Donors

ARRL gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, clubs, and organizations for their generous support in 2015 with donations of \$1,000 or more. Donors listed below contributed to the ARRL Diamond Club, the Second Century Campaign, the Spectrum Defense Fund, the Education & Technology Fund, the W1AW Endowment, and the Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund.

Robert Ahmann, W7SC

Dwayne Allen, WY7FD,  
and Katie Allen, WY7YL

Allen-Heath Memorial Foundation,  
K6ZIZ and K6OKO

George Allison, K1IG  
and Annette Allison, KB1LSH

Bob Allphin, K4UEE

Amateur Radio Safety Foundation, Inc.

Arizona Repeater Association, W7ARA

Baker Family Foundation, W5IZ and W5JKB

Sherman Banks, W4ATL,  
and Mary Banks, K4MRY

John L. Barber, N5JB

Bob Barden, MD0CCE

Glen Barney, NY3E

Bill Barr, N4NX

Richard Battles, WB4BYQ

John O. Baumgarten, N0IJ

John Beaston, K7TY

Bob Beaudet, W1YRC

Richard P. Beebe, K1PAD

Mark A. Behrens, W4GP

Dave Bell, W6AQ,  
and Alice (Sam) Bell, W6QLT

Steven Bense, W9SRB

Ken Bills, W9KB

Linda Bittner, K6GRL

Rev. Paul Bittner, W0AIH

Andrew B. Bodony, K2LE

Gerry Boudreaux, W5IC

Ralph "Gator" Bowen, N5RZ

Karl F. Bowman, W4CHX

David Brandenburg, K5RQ

In memory of Chuck Braun, WD9GWG

Brian E. Broggie, W6FVI

William G. Brown, K9LF

Frank Butler, W4RH

Ken Byers, K4TEA

Patrick C. Cain, K0PC

Steve W. Chaddick, WA4ZDD

Lee Ciereszko, N4TCW  
and Emily Wengrovius, WN4ECW

J. Craig Clark, Jr, K1QX

Dr. Thomas A. Clark, K3IO

Thomas Clements, K1TC

Jay Close, K0GEO

Joseph Cloutier, KC9JAC

Adam E. Coffey, N8DDW

Chaz Cone, W4GKF

Stephen Cornell, K4AHA

Kay Craigie, N3KN, and Carter Craigie, N3AO

Gerald E. Crawford, K7UPJ

Mark J. Croney, W4ZF

Dayton Amateur Radio Association, W8BI

James Dicso, K2SZ

Richard G. Dittmer, Sr, KH6SAT

Frank Donovan, W3LPL

In Memory of Jake McClain Driver, KC5WXA

Joe Dubeck, NA9A

Daniel J. DuBray, K14RSD

Richard E. DuBroff, W9XW

Timothy J. Duffy, K3LR

G. Kip Edwards, W6SZN

Martin S. Ewing, AA6E

Alan J. Feldmeier, N0XP

Jack J. Ference, W3KX

William B. Filbert, W6NCH

James H. Fitzpatrick, W19WI

Marjorie and Harry Flasher, AC8G

Andrew J. Forsyth, AF3I

Presley Foster, W5PD

Dr. Charles S. Fullgraf, KE4OAR

Michael F. Gardina, W2ARQ

Ken Garg, W3JK

Phil George

Paul Z. Gilbert, KE5ZW

David Giuliani, WA6PXX

Craig Goldman, K2LZQ

John Good, W1GS

Marty Green, K2PLF

David H. Greenhut, N6HD

Kenneth R. Guest, W5XG

D. A. Hall, N7JEI

Jay Hamann, W0YUK

Richard M. Hambley, W2GPS

Ted Hannah, K3CL

In Memory of Gordon Walter Harris, W7UIZ (SK)

Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and Kim Harrison

John W. Hays, N6JWH

John W. Herzer, KF5GLB

Michael Hightower, KF6SJ

Mary M. Hobart, K1MMH

Elizabeth W. Hoffert  
and Fred W. Hoffert III, NA2U

Edward F. Hogan, KE1LV

Kerry Holliday, WA6BJH

Mark Holmstrup, K1MAH

Henri S. Honda, K6DON/7J9AAD

Paul R. Horenstein, K2PH

Raymon A. House

William Hudzik, W2UDT

Walter R. Huebner, KD0BDO

Thomas J. Hutton, N3ZZ

Joe R. Hyatt, K5GRB

Indianapolis Amateur Radio Association

George R. Isely, W9GIG

Dick Jackson, W3EZ

Leslie P. Kalmus, W2LK

Dick Kalt, W1FYI

Don Kasten, N4DK

Ian H. Keith, N8IK

Joseph S. Kennedy, WQ6Q

Kenneth D. Knudson, N5TY

Jeffrey T. Kopcak, K8JTK

Stanley D. Korzep, W8NNX

Harold R. Kramer, WJ1B

Bernie Krasowski, KD5QH.V,  
and Linda Krasowski, KE5BQK

Fred Laun, K3ZO

Bill Lippert, AC0W

Joe Locascio, K5KT,  
and Marian Locascio, K5KKT

Gary G. Lopes, WA6MEM

Robert O. Loving, K9JU

Joe Makeever, W5HS

Gregg Marco, W6IZT  
and Jenna Marco, KJ4PQV

Robinson Markel, W2IVS

Ron, W7GTF, and MaryLou McCollum

Charles P. McConnell, W6DPD

J. Dalton McCrary, W4WUQ

John E. Mercer, W7IIS

Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK

Jim Moyer, WA5GVQ

Ray Mustafa, WA2NBG

Thomas L. Nelson, W6EO

William Newbauer, KG5GYA

North Fulton Amateur Radio League, NF4GA

Tod Olson, K0TO

Larry A. Olson, W9INE

Orlando Amateur Radio Club, W4PLB

Joseph Osburn, Jr, W4CFA

Dino Papas, KL0S, and Toby Papas, KL0SS

William H. Pardee, W7WHP,  
and Susan R. Pardee, KC7HLN  
Howard "Pat" Patterson, Jr, W5VY  
John and Leigh Patterson, WC0W  
and WC0T  
Kurt Pauer, W6PH  
Marion Alfred Petty, N6EHA  
John E. Pinkham, K3PER  
Richard S. Post  
Malcolm Preston, NP2L  
Dr. Larry E. Price, W4RA  
Arthur Priebe, N5ART  
Mark Ratajack, K7MTR  
Edward C. Rattedge, K3CWF  
Bob Ravenscroft, KE7JZ  
Jerry Redding, KA8Q  
In honor of Thomas L. Reed, K4BPF  
Fred J. Regennitter, K4IU,  
and Judy Regennitter, K0UJH  
Joseph H. Reisert, Jr, W1JR  
Paul Rinaldo, W4RI  
Donald S. Robertson, AC7VX  
Alan H. Robinson, W4LKE  
James M. Roden, W5JR  
Ren P. Roderick, WA7QFR  
Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Holly Roderick  
Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z,  
and Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L  
Harry R. Rosenbloom, NE8Y  
Alfred C. Rousseau, W1FJ  
Stanford H. Rowe, K6VWE  
Thomas M. Schaefer, NY4I  
Maurice L. Schietecatte, N4LZ

James R. Schilling, KG4JSZ  
Keith Schlottman, KR7RK  
Barney Scholl, K3LA  
C. Wayne Schuler, AI9Q  
Edmund O. Schweitzer III, W7KOW  
Howard J. Schweitzer, AB3GH  
Sea Pac Ham Convention  
Paul V. Seamon, Jr, N2RI  
Walter J. Sepaniac, N5TQ  
Paul D. Sergi, NO8D  
L. Dennis Shapiro, W1UF  
John R. Shepherd, AD6NR  
Kamal Sirageldin, N3KS  
William B. Smith, W9VA  
Steven L. Somers, AE6SS,  
and Robin Somers, KJ6ISJ  
Jimmy R. Sorrells, MD, WA9ABB  
Roger A. Strauch, KD6UO  
John Swartz, WA9AQN  
T Theory Foundation, Inc.  
Jim Talens, N3JT  
Jonathan P. Taylor, K1RFD  
Temple Amateur Radio Club, Inc., W5LM  
Robert W. Ter Maat, WA5SCP  
Philip Theis, K3TUF  
Michael Therrien, N1MD  
John Thomas, K1VW  
Craig Thompson, K9CT  
Wakefield Thompson, KF4LDE  
Ron Tingle, K4ML  
James S. Tolbert, Jr, WW3S  
Guy L. Tribble, N6SN

Kent W. Trimble, K9ZTV  
W. Paul Trouten, W8PI  
John Uhl, W5ZE  
Michael Valentine, W8MM  
Arnold G. van der Valk, AG3V,  
and Suzanne C. van der Valk, ND0D  
Ronald A. Vanke, K8YAH  
Tom Vavra, WB8ZRL  
Roger A. Wagner, K6LMN  
Solveig A. Walstrom  
John C. Walton, WQ7K  
Allan C. Webb, W5RLG  
Jerry Weisskohl, AC4BT  
Steven West, W7SMW,  
and Donna Karam, KC5FTN  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc., W9FK  
Western Washington Amateur Relay Association  
Dan White, W5DNT  
Richard Wiklund, MD, K1MGH  
John Williams, K8JW  
Robert H. Williams, W6IHS  
Henry Wixon, WX0N  
Mitch Wolfson, DJ0QN/K7DX  
Owen Wormser, K3CB  
Scott Wright, K0MD  
Yankee Clipper Contest Club, AJ1I  
YASME Foundation, Inc.  
Matthias Zapatka, AJ4BB  
Gregory M. Zenger, N2GZ  
Ivan Zuckerman, WB4LXR  
Arthur I. Zygjelbaum, K0AIZ  
Anonymous: 12



## Maxim Society Donors

The Maxim Society honors individuals, clubs, and organizations whose lifetime contributions to ARRL exceed \$10,000. This distinctive program, named for ARRL founder Hiram Percy Maxim, was created in 2002.

Maxim Society members have supported ARRL through their contributions to the ARRL Diamond Club, the Second Century Campaign, the Spectrum Defense Fund, the Education & Technology Fund, the W1AW Endowment, and the Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund. Members' generosity allows ARRL to continue to offer outstanding programs and services, and to promote Amateur Radio across the country and around the world. As of December 31, 2015, ARRL proudly acknowledges 177 Maxim Society members.

**Millennium Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$1,000,000 – \$4,999,999)  
Michael Valentine, W8MM

**Century Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$500,000 – \$999,999)  
David Brandenburg, K5RQ

**Fellow Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$250,000 – \$499,999)  
Kay Craigie, N3KN, and Carter Craigie, N3AO  
Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK  
Paul D. Sergi, NO8D

**Founder Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$100,000 – \$249,999)  
Dave Bell, W6AQ,  
and Alice (Sam) Bell, W6QLT  
Dayton Amateur Radio Association, W8BI  
Marjorie and Harry Flasher, AC8G  
H. Dale Strieter, W4QM

Steven West, W7SMW,  
and Donna Karam, KC5FTN  
Anonymous: 1

**Benefactor Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$50,000 – \$99,999)

Allen-Heath Memorial Foundation,  
K6ZIZ and K6OKO  
Ken Byers, K4TEA  
James Dicso, K2SZ  
Craig Goldman, K2LZQ  
Elliot Gross, KB2TZ  
James Jaeger, K8RQ  
Bob Ravenscroft, KE7JZ  
L. Dennis Shapiro, W1UF  
Craig Thompson, K9CT  
Dave Topp, W5BXX  
Joe Walsh, WB6ACU  
Anonymous: 2

**Ambassador Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$25,000 – \$49,999)

Sherman Banks, W4ATL,  
and Mary Banks, K4MRY  
Frank Butler, W4RH  
Brook Byers, K6TKM  
Frank Donovan, W3LPL  
Timothy J. Duffy, K3LR  
Kenneth A. Fath, N4KF  
James C. Garland, W8ZR  
Marty Green, K2PLF  
Elizabeth W. Hoffert  
and Fred W. Hoffert III, NA2U  
Thomas J. Hutton, N3ZZ  
George R. Isely, W9GIG  
Andrew C. John, MD, JD, W8OU  
Don Lisle, K6IPV  
Dr. Larry E. Price, W4RA  
Paul Rinaldo, W4RI  
Dr. Ulrich Rohde, N1UL  
Roger A. Strauch, KD6UO  
W. Paul Trouten, W8PI  
Scott Tuthill, K7ZO and YN5Z  
Dick Weber, K5IU  
Anonymous: 1

**President Class**  
(Lifetime Giving of \$10,000 – \$24,999)

Dave Anderson, K4SV  
Louis G. Arnold, K9ALP  
Merit Arnold, W6NQ  
Donald J. Backys, K9UQN  
C. Dwight Baker, W4IJY  
Baker Family Foundation, W5IZ and W5JKB  
Don Barber, K8GV  
John L. Barber, N5JB

Bob Barden, MDØCCE  
Glen Barney, NY3E  
Richard Battles, WB4BYQ  
Walter P. Bernadyn, W2FP†  
Mark A. Behrens, W4GP  
Rev. Paul Bittner, WØAIH  
Gerry Boudreaux, W5IC  
Randall J. Bynum, NR6CA  
Steve W. Chaddick, WA4ZDD  
Joseph G. Chaet, W1RGH,  
and Carla M. Chaet, N7OPU  
Lee Ciereszko, N4TCW  
and Emily Wengrovius, WN4ECW  
J. Craig Clark, Jr, K1QX  
Thomas Clements, K1TC  
Jay Close, KØGEO  
Joseph Cloutier, KC9JAC  
Ms. Ti-Michelle Connelly, NJ6T  
Stephen Cornell, K4AHA  
Mark J. Croney, W4ZF  
William J. Deegan III, K9XT  
Richard Dievendoff, K6KR  
In Memory of Jake McClain Driver, KC5WXA  
Daniel J. DuBray, K14RSD  
G. Kip Edwards, W6SZN  
Martin S. Ewing, AA6E  
Frank Fallon, N2FF  
Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF,  
and Shirley Fenstermaker, W7SAF  
Gary J. Ferdinand, W2CS  
William B. Filbert, W6NCH  
Sean Fleming, K8KHZ  
Andrew J. Forsyth, AF3I  
Presley Foster, W5PD  
Bruce J. Frahm, KØBJ  
Ken Garg, W3JK  
Steve Goggans, K7LZJ,  
and Lyndie Goggans, N7PKM  
Ted, W4VHF†, and Itice, K4LVV, Goldthorpe  
Kenneth Goodwin, K5RG  
David H. Greenhut, N6HD  
Jay Hamann, WØYUK  
Ted Hannah, K3CL  
Dick and Kathie Hanson, K5AND  
In Memory of Gordon Walter Harris, W7UIZ (SK)  
Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and Kim Harrison  
Bill Hider, N3RR  
Mary M. Hobart, K1MMH  
Kerry Holliday, WA6BJH  
Henri S. Honda, K6DON/7J9AAD  
Paul R. Horenstein, K2PH  
William Hudzik, W2UDT  
Dick Jackson, W3EZ  
Glenn, WØGJ, and Vivien, KL7YL, Johnson

John C. Kanode, N4MM  
Steven Katz, N8WL,  
and Constance Barsky, WD8ODC  
Ian H. Keith, N8IK  
John R. Kludt, K4SQC  
Kenneth D. Knudson, N5TY  
Martti J. Laine, OH2BH  
Fred Laun, K3ZO  
Bill Lippert, ACØW  
Bob Locher, W9KNI  
Jimmy Long, W4ZRZ,  
and Christine Long, W4FIG  
Ron Lowrance, K4SX  
Bruce Marcus, N1XG  
Robinson Markel, W2IVS  
Charles P. McConnell, W6DPD  
Willis McDonald, KD7NZG†  
Wayne, N7NG, and Margaret Mills  
William Mueller, AA5WM  
Ray Mustafa, WA2NGB  
Tod Olson, KØTO  
Joseph Osburn, Jr, W4CFA  
Edward Parish, K1EP  
Kurt Pauer, W6PH  
Thomas W. Porter, W8KYZ  
Malcolm Preston, NP2L  
Arthur Priebe, N5ART  
Michael Raskin, W4UJM,  
and Sherry Raskin, W4SLR  
Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Holly Roderick  
Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z,  
and Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L  
Alfred C. Rousseau, W1FJ  
Eric Scace, K3NA  
Maurice L. Schietecatte, N4LZ  
C. Wayne Schuler, A19Q  
Edmund O. Schweitzer III, W7KOW  
Claudia and Edward (KD5M) Seeliger  
Kamal Sirageldin, N3KS  
Don Smith, W8KGL  
William B. Smith, W9VA  
James L. Spencer, WØSR  
Walton Stinson, WØCP,  
and Mary Kay Stinson, KØZV  
David Sumner, K1ZZ,  
and Linda Churma Sumner, KA1ZD  
Jim Talens, N3JT  
Rick Tavan, N6XI  
Robert W. Ter Maat, WA5SCP  
Ron Tingle, K4ML  
John Uhl, W5ZE  
Arnold G. van der Valk, AG3V,  
and Suzanne C. van der Valk, NDØD  
David Walker, KØCOP  
James E. Weaver, K8JE

Dan White, W5DNT  
Richard Wiklund, MD, K1MGH  
John Williams, K8JW  
E. Glenn Wolf, Jr, N5RN

Mitch Wolfson, DJ0QN/K7DX  
Walter L. Wooten, W1LW  
Owen Wormser, K3CB  
Scott Wright, K0MD

Allen Zimmerman, K3WGR  
Ivan Zuckerman, WB4LXR  
Anonymous: 16



## Legacy Circle Donors

The ARRL Legacy Circle recognizes individuals who have provided for ARRL in their wills or other estate plans. Gifts received in this capacity — unless otherwise designated — provide unrestricted revenue to be used wherever resources are most needed, either through the ARRL Endowment, or to assist in offsetting operational costs.

Dave, K6XG, and Alicia, KG6LJ, Abell  
Robert Ahmann, W7SC  
Alan Applegate, K0BG  
Donald J. Backys, K9UQN  
Bob Barden, MD0CCE  
Robert C. Beach, W8LCZ  
Michael E. Beck, W7EDO  
Mark Beckwith, N5OT  
Bob Beebe, GU4YOX/KX6N  
Dave Bell, W6AQ,  
and Alice (Sam) Bell, W6QLT  
Steven Bense, W9SRB  
Rev. Paul Bittner, W0AIH  
Jim Boockholdt, N4AL  
Alvin C. Borne, W6IVO  
Clint Bradford, K6LCS  
David Brandenburg, K5RQ  
Frank Butler, W4RH  
George H. Byrkit, K9TRV and Mary Byrkit  
Kenneth Cary, K9UCX  
Joseph G. Chaet, W1RGH,  
and Carla M. Chaet, N7OPU  
Roberta Chamalian, WB1ADL,  
and Peter Chamalian, W1RM  
J. Craig Clark, Jr, K1QX  
Jose R. Cruz, KA2KCR  
John G. DePrimo, K1JD  
Richard Dievendorf, K6KR  
Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS  
Rusty Epps, W6OAT  
Ronald Erickson, K0IC  
Carl L. First, N6CKV  
Bruce J. Frahm, K0BJ  
Bill Gerhold, K2WH  
Steve Goggans, K7LZJ,  
and Lyndie Goggans, N7PKM  
Ted, W4VHF†, and Itice, K4LVV, Goldthorpe  
Elliot Gross, KB2TZ

Richard Hemingway, N5XRD  
Fried Heyn, WA6WZO,  
and Sandra Heyn, WA6WZN  
Douglas Hilton, WD0UG,  
and Diane Hilton, WD1ANE  
Mary M. Hobart, K1MMH  
Thomas H. Hodgson, W3DNN  
Geoffry Howard, W0CG  
Thomas Jakubec, N5ZR  
Ron Jansen, KB9WTB  
Scott Johns, VMD, W3TX  
Frandy Johnson, N1FJ  
Gale and Robert Kares, K3SUH  
Christopher J. Karpinsky, AA1VL  
Steven Katz, N8WL,  
and Constance Barsky, WD8ODC  
David L. Kersten, N8AUH  
Aman I. Kumar, N5QQQ  
Edward Lapinski, KV1P  
James F. LaPorta, N1CC  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME  
Don Lisle, K6IPV  
Joe Locascio, K5KT,  
and Marian Locascio, K5KKT  
Joshua Long, W9HT  
Richard A. McClure, N1VXP  
Richard Mondro, K4FQT  
Theodore A. Morris, NC8V  
Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV  
David A. Norris, K5UZ  
Art Pahr, K9XJ  
Greg Palfe, WA0BNX  
Dino Papas, KL0S, and Toby Papas, KL0SS  
Ernest Paul, KC2WD  
Bruce R. Pfeiffer, N7CPP  
Keith Pugh, W5IU  
Larry Quinn, W1LDQ,  
and Wendy Quinn, W1DY

George E. and Barbara I. Race, WB8BGY  
and WB8UWX  
Michael Raskin, W4UM,  
and Sherry Raskin, W4SLR  
John P. Rautenstrauch, N2MTG  
Raymond Richard, W4RPR  
Alfred C. Rousseau, W1FJ  
In honor of Miranda K. Sears  
Rev. Les Shattuck, K4NK  
Arnold Shatz, N6HC,  
and Sheryl Shatz, KA6DOW  
Charles F. Spetnagel, W6KK  
Wayne Starnes, KU4V,  
and Catherine Starnes  
Walton Stinson, W0CP,  
and Mary Kay Stinson, K0ZV  
John Swartz, WA9AQN  
John Thomas, AE3M  
John J. Thornton, W6HD,  
and Jane M. Thornton, K6HDX  
Hal L. Turley, W8HC  
Bob Vallio, W6RGG  
Tom Vavra, WB8ZRL  
James Ward, W6AAJ, and Patricia Ward  
Robert B. Wareham, N0ESQ  
James E. Weaver, K8JE  
Steven West, W7SMW,  
and Donna Karam, KC5FTN  
Dan White, W5DNT  
Allen Zimmerman, K3WGR  
Anonymous: 28

†=Silent Key

# Annual Report

Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio



ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut

*Membership continued to be the bright spot in the organization's financial results as the total number of members increased again in 2015, the ninth year in a row.*

## Financial Summary

After the Centennial year, which was 12 months of significant activity and accomplishment, 2015 proved to be a time where the organization returned to the basics from a financial perspective. Revenues and expenses returned to more normalized levels after those experienced in 2014, which were the result of all the Centennial activities. And while contributions continued to flow into the organization from the Second Century Campaign, a financial loss from operations and the loss in market value of the investment portfolio resulted in a small decrease in the total net assets for the year.

Membership continued to be the bright spot in the organization's financial results as the total number of members increased again in 2015, the ninth year in a row. With strong membership results in the fourth quarter of the

year, membership in ARRL totaled 170,528 at the end of 2015, an increase of 2.9% over the end of 2014. This increased the total dues income during the year to almost \$6.0 million, the highest level of dues income in the organization's history.

As noted above, revenues and expenses decreased in 2015 from the levels we saw in 2014, the Centennial year. Total revenues dropped to \$15.1 million from \$15.5 million in 2014 as most revenue categories reported decreases from the prior year. Publication sales, which were almost \$4.0 million during the Centennial year, totaled \$3.77 million in 2015. Revenues from advertising across all of the various platforms resulted in \$2.45 million in 2015, a decrease from \$2.54 million in the prior year. The Centennial National Convention in Hartford, Connecticut served to increase revenues from programs during 2014, but that was a one-time event. As a result, gross program fees were down 16% in 2015, totaling \$712,000.

Voluntary contributions of all types (unrestricted, temporarily restricted, and permanently restricted) increased in 2015 for a variety of reasons as members of ARRL continued their tradition of strong commitments to giving to the organization. Without the generosity of the membership, ARRL would not be able to provide some of the programs, such as Spectrum Defense and the Education & Technology Program. In addition, we added a new fund, the Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund, which helped fund efforts to promote legislation in Congress. During 2015, almost \$1.4 million in voluntary contributions were donated to the organization, an increase of 28% over donations contributed in 2014.

Although revenues decreased in 2015, so did expenses as the costs of the Centennial year activities did not recur. Total expenditures in 2015 were \$15.3 million, a decrease of 3.5% from the level of 2014. Most of this reduction came in the areas of programs and publications.

Despite significant contributions to the organization from the Second Century Campaign and unrestricted estate bequests, the total net assets of ARRL were down slightly in 2015, mainly due to the impact of the investment markets on the value of the ARRL portfolio. The organization finished the year with \$14.8 million in total net assets, in comparison to \$15.2 million at the end of the prior year.

Overall, ARRL remains in good financial condition with sufficient reserves to support the organization going forward. The Board of Directors did vote to increase the dues beginning in 2016, the first dues increase in 14 years. This will help the organization continue to meet the challenges of the future and continue to provide the programs and services that the membership values.

*American Radio  
Relay League*

*Board of Directors  
January 2015*

**Front Row:** \_\_\_\_\_

Jay Bellows, Kay Craigie, Rick Roderick, Jim Fenstermaker,

**Second Row:** \_\_\_\_\_

Brennan Price, Kermit Carlson, Robert Famiglio, Rod Stafford, Mike Raisbeck,  
Bob Vallio, Dennis Bodson, William Hudzik, Dr. James Boehner, Harold Kramer,  
Rod Blocksome

**Third Row:** \_\_\_\_\_

David Norris, Brian Mileschosky, George Isely, Mike Lisenco, Tom Abernethy,  
Bonnie Altus, Marty Woll, Chris Imlay, Jim Pace

**Fourth Row:** \_\_\_\_\_

Dan Henderson, Tom Delaney, Dale Williams, Jim Tiemstra, John Robert Stratton,  
Doug Rehman, David Sumner, Barry Shelley

**Top Row:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tom Frenaye, Richard Norton, Kent Olson, Dr. David Woolweaver, Dwayne Allen,  
Rick Niswander, Greg Widin, Glen MacDonell, Art Zygielbaum



ARRL 2015 Annual Board Meeting — Windsor, CT

## Officers

### **Kay Craigie, N3KN**

President  
Blacksburg, Virginia

### **Rick Roderick, K5UR**

First Vice President  
Little Rock, Arkansas

### **Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF**

Vice President  
Vancouver, Washington

### **Jay Bellows, K0QB**

Vice President,  
International Affairs  
West St Paul, Minnesota

### **David Sumner, K1ZZ**

Chief Executive Officer/Secretary

### **Rick Niswander, K7GM**

Treasurer  
Greenville, North Carolina

### **Barry Shelley, N1VXY**

Chief Financial Officer

### **Harold Kramer, WJ1B**

Chief Operating Officer

### **Brennan Price, N4QX**

Chief Technology Officer

## Directors

### **Atlantic Division**

#### **Tom Abernethy, W3TOM**

Director  
Accokeek, Maryland

#### **Robert B. Famiglio, K3RF**

Vice Director  
Media, Pennsylvania

### **Central Division**

#### **George R. Isely, W9GIG**

Director  
St Charles, Illinois

#### **Kermit Carlson, W9XA**

Vice Director  
Batavia, Illinois

### **Dakota Division**

#### **Gregory P. Widin, K0GW**

Director  
Stillwater, Minnesota

#### **Kent Olson, KA0LDG**

Vice Director  
Horace, North Dakota

### **Delta Division**

#### **David Norris, K5UZ**

Director  
Little Rock, Arkansas

#### **Ed B. Hudgens, WB4RHQ**

Vice Director  
Nashville, Tennessee

### **Great Lakes Division**

#### **Dale Williams, WA8EFK**

Director  
Dundee, Michigan

#### **Tom Delaney, W8WTD**

Vice Director  
Cincinnati, Ohio

### **Hudson Division**

#### **Mike Lisenco, N2YBB**

Director  
Brooklyn, New York

#### **William Hudzik, W2UDT**

Vice Director  
Gillette, New Jersey

### **Midwest Division**

#### **Rod Blocksome, K0DAS**

Director  
Robins, Iowa

#### **Art Zygielbaum, K0AIZ**

Vice Director  
Lincoln, Nebraska

### **New England Division**

#### **Tom Frenaye, K1K1**

Director  
West Suffield, Connecticut

#### **Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF**

Vice Director  
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

### **Northwestern Division**

#### **Jim Pace, K7CEX**

Director  
Centralia, Washington

#### **Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ**

Vice Director  
Sheridan, Oregon

### **Pacific Division**

#### **Bob Vallio, W6RGG**

Director  
Castro Valley, California

#### **Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT**

Vice Director  
Oakland, California

### **Roanoke Division**

#### **Dr James Boehner, N2ZZ**

Director  
Aiken, South Carolina

Vice Director

Vacant

### **Rocky Mountain Division**

#### **Brian Mileschosky, N5ZGT**

Director  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

#### **Dwayne Allen, WY7FD**

Vice Director  
Sundance, Wyoming

### **Southeastern Division**

#### **Doug Rehman, K4AC**

Director  
Eustis, Florida

#### **Michael Lee, AA6ML**

Vice Director  
Palm Coast, Florida

### **Southwestern Division**

#### **Richard Norton, N6AA**

Director  
Topanga, California

#### **Marty Woll, N6VI**

Vice Director  
Chatsworth, California

### **West Gulf Division**

#### **Dr David Woolweaver, K5RAV**

Director  
Harlingen, Texas

#### **John Robert Stratton, N5AUS**

Vice Director  
Austin, Texas

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors  
The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated, which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

*Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Report on Supplementary Information*

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion of the financial statements as a whole. The schedules of expenditures and temporarily restricted fund summary are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

*CohnReznick LLP*

Hartford, Connecticut  
April 26, 2016

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Statements of Financial Position  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Assets

	2015	2014
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 957,526	\$ 815,902
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$62,756 and \$54,868	355,616	309,718
Inventories, net	794,351	667,320
Pledges receivable, current	144,158	211,121
Other receivables	67,337	59,834
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	261,187	293,601
Total current assets	2,580,175	2,357,496
Other assets:		
Investments	21,826,857	21,754,401
Long term pledges receivable, net of discount and allowance of \$288,592 and \$304,276	666,773	709,143
Land, building and equipment, net	1,594,853	1,603,159
Total other assets	24,088,483	24,066,703
Total assets	\$ 26,668,658	\$ 26,424,199

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 299,913	\$ 264,229
Accrued liabilities	354,785	385,238
Deferred revenue	30,862	15,795
Subtotal operational current liabilities	685,560	665,262
Deferred life membership dues, current	511,898	509,902
Deferred term membership dues, current	3,140,790	2,726,388
Total current liabilities	4,338,248	3,901,552
Long-term liabilities:		
Deferred life membership dues, less current portion	6,721,379	6,543,980
Deferred term membership dues, less current portion	836,192	803,905
Total long-term liabilities	7,557,571	7,347,885
Total liabilities	11,895,819	11,249,437
Commitments	-	-
Net assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	2,258,335	3,084,516
Board designated	6,096,570	5,876,847
Temporarily restricted	2,039,014	2,193,086
Permanently restricted	4,378,920	4,020,313
Total net assets	14,772,839	15,174,762
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 26,668,658	\$ 26,424,199

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Statement of Activities  
Year Ended December 31, 2015**

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Revenues and contributions:				
Membership dues	\$ 5,996,104	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,996,104
Net publication sales	3,769,971	-	-	3,769,971
Advertising	2,451,635	-	-	2,451,635
Investment income	216,810	118,324	-	335,134
Examination fees and other	483,136	-	-	483,136
Program and service fees	712,478	-	-	712,478
Contributions and support	625,756	540,017	228,598	1,394,371
Net assets released from restrictions	622,494	(622,494)	-	-
	<u>14,878,384</u>	<u>35,847</u>	<u>228,598</u>	<u>15,142,829</u>
Expenditures:				
Programs and services	8,478,219	-	-	8,478,219
Publications	4,233,726	-	-	4,233,726
Administration	1,880,345	-	-	1,880,345
Fundraising	429,838	-	-	429,838
Governance	244,539	-	-	244,539
	<u>15,266,667</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,266,667</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets before other income	<u>(388,283)</u>	<u>35,847</u>	<u>228,598</u>	<u>(123,838)</u>
Other income:				
Bequests, Board designated functioning as an endowment	280,146	-	-	280,146
Second Century Campaign endowment contributions	-	-	130,009	130,009
Unrealized loss on investments	(498,321)	(189,919)	-	(688,240)
	<u>(218,175)</u>	<u>(189,919)</u>	<u>130,009</u>	<u>(278,085)</u>
Change in net assets	(606,458)	(154,072)	358,607	(401,923)
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>8,961,363</u>	<u>2,193,086</u>	<u>4,020,313</u>	<u>15,174,762</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 8,354,905</u>	<u>\$ 2,039,014</u>	<u>\$ 4,378,920</u>	<u>\$ 14,772,839</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Statement of Activities  
Year Ended December 31, 2014**

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>Revenues and contributions:</b>				
Membership dues	\$ 5,915,074	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,915,074
Net publication sales	3,960,510	-	-	3,960,510
Advertising	2,536,434	-	-	2,536,434
Investment income	491,623	175,035	-	666,658
Examination fees and other	485,454	-	-	485,454
Program and service fees	852,127	-	-	852,127
Contributions and support	573,845	467,855	44,582	1,086,282
Net assets released from restrictions	656,586	(656,586)	-	-
	<u>15,471,653</u>	<u>(13,696)</u>	<u>44,582</u>	<u>15,502,539</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Programs and services	8,919,762	-	-	8,919,762
Publications	4,427,230	-	-	4,427,230
Administration	1,627,752	-	-	1,627,752
Fundraising	624,789	-	-	624,789
Governance	224,903	-	-	224,903
	<u>15,824,436</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,824,436</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets before other income	<u>(352,783)</u>	<u>(13,696)</u>	<u>44,582</u>	<u>(321,897)</u>
<b>Other income:</b>				
Bequests, Board designated functioning as an endowment	9,000	-	-	9,000
Second Century Campaign endowment contributions	-	-	827,219	827,219
Unrealized gain on investments	111,179	40,764	-	151,943
	<u>120,179</u>	<u>40,764</u>	<u>827,219</u>	<u>988,162</u>
Change in net assets	(232,604)	27,068	871,801	666,265
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>9,193,967</u>	<u>2,166,018</u>	<u>3,148,512</u>	<u>14,508,497</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 8,961,363</u>	<u>\$ 2,193,086</u>	<u>\$ 4,020,313</u>	<u>\$ 15,174,762</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Statements of Cash Flows  
Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

	2015	2014
Operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ (401,923)	\$ 666,265
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Receipts to establish or increase permanent endowment	(358,607)	(871,801)
Depreciation	269,441	242,356
Gain on sale of equipment	(2,513)	(4,606)
Bad debt expense (recovery)	49,811	(8,975)
Discount and allowance for pledges receivable	(15,684)	(46,955)
Change in inventory reserve	27,263	(6,223)
Unrealized (gain) loss on investments	688,240	(151,943)
Realized gain on investments allocated to general and permanent funds	(44,808)	(356,391)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(95,709)	95,549
Inventories	(154,294)	49,409
Pledges receivable	125,017	268,523
Other receivables	(7,503)	105,014
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	32,414	(179,886)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,231	(344,319)
Deferred revenue	15,067	(16,633)
Deferred life membership dues, net of allocated realized gain	151,108	(17,267)
Deferred term membership dues	446,689	110,483
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	729,240	(467,400)
Investing activities:		
Purchase of equipment	(261,135)	(928,638)
Proceeds from sale of equipment	2,513	7,146
Sales of investments	2,645,431	4,133,146
Purchases of investments	(3,333,032)	(3,991,628)
Net cash used in investing activities	(946,223)	(779,974)
Financing activities:		
Receipts to establish or increase permanent endowment	358,607	871,801
Net increase (decrease) in cash	141,624	(375,573)
Cash, beginning of year	815,902	1,191,475
Cash, end of year	\$ 957,526	\$ 815,902

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated

### Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2015 and 2014

#### Note 1 - Organization and summary of significant accounting policies

##### Nature of activities

The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated (the "League") is a not-for-profit organization formed to promote interest in amateur radio communication, experimentation and the advancement of radio art, further the public welfare and foster education in the field of electronic communication. The League also publishes documents, books, magazines and pamphlets necessary or incidental to its purpose. The League's operations are primarily supported by membership dues, publication sales, advertising and contributions. The League's members are primarily located throughout the United States.

##### Basis of presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the League, the accounts of the League are maintained in the following net asset categories:

Unrestricted - Net assets represent available resources other than contributions restricted by donor-imposed stipulations or by operation of law. The Board of Directors of the League has earmarked a certain amount of those funds, which are shown as board designated net assets in the accompanying statements of financial position.

Temporarily Restricted - Net assets represent contributions and earnings thereon that are restricted by donor-imposed stipulations or by operation of law either as to purpose or as to time of expenditure.

Permanently Restricted - Net assets represent contributions received that are subject to donor-imposed restrictions or to those imposed by operation of law that the principal be invested in perpetuity while the income earned thereon is made available for operations.

##### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include all cash balances and highly liquid short-term instruments with an original maturity of three months or less when acquired. Temporary cash and cash equivalent balances associated with investment accounts are included with investments in these financial statements. There were no cash equivalents as of December 2015 or 2014 included in operating cash.

##### Allowance for doubtful accounts

Trade accounts receivable is stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. The League performs on-going credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition and grants credit based on each customer's ability to pay. The League evaluates the need for an allowance for doubtful accounts based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific customers, historical trends and other information.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

**Pledges and contributions receivable**

Pledges and contributions receivable are recorded at their net realizable value which approximates fair value. Receivables that are expected to be collected in future years are discounted to their present values.

**Inventories**

Inventories consist of publications, software, membership supplies and other miscellaneous items. Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined by the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. Inventories are reflected net of reserves for slow moving inventory of \$132,373 and \$105,110 as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Investments**

The League reports investments at fair value (see Note 3) and reflects any gain or loss in the statements of activities. Investment income and gains and losses are considered unrestricted unless temporarily restricted by donor stipulation or by operation of law.

**Land, building and equipment**

The League capitalizes expenditures for building and equipment with a useful life of greater than one year and a cost of \$1,000 or more. Purchased land, building and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the asset. Estimated lives for financial reporting purposes are as follows:

<u>Asset</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
Building	40 years
Furnishings, equipment and building improvements	3 - 15 years
Computer software	3 - 5 years

Expenditures for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense as incurred. For assets sold or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and any resulting gain or loss is reflected in change of net assets for the period.

The League reviews long-lived assets for impairment using an undiscounted cash flow method whenever events or circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. There were no impairment losses related to long-lived assets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Donations of land, building and equipment are recorded as support at their estimated fair value. Such donations are reported as unrestricted support, unless the donor has restricted the donated asset for a specific purpose. Assets donated with explicit restrictions regarding their use and contributions of cash that must be used to acquire land, building and equipment are reported as restricted support. Absent donor stipulations regarding how long those donated assets must be restricted, the League reports expirations of donor restrictions when the donated or acquired assets are placed in service. The League reclassifies temporarily restricted net assets to unrestricted net assets at that time.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

**Endowment and spending policy**

The League adheres to investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the League must hold in perpetuity as well as board designated funds. Under this policy, as approved by the Board of Directors, the endowment assets are invested in accordance with sound investment practices that emphasize long-term investment fundamentals. It is recognized that short-term market fluctuations may cause variations in account performance and investment balances.

To satisfy its long-term rate of return objectives, the League relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The League targets a diversified asset allocation to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

The League appropriates funds for distribution based on an annual review of investment results and available net assets. The League's objective is to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity or for a specified term as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return.

**Revenue recognition**

Membership dues - Revenue from term membership dues is recognized to the extent of acquisition costs when memberships are received. The remaining portion is recognized as revenue on the straight-line basis ratably over the applicable membership period.

The by-laws of the League provide for a life membership dues rate that equals 25 times the term membership annual dues rate. Life member dues are deferred upon receipt. Investment earnings on allocated life member investments are deferred. Revenue is recognized at an amount representative of the estimated cost to the League for providing services to the life members.

Publication Sales - Revenue from publication sales is recognized when the earnings process is complete and the risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the customer, which is generally considered to have occurred upon shipment of the publication.

Advertising - Advertising revenue is recorded during the period in which the advertisements are published.

## The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated

### Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2015 and 2014

Contributions and Bequests - Contributions and bequests received are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted support depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions or those imposed by operation of law. Support that is restricted by the donor is reported as an increase in temporarily restricted net assets even if the restrictions expire in the reporting period in which the support is recognized. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

#### **Income taxes**

The League is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, the League is subject to federal and state income tax as a result of unrelated business income arising from net advertising income. There are no unrelated business income tax liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The League's federal information returns prior to calendar year 2012 are closed and management continually evaluates expiring statutes of limitations, audits, proposed settlements, changes in tax law and new authoritative rulings. The League recognizes interest and penalties associated with uncertain tax positions as part of the income tax provision and includes accrued interest and penalties with the related tax liability in the statements of financial position. The League has no unrecognized tax positions at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

#### **Functional expenses**

The costs of providing various program and supporting services have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the program and supporting services benefited.

#### **Use of estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Reclassifications**

Certain prior year information has been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

#### **Subsequent events**

The League has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through April 26, 2016, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

**Note 2 - Pledges receivable**

Unconditional pledges receivable as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 are expected to be realized in the following periods:

	2015	2014
In one year or less	\$ 144,158	\$ 211,121
In one to five years	415,365	446,019
In more than five years	540,000	567,400
Total pledges receivable	1,099,523	1,224,540
Less: allowance for uncollectible pledges	(90,103)	(102,252)
Less: discount	(198,489)	(202,024)
	<u>\$ 810,931</u>	<u>\$ 920,264</u>

Amounts are shown in the statements of financial position as of December 31 as follows:

	2015	2014
Current	\$ 144,158	\$ 211,121
Long-term	666,773	709,143
	<u>\$ 810,931</u>	<u>\$ 920,264</u>

Pledges expected to be received in more than one year have been discounted using a discount rate of 3.5% and 3.25% at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Note 3 - Investments**

Investments are carried at their aggregate fair value. The following summarizes the relationship between the cost and fair values as presented in the financial statements as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015		2014	
	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value	Cost
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,339,146	\$ 1,339,146	\$ 971,834	\$ 971,834
Equities and mutual funds	11,261,000	8,993,903	11,919,625	9,029,542
Fixed maturities	9,226,711	9,270,932	8,862,942	8,841,909
	<u>\$ 21,826,857</u>	<u>\$ 19,603,981</u>	<u>\$ 21,754,401</u>	<u>\$ 18,843,285</u>

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

The League allocates its investments into categories related to life memberships, regular operations, temporarily restricted and endowment funds. The following summarizes the fair value of investments by category as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Life membership	\$ 7,233,277	\$ 7,053,882
Regular operations	2,079,076	2,610,273
Temporarily restricted	2,039,014	2,193,086
Functioning as an endowment	6,096,570	5,876,847
Permanently restricted	4,378,920	4,020,313
	\$ 21,826,857	\$ 21,754,401

The following summarizes changes in relationships between cost and fair values of investments:

	2015	2014
Unrealized appreciation, beginning of year:		
Fair value	\$21,754,401	\$21,157,076
Cost	18,843,285	18,397,903
Net gain	2,911,116	2,759,173
Unrealized appreciation, end of year:		
Fair value	21,826,857	21,754,401
Cost	19,603,981	18,843,285
Net gain	2,222,876	2,911,116
Net unrealized gain (loss) for the year	\$ (688,240)	\$ 151,943

Investment income is summarized as follows for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Interest and dividend income	\$ 466,001	\$ 497,693
Net realized gain on investments	73,095	586,900
Gross investment income	539,096	1,084,593
Less:		
Net investment income allocated to deferred life liability	(203,962)	(417,935)
Total investment income	\$ 335,134	\$ 666,658

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

**Note 4 - Fair value measurements**

The League values its financial assets and liabilities based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In order to increase consistency and comparability in fair value measurements, a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes observable and unobservable inputs is used to measure fair value into three broad levels, which are described below:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical assets or liabilities. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs.

Level 2: Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in inactive markets or model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs are observable or can be derived principally from or corroborated with observable market data by correlation or other means. If an asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs are used when little or no market data is available. The fair value hierarchy gives the lowest priority to Level 3 inputs.

In determining fair value, the League utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs to the extent possible as well as considers counterparty credit risk in its assessment of fair value.

Financial assets carried at fair value at December 31, 2015 and 2014 are classified in the tables below in one of the three categories described above:

	2015			Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Money market fund	\$ 1,339,146	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,339,146
Mutual funds:				
Closed-end funds	17,290	-	-	17,290
Large blend fund	12,345	-	-	12,345
Small blend fund	8,706	-	-	8,706
Large growth fund	9,311	-	-	9,311
Total mutual funds	<u>47,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,652</u>
Exchange traded funds				
Small blend	287,664	-	-	287,664
Mid cap blend	396,086	-	-	396,086
Large blend	3,628,030	-	-	3,628,030
Short term bond	1,608,842	-	-	1,608,842
Foreign mid blend	74,296	-	-	74,296
Foreign large blend	430,662	-	-	430,662
Equity energy	124,680	-	-	124,680
Diversified emerging markets	133,794	-	-	133,794
Total exchange traded funds	<u>6,684,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,684,054</u>

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Stocks:				
Domestic large cap	\$ 4,001,833	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,001,833
Domestic mid cap	164,965	-	-	164,965
Domestic small cap	38,866	-	-	38,866
International developed	323,630	-	-	323,630
Total stocks	<u>4,529,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,529,294</u>
Fixed maturities:				
Domestic corporate bonds	-	8,131,043	-	8,131,043
International developed bonds	-	795,068	-	795,068
Global high yield taxable	-	300,600	-	300,600
Total fixed maturities	<u>-</u>	<u>9,226,711</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,226,711</u>
Total assets at fair value	<u>\$ 12,600,146</u>	<u>\$ 9,226,711</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 21,826,857</u>
2014				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Money market fund	<u>\$ 971,834</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 971,834</u>
Mutual funds:				
Closed-end funds	76,360	-	-	76,360
Large blend fund	12,884	-	-	12,884
Open-end blended fund	220,390	-	-	220,390
Large growth fund	9,014	-	-	9,014
Total mutual funds	<u>318,648</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,648</u>
Exchange traded funds				
Small blend	303,317	-	-	303,317
Mid cap blend	409,046	-	-	409,046
Large blend	3,251,990	-	-	3,251,990
Short term bond	1,269,412	-	-	1,269,412
Foreign mid blend	76,248	-	-	76,248
Foreign large blend	535,922	-	-	535,922
Equity energy	167,430	-	-	167,430
Diversified emerging markets	136,067	-	-	136,067
Total exchange traded funds	<u>6,149,432</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,149,432</u>
Stocks:				
Domestic large cap	4,783,356	-	-	4,783,356
Domestic mid cap	200,207	-	-	200,207
Domestic small cap	68,982	-	-	68,982
International developed	399,000	-	-	399,000
Total stocks	<u>5,451,545</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,451,545</u>
Fixed maturities:				
Domestic corporate bonds	-	7,706,640	-	7,706,640
International developed bonds	-	746,947	-	746,947
Global high yield taxable	-	409,355	-	409,355
Total fixed maturities	<u>-</u>	<u>8,862,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,862,942</u>
Total assets at fair value	<u>\$ 12,891,459</u>	<u>\$ 8,862,942</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 21,754,401</u>

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Level 1 stocks, mutual funds, exchange traded funds and money market funds are valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value ("NAV") and to transact at that price. These financial assets held by the League are deemed to be actively traded.

The fair value of fixed maturities (Level 2), which consists principally of corporate and international bonds, is estimated using market price quotations (where observable), recently executed transactions or bond spreads of the issuer. If the spread data does not reference the issuer, then data that references a comparable issuer is used. When observable price quotations are not available, fair value is determined based on cash flow models with yield curves or bond spreads.

The preceding is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodology used at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The League's policy is to recognize transfers in and transfers out of levels at the actual date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. There were no transfers in or out of the respective levels during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The preceding methods may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the League believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

**Note 5 - Land, building and equipment**

Land, building and equipment, and related accumulated depreciation are comprised of the following at December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Land and building	\$ 1,094,693	\$ 1,094,693
Furnishings, equipment and building improvements	4,333,533	4,223,492
Computer software	<u>2,060,306</u>	<u>2,038,245</u>
	7,488,532	7,356,430
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(5,893,679)</u>	<u>(5,753,271)</u>
	<u>\$ 1,594,853</u>	<u>\$ 1,603,159</u>

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

**Note 6 - 403(b) plan**

The League has the ARRL, Inc. 403(b) Pension Plan. Employees are eligible to participate in the plan immediately upon employment. After an employee has worked for 6 months, the League provides a contribution of 2% of the employee's compensation and will match any elective contributions made by the employee up to the employee's contribution of 4% of their compensation. The match was one dollar for every dollar contributed by the employee in 2015 and 2014. Total employer contributions were \$287,062 and \$282,607 in 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Note 7 - Board designated net assets**

The League's Board of Directors' intent is to treat unrestricted bequests as funds functioning as an endowment. Since the beginning of 2004, the League has received bequests in the amount of \$4,525,919. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the balance of the bequests, inclusive of investment income and unrealized gains and losses, was \$6,096,570 and \$5,876,847, respectively.

**Note 8 - Temporarily restricted net assets**

Temporarily restricted net assets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 were available for the following purposes:

	2015	2014
Exceptional merit	\$ 1,316,894	\$ 1,379,750
Education and research	184,602	126,968
Other specific purposes	537,518	686,368
	\$ 2,039,014	\$ 2,193,086

**Note 9 - Permanently restricted net assets**

Permanently restricted net assets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 were comprised of the following:

	2015	2014
Colvin fund	\$ 154,340	\$ 154,340
W1AW fund	582,816	509,084
Second Century fund	3,100,321	2,970,312
Youth and Education fund	177,189	157,187
DX Log Archive fund	229,390	229,390
Dave Bell, W6AQ fund	134,864	-
	\$ 4,378,920	\$ 4,020,313

In 1993, the League became entitled, as beneficiary, to proceeds from a life insurance policy on one of its members, the Colvin fund. This endowment specifies that the principal is to be maintained in a fund and invested for the purpose of producing future income. The income from this endowment will be expended to reward deserving radio amateurs.

## The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated

### Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2015 and 2014

In 2002, an endowment fund was established for W1AW maintenance and upkeep.

In 2011, the League started the Second Century Campaign. This campaign was established for the purpose of defining a path to passionate involvement in amateur radio by new generations, and providing opportunities for educational enrichments, community service and personal achievement.

In 2012, the League became entitled to a bequest for the Youth and Education fund. This endowment specifies that the principal is to be maintained in a fund and invested for the purpose of producing future income. The income from this endowment will be used to support education and technology initiatives.

In 2014, the League received a donation to establish the DX Log Archive fund. This endowment specifies that the principal is to be maintained in a fund and invested for the purpose of producing future income. The income will fund the creation and management of the DX Log Archive Program for paper DX logs for rare and significant DXpeditions.

In 2015, the League became entitled to a bequest to establish the Dave Bell, W6AQ fund. This fund specifies that the principal is to be maintained in a fund and invested for the purpose of producing future income. The income from this endowment will be used for the League's programs and operations in the best interests of the Amateur Radio Service as determined by the League.

#### **Note 10 - Endowment**

The League's endowment includes both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated by the Board of Directors to function as endowments. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Directors to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. The Board of Directors has interpreted the Connecticut Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act ("CTUPMIFA") as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the League classifies as permanently restricted net assets (a) the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment, and (c) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund.

The remaining portion of the donor-restricted endowment fund that is not classified in permanently restricted net assets is classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Board of Directors in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by CTUPMIFA. In accordance with CTUPMIFA, the League considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds: (1) the duration and preservation of the various funds, (2) the purposes of the League and donor-restricted

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

endowment funds, (3) general economic conditions, (4) the possible effect of inflation and deflation, (5) the expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments, (6) other resources of the League and (7) the League's investment policies.

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended December 31, 2015 is as follows:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Endowment net assets, January 1, 2015	\$ 5,876,847	\$ 436,247	\$ 4,020,313	\$ 10,333,407
Investment income, net	121,101	85,943	-	207,044
Net unrealized loss	(206,319)	(141,480)	-	(347,799)
Contributions	307,061	-	358,607	665,668
Amounts appropriated for expenditure	(2,120)	(109,330)	-	(111,450)
Endowment net assets, December 31, 2015	<u>\$ 6,096,570</u>	<u>\$ 271,380</u>	<u>\$ 4,378,920</u>	<u>\$ 10,746,870</u>

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund as of December 31, 2015 is as follows:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Donor-Restricted Endowment Funds	\$ -	\$ 271,380	\$ 4,378,920	\$ 4,650,300
Board Designated Endowment Funds	6,096,570	-	-	6,096,570
Total funds	<u>\$ 6,096,570</u>	<u>\$ 271,380</u>	<u>\$ 4,378,920</u>	<u>\$ 10,746,870</u>

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended December 31, 2014 is as follows:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Endowment net assets, January 1, 2014	\$ 5,590,584	\$ 383,884	\$ 3,148,512	\$ 9,122,980
Investment income, net	232,183	135,832	-	368,015
Net unrealized gain	45,080	29,633	-	74,713
Contributions	9,000	-	871,801	880,801
Amounts appropriated for expenditure	-	(113,102)	-	(113,102)
Endowment net assets, December 31, 2014	<u>\$ 5,876,847</u>	<u>\$ 436,247</u>	<u>\$ 4,020,313</u>	<u>\$ 10,333,407</u>

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund as of December 31, 2014 is as follows:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Donor-Restricted Endowment Funds	\$ -	\$ 436,247	\$ 4,020,313	\$ 4,456,560
Board Designated Endowment Funds	5,876,847	-	-	5,876,847
Total funds	<u>\$ 5,876,847</u>	<u>\$ 436,247</u>	<u>\$ 4,020,313</u>	<u>\$ 10,333,407</u>

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor requires the League to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. There were no deficiencies of this nature reported in unrestricted net assets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

**Note 11 - Lease obligations**

The League leases warehouse space, office space and office equipment under operating leases with monthly payments ranging from \$107 to \$4,265, which expire at various times through May 2021. Total operating lease expense was \$132,662 and \$168,813 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

The following are future minimum lease payments due under noncancelable operating leases as of December 31, 2015:

Year Ending December 31,	
2016	\$ 51,605
2017	51,175
2018	51,175
2019	51,175
2020	51,175
Thereafter	<u>21,323</u>
	<u>\$ 277,628</u>

**Note 12 - Concentrations**

**Credit risk**

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the League to concentrations of credit risk, consist primarily of cash, pledges and trade receivables. The League maintains its cash with high-credit quality financial institutions. At times, such amounts may exceed the federally insured limit. At December 31, 2015, the Company had approximately \$780,000 in excess of federally insured limits.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

The League believes that the concentration of credit risk in its trade receivables is substantially mitigated by the League's credit evaluation process, relatively short collection terms and the financial stability of the larger customers comprising the League's credit base. The League does not generally require collateral from customers. Pledges receivable are comprised primarily of commitments from individuals who are members of the League. The League evaluates the need for an allowance for doubtful accounts based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific customers, historical trends and other information.

**Market risk**

The League invests in various debt and equity securities. These investment securities are exposed to interest rate, market, credit and other risks depending on the nature of the specific investment. Accordingly, it is at least reasonably possible that these factors will result in changes in the value of the League's investments which could materially affect amounts reported in the financial statements.

**Note 13 - Related party transactions**

The League has some common directors with The ARRL Foundation, Inc. The League performs administrative services for The ARRL Foundation, Inc. and was reimbursed for these services in the amount of \$15,000 and \$13,200 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**

**Schedules of Expenditures  
Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Salaries, compensation and benefits	\$ 7,172,579	\$ 7,181,166
Publication costs	2,188,638	2,444,268
Shipping and forwarding costs	1,537,538	1,517,290
Communication and postage	867,993	848,386
Other	709,752	610,707
Occupancy costs	544,990	544,881
Office supplies and expenditures	534,156	808,286
Legal and professional fees	486,710	454,097
Administrative expenses	437,319	441,813
Travel	383,178	431,401
Depreciation	269,441	242,356
Rentals and equipment maintenance	134,373	299,785
Totals	<u>\$ 15,266,667</u>	<u>\$ 15,824,436</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated  
Temporarily Restricted Fund Summary  
Year Ended December 31, 2015

Fund Name	Balance January 1, 2015	Contributions	Investment Income, net	Unrealized Loss	Released from Restriction	Balance December 31, 2015
H.P. Maxim Award	\$ 40,754	\$ -	\$ 986	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,740
Project Goodwill	1,672	-	-	-	-	1,672
Exceptional Merit	1,379,750	-	25,583	(48,439)	(40,000)	1,316,894
Legal Research & Resource	165,709	14,556	-	-	(11,351)	168,914
Starr Technology	2,721	-	-	-	-	2,721
Rinaldo Technology	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
ARRL SAREX	6,709	-	-	-	-	6,709
Educational Activities	3,580	-	-	-	-	3,580
Ham Aid Fund	13,834	1,715	602	-	-	15,549
Defense of Frequencies	-	311,066	-	-	(311,668)	-
Lab Fund	8,087	1,069	-	-	(2,169)	6,987
Education and Technology	111,369	190,256	5,210	-	(131,822)	175,013
Steven Rich Fund	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Direction Finding	1,334	-	-	-	-	1,334
Fred Fish Awards Fund	1,320	-	-	-	-	1,320
Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund	9,000	21,355	-	-	(16,154)	14,201
Colvin Fund earnings	35,936	-	4,321	(6,129)	(9,200)	24,928
W1AW Fund earnings	170,149	-	15,428	(24,350)	(40,359)	120,868
Youth and Education Fund earnings	12,019	-	-	(6,009)	-	6,010
Capital Campaign Fund ("CCF") earnings	213,520	-	59,771	(97,759)	(59,771)	115,761
CCF Earnings - DX Log Archive	4,623	-	6,423	(7,233)	-	3,813
Total temporarily restricted funds	\$ 2,193,086	\$ 540,017	\$ 118,324	\$ (189,919)	\$ (622,494)	\$ 2,039,014

See Independent Auditor's Report.

**The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated**  
**Temporarily Restricted Fund Summary**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2014**

Fund Name	Balance January 1, 2014	Contributions	Investment Income, net	Unrealized Gain	Released from Restriction	Balance December 31, 2014
H.P. Maxim Award	\$ 41,170	\$ -	\$ 1,084	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ 40,754
Project Goodwill	5,672	-	-	-	(4,000)	1,672
Exceptional Merit	1,380,432	-	28,187	11,131	(40,000)	1,379,750
Legal Research & Resource	157,457	13,212	-	-	(4,960)	165,709
Starr Technology	2,721	-	-	-	-	2,721
Rinaldo Technology	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
ARRL SAREX	6,709	-	-	-	-	6,709
Educational Activities	3,580	-	-	-	-	3,580
Ham Aid Fund	15,373	611	-	-	(2,150)	13,834
Defense of Frequencies	-	321,664	1,997	-	(323,661)	-
Lab Fund	13,854	4,233	-	-	(10,000)	8,087
Education and Technology	142,832	117,815	7,935	-	(157,213)	111,369
Steven Rich Fund	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Direction Finding	1,334	-	-	-	-	1,334
Fred Fish Awards Fund	-	1,320	-	-	-	1,320
Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund	-	9,000	-	-	-	9,000
Colvin Fund earnings	31,898	-	9,203	1,335	(6,500)	35,936
WIAW Fund earnings	149,980	-	30,090	4,765	(14,686)	170,149
Youth and Education Fund earnings	10,834	-	-	1,185	-	12,019
Capital Campaign Fund ("CCF") earnings	191,172	-	91,916	22,348	(91,916)	213,520
CCF Earnings - DX Log Archive	-	-	4,623	-	-	4,623
<b>Total temporarily restricted funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,166,018</b>	<b>\$ 467,855</b>	<b>\$ 175,035</b>	<b>\$ 40,764</b>	<b>\$ (656,586)</b>	<b>\$ 2,193,086</b>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

## **ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio operators.**

The seed for Amateur Radio was planted in the 1890s, when Guglielmo Marconi began his experiments in wireless telegraphy. By 1914, there were thousands of Amateur Radio operators—hams—in the United States. Hiram Percy Maxim, a leading Connecticut inventor and industrialist, saw the need for an organization to band together this fledgling group of radio experimenters.

In May 1914 he founded the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to meet that need. Today ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States.

### **The ARRL is proud of its continuing traditions in five key areas of action:**

#### **PUBLIC SERVICE**

ARRL members provide thousands of volunteer hours for communities and organizations requesting aid in emergency communications planning and disasters. Its ARES program is recognized by federal, state and national organizations for service in crises.

ARRL members provide even more hours of volunteer communications services annually to local organizations conducting large activities such as parades, scouting events and marathons.

#### **ADVOCACY**

The ARRL represents US radio amateurs in legislative matters.

The ARRL also represents US amateurs with the Federal Communications Commission and other government agencies in the US and abroad.

The ARRL is the International Secretariat for the International Amateur Radio Union, which is made up of similar societies in over 150 countries around the world.

#### **EDUCATION**

The ARRL promotes interest in Amateur Radio communications and experimentation.

The ARRL publishes the monthly journal *QST*, as well as newsletters and many other publications covering all aspects of Amateur Radio.

The ARRL sponsors and coordinates classes in licensing, radio communications, electronic technology and related topics both nationally and internationally.

#### **TECHNOLOGY**

The Amateur Radio Service frequency bands are the place on the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communication.

Hams not only can make and modify their own equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

The ARRL maintains fraternalism and a high standard of conduct among Amateur Radio operators.

The ARRL provides direct services to members, such as the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Program and a QSL bureau.

The staff at ARRL Headquarters, in the Hartford suburb of Newington, is dedicated to providing quality member services.



*The Radio Amateur is **PATRIOTIC...** station and skill always ready for service to country and community.*

— from The Amateur's Code

## **Basis and purpose of the Amateur Service**

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

(b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.

(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians and electronics experts.

(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations



For More Information Contact:

**ARRL** 225 Main Street • Newington CT 06111-1494

**phone: 860-594-0200**

**fax: 860-594-0259**

**[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)**

**[hq@arrl.org](mailto:hq@arrl.org)**