

**ARRL Historical Committee Report
July 2021**

Purpose of the Historical Committee

To protect, preserve, organize, exhibit, and render accessible all the items in the historical collection to ARRL Members and the Amateur Radio community as a whole. This also includes defining the difference between ‘vintage’ and ‘historical’.

To promote obtaining dedicated space to store, work on and display historical material.

To recruit volunteers to help out with historical activities.

To encourage, manage and utilize donations for historical preservation activities.

To organize, partner with other parties and participate in commemorating events of a historical nature.

To assist HQ personnel

- a) At Amateur Radio events to promote the history of Amateur Radio
- b) In receiving and restoring vintage equipment
- c) With displays in the ARRL lobby
- d) With responses to members about Amateur Radio history

Historical Committee members

first name	last name	call	ARRL position	e-mail
Carl	Luetzelschwab	K9LA	Chair - Vice Dir Cental Div	carlluetzelschwab@gmail.com
Ed	Hare	W1RFI	Staff Liaison	w1rfi@arrl.org
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William	Hudzik	W2UDT	Vice Dir - Hudson Div	whudzik@comcast.net
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Peter	Turbide	W1PT		turbide.peter@gmail.com
Ray	Thorton	W1YFF		w1yff@yahoo.com

Bob, WB1GCM, is retired from the ARRL, and was the previous Staff Liaison. Rod, K0DAS, is the former Chair of the Historical Committee. Peter, W1PT, and Ray, W1YFF, are volunteers who refurbish and test donated equipment – and they are ready to go. Michael Marinaro, WN1M, became a Silent Key in late May, and is no longer on the list – he was the volunteer ARRL Curator.

Activities during the past year

General activity by the Historical Committee was limited by covid restrictions. The transition to W1RFI as the new Staff Liaison (WB1GCM retired from the ARRL) and K9LA as the new Chair (K0DAS retired from the Board) is complete.

Short-term goals

Define activities for the 100th Anniversary of the December 1921 Transatlantic Tests

- 1) CEO Minster appointed Bob, NQ1R, to work directly with RSGB personnel to define the joint ARRL/RSGB December 2021 operating event that celebrates the 100th anniversary of the December 1921 Transatlantic Tests. This also includes defining a more extensive event in 2022.
- 2) Carl, K9LA, is working on year-end articles for OTA, QST, and CQ (Becky, W1BXY, and Rich, W2VU, have reserved space in their respective publications) about this historic event. FYI – K9LA may need someone else to assume authorship of the OTA article as it may appear in the Nov/Dec issue, which is in the election cycle time frame (July 1 to November 19) for the Central Division elections.

Hold monthly Zoom meetings as a start to get caught up, then transition to bimonthly or quarterly Zoom meetings.

Recruit more volunteers (if necessary) to refurbish and test donated equipment.

Recruit a volunteer ARRL Curator.

Long-term goals

Pursue a dedicated historical area with CEO Minster and CFO Middleton. Could we partner with someone else? The Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut, the Radio Club of America (RCA) and the Antique Wireless Association (AWA) come to mind.

Where is everything?

The historical equipment is stored in five locations. Every piece that has been logged into the system has a tag affixed to it with an ID code.

- 1) In two “caged” (locked) rooms upstairs in the warehouse area.
- 2) In the room off the lab
- 3) In the lab’s shop
- 4) In the Executive Conference Room (displays)
- 5) Additional material in the W1AW foyer (much not logged into the system)

There are no display cases in the lobby anymore. Displays were rotated.

Ed Hare retrieved the computer that was used by Mike Marinaro (SK) and has archived and backed up all the files. He is taking steps to ensure that all of the historical files are archived and backed up in one place.

WB1GCM sent me a 173 kb Excel file with 1691 hardware items and many Word documents. He also did a dump onto a flash drive of many other items that he sent to me.

There is a large collection of historical documents (20+ file cabinets). The cataloging of these documents was done by WN1M.

There is a freezer filled with important negatives.

There is a sizable antique technical book collection (all cataloged).

There are a few uncatalogued wooden crates that contain very rare antique early high power tubes.

Preservation of Artifacts fund

This temporarily restricted fund is valued at approximately \$206K as of December 31, 2020.

Acknowledgements

A big THANK YOU to the Committee members who provided valuable comments for this report.

Respectfully Submitted

Carl Luetzelschwab

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA
Historical Committee Chair
Vice Director Central Division