

# Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association

## The Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association FY-2016 Report

### AACLA Purpose

The purpose of this report is to document the Fiscal Year 2016 activities and accomplishments of the AACLA for donors and volunteers. This is a yearly summary report and additional details can be obtained by contacting one of the officers. The AACLA was incorporated in the State of Iowa on January 3, 2014 and became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in October 2014.

The purpose of the AACLA is to preserve, honor, and interpret the legacy and memory of Arthur A. Collins and the significant contributions he and Collins Radio Co. made in the world of communications, aerospace and defense technologies. The AACLA is organized for the purpose of promoting education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The organization works to inspire and teach future generations by the preservation and display of artifacts, conducting educational events, exploring grants and other funding opportunities which may ultimately lead to the creation and operation of a heritage learning center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

### AACLA Personnel

The organization consists of an 11-member board of directors and a cadre of volunteers. The board meets monthly with an annual meeting in November.

#### **The 2016 Board of Directors are:**

**Terry Lamb**, President – Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1961 - 1996)

**Michael Collins**, Vice-President – Eldest son of A.A. Collins & Collins Radio employee (1964-1967)

**Rod Blocksome**, Secretary – Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1968 - 2010)

**Jim Shanklin**, Treasurer – Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1959 - 1996)

**Lawrence Robinson**, Member – Rockwell Collins employee (1999 - present)

**Rebecca Woodward**, Member – Rockwell Collins employee (2005 - present)

**Mike Wilson**, Member – Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1951 - 1990)

**Phil White**, Member – Retired, Rockwell Collins (1974 - 2011)

**H. Keith Erickson**, Member – Retired, Head of Linn County Public Health (1980 - 2008)

**Jim Stitzinger**, Member – Businessman, Vice-President Collins Collectors Association

**Don Stulken**, Member – Retired, Rockwell Collins (1975 - 2015)

## **Volunteers and their work Include:**

Tom Ackerman – Video Interviews & Documentary Consultant  
Dominique Blank – Public Relations  
Alan Erickson – E-Book Project; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Bob Erlandson – Volunteer; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Gordon Fabian – Indexing Collins Publications; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Jim Jones – Collins 233D Transmitter Restoration; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Carol Kean – Volunteer, free-lance writer & editor  
Dale Kueter – Volunteer, Retired newspaper writer  
Larry Lacy – Volunteer; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Bob Ocken – Web Site Development; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Steve Schroeder – Volunteer  
Larry Tjaden – Web Site Content; Retired Rockwell Collins  
Jules Yoder – Collins AN/ART-13 & 233D Transmitter Restoration; Retired Rockwell Collins

## **AACLA Projects**

AACLA Projects fall into six broad categories. A summary of Fiscal Year 2016 activities of each follows:

### **1. Collins Historical Documentaries**

- Initiated discussions with Iowa Public TV about producing & airing a 1 to 2 hour documentary on Arthur A. Collins and the Collins Radio Company
- Conducted video interviews with 12 individuals at Methwick Manor
- Plan for video interviews with retirees in the Dallas, TX area
- Plan for production of additional short documentaries
- Continued sales and promotion of the DVD "*The Arthur Collins Legacy - A Culture of Innovation*"

### **2. AACLA Publications**

- Wrote a comprehensive article on Arthur A. Collins and published it on Wikipedia at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur\\_A.\\_Collins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_A._Collins)
- Received ownership of Ben Stearn's book "*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*"
- Created index of "*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*"
- Working toward E-Book publishing and sale of "*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*"
- Initiated AACLA web site: <http://www.arthurcollins.org>

### **3. AACLA Heritage Center**

- On-going discussions with RCI leadership on defining a future facility and cooperative operating arrangements.

#### **4. Artifact Collection and Preservation**

- Consolidated artifact storage from three locations to one at Cedar Storage Southeast where we have a 650 sq. ft. unit and a 150 sq. ft. climate controlled unit
- Received numerous donations of Collins equipment and documents
- Created a formal policy & procedure for archiving digitized documents, data, and video media with off-site archival storage in safety deposit box in Collins Credit Union vault

#### **5. Public Events and Presentations**

- Historical artifacts and media display at Rockwell Collins Supplier Conference
- Keynote speaker at the Collins Collectors Association Banquet; Q & A with board members following showing of documentary
- Provided programs for Rockwell Collins History Community of Practice Events
- Provided DVD of "Culture of Innovation" documentary for viewing by Dallas Collins Retiree Association (approximately 200 members)

#### **6. AACLA Development (Funding)**

- A designated board member leading effort of writing grant proposals
- Two grant proposals submitted

### **Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Report**

The AACLA received revenue of \$10,083 and incurred expenses of \$17,541 for its Fiscal Year that ended September 30, 2016 for a net loss of \$7,458. This Fiscal Year 2016 loss was driven by expenditures of \$8,612 during the first three months of the year for expenses to complete the documentary "***A Culture of Innovation***" and the start of interviews in support of AACLA's next documentary production. This expenditure was paid for with protected documentary funds received by AACLA during its Fiscal Year 2015. Therefore, \$1,154 was realized after adjusting for the use of the protected funds. The AACLA is starting its Fiscal Year 2017 with much less cash than is needed to support planned projects, its next documentary, and budgeted operating expenses.

### **AACLA Information & Products**

A free brochure describing the AACLA in pdf format may be downloaded by clicking here (link tbd). A copy of the DVD "*The Arthur Collins Legacy - A Culture of Innovation*" may be purchased by sending a check made out to "AACLA" for \$15.00 plus \$5.00 shipping & handling to: Rod Blocksme, 690 Eastview Dr., Robin, IA 52328.

The AACLA officers and board of directors sincerely thank all our past donors that have enabled our accomplishments to date. The AACLA officers and board of directors operate without pay and rely on donations of funding and in-kind goods and services to accomplish its goals and objectives. We also accept donations of Collins Radio artifacts such as equipment, documents, and media per our [collection policy](#). Your contribution will be gratefully accepted by contacting AACLA President Terry Lamb, 1650 Koehler DR NW, APT 347, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405, [trlamb33@mediacombb.net](mailto:trlamb33@mediacombb.net) (319) 573-2654.



AACLA President Terry Lamb and Vice-President Michael Collins during filming of "*The Arthur A Collins Legacy - A Culture of Innovation*"



Professional documentarian Tom Ackerman preparing interview with Marvin Moody, retired patent attorney for Collins Radio Co.



Roshan Sharma, whose math analysis was key to the SSB mechanical filter, visits with Lawrence Robinson before interview



The audience at Coe College Sinclair Auditorium for the premier showing of "*The Arthur A. Collins Legacy - A Culture of Innovation*" October 9, 2015



AACLA Volunteers and Board Members taking delivery of a 1961 Collins 20V-3 AM Broadcast Transmitter



Jim Jones, Rod Blocksome, & Jules Yoder - Restoration of a 1946 Collins 233D Transmitter



Gary Halverson, authority on Collins pre-war transmitters, restoring the 3A Exciter portion of the first Collins 150B transmitter, pictured on the cover of the first Collins Signal, Feb 1933. This 150B was acquired by Jim Stitzinger (AACLA board member) and has a fascinating provenance. It was recently powered up after being dormant for 64 years (first powered up by Mr. Collins in 1933).

October 2016