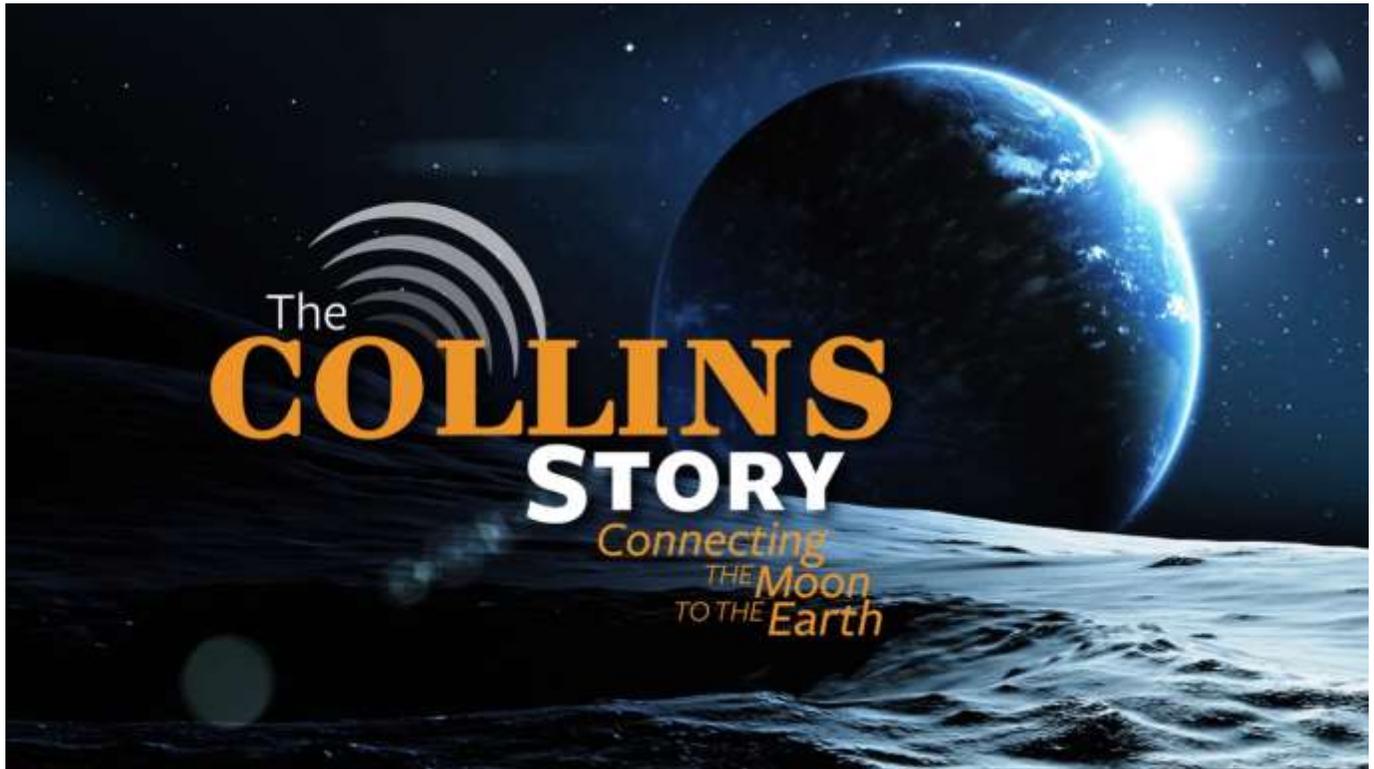


Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association

Annual Report 2018



A half century ago, men on board the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo command modules talked to earth, navigated in space and to the moon and back, and exchanged critical data with mission control. How was this accomplished five decades ago? By the ingenuity and dedication of a company founded in the heartland of America – The Collins Radio Company in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The Collins Story – Connecting the Moon to the Earth, is a video documentary series that tells the story of Collins Radio and its founder, Arthur A. Collins.

www.arthurcollins.org

To our AACLA supporters

This has been a busy and exciting year for AACLA. We continue to get new artifacts and are amazed with some the gems we get and the history these items represent from the Collins Radio years.

In addition to this, there are some specific projects being worked on and nearing completion. A key project is the 50th anniversary Apollo 8 flight around the moon. We are putting together a documentary that will be available for the December date. In conjunction with this we have a high-quality trailer for that documentary that will be shown by various media outlets promoting the documentary. A second phase of this is a second documentary slated to be done before July 2019 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. These are important since **every audio and video contact** on the U. S. space programs have been made using Collins equipment.

In our desire to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in our schools, AACLA has been working with METRO High School in Cedar Rapids to fabricate a portable full-scale replica of Arthur Collins' original Ham Station and research room. Our plan is to use this in local schools as a teaching aid for STEM.

Rockwell Collins has been good enough to donate a large number of early films to AACLA that have been restored to high quality digitized films for our use. One particularly historic one is the Military E-Award flag ceremony during WWII at main plant. Collins was one of just a few companies out of thousands to receive four stars on the flag.

None of this would have been possible without a number of passionate volunteers and all of the people supporting AACLA with donations and artifacts. We are finding that it is expensive to preserve history, but we feel it is worth it for a person such as Arthur Collins and the radio company he created that still is affecting our everyday lives.

Thank you for all of your support.



Terry Lamb, President
Arthur A Collins Legacy Association

The Arthur A Collins Legacy Association FY-2018 Annual Report

AACLA Purpose

This report documents the Fiscal Year 2018 activities and accomplishments of the AACLA for donors and volunteers. This is a yearly summary 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. In carrying out this purpose, the AACLA has a special focus on education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The organization works to inspire and teach future generations by the preservation, interpretation 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 a board of directors (who elect the officers) and a cadre of volunteers. The board meets monthly with its annual meeting in November.

The 2018 Board of Directors and Officers 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)

Alicia Dee Jackson*, Treasurer – Retired CPA (Husband was a Collins Radio Employee)

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

Lawrence Robinson, Member - Rockwell Collins employee (1999 - 2017)

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

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

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

Jim Stitzinger, Member - Businessman, President Collins Collectors Association

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

* indicates non-board member officer

** Jim Shanklin decided to retire from the board due to health considerations effective September 4, 2018. The board extends thank-you to Jim for his many years of dedicated work in the formation and continuance of the AACLA and its projects.

AACLA volunteers and their primary work Include:

Larry Tjaden - Web Site Content & Documentary Research; Retired Rockwell Collins
Steve Tyson – Documentary Marketing & Public Relations; Retired Rockwell Collins
Tom Ackerman - Documentary Consultant
Alan Erickson - E-Book Project; Retired Rockwell Collins
Gordon Fabian - Indexing Collins Publications; Retired Rockwell Collins
Bob Ocken - Web Site Development & VIMEO achieving; Retired Rockwell Collins
Jim Jones - Collins 233D Transmitter Restoration; Retired Rockwell Collins
Jules Yoder - Collins 233D Transmitter Restorations; Retired Rockwell Collins
Lynette Mewkofski – Architect, Attic Ham Station Replica Project

AACLA Projects

AACLA Projects fall into six broad categories. A summary of Fiscal Year 2018 activities of each follows:

1. Collins Historical Documentaries

AACLA continued production of a documentary on the role of Arthur Collins and the Collins Radio Company in the manned space flight programs. A three-minute trailer for the episode # 2 ending the historic flight of Apollo 8 in December 1968 has been completed. The full length documentary of episode # 2 is currently in production and will be completed November 2018 in time for the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 8 flight to the Moon. See photos of scenes from the documentary.

AACLA hired a professional media consultant, Busbee Communications, to coordinate and conduct interviews for Collins Historical Documentaries. We also hired a person to transcribe the video interviews which are required for editing a finished documentary. Since this will be seen by many, we wanted a professional look to the documentary, so we have used Wired Productions for the technical functions including photography, video tape interviews, voice-over, background music, editing, and final production. It is planned to have the documentaries available in streaming format.

During this year we conducted professional video interviews with three Collins Retirees.

2. AACLA Publications

The AACLA completed publishing one book in the Kindle format for sale at Amazon.com - "*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*" by Ben Stearns. A second book is planned when details are worked out - "The History of Collins Radio Company In Space Communications" by James

Robert Shanklin. Additional information and links may be found on the AACLA web site: www.arthurcollins.org AACLA owns publishing rights to these books.

We continued sales and promotion of the DVD “***The Arthur Collins Legacy – A Culture of Innovation***”.

A number of Collins History articles were published on the AACLA web site:

- Innovation at the Collins Radio Co.
- Kineplex – Before the Modern Modem
- NTDS – Navy Tactical Data System
- History of the E-Award to Collins Radio During WW II
- Early Employees of Collins Radio Company
- The Byrd Expedition and Collins’ Part in it
- Collins, In the Movies
- 1933 World Wide Radio Amateur Convention
- The History of Space Communications at Collins

The AACLA contributed content and review of professional author Annette Busbee’s article on Collins History published in the summer issue of “***Iowa History Journal***”.

3. Collins Historical Exhibits

The Arthur Collins 1920s Attic Ham Station – The AACLA is moving forward with a major project to design and build a full size replica which was arguably Arthur Collins’ first laboratory. Lynette Mewkofski, an architect, volunteered her time to design a portable replica of the Collins Ham Station. A group of students and their teachers at Cedar Rapids Metro High School are engaged in the planning and construction of the portable exhibit. This is the first phase of an extended STEM project. Following completion of construction, the exhibit will be placed in various schools and other educational venues.

Collins “Signature Brick” Discovery – During the summer of 2018 Rockwell Collins facilities employees engaged in remodeling the entrance of Main Plant discovered a brick in the wall that was autographed by Arthur Collins and dated “1942”. The AACLA reacted quickly by hiring a professional photographer to image the brick and surroundings lest anything happen to it during subsequent construction work. The signature was authenticated by Arthur’s eldest son Michael. The brick was subsequently carefully removed from the wall and is being preserved for a planned future exhibit in the lobby of one of the company buildings. See photograph in this report.

Collins History Exhibits – During the year AACLA volunteers have put together and staffed two off-site exhibit booths for Rockwell Collins Events. One was the annual Supplier Conference held in the convention center in downtown Cedar Rapids. The second was an open house at the Rockwell Collins Plant in Decorah, Iowa.

4. Artifact Collection and Preservation

The AACLA collection of artifacts and documentation continues to be located in protected storage at Rockwell Collins (Building 134). Rockwell Collins is donating this climate controlled storage to the AACLA eliminating rental costs at our previous commercial facility.

Media and digitized documents are stored on a series of high capacity portable computer hard drives. Working copies are kept by the Secretary while back-up copies are kept in a safe deposit box at the Collins Community Credit Union under the name of Terry Lamb, AACLA President.

The AACLA collection of Collins Radio Co. 16mm film was largely digitized this year through the execution of three tasks with this objective:

1. A frame-by-frame digitization process by a vender in Arizona through funding by Rockwell Collins. Approximately 20,000 feet of film has been accomplished this year
2. A film-chain digitization of 16mm film with a connection to Texas was utilized for certain films that qualified at nominal cost.
3. A projection digitization process for certain films that were needed immediately for documentary work

Throughout the year we continue to receive artifacts and donations significant to the history and Legacy of Collins. Of particular note were donations of:

- Kenwood Amateur Radio Equipment & Accessories
- Two Collins TRC-75 Radios; two Collins 618C-3 Radios; two Collins 180R-14 Antenna Couplers
- Collins HF-202 E-Model Transceiver & Accessories
- Collins 51X-3A VHF Receiver, 313N-6C Control Panel; 427B-1 Power Supply; Miscellaneous Collins Instruction Manuals
- Two large (1 meter diameter) Collins Computer Hard Disks & Miscellaneous Documentation
- Three large tool chests full of Electronics Laboratory tools
- Approximately 240 Audio Cassette Tapes containing recordings of Collins Management Club Meeting Speakers were donated to the AACLA. These will be digitized for preservation.

5. Public Events and Presentations

History CoPs – AACLA Board Members regularly present 1 hour programs on Collins History to Rockwell Collins Employees at the History Community of Practice Events. The History CoP has consistently large attendance plus live streaming on the R-Web.

Norwegian Air “Tail Fin Heroes” Michael Collins describes this event – Soon after its founding in 2002 Norwegian Air began a program of honoring people from many backgrounds for extraordinary achievement in their chosen field. Images of these people are placed on the vertical stabilizer of specific fleet aircraft, and so are called “tail fin heroes”. In the summer of 2017 I was contacted by Dave Yeoman of Rockwell Collins, who passed on a request from Norwegian Air asking me, as a representative of the Collins family, for permission to so honor Arthur Collins. They asked for pictures of AAC to be used in direct rendition as well as a basis for artwork for the tail fin image.

Fellow AACLA board member Rod Blocksome and I gathered several images of proper content and resolution. After submitting these, we were told that a 787 being built for Norwegian Air, with the AAC tail image, should be delivered in the spring of 2018. Dave Yeoman and I both tried to obtain a date as spring approached. At the last moment, Boeing and Norwegian Air asked if I would like to visit during the handover, a date was proposed, and then abruptly changed to a week earlier.

My wife Pat and I gratefully accepted and flew to Seattle on March 8. Corey Mosely, head of the Rockwell Collins field office on site at Boeing, kindly drove us to Boeing on an appropriately rainy morning, where we were graciously treated to breakfast and a brief ceremony. We then drove to the newly-certified-for-handover 787 and given a tour around and inside the aircraft. I was invited to sit in the pilot's seat, while carefully avoiding a technician loading software into the craft. ("Please don't touch anything!). Corey explained the basic functions of the RC glass cockpit. This was poignant for me since I grew up around airplanes and flew with Dad as pilot in a succession of aircraft. We were building the FD-108/9 flight directors when I worked for Fred Johnson and Harry Passman in Cedar Rapids in the mid-1960s.

We got a tour also of the assembly area for the 787. This huge space reminded me of the Vehicle Assembly Bldg. at Cape Canaveral. I was impressed how quiet it was, due to the elimination of mass riveting of alloy panels. Most of the plane is carbon fiber based material. Pat and I were so lucky to have been invited. I left Corey with my last copy of the 'Innovation' DVD. His lasting comment to me was how very seldom he saw failure of the old avionics gear, during the time he was a travelling field rep. (Most problems were wiring, incorrect installation or modification, or worn plugs.)

The Collins family is certainly grateful to have been a part of this event. Our collective thought was that Dad would have been embarrassed at all the fuss!

Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Report

The AACLA fiscal year runs from Oct. 1, 2017 to Sept. 30, 2018. During this period the AACLA received revenue of \$55,015.29 of which \$54,163.57 was direct public support. We incurred total expenses of \$21,896.39, which includes \$9,850.00 for the documentary project, \$4,305.00 for video interviews, and \$3,000.00 for the Attic Ham Station STEM project. We ended the year with a net income of \$33,118.90 for the fiscal year. Note: there are several invoices on the documentary project that will be due in early FY2019.

The AACLA Budget for FY 2019 is as follows:

Collins Space Communications Documentaries

- Complete Episode # 2 & conduct video interviews - \$22,600
- Create Episode #3 - \$45,200
- Start Episode #1 - \$22,600
- Marketing & Distribution - \$8,000

Design and Build Attic Ham Station Replica - \$3,600

Collins Historical Artifact Collection, Preservation, & Storage - \$3,000

Coordinate Community Recognition Functions - \$9,000

Fund Raising - \$4,000

Administration, Operation, and Incidentals - \$3,000

AACLA Development (Funding) – A designated board member is leading the effort of writing grant proposals. As of the end of our fiscal year, one grant proposal has been submitted and two more in process.

AACLA donations of cash and/or Collins artifacts for the fiscal year were received from the following (in alphabetical order):

Anonymous	Gretta Jost	Don Stulken
Rod Blocksome	Larry Lacy	John Thedens
Alan Erickson	Dick Marett	Erma Thompson
Roger Flint	Donald Meyer	Charles Thulin
Don Grimm	Mike O'Brien	Larry Westergren
Bob Hirvela	Dr. Robert Pedersen	Mike Wilson
Mel Holubar	Jim Spencer	Cindy Wylie
Alicia Jackson	Jim Stitzinger	Jack Zuber

The AACLA officers and board of directors sincerely thank all our past donors who have enabled our accomplishments to date. We would also like to thank the dedicated volunteers who have put in countless hours, the individuals who did considerable pro-bono work and to Rockwell Collins for their continued support, providing facilities for our use and for providing a partner grant.

The AACLA officers and board of directors operate without pay and rely on donations of funding and in-kind goods and services to accomplish their goals and objectives. AACLA Board Members are also monetary donors of the organization. The AACLA accepts 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, [Terry Lamb](#) (319) 573-2654.

AACLA Information & Products

A free brochure describing the AACLA in pdf format may be downloaded by clicking [here](#). 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 Blocksome, 690 Eastview Dr., Robin, IA 52328.



Arthur Collins on Norwegian Airlines new Boeing 787 Dreamliner Aircraft

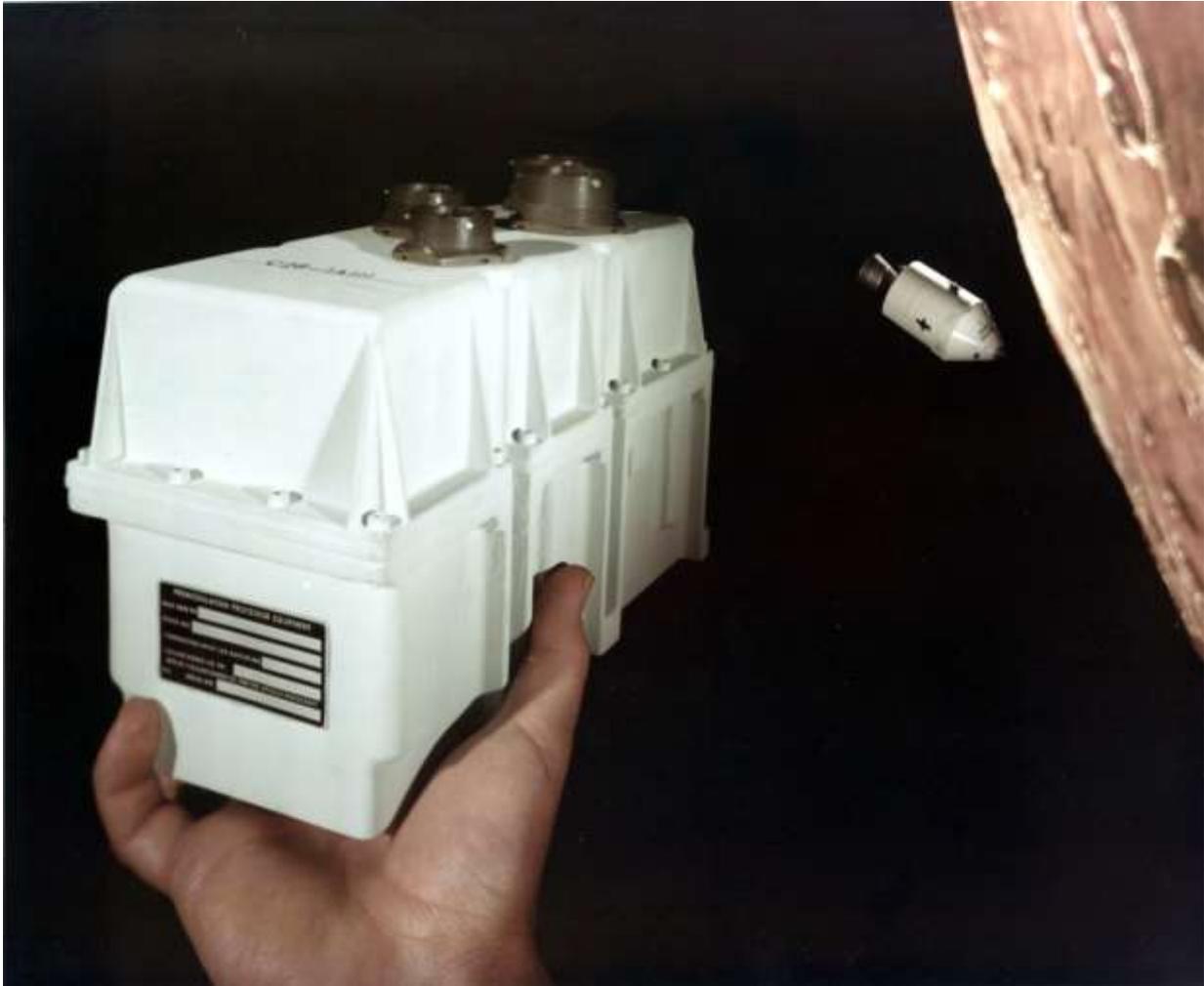




Michael Collins and Metro High School Students with Model of Arthur Collins Attic Ham Station



Arthur Collins' Signature found on original brick wall at Main Plant Entrance



Apollo Command Module Equipment from Collins Radio Company