

**ARRL Historical Committee  
Report to the ARRL Board of Directors  
January 2026  
Dave Propper, K2DP – Chair**

1. Committee Meetings – The committee met in person at the July 2025 Board Meeting along with a virtual MS Teams link for those not attending the Board Meeting. The committee will meet again in person in the Tuska Conference Room at HQ on Thursday, January 15th, prior to the January 2026 ARRL Board of Directors meeting.
2. Committee Membership and Adjunct Volunteers –
  - a. A key member of our on-site “volunteer” staff, Tom Brooks, KE1R, has “retired” from his “retirement gig” with the Historical Committee. Tom’s service to the Historical Committee was recognized through a Motion approved by the ARRL Board at the July 2025 Board of Directors meeting.
  - b. Another key member of our “on site volunteer” staff, Harold Kramer, WJ1B, has currently taken a temporary “leave of absence” to attend to other matters.
3. Committee Tasks – the committee remains committed to its objectives as previously noted:
  - a. Document and preserve the history of the ARRL
  - b. Document and preserve the history of Amateur Radio
  - c. Document and preserve the history of radio communications through Amateur Radio and the technological developments attributed to Amateur Radio
  - d. Document and preserve the history of Amateur Radio equipment manufacturers and their contributions to the development of radio communications technology
  - e. Make as much of this information available to all ARRL members through an “on-line” Virtual Museum, “Radio Alpha.”
4. ARRL Historical Collection Status
  - a. Collection Inventory Evaluations –
    - i. Due to the lack of on -site volunteer staff, no further evaluation of the collection has been undertaken and we do not expect to be providing any additional equipment for the annual ARRL Auction as was done in 2025.
    - ii. No additional donations to the collection have been received in 2025.
  - b. HQ Lobby Display –
    - i. No further updates to the Lobby Display are planned at this time due to a lack of available volunteer staff.

5. ARRL Virtual Museum Software and Web URL's –
  - a. Virtual Museum Activation and Accessibility –The Virtual Museum, aka "Radio Alpha" went live on the ARRL Website in July 2025..
  - b. Virtual Museum – We continue to add to the data base with more than 4700 entries that have now been uploaded to the database by Chuck Penson, WA7ZZE.
6. Progress on the projects planned for 2025 – The following projects are on our project list to be worked by Volunteer Staff and ARRL HQ support. However, severe limitations of volunteer and staff support have limited progress on these tasks:
  - a. inventory reconciliation of ARRL historical collection including, equipment, historical artifacts, books and other documentation – Work by our team of on-site volunteers continues but is not completed.
  - b. uploading of photographic documentation of amateur radio equipment to the Museum CatalogIt data base.
  - c. Photographing pertinent equipment, artifacts and documentation from the ARRL collection to be displayed on the Virtual Museum website. Harold Kraemer, WJ1B, is working on this project which can be done simply with a Smart Phone Camera and a table top "photo studio" – work continues on this project
    - i. Convert relevant books and documentation to pdf format for access through the Virtual Museum website
    - ii. Populate the Virtual Museum software data base with the graphic, text and pdf files
  - d. Curate the museum collection - Work continues to "fine tune" the collection.
7. Current Committee Roster

ARRL Historical Committee Membership - 01/05/2026

first name	last name	call	ARRL position	e-mail	Status
Rod	Blocksome	KØDAS	former Chair	rod.blocksome@gmail.com	active
Tom	Brooks	KE1R	volunteer	<a href="mailto:tbrooks.ct@gmail.com">tbrooks.ct@gmail.com</a>	retired
Harold	Kramer	WJ1B	volunteer	<a href="mailto:wj1b@arrl.net">wj1b@arrl.net</a>	on leave
Carl	Luetzelschwab	K9LA	Director Central Div	<a href="mailto:k9la@arrl.org">k9la@arrl.org</a>	active
Joe	Carcia	NJ1Q	ARRL Staff Liaison	<a href="mailto:NJ1Q@arrl.org">NJ1Q@arrl.org</a>	active
Lynn	Nelson	WØND	Vice Director Dakota Div	<a href="mailto:w0nd@arrl.org">w0nd@arrl.org</a>	resigned
Dick	Norton	N6AA	Director Southwestern Div	richardjnorton@yahoo.com	active
George	Papp	K1YBO	volunteer	<a href="mailto:gpapp@snet.net">gpapp@snet.net</a>	active
Chuck	Penson	WA7ZZE	volunteer	<a href="mailto:wa7zze@gmail.com">wa7zze@gmail.com</a>	active
Dave	Propper	K2DP	Chair - Vice Director Midwest Div	<a href="mailto:k2dp@arrl.org">k2dp@arrl.org</a>	active