



Radio Club of America

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Online



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The Radio Club of America's Centennial Celebration

It was cloudy and rainy in Washington, D.C., but then the skies cleared up and it was beautiful for the more than 320 people who showed up at the Georgetown University Hotel & Conference Center on Nov. 19 & 20, 2009, for the once-in-a-lifetime Radio Club of America 100th Anniversary Awards and Banquet. For the first time in more than 25 years, the banquet was held outside of the New York Athletic Club in New York City.

As first-time banquet attendee Barney Wooters put it, "The whole event was a magical time." Added Patti Ryg, "The Radio Club Banquet is something I look forward to each year. It's a great event for people in our industry to come together to celebrate what we all love. Washington, D.C., this year was a great celebration of 100 years and a time to visit our nation's capital and appreciate our country as well as our industry! It was great to see our old friends and be able to talk with so many of them." And according to Marty Cooper, the Technical Symposium was "wonderful," and "more than he expected."

The magic started with the cocktail party Friday evening, with members seeing old friends and meeting new ones; it was a great time. The Silent Auction opened with such items as a GPS device, a HP mini netbook computer, a BlackBerry, two tickets to next year's banquet,

magazine advertising campaign packages from *Mission Critical* and *AGL*, advertising in the *Proceedings*, RCA logo shirts and hats, wine, a flower-of-the-month package, Omaha Steaks, The Philosophy Memo from Motorola, Bose speakers, a digital photo frame, a Sony reader, a card scanner, a Lobsterpalooza gift pack, a Canon power shot camera, a pen & pencil set, Sony headphones, a photo serving tray, a solar charger, copies of the *AWA Review*, and even a ICOM IC-transceiver radio. Winners were announced at the banquet, and the auction raised more than \$6,000 for the Club. In addition, there was a historical exhibit, most of



the items were presented by Antique Wireless Association.

The annual awards dinner was more of the celebration of reaching this milestone. Stan Reubenstein addressed the membership with his annual president's report and the scholarship report. He also reported on the past year's events, and discussed what is expected in the next year that starts the next 100 years of the Radio Club.

The awards presentation included the Fred Link Award, presented to Terry G. Daniels; the Barry Goldwater Award, presented to Ralph A. Haller; the Alfred H. Grebe Award, accepted by Stan Reubenstein for Larry Conlee, who was not able to attend; the Jack Poppele Broadcast Award, accepted by Dave Baden for George Woodward, who was not able to attend; the Ralph Batcher Memorial Award, presented to Bart Whitehouse; and the Special Service Award, given to Richard P. Biby, P.E., and Carroll Hollingsworth. Because Carroll couldn't in Washington, D.C., to accept his award, Carl Mathis presented a cardboard statue of him while he accepted the award for Carroll. The President's Award was given by Stan Reubenstein to Carole Perry, and the 4th Annual NPSTC Richard DeMello Award was presented to Donald E. Root Jr. *(more on this later in this e-letter).*



The following Radio Club members were elevated to the status of Fellow:

Charles G. Benn, John A. Facella, Chris A. Fischer, Edward M. Gable, Robert M. Gurss, Manny G. Gutsche, Samuel J. Klein, Frederick H. Raab, Robert C. Shapiro, Walter "Jon" Stewart and Lawrence J. De George (posthumously). John Facella gave the response for all new Fellows.

The Enterprise Wireless Alliance presented a check for \$2,500 to the Barry Goldwater Scholarship Fund in honor of Ralph Haller, and a scholarship challenge at the dinner added even more money, adding up to more than \$5,000 being collected for scholarships. To wrap up the fabulous evening, the Kinda Blu band played while members danced and enjoyed the music. In addition, a special photo station was available, comprised of an old radio and the 100th logo commemorative backdrop, and members took advantage of that situation.

For those who wanted to see a bit of the city, there were sponsored tours on Friday and Saturday to the Smithsonian museums, the Spy Museum and Madame Trussaud's Wax Museum.

The Technical Symposium

Nearly 100 people attended the six panels that made up the Technical Symposium at the annual event this year. Most of the presentations are now posted on the RCA website so that many can enjoy and learn from these valuable sessions.



Rich Reichler, Symposium Chair

W2RCA Centennial Special Event Station a Resounding Success

During the Radio Club of America's Centennial Celebration November 20-22, some Club members who are Amateur Radio Operators operated a Special Event Station using the Club's FCC-assigned callsign, W2RCA. Part of this operation was done by five operators from the exhibit area at the Georgetown University Conference Center using an Internet remote-controlled station located in Arlington, Va. The other part of this operation was accomplished by FCC-licensed members who could not attend the event in Washington and who were authorized to use the W2RCA callsign from their home stations in California, Oregon, Arizona and Texas. Other licensed members used the Internet-remote controlled station W4AVA, the use of which was allowed through the generosity of the Arlington County RACES/EMA organization, from as far away as Hawaii.



In all, more than 500 contacts were logged during the weekend, 100 of which were made by the operators at the conference center. Special commemorative QSL cards will be printed and sent to those requesting them.

Ronald Jakubowski, K2RJ, Director

Don Root Receives NPSTC Richard DeMello Award

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) Governing Board was pleased to present the fourth annual Richard DeMello Award to Donald E. Root, Jr., assistant manager of the Wireless Services Division at the San Diego Sheriff's Department.

"Don has been a tireless worker for public-safety communications over many years," said NPSTC's Vice Chair, Chief Douglas Aiken, of the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA). "He has worked at the state and local level and been a huge contributor. Don has led initiatives that were adopted in federal rules and that have become requirements for the betterment of communications. He works many volunteer hours above and beyond a demanding full-time work schedule."

Root's leadership in NPSTC has been impressive in the depth and breadth of the knowledge he brings to the public-safety forum. "Don understands the technical and operational side of public-safety communications and brings his personal work experience to his volunteer work, allowing for all involved to be educated and to make the right decisions for first responders," commented Ralph Haller, NPSTC chair.

Currently, he manages operations for the San Diego County – Imperial County Regional Communications System, a 800 MHz trunked radio network serving 20,000 users and covering approximately 9,000 square miles along the U.S./Mexico border.

The award winner currently serves as vice chair of the Southern California (Region 5) 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee, he continues to be a member of the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee, and he is the chair of its Southern Planning Area subcommittee. Root also is a member of the SAFECOM Emergency Response Council. In addition, Root is a Life Member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), a Senior Member of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International (APCO), and a member of the Radio Club of America.

Thanks to EADS Secure North America Networks for its sponsorship of this year's award as well as to the Jack Daniel Company and Doug Sharp.

The Platinum Yearbook DVD now available to all members

The Radio Club of America is offering the Platinum Jubilee Yearbook in a DVD format, containing the first 100 years of everything published by or written about the Radio Club of America, including all of the past *Proceedings and Yearbooks*, the Edwin A. Armstrong Book, plus a number of new articles, a historical overview, congratulatory letters, the President's Message, and so much more.

One copy of the DVD is available free to all members for just a donation of \$9.95 to cover the S&H costs; non-members pay \$19.95. To order, please click on this order form and fax, [email](#) or call the Littleton office at 303/948-4921.

Recent Passings

It is with sadness that the Radio Club announces the passing of these members: Leslie A. Geddes, Ph.D., 88, on Oct. 26, 2009; UK resident Gordon Fuller, 85, on July 13, 2009; 78-year-old Benjamin F. Poinsett, K3BP, on Nov. 10, 2009; and Clarence Weaver, 96, on Dec. 9, 2009. They will be missed.

Happy Holidays!

Do you know someone who isn't yet a member of the Radio Club of America? Click [here](#) for more information..Do you know someone who wants to sponsor an event at a trade show? Contact us!

✉ **We'd love to hear from you! Send your feedback to karen@radioclubofamerica.org or phone 303/948-4921.**

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