

**October 15-18**

## Collins Collectors to Gather in Dallas for Association's First National Convention

Over a hundred Collins radio enthusiasts are expected to gather in Dallas this October for the first CCA national convention. The organizing posse has a whole corral full of activities planned and all members are urged to attend what will hopefully become an annual event.

Headquarters hotel is the newly remodeled Holiday Inn Select on Dallas' recently remodeled North Central Expressway (US 75). Located two miles south of Interstate 635 and north of the famous North Park shopping center (home to Neiman-Marcus, Lord and Taylor, etc.), the hotel is convenient to all expressways and our new DART light rail line. There is plenty of free surface parking for horses, mules, wagons and buggies.

The posse has arranged for a hospitality hour at Damon's Restaurant (located in the hotel) for Thursday and Friday night. Saturday night ya'awl be guests at the Arlington Radio Ranch of Jenks Garrett, K5YNZ for a full evening of home-cooked Texas bar-b-que, beverages, operating radios and general carousing. We'll even shoot a group picture for the post office wall.

Bus transportation will be provided for shack and plant tours on Saturday afternoon and to and from the Radio Ranch. A box lunch will be served on board Saturday.

On Friday, starting around 8:00 am, clinics and programs on many aspects of Collins radios will be going on in two rooms. These programs will be repeated so you won't miss anything.

Saturday morning will feature a hands-on workshop with some of the best technical experts in the hobby. You'll actually get to sit at the knees of the Great and the Near Great as they work on radios and answer your questions.

On Sunday morning, those surviving the bar-b-que, will eat breakfast together for a special program, awards and a brief CCA business meeting where the new Board of Directors will be introduced.

Jim Stitzinger's restored Collins Communications Van will be on display during the convention and open for your inspection and

possibly operation. A special event station will be on the air (see ads in QST and CQ) operated by the two Collins-Rockwell Company clubs— W0CXX/5 and W5R0K.

Several alternatives exist for transportation between DFW International Airport and the Holiday Inn. You can rent a car, take a taxi cab (about \$30 plus tip) or hitch a ride from the various shuttle services which pick up on the lower level. Average cost of these services is around \$20. Your convention registration covers the cost of chartered busses for the shack tours and the bar-b-que banquet so consider doubling up to save money.

The Sell/Swap/Display room will be open at various times during the convention, tentatively Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and Sunday morning after the breakfast session. There is no charge to display but swap/sell tables are \$25 each. To reserve a table, call Buffalo Bob Peters at 972-233-0484 or e-mail to [soundimp@pobox.com](mailto:soundimp@pobox.com).

All persons pre-registered will receive an e-mail or post card confirmation and will also be mailed a packet of information prior to the convention. In this packet will be a map to the hotel, the latest program information, other activities and the like. Badges and a very neat "goodie bag" will be available for pickup at the Convention Registration desk at the hotel starting Thursday evening.

Our convention posse has put in a lot of work to develop a first-class convention. This is the first time the CCA has attempted anything on this scale and we hope the results can be used to build on future conventions in the coming years. We are lucky to have a large group of "Collins guys" in the area to pitch in and help make your stay in "Big D" pleasant, rewarding and a lot of fun.

Registration deadline is October 1 and a full description of activities can be found on the pack page of this issue. This will be the vintage radio event of the year!



### At the Mike with Butch Schartau

President, Collins Collectors Association

At hand are two very important items that need your focus and participation. The first is the upcoming Collins Collectors Association 1998 Annual Convention in Dallas, Texas, October 15-18. As I said at Dayton, The Dallas Convention team will be putting on a convention second to none. Get your hotel and convention registration made today.

The second important item that needs your attention is the election of the five Board of Directors. Included with this *Signal* is your official ballot. Before voting your ballot, please give serious thought to the obligation that each Director must carry forward as he serves the CCA. Directors will provide the leadership and direction for the CCA, he should be highly visible through his participation in all sponsored CCA events, take an active part in the CCA nets, have a sincere interest in the collecting and operation of Collins equipment, be technically competent on Collins equipment, provide article contributions to the *Signal* and be willing to make an extensive personal time commitment to the CCA membership. These are just a few of the qualities a Director should have.

The ballot presents a slate of 12 candidates provided by the Nominating Committee. Twenty-four nominations were received by the Committee. Each nominee was contacted, and 12 people declined the nomination for various reasons.

I would like to make one closing comment. As a relative new comer to the electronic age and the usage of the web, I have observed a tendency of some individuals to avoid one on one communication with an individual versus sending it to the whole world. Let's try to avoid this abuse of our web and communicate directly with each other.

Hope to see you all in Dallas in October.

# Candidates for CCA Board of Directors

The following 12 members have been nominated to run for the first general election to the CCA Board of Directors. All were contacted by the Nominating Committee and asked to submit a short biography by August 20. An official mail-in ballot is enclosed in your *Signal* envelope (it is a self-mailer like our dues renewal form). Please read the following sketches (written and submitted by each nominee) and mark your ballot for five (5) candidates. Detach the ballot and place it in the self-addressed envelope portion, put a stamp on the envelope and mail. Ballots must be postmarked by October 1, 1998. Ballots with more than five (5) candidates checked will be discarded. Ballots postmarked after October 1 will not be counted. The winners will be announced at the Sunday morning business meeting during the Dallas convention.

## Jim Stitzinger, WA3CEX

I have been a ham since 1967 when I started with home brew equipment in Eastern Penna. I developed a love for Collins equipment early on but could only afford very little of these special radios. In more recent years I have been able to build a substantial collection of Collins Radios ranging from the 30K - 1/ 75A-1 to the HF 80 family. I have also tried to collect memorabilia, operating desks, and the literature of Collins, the quest for which led me to the Collins Van! I desire to share what I have learned and collected with many others in every possible way.

I am thrilled to be a part of the CCA and would indeed appreciate an opportunity to serve the other members so that we can all better enjoy the hobby the Collins equipment. 73, Jim

## Dave Rawley, N4XO

1. Licensed 1952 as W4WDI
  2. Publisher of family newspaper
  3. Has owned/operated Collins equipment most of Ham career
  4. Operates primarily 14 Mhz CW and enjoys DXing.
- 73, Dave

## Wes Bolin, K5APL

I enjoy using Collins radios in my shack on a daily basis. I use radios from several decades: 32V2, KWS-1/75A4, S-2 Line, HF-380, all working & usable. My qualifications to be a Board Member are a calm & even disposition, experience with real-world problem solving, and an ability to negotiate & communicate with people of opposing viewpoints.

My goal for the CCA is to keep it growing as the technical/restoration/information focal point for Collins enthusiasts, and I would help accomplish this by being available for you to get your inputs and suggestions, and represent your views at Board Meetings. I do believe strongly in the Golden Rule. I don't have any business/economic ties with the CCA, and don't expect to have any. I believe that the health of the CCA directly influences the user activity, the growth, and the value of our equipment. 73, Wes

## Bill Duval, K5UGM

No biography received before deadline.

## John Bess, WA5VVT

My love for Collins equipment began in late 1954 or early 1955. While in Junior

High School and after visiting a local ham I just had to get me some of them fine Collins rigs. Unfortunately it took me 14 years to accomplish this youthful goal. Over the last 30 years I have assisted the amateur community in keeping these radios working.

Some of my professional experience includes: Special education teacher for deaf children. Vocational education instructor in basic electricity and electronics in the Panama Canal Zone, ( I held the call KZ5JL ). High School Administrator and later retiring from the Arkansas Department of Education where I managed a 5 million-dollar Federal program. In 1991, the Rockwell Collins Corp. added me to the list of recommended service providers and I have been busy ever since.

My amateur radio activities have included Vice-President of Arkansas's largest amateur radio club. Member of the Board of Directors of another large amateur radio club. Construction and maintenance of 3 VHF repeaters. Arkansas Army MARS director. Publisher of a ten page monthly MARS magazine with a six state distribution. Member of the Arkansas DX Association. Net control operator on several large nets. I am a proud, active member and supporter of the Collins Collectors Association. 73, John

## Sandy Meltzer, KW6KW

I became a licensed ham radio operator at the age of 10 in 1960 and still enjoy all aspects of this wonderful hobby. I've been a Collins Radio lover ever since my first 75S-3 receiver and today I'm proud to operate several near-mint condition Collins S-Line stations, a KWM-2A, and a beautiful Rockwell Collins KWM-380.

As a member of the Collins Collectors Association, it's been my honor and pleasure to help run the CCA Sunday net as a Net Control Operator and have enjoyed organizing the CCA West Coast net on Friday nights.

Our CCA nets are the foundation of our organization, but we must do more to preserve and archive the vast amounts of technical knowledge related to the care, repair, and use of all Collins Radio equipment. With so much of this data sitting the heads of "senior" members of our Collins community, time is of the essence...we must collate and archive this information before it's too late.

I believe the CCA can make a significant contribution to our hobby by implementing an extensive archiving program so present

and future Collins users around the world can continue to enjoy their wonderful Collins equipment well into the next century.

I would like the opportunity as a CCA board member to help implement such a program. 73, Sandy.

## Elliott Klein, K7ER

I am 49 years old and have been a Collins collector for past 15 years. I am past National Secretary of the Cadillac LaSalle Club for 6 years with over 6600 members worldwide. I have been on the National CLC Board of Directors for the past 10 years.

I work well with others, am well organized and have good management skills. I've owned and run my own engineering business for the past 28 years. I enjoy working DX, collecting vintage Collins equipment with several Collins broadcast transmitters modified for AM work on 160 and 75 meters. Thanks and 73, Elliott

## Join Us on the Air!



• 14.263 mHz  
Sundays  
at 2000Z

• 3805 kHz  
Tuesday nights

• 3875 kHz Thurs. nights

• 3895 kHz Friday nights

Sunday for Technical and Swap.  
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for ragchew.

The **Signal** is published quarterly by the Collins Collectors Association for \$20.00 a year (USA).

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Butch Schartau, K0BS, President  
Rod Blocksom, K0DAS, Secretary  
George DuBose, AC4FQ, Treasurer  
Board Member: Jay Miller, KK5IM.

### The **Signal**

Jay Miller, KK5IM, Editor  
5402 1/2 Morningside Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75206  
FAX (214) 828-2952  
jmillier@teleteam.net

The CCA is not related in any way to the Collins Radio Divisions of Rockwell International.

**The Collins Collectors Association**  
P. O. Box 840924  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33084  
[www.colcol.org](http://www.colcol.org)

# Candidates for CCA Board of Directors

## Gary Leininger, W7YO

I am an Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator having been licensed continuously since 1970. My "Elmer" used a Collins S Line station, the sight of which I never forgot. I was hooked forever on Amateur Radio and Collins equipment. I have been a member of the St. Cloud, Minnesota Amateur Radio Club and held the offices of both Treasurer and Secretary. My "shack" today consists of three Collins HF stations: a KWM-2; an S-1 Line and the Gold Dust Twins. I have been a CCA member in good standing for two years with regular participation in three CCA Nets.

I attended the 1997 Cedar Rapids CCA convention as well as the 1997 and 1998 CCA gatherings at Dayton, OH. Professionally, I earned a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice and work as a Forensic Specialist for the St. Cloud Police Department Crime Lab.

I believe in a strong and united CCA being governed by the membership through close and open relations with the Board of Directors. If elected, I will strive to listen to and carry the membership voice to the Board. Thank you and 73, Gary

## Floyd Soo, W8RO

No biography received by deadline.

## Jim Young, AA8XC

It would be an honor and privilege to serve the CCA. I have been a broadcast engineer for 25 years, supervising studio, transmitter and antenna installations and operation,

holding an FCC First Class Radiotelephone (commercial) license. I have been a member of the Collins Collectors Association since 1994 and hold an Amateur Extra Class license AA8XC, first licensed in 1993. My interest in Collins radios is in their history, preservation and operation. I have a modest collection of Collins ham gear, representative of the post-war era. I actively pursue the repair and restoration of all series, A-line, S-line and 380. Last year I acquired a 1947 Collins AM broadcast transmitter which I have successfully made operational on 160, 75 and 40 meters. This project will be the subject of a future *Electric Radio* article.

If elected to serve on the CCA Board I would view my responsibilities to be three-fold: 1.Promote the preservation and appreciation of Collins Radio Company products of interest to amateurs; 2.Continue to provide value added services and resources to the CCA membership in the form of publications, meetings, nets or in any other way; 3.Work to insure the growth, longevity and continued viability of the CCA.

73, Jim

## Butch Schartau, KOBS

Extra Class, DXCC- Honor Roll, 5BDXCC, Life Member, ARRL, CCA 94-00003. I received my first ham ticket in 1956 as KN0EUK. Earned Mechanical Engineering Degree from the Univ. of Minnesota and am a retired Development Engineer, IBM Corp. Worked in

Huntsville, AL. Saturn Apollo Space Program, San Jose, CA, memory disc development and manufacturing, Owego NY, F-16 avionics and Rochester, MN, direct access storage devices manufacturing.

Started Collecting Collins in the mid 1970's, Enjoys restoring and operating collection. Main focus on vintage AM Collins equipment.

CCA activities: Director and currently President. Primary Net Control for Sunday CCA Net. Frequent contributor to the publications.

Primary goal for CCA: assure that the collection and operation of Collins equipment remains viable and promotes amateur radio interest for the foreseeable future.

73, Butch

## Jim Monk, W0JL

I am pleased to accept nomination to the CCA Board of Directors.

I am a long time ham, first licensed in 1948 and hold an Extra Class license. My age is 69 years and retired as a Regional Manager for Nebraska Public Power District after a career of 45 years in the electric utility business. During the Korean War, I served in Korea with the Army Security Agency doing radio intelligence work involving intercept and direction finding activities. My involvement with CCA began in 1990 and continues to be a large part of my amateur radio activity.

Thanks a lot. 73, Jim

## Around the Bands with CCA Members...



Primary NCS Butch Schartau, KOBS, breaks in junior "op" granddaughter Caitlin during a portable session on the Sunday afternoon 20 meter net.



Peter Lower, VE3URO, takes a break from operating the station at the CCA's booth last spring in Dayton. -W0ROB

*How about sharing a photo of your own Collins operation, shack or get-together?*

**Visit the CCA's website:  
<http://www.colcol.org>**

# COLLINS COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION



1998 ANNUAL MEETING • OCTOBER 15 - 18

## Friday Clinics and Programs

All Day • Two Rooms Going at Once • Programs Repeated

Warren Bruene, W5OLY on Polyphase Broadcasting  
J. B. Jenkins, W5EU on Pre-War Collins Transmitters  
Jim Stitzinger, WA3CEX on Collins literature  
AM "Big Iron" Forum with Jim Young, AA8XC; Bill Carns N7OTQ  
and George DuBose, AC4FQ  
Bud Whitney, K7RMT on 516F-2 power supplies

Butch Schartau, KOBS on painting and restoration  
John Bess, WA5VVT on S-Line PTO dial mechanisms  
Yves Patuard, WN4I on 30L-1 Power Supplies  
George Donovan, WB5WUX on choosing microphones  
Wayne Spring, W6IRD on the Collins KWM-380  
*More to be announced at the Convention!*

## Saturday Morning Hands-On Workshop with our Entire Senior Technical Staff!

The two program rooms will be opened up into one large space and our technical staff will man tables around the room. You'll be assigned a "class" when you register and each staff member will meet with the class for 20 minutes or so. We'll fire off a pistol and everybody moves to the next table—get it? This way you get to spend time with each expert and watch them demonstrate some of that good old "technical stuff" right before your very eyes!

Dennis Brothers, WA0CBK, "Service Bulletins and More" • Bud Whitney, K7RMT, "All about the 516F-2"  
Warren Hall, K0ZQD, "How to Operate an S-Line" • John Bess, WA5VVT, "PTO Mechanisms"  
Wayne Spring, W6IRD, "Field Alignment of the KWM-2"  
Bob Hicks, W5TX, "Working on the 75A-4" • Butch Schartau, KOBS, "Cleaning Radios"

## Saturday Afternoon Bus Tours • Bar-B-Que Banquet Saturday Night

The Restored Collins Comm Van • Special Event Station with W0CXX/5 and W5ROK

Swap/Sell/Display Room • Sunday Morning Buffet Breakfast and Program

## Pre-Registration Form

1. Call the Holiday Inn and reserve your room NOW: 800-322-7666 or 214-373-6000  
Rate: \$79/night, single or double occupancy (plus tax). Cut-off date is October 1, 1998.
2. Complete this form and mail to the address below (do NOT mail to the CCA Pembroke Pines address):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ CCA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of full registrations \_\_\_\_\_ at \$75.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of spouse meal tickets \_\_\_\_\_ at \$20.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: Full registration includes: Three meals (box lunch on Saturday, Bar-B-Que banquet Saturday night and breakfast Sunday); bus transportation on tours and banquet; all other programs and materials. Spouse meal Ticket only includes Saturday Night banquet and bus transportation to and from the banquet and Sunday breakfast. Spouses accompanying their spouse during the rest of the meeting must have a full registration.

Full Names and Callsigns of others in your party (for name tags):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: The Collins Collectors Association. Mail checks and this completed form to:

**Deadline is  
October 1, 1998!**

**CCA Dallas Convention  
Doug Hickman, Registration Deputy  
P. O. Box 940714  
Plano, TX 75094-0714**

Do not send to the Pembroke Pines address! Please do NOT include dues money or other business with your registration.

You will receive a confirmation packet in (with map) the mail. You must be an active CCA member to attend.

Memberships available at the door.