

Hello Museum Club members, it was great to see some of you at the meeting last month. In case you missed the meeting, here is an update.

**Election of officers** – elections of officers were held. The following officers were elected for FY'14: Cheryl Tillman, president; Juan Segal, vice-president; Becky Woodward, secretary; and Dick Siefers, treasurer.

**Debrief on the Collins Legacy Documentary:** Lawrence Robinson, museum curator, gave the members a debrief on the Arthur Collins Documentary project. The project is planned for two phases; Phase I is to produce a short 7-10 minute documentary and Phase II is a full length 55-60 minute documentary. The project will document Collins specific innovations that continue to shape today's technology. The documentary will also preserve historical narratives of the colleagues who worked with Art Collins. The project began as discussions with Lawrence, Michael Collins, Art's son, and Ben Stearns.

Michael Collins called his long-time friend, Tom Ackerman, a professional cinematographer, who agreed to help with the filming. Both Mike and Tom were in Cedar Rapids in September to assist with the interviews of people who knew and worked with Art Collins. Jim Shanklin coordinated the use of the facilities at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Those interviewed were:



Michael Collins and Wilma Shadle

- Bob Cattoi, retired Executive VP of Rockwell International, discussed the C-System.
- Chauncey Hess, retired pilot, one of the few living individuals who personally knew Arthur prior to the WWII; flew with Arthur Collins to Ames numerous times during the late 1930s and can verify that Art visited with Atanasoff during the years the latter was building the world's first digital computer.
- Loney Duncan, retired VP of Rockwell International, discussed 250KW HF Broadcast Transmitter and TACAMO.
- Dave Hodgins, retired Assistant Director of Research, discussed Celestial Sextant, and Project Echo.

- Roshan Sharma, retired, discussed the Mechanical Filter, Kineplex, C-System.
- Jim Westcott, retired Apollo Business Manager.
- Mike Wilson, retired VP of Quality.
- Jim Shanklin, retired, Space Communication, and son of the Collins antenna inventor, John Shanklin, who was personally recruited by Art Collins.
- Wilma Shadle, retired secretary to Art Collins.
- Marvin Moody, retired Patent Attorney for Collins Radio Co.
- Rod Blocksome, retired, and former museum curator.

If you would like to help bring the short documentary to completion, your tax deductible donation may be sent to the Ben W. Stearns Memorial Fund at the Collins Community Credit Union, 1150 42nd St NE, Cedar Rapids IA 52402.



Collins dish atop the NRL  
and a P-3 flying by.

Lawrence also showed pictures of the 1951 parabolic dish “Radio Telescope” assembled at main plant. Today, the dish is on top of Building O at the Naval Research Lab (NRL) in Washington, DC. The dish was decommissioned in 1984 and has become the unofficial symbol of the NRL.

***Rockwell Collins Holiday Tree at the Hoover Presidential Library:*** Cheryl gave an exclusive presentation on the Rockwell Collins Holiday tree at the Hoover Presidential Library for their Heartland Holiday event. Rod Blocksome and Cheryl gathered and delivered a number of museum artifacts for the exhibit. Other items gathered were: colorful wiring from the Systems Integration Lab, ornaments from the Company Store, paper airplanes from B131 airplane contest, and flags from HR.

Some of the other trees in the exhibit are from Quaker Oats, Hy-Vee, the Iowa State Fair, RAGBRAI, artist Grant Wood, Famous Iowa Women, Famous Iowa Men, Iowa Music, StarTrek (Captain Kirk will be born in Riverside, IA), Famous Iowa Olympians, the Iowa universities, etc. We invite you to take your family to the Hoover Library from November 16 through January 2, 2014 to view the 20 holiday trees.



Thank you, Club members, for supporting the museum, our Club, and providing funding for these important projects.

Our next meeting is tentatively planned for Thursday, January 23. We hope to see you then and bring a friend!

Your Museum Club Officers,  
Cheryl Tillman, president  
Juan Segal, vice-president  
Becky Woodward, Secretary  
Dick Siefers, Treasurer