

Nomination for SARL Amateur Radio Hall of Fame: Andrew Roos, ex-ZS1AN

Brief Biography of Nominee

Andrew Roos was born in 1965 and licenced as ZS1AN in 2001. He was subsequently licenced as ZS6AA and is now in Durban. He manages system integration activities for a major supplier of communications and defence systems.

Nominee's Contribution to Amateur Radio

As an electronic engineering professional, Andrew combines a sound understanding of electronics and of radio communications systems with a passion to share this information with a wider audience. He has been a prolific publisher of easy-to-understand training material in amateur radio topics.

Andrew taught prospective amateurs on behalf of the Cape Town Amateur Radio Club, and eventually became responsible for the training portfolio on SARL Council.

His biggest single contribution has been the Radio Amateur Examination Manual that Andrew authored for the SARL in 2005. The Manual was originally an aid to his classes in Cape Town. After a full decade, this Manual is still in use for the training of new radio amateurs, and is provided free of charge to anyone interested in tackling the RAE. It is now being revised, as it is intended to continue as the SARL's prime study guide for prospective radio amateurs.

Andrew served as Chairman of the Cape Town Amateur Radio Club during 2002 and 2003.

Around 2005, Cape Town was about to introduce Environmental Impact Regulations that would impose draconian requirements on tower builders, making no distinction between amateur towers and cellphone towers. Andrew lobbied the Metro and managed to introduce distinctions that are considerably less onerous for amateur radio. He participated in the public comment process around the Electronic Communications Act of 2005.

Also in Cape Town, Andrew ran a technology training programme for the Cape Academy of Mathematics, Science and Technology. The programme introduced underprivileged learners to the principles of technology using amateur radio. The Academy was rated one of the top 100 schools in the country in 2009, scoring especially highly in mathematics and science.

Andrew's publications have appeared on the Web, as well as in magazines such as RadioZS and QEX. Topics include a variety of introductory antenna articles, a balun, an introduction to contesting and a complete dual-band CW transceiver.

Andrew is also an active member of SA Amsat, where he was part of the team that developed the amateur radio payload for Sumbandilasat. He wrote the embedded software to reconfigure the secondary VHF and UHF telemetry links so that they could be used as a simple transponder between amateur bands, or as a parrot-like audio store-and-forward system or as a beacon when there was no transponder activity. The amateur radio payload on Sumbandilasat was especially popular for

school projects exposing learners to science and technology. For this work, he jointly received the Garth Milne Technology Award in 2009.

He was the founder of the South African section of Summits on the Air (SOTA) in 2003.

Nominee's Other Achievements

Andrew is an amateur astronomer and photographer, and holds licences for both aeroplanes and gliders. He holds a BA (Hons) degree from Rhodes University. He was awarded a CW DXCC in 2003.

Word Count

498

Links to Source Material

<http://www.gsl.net/zs1an/>

http://f1frv.free.fr/main3c_Baluns_fichiers/A_Better_Antenna_Balun_ZS1AN.pdf

<http://www.sarl.org.za/download/RAE%20Manual%20Ver%201.3%20Nov%202007%20final.pdf>

http://www.southgatearc.org/news/june2009/sa_ar_awards.htm

<http://www.zs4bfm.co.za/sota.asp>

Details of Proposer

Chris R. Burger ZS6EZ and Hannes Coetzee ZS6BZP.

We are members of the SARL in good standing since 1980 and 1984 respectively.

Date submitted: 2016-01-11