

Nomination for SARL Amateur Radio Hall of Fame: Colin de Villiers, ZS6COL

Brief Biography of Nominee

Colin de Villiers was licenced as ZR6COL in 1991. He upgraded to ZS6COL in 1993. After retiring from a career in mechanical and electronic engineering in which his focus was on office automation, he now consults in business systems for small and medium companies, runs a public weather station and builds steam engines.

Nominee's Contribution to Amateur Radio

Colin was one of five co-founders of the Sandton Amateur Radio Club (SARC) in 1992. He remained the Secretary and/or Treasurer of the club for 21 years, ending in 2013. Over the same period, he was also active with the installation and maintenance of the SARC repeaters on 146 and 434 MHz, at metropolitan and rural sites covering the Johannesburg area.

From 1992 to 2005, Colin was an active member of Hamnet, participating in many exercises, including the classic car rallies.

From 1995 to 1998, Colin was an SARL Council member. He was closely involved in the strategic aspects of restructuring the Council around 2003. In 1996, the then SARL president approached Colin to replace the membership administration system that was no longer being supported. Colin developed a new system, which he continues to support to this day. Colin has also trained seven successive SARL office administrators.

Colin also liaises closely with the Webmaster to ensure seamless integration between the SARL Web site and the membership database, facilitating such online facilities as the Radio Amateur Examination (RAE) enrolment system.

Since 2001, Colin has constructed and operated an automatic system to record and retransmit weekly club information bulletins. The system has rebroadcast approximately 700 bulletins since inception.

Starting in 2001, Colin has supplied software for the operation of the SARL QSL bureau.

Since 2006, Colin and his wife Mary ZR6MY have conducted the registration of attendees and proxies at every one of the SARL's Annual General Meetings.

In 2007, Colin updated the SARL's RAE Manual to ISO compliance. Since that date, he has revised the question pool to align with the Manual and has maintained the question pool, as well as generating RAE papers, marking templates and moderating documents for all national RAEs.

Since 2005, Colin has been a member of the ICASA regulatory work group that liaises with ICASA regarding the regulation of amateur radio, including quarterly meetings.

Colin has conducted numerous RAE training sessions. He specifically enjoys presenting the opening session for RAE training classes.

Nominee's Other Achievements

Colin received the SARL's Jack Twine merit award in 2005, the Willy Wilson Gold Badge in 2007, the MTN Radio Amateur of the Year award in 2012 and Honorary Life Membership in 2014.

Word Count

418

Links to Source Material

<http://devee.co.za/>

Details of Proposer

Johan de Bruyn, ZS6JHB, Chairman of Pretoria Amateur Radio Club.

I am a member of the SARL in good standing since 1995.

Date submitted: 2016-02-26

Seconded by Louis de Wet ZS6SK.

Editorial

Edited for style by ZS6EZ.