

TO AACLA SUPPORTERS

2019 has been a very busy year for AACLA. As detailed in this Annual Report, the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 8 and Apollo 11 flights fit perfectly with our presentations of the two documentaries, “Moon Talk” and “Live from the Moon”. Both of these films were shown to many audiences in Cedar Rapids, IA, Des Moines, IA and Dallas, TX. Additionally, there have been a number of orders for the DVDs from all over the country and a few in Europe & Australia. The public response has been extremely rewarding. We have had numerous comments from the public that they didn’t realize the great contributions Collins Radio made to these space programs and to the local communities.

The more AACLA volunteers delve into the history of Collins Radio and the subsequent companies, the more we find out how many vital programs have been completed under Arthur Collins leadership. This provides additional motivation to preserve the Collins legacy with historical documents and artifacts.

Our plans are to continue to collect and document this history and to preserve those artifacts that validate the contributions of the company. This effort is to document much of the Collins history in a way to make it available in book formats, in photos, in high resolution movie formats and reports.

The merger of United Technology and Rockwell Collins has presented us with some added opportunities to get more exposure of Collins contributions to others throughout the country. United Technology has created a new museum at the corporate headquarters in New Haven, CT. One of the early transmitters, a “Collins 4A transmitter” built by Arthur, is now residing in this museum for all to see and learn about.

Much of our effort continues to support STEM in the local schools and community. Arthur’s attic HAM station – truly the first Collins RF research lab - has been on display at the Marion Heritage Center with many other Collins artifacts since July.

All this was made possible by the donations you and others have made to AACLA. Thank you for your generous support.

Terry Lamb, President

Arthur A Collins Legacy Association

The Arthur A Collins Legacy Association FY-2019 Annual Report

AACLA Purpose

This report documents the Fiscal Year 2019 (Oct. 1, 2018 to Sep. 30, 2019) activities and accomplishments of the AACLA for our donors and volunteers. This is a yearly summary and additional details can be obtained by contacting one of the officers. The AACLA was incorporated in the State of Iowa on January 3, 2014 and became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in October 2014.

The purpose of the AACLA is to preserve, honor, and interpret the legacy and memory of Arthur A. Collins and the significant contributions he and Collins Radio Co. made in the world of communications, aerospace and defense technologies. In carrying out this purpose, the AACLA has a special focus on education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The organization works to inspire and teach future generations by the preservation, interpretation and display of artifacts, conducting educational events, and producing historical documentation in various media. The AACLA is exploring grants and other funding opportunities which may ultimately lead to the creation and operation of a heritage learning center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

AACLA Personnel

The organization consists of a board of directors (who elect the officers) and a cadre of volunteers. The board meets quarterly with its annual meeting in November.

The FY2019 Board of Directors and Officers are:

Terry Lamb, President - Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1961 - 1996)
Michael Collins, Vice-President - Eldest son of A.A. Collins & Collins Radio employee (1964-1967)
Rod Blocksome, Secretary - Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1968 - 2010)
Alicia Dee Jackson*, Treasurer – Retired CPA (Husband was a Collins Radio Employee)
Lawrence Robinson, Member - Rockwell Collins employee (1999 - 2017)
Rebecca Woodward, Member - Rockwell Collins employee (2005 - present)
Mike Wilson, Member - Retired, Collins Radio & Rockwell Collins (1951 - 1990)
H. Keith Erickson, Member – Retired, Head of Linn County Public Health (1980 - 2008)
Jim Stitzinger, Member - Businessman, Director Collins Collectors Association
Don Stulken, Member – Retired, Rockwell Collins (1975 - 2015)

* indicates non-board member officer

AACLA Volunteers and Their Primary Work:

Mike Dupree (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & Contracts
Alan Erickson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – E-Book Project
Bob Erlanson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & IEEE Liaison
Gordon Fabian (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Indexing Collins Publications
Jim Jones (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Collins 233D Transmitter Restoration
Bob Ocken (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Web Site Development & VIMEO Archiving
Larry Pinkston (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Museum Equipment Restorations
Jim Pruitt (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research
Larry Tjaden (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Web Site Content & Documentary Research
Steve Tyson (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Documentary Research & Public Relations
Jules Yoder (Retired Rockwell Collins) – Collins Transmitter Restorations

AACLA Projects

AACLA Projects fall into six broad categories. A summary of Fiscal Year 2019 activities of each follows:

1. Collins Historical Documentaries

Episode #2 “Moon Talk” premiered at The Collins Road Theater on December 24, 2018 – exactly on the 50th anniversary of Apollo 8 orbiting the Moon. Admission was free and the attendance filled four theaters with some standing at the back. Estimated attendance was 700. The documentary was published on DVD and is available for purchase.

Episode #3 “Live from the Moon” was then written, produced, and again premiered at the Collins Road Theater on July 21, 2019 – exactly on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. We again made it free to the public and again filled four theaters to capacity. Episode #3 was also published in DVD for purchase.

Additional free public showings were made at the Cedar Rapids Library, the Des Moines Science Center, Brucemore Orchestra Iowa event, and on KCRG-TV Channel 9.2 for five consecutive evenings.

In September we started work on episode #1 “Steps to the Moon” which will document the important research and development projects undertaken at Collins Radio Company from about 1950 up through the Mercury and Gemini programs. These projects put the company in a position to do the communications systems for the Apollo missions. Episode #1 is currently in production with a planned release in April 2020. This will complete the documentary series titled “The Collins Story – Connecting the Earth to the Moon”

We continued DVD sales and promotion of our first documentary “***The Arthur Collins Legacy – A Culture of Innovation***”.

2. AACLA Publications

A second book was published this year - "*The History of Collins Radio Company In Space Communications*" by James Robert Shanklin. Additional information and links may be found on the AACLA web site: www.arthurcollins.org AACLA owns the publishing rights to this book and "*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*" by Ben Stearns. Future plans are to publish a second edition of "*Arthur Collins - Radio Wizard*" with corrected typos, and an expanded index of names and equipment types.

3. Collins Historical Exhibits

The Marion Heritage Center – AACLA volunteers assisted the Marion Heritage Center in assembling a comprehensive museum exhibition on Arthur Collins History and Legacy. Our full size replica of young Arthur Collins' 1925 Attic Ham Station is one of the many attractions in the exhibit.

A series of well researched historical articles on Mr. Collins and the Collins Radio Company were written and published in the Marion Times newspaper and on the museum's facebook page. In addition, a series of public lectures on Collins and related radio history were hosted by the Heritage Center – including one by Michael Collins, eldest son of Arthur Collins, who spoke on his early family memories and the Collins Radio Company. There was a capacity crowd and Michael made an excellent presentation with lots of audience participation. These activities provided another way of getting the general public to understand the contributions of Arthur and the Company to the world as well as the local community.

Arthur Collins' 1925 Attic Ham Station Replica – The construction of a full-size replica of young Arthur Collins' attic ham station was started in 2018 as a STEM project with students at Metro High School. At the end of the school year it was not quite finished and the Marion Heritage Center was keen to include it in their Collins History Exhibition due to open on July 13, 2019. So volunteers from AACLA and the Heritage Center completed construction and outfitted it with artifacts to make it look as close as possible to the photographs taken in the 1920's. Work continues as we continue to add artifacts to enhance the display and better relate the story of its significance as the first Collins Laboratory.

Echo Hill Historical Monument – The AACLA contributed research and volunteer labor to a project to place a historic monument in Marion's Lowe Park by the Marion Chamber of Commerce. The monument will commemorate the historic role of Collins Radio's 1960 Satellite Earth Station on nearby Echo Hill Road. AACLA members Don Stulken and Rod Blocksme were invited to participate in the ground breaking ceremony last summer.

Collins History Exhibits – During the year AACLA volunteers have put together and staffed a number of off-site exhibit booths. These included exhibits at the Collins Aerospace Bellevue plant and the Brucemore Orchestra Iowa Concert.

4. Artifact Collection and Preservation

The AACLA collection of artifacts and documentation continues to be located in protected storage at Collins Aerospace (Building 134). Collins Aerospace is donating this climate controlled storage space to the AACLA thus eliminating rental costs of our previous commercial facility.

Media and digitized documents are stored on a series of high capacity portable computer hard drives. Working copies are kept by the Secretary while back-up copies are kept in a safe deposit box at the Collins Community Credit Union under the name of Terry Lamb, AACLA President.

Throughout the year we continue to receive artifacts and donations significant to the history and Legacy of Collins. Of particular note were donations of:

- Collins Radio Company Stock Certificates
- A rare 204A Vacuum Tube
- A Collins 75A-4 Receiver that Arthur Collins originally donated to a ham running phone patches for personnel stationed in Antarctica
- The company flag that flew in front of the headquarters building on the last day before the merger of Rockwell Collins and United Technology. This flag has the signatures of senior RC executives and the RC Board of Directors on it.

5. Public Events and Presentations

History Community of Practice Events – AACLA Board Members regularly present 1 hour programs on Collins History to Collins Aerospace employees at the History CoP events. The History CoP consistently has a large attendance plus live streaming on the R-Web. AACLA board member Rebecca Woodward organizes and coordinates the History CoP events.

Brucemore Event – The Cedar Rapids Symphony puts on a yearly concert on the lawn of the Brucemore Mansion. This year the concert theme was space exploration and Collins Aerospace sponsored a booth. AACLA provided volunteers for the booth and for STEM activities that were held. Two astronauts were in the booth and a number of Collins museum space artifacts were displayed. The lawns of Brucemore were packed with attendees. The AACLA documentary video “Live from the Moon” was shown and well received. Then the rain started and the event was postponed until Sunday night. Additionally, about 10 retirees from Collins who worked on the space programs were recognized by Phil Jasper, senior Collins Aerospace executive in Cedar Rapids.

AACLA Volunteer Docents at Collins Aerospace Museum – AACLA Volunteers do double duty working on AACLA projects and the Collins Aerospace Museum. The museum has artifacts dating from the start of Collins Radio to 1983. The website for this museum is collinsaerospacemuseum.org and has a very large number of stories, documents and photos.

Presentations on the Video Documentaries – A number of AACLA volunteers presented documentaries to smaller organizations in the area. These activities have had significantly increased the communities' understanding of Collins Radio Company past as well as highlighted Collins Aerospace activities in the community. These all have been well attended and they resulted in many DVD, poster and book sales.

- The History Center
- Two History CoP Events
- Day Break Rotary Club
- West side Rotary Club
- Lions Club
- Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club (two)
- Meth Wick Retirement Community
- The Quiet Birdmen Association
- The Marion Heritage Center
- The Des Moines Science Center

Fiscal Year 2019 Financial Report

The AACLA fiscal year spans from Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2019.

Our Balance Sheet as of Sept. 30, 2019 shows:

ASSETS

Savings Acct	\$2,253.47
Checking Acct	\$25,533.26
Other Assets	\$800.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$28,586.73

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Retained Earnings	\$49,684.48
Net Income	(\$21,097.75)
TOTAL EQUITY	\$28,586.73

The AACLA Budget for FY 2020 is summarized as follows:

Collins Space Communications Documentaries

- Complete Episode # 1 & conduct video interviews - \$54,000
- Marketing & Distribution - \$5,000

Equipment for Attic Ham Station Replica - \$3,600

Collins Historical Artifact Collection & Preservation - \$3,000

Coordinate Community Recognition Functions - \$3,000

Fund Raising - \$4,000

Administration, Operation, and Incidentals - \$4,500

AACLA Development (Funding) – The AACLA relies on grants, donations, and sales of DVDs, posters, and books for operating funds. A number of grant requests have been written as well as ongoing general fund raising activities.

AACLA Donations of cash and/or Collins artifacts during the fiscal year were received from the following (in alphabetical order):

Rod Blocksom	Mel Holubar	Cindy Rossman
Tom Brennom	Alicia Jackson	Steven & Lulu Rowe
Barry Brown	Lee Johnson	Jim Spencer
Gayle Buroker	David Knuth	Don Stulken
Donna Butikofer	Terry Lamb	John Thedens
Jack Cosgrove	Richard Lorenzen	Charles Thulin
Alan Erickson	Julius Madey	Steve Tyson
Robert Erlandson	James Menke	Solveig Walstrom
Roger Flint	James Niday	Charles Wehage
Don Grimm	Mike O'Brien	Larry Westergren
Pat Hamilton & Michael Collins	Lawrence Robinson	Mike Wilson
Bob Hirvela		

*Note: We did receive many donations at events and presentations held by AACLA.
Thank you to those unnamed individual donors.*

The AACLA officers and board of directors sincerely thank all our past donors who have enabled our accomplishments to date. We would also like to thank the dedicated volunteers who have put in countless hours, the individuals and companies who did considerable pro-bono work and to Collins Aerospace for their continued support, providing facilities for our use and for providing a partner grant.

The AACLA officers and board of directors operate without pay and rely on donations of funding and in-kind goods and services to accomplish their goals and objectives. AACLA Board Members are also monetary donors of the organization. The AACLA accepts donations of Collins Radio artifacts such as equipment, documents, and media per our collection policy found on our web site.

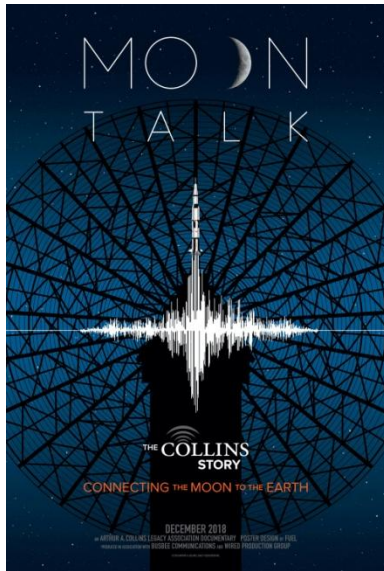
Your contribution will be gratefully accepted by contacting AACLA President Terry Lamb, 1650 Koehler Dr. NW, APT 347, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405, trlamb33@mediacombb.net (319) 573-2654.

AACLA Information & Products

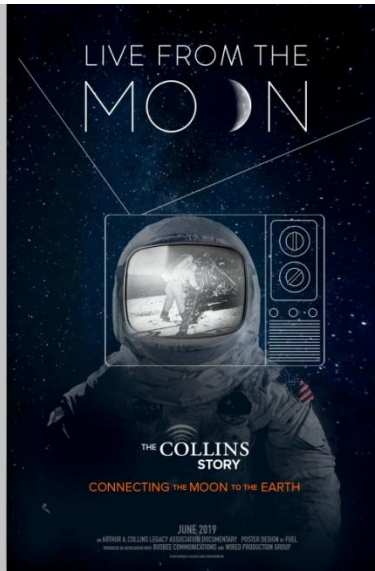
A free brochure describing the AACLA in pdf format may be downloaded from our web site. DVDs for each of the AACLA documentaries maybe purchased on our web site:

www.arthurcollins.org.

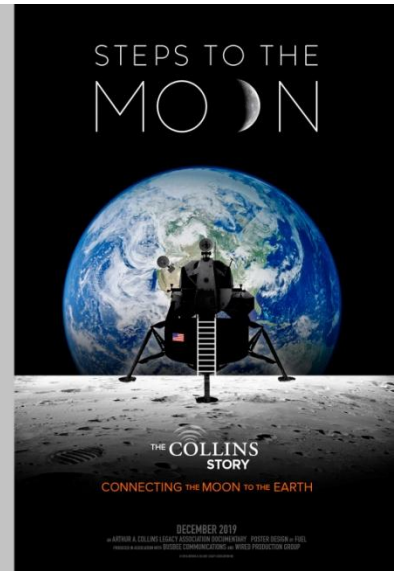
Photos of AACLA Activities



Episode #2 (Dec. 2018)



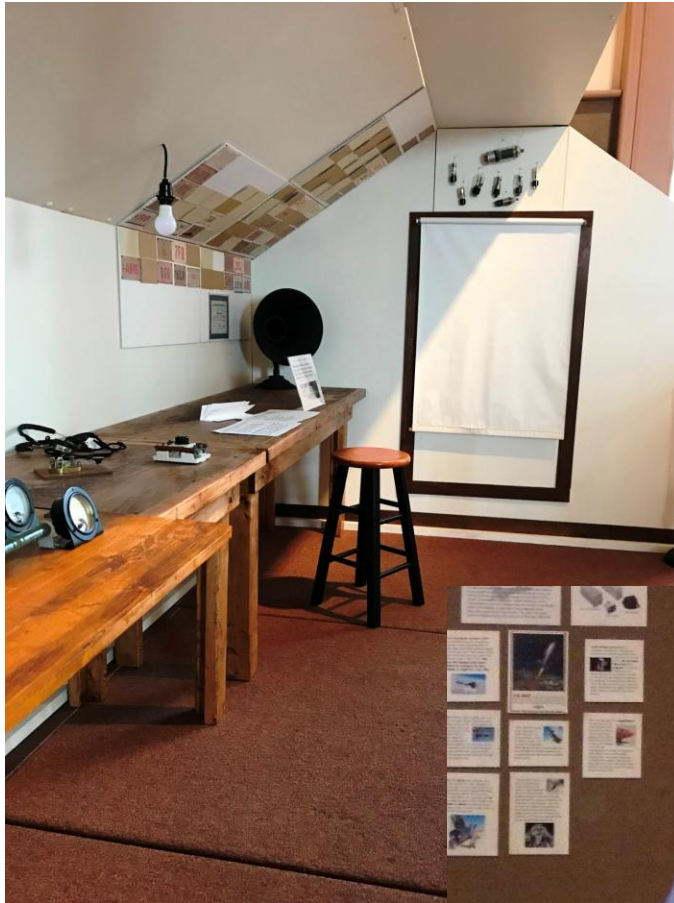
Episode #3 (July 2019)



Episode #1 (Due Apr 2020)

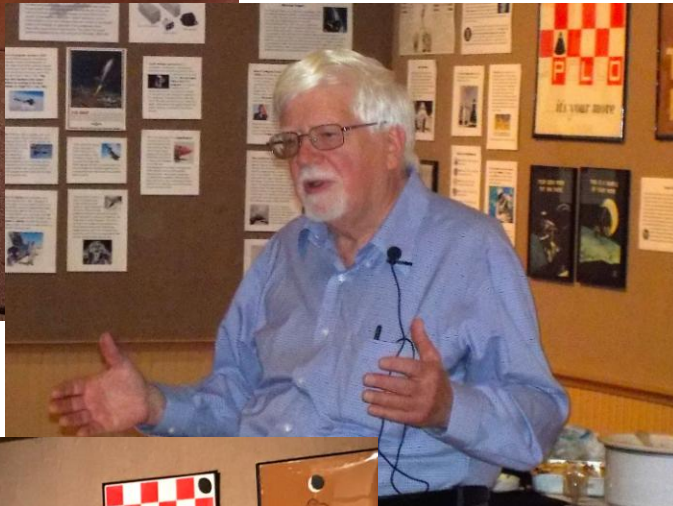


The Collins Road Theater Lobby at the premier of "Live from the Moon"
(Bruce Taylor, the owner, is on the far right with the white shirt)



This is the full size replica of Arthur Collins' 1925 Attic Ham Station during construction.

It is currently part of the Collins History Exhibit at the Marion Heritage Center Museum.



AACLA Vice-President, Michael Collins talked about his early experiences in the Collins family and Collins Radio Company at the Marion Heritage Center Museum.



AACLA President, Terry Lamb joined Michael in fielding questions from the audience.

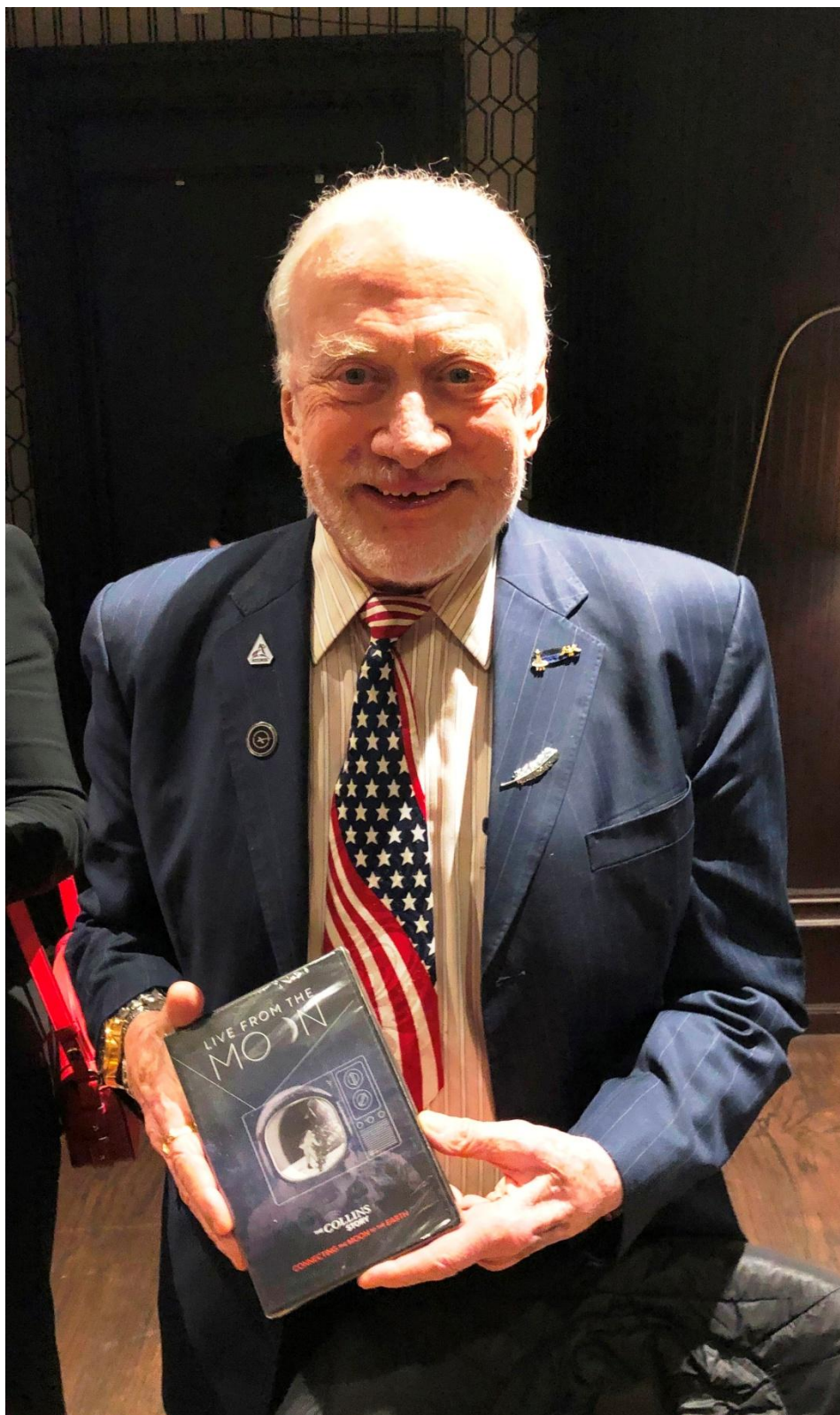


Photo by Ross Bell, executive director of Aerospace States Association

"Buzz" Aldrin was pleased to receive AACLA's DVD *"Live from the Moon"*