



# South African Radio League Amateur Radio Hall of Fame

## Hans van de Groenendaal ZS6AKV Inducted in 2016

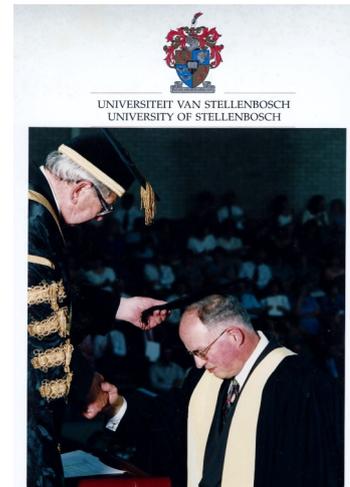
Hans van de Groenendaal was licenced as ZS6AKV in 1959. In the early Eighties, he became visible as a member of the then Johannesburg Branch and later the Northern Johannesburg Branch. He has rendered more than four decades of continuous service to the SARL, contributing many hours of volunteer service annually.

In the early 1980s, Hans was instrumental in the explosive growth of SA AMSAT, the local arm of the international amateur satellite movement. South Africans were disproportionately active on amateur satellites from the early days. Hans was a prime mover behind the amateur payload on SunSat and SumbandilaSat. He is intimately involved in the establishment of KletsKous, the ongoing attempt to launch a new South African CubeSat. He continues to liaise with the SA National Space Agency to include amateur radio in future South African satellites. He served the IARU as the Satellite Adviser for over 20 years.

Hans is the prime mover behind the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust. The Trust awards the Radio Amateur of the Year awards, administers bursary funding, imports radio books, is active in advocacy and promotes science and engineering careers.

Hans heads the SARL regulation work group, liaising with ICASA in ongoing efforts to streamline regulations and ensure that amateur radio interests are represented. Hans negotiated two 5 MHz channels for SARL members, providing early access to this new band that was adopted internationally at the recent World Radio Conference in November 2015. An ongoing research project supports both the excellent countrywide communications and the occasional DX on this band.

Hans is a tireless disseminator of amateur radio information. Starting with information bulletins in Johannesburg in the Eighties, he has broadcast regular amateur programming aimed both at licenced amateurs and the general public. In the 1990s, he negotiated access to high-power Sentech shortwave broadcast transmitters, making amateur broadcasts accessible to the public. Amateur Radio Mirror has been broadcast on Sundays for over three decades. Hans regularly writes for EE Publishing. His articles in EngineerIT and several other magazines contribute greatly to the awareness of amateur radio among professionals in the electronics industry.



He was awarded an MEng (*honoris causa*) by Stellenbosch University in 1994 for his contributions to the amateur satellite service and his contribution to South Africa's first satellite 'SunSat' which carried an amateur radio transponder.

Hans was instrumental in South Africa's acceptance of and compliance with CEPT recommendation T/R 61-01. All fully-licenced South African amateurs can now operate from over 80 countries on all six continents with no prior application and with very little paperwork.

His work with ICASA and its predecessors has resulted in the creation of the ZU novice licence and higher power on bands where amateur radio is the primary user.

Hans served the SARL as President (1993 – 1996). He was awarded the Jack Twine Merit Award (1967), the Willy Wilson Gold badge Award ((1981) and Honorary Life Membership in 1988