



The SETI League, Inc.

a nonprofit educational and scientific corporation
Searching for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence

Offices:

433 Liberty Street
PO Box 555
Little Ferry NJ
07643 USA

Phone:

+1 (201) 641-1770

Facsimile:

+1 (201) 641-1771

Email:

info@setileague.org

Web:

www.setileague.org

President:

Richard Factor

Registered Agent:

Marc Arnold, Esq.

Secretary:

A. Heather Wood

Treasurer:

Martin Schreiber, CPA

Executive Director:

H. Paul Shuch, Ph.D.

Trustees:

Richard Factor
Marc Arnold
Martin Schreiber

Advisory Board:

Anthony Agnello
Sir Arthur C. Clarke
Robert S. Dixon, Ph.D.
Frank D. Drake, Ph.D.
Malcolm I. Raff, Ph.D.
Clifford Stoll, Ph.D.

The ARRL Foundation, Inc.

225 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111

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Gentlepersons

The SETI League, grassroots leaders in the privatized Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, would like to apply for a grant from the ARRL Foundation for Phase Two of our Very Small Array project. A preliminary hardware budget of \$10,068 for Phase Two is enclosed. Please note that this does not cover associated administrative costs of approximately \$24,000 total.

The VSA is a proof-of-concept for our Array2k, a new kind of radio telescope that will combine 16 or more standard satellite TV antennas into a single powerful radio telescope, at a fraction of the cost of a single giant dish such as those at Green Bank and Jodrell Bank. Thanks to your generous help, and other donations from the Second Foundation and our membership, we have already completed Phase One of the VSA, on schedule and within budget.. Please see Dr Paul Shuch's recent article in *QST*, enclosed.

SETI League members are encouraged to build their own amateur radio telescopes, using discarded TV satellite dishes. We provide technical information and advice in many ways:

- via our website,
- via direct response,
- via several specialist email discussion groups,
- on-air over our HF nets
- via our club station, W2ETI, and
- off the moon via our 1296MHz EME beacon

Array2k will be used to support the individual efforts of The SETI League's 1300+ members, about half of them hams, in 63 countries worldwide, as a follow-up detection device to help confirm their observations. Array2k will also be used for direct astronomical research, and will serve as a test-bed for SETI League engineers to develop the technologies that will someday allow us to unite thousands of members' small, backyard telescopes into a huge, planetary array.

The SETI League's design builds upon the pioneering work of Prof. Ron Bracewell and Govind Swarup at Stanford University some forty years ago. To date, we have received donations of a site (in northern New Jersey) and 47 six-foot dishes and mounts (which, while smaller than our original design calls for, are proving invaluable for proof-of-concept). Our fundraising campaign began last year, and has so far raised nearly \$30,000 from our members and in small grants. Our hardware budget calls for a total of \$160,000 to get Array2k up and running.

We should be happy to supply any further information you might require.

Yours sincerely,

Heather Wood, Secretary