

# IN-SERVICE

Fall 2009 Volume 37



## 2010 World Conference ASCRA Meeting April 10th

by Doug Shaw WAØEMX

**Celebrating 150 Years!** The 2010 World Conference will be a milestone as we celebrate the sesquicentennial anniversary of the church's 1860 reorganization. A number of activities and interactions are planned throughout the week to help us better understand our history in places near and far.

World Conference details may be found at <http://www.cofchrist.org/WC2010>.

The ASCRA general membership meeting will be held 9 a.m., Saturday, April 10th, at the Gudgell Park congregation. This is three blocks east of Noland Road at 500 East Gudgell, Independence, MO 64055 (phone 816-521-4069). Talk-in frequency: 146.73 MHz using ASCRA's WØSHQ 146.730 MHz (-) repeater (no PL). The meeting should begin no later than 9:30 a.m., and should last about two hours. Our guest speaker will be Mark Widner KC0UMZ, Independence/Eastern Jackson County Emergency Preparedness Manager.

Plan for an ASCRA lunch at Ryan's Family Steak House. After lunch there is an optional tour the Emergency Operations Center. The ASCRA board of directors will meet in the EOC following the tour.

For more information visit the ASCRA website at [www.ascra.org](http://www.ascra.org) Updates, changes or other announcements will be posted on the website and published in the Daily Conference Bulletin. Licensed visitors may operate the HQ station after a brief training session. Unlicensed visitors may talk with other Hams under supervision of the duty operator, a great intro to ham radio.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings all,

I have assumed the awesome responsibilities of following in Fred's and past editors' footsteps and will do my best to continue their efforts.

I've been a member of ASCRA since the early 1980s and always looked forward to receiving news about the members and activities while I was at distant assignments with the military.

One of the things that makes a publication readable is interesting and varied topics from different

writers.

Therefore, I'm asking you to think about and contribute a ham-radio related piece during this new year and becoming a published writer. Not a writer? That's what editors are for, to help a person get out the desired message. Drop me a line and let's discuss an idea and how to present it.

I'm always ready for a SKED, either SSB or CW, on 40 or 20 meters.

DE Mike, KL7IXI

## Officers

President: Robin Cross (WØFEN)  
Secretary: Doug Shaw (WAØEMX)  
Treasurer: Chuck Palmer (NØONN)  
Exec Director: Doug Shaw (WAØEMX)

## Silent Auction

de Dave Atkins, WØDZX

I propose an ASCRA silent auction of donated gear at the next World Conference. The auction would be both a money raiser, a way to obtain needed (e.g. wanted) items, and perhaps a method of donating some no longer needed items gathering dust in the shack.

It may also provide a low-cost method to get younger hams started on the airways.

Items set out on a table with a sheet of paper on which you write your name and what you would bid. The next person wanting to make a bid writes his name and a higher bid, etc. The last name on the list is the winner.

Caveat Emptor and allow time for the explanation of how the item(s) followed you home.

Your thoughts on this are solicited.

**Note: Send any comments to the Executive Director, including any equipment you wish to donate.**



"Yes I really am running just 5 watts QRP...although I suppose I do have an above average antenna system..."

# ASCRA Director Nominees

## Jim Fish, K7NCG

I enjoy and appreciate the ASCRA association and would like to continue doing my part to support it.

I've been an active ham for 49 years, enjoy building and repairing equipment as well as operating.

## Terry Redding, W6LMJ

Terry was introduced to amateur early in life and was a MARS op in Vietnam, but didn't become a licensed ham until 1974.

He has been active in ASCRA since 1985 and has a passion for astronomy. He is now retired and living in Florida, often serving as net control for the ASCRA nets.

## Mike Fletcher, KL7IXI

Just what does a director do? I'd like to see ASCRA be more than just an occasional newsletter or check-ins talking about how many attended their branch that Sunday. I believe it can be more and I'd like to help interest more members to become active in the club.

I was licensed in 1964 at age 13. After high school, ham radio influenced my decision to spend 10 years in the Army Signal Corps. I now work for the Corps of Engineers in Omaha, NE., and have been an ASCRA member since 1982. My interests include burning solder and building QRP radio projects.

## Brian Fonseca, KCØTSM

Brian is a very enthusiastic, relatively new ham licensed nearly five years. He works for Cerner (medical software) and has helped teach licensing classes at Graceland University.

This past Fall Brian provided a PC and interface for the WØYO-R Echolink Node in Lamoni, Iowa, and volunteered to help develop the Internet interface at WØSHQ for Echolink and future remote base operations.

## Larry Ragan, NØAIX

My father was involved in Amateur Radio while I was in high school. he built his radio receiver from an old surplus military radio and we listened and practiced code together. I served 20 years in the Navy.

My wife and I received our Novice license while I was stationed in California in April 1978 and earned the General License in June 1978.

I retired from the Navy in July 1978 and we moved to Kansas City. We joined ASCRA in 1979, we produced the IN SERVICE from 1979 thru 1981. We served as net control for the Saturday 40 meter net. We developed the SESQUICENTENNIAL certificate that was issued for contacting WØSHQ.

## Michael Thayer, KMØS

Michael Thayer has been in the communications field and works in electronics for the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Jefferson City, MO. He has been licensed since 2006.

Michael handles his local congregation's audiovisual needs, and is active in the Jefferson City amateur radio club. He is an ARRL volunteer examiner (VEC), and is active in the police emergency operations center.

**Ballots must be  
received by 23:59  
CST, Saturday,  
Feb. 20, 2010**

**See Ballot, page 7**

**Candidate photos and ballot to  
be posted to the ASCRA website.**

## David Gates, N5LCL

My name is David Gates (N5LCL) and I live in Newcastle, Oklahoma with my wife of 25 years, Lisa (N5VFA), our 2 sons, Preston (KD5SDL) and Brandon.

My first interest in ham radio came from watching my great-uncle sitting amongst his radios and equipment. I became a licensed amateur in March of 1986 and joined ASCRA during a trip to Independence that same year. I have been a board member since 2003.

My main activity in ham radio at this time is APRS but I also enjoy logging into the 20 meter net when time allows.

The question has been asked what I would like to see ASCRA become? I hope that we can increase our presence within the church. The organization is an excellent outreach tool. We need to find ways to reach out to the membership and our church Amateur Radio community.

## Dave Atkins WØDZX

I am 74, first licensed at age 15 in 1951. I grew up in Independence and attended the Gudgeall Park and the Walnut Park congregations. I am now a member of the Odessa, MO, congregation. I practiced dentistry two years as a captain in the USAF overseas in Turkey. We now live in Higginsville, MO, where I practiced dentistry 38 years and am now retired. I am active on HF and VHF. My interest as a board member would be to help maintain and reinvigorate the service ideals as I remember the original organizers of association had in mind.

Thank you with best regards,  
Dave Atkins WØDZX.

# Honey, I shrunk the station!

de Michael Fletcher, KL7IXI

I received my Novice ticket in 1964, and moved into the world of tubes with glowing filaments, plate transformers and receivers weighing 30 pounds and more. My modified WWII radios put out enough heat to keep my bedroom shack warm in the winter.

Later, as an adult with a family, there was a period in my life when I realized that I hadn't turned on my Kenwood TS-430 transceiver for nearly a year. I rationalized that I could use the money since the budget was tight, and sold it at a hamfest. My shack was bare. Then I was invited to attend a QRP ham radio club and won a small 5-watt transceiver kit in a raffle. I hadn't soldered any circuits in nearly 30 years, but suddenly ham radio was fun again and I was building a radio for the first time since my novice days. A 30 meter dipole in the attic provided plenty of contacts during the last sunspot cycle.

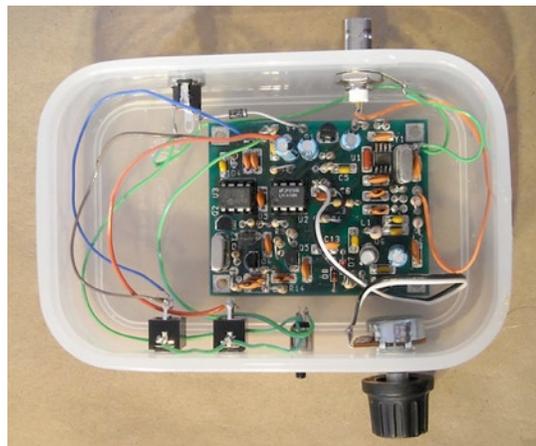
Today, several of my transceivers are small enough to fit inside of an Altoids case and run for hours off of a 9v battery. The price of radios has also changed -- for the better.

As a 13-year-old, I could only dream while looking at the QST magazine ads. Now the radios I reach for the most cost \$55 and \$27, respectively, and the kits were assembled over a few evenings.

Today, there are more ham radio kits available than ever before; everything from small \$17 electronic keyers, to a 100 watt all-band transceiver that rivals the best from the traditional manufacturers. Kits are available in single-band, multi-band multimode or CW only, requiring only a small DC power supply. I can email the actual designer of the kit with my questions and receive help with any troubleshooting.

QRP International Amateur Radio Club is the largest club around with about 13,000 members. Their website: [www.qrparci.org](http://www.qrparci.org) has links to news, clubs, kits, small parts, and more.

So when the winter gales are and the snow starts to drift, I will be snug in the ham shack soldering and building some inexpensive projects, just for the fun of the game.



A Small Wonder Labs Rockmite 40 mounted inside a plastic Tupperware sandwich container

## ASSOCIATED RADIO

Serving the amateur radio community for over 60 years. Let our experienced staff offer suggestions to meet your particular emergency communications needs. From low profile HF stations to field portable HF/VHF/UHF operations, we can put you on the air. (And your neighbors need not know!)

We have a large selection of reference material as well as license manuals and study guides. Visit our web site for new and used equipment.

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**800-497-1457 913-381-5900 FAX: 913-648-3020**

**[www.associatedradio.com](http://www.associatedradio.com) [sales@associatedradio.com](mailto:sales@associatedradio.com)**

# Net Check-ins

These are the check ins on the 20 M and 40 M nets since Sept 25, 2009.

Once again propagation has slightly improved. We are coping by several stations asking for check ins and we gather the check-ins afterward to try and keep a good record, but sometimes we loose a check in.

If we missed your call sign, please try again as conditions seem to be improving.

## 20 Meter net

NOAIX Larry Reagan  
 KDOEIH Alan Cobb  
 WOFEN Robin Cross  
 KAOGFC Charles Brady  
 WAOIBS Andy Ferrar  
 WOPIE Bernard Hamsher  
 ABOMO Donald Zolecki  
 WORWC Richard Cansler  
 KMOS Mike Thayer  
 NOTN James Elliot  
 KCOUED Ralph Diers  
 KCOVYS Robert Everley  
 N0WZH Steve Hampton  
 KCOZNK Douglas Slauson  
 W1FMO Robert Lodge  
 N1OFV Sharon Batutis  
 WB2UJL Ernie Miles  
 KM2V Bruce Joyner  
 KB3NWW Jason Rosado  
 W3CWE David Phillips  
 N3FQ Lawrence Fleming  
 VE3GJ Dougla MacKinnon  
 VA3MLS Shelly McDonald  
 VA3RZ Raymond Else  
 KB3TFZ Jose Benitez  
 WP4NM Ramon Fernandez  
 KA4RUR Frederick Carslick

KC4TV Charles Burnette  
 N4WTW Michael Glowaski  
 KI4YRX Thomas Cox  
 WB5BRD Raymond Hooper  
 KF5CCT Thomas Parker  
 KF5DOE Willie Clark  
 W5GGO Sidney Gray  
 WA5GHR Bill Walker  
 KE5NVX Morris Hickman  
 KD5PNT Andrew Lee  
 W5QPT Ellis Thatcher  
 N5SWE Roy Dickinson  
 WD5USA Michael Minor  
 W6FOG Robert Hays  
 N6KK Joseph Barger  
 K6KWI Neil Smith  
 W6LMJ Terry Redding  
 N6VJD Elpidio Cobian  
 KL7IXI Michael Fletcher  
 K7NCG Jim Fish  
 W7PV Club Bellevue WA  
 K7RTH William Herberg  
 N8BEG Robert Younce  
 W8RQE Marvin Dworkin  
 KC8VHA Richard Parker  
 KC9GQR Bradley Haney  
 W9TZU Robert Neumann  
 KB9ZBF Club Glenville, WV  
 K9ZMZ Edward Fleissner

## 40 Meter net

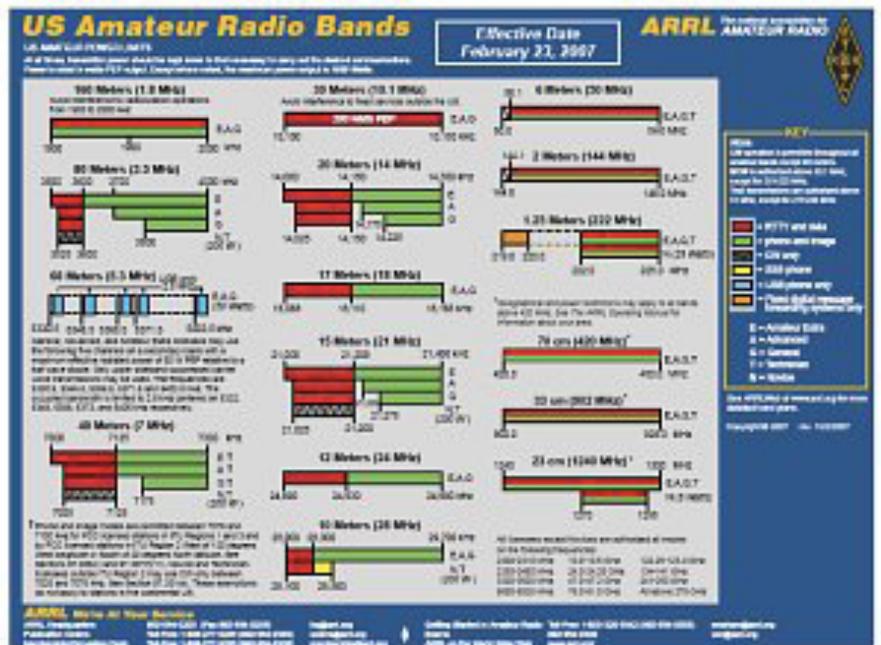
NOAIX Larry Reagan  
 W0DER Donald Reader  
 W0DZX Dave Atkins  
 WOFEN Robin Cross  
 WAOIBS Andy Ferrar  
 KOPAE Larry Walker  
 KMOS Mike Thayer  
 KOVUW Gerard Wurdack  
 KOZMA Julius Kozma  
 WB2UJL Ernie Miles  
 KI4CJC William Lipps  
 W4DAT Perry Gilland  
 KI4KUT John Hadaway  
 W4QPR Edward Jones  
 KF5BRU Jack Nelson  
 KE5VPJ Michael Verner  
 W6LMJ Terry Redding  
 N7FFA Curtis Smith  
 AD7HQ Michael Adams  
 KD8LPO Jonathan Estabrook  
 K9MNS Jeffery Nelson  
 W9OLT Jerry Puckett  
 KB9ZFB Steven Conn  
 W9TZU Robert Neumann  
 KB9ZBF Club Glenville, WV  
 K9ZMZ Edward Fleissner

## ARRL Band Plan

With the sunspot cycle creeping up slower than molasses in January, it's time to start checking the higher bands for those occasional openings. Here is the American Radio Relay League's Band Plan for quick reference.

The full sized chart is available for download in either black & white, or color, at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>.

ARRL propagation bulletins are available at: [www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/](http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/). You may obtain a variety of other ARRL bulletins through tabs at the same URL.



# From the Field



## Member Updates

Fred Naylor VK3AQN reports a new Email address:

[fredericknaylor@bigpond.com](mailto:fredericknaylor@bigpond.com)

Dave Cook reports a home swap which resulted in new addresses for him, his wife, daughter and son-in-law.

Dave Cook - KC0MHT  
Jeannie Cook - KD0EKV  
474 Black Feather Loop, #419  
Castle Rock, Co. 80104  
Phone: 303-688-2204

John Grahn - KD0EKX  
Melanie Grahn - KD0EKW  
994 Pleasant View  
Castle Rock, Co. 80104  
Email: [kc0mht@msn.com](mailto:kc0mht@msn.com)  
Phone: 720-733-3630

Bill Raiser N0ESY  
710 Crown Colony  
Lamoni, IA 50140  
[jwraiser@grm.net](mailto:jwraiser@grm.net)  
ph: 712-310-2007

Will Raiser W0MKC  
11 Rue Roquelaine  
31000 Toulouse  
FRANCE  
Email: [raiserw@free.fr](mailto:raiserw@free.fr)  
Ph: 33.6.83.37.95.09 (33 is the France country code for international calls. Drop the leading "33." when calling in-country.

Will Raiser is a former Graceland professor and Trustee for W0YO, now living in France.

## Hams Provide Safety Support to Higginsville, MO, Run-Walk Event

by Dave Atkins WØDZX

About 15 area amateur radio operators provided logistical support to the annual Higginsville, MO, October Run-Walk event to raise funds for the local heat and hunger fund.

The event, held during our country fair weekend, has become very popular for runners in this area. Entry fees, corporate and individual donations, raised about \$2000 for the fund.

The run is four miles long, starting at downtown Higginsville then two miles north to our Confederate Park, around the park, then back to downtown. Because the main street of Higginsville, MO is also state business route 13, it cannot be shut down entirely.

The state mandates that one lane of Route 13 be open at all



Dave Atkins WØDZX

times for large truck traffic.

Auto traffic were directed to a side street but trucks had to use Main Street to avoid unwanted tree trimming on the side streets. Area ham operators stationed

themselves at each intersection to guide traffic across Main Street when runners cleared the intersection and to guide the traffic one way at a time over the two-mile stretch.

# SKYWAVES

by Doug Shaw WAØEMX  
ASCRA Executive Director  
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This column usually addresses multiple informational and editorial topics and has appeared periodically since the earliest days of ASCRA. Hopefully, this iteration will include some items of interest to many of our members and friends.

## **New Newsletter Editor, Publisher, & Directory Manager**

Fred Troeh NØELM stepped down as holder of these three awesome responsibilities but we are fortunate to have filled each of them, although a bit late for this issue. Our new editor is Michael Fletcher KL7IXI ([northwet@cox.net](mailto:northwet@cox.net)) of Omaha, Nebraska, on TDY with the Army Corps of Engineers in Portland, Oregon. He is a public affairs specialist and editor for the Corps of Engineers and routinely prepare news stories, press releases, brochures, and a quarterly magazine. Here's a link to a recent version (another about to go to press): <https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/nbJune09.pdf>. He also produced the Clubhouse Column for the QRP Quarterly magazine for two years.

Our new Membership Directory (Roster) Manager is Larry Ragan NØAIX ([lragan@kc.rr.com](mailto:lragan@kc.rr.com)) of Gladstone, MO. Larry is an incumbent Board member and will also be handling the Communications Awards program as it is reactivated and enhanced in the coming months.

Printing of the newsletter will be done by Fred Troeh's grandson, David Troeh, while folding, stamping and mailing will be handled by the Executive Council until other volunteers step forward to join the Publishing Team. More issues need to be distributed as Email attachments, or eventually by Email announcement indicating that the issue has been uploaded

to the ASCRA website for access via PC Internet connection. This will greatly reduce both publication and distribution costs. If you have Email service, please inform the Secretary ([wa0emx@arrl.net](mailto:wa0emx@arrl.net)) and Directory Manager so we can add you to our E-newsletter distribution. Thanks to all the new additions to our IN SERVICE newsletter team. All are necessary roles to get the issues out.

All ASCRA members and friends can join the IN SERVICE newsletter team as contributors as well. Submit stories about your history in Ham Radio, your public service activities, operational and experimental interests and activities, and how your communications skills may have helped your congregations, mission centers, or communities. If you do not feel you are an author, rely on our editor to help make your story a readable, impressive and inspirational one.

## **Membership Directory Audit Needed**

Over the past several years many changes to address, phone, license class, and Email address have occurred. Please help us validate your entries in the ASCRA Directory by reviewing your data on the ASCRA website, [www.ascra.org](http://www.ascra.org), under the ROSTER link. I have found numerous errors or omission when attempting to communicate with ASCRA members, both active and relatively inactive, over the past year or two. Corrections have been made when possible. Other changes (but hopefully no additions) may have been received and lost during the changes in volunteer personnel. Please take a few minutes to review your data and let us know if changes are needed, or not. It will be great to know if you looked at the website, even if no change in your own data is necessary. Again, please send your audit results indicating either changes or that none are necessary to both the

Secretary ([wa0emx@arrl.net](mailto:wa0emx@arrl.net)) and Directory Manager ([lragan@kc.rr.com](mailto:lragan@kc.rr.com))... or c/o ASCRA, Box 73, Independence, MO 64051.

As your part in this audit is implemented we will be able to build a new electronic distribution process, possibly expanding the existing list server at GRACELAND. EDU, which has been offered to us again through the kind assistance of Jim Jones at GU. If that server does not work out for us for any reason, we will pursue a different but similar self managing platform to support our Internet communication needs.

## **WØSHQ 2 Meter Repeaters**

WØSHQ FCC Trustee Robin Cross WØFEN and Executive Director Doug Shaw recently submitted the annual updates required by the Iowa (IaRC) and Missouri Repeater Councils. Thanks to Jon Barney AAØOS, primary sysop for WØSHQ/R in Lamoni, for verifying operational parameters, including the tower V&H coordinates (using a GPS device), required to complete the update for the IaRC. The Lamoni repeater has not been in the last several editions of the ARRL Repeater Directory but should reappear in the 2010-2011 edition.

The Lamoni WØSHQ 2 Meter FM 146.73(-) repeater is operated by the Lamoni Amateur Radio Association (LARA), a chapter of the Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs (ASCRA, [www.ascra.org](http://www.ascra.org)).

The repeater transmit antenna extends to 90 feet on a 70 foot tower located between the homes of Jon Barney AAØOS and Tony Crandall KØISA, LARA President.

Internet VoIP access to the repeater is served by a dedicated EchoLink node, WØYO-R (#127318) operated by the Graceland University Amateur Radio Club (also an ASCRA chapter) in Lamoni. The WØYO Trustee is Prof. Steve Murdock NØZY.

# 2010 ASCRA DIRECTORS BALLOT

## ASSOCIATION OF SAINTS CHURCH RADIO AMATEURS, INC.

Election Ballot - Board of Directors - 2010-2012 term

Members only may vote for up to seven (7) nominees (*in this election*) by checking a box, by circling name or call sign, or otherwise marking their selections. **More than seven votes will invalidate your ballot. Ballots may be returned to the Secretary via postal mail, E-mail or fax.** The name and call sign of the voting member must be clearly indicated for a ballot to be valid. A separate "ballot" per member is recommended. A simple E-mail listing your selections, by name and call sign, is an acceptable alternative ballot but must include "Submitted by: your name, call sign" to sufficiently identify the originator. Contact the Secretary if you vote via E-mail and do not receive an acknowledgement. Top six candidates elected will serve 2010-2012 terms. The seventh elected candidate will complete Bob Farnham's (KG0II, SK) term which ends in 2011.

**Ballots must be RECEIVED by 23:59 CST, Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010.**

**Voting Member's Signature & call sign:** Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print your name below signature)

8 nominees submitted by the 07 November 2009 deadline are listed in alphabetical order by first name. If you wish to write-in different name(s), use a space provided. **Vote for no more than SEVEN.**

- Brian Fonseca KC0TSM, Kansas City, MO
- Dave Atkins W0DZX, Higginsville, MO
- David Gates N5LCL, Newcastle, OK (incumbent)
- Jim Fish K7NCG, Woodinville, WA (incumbent)
- Larry Ragan N0AIX, Gladstone, MO (incumbent)
- Michael Fletcher KL7IXI, Omaha, NE
- Mike Thayer KM0S, Jefferson City, MO
- Terry Redding W6LMJ, West Palm Beach, FL (incumbent)

### Write-ins:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Return mailed ballots to:

Douglas Shaw, WA0EMX ([wa0emx@arrl.net](mailto:wa0emx@arrl.net))  
Secretary  
Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs, Inc.  
P.O. Box 73  
Independence, MO 64051

### or c/o Secretary's home address:

11312 East 55 Terrace  
Raytown, MO 64133-2965

*Call or otherwise contact the Secretary in advance to have receiving Fax activated: 816-358-6856* **Since ASCRA requires no dues please consider sending a tax exempt donation by check paid to ASCRA, Inc., to help defray newsletter and other operating or project expenses. Treasurer will provide a receipt on request.**

Questions or comments regarding the ballot process are welcomed via your ballot envelope or may be sent to the Secretary via E-mail at: [wa0emx@arrl.net](mailto:wa0emx@arrl.net).

If possible, please review your ASCRA membership directory/roster data on <http://www.ascra.org>. Please send any changes (license class upgrades, phone numbers, new post office or E-mail addresses, etc.) to the Directory Manager via E-mail or postal mail:

Larry Ragan, N0AIX ([lragan@kc.rr.com](mailto:lragan@kc.rr.com))  
205 NW Englewood  
Gladstone, MO 64118

Please send comments or suggestions regarding ASCRA policies or programs to the Executive Director. Send revisions to the membership data base (license upgrades, postal or Email addresses, phone numbers, acceptance of newsletter delivery via email, etc.) to the Secretary... c/o P.O. Box 73, or via email c/o [wa0emx@arrl.net](mailto:wa0emx@arrl.net)

Send comments, suggestions, and material proposed for future issues to:

Mike Fletcher KL7IXI  
Editor, *IN SERVICE*  
625 S 67th Street  
Omaha, NE 68106-1151  
email: [northwet@cox.net](mailto:northwet@cox.net)

## IN-SERVICE

Publication of  
The Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs  
P.O. Box 73, Independence, MO 64051-0073  
<http://www.ascra.org>

Editor: Mike Fletcher KL7IXI  
President: Robin Cross WØFEN  
Secretary: Doug Shaw WAØEMX  
Treasurer: Chuck Palmer NØONN  
Executive Director: Doug Shaw WAØEMX

(Officers e-mail addresses available on the website)

ASCRA  
P.O. Box 73  
Independence, MO 64051-0073