

IN-SERVICE



Spring/Summer -- Volume 39

ASCRA nominations open for 2012 - 2013

Nominations for election to the ASCRA Board of Directors, for the 2012 - 2013 class, are now open. **A maximum of six (6) nominations may be submitted per member to be received no later than January 7, 2012.** Please remind other members you may contact about the nomination deadline.

Please verify that your nominees are willing to serve before you submit their names in nomination.

Service as a director may entail travel to Independence, Missouri, or attendance by conference call, for at least one board meeting per year. All nominees should have E-mail capability but this is not a requirement for nomination or serving.

Only one nomination is required to place a willing nominee on the ballot. Each nomination must clearly identify who is making the nominations using a single piece of paper or E-mail message.

The following directors are serving for the 2011-2012 term (2013 Class) and are NOT eligible for nomination at this time.

Chuck Palmer, NØONN,
Independence, MO (Treas)
Dave Atkins, WØDZX,
Higginsville, MO
Doug Shaw, WAØEMX,
Raytown, MO (Sec'y & ExecDir)
Ernie Miles, WB2UJL, Durham, NC
James Craft, KD5BFE,
Independence, MO
Robin Cross, WØFEN,
Kansas City, MO (Pres)

All other licensed ASCRA members are eligible for nomination to the 2012-2013 term (2014 Class), including the following directors whose terms expire in the Spring of 2012.

David Gates, N5LCL, Newcastle, OK
Jim Fish, K7NCG, Woodinville, WA
Larry Ragan, NØAIX, Gladstone, MO
Mike Thayer, KMØS,
Jefferson City, MO.
Terry Redding, W6LMJ, West Palm
Beach, FL

Submit nominations by postal mail to:

ASCRA Secretary Doug Shaw,
WAØEMX
c/o P.O. Box 73
Independence, MO 64051-0073
or: 11312 East 55 Terrace
Raytown, MO 64133-2965
or by E-mail to wa0emx@arrl.net.

May 2011 ASCRA Board Meeting Summary -- 2011 Officers Elected

by ASCRA Secretary
Doug Shaw WAØEMX

On May 7, 2011, the ASCRA board met at the Eastern Jackson County Emergency Operations Center.

Seven board members (Chuck Palmer NØONN, Dave Atkins WØDZX, Doug Shaw WAØEMX, Larry Ragan NØAIX, Mike Thayer KMØS, Robin Cross WØFEN, and Jim Craft KD5BFE) met in the IEJC-EOC OPS Control Room at Fire Station #1 in Independence. The remaining three members of the board (David Gates N5LFL, Ernie Miles WB2UJL, Jim Fish K7NCG and Terry Redding W6LMJ) participated interactively in the annual board meeting via audio conference bridge and USTREAM.

Following an invocation by Jim Craft, the directors' election report, submitted in 1Q2010 was submitted for the record. Minutes of the 2009 board meeting were accepted as read. The annual reports to the board from the Secretary, Executive Director, and President were also accepted.

The board re-elected the following incumbent officers for 2011: President Robin Cross WØFEN, Secretary Doug Shaw WAØEMX, and Treasurer Chuck Palmer NØONN. The board then voted to sustain President Cross' appointment of Doug Shaw WAØEMX to continue as Executive Director.

Objectives proposed by the Executive Director were accepted as revised by adding items 10 and 11 as follows.

1. Install HAM-IV rotator.
2. Obtain and install (160)80-10 meter dipole to run north on east side of Auditorium and either down to cooling tower courtyard or to light pole on ground level.

3. Complete configuration of Ham Radio Deluxe software and Test Remote Base operability of W0SHQ.
4. Having complete EchoLink hardware selection and acquisition, successfully activated and operated W0SHQ-R Echolink repeater node software on the PC, continue with interface cabling, installation, and activation.
5. Investigate possibility of activating air conditioning ducts in W0SHQ office with Facilities management.
6. Continue developing relationship with leading quorums of Church leadership in terms of Emergency Communications support for international and mission center ministries.
7. Now that Mark Widner is leaving as Emergency Preparedness Manager develop additional working relationships with Fire Chief and the supervising volunteers who will be managing Independence-Eastern Jackson County Emergency Preparedness office. Pursue proposed grant applications to upgrade the Independence W0SHQ repeater and HF/VHF/UHF HQ station, as proposed by Mark Widner KC0UMZ, Emergency Preparedness Manager.
8. Continue to identify additional local ASCRA members willing to re-activate the local chapter of ASCRA, and then facilitate relationship of the chapter with the Central (USA) Mission Center.
9. Identify and facilitate ASCRA members to organize new ASCRA chapters in additional mission centers such as Rocky Mountain MC (Dave Cook KCOMHT) and Central Missouri (Mike Thayer KMØS, Chuck Brady

KA0GFC).

10. Solicit “ Elmers” for SPEC at Graceland University and other youth camps and boy/girl scout units sponsored by the Church.
11. Begin and ASCRA Facebook pilot (this has since been established by Jim Craft KD5BFE).

The board then discussed and approved the following budget for the 2010-11 fiscal year:

IN SERVICE	520.00
New member development	100.00
P.O. Box	45.00
Copies	20.00
License Fees	20.00
<u>Misc.</u>	<u>20.00</u>
	730.00

Dave Atkins moved and Mike Thayer seconded that the Bylaws be revised to resolve a conflict between Article V, Section 2 FISCAL POLICY AND FUNDS and Article IX DISSOLUTION by removing the problematic sentence from Article V, Section 2. The motion carried. The Executive Director will consult with the Church Legal Department for any additional resolution if needed.

The Board then briefly discussed allowing alternate chapter organization structures besides that defined in the Bylaws, such as an ARES division of OMEGA CERT in Rocky Mountain Mission Center. Additional consideration is needed. (Suggestions from directors and members are herewith solicited.)

The possible need to define a process in the Bylaws for filling vacant seats on the Board of Directors was briefly discussed. Action, if any, will be taken at a future board meeting.

No substantive progress has been made yet to reorganize or restart a Central Mission Center ASCRA chapter (to replace the former Center Place Amateur Radio Association). John Chapman N0IYD, Jim Craft KD5BFE, Ed Briley KD0MEI, Gary Martin N0JHX, and a

few others have indicated interest in assisting in this effort.

By consensus the Board recommended that the Executive Director formulate a Donation-In-Kind form or process to make it easier for donors to submit such donations of equipment to ASCRA. (Such a form has been used in the past, based on one used at Graceland University.)

The Board then approved Recognition to Barbara Redding W5HKY for her past service on the board, and to Fred Troeh N0ELM and Mike Fletcher KL7IXI for their past service as board members and newsletter editor.

The meeting adjourned following a closing prayer by Terry Redding.

W0SHQ Operational Status

Chuck Palmer N0ONN, Jim Craft KD5BFE, Gary Martin N0JHX and Doug Shaw WA0EMX, dropped the TH6 Tri-band yagi from the W0SHQ tower recently. Gary has straightened a bent 10 meter element so the antenna can be reinstalled. Robin Cross is testing the balun.

Gary has also donated a 40 meter – 20 meter dipole for use as a back up antenna until the yagi and new Ham-IV rotator can be installed. Time frame for this depends on weather and availability of personnel to do so. Gary has volunteered as team leader to complete the installation of the dipole and test the station while Doug recuperates from surgery.

ASCRA Silent Key

Ralph Behnke N5XA

Long time ASCRA member Ralph Behnke N5XA, well known, retired professor at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth Texas has joined ranks of Amateur Radio's SILENT KEYS. Please see his obituary and online guest book as published by Legacy from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dfw/obituary.aspx?n=ralph-r-behnke&pid=150925851>

The following letter was received from Marilyn Shank N0CII, Ralph's sister.

Dear Friends:

Ralph's service at the Robert Carr Chapel on the Texas Christian University Campus was wonderful. My niece Stephanie asked Rob Morris, a minister, to do the service. He agreed immediately and when Stephanie told him her dad was a Speech and Communications professor at TCU, the minister was surprised. He said, "I minored in Speech and Communications. What was your dad's name?" When Stephanie replied 'Ralph Behnke', Rob said, "He was my favorite professor."

Rob even brought lecture notes from Ralph's classes to the service and quoted from them. He said many wonderful things including that Ralph was witty, engaging, and packed with useful information. He also said, "Ralph Behnke was a manifestation of wisdom."

I spoke at the service to give a family view of Ralph. My comments made people smile and laugh and remember him fondly. I felt proud to speak about My Big Brother who meant the world to me.

I'm enclosing the website for Ralph's obituary if you'd like to read some of the posts or post something yourself.

Thank you sincerely for your prayers, cards and notes, and loving support during the past five months. All the family from Missouri and Colorado visited him frequently and we had great talks. I saw the many cards sent to him when we went for his Memorial Service and they warmed my heart. Thank you.

Please know that you have brought great comfort during some very difficult days. We are glad that Ralph is at peace.

With love,

Marilyn (N0CII) and John Shank and Family

SKYWAVES

By Doug Shaw WAØEMX

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This issue of IN SERVICE has been inordinately delayed because of a sequence of unexpected problems here. First my PC was clobbered by a deadly virus late last summer. The rebuild lost some files but most have been restored. The PC is now upgraded to 2 GB of RAM and runs much better now. Much gratitude goes to my good friend Jeff McCright KDOGCL for assisting in this effort.

Around the same time I developed severe sciatica symptoms which has greatly reduced my mobility and limited time that can be spent at the keyboard. I am scheduled for extensive back surgery on December 1st, including fusion and titanium rods around L3-L4-L5 vertebrae. I am told the first month in recovery will be painful but should improve during the second month. I am not sure what to expect other than that. An interest in your prayers will be most appreciated.

ASCRA Newsletter Editor Still Needed

Another contributing factor to this delayed issue is the fact that I am still wearing too many hats. A new editor for the IN SERVICE is still needed. I have installed a newer, full version of MS/Office which includes the Publisher application which may make this task easier, or at least allow for some more sophisticated layouts. I am using still using MS/Word on this issue. If anyone is interested in helping in this regard please contact me

EchoLink Net(s)

Echolink nets have been proposed by several members, to augment our on air nets, especially when propagation or interference makes contacts problematic. Specific suggestions are solicited from anyone interested.

The WØSHQ-R EchoLink node has been operational from the PC at the station for several months but is currently activated only when an operator is in the shack. The node will become active more often once the Motorola Mitrax transceiver is cabled to the PC. Robin Cross is working on that project. Anyone with information on the cable connections should contact Robin who has had problems locating detailed specs for the cable from the PC interface to the transceiver.

To learn more about EchoLink go to www.echolink.org for more details.

We Need Your E-mail Address

We have E-mail addresses for less than half of our members. If you have an E-mail address, please send an E-mail to the Secretary at wa0emx@arrl.net from the current address with which ASCRA may communicate, such as when the ASCRA website has been updated by posting a new issue of the newsletters. An online database will eventually replace the current spreadsheet members' lists. We hope to provide instructions on how to check your current contact data in the data base in the next issue. As this data is verified we can implement a member self-managed list server or other reflector to keep you abreast of important ASCRA announcements and late breaking news between newsletter issues.

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Net Check-ins de Ernie Miles WB2UJL

These check ins on the 20 M (14.287MHZ) and 40 M (7.233 MHZ)nets from April 1st to July 21, 2011. Hope to hear your call sign and be able to list it here. We try to catch all the check ins correctly.

Conditions recently were very up and down (QSB). Can we increase the quantity of check ins somehow. We need some new ideas seems to me.

20 M Net

N0AIX Larry Ragan
W0DZX David Atkins
W10F Gary Tickemyer
W0FEN Robin Cross
KD0FRL Casey Cook
KA0GFC Charles Brady
KB0GR Dave Bland
WA0IBS Andy Ferrar
N0JHX Gary Martin
KD0MEI Edward Briley
KM0S Mike Thayer
N0OXK Jeff Winship
N0PBU Craig Hoepfner
KB0PCI Wayne Bast
K0ZDA Tyler Williams

5X1D Dave Firth

WB2UJL Ernie Miles

VE3DTX John Dixon
VA3RZ Raymond Else
VE3SCP Scott Price

KI4MDY Edward Villalba
VE4ZCW Frank Dolski

K5GYL Harold Adams
WB5OCV Maurice Ritchie
K5RYN Matthew Stennett
KD5SWO John Pannell
AE5UI Michael Williams
W5VFR Charles McDonald
K5YH Victor Baney

W6DY Lawrence Fleming
WA6ES Richard Silva
K6JEM Allen Duerrstein
W6LMJ Terry Redding

AE7KZ Jake Wolfe

K7NCG Jim Fish
KG7QT Gregory Bottelberghe

KD8PGA William Carver
K8QA Michael Oiler

WB9FOL Jeffrey Brown
K9PP Julius Simon
K9YV Stephen Fagan

40 M Net

W0FEN Robin Cross
W1HFD Theodore Whitney
WA0IBS Andy Ferrar

N0JHX Gary Martin
KD0KHN Zonna McNabb
KM0S Mike Thayer
K0WPM William Matthes

NS1F Warren Boles

WB2UJL Ernie Miles

VE3DTX Scott Price xxx
K3IJ Thomas Krohn
K3OGX Ernest Weinhold
VE3SCP Douglas Taylow

WZ4DAY Jerry Day
K4GRP John Schott
KG4OIU Joseph Belanger
KF4OIY David Weiss
N4PN Paul Newberry
KJ4RNK Harry Smith
KI4YAH Charles Dyer

WB5FLQ Claude Whitley
W5RXU Dale Temple

W6LMJ Terry Redding

KD8JFY Howard spencer
KC8ZBD Stuart Kleiner
KC8ZRE Lawrence Cook

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.

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

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