

OCRA Membership Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2023

Meeting Attendees (Total of 27 in-person and on Zoom) – Dee (KU4GC), Chris (KY4OU), John (N4SJW), Sam (KJ4VWG), Patrick (KO4QLU), Bob (W4FK), Charles (KY4HU), Paul (N0US), Paul (N2XZF), Boyd (KO4GJO), Tim (KC1TWR), Laurie (N1YXU), Bruce (N1LN), Dan (KR4UB), Mark (KR3AM), Bill (N8BR), Randy (KF4O), Ron (KO4RON), Jose (KD4KFW), Dave (W4SAR), Karen (KD4YJZ), Jay (KM4IRF), Joel (KD0POE), Chip (KF4WBK), Andrea (unlicensed), Howie (KA4PSC), and Wilson (W4BOH).

Opening Comments – Bruce (N1LN)

- DX Marathon – Last October, Bill (N8BR) gave a presentation on the DX Marathon in preparation for kicking off the calendar year 2023. As we are nearing the end of the year, it would be interesting to know if members participated in the event and how they did. If you're interested in revisiting Bill's presentation or learning about the DX Marathon for the first time, please check out the video on the OCRA YouTube channel - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zM4_YXAY8CY
- The RSVPs for the Christmas Party will be taken through Monday, November 20. Sign-ups and payments are being collected at the Membership Meeting. The party will take place on Monday, December 11. Further information and final confirmation will be sent in a detailed email to the OCRA reflector. We hope to see you at the party!

Mic/Audio Switch Box – Ron Craig (KO4RON)

- Ron gave a comprehensive presentation related to a mic/audio switch box that he designed. Thank you, Ron, for sharing your project and your ingenuity.
- Unfortunately, the Zoom recording was not on during Ron's presentation. A video of the recording is not available to post to the OCRA YouTube channel.

Election Update – Bruce (N1LN)

- In January, OCRA will hold its elections for Board members who will serve in 2024. The current Board developed an overview to the upcoming elections. To understand the full update and impact of the upcoming elections, please be sure to watch the video of the full presentation on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzzNmRHlLk&t=4s>
- The introductory bullet points to the presentation are shown below -
 - The ongoing success of the OCRA is very much the result of everyone's efforts and support.
 - Attendance at the Membership Meetings, both in-person and on Zoom, is excellent.
 - We all must be doing something right!
 - Several of the current officers / BOD members have voiced a desire to step down
 - So – With the above bullet being a reality, how do we keep the club going and, if possible, improve in years to come?
 - With all the talent in this club, some new faces need to come forward.

- The current club leadership team has come up with what we consider to be an excellent way to give new people the ability to “try it out”.
- Creation of the “assistant” position for both elected and appointed positions
 - You would work with the current team member to learn the “what” portion of the job
 - Also, you would learn their “how” which may not be your way in the future
- Modification of term for BOD members after initial 2 years
 - Extend for 1 or 2 years based on individual preference
 - No limit on number of BOD members
- Special Interest / BOD member
 - Specific passion for a ham radio related activity or topic

Officers Reports and General Discussion

- Treasurer’s Report – Dan (KR4UB)
 - The current club membership is a total of 105. Of that number, 95 members have current/paid memberships; 5 members need to renew; and 5 people have memberships that are expiring.
 - The end of a calendar year is a typical time when many memberships will need to be renewed.
 - Please make sure that you check the club’s website to see the status of your membership.
- There was a discussion regarding visibility to OCRA on social media and also on the OCRA website. As the new Board is elected and priorities are made for 2024, these items will be considered.
- Please note that the Board meetings are open to all members. If you are interested in attending a Board meeting, please let Bruce (N1LN) know. He will add you to the distribution list for the meetings with are held on Zoom.
- As a result of tonight’s presentation regarding the upcoming elections, Chip (KF4WBK) has volunteered to be considered for the Webmaster role, and Ron (KO4RON) has volunteered to be considered for the Assistant Treasurer role. Also, Paul (N2XZF) and John (N4SJW) have reaffirmed their commitment to the Repeater Team.
- Howie (KA4PSC) gave a “show and tell” of an Elecraft handheld 5-band HF rig that he is helping to test. The unit weighs less than one pound and would be perfect for portable operating. It is currently being tested by the Elecraft Field Test team.
- The next “meeting” will be the Christmas Party on December 11.

Respectfully submitted,
 Laurie Meier, N1YXU
 OCRA Secretary