

OCRA Board Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2026

Board Meeting Attendees – Fred (KN4QBZ), Dan (KR4UB), Matthew (KQ4ZYW), Karen (KD4YJZ), Dave (W4SAR), Ron (KO4RON), Aurora (KN4VXB), Boyd (KO4GJO), Ken (KO4DHJ), Jonathan (KR4GOK), and Ben (KO4BHX)

Discussion Topics:

- February Membership Meeting Program: Boyd asked about the agenda programs for February and following months. Fred, Aurora, and Ron are on a group that will assist Boyd with the programs. It was decided that at the February 9th meeting would have two presentations: one from Boyd about how to stay warm when the power goes out, and one from Ron about back-up power with a generator.
- Program Survey: Aurora asked for a refresher regarding the most popular topics of the survey for program ideas that was sent out to members in 2025. The top 5 topics were
 1. Antennas (HF, VHF, UHF and above)
 2. Station Safety and Grounding (given the legal codes, logistics, liability, and safety around this topic, the board has decided not to cover this topic unless we can have a licensed, knowledgeable expert come to a meeting to talk about it)
 3. Battery Types, Applications and Maintenance
 4. Digital Modes
 5. DX Operating and Contesting tied with Propagation, Sunspots, SFI, A & K Index, etc
 6. Winlink
- Future programs
 - Regarding the #1 topic above, the board discusses that the program could cover antenna theory as well different options for antennas with different situations. As of the time of the meeting, there were not many folks who had responded with interest in presenting the Show and Tell topics.
 - When should people use band pass filters (and why) as well as chokes
 - Aurora will check with Wilson to see if he could talk about topic 3# as well as he has given past talks on batteries and set up a group of batteries top power his well
 - The March program will be done by Wilson regarding batteries and back-up power
 - The April program will be done by Ben regarding propagation, as well as POTA and field day, and maybe keying and such with cw
 - May: Some Field Day, possibly band pass filters and chokes
 - June: Field Day
 - July: Field Day recap, need other program (possibly tv project update?)
 - August: antenna theory, flowchart and such (program survey topic #1)
 - Ron has several topics he could cover
- Member Events/Group Projects

- Many have brought up to the board that the club should have more group projects and other classes and such
- Aurora brought up the radio from tv parts project being held at Wilson's house (his basement known as the Land of Magic). The next meeting will be on February 8th and then March 1st
- Parks of the Air group with a joint effort with DFMA. Matthew and Aurora will work out a date for that, possibly in the spring.
- Aurora will send out a questionnaire to see what interest there is in several build projects: homemade yagi, moxon, dipoles, j pole, how to soldering project, fox hunt, cw learning/encouragement
- Field Day 2026
 - Will be held again at Wilson's house. Dave plans to start talking about it in May and then June will cover more of it. Most of the meeting will try to cover simulations and other ways to prepare people how to handle QSOs and the logging program. Also the club will have a Saturday meeting that teaches people more to prepare for Field Day.

Matthew Stafford, KQ4ZYW
OCRA Secretary