

## Report From The 2016 OMIK Anniversary Convention

Date: July 15, 2016

Place: Holiday Inn Houston Texas

Time: 2:30pm

Attendees: Board members: Jeff Drew, President; Leonard Moseley, Vice-President; Ron Pennington, Treasurer; and Betty DeCuire, Ladies Auxillary President

OMIK Members present: Leroy Taylor, Willie Patterson, and Roy Sherrow

**Call to Order and Opening Comments were made by Jeff Drew.** The President proudly announced that the current Secretary and Treasurer have expressed their willingness to continue their positions for the new incoming administration. Jeff emphasized the fact that we all need to take a active role in the community. He wants us to participate in the National School Days event. Go to the schools and help participate in this event as OMIK.

The membership voted to have the 2017 Convention in Memphis.

### Reports

**Scholarship Report:** In spite of the financial damage caused by the intentional jamming and personal attacks against many of our largest contributors, Bob Spann, who previously indicated his desire to resign, has decided to remain as custodian. He stated that he could not leave the Fund in its present condition. Contributions are lower than expected due to this jamming however OMIK is doing all it can to continue solicitations and maintain the customary funding. He also reports that the fund is now lower than expected and additional donations are needed to meet the current goals. At least \$3,000 is currently needed. Awards are given in September.

Bob Span, Custodian of the Scholarship Fund

**2015 Publications Chair Report:** This year the chair prepared, with the assistance of OMIK Secretary Steve Schmitz, WØSJS, the 2016 OMIK Blue Book. More than 330 copies were mailed to OMIK members. As in the past few years the chair worked to get the best product and price. The booklets were printed and mailed by Graphic Connections Group at a cost of \$798.56. This cost remained far below the more than \$1,500 that we paid several years ago.

We encouraged members to have their pictures included with their listing in the booklet. Announcements were made on the OMIK nets each Sunday beginning in November along with reminders of the importance of making sure that each person's contact information correct.

The proceeds from the pictures were deposited in the OMIK general fund.

If I am asked, I will continue this responsibility during the administration of the next president. So, if members have suggestions for making the publication more readable and relevant, please contact me.

Cornelius Washington, KRØZ

**Educational Committee Report:** OMIK Educational chair mentioned about Tech Talk. It used to be done on the air after the net on Sunday's. Now it is done on the website via PDF. They also have a swap section or For Sale section at the end where hams can buy or trade their items. They also have brought over 100 hams to digital mode by talking them through the process via remote. Roy Sherrow, Gary Newman, and Jack have helped in this process. He has also developed quick study guide for Techs and Extra class. He is also setting up a one on one class on Skype for getting a Tech license.

Frank DeCuire, K6FED

**Treasurer:** Ron Pennington requested, prior to the convention that the bank statement and our financial information be audited by a non board member. Jeff Drew recommended member Amos Favorite who graciously agreed to audit our books. The audit was completed with no discrepancies found. OMIK has 4 Certificates of Deposit. The treasurer has incurred some difficulty with US Bank in that they have refused to disclose the current value of 3 of the CD's. Although this was unexpected and still not completely resolved as of these minutes - it is noted that each year the bank sends a statement related to each of the 4 CD's. These are sent to the club Secretary, Steve, W0SJS, who forwards them to the Treasurer. As of these minutes we do have information related to 3 of the CD's and will be able to resolve the remaining 1 as soon as the bank sends the yearly statement related to that CD. This is a name recognition problem that will be resolved with the assistance of the Secretary once the bank statement related to the 4th CD is received by the Secretary and sent to the Treasurer this report will be amended.

## OMIK Treasurer Report 2015 - 2016

As of July 12, 2016 we have a total of \$7,646.76 in the OMIK account at US Bank. The funds are broken into 3 categories as follows:

- OMIK General Fund                      \$5,821.71
  - OMIK Ladies Auxiliary                 \$1,095.94
  - OMIK Membership Account         \$ 729.11
- Total \$7,646.76**

**Secretaries Report:** Report was given by Ron Pennington on behalf of Secretary Steve Schmitz, W0SJS. who is unable to travel to the conventions, as follows:

### **OMIK Secretaries Report to the 64th OMIK Anniversary Convention**

As of July 13, 2016 OMIK has an active membership of 337 (288 yearly pays and 49 Lifetime) membership. We currently have 4 members on the Lifetime Member waiting list and 1 available Lifetime Membership with the recent loss of Marco Vallery, Jr., W6PCH several days ago. In the year since the last convention we have accepted 39 new members and have lost 6 members. The SK members are listed individually below in this report.

Since the last Convention the Secretary has continued to work closely with the club officers and Board as well as with the Health & Welfare Chairperson, Joe, NU6L. In this regard we continue to use the OMIK MailMan list and club website to send out important club information as well as individual Health & Welfare reports.

### **Below is a Summary of Current Membership Data**

**Number of new members** from July 6, 2015 to July 13, 2016

- 39 New Memberships since the 2015 Convention

**Total OMIK Active Membership** as of July 13, 2016

- OMIK Active Membership - 337 (288 annual pays and 49 Lifetime)

**Silent Keys** since the 2015 convention to July 13, 2016

- Marco Givanovich Vallery, Jr., W6PCH
- Jerome "Jerry" Fiore, Sr.
- Burton Paynter, VP9BP
- Armour Wright, WB0EGI
- Calin Cooley, WA3HPS

· Melvin Edwards, K0ME

Respectively Submitted

Stephen J. Schmitz, W0SJS

OMIK Secretary - July 13, 2016

### **Area Directors Reports**

**Area 4 Report:** Dear OMIK Officers and members. First of all let me say that it has been a pleasure to represent the OMIK organization as Area 4 Director. The Area 4 banner was carried on the road to the following Hamfests where we had a hospitality table and bottled water and a dose of OMIK relief for tired feet, a place to sit and chill out. Locations included: Orlando, Fla Hanvention, Atlanta Alford Memorial Radio Club, Birminghamfest Birmingham, Al and the Huntsville Hamfest Huntsville, Al.

All the best 73 de N4GNO, Eugene L (Geno) Newman, Jr.

**Area 6 Report:** We is sadden by the passing of the last Founding member of the Los Angeles Amateur Radio Club, Marco G. Vallery, Jr. (W6PCH). The leadership of Marco was crucial in bridging a period of stagnation for the LAARC for several years. Marco's ever present mate (Lupe Vallery, KB6PPH) was always there supporting him.

Barry Fitchew (N6VOH) and Stan Thornton (W6SMT) conducted classes for a number of new and current Amateurs. Following the classes, the club sponsored a testing session. Frank Decuire. K6FED is the Editor of the Los Angeles Amateur Radio Club newsletter 40/S9 has several interesting sections including, Tech Talk, FCC matters, information on new technology, testing study information, and more. The LAARC Officers are: Stan Thornton W6SMT, President; Doug Long N6PZK, Vice-President; Jess Craig W6CKC, Co-Secretary; Laverne Carter KJ6OSV, Co-Secretary Archie Buchanan KD6OLH; Treasurer; and Peter V. Swearingen KJ6JQA, Sgt at Arms.

The Western Amateur Radio Friendship Association (WARFA) had its Spring 2016 Retreat at the residence of Moody and Norma Law (WQ6I & N6MMF). The WARFA Officers are for the coming year are: Bob Spann (KE6BJL), President; Dave Billeci (WA6UHA), Vice Presiden; Web Master, Moody Law (WQ6I), Secretary; Marcia Johnson (KE6FKL), Treasurer; and Tom Rievley (KG6KVN), Chaplin.

It was by chance that Tommie Silas, KB6TUM came across information on the OMIK organization. He had been looking for other African American Amateur Radio Operators for a long time. Up to that point, his experience on the air with other Hams was less than pleasing once they were able to determine his ethnicity.

Tommie called the Area 6 Representative for OMIK, WZ6M to inquire about OMIK and discuss the activities of African American amateurs. It should be noted; Tommie is a Mason who lives in Northern California and reports that several of his Mason Brothers in that area have an Amateur Radio license.

Barry, N6VOH was asked to contact Tommie to continue the discussion with him about the activities of OMIK, the Los Angeles Amateur Radio Club, WARFA, etc. Their conversation included a discussion of some problems Tommie was having with one of his projects. This was a clear indication of the mutual benefits for further communications and meetings. We are looking forward to getting to know Tommie and the other Amateurs in the Northern California area.

The Silent Keys from Area 6 include: Marco G. Vallery, Jr., W6PCH; Patricia Thornton wife of W6SMT; Don Olejnik, W6KAT; and Lillie Mae Thornton Wife of Nathaniel Thornton KI6IK.

Willie Patterson, WZ6M

**Area 8 Report:** The Dayton, DACAR Club has been designated as the cover group for the Southwest Dayton and Montgomery county support team Emergency Management Office (EMO). The club is responsible for communications between, Hospitals, Fire, and Police, in distribution of medicine during any pandemic and major disasters in our area. We are in the process of contacting the local media, news and TV, in order to stir interest in Amateur Radio. Using resources of OMIK education team, we strive to reach the young people, and returning HAMS, to get active. We are using the new digital form of technology in Columbus, Dayton, Toledo and Kentucky to increase education and interest in Amateur Radio.

Respectfully, Cliff Peoples, KE8QR, Area 8 Director

**Net Directors and Area Directors** terms are up and must now be re-appointed or replaced by the new administration.

**Convention Committee Report:** James and Mary Green reported that we had a total of a 65

registered members for the convention of which 50 have paid. The City Tour we had 25, Hospitality we had 39 and for the banquet tonight we have 60 dinners ordered. The total for that is \$5,895. We paid out is \$5,873.11. That leaves the convention account \$21.87. That is the tentative report so she still needs to finalize the numbers. Last year, due to the violence it was agreed to hold Charleston site in abeyance until an alternative site was chosen. A Google drive question and response form was set up to solicit comments from the membership as to their convention suggestions. The results were that the over riding recommendation's were that we have our conventions in the central part of the USA. In this way we might expect more members to arrive and participate in convention activities. With this in consideration, the top choices for the 2017 site were Memphis, TN and Baton Rouge, LA. Memphis TN is the winning city with Baton Rouge as the next recommended city for 2018.

### **Final OMIK 2016 Convention - Financial Report (Houston, Texas)**

A total of 65 people attended the convention.

•	Registered 55	\$630.00
•	City Tour 28	\$920.00
•	Hospitality Night 39	\$1120.00
•	Dinner 60	\$3250.00
•	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5920.00</b>

Paid out:

•	City tour	-\$750.00
•	Printing, pen & bags, hotel deposit	-\$549.00
•	Dinner & Hosp. Night	-\$4569.10
•	<b>Total Dispersals</b>	<b>-\$5868.10</b>

**Convention Fund - End Balance, July 19, 2016      +\$51.90**

James & Mary Green Convention Chairperson's

**Strategic Planning Committee:** Continuing the efforts of Rit Nesbitt, N4BNM the SPC continues to press area directors and the general membership to attend public functions and increase the visibility and public awareness of OMIK in the general community. It has been noted that these public activities do not rest solely on the shoulders of the AD's, but rather on

the membership at large. We should give notice to all members that ALL members are requested to "GO Public" for OMIK. In addition the board agrees that members should make plans to do HAM radio demonstrations at the ARRL designated national School Day for Hams. Start at least 60 days ahead of the selected date by contacting any school and arrange to do a ham radio demo in that school. We should do this at least once a year and more if possible.

**OMIK Ladies Auxillary Report:** OMIK Ladies Auxillary Annual Meeting 15 July 2016. The OMIK Ladies Auxillary Meeting was called to order and officially opened with a Prayer led by Vice President Betty Taylor and Welcome from OMIK President Jeff Drews. The meeting began as a joint session. Ms. CaSandra Henry, a certified Physical Therapist gave a 45 minute presentation on exercise guidelines for older active adults and led the members in an exercise routine for stretching and strengthening the body. Ms. Henry was presented with a certificate and a check for \$100 from the Ladies Auxillary. This ended the joint session.

The Ladies Auxillary assembled for their business meeting with 17 members present. The 2015 minutes and the Treasurer's report was accepted. The starting balance was \$1095.94. Disbursements totaled \$350.00 leaving an ending balance of \$745.94.

Health and Wellness - Six Thinking of You cards and one Sympathy card will be sent to OMIK members. The reports on the Hospitality Night were all positive. Joyce Spight, OMIK LA Resource Manager, agreed to research a 2017 service project as soon as the 201 OMIK convention location is determined.

### **OMIK Ladies Auxillary Officers for 2016 - 2018**

President – Betty Taylor

Vice President – Betty DeCuire

Secretary – Mary Ramsey

Treasurer – Francis Williams

OMIK President Jeff Drew asked the Ladies Auxillary member to support Byron and Sarah Lumas of Searcy Arkansas by way of prayers, cards, emails, etc., as a way of encouraging them as they strive to establish a more inclusive network of HAM radio operators in their local area. James Green asked the members to become more active in their use of HAM radio, pointing out that D-STAR may be more appealing to them. Jeff also pointed out that women examiners are needed and that licensed members should try to get more interested and involved. Financial Donations: \$405 was collected from the members, adding to our ending

balance of \$745.94 which gives us a total of \$1,150.94.

Betty Taylor

**New Business:**

**Elections:** The current Secretary and Treasurer have expressed their willingness to continue their positions for the new incoming administration. No one declared their desire in November of 2015 for office's of President and Vice President. Bearing this news, elections will be held from the floor of the convention for the positions of Vice-President and President.

Nominations were made and voting ensued and the OMIK and Ladies Auxillary Officers for 2016 to 2018 area as follows:

**OMIK Election Results 2016 - 2018**

Cliff Peoples, KE8QR - President  
Matthew Blanding, K4FNX - Vice President  
Stephen Schmitz, W0SJS - Secretary  
Ron Pennington, KA0ETF - Treasurer

**Ladies Auxiliary 2016 - 2018**

Betty Taylor, President  
Betty Decuire, Vice President  
Mary Ramsey, Secretary  
Francis Williams, Treasurer

**Adjournment:**

The Vice-President indicated his pleasure in serving OMIK and offered his regrets that he was unable to do more due to the death of his mother and other critical family matters.

The President indicated his regrets that he could not have done a better job due to his status of self employment and not yet being retired. He indicated that OMIK is the most prestigious Amateur Radio Association in the world and that it has been an honor to lead the organization for the past 4 years. Lastly the function of the job as President was made less difficult due to the cooperation of the Board of Directors and the membership at large.



The President adjourned the meeting.