

Illinois Repeater Association 2023 Annual Meeting Announcement

QST: All Illinois holders of coordination for repeaters, Trustees, Technical Contacts, and Hams at large: After 3 years of cancellations and delays of our annual in-person meeting, we will finally resume gathering face-to-face!

We will be hosting a one-off mid-year meeting this year; the purpose is to get us back on track with IRA business, discuss the status of the IRA, and prepare for the return of regular Spring meetings in 2024.

As in past years, all interested parties are invited to attend. We do ask that, if you can do so, please RSVP to gregk9vl@gmail.com so that we may get a rough count of the number of attendees so that we may plan for morning bakery, coffee and tea. It is not required to RSVP; we simply ask that, if you will attend, please drop us a line so that we can get a better count of how many will be present.

The meeting will be held July 22, 2023. **The doors will open at 9AM; we will promptly begin at 10AM.**

The location is as follow:

**Eastland Suites
1801 Eastland Drive
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 662-0000**

Many of you will remember this location from meetings prior to 2016. We have decided to return to this location for 2023 as it is centrally located, provides ample room for your group, and has offered reasonably-priced rooms for booking. If you plan to arrive Friday, July 21 and would like a room, call the above-listed number directly, tell them you are with the Illinois Repeater Association and provide Group ID Code **5330** to receive a reduced room rate. We have reserved a limited number of rooms and they are available on a first come, first served basis. All IRA delegates and / or their designees may use this code.

Agenda

In addition to finally socializing again and introductions to each other, several topics will be up for discussion this year including:

- Appointment of an interim Board and Officers pending resumption of general elections in Spring, 2024. We are doing this so that we may get back on the proper schedule for elections and allow everyone the chance to consider running for the Board and various elected positions;
- We will consider an amendment to the Bylaws that would allow us to meet via electronic means should we ever end up in the same situation that we have been in since 2020. Our current Bylaws require Face-to-Face meetings once per year and to hold elections. This revision, if adopted, would allow us to meet via electronic means should in-person meeting be precluded by State or Federal law or restrictions;
- The current state of the treasury will be presented;

- An annual update on the work undertaken by our Frequency Coordination Team will be presented;
- Consideration of a proposal to add additional VHF allocations to the current repeater pairs available for coordination will be further discussed (held over from 2019);
- The status of the amateur allocations will be discussed in general.

It is my hope that many of you will be able to attend.

I, and the full Board and Officers look forward to seeing you in Bloomington this July 22!

73 es TNX,

Greg Buchwald - K9QI

Proposed Bylaw Amendment language:

Current: **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

An IRA membership meeting shall be held at least annually at such place as the President shall order. Both membership and board meetings may be called by the President at his discretion, or by majority vote of the IRA Board of Directors. Notices of all membership meetings, with the proposed agenda included, shall be sent by first class mail, by the Secretary/Treasurer, to the entire membership at least 30 days before the time of the meeting. Only such business as is designated in the notice shall be transacted at this membership meeting.

Proposed: **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

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Should the membership be precluded from meeting face-to-face at least once per annum, the President may call an electronic meeting to occur using technology that will allow video and audio of all attendees to be uniformly enjoined. The membership may, at their discretion, participate with or without audio and/or video input. The Board and Officers must participate with at least a full duplex audio connection. Non-Face to Face meetings will only be permitted should State or Federal laws prohibit the gathering of the membership in person. (added text)