

TO: All ARRL Northwestern Division Affiliated Clubs

FROM: Mike Ritz, W7VO

DATE: August 27, 2018

RE: Upcoming Director and Vice Director Elections



Next month there will be a contested election for both ARRL Northwestern Director and Vice Director Board positions, with three candidates running for each office. This is unprecedented in recent history, and provides a chance for members within our division to have a real choice in who represents, and most importantly, advocates for them in matters before the Board. Realizing that there are many improvements that can be made in transparency, and noting how interaction between division members and the League could be vastly improved, I made the important decision to run for Director this term. I have visited many clubs the last few months, but I can't reach out to all of you in time. Here is a bit about me to share with your members:

What I bring:

- **Leadership-** I recently retired after a successful career in high technology management at the Director level. In this capacity I was responsible for generating and executing business plans that promoted both revenue growth AND customer satisfaction. I was part of the team authoring long term corporate strategic plans, and served as our primary customer advocate, bringing their voice to senior company executives. During my variety of roles in operations, engineering and management, I oversaw many staff members spanning multiple departments, ensuring they all worked collaboratively to meet our company goals.

I am serving third term as President of the Willamette Valley DX Club, and founder/trustee of the Columbia River DX Club, a local club I founded to mentor amateurs in the technical aspects of the hobby, and enhancing their operating skills.
- **Commitment-** I am a long time ARRL Life Member, very active amateur, and *on the air*. Committed to bringing this high energy and passion to the Board, as your advocate.
- **Public Service-** As a firm believer in amateur radio's obligation to public service, I have served as an ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC), and am currently a Deputy EC for my local county. I also recently authored training modules for Oregon's statewide ARES Amateur Radio Operator (ARO) certification program.
- **Mentoring and Education-** I focus on mentoring at my own HF station. ARRL Registered Trainer, Accredited Volunteer Examiner, author, and seminar speaker on amateur radio subjects. I strongly believe that Science, Technology Education and Math (STEM) programs in schools will provide a foundation for the future of the hobby.
- **More?** My website: www.w7vo.com/election.html
and the latest news on my Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/w7vo4NWDirector

No matter whom your members decide in this election can best represent them, please ensure they are encouraged to VOTE when the ballots are mailed out in late September. In the last ARRL Northwestern Division Board election only about 20% of eligible members voted, and for this very special election EVERY VOTE is very important!

73! Mike W7VO