

Bits and Bytes

Arkansas' Premier Computer Club

2011

April 2010
, President

Bella Vista Computer Club - John Ruehle Center

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Since the election last August several elective and non-elective positions have remained vacant. That meant the six elected officials have had to do double duty. Now there's another vacancy. Your President, Dick Wenzel, resigned effective April 2. Let me detail what has transpired since last August. There are seven elective positions that have to be filled at the annual election, which is held in August. The Nominating Committee, headed by Dick Wenzel, was able to find club members to fill five of the seven positions. No one was willing to be President or Secretary. At the August meeting there were not enough members present to constitute a quorum, so the election could not be held. During the election process at the September meeting a lady volunteered to be Secretary but because of health reasons was not able to perform. Dick Wenzel finally volunteered to be President and for several months took on some of the Secretary duties. He published the Board Meeting minutes but Minutes of the Membership meetings were not published. During this time there was some confusion over who would fill a Board position. Julie Storm finally accepted the Board position and volunteered to be the acting Secretary. At the last Board meeting Julie indicated she would prefer to be the Secretary so George Hart (a member of the Programs Committee) volunteered to fill Julie's vacated Board position.

In addition to the seven elective positions, there are ten non-elective positions that provide support to the operation of the Club. Some of these positions have been vacant or are being worked by an elected official. Until a few days ago the Public Relations position was vacant. Nancy Jones has volunteered to fill this position. The Club has not had a dedicated Newsletter Editor for three and a half years. In a club with approximately 130 members this lack of support is not acceptable. You, the members, can no longer sit back and expect a dozen individuals to do 100% of the work. So, here's the current situation.

The Club needs a:

President - _____

The President is the Chairman of the Board and is responsible for the overall operation of the Club. A contact for someone in the public sector that wants to know more about the Club. Someone that will actively promote the Club. Responsible for conducting the monthly Board meeting and general membership meeting. The president does not need to be an accomplished computer user. He or she needs to be a leader, organizer, and administrator. This position must be filled.

Newsletter Editor - _____

Publishes the *Bits and Bytes*. If you want a newsletter, this position must be filled.

Two individuals to serve on the Programs Committee - _____

The Programs Committee recommends the programs that are presented at the monthly membership meeting. Once approved by the Board the members of the Programs Committee make the arrangements necessary to support the presentation.

Education Chairperson - _____

Primarily responsible for signing up individuals for classes, but also follows up by reminding everyone of their upcoming class.

If you're interested in volunteering to fill any of these positions, contact any officer or Board member.

Here's the bottom line. Unless overruled, the Board of Directors is not going to search for volunteers nor select Club members to fill these vacant positions. The Board of Directors is not going to request a search committee be formed. It is up to you, the members of the Club, to stand up and volunteer to support your club. If that doesn't happen, then things will begin to shut down. You can no longer hold a few good people hostage and expect them to do 100% of the work.

From time to time comments are made about offering the some old classes over and over. Well, why don't you let us know what classes or workshops you want? Since there's a finite number of training hours available during the month, should we discontinue some of the current classes or just increase the interval at which they're offered to make room for new classes and workshops? According to the impromptu survey taken at the last meeting, you apparently would like to have shorter classes. Define shorter; one hour, two hours, four hours (two hours two days a week or four hours in one day). While you're at it why not tell us what topics you would like to see discussed in the *Bit and Bytes* or presented at the monthly membership meeting? For the past year there's been a statement at the end of the *Bits and Bytes* requesting possible topics that you would like to see discussed in the newsletter. To date there's been no (that's zero) suggestions.

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Having a problem with your computer? Having a problem doing something on the computer? Stop by one of the Open House Help Clinics we have at the John Ruehle Center and see if we can solve your problem. These clinics are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first Saturday and the third Wednesday of the month. The clinics are open to the public so you can invite a friend or neighbor.