

QCWA 2026 Election Candidates

Officer Candidate:

A.Robert "Bob" Pantazes, W2ARP Treasurer **

Director Candidates:

Travis Burden, KB5ILY AD8BC

Lloyd Colston, KC5FM

Ken Oelke, VE6AFO

** Incumbent

The following are all candidates' biographies and photographs.

As per QCWA Bylaw Article VI, Section 1. The regular election of Officers and five (5) Directors shall be held such that three (3) persons are elected every year at the Annual Meeting of Members. Those candidates who were not contested will not be listed on the ballot.

The persons up for -re-election shall be as follows:

- Year One: Treasurer and Directors 1 and 2
- Year Two: Vice President and Directors 3 and 4
- Year Three: President, Secretary, and Director 5

The office of Treasurer (incumbent) was not contested and therefore will not appear on the ballot...

**Candidate: A.Robert "Bob" Pantazes
Position: Treasurer (Incumbent)**

My name is A.Robert "Bob" Pantazes, I live in Greensboro, NC, my call is W2ARP. I am originally from Southern New Jersey near Atlantic City. I am running for the position of Treasurer of QCWA, for 2026. My qualifications are presently treasure of the South Jersey DX Association, past treasurer of two Masonic Lodges in NJ and in FL. I was a past treasure of the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club in Florida.

My working history was Managers of a communications repair depot, manager of the Field Engineers for a large paging company in the Philadelphia market and a Broadcast Engineer for a consulting company in the Philadelphia market. I have been retired for over 15 years.

I have been an Amateur Operator for over 30 years. I am a contester, traffic handler and operate phone, CW and digital. I have an Elecraft K4 with a KPA500 amp and a KAT500 tuner. My antenna Farm is a HEX Beam for 20 to 6 meters, 80/40 meter dipole and 30/60 meter end feed antennas.

I am running for QCWA Treasurer to help our organization with the excellent donations and scholarships. There is a lot of work needed to bring our finance books up to date.

Thank you and I am looking forward to your support.

73,A.Robert "Bob" Pantazes, W2ARP

**robert.pantazes@gmail.com
w2arp@arri.neta**



Candidate: Travis Burton, KB5ILY

Position: Director

I started in the communications industry in 1975 as a communications volunteer with the local Search & Rescue team. In 1976 I received my Third-Class Radio-Telephone Operator permit and went to work for the Ambulance Services. I also worked for local AM & FM radio stations.

In 1978 I became a firefighter and 1979 I worked as a Jailer & Dispatcher for the County Sheriff.

In 1985 I was appointed to the volunteer position of Communications & Warning Officer for the County's Office of Emergency Management, serving for ten years. I was licensed in 1989 as KB5ILY as a Novice and today hold an Extra Class Ticket and GROL.

During my 50+ years in the communications industry, I have assisted in engineering industrial/business, & Public Safety radio systems, LPTV (Low Power Television) and FM Broadcast stations. I am an ARRL Life Member and serve as Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator for southwest Arkansas, both ARRL and W5YI accredited instructor and Volunteer Examiner & greatly enjoy administering Amateur exams.

Before I studied for my Novice exam, my Elmer (WA6UCT) told me **"When you have been a ham long enough, join QCWA. It's a worthy organization."**

I joined QCWA #36353 at my first opportunity in 2014, currently holding Life membership. During 2023 I served on the QCWA biennial officer nominations committee. I now serve as President of QCWA Chapter 158 and President of The DeGray Amateur Radio Club.

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Candidate: Lloyd Colston, KC5FM

Position: Director

It is a honor to be considered as a candidate for a director of the Quarter Century Wireless Association.

First licensed a in 1970 as a senior in high school, it has been a privilege to be continuously licensed with no breaks in service. After college, I served as a manager of a number of businesses, including ownership of a weekly newspaper. I was employed by the State of Oklahoma for 26 consecutive years. Following that, I retired and became an emergency management director of an Oklahoma County and then a City in the State. With a brief tenure as a reservist with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, my retirement years include grandchildren and amateur radio. I continue to volunteer with the American Red Cross and serve in public affairs in the Region.

As a director, I will endeavor to bring fiscal responsibility and integrity to the post. I have no conflict of interest, other to make the "BEST hobby on the Planet" well known to those who might cross my path.

Other posts held include board memberships with the American Red Cross chapters, and service as elder, deacon, and board membership in a number of congregations in Kansas and Oklahoma, and a number of clubs in Kansas and Oklahoma as an officer and member. During Navy-Marine Corp Military Affiliate Radio System service, I served as the Oklahoma and National Public Affairs Officer.

I am involved with the SunflowerNet.us a multimode digital voice effort, the Quarter Century Wireless Association, the American Radio Relay League, and the Christian Amateur Radio Fellowship (CARF.net), On the air, one can find him on FM on 10, 6, two, and 440 as well as SSB on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15. and 10 meters, often on emergency nets, and, active extensions on Amateur Wire, Hams Over IP, and the relatively new PatriotRadio.Club "Batphone", as well as frequently using RemoteHams.com .remote bases around the United States.

Your vote will be greatly appreciated.



Candidate: Ken Oelke, VE6AFO

Position: Director

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Profile

Over six decades of experience in the amateur radio field, spectrum coordination and emergency services.

Demonstrated leadership as an executive across national and international radio organizations, combined with hands-on technical skills in airline ground equipment maintenance and automotive service.

Ground Equipment Technician, Jazz Aviation (formerly Canadian Regional Airlines / Chorus Aviation)

16 years maintaining and troubleshooting ground support systems for regional airline operations.

Owner/Operator – Automotive Service Outlet

– Founded and managed an automotive service business for 20 years, overseeing operations, customer service, staffing and technical repair work.

Volunteer – Amateur Radio

– Accredited Examiner (Innovation, Science & Economic Development Canada) for amateur radio licensing in Canada.

Organization Leadership

Canadian Radio Relay League

- Director (1988-1993)

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)

– Director (1993-1999); President (1999-2001). Served as Head of Delegation at the IARU-R2 Conference in Guatemala City (2001).

Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA)

– Director (2006-2008); Vice-President (2008-2012); President (2012-2023).

– Led youth outreach initiatives and established a partnership with the Radio Club of America to promote careers in wireless technologies.

Amateur Radio Activities

– HF/VHF/UHF communications, antenna systems design (homebrew Yagi's on 6 m, 2 m, 70 cm and 902 MHz bands) and satellite/Moon-bounce operations.

- Frequency coordination and regulatory liaison with national bodies.

– Emergency communications planning, coordination for public service events and net management.

Education & Certification

– Automotive Service Technician certification

- Licensed Amateur Radio Operator since 1961 (Call-sign VE6AFO)
 - Certified Examiner, Innovation Science & Economic Development Canada (ISED) for amateur radio licensing
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Volunteer & Community Involvement

- Demonstrator of Morse code and amateur radio for school groups at The Military Museums (Calgary).
 - Committee member for the Calgary Stampede Parade since 1988 (participated in the 100th anniversary event in 2012).
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Personal Interests

Operating “rag-chew” sessions, VHF/UHF weak-signal experimentation, restoration and repair of vintage radio equipment.

Member of a number of amateur radio clubs and QCWA chapters.

A lifelong advocate for youth in STEM and wireless communications.

