

Roman Hargrave



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The importance of the OCF was immediately obvious to me upon first encounter. We have the unique and precious opportunity to invite our guests to an experience - a situation - that breaks prevailing narratives, and that we have the resources to do so accessibly, at this scale, and with regularity is rare. Such happenings have been and will continue to be of utmost social importance, and we must be judicious to ensure that we are able to fulfill the need for such well in to the future, as I believe we presently do and can play a greater role in shaping the future we want for the world around us.

In my (thus far) short time here, I have been privileged to interact with a number of different crews and management, and to better understand how they work and to a certain degree what challenges they face. I recognize and appreciate the hard work that many of us put in to making this event happen: in many cases, we ask a lot of our volunteers - be it to deploy their skilled trades as plumbers, carpenters, electricians, beekeepers, mechanics, cooks, bakers, horticulturists, arborists, nurses, accountants, and so forth, or to do difficult - even hazardous - jobs which can be hard to staff in the outside world. We owe it to our volunteers to respect their contributions both in how we as family treat one-another, as coordinators in equitably staffing our crews, and as directors in the decisions we make about how to allocate our limited resources. It is these things in particular - mutual respect and resource management - that have most moved me to run.

Albeit that I may be one of the least tenured candidates running in this election,

I feel that I can offer an unburdened but ideologically- and mission-aligned perspective to the board. I strive to bring my best self to interactions and to avoid letting preconceptions cloud my treatment of others or the outcomes of my decision making. I think that at any level we can not allow for ego, emotions, and petty disagreements to interfere with our ability to make the most optimal decisions.

Whirlwind stance summary:

- **Population & Resources, Sustainability:** In the weeks surrounding the event, not to mention the event itself, we bring a lot of people together, and we ask a lot of the land, our infrastructure, and each-other. Amidst all of the excitement and business, we must conduct ourselves in a sustainable manner. "Sustainable" here is used in the holistic sense: we must be respectful of the the land, as it is a key aspect of our identity as an organization and event; we must be considerate of the volume and contents of our waste streams; and that we operate in a manner that allows for continued maintenance of our facilities and to put on the next event.
- **DEI:** As an organization with counter-culture roots, it is a service to our past, present, and future that we foster an inclusive, welcoming, and non-toxic environment regardless of the identity of any party to an interaction. Whilst I think we are generally aligned with that, and I have witnessed some of the most exemplary interpersonal behavior at the OCF, there is always room for growth. I would be interested to bolster our code of conduct, would support any effort to improve our implementation thereof, and would more generally support any other such similar efforts.
- **Others:** the above two are those which immediately come to mind; however, I would be happy to discuss any matter which you are curious about. I have made contact information available for this purpose, and am most responsive by email, secondarily SMS.

About me:

I am a software engineer professionally, with experience beyond simply technical matters including software architecture, project management, and soft skills such as interviewing and mentoring. I have many hobbies among which I count photography, electronics, reverse engineering, baking, fragrance, gardening, and general tinkering. I work on Sunshine.