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Meeting assets for Jerry Michalski's Zoom Meeting are ready!

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Meeting summary

Quick recap

The group discussed the evolution and current state of OGM's communication platforms, including the shutdown of Mattermost and migration to various alternatives, while addressing concerns about member onboarding and community engagement. They explored questions about group growth and expansion, considering factors like deliberate onboarding, diversity of thought, and the value of small groups, though no concrete decisions were made. The discussion concluded with reflections on the challenges faced by small farmers and the importance of community-driven initiatives, including AI integration and knowledge sharing within the group.

Next steps

- Jerry to update the OGM wiki page with current information about active calls and meetings
- Pete to share information about transitioning from Mattermost to alternative platforms
- John to explore and document available OGM communication channels for new members
- Jerry to organize next Thursday's call to continue the discussion about OGM's future direction and platform choices
- Klaus to share information about the Kansas State University AI and agriculture conference on October 14th
- Kaliya to share the one-page website about Sharif's meditation when it's ready
- Shawn to connect with Kaliya and Grace regarding collaboration on group identity technology infrastructure

Summary

OGM Communication Platform Migration

The group discussed the evolution and current state of OGM's communication platforms, with Pete announcing the upcoming shutdown of the Mattermost server and explaining that community members have been migrating to various platforms including Signal, Discord, and Matrix. John

expressed concerns about his limited understanding of the community's communication channels as a new member, which led to a broader discussion about the need to improve signposting and welcome new members. The group agreed that while the community has become more diffuse, there are still active groups like the Fellowship of the Link and various signal groups, though the frequency of formal meetings has decreased significantly.

Group Growth Strategy Discussion

The group discussed whether to grow or remain the same size, with Rick sharing insights from his experience with other groups about the importance of deliberate onboarding and the potential for spin-off groups. Jerry mentioned a Malcolm Gladwell article about the Saddleback Church's successful use of small groups, while Alex emphasized the value of diversity of thought in the current group. Pete suggested publishing ideas and asking interesting people about OGM-adjacent groups, and Stacey touched on the idea of inner growth. The group did not reach a concrete decision about expansion but agreed to consider these questions further.

Group Archive and Knowledge Sharing

Stacey discussed the value of the group's archive and suggested archiving call recordings to help members connect their stories. She expressed concerns about the audience for the Plex and the difficulty of knowing who to share information with. Pete explained that he stopped publishing the Plex and that Kevin is now in charge, with plans to focus more on OGM. Pete also reflected on the challenges of gathering information about members' interests and activities, highlighting the need for a better "matchmaking function" to facilitate knowledge sharing within the group.

OGM Platform Enhancement Discussion

The group discussed challenges and potential improvements for their community platform, OGM. Jerry shared historical context about various tools and projects, including Vincent's group member tracking and Pete's work on a multi-plane camera view concept. Klaus suggested reviving a community calendar to help members find and promote events. The discussion highlighted ongoing challenges with finding the right platform for their needs, with Alex expressing a preference for structured, easily navigable content. The group acknowledged past attempts like Google Wave and Google Plus, which were promising but ultimately unsuccessful, and considered the possibility of developing their own solution.

Enhancing Social Infrastructure with AI

The group discussed the limitations of current social and community tools, with Kalia emphasizing the need for infrastructure that supports group identity and accountability outside of status systems. Jerry and Pete shared insights on the historical development of social graphs and the potential for AI to assist in organizing information, while Klaus highlighted the importance of community-driven initiatives. The conversation concluded with a reflection on the role of OGM as a space for knowledge sharing and connection, with a shared desire to improve the distribution of relevant information about members' activities.

AI Integration in Agribusiness

Klaus discussed his evolution in working with AI, transitioning from being an AI software developer to an industry expert using AI to enhance his work. He shared his invitation to a panel discussion at Kansas State University on AI integration in agriculture and food systems, which prompted him to clarify his role and message to potential clients. Klaus explained his mission to create aggregation

systems and logistics for connecting smaller and medium-sized farmers to participate in markets they have been excluded from, with the goal of engaging with companies like Pepsi and Nestle. He also mentioned his collaboration with George Paul from the Schumera Institute to raise funds for an AI-integrated project focused on community-based food systems and entering wholesale and carbon markets.

Challenges in Small-Scale Farming

The group discussed challenges faced by small farmers, including legal actions by companies like Monsanto and Bayer to monopolize seed markets, and the difficulties of farming amidst weather uncertainties and financial pressures. Stacey shared insights on Grace's departure, highlighting the gendered dynamics and pushback she faced, which were different from the experiences of male members. Doug explained that some women left due to exhaustion from patriarchal dynamics and a desire for more growth-oriented environments. Ken announced his decision to take a break from the group to focus on personal reflection and questions about his future path, leaving the meeting with a poem by Nauru.

AI can make mistakes. Review for accuracy.

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