

# OCRA Membership Meeting Minutes – April 12, 2022

## Check-ins (24) – Bruce (N1LN) – Zoom and UHF

Dan (KR4UB), Ken (KO4DHJ), John (KM4MDR), Dave (W4SAR), Karen (KD4YJZ), Joseph (KO4GOK), Roger (N4GF), Paul (N2XZF), Mark (KR3AM), Steve (W3AHL), Sherri (WB4OSU), John (KX4P), Bill (N8BR), Wilson (W4BOH), Fred (KN4QBZ), Dee (KU4GC), Bill (KI4RAN), JR (N4JQR), Lenore (KF4PAB), Jack (KM4MBG), Jeff (KM4WXW), Dave (NA4VY), Bruce (N1LN), and Laurie (N1YXU)

## Opening Comments – Bruce, N1LN

- **Upcoming Meeting Agendas –**
  - The Board members have been busy scheduling programs for upcoming months.
  - The focus of tonight's meeting is Field Day which is very important and will be coming up in just over two months.
  - At May 9<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting, Virginia Enzor (NC4VA) will give a SkyWarn presentation. This will be a combined meeting with participants on Zoom and also on UHF. Prior to the meeting, a URL and/or slides will be sent to the reflector to ensure everyone can follow along with the presentation. It has been a few years since our group has had SkyWarn training. This will be timely since we will be in hurricane season at the time of the presentation.
  - Our June 13<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting will take place about a week and a half before Field Day. The focus of our June meeting will be final preparation for Field Day. We'll ensure there are no gaps in planning and that all bases are covered for folks who will be participating at home and on-site.
  - The Tri-County (Durham, Orange, Chatham) repeater analysis and plan will be the main presentation at our July 11<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting. Dan (KR4UB) will give us an overview of the history of the repeaters, how the analysis was developed, our current status in terms of being able to get into the repeaters, and where we are going in terms of being able to fund, maintain and hopefully improve communication capabilities.
- **In-Person Meetings?**
  - At this point, we are hoping that the June 13 and July 11 meetings will be in-person at the Efland Baha'i Center. This is where the OCRA meetings were held before the pandemic.
  - **Action Item:** There is some work that needs to be done before the on-site meetings to make sure we can also integrate Zoom participation from the Baha'i Center.
  - As we are doing now, we'll ensure that presentation slides are sent before the meeting to allow everyone to follow the discussion whether attending in-person or on Zoom.
  - This is great news! Many of us are anxious to get back together for in-person meetings.
  - Obviously, we will continue to monitor official guidance to ensure we are acting appropriately.

## **ARRL 2022 Field Day update – Dave (W4SAR) and Bruce (N1LN)**

- Bruce thanked everyone who responded to the Field Day survey that was recently sent to the reflector. The information that was received was very helpful in forming the OCRA/DFMA Field Day plans for this year.
- There was a total of 52 responses.
  - 9 folks plan to work from home (some will help with site setup / takedown)
  - 28 folks plan to participate at the OCRA/DFMA site
  - 15 folks will not be able to participate

- The focus of the membership meeting was the Field Day presentation that Dave and Bruce gave which included -
  - A brief history of the operations and results
  - Goals for this year's joint OCRA/DFMA Field Day event
  - On-site and at-home operations
  - Areas that need to be addressed to prepare
- You can view the full presentation by going to the OCRA YouTube Channel or by clicking on this link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=myUKgl8KSZQ>
- After the presentation, there was a question and answer session to address Field Day planning. There were also action items that were identified. Please read through the items listed below which detail this section of the meeting –
  - Wilson (W4BOH) –
    - Wilson echoed remarks already made about there being enough work for everyone. The work will start on Thursday afternoon. If you can, please raise your hand to help! For those who haven't participated in Field Day before, this is a great opportunity not only to help but to learn with hands-on experience.
    - There is no charge for the potluck dinner that will be held on Friday evening. The main course is Wilson's gift to the club. [Thank you, Wilson!]
    - The on-site Field Day event will take place on Wilson's property. There are site rules that will be dusted off and circulated. There will be no alcohol consumption until dinner time.
    - Wilson will be devoted to CW.
    - **UNASSIGNED Action Item:** That means the 20M SSB station is still in need of an installation location and a band captain.
  - Bill (KI4RAN) –
    - Bill reminded everyone that there should not be any running on the Field Day site regardless of time of day or night. Running could be a personal injury hazard.
  - John (KM4MDR) –
    - John has volunteered to coordinate the organization of food and drinks for Friday afternoon lunch and Friday night potluck dinner.
    - **Action Item:** John will send an email to the reflector to begin organizing the Friday night potluck. Wilson will cook and provide pork barbeque. If you prefer a different main dish, you're welcome to bring your own food to cook on the grill. The rest of the dinner is provided by those who attend and bring casseroles, salads, desserts, and other dishes. Many people bring their specialty dishes.
    - **Action Item:** There was an indication that there are quite a few paper goods and other supply items that the club has from previous potluck dinners. This needs to be verified.
    - Tables and chairs are also provided by members for the potluck.
    - Please be sure to respond to John's email. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.
  - Steve (W3AHL) –
    - In 2020, OCRA and DFMA bought new band pass filters. He wanted to make sure that someone knew where they are. **Action Item:** Bruce indicated that he has them and will make sure that they get delivered to Wilson well before Field Day.
    - The clubs also own 8 laptops that were used for logging at previous Field Day events. Steve has the laptops. He will make sure they are updated and available for use. Band captains will need to determine if they will use their own laptops or the laptops owned by the clubs.
    - **UNASSIGNED Action Item:** What laptops will be used – Club or Band Captains?
    - Steve's tower trailer will be brought to the Field Day site. [Thank you, Steve!] In the past, the tower has been used for the CW station in the MCU.

- Dave (W4SAR)
  - **Action Item:** Dave will schedule a training session that will focus on how to use N3FJP software for logging.
- Other Action Items:
  - **UNASSIGNED Action Item:** Coordination of a porta potty that will be brought to the site for the duration of Field Day, beginning with set-up. We will need someone to coordinate the porta potty with a local company.
  - **Action Item:** Bruce (N1LN) will send an email with a URL for and A4/A3 assembly to Dan, Wilson, Bill, Dave, and Steve.
  - **Action Item:** Bruce (N1LN) will send an email to the reflector that lists the band captains and other key Field Day people for those who will need to contact them.
  - **UNASSIGNED Action Item:** The OCRA/DFMA Board Members will discuss options for Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast. The decision will determine the level of support needed from club membership.

### **Officers and Board Members Reports**

- **Vice-President's Report – Bill, N8BR**
  - Bill did not have a specific update.
- **Treasurer's Report – Dan, KR4UB**
  - Typically, a lot of members pay dues at the beginning of the year.
  - There are 88 members who have current dues, 9 members need to renew, and 4 people have memberships that are expiring.
  - If you have questions about the status of your membership, please check the OCRA website.
- **Secretary's Report – Laurie, N1YXU**
  - The membership meeting minutes from March 14, 2022 have been posted to the OCRA website.
  - The video of tonight's Field Day presentation will be posted to the OCRA YouTube channel.
- **Dee, KU4GC**
  - Thanks for all the work in preparation for Field Day. The DFMA will have a meeting regarding Field Day as well.
- **John, K4XP**
  - Great program tonight! He is really looking forward to Field Day.
- **Karen, KD4YJZ**
  - Enjoyed the meeting and is looking forward to Field Day. Thank you for everyone's hard work.
- **General Discussion- Bruce, N1LN**
  - Wilson (W4BOH) commented that OCRA has a Kenwood TS850, with a power supply and speaker, for sale. The radio is at Wilson's. If you would like to try it out, let Wilson know.
  - Bill (KI4RAN) asked about how to get to the OCRA YouTube channel. The link to the channel is - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyW4G022Pl1bphYHFZ78ONQ>
- **Meeting Closed and Check-outs - Bruce, N1LN**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Meier, N1YXU, Secretary