

OCRA Board Meeting Minutes – May 24, 2022

Board Meeting Attendees – Bruce (N1LN), Bill (N8BR), Dan (KR4UB), Karen (KD4YJZ), Dave (W4SAR), Wilson (W4BOH), John (KX4P), Dee (KU4GC), Jack (KM4MBG), and Laurie (N1YXU)

The minutes from the April 26 OCRA Board Meeting were approved.

The minutes from the May 9 OCRA Membership Meeting were updated with two corrections/changes and then were approved.

Old Business:

- Membership Feedback – At the April Board Meeting, Dee shared initial lists of questions and actions that might be followed to address retaining OCRA members and attracting new members. Since then, Dee has received some feedback. Additional feedback would be appreciated within the next month to six weeks.
- Equipment Loan Program / Buy/Sell Equipment –
 - After the discussion at the April Board Meeting, Bruce did research regarding similar programs that are managed by local clubs.
 - One example is the program managed by RARS on their website. He sent an email to a RARS member to get more information and asked if we might be able to be added to their process. The answer was no since they don't want to be responsible for the listings and any issues between the buyer and seller. There are also issues of policing ads to ensure they comply to guidelines. RARS did offer to give us the code for their program for our use and/or modification.
 - Bruce checked with Lenore (KF4PAB), DFMA President, to see if DFMA would be interested in using the code. She is content with the current process that DFMA has and does not want to change.
 - The suggestion was made that we might ask Doug (KA5ETS) to take a look at the code to see if it might be something that we would want to consider. We need to understand the time involved in creating/modifying the code and then the time that would be needed to maintain the program.
 - The question came up about whether there would be enough use of the program to warrant this kind of work. Alternatively, we could list items on our website fairly easily with the understanding that the seller is responsible for the transaction. Dan can investigate having a tab added to the OCRA website for this purpose. There are also quite a few plug-ins that WordPress has for this activity.
 - Dee indicated that he would be happy to post information in the DFMA newsletter if a person provided him a picture and information.
 - Jack mentioned that Groups I/O has capabilities that we are not currently using which might be able to support this type of loan and/or buy/sell process. Dave indicated that Groups I/O has a manager's forum that could be helpful.

- After Bruce gets more information from RARS about the code for their program, Jack recommended that a proposal be put together that could be reviewed by DFMA and OCRA to be discussed by the boards to determine the next steps. Bruce will take the action item for more research and a proposal to consider going forward.
- Yagi Building Party
 - The party was very successful. The five element 6M beam was completed during the event. The three element A3 was finished just after the event. Bruce and James (KO4RQN) made the final modifications to the three element A4 beam a few days later. All beams and band pass filters are ready for Field Day. Bill brought his tower and rotor which were tested.
 - Everyone had a good time and were able to accomplish what was needed.
 - Some folks who had never built yagis before we able to build, test, and tune the antennas.
- SKYWARN Training
 - There were 26 people who attended the training at the May membership meeting.
 - Information about the participants has been provided to Virginia Enzor (NC4VA). She will be sending follow-up information to those who attended the training.
 - Laurie will follow-up with Virginia about the anticipated timing for getting the information from Virginia.
 - Please be sure to add the SKYWARN repeater programming to your radios.
- June Membership Meeting
 - Dan and Dave were out at the Baha'i Center facility this week testing the capability of having the meeting both in-person and on Zoom.
 - The site is well prepared in terms of internet access. Mark (KR3AM) brought equipment to test Zoom broadcasting and is prepared to run the meeting.
 - Jack will give the screen and projector to Bruce at the DFMA meeting to bring to the OCRA meeting.
 - The band captains have provided feedback for the presentation at the meeting. A first pass of the presentation has been sent back to them for their review.
 - Dave will kick off the presentation. Then, each band captain will give an update focused on the status of each station. Everyone will be able to see the status and, especially, understand where the needs may be for assistance.
- Upcoming Meetings
 - June will be focused on Field Day.
 - July will be a program that Dan and Bruce will provide regarding the Tri-County Repeater Analysis. The program will be on-site and Zoom.
 - Currently, from August forward there are no concrete plans.
 - Aurora (KN4VXB) and Bruce have presentations that will be considered.

- John will be putting together a program for the Birmingham Antique Radio Society on what it's like to go to the Dayton HamFest. The program could also be used as a future presentation for OCRA.
- Wilson will also follow-up with the NASA team to see if they would like to come back for another program.

New Business:

- **Vice President's Report – Bill**

- No new business

- **Secretary's Report – Laurie**

- The OCRA YouTube channel has had quite a few views. John's presentation has several hundred views.
- There have been several views of the membership meeting videos, indicating they are a good way to communicate updates.

- **Treasurer's Report – Dan**

- OCRA received \$332 from sales at RARSfest. This amount is equal to 28 memberships. Hamfests and classified sales activity could be very helpful to funding for the club.
- The porta potty has been reserved for Field Day. The cost is considerably more expensive than in the past. The cost will be split between OCRA and DFMA.
- This year's insurance rate will be \$450 for the year. Previously, it was a cost of \$500 annually. The new policy seems to be clearer than prior policies. It is a lengthy document that needs to be thoroughly reviewed. Dan recommended that a work group read through the policy to ensure we agree on what is/is not covered. The group will include Dee, Bruce, and Dan.

- **Director Reports**

- Dee has reviewed the required RF safety testing procedure. He may be presenting information at the upcoming DFMA meeting. We all need to make sure that we comply with the requirements and have documentation to prove our actions.
- Dave will start posting more information on the reflector about key points related to Field Day. He and Wilson will also review the site rules to make sure that everyone knows what is expected and accepted.
- John mentioned that the speaker at the Dayton HamFest DX banquet was KOMD, R. Scott Wright. For those interested, he had an excellent presentation that might be available online. He also has an excellent page on QRZ.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Meier, N1YXU
OCRA Secretary