

# Orange County Radio Amateurs

March 1, 1993

"Service Through Communications"

Volume 2, Number 2

## 119 days 'till Field Day!

by Jeff Anderson, KD4JIA

The recent prolonged periods of precipitation we've had recently reminded me that we're approaching one of our annual ham events that also involves rain - field day.

It's often said that field day occurs on the last raining weekend in June. To be a little more specific than that, this year's field day occurs on June 26th and 27th.

In OCRA's first Field Day, we didn't have any rain to enhance the experience. In spite of that handicap, OCRA members did an impressive job on Field Day, especially considering the fact that the club was in the formative stages and had not even been officially chartered last June.

Just in case you haven't heard, OCRA placed 5th in the country for our category! Yeah, yeah I know there were only four other stations, but I think we can overlook that small bit of information for now.

(continued on page 4)

## OCJRA Corner

by Michael Severini, KC4NVS

A new auxiliary has joined Orange County Radio Amateurs. It is called "Orange County Junior Radio Amateurs" (OCJRA).

The auxiliary is for all junior hams, or hams to be, and meets on the third Tuesday of every month.

The main objective of OCJRA is to provide communications for public events and to help any other organization that needs communications.

We are still in the process of finding a permanent location, but for the time being, we have been meeting at the homes of some of the members. (continued on page 4)

## Congratulations!

*New call signs arrived late this week for the graduates of OCRA's Novice/Technician class. Be sure to give these new hams a warm welcome!*

KD4WFS	Bill Earhardt
KD4WNP	Tom Schmidt
KD4WSZ	Mike Campbell
KD4YJK	Wojciech Fijalkowski
KD4YJT	Suni Thakor
KD4YJU	Jason Sager
KD4YJV	Gerald Cassara
KD4YJY	Jerry Cotten
KD4YJZ	Karen Snyder
KD4YLO	Susan Brinn
KD4YLP	Susan Anderson
KD4YLQ	James Widgren
KD4YLS	Rachel Sivalia
KD4YLT	Kenneth Arnold

Graduates whose call signs we don't know yet:

Amy Abernathy  
William Carroll  
Eugene Armisted, Jr.  
Erin Burck  
William Bailey  
Jonathan Columbia

David Snyder, N2MLU upgraded to advanced

If you know of a club member who is newly licensed or has recently upgraded, please let me know. - Jeff - KD4JIA

## OCRA Novice/Tech Class

OCRA will sponsor a Novice/Technician Class beginning Wednesday at 7 PM at the South Orange Rescue Squad Building.

Classes will last for 12 weeks and testing will take place at the last class. The cost is \$30.00. Contact Terry Bubar at (919) 933 9352 for details and registration.

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OCRA members rely heavily on DFMA's repeaters - especially the Hillsborough repeater. The following article contains lots of useful information pertaining to the DFMA repeaters.

This article appears courtesy of "The Link" - DFMA's monthly newsletter.

## **A REFRESHER COURSE OF USEFUL BUT SOMETIMES FORGOTTEN FACTS** - by Charlie Durst, WA4WTX

The Durham FM Association owns and operates the following stations for use and enjoyment by all amateur radio operators.

### **HILLSBOROUGH REPEATER: 147.825 MHz. In - 147.225 MHz. Out**

Our main wide-area coverage repeater is located off I-40 near it's intersection with I-85 south of Hillsborough.

#### Present Capabilities:

Autopatch to Durham, Raleigh, and Chapel Hill exchanges with speed-call to emergency numbers and member's frequently called numbers.

Home of the world famous Possum Trot Net - weekdays from 6:15 to 7:15 a.m.

#### New features soon to be available:

Remote 147.825 receivers at Durham, Red Mountain, and Pittsboro to improve receive coverage.

Remote bases on the 29, 50, 144, 222, and 440 MHz. bands.

Digital Voice Storage Mailbox and ID's.

110 Watt solid state transmitter.

### **HILLSBOROUGH REPEATER: 222.66 MHz. In - 224.26 MHz. Out**

Co-located with the 147.825-147.225 Repeater.

Linked to the 449.35-444.35 Repeater near Bedford, Va.

Coverage equal to, and sometimes better than 147.225.

Both repeater antennas are located on the top of a 160' guyed tower and are 960' above mean sea level.

### **DURHAM REPEATER: 144.85 MHz. In - 145.45 MHz. Out**

Our back-up 2 meter repeater in Durham is located on the top floor of the VA Hospital. Antennas are on a tower on top of the roof.

#### Capabilities include:

Autopatch to Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough exchanges with speed-call to emergency numbers and members' frequently called numbers.

#### New features to be added:

Remote 144.85 receivers at East Durham, Red Mountain, and Hillsborough to improve receive coverage.

110 Watt solid state transmitter

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Capabilities include:

Autopatch to Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough exchanges with speed-call to emergency numbers and members' frequently called numbers.

New features to be added:

Remote 144.85 receivers at East Durham, Red Mountain, and Hillsborough to improve receive coverage.

110 Watt solid state transmitter

**DURHAM REPEATER: 449.10 MHz. In - 444.10 MHz. Out**

Our UHF repeater is co-located with the 145.45 repeater at the VA.

Capabilities include:

Durham autopatch with emergency and member speed-call.

Two meter remote base with touch tone selection of frequency, transmit offset, and power output.

**PACKET NODE: DNC WA4WTX-1 Red Mountain 145.01 MHz.**

Our packet node is located on Red Mountain, near Rougemont, in Person County.

The antenna is on a 180' tower and is 890' above mean sea level.

The antenna for the remote receivers for 225 and 45 will be on this tower.

**AUTOPATCH REMINDERS (147.225, 145.45, and 444.1)**

Some emergency Autodial numbers are as follows:

	<u>147.225</u>	<u>145.45</u>	<u>444.1</u>
Orange Cenral 911	*910	*910	*910
Durham 911	*911	*911	*911
Chapel Hill Police	*912	n/a	n/a
Raleigh 911	*913	n/a	n/a
Chatham Co. 911	*918	*918	*918
Highway Patrol	*914	*914	*914
or	*HP	*HP	*HP
Durham Co. Sheriff	*117	*117	*117
Granville Co. Sheriff	*116	*116	*116
Duke U. Public Safety	*119	*119	*119
Duke Hosp. Em. Room	*136	*913	*913
Durham Reg. Hosp. ER	*137	*917	*917
VA Hosp. Em. Room	*135	*912	*912
Poison Control Center	*915	*915	*915
Weather Reports (taped)	*916	*916	*916
WX Service Storm Hotline	*917	n/a	n/a

**OTHER FEATURES (147.225, 145.45, and 444.1)**

Touch Pad Call Test - Send 5 followed by any digits.

Computer voice will read back digits decoded after the initial 5.

The DFMA repeaters and node are there to be used but not abused.

Remember, no business calls are permitted on the autopatch.

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## **Field Day** (continued from page 1)

In light of the large amount of groundwork that needs to be done prior to Field Day, I would like to get an early start with preparations.

The basic site & configuration we used last year was very successful, and I would like to make a motion that we repeat that format this year. That is, operate category 4A/ battery. This means four HF stations plus an additional novice station all powered by batteries which are recharged by means other than commercial power circuits. Power output is limited to 5 watts in this category, and because of these self-inflicted challenges, big points multipliers area are awarded for each contact, especially CW contacts.

The stations are: One 20 M CW station, one 20 M voice station, one 40/15 voice & CW station, one 80/10 voice & CW station, and a 10 meter novice station.

Each station will have a station leader, and that person is responsible for staffing, scheduling and equipping that station. This seemed to work very well last year, so I hope everyone will be satisfied with the same setup this year. Please contact me if you would like to be a station leader.

Dennis Deluge, AG4U reports that his Ham license didn't get revoked after Field Day last year, so he is allowing us to use his call again this year.

Remember that everyone is granted Dennis' operating priveleges for the duration of Field Day, so all participants get to be Extra-for-a-Day!

Don't forget your rain gear!

## **OCJRA** (continued from page 1)

We also run a two meter net every Tuesday night at 8:00PM on the 147.225 repeater. All young hams are invited to join in. There are two officers of OCJRA at the moment. Michael Severini, KC4NVS is the chairman, and Ryan Mcinnis, KD4URA is the vice-chairman.

Six people attended the meeting last month. The main discussions were on field day and funding. The Junior hams will be running their own fourty-fifteen station. We will be discussing field day in more depth the closer it comes. We have come to an agreement with the treasurer of OCRA to get the money that is made every month on the fifty-fifty.

If anyone has any more questions about OCJRA please give Michael or Ryan a call at 929-5340 and 933-9352.

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## **Orange County Radio Amateurs**

P. O. Box 297, Hillsborough, NC 27278

**Monthly Meetings:** First Monday of each Month at 7:30 PM  
Orange County Emergency Operations Center  
New Hope Church Road, Hillsborough, NC

**Nets:**

**2 Meter Net:** Saturdays 9:30 A.M. 147.225 + WA4WTX Repeater  
Net Manager: Ed Lappi, WD4LOO (919) 929 5379

**10 Meter Net:** Mondays 28.360 USB 8 P.M. (No net on meeting nights)  
Net Manager: Bill Hutchins, KM4UO (919) 968 4292

**Newsletter:** Published monthly for the members of OCRA.  
Edited by Jeff Anderson, KD4JIA

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President:	John Hughes	(919) 732 5020	Vice President:	Steve Jackson	(919) 968 4203
Treasurer:	Terry Bubar	(919) 933 9352	Secretary:	Jeff Anderson	(919) 578 1692

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