

The OVH ARC Newsletter
OLE VIRGINIA HAMS' AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
OVH FM Repeaters - 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+ & 443.500+
OVH D-STAR Repeaters - W4OVH - 146.865- & 442.5125+
Web Site at <http://w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

April 2014

Next Meeting: Monday, April 21, 2014

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello to all and I hope this message finds you all healthy and well. April is once again upon us and with it comes thoughts of springtime and getting outdoors.

It also is the start of the new Hamfest season with several coming up nearby: the Greater Hagerstown Area Hamfest on May 5th, the Memorial Day Hamfest in West Friendship Maryland on May 25th and, of course, the biggest one in this area, the Manassas Hamfest on Sunday, June 8th. For those who want to travel, the biggest hamfest in North America is the Hamvention in Dayton, Ohio on Friday, May 16th through Sunday, May, 18th. A dozen or more OVH members go to the Dayton Hamvention each year so it is usually easy to arrange to share rides and lodging there. If you are going to Dayton this year, please travel safely and have a good time.



An item that's not directly ham radio related, but does affect most of us, is the Heartbleed vulnerability for Internet based communications. I don't really remember seeing this much buzz generated about a computer vulnerability since the Y2K software and system breakdowns which were projected for 1/1/2000 - which for the most part did not occur because there was plenty of advanced warning and time to prepare and develop workarounds. The Heartbleed situation, in contrast, seems to have come out of nowhere; some good information about it is on the OVH email reflector and you should also check out <http://heartbleed.com>

I hope to see you all at the regular OVH meeting on Monday, April 21st at 7:30 pm!

73 Justin KJ4LAS

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President: Justin Anderle	KJ4LAS	571-221-3423
Vice Pres: Clarence Meese	K4CNM	791-6424
Secretary: Ron Zuber	N4RDZ	206-423-0602
Treasurer: Terry Erlacher	KC4DV	571-292-1490

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Arthur Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451

WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time	JOHN / KG4NXT	257-3566
----------------------------	---------------	----------

HAMFEST 2014

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
-------	-------	--------------

FIELD DAY 2014

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
------	--------	----------

CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
--------	-------	----------

EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
------	--------	----------

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
-------------	--------	----------

ARES - EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	703-628-3868
		email: KG4GIY@ARRL.NET
Prince William County ARES website		http://pwcares.org

FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
---------	--------	----------

WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
------	------	----------

EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
------------	--------	----------

JOTA

Scott	KB8NUM	365-2642
-------	--------	----------

LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
-----	-------	----------

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	KJ4FDK	361-4885
--------	--------	----------

NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
------	------	----------

NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
---------	--------	----------

PROGRAMS

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
-------	-------	--------------

QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
-------	-------	----------

REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435

W4OVH / W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
-------	-------	----------

SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
-----	-------	----------

SUNSHINE

Theresa (Acting)	KG4TVM	257-3566
------------------	--------	----------

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Bill	N4SV	590-9562
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939
David	KG4GIY	628-3868

All telephone numbers listed above are for Area Code 703 unless otherwise noted. This is the official monthly publication of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc., a §501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. Copyright © 2012 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday each month at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz or D-Star repeaters on 146.865- and 442.5125+ MHz. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeater each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. or on 80 meters (3710 KHz) LSB each Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. (8:00 pm in Summer) or through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>

Articles and quotations in the OVH Times newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the OVH ARC and any other noted source. Proposed materials for publication including pictures, articles, letters to the editor, classified ads, notes about specific errors, complaints or the like are solicited from all readers. Forward such items to the OVH Times Newsletter Editor: PAUL@W4ZB.COM as soon as available at any time, but the cutoff deadline for the OVH Times each month (usually the second Monday of the month) may preclude publication/correction until the following month.

Approx. Circulation - 170.

Last Rev: 03/12/2014

Sunshine Corner:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes this month to Brian / KK4CBS, Ken / KJ4VTP, Robert / KJ4SZJ, Jeff / KB4IWD, Paul / N4PD, Joe / KI4OHR, Steve / KJ4YHA, Chris / KU4FT, Lillian / KK4MXY, David / KI4AZX, Everett / KJ4OLF, Paul / W4ZB, and David / KD4DEE. Wow that's a lot of candles!

On Sunday, March 30th, the first Mini-Tri of the 2014 year was held at the Freedom Center. The only way to describe the weather is that it was downright nasty. But because the OVH has very dedicated members, radio communications were covered for this event. A very special thank you to David / KI4AZX, Al / KB4BHB, Steve / KB4OF, Luther / KJ4FDK, Clarence / K4CNM, Fred / WD4ASP and Fred's son for a tremendous job, well done!

A final planning meeting will be held later this month for the for OVH/ARRL Field Day Event which will be held locally at the Nokesville Park on Saturday / Sunday, June 28th & 29th. Contact John / KG4NXT, Chairman of the Field Day Committee, for information at kg4nxt@arrl.net

Although the planning and organization for the OVH Manassas Hamfest to be held on June 8th is all but completed, more volunteers are solicited and it's still not too late to volunteer for Hamfest. Contact Terry / KC4DV, Hamfest Committee Chairman, at terry.erlacher@verizon.net and let him know you can help. There is always plenty to do and even volunteers who are able to show up at the last moment are always appreciated.

Congratulations to the Saul family for adding a new 4 legged member to their family!

Two weddings that I know of will be happening in May, more info in the May newsletter.

Reminder – Thursday night net, every Thursday, 8:00 pm, on the OVH 146.97 FM repeater (and other linked FM repeaters), stop by and say hello. (More info: w4ovh.net “OVH Nets” tab)

If you have any news for the sunshine corner, good or bad please send me an email kg4tvm@hotmail.com or call me at 703-257-3566.

Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting March 17, 2014:

Justin / KJ4LAS called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

All present stated their names and call signs. There were 20 members and 2 guests.

Terry / KC4DV provided a video on the “ARRL at 100”.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the February meeting were approved as read, motion by Art / W1CRO and seconded by Wayne / N7QLK.

Treasurer's Report – Terry / KC4DV gave the report, motion by John / KG4NXT and seconded by Arthur / W1CRO, approved as presented.

Cont'd on page 4

Membership – Luther / KJ4FDK was not present so Terry / KC4DV read in one new applicant: Tony / KK4YZK who will be voted upon next month. The membership unanimously voted in as new members Ed / KK4PHP, Winnie / KK4UYY and Serge / NoCall yet.

Repeaters – Keith / KM4AA reported the FM repeaters are working, but the D-Star repeaters are still affected by Internet server issues for the D-Star system. More to follow.

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ not present for report.

Hamfest – Terry / KC4DV reported that the next Hamfest Planning Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2nd at Tony's Pizzeria on Mathis Avenue. Dinner at 6:00 pm and meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Field Day – John / KG4NXT reported that the GOTA station is staffed but can always use more volunteers. A 1x1 call for the event (N4H) has secured by Clarence / K4CNM. QSL Cards will be issued for contacts with Field Day station. We will be going for as many bonus points as possible to include ARRL Bulletin, Message to the Section Manager and inviting elected officials to Field Day.

Sunshine Corner – Teresa / KG4TVM announced the parting of Tommy Edward Watts KA4AFU (SK) a moment of silence was observed. Also if you participated in the Virginia QSO Party, turn in your logs.

Web Page – Paul / W4ZB reported that the web pages are working.

4-H – Terry / WA5NTI talked about the 4H ham radio program and how it's gaining momentum. The program may expand exponentially base on the pilot's successes. More mentors/Elmer's need so think about helping out. Discussion ensued about Youth Lounge to be provided at the Manassas Hamfest being added to web page. No final decision was made.

Budget – Arthur / W1CRO reported that because the budget was passed at the February meeting, no new discussion was needed.

Break – 50-50, sold 14 tickets. The winner returned their portion so \$14 was handed to the Treasurer Terry / KC4DV.

New Business – Keith / KM4AA brought up the subject of a need for environmental control (air conditioning) in the repeater shed. Cost is roughly estimated at about \$1,200. A discussion ensued and Keith was asked to provide a project plan and estimates to the budget committee by the next OVH Club regular meeting on April 21, 2014.

Arthur / W1CRO suggested that the OVH make inquiry and take advantage of sales tax exemptions that may be available to the OVH in view of its tax exempt 501(c)3 status. Discussion ensued.

Steve / N4OGR asked about purchasing a spare tire and wheel for the trailer. Steve N4OGR made the motion and 2nd by Art W1CRO to buy the tire and wheel. All 20 members present voted to approve the purchase.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by John / KG4NXT and seconded by Arthur / W1CRO. All voted to approve and meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Sat. May 3, 2014 - Greater Hagerstown Hamfest. See <http://w3cwc.org/Menu/Hagerstown-Hamfest>

Friday - Sunday - May, 16, 17 & 18, 2014 - Dayton Hamvention - Dayton, Ohio - held every year in mid-May and the biggest hamfest in the world. A group from the OVH always attends. For more information, go to <http://daytonhamvention.org> Note: if you're planning to go to Dayton, don't forget to also consider attending, the excellent all day Contest University program there on Thursday, May 15th. See below for more info about Contest University.

Sun., May 25, 2014 - West Friendship, MD Hamfest. More at <http://www.marylandfm.org/Hamfest.htm>

Sunday - June 8, 2014 - OVH Manassas Hamfest - being sponsored by the Ole Virginia Hams this year for the 40th time at the Prince William County Fairgrounds, Manassas, Virginia. See the Flyer later in this newsletter and also look at: manassashamfest.org and w4ovh.net (hamfest tab) This is a very big event for the OVH each year. Contact Terry / KC4DV for more information.

ARRL / OVH FIELD DAY:

Saturday/Sunday - June 28 / 29, 2014 - Save these dates for what is always one of the most "fun" OVH club operating and social events during each year. The event location is returning to the pavillion at the Nokeville Park again this year. Check with John / KG4NXT, Chairman for more details, and look for more in this OVH Newsletter and in the May and June issues for more info.

TRAINING / SEMINAR EVENTS:

Second Thursday evening each month, AMRAD meetings, McLean, Va. - see amrad.org for details.

Thursday - May 15, 2014 - Dayton, Ohio. Contest University. This training / tutorial / seminar event is held one day before the start of the Dayton Hamvention each year so that the trip to Dayton, Ohio can include both events. Much of the material presented by the world class lecturers at Contest University is directed towards optimizing the performance and operation of HF ham radio stations. As such it is oriented to more advanced or experienced hams, and is an intensive full day program with meals provided. The program and the lecturers change each year. Worth attending if you operate on HF. Much more information at <http://contestuniversity.com> Two OVH members attended this program in 2012 and 2013.

OPERATING CONTESTS:

Information about many other operating contests almost every weekend and each month can be found on the WA7BNM's excellent web at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal>

NEXT 2014 OVH MANASSAS HAMFEST COMMITTEE MEETING:

Wednesday - April 2, 2014 - contact Terry / KC4DV and watch the OVH email reflector to confirm the date and for updated information about the time and place. This will be the 7th advance preparation and planning meeting for the 2014 OVH Manassas Hamfest. All interested individuals are welcome to attend.

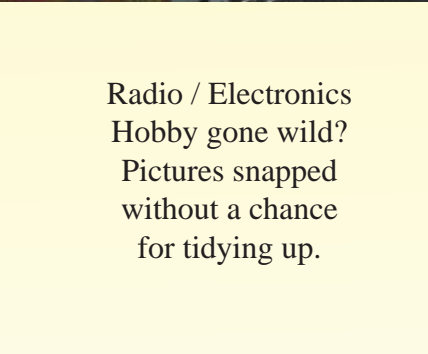
PUBLIC SERVICE / TRAINING / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://www.pwcares.org> for latest updates. David maintains a comprehensive calendar for upcoming events at that web site. Complete direct contact information for David appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

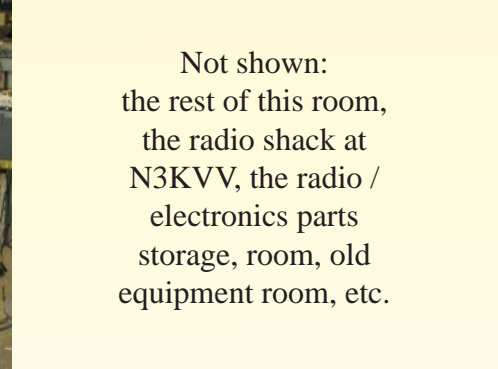
A few photos snapped during a recent visit to N3KVV's QTH near Hegins, Pennsylvania



Some shots inside the main radio / electronics repair and maintenance room at N3KVV's QTH



Radio / Electronics Hobby gone wild? Pictures snapped without a chance for tidying up.



Not shown: the rest of this room, the radio shack at N3KVV, the radio / electronics parts storage, room, old equipment room, etc.



Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

1. For those not familiar, the annual Field Day event during the last weekend each June has been sponsored and promoted by the ARRL for many, many years. Basic info can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/field-day> and a PDF file at <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2014/Field%20Day%20Packet%202014%20v2.pdf> Look for more about the OVH's participation in Field Day this year in the May and June OVH's Newsletters.

2. Ham Radio MESH networks. One of the best web sites for this topic is <http://www.broadband-hamnet.org> Another useful site is: <http://remoteamateur.com> It appears that new router firmware for HSMM-MESH is now available for additional low-cost router models aside from the Linksys WRT54G Router.

3. Microsoft support for Windows XP has now terminated, preceded by considerable discussion on the OVH email reflector. For many still using XP, the predictions of immediate problems, if not very quick disasters, have proved to be like the Y2K predictions which preceded 1/1/2000 - when virtually nothing happened. XP is very robust but with flaws; those who have been using XP carefully for many years without infections from Internet sources will likely be able to continue to do so for many more years.

4. Radio Propagation site. Mentioned here before is the excellent web site by K9LA - <http://k9la.us> - which has many papers and discussions of technical topics relating to HF radio propagation. This guy knows his stuff and can put it into understandable text.

5. Microsoft Interface Changes. Bill / N3SV recently posted an excellent write up about "negative" tiled interface concerns with Windows 8 which has been kept some computer users from transitioning to that so-called "improved" operating system interface. People often resist change for things that already work well and the supposed "improved" change item offers no clear advantage or only obvious disadvantages. Bill suggested installing "Classic Start" available from <http://ninite.com> to obtain a Windows 7 (and Windows XP) type "Start Button" interface. Other startup interface replacements for Windows 8 can be found by searching on Google. Microsoft's insistence on forcing unwanted interface changes has not been confined to its operating systems but has been going on with its widely used Microsoft Office Suite since 2007. The so-called "improved" Ribbon interface of Microsoft Office 2007, 2010 and later version causes the loss of a significant amount of vertical screen editing space and requires increased use of (time and motion wasting) mouse movements (rather than just keystrokes) for skilled Office users, while adding new "features" of limited or no real value over Office 2003 which can still be installed on post-XP operating systems. If you are stuck with a machine which has Office 2007 or later installed and want to get back to an Office 2003 type interface, you should consider the low cost products available at <http://addintools.com>

6. Links for some electronics parts suppliers: A. Jameco - Northern California <http://www.jameco.com>
B. Allelectronics - Southern California <http://www.allelectronics.com> C. Digikey Electronics - Minnesota - digikey.com D. Marlin P. Jones Assoc. - Florida <http://www.mpja.com> E. Newark Electronics - newark.com

7. Some old time (1960's and earlier) ham radio electronic parts suppliers no longer in business, but remembered:
A. Allied Radio / Electronics, maker of KnightKits. Old Allied catalogs are online at <http://www.alliedcatalogs.com>
B. Lafayette Radio of New York City - Google "Lafayette Radio" for more info; and C. Burnstein-Applebee of Kansas City - Google "Burnstein-Applebee" for more.

8. Ham Station improvement and ergonomic design. A web site maintained by N3RR of Rockville, Maryland has a lot of interesting, well written information on this subject: <http://users.erols.com/n3rr>

9. ARRL's 100 Year Anniversary. 2014 is the 100th year anniversary of the ARRL which was founded in 1914. Your writer who was first licensed in 1961 well remembers the ARRL's big 50th year anniversary in 1964 - when the massive improvements in the radio art over the previous 50 years were discussed, along with the many contributions to those advancements made by hams. Back in the very early 1960's, as now, a ham organization known as the Old Old Timers Club (<http://ootc.us>) existed for bona fide "old old timers." To join the OOTC (then as now), one had to have been a [licensed] radio operator for at least 40 years. In the early 1960's that meant that OOTC members had been licensed in the early 1920's or earlier; many of them your writer remembers talking to back then had operated in the Spark Gap transmitter era (ham use of spark gap transmitters caused too much interference and were banned by the early 1920's) and could talk about World War I as though it had just ended. Time flies by.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S LARGEST

Manassas Hamfest



AMATEUR RADIO, COMPUTER, & ELECTRONICS SHOW



An ARRL-Approved HAMFEST Presented By:

The "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

(A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio)

Sunday, June 8, 2014

Prince William County Fairgrounds

Large Outdoor and Covered Pavillion flea market areas, two indoor air-conditioned buildings, several covered buildings and ample parking

10624 Dumfries Road, Manassas, VA 20112-2720 (Route 234) - TALK-IN 146.97- 442.200+ D-Star 442.5125+

<p>INDOOR EXHIBITOR SPACE 8-foot tables: \$30* each with chairs & electricity (\$25 if reserved by May 1st) <i>Setup 2-10 PM Saturday</i></p>	<p>GENERAL ADMISSION \$10* per person at gate (Cutoff date for \$9 advance Sales May 1st) Gates open at 7 AM</p>	<p>TAILGATING (admission is extra) Outdoor Spaces: \$10* per space Covered Pavillion: \$20 per space (*See web site for prepayment discounts) Gates open at 6 AM <i>Setup 2-10 PM Saturday</i></p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

* Online ticket sales and vendor registration at <http://manassashamfest.org>

For our Most Current Vendor List and Ticket Sales Visit our Web Pages:

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

PRIZES

- Door prizes hourly 9 AM to 1 PM (be present to win)
- Major & Tailgate prizes awarded at 2 PM

INFORMATION

- ARRL Roanoke Division Officers attending
- Virginia Section Manager Forum & other Forums
- 4th Call Area QSL Bureau Representatives
- DXCC QSL Card Checking will be available
- Virginia QSO Party Awards Ceremony
- Youth Lounge activities for Youngsters

ACTIVITIES

- Check our web pages (below) for the most up-to-date information
- Flea Market & Vendors - all day
- VEC License Exams, 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- "Maker" group activities & presentations
- ARRL style Youth Lounge programs all day for youngsters - by the OVHARC and 4-H
- D-STAR Operating and Q&A Forum
- Amateur Radio Satellite Forum
- National Traffic System Forum

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

Dealer Info: Ron (N4RDZ) vendors@manassashamfest.org
General Info: Terry (KC4DV) chairman@manassashamfest.org
VE Testing: David (KG4GIY) vetesting@manassashamfest.org