

The OVH ARC Newsletter
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
FM Repeaters - W4OVH - 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+
D-STAR Repeater - W4OVH - 442.5125+
OVH Packet - Port 1: 145.730 Mhz, Port 3: 223.540 MHz - Sysop: Bill/N4SV
Web Site at <http://w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

Renew your OVH
membership now!

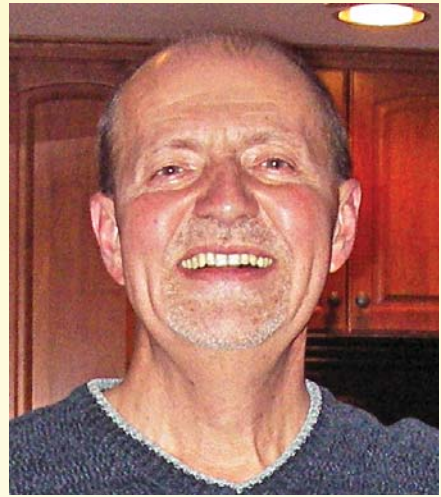
December 2011

Next Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2011

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings, most folks are focused on this Holiday season at this time, it's no different for our OVH family.

The OVH provided communications again (after a several year hiatus) for the Annual Manassas City Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3, 2011. We had a good turnout of volunteers-- Jim / WD4OJY, Steve / N4OGR, Jan / KE4TMW, Justin / KJ4LAS, Fred / WD4ASP, John / KG4NXT, Clarence / K4CNM, Phil / KI4WGC and myself provided the communications on 440 MHz through the new OVH Manassas City Repeater on 443.500 MHz. I received good feedback from the City of Manassas about our support. The most heard comment was "Thank you, see you next year."



The OVH also provided communications for the Manassas Park Christmas Parade on December 10th.

Our December 11th OVH Christmas Party was a great success and a lot of pictures were taken; Theresa / KG4TVM found a great location for that party at the Yorkshire Restaurant and this a tremendous job organizing the event.

We will have our last regular OVH meeting on Monday, December 19, 2011; please everyone remember to renew your OVH membership for 2012. A 2012 renewal form is on the last page of this newsletter; fill it out and mail it in or bring it to the next meeting, along with your \$10 renewal dues for 2012. Note that we are asking for additional telephone number for members to make our membership directory more useful. Also, fully paid up membership will be needed to vote at the elections in February, 2012.

New Year is also fast approaching, during all the festivities, shopping and travel, please make sure you remain aware of your surroundings. I cannot over emphasize this enough. Even though most folks are looking to make others happy and share during this joyful season, others are looking for easy gains--at any cost, be vigilant. My family and I wish you and your loved ones a Wonderful, Safe Holiday Season.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting on December 19th!

73 George K4GVT

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	George Tarnovsky	K4GVT	791-5956
Vice Pres:	Wayne Kline	AG4ZZ	791-2100
Secretary:	Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3556
Treasurer:	Gary Gilham	WG4ARC	932-1118

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
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HAMFEST 2012

Bruce	AB8CI	361-8873
Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490

FIELD DAY 2012

Randy	WB7RAV	393-1494
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
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ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234
Gary	WG4ARC	932-1118

GENERATORS

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

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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JOTA

TBA.

LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Steve	N0DWB	349-1381
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PACKET

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562

PROGRAMS

TBA

WINTER FIELD DAY 2011

Joe	KI4OHR	369-2639
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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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
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435

W4OVH / W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa (Acting)	KG4TVM	257-3556
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590.9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512

All tel. numbers listed 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 © 2011 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday of the month at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and all other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also always be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.97 & 224.660 Mhz. Up to date information about OVH activities and meetings is also available on the OVH 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: 11/14/2011

Sunshine Corner:

Birthdays during December - Clarence / K4CNM, Jim / KF4WSN, Ross / N4RP, Dianne / KI4FVV, Bill / N4SV, Charles / WA1FFX and George / N4XSL.

Special thanks to all who participated in providing communications for the Manassas City Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3, 2011: Jim / WD4OJY, Steve / N4OGR, Jan / KE4TMW, Justin / KJ4LAS, Fred / WD4ASP, John / KG4NXT, Clarence / K4CNM, Phil / KI4WGC and George / K4GVT. Also special thanks to Randy / WB7RAV, Brian (no callsign) Clarence / K4CNM, Jim / WD4OJY, Justin / KJ4LAS, Terry / KC4DV, John / KG4NXT, Phil / KI4WGC, David / KG4GIY and Diane / KI4FVV, George / K4GVT, Steve / N4OGR and Jan / KE4TMW who provided communications for the Manassas Park Christmas Parade on December 10th.

The OVH Christmas / Year End Holiday on Sunday, December 11th has just ended and was a success. Good attendance, and good opportunity for holiday visits with members and their family members who attended. Lots of toy collected for Toys for Tots, and George / K4GVT took many pictures.

Butch / W4HJL is very busy taking care of Mary Lu who fell again a few days ago.

Again, the Sunshine Corner column is brief because the OVH is continuing to look for a new volunteer to compile the information for this monthly column - ideally someone active in the club, who knows some or many of the other members and is good at keeping his / her ear to the ground to pick up information to report. I will continue to function as acting Sunshine Corner chairperson until that some steps forward, but please step forward to relief me! It's really not that much work, and I'll help with the transition.

The OVH club also has several other committee chair openings, now would be a great time to volunteer and start on January 1st! The OVH is also looking for chairs for Publicity, Membership and JOTA. Also, the annual officer elections will be in February; it is time for you to let someone (everyone) know if you are interested in running for office: President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer.

For now, please continue to send your news / comments to kg4tvm@hotmail.com or by telephone to 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting November 21, 2011:

George / K4GVT called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 32 OVH members and 2 guests.

PROGRAM – Bob / K4HJF presented a program on his project which included bringing in his home built high power HF RF Amplifier and power supply.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the October meeting were approved as read

Treasurer's Report by Gary / WG4ARC, approved as presented

Membership – Steve / N0DWB read in Ron McNuss / KK4DCZ as a new member applicant.

ARES – Steve / N4OGR gave us information on the two upcoming local Christmas parades, the first in Manassas City on December 3rd, and the second in Manassas Park City on **Continued on page 4**

December 10th. George / K4GVT will be attending a planning meeting for the City of Manassas and email more details on the reflector; George also announced that he would like signal reports from the new location; Gary / WG4ARC let us know that it was a unique situation for us to be able to put an antenna on the tower across from the train station in downtown Manassas.

Repeaters – George / K4GVT is ordering the new 2 meter DStar repeater this week; Keith / KM4AA is still planning and collecting materials needed for this new DStar repeater.

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ will be start a General class on November 22nd, the VE session will be after the last class and he will start a Tech class in January.

Manassas Hamfest – Bruce / AB8CI will hold the first planning meeting on Thursday, December 1st at Panera Bread on Liberia Ave.; the website name manassashamfest.org has been set up for use with the hamfest; George / K4GVT will take care of the commercial vendors again this year.

Field Day – Randy / WB7RAV announced Field Day will happen again in June.

Winter Field Day – George / K4GVT announced that it will be January 29th beginning at 9 am; Joe / KI4OHR will chair this event again this year.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa KG4TVM announced the birthdays for the month, reminded everyone of the Christmas Party on December 11th and that OVH is looking for a new Sunshine Corner chairperson.

Website – Paul W4ZB reported that he is continue working on the new site and expects it to be operational at year's end.

BREAK

50/50 – Won by Jim / KK4CWO for \$8.50; also had a drawing for an ARRL Handbook and this was won by John / KG4NXT. \$8.00 in tickets were sold for the handbook and the funds were donated to the scholarship fund.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, February 4, 2012, Virginia State Convention, also known as Frostfest 2012, to be held in Richmond, Virginia, more details at <http://frostfest.com>

TRAINING SESSIONS:

Technician Class license training course to be given by Mark / WA4KFZ at the Red Cross Center in Manassas, Virginia, on four Tuesday evenings, at 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, beginning Jan. 10, 2012 and ending on Jan. 31, 2012. A VE examination will be scheduled for attendees shortly after the Jan. 31st training session. See Mark's Flyer for this on page 7 of this Newsletter for more details, also at <http://w4ovh.net> Let all prospective Technician licensees know about this!

SPECIAL OPERATING EVENTS AND CONTESTS

There a many operating contests almost all of the time The excellent web site maintained by WA7BNM lists most of them! See <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

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.

Presentation of home made, high power HF amplifier by Bob / K4HJF at the November 2011 OVH Meeting



Update on Lightsquared / FCC related matters

(adapted from reports appearing in the Wall Street Journal last week)

Late last week, hedge-fund manager Philip Falcone was specifically threatened with possible civil-fraud charges from the Securities and Exchange Commission, the latest in a series of setbacks that have buffeted the investor since he rocketed to stardom in 2007. Mr. Falcone and his firm, Harbinger Capital Partners LLC, received so-called Wells notices from the SEC according to a regulatory filing Friday, indicating charges are likely. Among the issues the SEC has explored is whether Harbinger agreed to allow some investors to cash out of their holdings while barring others from withdrawing their money in cash.

The threat of SEC charges is another blow for Mr. Falcone, who was catapulted to fame on Wall Street when his successful hedge-fund bets against subprime mortgages earned him billions of dollars. Investors then flocked to Harbinger, helping push its assets to a peak of \$26 billion in 2008. Harbinger's assets have recently fallen below \$5 billion in the third quarter of 2011.

Amid his ascent, Mr. Falcone planned his next act: LightSquared Inc., a new wireless-communications network (heavily financed by Harbinger) that would give him sway not just in the financial world, but also as an entrepreneur running a company which he claimed would serve everyone from big-city firefighters to Midwestern farmers. How and why Lightsquared received unprecedented, expedited approval from the FCC for its application to develop such a system filed during the year end holidays in 2010 has raised many unanswered questions, including why the FCC bypassed and did not consider input from its own technical staff. As this situation became better known, Harbinger has had to grapple this year with losses on investments, client withdrawals and the shift in focus to LightSquared, which has been beset by technical challenges and allegations of trying to improperly influence regulators.

Mr. Falcone's troubles come as his biggest bet, LightSquared, now appears to be on thin ice in Washington. LightSquared aims to build a national wireless network

using airwave rights Mr. Falcone acquired - at almost no cost as a result of the FCC's actions - that were originally set aside for low power satellite phones, but which he now wants to use for terrestrial wireless networks. Rather than selling cellphone service to consumers, the company plans to offer its proposed network to other wireless carriers and companies such as Best Buy.

Opponents of the Lightsquared system, including GPS manufacturers, consumer groups of GPS users, aviation interests and other government agencies (including DOD and FAA) contend that LightSquared's network, because of the radio frequencies it uses and its high power transmitters, would interfere with crucial GPS devices and systems. As a result, Lightsquared is now not allowed to turn on its new wireless network unless it can first convince the FCC that it won't hobble GPS devices.

Another round of results of tests measuring the degree of interference are expected to be released in the next few weeks, but a congressional aide - who said he had seen a draft government report on the tests - said they show LightSquared's network could knock out a "great majority" of GPS devices. The tests (according to the aide) suggest LightSquared's plan to use only the frequencies that are farthest away from the GPS signals might not be enough to avoid interference. LightSquared said it was "outraged" that the draft report had been leaked and said "the statement that testing shows that most GPS devices would be disrupted by LightSquared's operation is patently false." Government officials still more testing to complete early next year on the effect of LightSquared's network on high-precision GPS devices.

LightSquared also faces problems in Congress, where Republicans have accused the Obama administration of favoring the company. The White House denies that. On Friday, Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa said that the disclosure of the SEC's Wells notice underscores the need for more information about relationships between LightSquared, telecommunications regulators and the White House.

Lightsquared's responses:

1. More half page ads in the Wall Street Journal and elsewhere proclaiming the benefits to the Nation of Lightsquared's wireless system, including stimulus to the economy and increased employment; dismissive references to GPS interference problems.
2. lightsquared.com - glowing predictions of passing the GPS interference testing and forthcoming FCC approvals (FCC labs are still being bypassed); blaming the GPS interference problems on hundreds of millions+ of defectively designed, deployed GPS receivers which Lightsquared says can be "fixed" with a \$6 filter. Really - "fix" automobile or portable GPSs, iPhone/iPad GPSs for \$6 each? Precision military, government and aircraft GPSs - fix and requalify them for \$6 each? Also, Lightsquared says it has vested "rights" to use the spectrum it obtained at no cost in the FCC's unprecedented, expedited action which bypassed the FCC laboratories during the holidays last year. (No mention made of the bait & switch by Lightsquared and its predecessor, Skyterra, with the FCC in changing from low power satellite phone use to high power terrestrial network use. Note also: Barrack Obama's 2007 Illinois Senate Financial Disclosure filing reveals he had \$75,000 invested in Skyterra.)



The Birmingham News/Hal Yeager

Become a

Ham Radio Operator

*Give a copy of this page
to your non-ham friends!*

Get Your Technician Class License!

- Get on the air with Amateur Radio!
- Communicate across the country and around the world!

The Technician Class license is the first step in getting into the exciting world of Amateur Radio. Since the FCC has removed the Morse code testing requirement, getting your license is now even easier and faster!

The Ole Virginia Hams will be sponsoring a Technician Class training course beginning **January 10, 2012**. This course is **FREE** and open to all. Students provide their own course materials. Seating is limited, however, so sign up early!

Course textbook:

“The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual,” 2nd edition
 (for tests beginning July 1, 2010)
Published by ARRL – The National Association for Amateur Radio
 (formerly the American Radio Relay League)

The course will combine self-study with class instruction. Four (4) two-hour sessions will be held, with a Volunteer Examiner (VE) licensing session to be announced.

Session 1: Introduction, Equipment Definitions	Session 2: Basic Electricity, Signals and Waves
Session 3: Antennas, Transmitters, etc.	Session 4: Repeaters, Data Modes, Safety

Location: American Red Cross Training Center, 9930 Liberia Ave., Manassas, VA 20110
(Davis Ford Crossing Shopping Center)

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 (4 weeks, ending January 31, 2012)

Time: Tuesday evenings, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

For more information:

Refer to The Ole Virginia Hams web page at www.w4ovh.net or contact Mark Braunstein, WA4KFZ at wa4kfz@cox.net for more details.

Sponsored by:

The Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
 PO Box 1255
 Manassas, VA 20108
www.w4ovh.net

*Give a copy of this page
to your non-ham friends!*

RE M I N D E R

Renew your OVH membership now!



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!!
Below is the 2012 Renewal Application.

Please fill out the form below (for database), attach your check and mail to the address below or drop off at a meeting.

Be sure to update all information, especially e-mail address, telephone number(s) and 9 digit ZIP

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB" 2012

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

CALL SIGN: _____
Home Tel: _____
Cell Tel: _____
Work Tel: _____
EMAIL: _____
BIRTHDAY: _____

ARE YOU PRESENTLY AN ARRL MEMBER? (YES/NO)
ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER EXAMINER: (YES/NO)
MAY YOUR TELEPHONE NOS. BE LISTED IN THE "Members Only" OVH ROSTER? (YES/NO)
WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT LICENSE CLASS? _____

Dues are now **\$10.00** per year and payable on January 1, 2012
Dues for additional family members **living at the same mailing address** are **\$5.00**

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS: AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____