

The OVH ARC Newsletter
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
Repeaters -- W4OVH -- 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+
OVH Nodes -- Port 1: 145.030 Mhz, Port 2: 223.660 Mhz (SysOp Use Only)
Port 3: 223.540 MHz, Port 4: 440.925Mhz 9600 Baud backbone
BBS--BBSNVA/N3OH (SYSOP--BILL)
<http://www.w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

FEBRUARY 2005

Next meeting: February 21, 2005

Need your input for the Newsletter. The deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month.!!!

(Editor)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The OVH Nominating Committee is recommending the following slate of officers for the coming year. (They are the present officers who have graciously agreed to serve another term). Elections will be held at this meeting --February 21, 2005. Nominations may be made from the floor, as long as the person being nominated has given their permission prior to the Election, and that the nominee meets the criteria as stated in the Bylaws. Election will be by Secret Ballot and the 2005 officers will take over at the beginning of "New Business."

The following members of Ole Virginia Hams have agreed to again run for office:

President:	Ruth Frock	KU4WH
Vice President:	John Heartney	KG4NXT
Treasurer:	Bill South	N3OH
Secretary:	Phil Colling	AC4PL

We urge all members of OVH who are able, to attend this meeting and cast your vote. Then we can offer our cooperation, support and assistance to the officers for the tasks ahead.

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA. 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Ruth Frock	KU4WH	331-1234
Vice Pres:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
Secretary:	Phil Colling	AC4PL	393-8658
Treasurer:	Bill South	N3OH	590-9562

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Art Whittum	KW4AW	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
John Zorger	WA1STU	754-2378

WEEKLY NETS

Thursdays - 8:00 PM	RUTH	331-1234
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HAMFEST 2005

Keith Bennington	KEITH	909-1512
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FIELD DAY 2004

Brian	WC4J	257-9545
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CLUB ROSTER

Blaine	KB4RKL	369-2877
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EDUCATION

TBA

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Brian	WC4J	257-9545
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ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David	KG4GIY	361-3042
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F.A.R. REPS.

Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234
Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877

FINANCE

Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877
Bill	N3OH	590-9562
Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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HOME PAGE

Bill	N3OH	590-9562
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JOTA

Paul	N2PJ	330-0796
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LEGAL

Pete	KB4RME	369-2436
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

John Zorger	WA1STU	754-2378
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NEWSLETTER

Steve	KB4OF	368-6901
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NEWSLINE

Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
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PACKET

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N3OH	590-9562

PICNIC

TBA

PROGRAM'S

TBA

PUBLICITY

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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Q' MASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Milt	N4SN	369-7265
Mike	WV3H	753-9346
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Art	W1CRO	791-4330
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Jan	KE4TMW	257-0897
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N3OH	590-9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Mike	WV3H	753-9346
George	K4GVT	791-7688
Bill	K9ZD	754-7913
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939

The OVH Times is the official publication of the "Ole Virginia Hams" ARC, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. The OVH ARC meets at 8:00 PM every third Monday of the month at the NOVEC Tech Center in Gainesville. Prospective members are invited.

Local information can always be obtained, at any time, through the usage of the OVH repeaters (146.97- & 224.660- Mhz). All are welcome.

Permission is hereby granted for the reprinting of articles and quotations in this letter, provided full credit is given to the OVH ARC, and the author of the article. Contribution of printed articles by both members and non-members is encouraged. The deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month. Submissions should be forwarded to OVH TIMES

EDITOR: Steve Meade KB4OF, PO Box 1418, Manassas, VA 20108-1418, or to kb4of@arrl.net

Letters to the Editor and Classified Ads are accepted and welcome. Approx. Circulation – 170

Minutes of the Ole' Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting
January 17, 2005

Ruth/KU4WH called meeting to order at 2000 Eastern Time.

Following the **Pledge of Allegiance**, all present stated their names and call signs. There were **21 OVH members** present.

BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES – The minutes of the December 2004 OVH meeting were approved with one minor correction.

TREASURER'S REPORT - **Bill / N3OH** – Bill presented the Treasurer's report.

REPEATERS – **Butch/W4HJL** - The repeaters are mostly working well. There are some upcoming projects for the repeaters and the priority is to get the 440 machine up and running.

HAMFEST – **Keith/KM4AA** – We had a kickoff meeting recently. All went well at the meeting and we are getting everything underway.

FAR – **David/KG4GIY** – FAR is currently taking a close look at its overall mission and operation, and undergoing a “reinvention.”

PACKET – **Bill/N3OH** - The NIH facility is now down. Bill will try to get us a 9600 baud internet connection. We had a short discussion regarding packet and other digital communications methods.

WEEKLY NETS – **Ruth/KU4WH** – The Nets are going well. Ruth will make a new schedule for net operators. New volunteers to help with the weekly net are always welcome.

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR – **Brian/NC4J** – The annual Nokesville bike ride has been cancelled. Brian recommends that we all check our equipment to be sure that everything is ready for the cold weather.

ARES – **David/KG4GIY** - An MOU with the City of Manassas is in the works. Much is in the works regarding ARES at the moment. We are trying to get ham radio gear pre-staged at the three primary PW County shelters. There will be several training sessions upcoming which will be posted on the PW County ARES website. There will also be an ARES re-organization meeting.

SUNSHINE – **Jan/KE4TMW** – A gift was sent to the Arthritis Foundation in honor of **Harry Vorhauer/W4PVA**, and the Arthritis Foundation sent us a thank-you letter. Jan is collecting submissions for Harry's memory book.

FIELD DAY – **Brian/NC4J** – Brian asked for suggestions for Field Day 2005.

BPL – **George/K4TVM** – George has new maps showing the locations of new BPL sights. We had a short discussion on how to describe BPL interference.

BREAK

PRESENTATION

David/KG4GIY gave us a presentation on ARES in general and ARES in PW County in particular. Among many items, David noted the differences between RACES and ARES, the importance of ARES to the community, and the general operation of ARES.

NEW BUSINESS

After some general discussion about **Harry Vorhauer/W4PVA** and his contribution to the OVH over the years, a motion was made to rename the OVH scholarship the **Harry D. Vorhauer Scholarship**. The motion passed unanimously and with tremendous enthusiasm.

We held a brief discussion on whether the OVH can get Harry's call sign (W4PVA). Harry was a founding member of the OVH and the general consensus was that it might therefore be appropriate for the OVH to have his call sign. **Steve/N4OGR** and **Jan/KE4TMW** will check with Harry's family to see if that is o.k. with them.

50/50 - Barry/WA4HR won the 50/50 raffle. A total of \$21 was collected, and Barry won \$11 and The Club received \$10.

The meeting adjourned at 2123 Eastern Time.

73's Phil/AC4PL

SUNSHINE CORNER

Happy Birthday to our friends and fellow Hams: – **Robert/K2TV**, **Ro/WB4NWG**, and **Art/W1CRO**. We hope each of you has a great day! More good news – David, KI4AZX – has passed his code requirement and is now a GENERAL CLASS ham.

Remember to pass your **W4PVA memories** to me or **Theresa/KG4TVM** for inclusion in the Memory Book for Harry's wife and children. All text, pictures, or other memorabilia is welcomed! We'd like to have things ready to bring to the February meeting. The plan is to have everything ready so that you may sign your contribution! Call or email me at **703-361-0008** or ke4tmw@arrl.net or Theresa at **703-257-3566** or kg4tvm@hotmail.com.

Thanks, and 73 de Jan/KE4TMW

MEETING PROGRAM FOR MARCH

The program for the March OVH meeting will be a Fleet Watch refresher and update. One subject will be the Commuter Lot Watch that we have been asked to participate in.

Mark your calendar and spread the word.

73 de Steve/N4OGR

OVH 2 meter port moving to 145.73 Mhz

As I have mentioned before, the OVH 2 meter packet frequency will be moving to 145.73 MHz. So effective today Sunday February 6 2005, then change will take place. Due to the loss of the very popular NIHRAC node on 145.03 Mhz, and the lack of any other substantial node presence there, it is more useful to the packet community to be where other users are located.

There are many other packet users on 145.73, most of which purport to be involved with emergency packet traffic support. OVH node will certainly assist if and when needed, but the move is primarily to retain, and possibly even spur, interest in packet radio. In any event, there are more users, stations, nodes and BBSs on that frequency that cover a fairly wide portion of Northern and South Central Virginia, into and including the Tidewater area, Richmond and Charlottesville.

Hopefully the move to this frequency will not inconvenience anyone, and in fact, possibly create more interest in packet because of the other stations there. A supporting packet note will be sent today from BBSNVA as well detailing this same info. Please pass this on to anyone you may know (VOA packet users?) who might be interested in the change.

73, de Bill/N3OH

New Resources For Clubs and Mentors

Norm Fusaro/W3IZ, ARRL Affiliated Club/Mentor Program Manager, w3iz@arrl.org

Provided to Editor by Mary Lu/KB4EFP

New Class Flyer

There is a new resource on the web for you to use to advertise your upcoming licensing classes.

We have created a flyer as a Word file that you can download and then edit the information specific to your class (dates and time, contact person info, etc.) <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/mentor/> <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/instructor/>

New PowerPoint Programs

Also, look for new PowerPoint programs in the multimedia library.

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/materials/videos.html>

Our most recent addition is a program on NTS and traffic handling by Jim Cottrell, KB3DEN.

Remember that we are always looking for interesting Power Point programs that clubs can use for meeting programs. If you have any that you would like to submit to the League, please e-mail a file to clubs@arrl.org or send a CD to the address below marked "Attn. F&ES Dept."

New QST Feature

Scheduled to begin with the April issue of QST there will be a new series called "Getting to Know Your Radio," by Joel Hallas, W1ZR, ARRL Assistant Technical Editor. The series of short articles is useful to mentors helping new hams unravel the mystery of "all those knobs on my new rig."

Web Features

A current feature article running on the ARRL web page is on NLI Section's "Ham Radio University."

<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2005/01/23/1/?nc=1>

The NTX Section had a similar event in the fall called "Mentorfest." <http://www.ntxinfo.org/mentorfest/>

Both of these events had venues where education and information were the offerings to the hams who attended. The feedback from these types of information fest has been very positive. Attendance numbers show that there is large contingency of enthusiastic hams that are looking for new information. Any club interested in organizing an event of this type should contact ARRL at clubs@arrl.org or your SM to ask about interest in a mentorfest. The ARRL Mentor page has resources on the right side for mentors and for new hams. <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/mentor/>

One resource, in particular, is the link to the Technical Information Service (TIS). This page offers a search engine as well as links to QEX articles, QST reviews and the "Doctor is In" column.

The very first link takes you to the Technical Information Pages and TIS Page menu. <http://www.arrl.org/tis/tismenu.html>

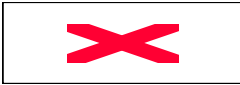
Here, mentors will find links to resources on everything from AM and antique radios to digital modes, to Morse code and QRP to repeaters and satellites.

Please visit these pages and feel free to publish these links in your club newsletters so that your members will know where to find information quickly. As always we try to keep all pages current, however, if you find that a particular link is not working or is no longer valid, please contact the page author at tis@arrl.org

Microcontroller Program Update

Based on the responses from the clubs it appears that there is sufficient interest in the program to continue development. ARRL is currently working to make available a commercial kit at a deeply discounted price for our clubs to use as an educational tool at meetings. Please stay tuned for more information as it develops.

FCC proposes to hold the line on vanity call sign fee

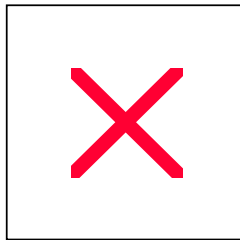


(Feb 16, 2005) -- The FCC has proposed retaining the current \$20.80 Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee for the 10-year license term. The fee went from \$16.30 to \$20.80 last August. In a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)*, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2005" (MD Docket 05-59), the FCC says it's proposing to collect more than \$280

million in regulatory fees for fiscal year 2005, as mandated by Congress "to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities." The FCC says it anticipates 8000 vanity call sign applications during FY2005, up from 7800 applications in FY2004. The FCC expects to raise \$166,443 from vanity call sign fees in FY2005.

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ARES/RACES drill participation draws FEMA praise

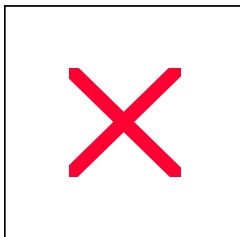


(Feb 15, 2005) -- Calhoun County, Alabama, ARES/RACES participated February 9 in a communication drill in which the scenario was a nerve gas release, and Amateur Radio the only communication system available to the local emergency operations center (EOC). The exercise, the annual Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) conducted by the Anniston Army Depot and the Calhoun County Alabama Emergency Management Agency, was aimed at checking the coordination of communications at the EOCs. Calhoun County Emergency Coordinator Randall Landers, KG4EUD, managed his team's activities from the EOC, while Alabama Section Emergency Coordinator Jay Isbell, KA4KUN, and staff headed up communications at the US Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA) [Noble Training Center](#) at Ft McClellan. A mission of the Anniston Army Depot is to incinerate stockpiles of chemical weapons. In the exercise scenario, 36 land mines exploded releasing VX nerve agent into the county. The ARES/RACES team provided updates and deployed volunteers to hospitals and schools and to Emergency Activation System radio stations, where they disseminated official news releases. "A FEMA Region 4 representatives said that the Amateur Radio group was the best they have evaluated, and that their knowledge of radio and communications was excellent," reported [Alabama](#) Section Manager Greg Sarratt W4OZK. [Photo: [Lisa Spinks, KI4DWE, at the Calhoun County EOC.](#)]

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Earth Rarely Out of Sight or Mind for ISS Crew



(Feb 15, 2005) -- While it's 220 miles distant, Earth seems never far from the thoughts of the International Space Station's Expedition 11 crew. Gazing upon the home planet from their vantage point in space is among the most favorite activities of those who have done duty tours aboard the ISS, and the current crew members are no exception. Speaking via Amateur Radio from NA1SS February 10, Expedition 11 Commander Leroy Chiao, KE5BRW, told youngsters at Fairview Elementary School in Mt Prospect, Illinois, that his new hobby is taking pictures of Earth from the ISS. Chiao also informed Fairview Principal Kerry Swalwell that earthly topics dominate conversations between himself and crewmate Salizhan Sharipov.

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ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration

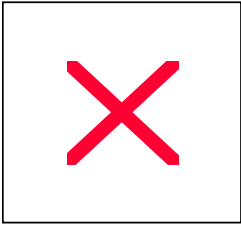


(Feb 15, 2005) -- Registration for the ARRL Antenna Modeling (EC-004) and Radio Propagation (EC-011) on-line courses remains open through Sunday, February 20. Classes begin Friday March 4. For EC-004, computer-modeling expert and noted author L.B. Cebik, W4RNL, has combined the expertise of his long career as a college professor with his love and antennas and antenna modeling to offer a comprehensive, yet practical, course of study. EC-011 students will

learn the science of RF propagation, including the properties of electromagnetic waves, the atmosphere and the ionosphere, the sun and sunspots, ground waves and sky waves, and various propagation modes--including aurora and meteor scatter. To learn more, visit the [ARRL Certification and Continuing Education](#) Web page or contact the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program Department cce@arrl.org.

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AMSAT-DL reviews P3E satellite design

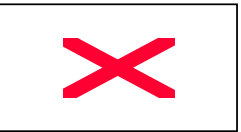


(Feb 15, 2005) -- An international team gathered in Marburg, Germany, in late January to review progress on the Phase 3 Express ([P3E](#)) Amateur Radio satellite--essentially a scaled-down and less-complex version of the now-defunct AO-40. The meeting focused on the design of the integrated housekeeping unit (IHU-3) computer and the so-called "CAN-Do interface." AMSAT-NA is a partner in the P3E high-altitude, elliptical-orbit satellite, a prelude to the ambitious Mars-orbiting [P5A](#) spacecraft, and AMSAT-NA President Rick Hambly, W2GPS, was among those attending the gathering January 26-30. Being developed under [AMSAT-DL](#) leadership, P3E will provide a test bench for technology under development for the subsequent Mars mission. A

launch is planned sometime before the end of 2006. The P3E satellite will be a 150-kg class spacecraft on the order of AO-10 and AO-13, offering both analog and digital communication on VHF through microwave. Also on hand for the Marburg gathering from AMSAT-NA were Bob McGwier, N4HY; Bdale Garbee, KB0G (in photo with spacecraft); Stephen Moraco, KC0FTQ; Lyle Johnson, KK7P, and Chuck Green, N0ADI. Representing AMSAT-DL were President Peter Gülzow, DB2OS; Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC; Hartmut Paesler, DL1YDD; Gerhart Metz, DG2CV, and P3-E Project Manager Heike Straube. Attendees wrapped up preparation of a detailed task and schedule list to complete IHU-3 and related tasks over the next several months. Gülzow outlined plans for P3E during the 2004 AMSAT-NA Symposium and Annual Meeting last September. --Rick Hambly, W2GPS, via AMSAT News Service

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WRTC-2006 Web site open

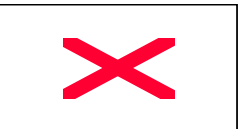


(Feb 14, 2005) -- World Radiosport Team Championship 2006 (WRTC-2006), which will take place in Brazil in conjunction with the Liga de Amadores de Radio Emissão ([LABRE](#)) and the Araucaria DX Group ([GADX](#)), now has an [official Web site](#). Although some sections remain under construction, the site does include [draft rules](#), still subject to final approval. Following in the footsteps of previous WRTC competitions held in Seattle, San Francisco, Slovenia, and Finland,

the WRTC showcases Amateur Radio competition at its highest level, pitting two-person teams of the world's top operators for the gold, silver and bronze. WRTC 2006 will take place July 7-10 in the vicinity of [Florianopolis](#), the capital of Santa Catarina State in Southern Brazil. Atilano de Oms, PY5EG, heads the WRTC 2006 Steering Committee. The WRTC brings competitors together in a single geographical area. The on-the-air portion of the event is held in conjunction with the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) [HF World Championship](#), although WRTC rules differ in some respects from those of the IARU event, and scoring is done separately. WRTC stations run 100 W and have comparably modest antenna systems--typically a dipole for the low bands and a triband Yagi for the higher bands. The idea is to minimize the variables associated with radio contesting, thereby emphasizing each team's operating skills. The contesting duo of Jeff Steinman, N5TJ, and Dan Street, K1TO, took home the WRTC gold for the third time in the 2002 event in Finland. Teams have not yet been announced for the 2006 event.

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Collins ARC special event to feature operation from B-29 station



(Feb 14, 2005) -- The Collins Amateur Radio Club in cooperation with the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club--both in Iowa--will operate [special event](#) station W0CXX/29 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Iwo Jima. The special event gets under way February 19 at 1600 UTC and continues until February 20 at 0000 UTC. ARRL member Lawrence Robinson, KC0ODK, is heading up the volunteer team that's attempting to recreate a B-29 radio operator's

position showcasing the Collins ART-13, the standard B-29 liaison transmitter. Former veteran B-29 radio op Clyde Hussey, KM4RC, is scheduled to inaugurate the special event. Approximate frequencies will be 3885, 7290 and 14,286 kHz on AM, and 3529, 7029, and 14,029 on CW. A special commemorative QSL card is available for an SASE to The History Center, 615 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401. [Details](#) are on the Collins ARC B-29 Radio Project page.

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