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+ (now temporarily out of service)

Web Site at http://w4ovh.net

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

March 2015

Next Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2015

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all and I hope this message finds you all healthy and well. It seems we at last - beginning last week - began to enjoy a break in the Winter weather; most of the snow has now melted and the daytime high temperatures have gone over 60 degrees F. at least once. Quite a bit different than during most of this winter which is now almost over.

I had thought my term as OVH president would be over as of the elections at the meeting last month, but as most of you know, the February meeting was cancelled by email reflector notices on that Monday afternoon (Feb. 16th) due to the very



inclement weather, essentially a Virginia blizzard. No one could have made it there without four wheel drive, and even with such equipment, driving conditions were very dangerous.

As a result, no new officers were elected and new officers will be elected at the upcoming meeting on March 16th. OVH officer candidates now exist for all offices to be filled, but last minute nominations will still be received by the OVH directors. Be sure to attend the meeting on Monday, March 16th to vote. And, be sure too that your dues have been paid up so you can vote at the meeting. Renewal dues can be submitted at the OVH's web site at W4OVH.NET.

Later this month on March 21st and 22nd, the Virginia QSO Party will take place. This is a low key, on-the-air radio operating contest on the HF as well as the VHF and UHF bands. Since we are here in Virginia, it is very easy to make contacts. I recommend that you give the Virginia QSO Party a try, even if only for a short while! If you submit a log, please also designate that you are an OVH club member. More info about it later in this Newsletter.

I hope to see everyone on March 16th at our meeting location in the main conference room, Manassas Public Works, 8500 Public Works Drive, Manassas, Virginia 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 N		TOR
Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time	JOHN / KG4NXT	257-3566
HAMFEST 2015 - Chairman	1	
Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
FIELD DAY 2015 - Co-Chair	's	
John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KM4ABL	753-7863
Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
CLUB ROSTER / DATABAS	E	
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
EDUCATION		
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
CLUB EMERGENCY COOF	RDINATOR	
David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
ARES - EMERGENCY COO	RDINATOR	
David Lane	KG4GIY	703-628-3868
	email: KG	4GIY@ARRL.NET
Prince William County ARES	vebsite 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 — W40VH.N	IET	
Paul	W4ZB	754-0910

EMAIL REFLECTOR —		
David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
JOTA		
Scott	KB8NUM	365-2642
LEGAL		
Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	MAN	
Luther	KJ4FDK	361-488
NEWSLETTER		
Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
NEWSLINE FOR THE	WEEKLY NET	
John H.	KG4NXT	257-356
PROGRAMS FOR MEE	TINGS	
Terry	KC4DV	571-292-149
QUARTERMASTER		
Steve	N4OGR	361-000
		501 000
REPEATER CONTROL		000 171
Keith Arthur	KM4AA W1CRO	909-151 791-433
Butch	W4HJL	369-287
Steve	N4OGR	361-000
David	KG4GIY	361-304
George	K4GVT	791-595
Russ	WB4HHN	368-643
W4OVH / W4PVA — TR	USTEE	
Keith	KM4AA	909-151
SCHOLARSHIP		
Jim	W4JTP	392-015
SUNSHINE		
Theresa (Acting)	KG4TVM	257-356
TECHNICAL COMMIT	TEE	
Keith	KM4AA	909-151
Arthur	W1CRO	791-433
Butch	W4HJL	369-287
Bill	N4SV	590.956
Bob	K4HJF	335-193
David	KG4GIY	628-386

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 © 2015 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday. In July, 2014, and is held in the Main Conference Room in the Manassas Public Works Building, 8500 Pubic Works Drive, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend without obligation. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz. The OVH's two D-Star repeaters on 146.865- and 442.5125+ MHz are temporarily off the air due to maintenance work beyond the OVH's control. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeaters 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

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Sunshine Corner:

Very happy birthday wishes this month to Fred / N3KVV, Russ / WB4HHN, Lisa / NoCallsign, Gary / K4MRl and Jeff / N1SN.

Because winter was acting up last month, the February OVH meeting had to be cancelled - so we won't find out who our new officers are until the upcoming meeting! More on this next month.

Please keep Steve / N4OGR and Jan / KE4TMW in your thoughts and prayers, Steve is scheduled for a major surgery on March 17th. I will send updates as I receive them.

Don't forget to visit or participate in the Virginia QSO Party on March 21st and 22nd (Saturday and Sunday). Please turn in your logs and identify the OVH as your club!

Also Vienna Winterfest is Sunday, March 22nd, hope to see some OVH'ers there. The OVH will have a table there as usual.

I'm very sad to report that Bo, our Bassett Hound. passed away in the middle of February at the age of 11 1/2. He could sound like a guard dog when he wanted to but he was all talk and slobber, as some of you that met him found out! He is very missed.

The Tri-It-Now Mini Tri is getting ready to start up their activities again, more at the March meeting on this. This is a really nice, easy going community service event that the club provides radio communications to help out the race coordinator.

It's not too late to help with Hamfest, see the club spotlight for this month. Contact Terry KC4DV if you would like additional information.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all!

If you have any news that you want reported in the Sunshine Corner, contact me.

73 Theresa KG4TVM email: kg4tvm@hotmail.com

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting February 16, 2015:

The scheduled regular OVH meeting for the evening of February 16, 2015 was cancelled by notices sent out on the OVH's email reflector that afternoon due to inclement weather, near blizzard conditions. Matters scheduled for the February meeting, including elections of new officers, will be taken up at the next scheduled meeting on March 16, 2015.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

March 22, 2015 · Vienna Wireless' Winterfest Hamfest at the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC), 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale, Virginia This has been a very winter hamfest for many years, but this year it is moving its date back by about a month later than

usual into the first or second day of Spring, at the same location as usual! For more information, go to http://www.viennawireless.org/winterfest.php

April 4, 2015 - Raleigh North Carolina Hamfest - a big Hamfest - see the flyer later in this Newletter and check http://www.rars.org/rarsfest for more information

April 11, 2015 - Saturday - Culpeper Amateur Radio Swapfest, Culpeper, Virginia - for more info, see Flyer later in this Newsletter or go to w4cul.org

May 15 - 17, 2015 - Friday - Sunday. Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, Ohio. This is the biggest hamfest in the world. More info at http://hamvention.org.

June 14, 2015 - Sunday. The OVH is sponsoring and will again put on the annual Manassas Hamfest for the 41st time in 2015. All active OVH member will, of course, attend; everyone else is invited too and we expect several thousand attendees again this year!

SPECIAL SEMINARS, ETC:

Third Thursday evening each month - AMRAD meets in McLean, Virginia - meetings usually consist of high level amateur radio related technical presentations on specific topics. Check the http://amrad.org web site for upcoming topics, and exact dates, times and places.

May 14, 2014, Thursday. The excellent and very well attended Contest University program will again take place in downtown Dayton, Ohio, for a full day one day before the Dayton Hamvention begins. See http://contestuniversity.com for complete details. Sign up now.

SPECIAL OPERATING EVENT - FIELD DAY in June, 2015 - SAVE THE DATES:

June 27 - June 28, 2015 - Saturday & Sunday for the annual OVH and ARRL Field Day event. This is one of the most "fun" events for OVH members who participate as a club in the larger ARRL Field Day over two days during which other clubs and operators throughout the U.S. and Canada endeavor to contact as many other participants as possible from portable or temporary locations using different frequency bands and radio modes. The OVH's Field Day event will be at the pavilion at the Nokesville Park again this year, and will also include food, educational activities and public service activities for all members, family members and the general public, as well as several operating stations. Be sure to save these dates!

OPERATING CONTESTS:

March 21 - 22, 2015 (Saturday & Sunday). The annual Virginia QSO Party is an on-the-air event with activity is on the HF and the VHF/UHF bands. Plan to participate and have some fun. Complete info is at http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2015_VQP/2015_VQP_Main.html

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

PUBLIC SERVICE / TRAINING / ARES EVENTS

Always check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at http://www.pwcares.org for the 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.

SPOTLIGHT on Preparations for the ANNUAL MANASSAS HAMFEST

The Hamfest Committee Chair is Terry / KC4DV and the Hamfest takes place on the 2nd Sunday in June

Monthly Hamfest Planning Committee meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month beginning in the Fall each year. Meeting locations are announced on the Thursday night net and on the club reflector. Meetings usually last 45 minutes to an hour and cover preparation items that have been completed and what still needs to be done so we are 100% ready by event day. The meeting are open and all club members are invited to participate. A photo of the attendees at the recent February 4, 2015 meeting appears below.

The Annual Manassas Hamfest itself is a major event each year which benefits the OVH and Amateur Radio in several ways. A successful hamfest raises funds for the OVH's scholarship awards, repeater maintenance and other activities. It also promotes ham radio in the community and provides a great Hamfest venue for the several thousand amateur radio operators in Northern Virginia and surrounding areas and States who attend.

The Hamfest is promoted on two OVH web sites: manassashamfest.org and w4ovh.net (hamfest tab), plus with flyers, email, mailouts, and word of mouth. The Manassas Hamfest this year will be the 41st.

Putting on a successful Hamfest requires a lot of volunteers - which the OVH is able to provide. It's not necessary to work the entire weekend - even just an hour or two of time can be put to good use. Set up starts on Saturday morning with the tail gate area, getting the vendor tables lined up in the Exhibit buildings, and signage is put up, etc. Saturday afternoon the security team sets up and will work until Sunday morning. Plan to volunteer and help out (again) this year! If you haven't volunteered before, plan to do so this year!

On Sunday of the event, work starts early - by 5:30 am as the Tailgaters are allowed in beginning around 6:00 am! Volunteers work usually in shifts at the front & back gates, club and consignment tables and other functions:

Gates – Front & Back - front gate handles ticket sales for attendees and answers questions about the events; back gate handles ticket sales mostly for tailgaters and to directions to the tail gate areas

Tail Gate Parking - direct tailgate attendees to the tail gate areas for parking

Security - controls / registers Vendors upon arrival which start setting up on Saturday afternoon and keeps the Exhibit building on lock down until Sunday morning

OVH Club Table - has the ticket drum and the door prizes and answers general questions

Consignment Table - donated equipment from estates & club members are sold with the proceeds to the club general fund. Club members can also sell equipment with the club receiving part of the profit

Bake Sale Table - Club members donated baked goods to be sold at the bake sale table. All money made at this table is donated to a charity chosen by the person running the table

Seminar / Program Coordination - coordinate the various programs and seminars, make sure the facilities are available and working for the presenters and lecturers.

VEC Monitor - the VEC Examinations are run by another group but a liason is needed.

Youth Lounge / 4-H Program Coordination and workers run the Youth Lounge Program.

After the Hamfest ends on Sunday there is some clean up to be done, and then an post-event dinner.



Remembering André Kesteloot, N4ICK

All OVH members active in AMRAD at any time or for any period during the last 30 years got to know André / N4ICK of McLean, Virginia; other OVHers likely encountered him as he appeared regularly at the AMRAD table at many Manassas Hamfests. In January he passed away unexpectedly at the age 77.

André was from Belgium where he obtained his Electrical Engineering degree; later he spent a decade in the Middle East with his wife, moving from country to country as Chief Engineer, installing TV and radio transmitters. In 1969, a friend who was working for the CIA talked him into joining the outfit. He spent 25 years as an officer of the CIA, first as an operative in different countries and later performing various jobs in Virginia, including being in charge of Soviet defectors. Exactly what he did is still hush-hush, but his contributions and accomplishments were great as he is one of the very few awarded the CIA's Intelligence Star for Valor. After retiring from the Agency he taught negotiating tactics to Iraq-bound Special Forces units as a contractor.

He became an avid radio amateur and participated in many of the more technical facets of the hobby. He was an ARRL Technical Advisor, author, speaker, and Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation (AMRAD) President Emeritus. He became known internationally as the primary author of the ARRL's Spread Spectrum Sourcebook, published in 1991 [now available as a free PDF download on the AMRAD.ORG web site], and he contributed regularly to QST, QEX and the AMRAD Newsletter. In recent years he participated in the development of LF radio and held a special FCC license to operate an experimental LF station.

He was very much a gentleman, very bright and knowledgeable on a very wide range of subjects (in addition to engineering and amateur radio) and was always willing to share his great knowledge on any subject in a helpful but unpretentious manner. André will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

SOME POSSIBLY INTERESTING OR USEFUL INFORMATION

- 1. Interested learning more about Arduino and Linux projects in the context of ham radio, and/or old vacuum tube receiver projects? If so, check out the well written blog by N2HTT at http://n2htt.net
- 2. PD0AC in the Netherlands has a blog about ham radio equipment at http://hamgear.wordpress.com One of his entries discusses an ICOM handheld transceiver system which operates on and over a WiFi network. See, https://hamgear.wordpress.com/2014/01/10/icom-ip100h-wifi-hand-held-transceiver Blog is in English.
- 3. EA5HJX in Spain has a blog in excellent English (and Spanish) about ham radio and electronics with emphasis on digital modes and VHF at https://digimodes.wordpress.com Lot of interesting stuff there.
- 4. Looking for more Amateur Radio radio videos, check out http://w5kub.com Most of W5KUB's videos in his Amateur Radio Roundtable series are hosted on youtube.com at https://www.youtube.com/user/w5kub
- 5. ZL2PD from New Zealand has been a prolific purveyor for years of good information about homebrew ham radio and electronics projects which include software features. Check out his web site at http://zl2pd.com
- 6. Operation on the 60 meter band? Propagation is something between what occurs on the 40 meter and 80 meter bands. For U.S. hams, 60 meters (5 MHz) is a channelized band with only limited mode operation permitted on discrete frequencies; and the FCC has already changed the rules (and frequencies) once. Outside the U.S., the rules vary all over the lot. See http://hflink.com/5mhz for details. Thanks to N4SV for this.
- 7. Unravelling the mysteries of HF radio propagation. Almost everyone today is familiar with TV weather reports and dedicated TV channels devoted to weather. Now there is something similar for SpaceWeather which directly impacts radio propagation. Check out http://spaceweather.tv to learn more.
- 8. Understanding impedance measurement (and what impedance is / means) is basic information to be mastered by the technically oriented, RF interested, radio amateur. Even the less technically oriented need to know something about it to set up a station. An excellent and comprehensive primer on Impedance Measurement is available as a free PDF download at http://cp.literature.agilent.com/litweb/pdf/5950-3000.pdf



THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA HAM RADIO FAIR

- Ham Radio, Electronics, and Computer Parts, Pieces, and Paraphernalia
- Large Indoor Exhibit Area
- QSL checking for WAS, DXCC, VUCC
- 150 Paved Tailgate Spaces
 (\$15 for one space—includes one admission)
- Improved and expanded loading dock!
- FREE On-Site Parking

When: Sunday, March 22, 2015

Where: Northern Virginia Community College

Annandale Campus

8333 Little River Turnpike

Annandale, VA

38.833216° N, 77.236872° W

Cost: \$7.00 per person

Indoor Exhibit Area Opens to Public at 8AM



Tailgate area opens at 6AM on Sunday, March 22rd





Vienna Wireless Society PO Box 418 Vienna, VA 22183 Table Sales – Doug, AK4AO tablesales2015@viennawireless.org (703) 698-6158

http://www.viennawireless.org/winterfest.php



HamfestHuge Electronic Flea Market & ARRL NC State Convention

sponsored by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society



Hamfest Prizes:
 Preregistration Prize
 Hourly prizes from 11-2
 Grand Prize Drawing: 3 PM

- New Equipment Dealers
 (all major brands)
- ♦ VE License Testing 9 AM Sharp!
- Forums and Meetings
- **♦** QSL Card Field Checking available
- ♦ Special Event Station you can operate
- ♦ Hands-on construction project
- ◆ Also at the Fairgrounds: see www.ncstatefair.org for other Fairgrounds activity movie theater, shopping, NC Museum of Art nearby
- ◆ Free NC Fairgrounds Flea Market huge general-merchandise Flea Market on the grounds
- ♦ Free Parking
- Friday Night Supper for Vendors

Contest and activity details at: www.rars.org/rarsfest

"The Raleigh Hamfest"

Saturday, April 4th
8 AM to 3:30 PM
Jim Graham Building
State Fairgrounds
1025 Blue Ridge Rd
Raleigh, NC 27607 T

A P R B R R R R

Tickets: \$10

\$8 advance no age 16 and under free order online at:

www.rars.org/rarsfest



Wide aisles, plenty of room for drive-in loading and unloading. Vendors tell us that the RARS fest is one of the friendliest, best organized hamfests they attend.

RARS*fest* 2015: Saturday April 4th!



100,000 square feet of air-conditioned indoor space!

Sorry, the Fairgrounds does not permit outdoor sales/tailgating

Drive-in load/unload

Friday 12 noon-9PM, Saturday 6 to 7:30 AM

Fairgrounds regulations prohibit weapons, pornographic material and pets in the Jim Graham Building. No food or drink may be sold or donated by attendees in the hamfest building at any time.

NO SMOKING

Sat. April 11, 2015



Location: Culpeper Agriculture Enterprise

(See map) 10220 James Monroe Hwy, Culpeper, VA 22701

(On Hwy 29, 2 miles Southwest of Culpeper)

Hours: 7:00 am

to 1:00 pm

Admission: Free

ndoor Fred

(bring your own tables and chairs; limited space on first-come basis)

Tailgating: Free

Talk In: 147.120 MHz, +600KHz, PL 146.2



Sponsor: Culpeper Amateur Radio Association (CARA) (W4CUL.org)

Contact: Bob Stohlman K4RCG (bobstohlman@gmail.com)

NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S LARGEST

Manassas Hamfest



AMATEUR RADIO & MAKER TECHNOLOGY SHOW

An ARRL-Approved HAMFEST Presented By:

The OLE VIRGINIA HAMS Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

(Featuring Youth Lounge Activities for the Youngsters Attending!)



Sunday, June 14, 2015 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 - Route 234 - Manassas, Virginia -- Talk-In Repeaters on 146.97- and 442.200+

8-foot tables: \$30*each with chairs & electricity (\$25 if reserved by May 1st) Setup 2–10 PM Saturday

\$10*per person at gate
(Age 18 and younger: no charge)
(*See web sites for prepayment discounts before 5/31/2015)
Gates open at 7 AM

TAILGATING (admission is extra)
Outdoor Spaces: \$10*per space
Covered Pavillion: \$15 per space
(*See web sites for details about online
prepayment discounts before 5/31/2015)
Gates open at 6 AM

* 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
- Check our web pages (below) for the most up-to-date information

ACTIVITIES

- Flea Market & Vendors all day
- VEC License Exams: 8:00 AM 10:30 AM
- "Maker" group technology demonstrations
- 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
- BroadBand Ham Networks ("BBHN") Forum
- Virginia QSO Party Awards and Forum
- More Forums to be announced, check web sites

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

Dealer Info from Ron / N4RDZ: **General Info** from Terry / KC4DV: **VE Testing / Exam Information**: vendors@manassashamfest.org chairman@manassashamfest.org vetesting@manassashamfest.org

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