

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/N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)
<http://www.w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

APRIL 2004

Next meeting: April 19, 2004

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

(Editor)

Greetings to all OVHer's:

The next meeting of the Ole Virginia Hams will be held on Monday, April 19th at the NOVEC Technical Center in Gainesville, VA at 8 PM. We will be working on getting ready for the Hamfest on June 6th which will be here before you know it. If you can help out in any way please contact our Hamfest Chairman David Lane at KG4GIY@arrl.net . We can not have a successful hamfest with out you. Also I will be making up a new net schedule and we need your help to keep the Thursday night net going. If you would like to take a turn at being behind the "Golden OVH Microphone" please let me know ASAP. We do need additional volunteers since we have had some attrition in the net's ranks.

If you have any ideas for topics for future meetings please let me know. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 19th.

73 for now,

Ruth/KU4WH

“OLE VIRGINIA HAMS”
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 N4WJN 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

HAMFEST 2004

David Lane KG4GIY 361-3042

FIELD DAY 2004

TBD

CLUB ROSTER

Blaine KB4RKL 369-2877

EDUCATION

Bill K9ZD 754-7913

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Brian N8FK 257-9545

ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David KG4GIY 361-3042

F.A.R. REPS.

Ruth KU4WH 331-1234
 Mary Lu KB4EFP 369-2877

FINANCE

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 Ruth KU4WH 331-1234

GENERATORS

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 Bill K9ZD 754-7913

HISTORIAN

Theresa KG4TVM 257-3566

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JOTA

Paul N2PJ 330-0796

LEGAL

Pete KB4RME 369-2436

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

John Zorger WA1STU 754-2378

NEWSLETTER

Steve KB4OF 368-6901

NEWSLINE

Karl W4KRL 802-1527

PACKET

Alan KD4KBX 330-8844
 Bill N4WJN 590-9562

PICNIC

Ellie KF4NBO 361-8059

PROGRAM'S

PUBLICITY

Steve N4OGR 361-0008

Q' MASTER

Steve N4OGR 361-0008

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

SCHOLARSHIP

Jim W4JTP 392-0150

SUNSHINE

Jan KE4TMW 257-0897

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Art W1CRO 791-4330
 Alan KD4KBX 330-8844
 Bill N4WJN 590.9562
 Butch W4HJL 369-2877
 Mike WV3H 753-9346
 George KE2AM 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
March 15, 2004

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

Following the **Pledge of Allegiance**, all presented stated their names and call signs. There were 19 **OVH members** present.

MINUTES: The minutes from the Feb. 2004 OVH meeting were approved with minor corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was presented by **Bill/N4WJN**. The report was approved.

COMMITTEES

REPEATERS: **Butch/W4HJL** stated that all three repeaters are up and running very well. We now have backup amplifiers for all repeaters.

HAMFEST - David/KG4GIY: Two vendors have now signed up. Things are moving along very well. Vendor letters are going out. At this point, things are actually a little ahead of schedule. Of course, we will need plenty of volunteers for the Saturday before Hamfest and the day of the Hamfest.

MEMBERSHIP – John/WA1STU: **Doris Spooner/KI4DAL** was voted into the Ole' Virginia Hams with a unanimous vote. Welcome to the OVH, Doris.

FAR – Ruth/KU4WH: There will be a Feb. 2004 Autocall. Autocall will be quarterly now.

WEEKLY NET – Ruth/KU4WH: The weekly nets are going very well. **Mark/KG4JAM**, who has been a regular net controller, has accepted a job in Chicago, IL. Best wishes in your new ventures in and your move to Chicago, Mark. Volunteers for the weekly nets are needed to fill Mark's slots.

ARES – David/KG4GIY: We need volunteers to help with the MS Walk on April 17 on the Manassas National Battlefield Park. The MS Society always appreciates our help. A drill at Dulles Airport will occur on May 8. Many types of communications will be used at this event. On May 20, the NCAC Institute will take place, which is official ARES training.

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR - Brian/N8FK: Brian reiterates that we need help for the upcoming events that **David/KG4GIY** mentioned.

PACKET / HOMEPAGE – Bill/N4WJN: The official packet frequency for VA and MD is 145.73. Bill asks us to report how well this frequency works. **Steve/N4OGR** notes that the 220 packet frequency is alive and well, and suggests that we use the 220 packet frequency more often. Bill notes that the BBA is still working. The Webpage is working very well, and Bill suggests that we check the BPL clearing page for updates on the subject of BPL.

BPL – Ruth/KU4WH: The OHV has sent out an official letter to local and national officials regarding concerns about BPL. Butch / W4HJL noted that in the last city meeting, the City Manager said that there have been no complaints regarding BPL. That was our reason for sending an official letter. Bill/N4WJN noted that there is much information on the Webpage. There was an excellent conversation among all of the OVH members present regarding the subject of BPL.

John/WA1STU gave a presentation on the **BPL hunting** that was done by **John/WA1STU, Butch/ W4HJL, George/KE2AM and Phil/AC4PL on Sunday, March 14**. John showed us the outputs of the spectrum analyzer. The signals are spread spectrum and difficult to analyze. They hit the exact same frequency each time. John is going to study more on spread spectrum signals, and John asks for help from anyone who is a spread spectrum expert. **Bill/N4WJN** noted that we need to read the NPRM to understand this. FCC is asking for comments on how to measure BPL signals. That is why we need to read the NPRM.

SUNSHINE – **Steve/N4OGR**: Steve noted that **Ken Moan/KM4UH** is in Fairfax hospital for a heart catheterization. Ken's procedure has occurred and Ken is now recovering and we all wish Ken best wishes in his recovery.

OVH LOGO – **George/KE2AM** designed a logo for official dealings and correspondence between the OVH and outside contacts, including government and public safety officials. George is looking for comments and suggestions on the design.

FIELD DAY – **Brian/N8FK**: Brian asked for suggestions regarding Field Day. Brian wants to make Field Day fun this year and get people involved, not necessarily as a competitive event, but more as a family and OVH event. Brian wants to come up with a set of rules regarding safety and children.

50/50 DRAWING: **Brian/N8FK** donated three Yaesu caps (courtesy of HRO and Yaesu), and **Al/KB4BHB** donated one of his beautiful hand-crafted wood-works for the drawing. Thank you Brian and Al for your contributions to the drawing. \$20 was collected from the 50/50 drawing, and **Phil/AC4PL** won the 50/50 drawing. Phil collected \$10 and the OVH collected \$10.

The meeting adjourned at 2120 Eastern time.

73s **Phil/AC4PL**

SUNSHINE CORNER

Our best wishes, thoughts and prayers are with **Ken/KM4UH**, who recently had **bypass surgery**, but is now back at home, and recuperating well! The Club sent him a dish garden with our wishes for a speedy recovery. (I know he's doing well; I heard him on the radio!)

Congratulations to George, formerly **KE2AM**, who has joined 4-land with his new call **K4GVT**!

Happy Birthday to our friends **Barry/WA4HR**, **David/KD4DEE**, **Brian/N8FK**, **Paul/N4PD**, **Paul/N2PJ**, **David/KI4AZX**, **Paul/W4ZB**, **Mike/WV3H**, **Cathy/AE4UM**, and **Larry/KA4CTX**. Hope you each have a GREAT DAY!

Congratulations to Barry WA4HR, who's upgraded to Extra! Good job!

73 de Jan/**KE4TMW**

BPL Clearinghouse Info On OVH WEB

If you are a ham who is concerned about what BPL (Broadband over Power Lines) is, and how it will affect Amateur radio, SWL, emergency service, time standard and other HF reception, please go to <http://www.w4ovh.net/> and check the BPL Facts link on the main page.

If you know of any additional links that discuss BPL, please forward those in an e-mail to BPL@W4OVH.NET

Bill South/N4WJN/OVH WEBmaster

IN BRIEF

From The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 14

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration for the ARRL Antenna Modeling (EC-004) on-line course remains open through Sunday, April 11. Classes begin Tuesday April 20. This course is an excellent way to learn the ins and outs and the nitty-gritty details of modeling antennas. 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. Registration for the Technician Licensing course (EC-010) also remains open through Sunday, April 11. Classes begin Tuesday, April 20. With the assistance of a mentor, EC-010 students learn everything they need to know to pass the FCC Technician license class test. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> Web page or contact the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program Department cce@arrl.org.

* ARRL Emergency Communications Course registration: Registration opens Monday,

April 12, 12:01 AM Eastern Daylight Time (0401 UTC), for the Level II Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-002). Registration remains open through the April 17-18 weekend or until all seats are filled--whichever occurs first. Class begins Tuesday, April 27. Thanks to our grant sponsors--the Corporation for National and Community Service and the United Technologies Corporation--the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. During this registration period, approximately 60 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> Web page and the C-CE Links found there. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, dmiller@arrl.org, 860-594-0340.

* ARRL to sponsor ARES/RACES/EmComm seminar in California: The ARRL will offer a free Amateur Radio emergency communications seminar Friday, April 30, 1-5 PM, at the Ramada Inn, (Shaw/Fwy 41), in Fresno, California, in conjunction with the San Joaquin Valley Section Convention. The seminar will not include the Level I course itself. This program will explain in greater detail the duties of all Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ARECC) participants and how their volunteer efforts are essential to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Senior citizens are strongly encouraged to participate. "This seminar will explain the importance of every team player with emphasis on using lessons learned to effectively move Amateur Radio emergency communications to the next level," said ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG. All ARES/RACES volunteers, ARECC course participants, and Field Organization leadership are invited. Course participants at every ARECC level--Mentors, Certification Instructors, Certification Examiners and current students--are encouraged to share their ARECC experiences. Field Organization leaders are invited to brainstorm ideas to motivate volunteers and coordinate activities. The focus will be on coordination between ARECC volunteers and students, and their integration into the Field Organization. This session is open to all interested hams, but seating may be limited. Those planning to attend should contact Dan Miller, K3UFG, k3ufg@arrl.org; 860-594-0340; FAX 860-594-0259. For more information on the SJV Section Convention, visit the Fresno Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2004 Web site <http://www.qsl.net/w6to/ota.html>.

* ARRL Technology Task Force forum set for Hamvention 2004: The ARRL's Technology Task Force (TTF) will hold its third annual forum at Hamvention 2004, Sunday, May 16, 10:15 AM until noon in Hara Arena. All Hamvention attendees are welcome. TTF Chair and ARRL Central Division Vice Director Howard Huntington, K9KM, will moderate. All three TTF working groups will be represented. At 10:30 AM, Mark Williams, AB8LN, of the High-Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group will update progress on merging Amateur Radio and networking technology via Radio Metropolitan Area Networks (RMANs) using various node-connection methods. At 11 AM, Yoshikazu Nishimura, JA6UHL, AOR Japan and Matt Yellen, KB7TSE, of ICOM America, will address the Digital Voice (DV) Working Group: Nishimura will discuss ARD-9800 DV technical development and operating, while Yellen will talk about Icom's D-STAR DV development. At 11:30 AM, Gerald Youngblood, AC5OG, and Bob McGwier, N4HY, will be featured during the Software-Defined Radio (SDR) Working Group session. They will detail SDR advancements through open-source software development on the Flex Radio Systems SDR-1000. Learn about the latest in leading-edge Amateur Radio technology and what the League is planning for the future. Audience interaction is encouraged.--Doug Smith, KF6DX