

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 -- 145.030 Port 2: 223.660 (SysOp Use Only) Port 3: 223.540 MHz
BBS--BBSNVA/N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)

<http://www.qsl.net/olevahams>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

JUNE 2000

Next meeting: 19 June 2000

**Committee Chairperson's!!!! Need your input for
the Newsletter!!!**

(Editor)

Message From One of the Directors

Greetings OVH;

Well done **Jack!** The weather was great, and all the comments from people that attended the hamfest were positive. A lot of club members did a great job again to pull off a very successful Hamfest. A **special Thank You** to our leader **Messier Jack** for a very well organized **Hamfest**. Again, with your dedication, the club will be able to support the **scholarship program, repeaterup-grades, Field Day, VE sessions** and many **other club functions**. I know for a fact that without the dedication of people like Jack and the other **OVH volunteers**, these functions would be difficult. **Special thanks to Steve** and his crew for **tailgate parking**; **Larry and Erv** for the **gate crews**, and **Bill, Ruth and Joe** for **handling the money**. **Thanks to Jeff** for the talk-in and **MaryLu** for the OVH main table. Thanks also to **Keith** and crew for a first time **Hamfest VE session**. Thank to **Mike** and **Jimmy** for the **overnight duty** and to the **whole crew** on Saturday for a quick setup. Thanks to all for your unselfish club support!

On the second important subject, **Field Day** is the weekend of **June 24** through **25**. As chairman, I will try to generate more interest and activity. At the June meeting I will be signing up volunteers for various jobs. We will be operating with the **club call sign** for the

first time – **W4OVH**. We plan to operate 3 stations plus a QRP Station. We have two dipoles, one beam and a vertical for antennas. It will be held at **James Long Park**, as usual. See you all there!

Butch Blasdell/W4HJL

**"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"
Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA. 20108**

OFFICERS

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J.O.T.A. (Scouts)

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John N4YOB 791-5995

Secretary: David Lane KG4GIY 361-3042

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Treasurer: Bill South N4WJN 590-9562

Jeff KV4AP 361-5865

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NEWSLETTER

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Steve KB4OF 368-6901

Art Whittum KW4AW 791-4330

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John Fritsch N4YOB 791-5995

Jeff KV4AP 361-5865

WEEKLY NETS

PACKET

Thursdays - 8:00 PM KV4AP (Jeff) 361-5865

Alan KD4KBX 330-8844

Sundays - 8:00 PM

Bill N4WJN 590-9562

HAMFEST 2000

PICNIC

Jack N4YIC 335-9139

Ellie KF4NBO 361-8059

FIELD DAY 2000

PROGRAM'S

Butch W4HJL 369-2877

TBD

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PUBLICITY

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Steve N4OGR 361-0008

EDUCATION

Q' MASTER

Bill K4WRG 754-7913

Jim N3ODZ 361-2543

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Milt N4SN 369-7265

F.A.R. REP.

Mike WV3H 753-9346

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Mary Lu KB4EFP 369-2877

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Jack N4YIC 335-9139

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Tommy KA4AFU 369-2741

Jan KE4TMW 257-0897

HISTORIAN

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

T B D

Art KW4AW 791-4330

HOME PAGE

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Jimmy WA2QEJ

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 sameade@erols.com

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

Minutes of the OVH Meeting - 15 May 2000

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 PM by **John Fritsch/N4YOB** acting as Chair.

Following the **Pledge of Allegiance**, all present stated their names and call signs.

Attendance: 17 Members, and 8 Guests

Awarding of Scholarships: Jack McDermott/N4YIC - Please read full article in another section of newsletter – editor

It should be noted that the scholarship fund was augmented this year by generous contributions from the estates of two former local amateur radio operators, George Rowand/K4KX and Tim Wayne/KB4NR.

The past month's minutes and current financial status were approved by the membership.

Committee Reports:

Repeater: Butch Blasdel/W4HJL - Art and Steve have **cleaned up** the **repeater site**, but it needs more work but everything is functional. There is a "**do list**" posted. The **software** for the **controller** is here and will be installed shortly. The parts for the **440** are in transit and will be installed when they arrive and should be **fixed by December** (or the B team will take over). The **temperature monitor** on the 440 had been pulled pending the arrival of a new part. We are waiting for a **preamp** for the 440 as well.

License Classes: Bill Hinely/K4WRG - Three classes to go before the Hamfest. Spring Break put the kybosh on a week that will have to be made up. **Seven students** are attending, although not all at the same time.

Packet: Bill South/N4WJN - The **NIHRAC** node on **03** has been **down** for a week. They lost a computer and it will be down at least a week until they get a new computer. It is one of the **major link** nodes in the area. Bill has been doing some **reconfiguring** to increase connectivity, but it is not fully reliable yet. When the node is back, you will know it before Bill tells you. Our **email link** is down with the loss of the link as well.

Need some help to replace an **antenna** on the node site. There is only a **2m**, and a **2m/220** - the plan is to replace the 2m with a tri-band to improve connectivity. Bill would like to establish a **9600 baud** link between W4OVH and his site to be able to convert W4OVH to an **IP system** and have it Internet accessible.

Membership: Jeff Poulin/KV4AP - **Garrison "Gary" Cavell/K4MRL** was unanimously voted in. Welcome Gary!

Thursday Night Net: Jeff Poulin/KV4AP - **ARNewsline** is begging funds. The decision to contribute any funds has been tabled pending the final tally from Hamfest.

Hamfest: Jack McDermott/N4YIC - Jack is off to **Dayton** to drum up vendors for our **Hamfest**. He would like some member to get to the local computer show and collect business cards. Half of the

allocated tables have been sold to date. Fairground **insurance** is secured. **Charlie/WA4YGI** has **secured the prizes**, including an HT for 3rd, a computer for 2nd and a Yaesu FT840 for first place. Also there is a TNS for the Tailgate prize. **Winchester ARC** is set to do parking, and we will have two PWC police officers. **Lake Jackson** will staff the first aid center. The repeater will have the **PL turned off** and the repeaters will be linked for the talk-in. Food is confirmed and ready to go. All hands to help out!

ARES: Erv Whalen (KT4DS) - Events upcoming: **June 18: 100 mile horse race**. Contact **Erv** for details and contact information.

Butch Blasdell/W4HJL will chair the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM

Hamfest 2000

Well, was that a nice Hamfest, or what? Once again we had a beautiful day; warm and partly cloudy, perfect Hamfest weather. We were visited by a number of newly licensed and upgraded Hams as a result of the **VE testing** program offered by **Keith/KM4AA** and his crew of volunteers. This was the first time our club hosted VE testing on the same day as the Hamfest, and it went very well.

We had room for more vendors and visitors, of course. As you know, a number of vendors have to choose between **Manassas** and the **Hamfest in Butler, PA** (3000-5000 attendees) or the bigger three-day Hamfest in **Rochester, NY** (5000-8000 attendees,) all held on the **first Sunday in June each year**. **In addition, we find ourselves competing locally with the final day of the Kemper Open** golf tournament, a number of popular cultural events, and nearly every weekend a **Market-Pro computer** show nearby. Nonetheless, we hosted a very **nice mix of vendors** who were selling popular products at **reasonable prices**. There were also **vast amounts of treasure and junque** (almost treasure) to be discovered in the **fleamarket area**. Financially we fared well.

Once again we extend our thanks **Mike/N3NVF** and his **Winchester volunteers** who handled the huge vehicle parking effort flawlessly. The **Lake Jackson Volunteer medics** again staffed the Fairgrounds medical office. The **Wikfors family** kindly managed the annual bake sale for us again. As they have for many years, **Steve/N4OGR** and **Jan/KE4TMW Frick** did a superb job in directing the **tailgate/fleamarket effort** for us. It's really scary to think about what we would do without them. **Larry/KA4CTX, Erv/KT4DS**, and **their teams** were the happy, smiling faces our visitors met at the **gates**. To visitors unfamiliar with our terrain, the voices of **Harry/W4PVA** and **Jeff/KV4AP** on the **Talk-In frequencies** were as welcome as morning coffee.

You all realize that hosting a **Hamfest** is far **more than just earning a little money** to keep the club bankrolled for another year. What we do is truly a **community service**. All our efforts culminate in providing a **family-oriented annual festival**. Our Hamfest is well known as a **friendly, fun-filled, wonderful place** where people from all walks of life with a common interest in things technical can buy, sell, meet, and socialize. Many **friendships** are initiated and renewed here. **Did we do it right?** Well, think of it this way. **When people depart the Hamfest smiling, then call in again on a Talk-In frequency - just to say they had a great time - you may assume we did it right.**

Unfortunately, space limitations here preclude mentioning every volunteer individually. However, to **each of you readers who contributed** in any way to the success of our Hamfest 2000, **we extend our**

sincere appreciation. Giving up your weekend so that other families can visit Manassas and enjoy our festival is a very **generous gesture** on your part. You should each **feel proud** of the role you play in making our Manassas Hamfest an event our visitors look forward to all year.

The **Directors** and **Officers** of our **Ole Virginia Hams** club all join me in saying to you, "**Thank you for another great Hamfest.**" It was an **honor** for me to be able to work with all of you on this wonderful community-oriented project.

Jack McDermott N4YIC
Hamfest Chairman

SCHOLARSHIPS 2000

Club Director John Fritsch, N4YOB, presented \$1,000 scholarships to two outstanding Prince William County high school seniors. Our club's scholarship fund was augmented this year by generous contributions from the estates of two former local amateur radio operators, George Rowand, K4KX, and Tim Wayne, KB4NR. This year's scholarships were presented to:

Andrea L. HALLMAN from Woodbridge High School

Andrea graduates 5th in a class of 699 carrying a 4.300 GPA. She is termed "an incredible student" and "a superb scholar" who earned her grades while taking the most challenging curriculum available at Woodbridge HS. She has exceptional mathematical insight and problem-solving abilities. She was a software programmer for the very first Woodbridge HS robot team. This team won 3rd place in Richmond against competing Virginia schools, then traveled to Orlando, Florida where they won 3rd place in the National competition. Andrea plans to major in computer science and has already won admission to the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia.

Benjamin W. KIDD from C.D. Hylton High School

Ben is an amateur radio operator with the call sign KG4EIF. Ben graduates 26th in a class of 583 carrying a 4.045 GPA. Ben is clearly a very bright young man. He is a member of the Prince William County Gifted Education Program and the National Honor Society. He is an assistant Scoutmaster and pending Eagle Scout. In his application, Ben documented his interest and participation in numerous successful electrical projects. Among these, he built the stage lighting system for the school play. He also built a centralized traffic control system for a model railroad signal system used at the National Railway Historical Society train show. Ben plans to become an electrical engineer and has already won admission to the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia.

Exam Test Results for June 4th Testing at Bennett Elementary School

VE team liaison, Keith/KM4AA

First a word of THANKS to all the people, without whose support the work could not have been done.

Art/KW4AW For locating our testing location and doing all the initial leg work

Jack/N4YIC For the assistance with the Hamfest flyers and insurance paper work

Bill/N4WJN For the web page work

Neil/AB4YK For last minute notice to come in and help as a VE

Rick/N4ASX For coming from the Alexandria chapter to help as a VE

Joe/KD2RO For consistently being there to help as a VE

Gene/AI4W For consistently being there to help as a VE

Harry/W4PVA Whose help goes without saying

We had 46 people come to our session

19 took one or more elements

21 processed paper to gain an upgrade

3 code tests were given with 2 passing

11 technician tests with 10 passing

5 general tests with 3 passing

13 extra tests with 11 passing

We have never had such a high percentage of tests passed that were taken before.

This added up to

8 new hams

40 obtained some form of an upgrade

7 upgraded to techs

16 upgraded to general

17 upgraded to extra

yes you guessed it, one went from nothing to extra.

SUNSHINE CORNER

Great News! David, KG4GIY and Dianne have added their first harmonic – Emma Margaret was born on June 12th at 1:40 am. She weighed 7 lbs 11 ozs and was 19.75" long. All in the family are doing well! Congratulations!

Happy Birthday to our friends and fellow Hams – John W4GTL, Sieg WB4LII, Jared KQ4PA, Jan KE4TMW, Steve N4OGR, Jim N3ODZ, Gene N4HFW, Pete KB4RME and Bob KF4FJC. Best wishes for a great birthday!

Congratulations are in order for Steve N4OGR, now to be known as General Oger!

By the way, Bob KF4FJC assures me that his infections are no longer life-threatening, but I still think we could keep both him and Harry W4PVA in our thoughts and prayers, as both have to make regular trips to the doctors for their conditions! We'd like to keep both of you around, guys!

If you've upgraded, been ill, added a harmonic or had any happenings of note, good or bad, please send me an email at jansteve@bwwonline.com or call me at 703.257.0897 or on the radio KE4TMW, so I can appropriately announce it here! We celebrate the good and try to make the bad better – we're the SUNSHINE CORNER!

73 de Jan KE4TMW