OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

July 2014

Next Meeting: Monday, July 21, 2014

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello to all and I hope this message and this Newsletter finds you all healthy and well and enjoying the Summer.

As many of you already know we will no longer be meeting at the Red Cross location; the Red Cross' lease ended earlier this month and it has vacated its now former offices. The OVH July meeting will be at the Central Community Library at 8601 Mathis Ave, Manassas, Virginia. The meeting will start at the normal time (7:30 PM) and end by 8:30 PM.

FLASH MESSAGE - IMPORTANT NEW INFO:
**THE OVH'S JULY, 2014 REGULAR MEETING
ON JULY 21, 2014 WILL BE HELD AT THE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY LIBRARY
8601 MATHIS AVENUE, MANASSAS, VIRGINIA
BEGINNING AT 7:30 PM EDT**

Special subjects for consideration and discussion at the OVH's July meeting will include: 1. possible more permanent or suitable meeting locations for future OVH monthly meetings - to be informed ahead of time, I suggest you review the OVH email reflector traffic on this subject; 2. review of the recent and very successful OVH Field Day event at the end of June; and 3. planning for the OVH's participation in the upcoming special event operation (N4H again) during the Prince William County Fair at the fairgrounds in August.

Continue enjoying the summer and I hope to see each of you at the July meeting.

73   Justin   KJ4LAS

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

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 © 2014 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday. In July, 2014, the monthly meeting will be held at the Central Community Library, 8601 Mathis Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz or D-Star repeaters on 146.865- and 442.5125+ MHz. 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:

Happy Birthday Wishes for July to Steve / KB4OF, Ken / WB4ZOH, Philip / KI4WGC, Emmett / K2DJG, George / K4GVT, Michael / KC4ZNQ, Dwight / N4GSD, Bob / KI4IST and Luther / KJ4FDK

The OVH and its members have all survived yet again another very busy month of June! We were so lucky to have incredible and near perfect weather for both the 40th Manassas Hamfest and for the OVH/ARRL Field Day.

Thanks again to Terry / KC4DV and his very large crew for working so hard to put together the great Hamfest that the entire club and ham community can be proud of.

And special thanks too to John / KG4NXT for organizing a great Field Day at the Nokesville Community Park, and thanks to everyone who came out. Special thanks to Al / KB4BHB for taking care of the education program Saturday evening and to Phil / AC4PL for cooking all weekend long. Wayne / N7QLK, Gavin / KK4MXT and Clarence / K4CNM made sure the GOTA station and 4H worked together, great job there too. And thanks to the set up and tear down crew as well!

The OVH is working with Woodbridge Wireless and the 4H again this year to provide a special event and ham radio demo station, N4H, at the upcoming Prince William County Fair in the first part of August. Details, times and dates are not yet finalized. Check emails on the OVH email reflector or on the Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net or contact Terry / WA5NTI for the most recent information.

I hope everyone had a safe Fourth of July, and to see you at the upcoming meeting and at the Berryville Hamfest!

If your birthday is this month and you don't see your name, please send me an email with the date, I need to update my records. Also, if you have any news for the Sunshine Corner, good or bad, please send me an email kg4tvm@hotmail.com or call me at 703-257-3566.

Theresa   KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting June 16, 2014:

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting, June 16, 2014

Terry / KC4DV called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

All present stated their names and call signs. There were 20 members and 5 guests.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the May meeting were approved as read and amended, motion by Butch W4HJLand 2nd by Theresa / KG4TVM.

Treasurer's Report – Terry / KC4DV gave the report, motion by Butch W4HJL and 2nd by John / KG4NXTapproved as presented.

Membership – Luther / KJ4FDK was not present but read in Fred / N3KVV, Ronal / KK4ZUR and Ken / KM4ABL. No applicants were voted into membership.

ARES – No Report

Repeater – A new air conditioning unit was installed in the NOVEC repeater shack. Special thanks to Byron / AK4XR, Keith and Steve / N4OGR for arranging, coordinating and completing that work.

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ – Ready for the next class.

Scholarship – No Report

Hamfest – As reported by Terry / KC4DV, Chairman, overall the Hamfest was a success. Attendance was up slightly from last year even though vendors were down about 25%. The profit was $6,438.80 which is $431.30 down from last year. An after action meeting will be held directly following the club meeting. All are invited to attend. A motion was made at the end of Terry's report by Theresa / KG4TVM to donate $400 to the Wounded Warrior Project. Seconded by John / KG4NXT. Motion passed unanimously.

Field Day – John / KG4NXT reported that the web page was up and available for information on where the event will be held: Nokesville Community Park at 12560 Aden Road, Nokesville, Virginia. John asked for more operators to sign up for shifts. The traditional "pot luck" will be Saturday evening. Bring a side dish. Hot dogs and ham burgers will be provided by the club. OVH will have a 2A station. There will be an educational activity for extra points. Bill N4SV has reconditioned and will be setting up computers and a network. Camping will be allowed in tents, cars or you can go back home and sleep and return in the morning.

Sunshine Corner – No report.

Web Page – Paul / W4ZB reported that the web page up and operational.

4-H – Clarence / K4CNM said that he received one QSL card based upon contacts during the Hamfest. Terry / WA5NTI said that the Youth Lounge was well attended and thanked those that helped. 40 to 45 youth were served in the Youth Lounge during the Hamfest. Had lots of "hands on, tinkering" for the attendees to do. Could have used more volunteers. Clarence / K4CNM said weather and W1AW/5 were factors in the operation of N4H during the Hamfest.

Break –50-50 tickets sold. Collected $29.00 and paid out $14.50 to the winner Ronal / KK4ZUR

Old Business – None

New Business –

Clarence / K4CNM talked about the "Cold War Electronics Museum" at Vint Hill and that if the club liked, he could get the curator (son of Gary Powers) to come to a meeting soon and present a

program about the museum. All agreed that it would be interesting so Clarence will make the contact and schedule with Terry / KC4DV.

Terry / KC4DV brought up that we, the club, missed the ball on giving out a scholarship this year. Clarence / K4CNM will look into the matter.

George / K4GVT showed off some examples of signs that he makes in what spare time he has. They sell for $35 and for every one sold $5 goes to the club.

A motion to adjourn the meeting made by John / KG4NXT, and seconded by Gavin / KK4MXT. All voted to approve. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

July 17 - July 19 (Thursday - Saturday) - ARRL Centennial National Convention in Hartford, Connecticut. A few OVH members may be attending although it is not necessary to attend all days. This will be a big event celebrating the ARRL's 100th year!

August 3, 2014 (Sunday) - Berryville, Virginia Hamfest. Always a mid- summer favorite for OVH members within an hour's drive. More info at http://www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest and see the 2014 Berryville Hamfest brochure later in this Newsletter.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION - N4H

The Prince William County Fair runs this year (2014) from Thursday, August 8th through Saturday, August 16th. The OVH, Woodbridge Wireless and 4H are combining their efforts again this year to set up and operate a ham radio demonstration station (N4H) at the Fairgrounds during the Fair. Exact dates and times for this activity are not yet finalized, but it is planned that the station will be operating from the Fairgrounds during the OVH Thursday night VHF/UHF net on August 13th. Contact Terry / WA5NTI and check emails from the OVH email reflector for more information.

TRAINING / SEMINAR EVENTS:

Second Thursday evening each month, AMRAD meetings, McLean, Va. - see amrad.org for details.

OPERATING CONTESTS:

Information about many other operating contests almost every weekend and each month can be found on the WA7BNM's excellent web 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.

The Special Event 1x1 call sign N4H is being used three times this summer by OVH

The first time was during the 8 June 2014 Manassas Hamfest where we set up outside the 4-H barn and operated portable on battery power using the Woodbridge Wireless Amateur Radio Club's tri-band beam. We had lots of visitors who took the microphone and called CQ; unfortunately, the propagation gods were not on our side that Sunday. We made three contacts and have received one QSL card from Arizona. N4H for this event was requested by Clarence, K4CNM.

The second time was during the OVH/ARRL Field Day weekend (28-29 June 2014) event at which the GOTA station used the call sign N4H. We were much more successful that time, making 78 contacts, including 32 states (including California, North Dakota, Oregon, and Washington) and three Canadian provinces (British Columbia, Manitoba, and Ontario). The OVH's Field Day submission also had 80 bonus points as a result of the hard work of Gavin / KK4MXT and Trystian (no call sign yet). N4H for this event was requested by Wayne, N7QLK.

Our upcoming and the last event for this summer will be at the Prince William County Fair where N4H will be used by 4-H members during the second weekend (14-16 August 2014), and possibly also during the OVH's VHF/UHF net on Thursday, August 13th. OVH and Woodbridge Wireless Amateur Radio Club have operated ham stations with the 4-H clubs at the Fair in 2012 and 2013; this year should prove to be the best so far. N4H for this event was requested by Terry, WA5NTI.

With the success we've had using N4H this year, expect to see us use it at future events. It is a popular 1x1 call sign and has been used by others this year such as the Battle of Horseshoe Bend from 22 March to 5 April 2014 and by the Hamilton (Indiana) County 4-H fair from 18 to 21 July 2014. Permission to add and edit any 1x1 in the QRZ.com database can be accomplished by sending an e-mail to the QRZ technical support folks; this normally needs to be done by the operator who has the 1x1 call sign reserved.

Some background information on 1x1 call signs: A 1x1 call sign can be reserved by any amateur regardless of class of operator by going to the website http://www.1x1callsigns.org and filling out a request application. A 1x1 call sign consists of a single prefix letter (K, N, or W), the region number (0 to 9), and a single suffix letter (A to Z, except the letter X). There are 750 such call signs. The FCC rules (Sec. 2.302) do not permit the assignment of one-by-one amateur station call signs containing the suffix letter X. Ordinarily an amateur reserves a 1x1 call sign for a single event and the period of operation may not exceed 15 days. Multiple 15 day periods may not be reserved to extend the period. Reserving more than one 1x1 call sign during a calendar year is discouraged. You may reserve a special event call sign up to one year in advance on a first-come, first-serve basis. So far N4H has not been reserved for events in 2015; we should request N4H now for the 2015 hamfest and field day dates.

<div align="right">Clarence / N4CNM</div>

Some thoughts about the current / future utility of Broad Band Ham Networks

When packet radio first became available for hams in the very early, 1980s, many predicted optimistically that numerous interconnected ham digital networks would be created based upon the AX-25 packet radio protocol which was quite high speed in the early 1980s. That did happen to a limited extent on VHF and UHF (and very poorly and inefficiently on HF), but never to the extent optimistically predicted. Due to the shortcomings and limitations of AX-25, most of those ham networks and systems which existed at the peak of AX-25 activity have not lasted. Why not: better and much more capable and efficient high speed technologies such as the Internet became widely available. This appears about to change again; dedicated and technically sophisticated groups of hams have continued work on broad band (high speed) ham networks ("BBHNs") based upon using wifi routers with customized special protocols, and have recently announced the availability of custom firmware to broaden the base of wifi routers which can be used.

OVH's Terry / WA5NTI who is following and experimenting with these BBHN developments recently speculated (opined) on the sets of real, practical and useful ham radio uses for BBHN which he thinks may be forthcoming in the near future. To quote Terry:

"I can see us using BBHN to do FTP file transfers of Excel spread sheets, Power Point Presentations, (dot) JPG pictures, or Access binary database files from one "emergency service" to another - a doctor's laptop, out in the field, via a BBHN enabled emergency services site doing the transferring of critical medical data to a hospital, pharmacy, police department, or fire station. I currently can demo FTP using FileZilla Client and FileZilla Server software over BBHN.

"I can see us using it to deploy a VoIP multi telephone network to multiple sites needed phone service (hospital, pharmacy, police department, or fire station etc.) replacing the defunct systems that the service organizations used before the "normal" system became inoperable due to a disaster. I am in the process of getting this demo working.

"I can see us using it to do email send and receive from one firehouse to another to ask for additional resources to be sent to a disaster area - or email traffic from the firehouse to the field site of a disaster acknowledging that resources have been dispatched to the disaster area as requested.

"I can also see live video motion images being sent from a disaster site to a "headquarters" site to help headquarters ascertain what the disaster site really looks like.

"I can see a drone hobby helicopter equipped with a camera transmitting video back to a ground station. That "live feed" could then subsequently be relayed from BBHN node to BBHN node ultimately reaching whatever destination might be interested in seeing it - be that a police station, a fire station, a hospital, or a Prince William County ARES site at the EOC - maybe even arriving at the home of a County Supervisor or Legislator for them to become aware of what is going on at a disaster site.
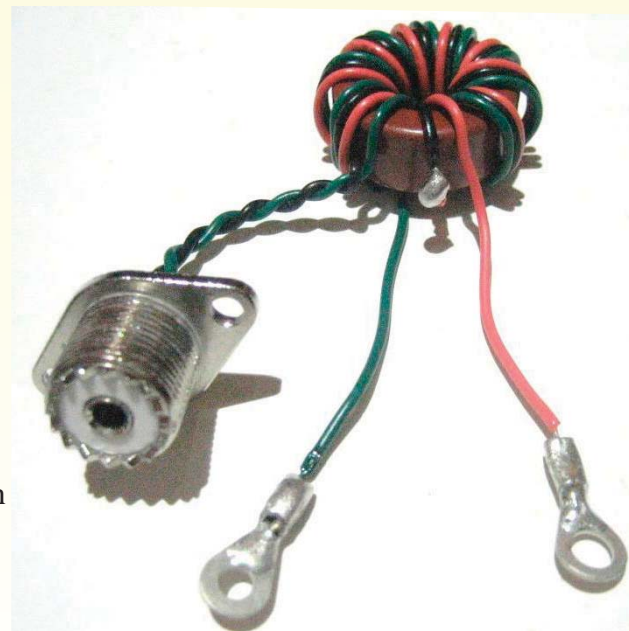
"The bandwidth that BBHN can deliver will never be as great / fast as the commercial Internet that we have today, since we are limited to only the frequencies / channels that are currently authorized for us Hams by the FCC but, in a "real emergency" those rules and limitations on Ham bandwidths and channels can be lifted with the stroke of a pen. If all hell were to beset us, "the authorities" could allow us to increase our bandwidth limitations to satisfy their needs.

"If we have the equipment in place and we have the skill and knowledge to act, we could become, at least for a short time under a temporary authorization, "a useful limited INTERNET" thus getting "them" through the immediate problem of not having any other means of communicating with each other using "their standard 802.11 Ethernet data". This is, IMHO, the bottom line reason for having Ham Radio in the first place."

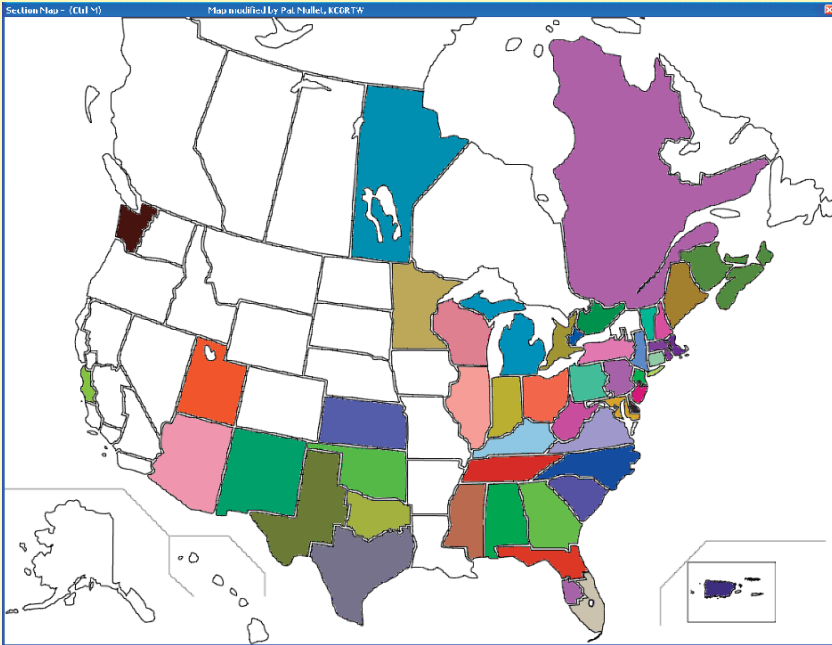Special thanks to Terry for sharing his insights on this subject!

2014 ARRL/OVH Field Day -- Building Project

This year the OVH Field Day Chairman, John / KG4NXT and Al / KB4BHB came up with a very clever and useful building project for Field Day: an unun (essentially a fixed broadband matchbox device) suitable to be used in portable or temporary HF (40 m thru 6 m band) set up feeding to/from an end fed wire antenna. The particular unun device selected for this building project was based upon a design developed and being promoted by the Emergency Amateur Radio Club of Hawaii. See, http://earchi.org   ERCHI offers full data: http://earchi.org/92011endfedfiles/Endfed6_40.pdf for those who want to build the device from scratch. See the image to the right for the essential components in the device. Construction of the project is a simple set of steps using just a few parts, and results in a small, very lightweight and effective device.
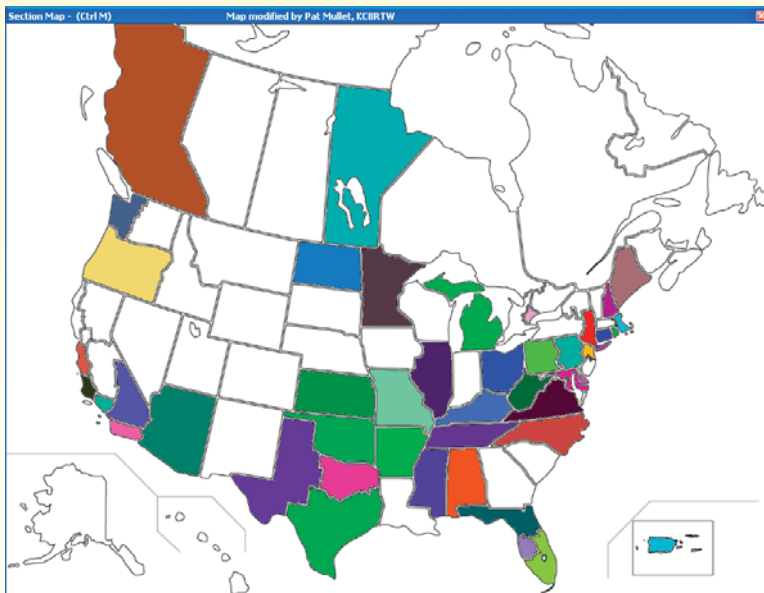
OVH FIELD DAY OPERATING RESULTS
for W4OVH and for N4H (the GOTA station)

Above: W4OVH
Contacted Sections

Below: N4H
Contacted Sections

Field Day Call Used: W4OVH / GOTA: N4H
Club: Ole Virginia Hams ARC, Inc.
Entry Class: 2A Club
Total CW QSOs: 185 X 2 = Total CW QSO points: 370
Total Digital QSOs: 39 X 2 = Tot.Dig.QSO pts: 78
Total Phone QSOs: 215 X 1 = Tot. PhoneQSOpnts: 215
Total QSO points: 663   Pwr multiplr = 2
Claimed Score: 1326 before bonus points

W4OVH - Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

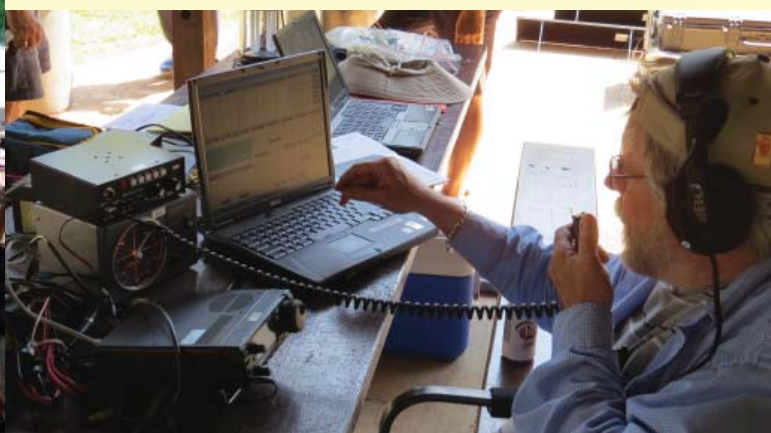| Band	CW	Power	Dig	Power	Phone	Power	Total	%
80	35	150	0	150	103	150	138	31
40	106	150	33	150	26	150	165	38
20	41	150	6	150	29	150	76	17
15	3	150	0	150	0	150	3	1
6	0	150	0	150	49	150	49	11
2	0	150	0	150	8	150	8	2
Total	185		39		215		439	100

Field Day GOTA Call Used: N4H
Entry Class: Club - 2A
Power sources: Generator, Battery, Solar.

Total Phone QSOs: 78 X 1 = Total Phone QSO points: 78
Power Multiplier: 150 Watts or less = 2
Claimed Score before Bonus Points: 156
Operating Period: 2014/06/28 - 2014/06/29 16:27

N4H - Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Power	Dig	Power	Phone	Power	Total	%
40	0	150	0	150	32	150	32	41
20	0	150	0	150	46	150	46	59
Total	0		0		78		78	100

A Few Pictures from ARRL / OVH Field Day - 6/28-29/2014 - Nokesville Community Park

SHENANDOAH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
W4RKC SINCE 1948

The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST

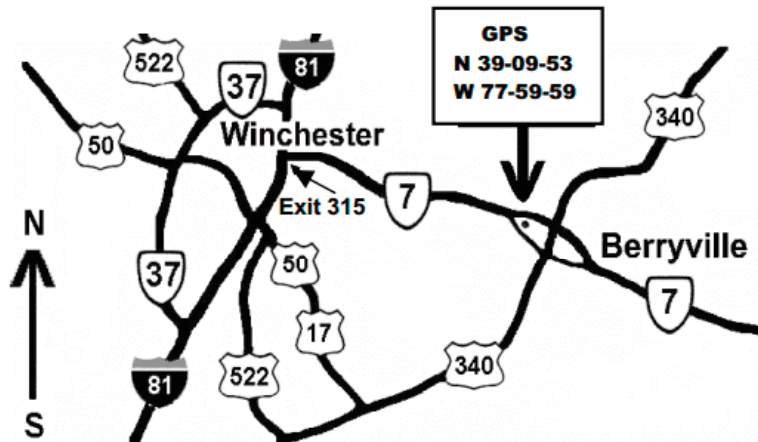# 64th Annual Berryville Hamfest

Sunday, August 3, 2014

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, Berryville, VA

- GATE OPENS AT 6:00 AM • VENDOR BUILDINGS OPEN 8:00 AM

- DONATION $6.00, children under 16 free

- ADDITIONAL $10.00 FOR A TAIL-GATE SPACE

- INDOOR VENDOR TABLES BY RESERVATION (see below)

- SPECIAL PRICING AT THE HAMPTON INN (1204 Berryville Ave., 540-678-4000)

- ADDITIONAL $15.00 FOR A CAMPER SPACE   • TALK-IN ON 146.82 (-), W4RKC

Country Ham & Eggs Breakfast at 7:00 AM.

Ruritan's famous chicken & beef barbecue from 11:00 AM.

Grand Prizes: HF Rig; VHF Rig; Power Supply; and hourly drawings.

GPS
N 39-09-53
W 77-59-59

Winchester

Exit 315

Berryville

N

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VE Exams will be given by the **Laurel Amateur Radio Club VE Team of the LARC VEC** at the Cooley School across from the Hamfest. Walk-ins are welcome. Testing begins at 12:00 noon. Photo ID is required. For more information, contact John Creel, WB3GXW@arrl.net; 301-572-5124.

Download this flyer and vendor table forms from:
http://www.w4rkc.org/hamfest

For more vendor information, contact:
John (WD4GEK) or Elizabeth (W4EHC) Cottrell
BerryvilleHamfest@gmail.com   Phone: 540-436-3818