OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

OCTOBER 2002

Next meeting: October 21, 2002

Committee Chairperson's!!!!
Need your input for the Newsletter. The deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month.!!!
(Editor)

A Message From The President

Greetings to All OVH Members:

I will be presenting a video history lesson on the Trans-Atlantic Tests of station 1 BCG in 1921. This will be an opportunity for modern hams to get an idea of the type of radio equipment used by hams in the early days of ham radio.

If you have any ideas for future club functions or meeting programs, please contact me at 703-754-7913 or K9ZD@arrl.net

Bill/K9ZD

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 OVH Meeting - Sept. 16, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 2000 Eastern time by President **Bill Hinely/K9ZD**

Following the pledge of allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs.

Jack/N4YIC - Jack noted that **ham radio equipment** was **donated** to the club by **Mel Stevens**. We can sell the equipment and put the money in the **scholarship fund**. Thank you Mel for your contribution on the Ole Virginia Hams.

Harry/W4PVA donated several books. **Jeff/N1SN** also had brought items from **Harry/W4PVA**. Thank you Harry for your contribution.

The minutes of the August 2002 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report - **Bill/N4WJN**. The report passed.

Repeaters - Butch /N4WJN - The repeaters are mostly o.k. The 440 amp needs to be fixed.

Education - Bill/K9ZD - **New class** starts first Wednesday in October (**Oct. 2**) at Stonewall Jackson H.S. Bill is looking for students.

Membership - Three new members were read in and will be voted on at the October 2002 OVH meeting: **Karl Berger/W4KRL**, **Noel Wolber/KG4UVK**, **Wayne Kline/KE4URN**.

F.A.R. - Ruth/KU4WH - The **F.A.R. hamfest** (FARfest) was **successful**.

Weekly Nets - Ken/KB4ZOH - Ken noted that he changed the process with the most recent net by having people tell about their **first radios**. He plans on doing something similar more often to help facilitate more discussion during the check-in portion of the net.

ARES - David/KG4GIY - We need **volunteers** for the **Marine Corps marathon**. The PW county **ARES website** has the information. The marathon **takes place** on **October 27**. This event will allow us to experience some new things with amateur radio, including packet. This event **starts early** and "**ends when it's over**." Plan on late afternoon at some locations. Others are done by 2:00 p.m.

October 13 - The **Diabetes Association walk** takes place at the **Manassas National Battlefield**. We need to gather at noon at the usual place on the **NOVA** campus, and we'll be done by about 4:00 p.m. This will be a **directed net**.

There are possible activities the last week in September because of the **World Bank** and **IMF** meetings, and the **associated protests**.

Sept. 11 went fine. Thanks to everyone who was ready to go just in case of trouble.

Virginia Railway Express is looking for **volunteers to be "victims"** for an emergency drill on **October 7**.

Brian/N8FK - A **bike ride** will occur on **Sept 28**. This originates at the **Nokesville park**. Arrive at 8:00 a.m. and we will and be done by about 2:00 p.m.

Christmas parade - We will contact the parade organizers by next month. We might consider having an **OHV float**.

<u>**Old Business**</u>**:**

JOTA - Jack/N4YIC - The **Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA**) is the **third weekend** in **October**. We will host local scouts. **Jack** and **Butch/W4HJL** will coordinate this event. We will use the **swim club** again, as we have done in the past. We will need **three HF stations** and **four** to **six operators**. We will **start at 8:00 a.m.** and be done by noon. We will **set up** on Friday (**Oct. 18**).

Bill/N4WJN - Bill has some more **field day buttons** for anyone who is interested.

New business:

Steve/N4OGR - Steve noted that he often takes **QST** magazines to **doctors'** and **dentists' offices**. We can put OVH labels on, and that's some good advertising for the OVH.

Al/KB4BHB - Al donated a new **OVH President's gavel** to **President Bill Hinely/K9ZD** and the **Ole' Virginia Hams**. Al made this gavel with wood from a tree on his property that had to be cut down. The new gavel is a **true work of art** and demonstrates Al's ability as a **highly-skilled wood-turning craftsman**. Thank you Al for your very generous and **unique contribution** to the Ole' Virginia Hams.

Bill/K9ZD - Bill noted that **we need a historian**. We have been without one for some time.

The new **OVH President's gavel** that was made and donated by **Al/KB4BHB** was **used officially for the first time** by President Bill Hinely/K9ZD at 2037 Eastern time to **announce the break** in the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 2048 Eastern time.

Brian/N8FK, **Bill/N4WJN** and **David/KG4GIY** gave a demonstration of **packet radio**. Almost any radio will do. You need a **TNC** (terminal node controller) and a **basic computer**. Even a **PDA** will work. Some **HTs** have **TNCs** built in. There are many TNCs available that are inexpensive. $50 is not uncommon on the used market.

1,200 baud is a common but "slow" packet speed. However, we don't send large files over packet, so 1,200 baud does just fine. Bulletin boards are often forwarded (the messages). **APRS** (amateur packet reporting system) uses **GPS**, and links to the TNC to work on the APRS network. With GPS, the **position** gets **updated automatically**. **WB4APR** invented the APRS

You don't much power. Packet stations "**mooch**" off of each other. This is called "**digipeater**," so messages can pass through other stations. You can go as far as the network will allow. You can do "**node hopping**," which allows for long-distance communications.

Most packet operations still operate at 1,200 baud, but **9,600** is now done by some.

Packet is done on **simplex mostly**, but there are some repeaters involved. Be sure to turn the packet off when you go back to voice.

9,600 baud is **not as easy** as 1,200 baud. **9,600** requires a **special TNC** and a radio that has been modified for 9,600. Some radios have 9,600 built in.

If you do HF, there is a **DX cluster** to let you know where other stations are. **Software** will tell you which **frequency** to turn to.

David/KG4GIY noted that packet is a actually a "primitive" electronic communications method. But on **Sept. 11 2001**, **phone lines were down**. David **couldn't use the Internet**, but **packet was working fine**. On a related note, **all Internet traffic** in the United States flows through **two points** in **Vienna, VA** and **San Jose, CA**. These are **possible terrorists targets**. Also, **Worldcom**, **ATT**, and **Global Crossing** are the **providers**. As we know, two of these firms have some severe financial difficulty. There is a lot of redundancy. The beauty of packet is that the traffic can be delivered reliably and at least "**fairly securely**."

Thank you **Brian**, **Bill** and **David** for your presentation and demonstration of packet operations.

The meeting adjourned at 2132 Eastern time.

SUNSHINE CORNER

Condolences go to **Theresa/KG4TVM**, whose **grandmother died** recently.

Happy Birthday to **Matt/KD4VNH**, **Phil/AC4PL**, **Bob/K0WYL**, **Doc/W1IMX**, **Ruth/KU4WH**, and **Erv/KT4DS**. Enjoy your day, and every day!

Have a great Autumn!

Thanks, and 73 de Jan/KE4TMW

October Technical Committee News

The **repeater site** was visited during the **Nokesville Bike Ride weekend** and we restored the **ID function** to the two-meter repeater. Power output checks for **two-meters** indicated **90 watts** output with **good VSWR**. The two-meter **audio levels** were readjusted to "**book requirements**" but had to be **re-tweaked** to account for **lower audio levels** piped in from the repeater receiver. This will be corrected in a future visit (soon, since the ID tones are now too loud).

The club's **TS-430S** HF Transceiver, which "**acted up**" during **Field Day weekend**, has been rechecked on dummy load and a known good antenna. It has **90 watts output** on **160** meters, **92 watts output** on **10** meters and **100 watts output** on **80, 75, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15** and **12** meters. The receiver was checked on all bands using portions of the CW and Voice sub-bands for each. During the period 1200 – 1300Z on Saturday, there were signals to be heard (and worked) on every band from 80 through 10 meters. I couldn't hear anything on 160 meters and resorted to tuning down to the **BC band** for receiver checks. The **XE1SRF/B beacon** transmitter is **S2** but loud and clear here at **Canova Ranch** (**28.187.5 MHz**) at 1715Z, 05 October. So the rig is ready for the next exercise. Power cables and a microphone have been packed up with it; an **Astron 20A power supply** is ready too.
73, Art/KW4AW

WD4AZG ESTATE SALE: Contact KW4AW

Item No.	Model Number	Description	Serial No.	Price
	Astron RS- 4A	Astron 4 amp Power Supply	0	$25.00
	Astron RS-7A	Astron 7 amp Power Supply	9506386	$35.00
	Archer 273-1650	AC Adapter 3/4.5/6/7.5/9V 300 ma		$8.00
	DAIWA	DIAWA Coaxial Switch A/B UHF fittings		$10.00
	SPN4139A	DC Adapter 12 Vdc 300 ma		$7.00
	GE RT9541 B	DC Adapter 6.0V @200 ma or 7.5V @100 ma		$8.00
	ICOM BP-20	Clamshell battery pack for IC Micro 2AT		*$5.00*
	ICOM BP-20	Clamshell battery pack for IC Micro 2AT		*$5.00*
	Generic	Data Switch 1 X 4		$5.00
	Generic	Data Switch 1 X 2 w/ RJ-11 adapters		$5.00
	T-Bar	Data Switch 1 X 2		$5.00
	Allied GD-30	KnightKit Grid Dip Oscillator		$15.00
	Ten-Tec TW-24	Project box - Enclosure (New)		$2.00

Art/KW4AW

For Sale (Make Offer or Trade):

Full tower case with 250 watt power supply (heavy duty version); six or seven bays available; eight slots in back for PC cards; additional holes for five DB-25s and five DB-9s.

QST Magazine January – December 2000
QEX Magazine partial 1998, most of 1999, all of 2000.

Harvey-Wells Bandmaster TBS-50 Cabinet, chassis and most original parts (restoration project plowed to a halt). With schematic for TBS-50D and power supply.

Project boxes: Plastic, with internal raised posts for PC board support. Originally used for wireless receivers. 7-7/16" x 4-7/16" x 1-7/16". Many of these available.

Art/KW4AW

N4YIC PACKET MESSAGE TO-FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION (ISS)

For a club newsletter item, I decided to send a PACKET message to myself via the **International Space Station's PACKET** mailbox (call sign **RS0ISS**) (**RS-ZERO-ISS**) as it was passing overhead. I utilized the "**STSPLUS**" **satellite-tracking program** to track the space station. Following accepted procedures, I **transmitted** on **145.990** MHz, and **received** on **145.800** MHz. Equipment used was an **Alinco DR-570T** transceiver at **50 watts** into a **Diamond X-50** antenna at **55 feet**. Following is the actual printout from this contact (my comments were added later) which I initiated at **9:32pm** ETD on **September 23, 2002**. This equated to **0132UTC**, **24 September 2002**. You will see that I responded to RS0ISS's commands and sent my message; it was received and saved on board ISS as message **#2219**. I then asked ISS to send **#2219** back to me. ISS sent the message and I read it. Then, so as not to clog ISS's computer with needless messages, I told ISS to **erase** (kill) the message. ISS erased the message and I then sent the usual "**disconnect**" command to conclude the contact. Cheers, Jack.

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23-Sep-02  21:31:05  RS0ISS>KA4GDV:            (ISS concluded a contact with KA4GDV)
- Logged off

23-Sep-02  21:32:36  RS0ISS>CQ:                (ISS is calling CQ – Here we go!)
ARISS - INTERNATIONAL  SPACE  STATION

CONNECTED to RS0ISS                            (I made it…)

Logged on to RS0ISS's Personal Message System
on board the International Space Station
CMD(B/H/J/K/KM/L/M/R/S/SB/SP/ST/SR/V/?)>
                                               (I sent "S N4YIC")
Subject:                                       (I sent "Wonderful Connection")

Message:                                       (I sent "Sending this to myself via
                                               RS0ISS, the space station")

Message saved as Msg # 2219                    (He received/saved my message as #2219)
CMD(B/H/J/K/KM/L/M/R/S/SB/SP/ST/SR/V/?)>

                                               (I sent "R 2219" to read my message)
Stat   : PR
Posted : 02/09/24 01:31
To     : N4YIC
From   : N4YIC
Subject: Wonderful Connection

   Sending this to myself via RS0ISS, the space station.

CMD(B/H/J/K/KM/L/M/R/S/SB/SP/ST/SR/V/?)>
                                               (I sent "K 2219")
Message erased
CMD(B/H/J/K/KM/L/M/R/S/SB/SP/ST/SR/V/?)>
                                               (I sent the "B" disconnect command)
DISCONNECTED: RS0ISS
```