

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

## OCTOBER 2003

**Next meeting: October 20, 2003**

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

(Editor)

## Greetings to all OVH'ers,

I will be making the **net control schedule** to take us to the end of 2003. For those who are part of our rotation please let me know of **your availability** for the rest of the year as soon as possible and for those who would like to take a turn please contact me either at the meeting, on the internet at [ku4wh@arrl.net](mailto:ku4wh@arrl.net) or at home at **703-331-1234**. Once again thanks to all of the volunteers who are helping to keep this net going.

This month at our meeting we will be having a **presentation on Echolink** to be given by **Lee Love/N2LEE**. I hope everyone will be able to attend to find out about this fascinating topic of how to **use the internet** and our **VHF and UHF repeaters** to extend their range and capabilities. Our **next meeting will be on Monday, October 20th at 8 PM**. We will also continue our discussion about the future of our **hamfest**. If any of you have any interest on being a part of seeing our hamfest tradition continuing **please volunteer** to be a part of our hamfest committee. Many hands will make light (or should I say lighter) work so no one person will have to do everything. We can't have a successful hamfest without YOU!!

Looking forward to seeing you there.

**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) Blasdel W4HJL 369-2877  
 Art Whittum KW4AW 791-4330  
 Jack McDermott N4YIC 335-9139

**WEEKLY NETS**

Thursdays - 8:00 PM KU4WH 331-1234

**HAMFEST 2004**

TBD N4YIC 335-9139

**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**

Mary Lu KB4EFP 369-2877  
 Bill N4WJN 590-9562  
 Ruth KU4WH 331-1234

**GENERATORS**

Steve N4OGR 361-0008  
 Bill K9ZD 754-7913

**HISTORIAN**

Theresa KG4TVM 257-3566

**HOME PAGE**

Bill N4WJN 590-9562

**JOTA**

Paul N2PJ 330-0796

**LEGAL**

Pete KB4RME 369-2436

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

Charlotte KG4QXO 361-3482

**NEWSLETTER**

Steve KB4OF 368-6901

**NEWSLINE**

Karl W4KRL

**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**

Jack N4YIC 335-9139

**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

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@arri.net](mailto:kb4of@arri.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 – August 18, 2003

The meeting was called to order by President **Ruth Frock/KU4WH** at 2000 Eastern Time. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns. There were 23 members and one guest present.

**PROGRAM:** **Karl/W4KRL**'s presentation called "**Vacation Station**" was very interesting and informative. His "compact" station consisted of two different kinds of antennas – ham sticks that were mounted with a clamp onto a table or a deck and a more portable one (8 ft. high) made out of PVC that comes apart and fits into a small bag. Everything else needed for the complete station fit inside of a "briefcase" – Radio, coax, key, log, manuals, switching power supply, etc.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the August 2003 OVH meeting were accepted unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ruth/KU4WH read the Treasurer's Report, which consisted of a Statement of Net Worth and an Income/Expense Report for Sept. 2003. The report passed unanimously.

**REPEATERS:** **Butch/W4HJL** stated that the repeaters are running fine. The next thing on the agenda is to hook the battery to the Controller (this week) and eventually they will shorten/clean up the cables and reroute them.

**MEMBERSHIP:** **Ken/WB4ZOH** (acting for **Charlotte/KG4QXO**) read in an application for membership from **Richard Bejtlich/KD4PCD**. This will be voted on at the next meeting.

**ARES:** **Brian/N8FK** reminded everyone that the Nokesville Bike Ride is coming up this weekend (**Saturday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>**) – that is, unless Hurricane Isabel comes this way. He also announced that we had a "Thank You" from Skywarn for the use of our Mast. Also, if we do need the generators because of the hurricane, please listen closely to the repeater, as they will need help in the form of trucks and "good backs" to get them out of the shed.

**JOTA:** JOTA Chairman, **Paul/N2PJ** announced that he couldn't be in charge of the event this time, as he will be out of the country (mainland, at least). It will be the weekend of **October 18<sup>th</sup>**. **Jack/N4YIC**, will pick up the event one more time – he has already secured the site of Urbanna Swim Club and will request the insurance coverage.

**EDUCATION:** **Bill/K9ZD** said that **classes will begin on October 8<sup>th</sup>** – they will be **Wednesday evenings at 7 PM at Stonewall High School in Room 3A**. Radio Shack no longer carries the book, so they must be purchased at HRO or he will have them for students to buy. **Please everyone get out and advertise the class.**

- - - - - Break - - - - -

### HAMFEST 2004 and MORE: PARTICULARS AND DISCUSSION

**Jack/N4YIC** – the chairman for the past several years, led a discussion of the possibilities and ideas that we should be pursuing for the future success of the Manassas Hamfest. Discussed were the ideas of having a two-day affair (more cost for the Fairgrounds) and not really enough "staffing" from the club. Also discussed was the possibility of changing the date so as not to coincide with other Hamfests on the East Coast. Also, there was a thought of sharing the responsibility with another club – (which would also mean sharing our profits).

A motion was made and seconded to form a Hamfest Committee that would meet (other than at the regular monthly meeting) to further discuss and come up with a plan and to pick a group of people who can carry out these plans. That Chairperson would then make monthly reports to the club on the progress.

### Jack, N4YIC added the following notes regarding alternative dates for the hamfest as an addendum to the official minutes:

Keith Johnson, Fairgrounds General Manager, confirmed that we will be allowed to change, without penalty, any Hamfest dates we have already contracted for, as long as there are no conflicts with future dates already contracted for by other parties.

Keith Johnson also advised there would be an additional fee of \$1,500 imposed if we opt for a two-day Hamfest. We would then pay a total of \$4,500 for Fairgrounds rent, plus a \$300 cleanup fee.

Jack presented a detailed list of potential alternative dates, citing reasons why most of them are not really feasible because of other established Hamfests we would be competing with. There are a couple of reasonable opportunities, however, and we will closely monitor and confirm activity throughout the coming Hamfest season before possibly deciding on a new Hamfest date.

In keeping with our "*Always The First Sunday In June*" track, we are currently contracted for a Hamfest on June 6, 2004, with an option to contract for another Hamfest on June 5, 2004. Jack opined that we should continue planning for our scheduled 2004 Hamfest, while observing all Hamfest activity for one more year. After the 2004 Hamfest, we should be well enough informed and in a position to declare a new Hamfest date for Manassas, if that is what the club membership decides to do.

Club President Ruth/KU4WH, announced that she will be establishing a new Hamfest Committee and is hopeful that a club member will volunteer to be the Hamfest Chair.

**50/50:** Mary Lu/KB4EFP won the 50/50 drawing. A total of \$24 was collected - \$12 going to the club.

The meeting adjourned at 2130 Eastern Time.

Submitted by Phil/AC4PL

## SUNSHINE CORNER

Happy Fall! Enjoy the cool days and crisp nights!

Happy Birthday to our friends: Phil AC4PL, Bob K0WYL, Doc W1IMX, and Erv KT4DS. Hope each one has a great day!

73 de Jan/KE4TMW

## Repeater News for September:

Butch/W4HJL and Karl/W4KRL took advantage of the cooler weather to spend the afternoon of September 17 completing the installation of the emergency battery system. They added battery backup to the 220-machine and to the controller that operates all the repeaters. All three repeaters plus the controller now have full battery backup. Each repeater has its own 155 Amp-hour industrial quality deep-cycle battery and separate trickle charger.

Despite the 80-degree temperature it was still hot, dry work in the small repeater building. Butch and Karl were ready to leave after getting the controller on the battery but Dwight/N4GSD came to the rescue with some much appreciated sodas. With this reinforcement they went on to connect the 220-repeater and test the repeaters on battery power.

Plans are underway to adjust the audio levels, reroute the coaxial cables, and do general cleanup at the site this fall. The shack is showing real improvement with the cleanup done by Jack/N4YIC and the mounting of the cavities by Steve/N4OGR.

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**Here are the details of that project from Karl, W4KRL:** Butch and I built a dc power distribution box that we mounted in the back of the 220-repeater cabinet. It is fed directly from one battery through #10 wire. There are #18 lines to the controller, the autopatch card, and two paralleled feeds to the 220 machine. We made a small modification to the power supply in the 220-machine by opening a link between R3 and D2. This removes the built-in trickle charger so that it won't interfere with the charger in the charger cabinet.

Since the controller and autopatch are always connected to the battery, the charger acts as the supply. I didn't measure the load current but the charger can supply 2 Amps. The charger brought the battery up to a full charge while we were there so the loads must be less than 2 A. The charger is set to "Mode 2" which allows it to serve as a supply and charger. Actually, all the chargers are set to Mode 2 even though the 2-m and 440 machines have no battery loads when in standby.

The 220-machine has a change over circuit built in. All we had to do was break the built in trickle charger circuit. The power switch on the front of the repeater will turn off the unit whether it is on line or battery power.

Only the modem is not connected to the 220-battery because it uses 9Vdc. W4KRL will make up a little regulator to take the battery voltage down to 9. Once that is installed the UPS unit in the cabinet can come out.

All batteries are fully charged, all are connected to their individual chargers, and each repeater has battery back up. Bring on the hurricane!

### 73, Karl

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**More details from Karl, W4KRL about a follow-on trip:** Butch/W4HJL, Karl/W4KRL, and John/WA1STU put the autopatch modem on battery backup and did some repeater testing on September 27. The modem is a 9Vdc unit so Karl built a small voltage regulator to feed the modem directly from the battery. Butch and John discovered an intermittent problem with the 2M-power amplifier.

**Details from Karl, W4KRL:** All three batteries are on the trickle chargers. They are all fully charged. The 2M and 440 batteries are pure backup. They feed the repeaters only when power is lost. No other loads are connected.

The 220-battery is on float. The charger doubles as the power supply for the controller and modem. The 220-repeater has a built in relay to connect the machine to battery power when line voltage is lost. Pulling the plug on the blue cabinet has no effect on anything (except the cooling fans) as the controller keeps operating on battery and the 220 machine switches over to battery.

There is a spare modified GE power supply in the shack. It is plug-compatible with the other GE supplies. I have the fourth at home ready for modification.

There is a 120 Vac fan and two fan grills I want to install on the charger panel. This is a lower priority job.

I need to install two connectors and a fuse in the battery cables. Low priority.

We need to raise the 2M-duplexer a few inches so that it clears the back door of the blue cabinet.

We need to replace the 120Vac feed to the blue cabinet, as it is too short.

We need to replace four male D connectors and audio-shielded cable running from the controller to the other repeaters. This is a high priority.

We need to do the coax clean up which is a big job.

### 73, Karl/W4KRL

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**More Follow Up from Butch, W4HJL:** Bob, Jack, and myself went to the repeater site this morning Monday the 29th, and confirmed that the 2 meter VHF amplifier is defective, burn resistors in final stages. I have removed the amp and have it at my house, all other systems fine, will check Internet for parts. Tks Butch W4HJL

**More Follow Up from Arthur/W1CRO:** George/KE2AM and Steve/N4OGR, visited the site several days after the VHF amplifier was determined to be OOC and replaced it with a spare that George had fixed up. During the installation and testing, Butch/W4HJL, arrived with a wattmeter and they found that the power output was intermittent on the replacement amplifier. But it was set up to transmit and the crew left (a very long, late night this was). The following day, George and the team returned for more troubleshooting. With more light (literally) and a fresh look, they discovered that the SO-239 connector on the installed spare was defective. It was replaced and we are on line again.

The failed amplifier also had a defective SO-239 connector, which has been replaced. The rest of the amplifier will be checked for failures and returned to ready status. In the mean time, Butch is repairing the second spare VHF amplifier, with spare power transistors taken out of a similar amplifier from the spares inventory at W1CRO's house.

Adjustments were made to the 220-repeater audio during this last visit. They will be redone soon to boost the received audio levels. A check on two meter received sensitivity will be made also, since signal reports from N8FK and W1CRO seem to confirm a slight "deafness" problem that may have inadvertently been introduced during maintenance.

### 73, Arthur, W1CRO

#### Late Breaking Repeater News From Butch via Arthur

On 10 October, Butch/W4HJL and Bob/K4HJF visited the site to tweak some more (Arthur/W1CRO arrived in time to help pack up the tools). The 440-repeater receive freq was checked, aligned, and is "right on the money". The 440-exciter was tuned up for transmit. The two-meter receiver was aligned (and W1CRO can hit the machine from home with a hand held again).

### 73, W1CRO

## FOR SALE

Kenwood 599D Twins, pre-WARC HF rig. Both the receiver and transmitter have the instructions and service manuals. Includes a microphone and the cable that allows the Twins to be used as a transceiver AND the matching external speaker. Good cosmetic condition and both pieces work. I haven't tried the transmitter on the air (it tunes up fine) but this is a sweet general-purpose receiver. I am selling these for **Harry/W4PVA**. They typically sell for \$450.00 or more on eBay or Eham. Asking \$375.00

Contact **Jeff Poulin/N1SN** at **703-361-5865** or email me at [N1SN@COMCAST.NET](mailto:N1SN@COMCAST.NET)

## ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration



(Oct 9, 2003) -- Registration for the ARRL Antenna Modeling (EC-004) course opens Monday, October 13, 12:01 AM EDT (0401 UTC), and remains open through Sunday, October 19. Class begins Tuesday, October 21. Those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future can sign up to receive advance word via e-mail of registration opportunities. To take advantage, send an e-mail to [prereg@arrl.org](mailto:prereg@arrl.org). On the subject line, indicate the course name or number (eg, EC-00#)

and the month you want to start the course. In the message body, provide your name, call sign, and e-mail address. Please do not send inquiries to this mailbox. To learn more, visit the [ARRL Certification and Continuing Education](#) Web page and the C-CE links found there.

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## ARRL Emergency Communications Course registration



(Oct 10, 2003) -- Registration opens Monday, October 13, 12:01 AM Eastern Daylight Time (0401 UTC), for the Level II Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-002). Registration remains open through the October 18-19 weekend or until all seats are filled--whichever occurs first. Class begins Tuesday, October 28. 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 50 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. Those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future can sign up to receive advance notification of registration opportunities.

To take advantage, send an e-mail to [prereg@arrl.org](mailto:prereg@arrl.org). On the subject line, indicate the course name or number (eg, EC-00#) and the month you want to start the course. In the message body, provide your name, call sign, and e-mail address. Please do not send inquiries to this mailbox. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education ([C-CE](#)) Web page and the C-CE Links found there. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager [Dan Miller, K3UFG](#), 860-594-0340.

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## Amateur to Turn in Ticket in Police Radio Interference Case



(Oct 13, 2003) -- The FCC says an Indiana amateur has agreed to relinquish his Amateur Radio operator license for two years as a result of allegations that he interfered with local police department radio transmissions. FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth outlined the terms of the agreement in a September 23 letter to Technician licensee Justin L. Whaley, KC9DCP, of Columbia City. According to the letter, the FCC notified Whaley last March that close-proximity direction finding evidence indicated

that the licensee had interfered with the operation of the Columbia City Police Department radio system early this year.

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## ARRL Rebukes FCC Commissioner's BPL-Related "Broadband Nirvana" Remarks



(Sep 25, 2003) -- The ARRL has strongly objected to FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy's suggestion that Broadband over Power Line (BPL) technology will contribute to what she described as "broadband Nirvana." Addressing the United Powerline Council's annual conference September 22 in Arlington, Virginia, Abernathy expressed unabashed enthusiasm for BPL and recommended a combination of regulatory restraint and the elimination or substantial modification of existing rules as steps along the "path to Enlightenment." In a terse response faxed today on behalf of the League's 155,000 members, ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, asserted that Abernathy overlooked some significant issues in her Nirvana analogy.

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## ARRL Contest Calendar

Date(s)	Contest	Links
<b>October</b> 18 - 19	ARRL International EME Competition	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>November</b> 1 - 3	ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)	
15 - 16	ARRL International EME Competition	<a href="#">Rules</a>
15 - 17	ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)	
<b>December</b> 5 - 7	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	
13 - 14	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	

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## ARRL Exam Session Search

This page will help you find a US amateur license exam session near you. Database last updated on Tue 14-Oct-2003  
21 found within approximately 100 miles of 20109

### **18-Oct-2003**

**Sponsor:** LAUREL ARC VEC

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** JOHN B CREEL  
(301)572-5124

**VEC:** [Laurel VEC](#)

**Location:**

384 MAIN ST  
LAUREL WOMEN'S CLUB  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
LAUREL, MD 20707

### **26-Oct-2003**

**Sponsor:** DULLES ARG

**Time:** 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)

**Contact:** MICHAEL E WEBER  
(703)450-2304

**Email:** [WB8RDN@ARRL.NET](mailto:WB8RDN@ARRL.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
21014 WHITFIELD PL  
NEXT TO EAST LOUDOUN REG LIB  
CLOSED SESSION  
STERLING, VA 20165

### **26-Oct-2003**

**Sponsor:** CARROLL COUNTY ARC

**Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** PHILIP KARRAS  
(301)831-5073

**Email:** [KE3FL@ARRL.NET](mailto:KE3FL@ARRL.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** MASON DIXON COMPUTER & HAMFEST  
AGRICULTURE CENTER  
\$12 TESTING FEE  
CALL AHEAD TO PRE-REGISTER  
WESTMINSTER, MD 21157

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### **01-Nov-2003**

**Sponsor:** BALTIMORE ARC

**Time:** 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** LORENZ W SCHAEFER  
(410)247-0578

**Email:** [N3WKE@ARRL.NET](mailto:N3WKE@ARRL.NET)

**VEC:** [Laurel VEC](#)

**Location:** BARC MTG & TRAINING FACILITY  
12360 OWINGS MILLS BLVD  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
MAY REGISTER FROM 1 TO 2 PM  
OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117

### **01-Nov-2003**

**Sponsor:** FREDERICKSBURG VE TEST TEAM

**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** EDWARD A FORMAN  
(540)439-0568

**Email:** [EFORMAN@EROLS.COM](mailto:EFORMAN@EROLS.COM)

**VEC:** [W5YI VEC](#)

**Location:** SALEM CHURCH LIBRARY-MTG RM B  
2607 SALEM CHURCH RD  
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUESTED  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22407

### **02-Nov-2003**

**Sponsor:** ARA RADIO CLUB

**Time:** 12:30PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** ROBERT E LONG  
(301)824-5132

**Email:** [RJLONG61@MD.NET](mailto:RJLONG61@MD.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** HAGERSTOWN SDA CHURCH  
11507 ROBINWOOD DR  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21742

**08-Nov-2003****Sponsor:** MOUNT VERNON ARC**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** JOHN L FORREST  
(703)971-3905**Email:** [WZ4A@ARRL.NET](mailto:WZ4A@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [Laurel VEC](#)**Location:** FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH-PARK IN REAR  
2723 KING ST  
DOOR@INTERSECTION OF CHURCH  
& ATTACHED SCHOOL BUILDING  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302**09-Nov-2003****Sponsor:** WARS & NSDXA**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** ALAN R MOECK  
(540)869-1117**Email:** [WA2RPX@ARRL.NET](mailto:WA2RPX@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)**Location:** LORD FAIRFAX COMM COLLEGE  
US ROUTE 11  
PRE-REGISTRATION URGED  
MIDDLETOWN, VA 22645**15-Nov-2003****Sponsor:** LAUREL ARC VEC**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** JOHN B CREEL  
(301)572-5124**VEC:** [Laurel VEC](#)**Location:**384 MAIN ST  
LAUREL WOMEN'S CLUB  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
LAUREL, MD 20707**29-Nov-2003****Sponsor:** AERO ARC**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** PATRICIA E STONE  
(410)687-7209**Email:** [AC3FAC3P@YAHOO.COM](mailto:AC3FAC3P@YAHOO.COM)**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)**Location:** WHITE MARSH PUBLIC LIBRARY  
8133 SANDPIPER CIR  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
WHITE MARSH, MD 21162**06-Dec-2003****Sponsor:** BALTIMORE ARC**Time:** 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** LORENZ W SCHAEFER  
(410)247-0578**Email:** [N3WKE@ARRL.NET](mailto:N3WKE@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [Laurel VEC](#)**Location:** BARC MTG & TRAINING FACILITY  
12360 OWINGS MILLS BLVD  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
MAY REGISTER FROM 1 TO 2 PM  
OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117**07-Dec-2003****Sponsor:** RAPPAHANNOCK VE GROUP**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** CURT R BARTHOLOMEW  
(540)720-2392**Email:** [N3GQ@ARRL.NET](mailto:N3GQ@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)**Location:** PORTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
2001 PARKWAY BLVD  
HTTP://WWW.N4NW.ORG/EXAMS.HTM  
STAFFORD, VA 22554**13-Dec-2003****Sponsor:** MOUNT VERNON ARC**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** JOHN L FORREST  
(703)971-3905**Email:** [WZ4A@ARRL.NET](mailto:WZ4A@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [Laurel VEC](#)**Location:** FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH-PARK IN REAR  
2723 KING ST  
DOOR@INTERSECTION OF CHURCH  
& ATTACHED SCHOOL BUILDING  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302**13-Dec-2003****Sponsor:** RICHMOND ARC/RAVE**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** PATRICK WILSON  
(804)932-9424**Email:** [W4PW@ARRL.NET](mailto:W4PW@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)**Location:** J SARGEANT REYNOLDS COMM COLL  
1651 E PARHAM RD-BLDG B  
WWW.W4PW.ORG (TO REGISTER)  
RICHMOND, VA 23228**14-Dec-2003****Sponsor:** WARS & NSDXA**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**Contact:** ALAN R MOECK  
(540)869-1117**Email:** [WA2RPX@ARRL.NET](mailto:WA2RPX@ARRL.NET)**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)**Location:** LORD FAIRFAX COMM COLLEGE  
US ROUTE 11  
PRE-REGISTRATION URGED  
MIDDLETOWN, VA 22645

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## Going Digital

W1CRO was finally catching up on an overstuffed "trash can" of mail recently and zeroed in on the Spring/Summer 2003 issue of **Hand-Ham World**. The article "*Oh, the things you can do!*" by Patrick Tice/WA0TDA, should be enough to get anyone rolling on the **digital modes** and **SSTV** too! IF you have the Hand-Ham World newsletter and haven't done anything with it yet, go find it and take another look. The short summary is: "{go to these websites" ... and download the software, help files and read the instructions and explanations. Then with a sound card interface **RASCAL**, **RIG-Blaster**, homegrown, etc) and a computer you can get hot on the digital modes, including packet. And some SSTV too! The last program listed will take care of that getting that on line.

<http://www.dxsoft.com/en/products/cwget/>  
<http://www.digipan.net/>  
<http://www.aintel.bi.edu.es/psk31.html>  
<http://www.qsl.net/mmhamsoft/mmsstv/>

neat CW capture and decode program  
freeware digital for PSK31  
PSK 31 page with suggested op freqs  
SSTV program (Not ATV .... SSTV)

So, all I need to do now is put a RASCAL together, load the software and find an antenna around here and I might FINALLY get on the air. Seriously. Some of these modes can do wonders for antenna challenged locations. I'll admit that you'll probably need a fairly good antenna and some power for SSTV, but the other modes **CW**, **PSK**, etc will surprise you.

Karl/W4KRL's little presentation got me going - how 'bout you?

73, Arthur/W1CRO

## Attention clubs: Time to check your ARRL affiliation status



(Oct 10, 2003) -- It's time for ARRL-affiliated clubs to check and update their ARRL affiliation status. Don't let your club affiliation lapse! To report changes in club data, visit "[The Affiliated Club Annual Report Form](#)" page on the ARRL Web site. Follow the instructions under the heading "How to submit an update for your club records." ARRL will update its club affiliation database as soon as it receives new data, and updated listings typically appear on the ARRL Web site within 24 hours. Renewing Special Service clubs should complete *Form FSD-7--Application for Renewal as an ARRL Special Service Club*. For more information, visit the [ARRL Club Companion](#) Web page or contact [Margie Bourgoin](#),

[KBIDCO](#), 860-594-0267.

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## Special Event Stations

**Mentor, OH:** Lake County Amateur Radio Association, N8BC. 1400Z **Oct 12-0200Z Oct 26**. State of Ohio Bicentennial Celebration. 28.410 21.310 14.310 7.235. QSL. LCARA, PO Box 868, Painesville, OH 44077-0868.

**Franklin, NY:** Otschodella Council Amateur Radio Group/Boy Scouts of America, KZ2BSA. 1800Z **Oct 17-2359Z Oct 18**. 46th Annual Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) at Foothills District's Fall Camporee. 18.140 14.290 7.270 3.940 3.590; PSK31. QSL. Fred, Stevens, K2FRD, 263 Keach Rd, Guilford, NY 13780. <http://home.stny.rr.com/k2frd/ocarg.htm>.

**Festus, MO:** Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club, KB0TLL. 1700Z-2000Z **Oct 18**. Great Ozark Chili Cook Out. 147.075 14.250 7.245. QSL. Lori Robinson, KB0WWQ, 3168 Old Hwy A, Festus, MO 63028-4743.

**Houston, TX:** Northwest Amateur Radio Society, W5NC. 1400Z-1700Z **Oct 18**. Saddle Up for SIRE, Houston's Therapeutic Equestrian Center. 28.444 21.350 14.250. Certificate. NARS-SIRE Special Event, PO Box 90387, Houston, TX 77090-0387. <http://www.w5nc.org/>.

**Lindsborg, KS:** McPherson Amateur Radio Club, W0TWU. 1400Z-2100Z **Oct 18**. Svensk Hyllningsfest Festival honoring the Swedish settlers. 21.280 14.280 7.280 3.928. QSL. Gerald Pelnar, 801 South Walnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

**Marcilla, NJ:** Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Association, N2UL. 1200Z-2400Z **Oct 18**. Camp Winnebago CQ Jamboree on the Air. 28.420 21.360 14.260. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

**Randleman, NC:** Tri-County ARC, NC4AR. 1330Z-1830Z **Oct 18**. 15th Annual NASCAR Days Festival. 14.279 7.268. Certificate. NC4AR, PO Box 747, Trinity, NC 27370.

**Coshocton, OH:** Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, W8CCA. 1900-2230Z **Oct 18-1700-2200Z Oct 19**. 147.045 146.535 28.450 14.275 7.275. Certificate. Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 501, Coshocton, OH 43812. <http://www.noard.com/ccara.htm>.

**San Ramon, CA:** Mount Diablo ARC, W6CX. 1600Z **Oct 18-1900Z Oct 19**. Pacificon Convention and the Boy Scout Radio Jamboree. SSB 28.390 21.360 14.290; SSTV 14.230. QSL. MDARC, PO Box 23222, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. <http://pacificon.org>.

**Stuart, FL:** Martin County Amateur Radio Association, K4ZK. 1400Z-2000Z **Oct 25**. Treasure Coast Vintage Car Club show. 21.255 14.255 7.255. Certificate. Ron Tagg, KD4PQQ, 8629 SW Tropical Ave, Stuart, FL 34997.

**Columbus, OH:** Central Ohio ARES, WA8RES. 1400Z-1900Z **Oct 25**. Ohio Bicentennial. 28.450 21.300 14.500 7.260. Certificate and QSL. Frank Piper, 496 Hillview St, Pickerington, OH 43147-1197.

**Binghamton, NY:** Roberson Kopernik Radio Club, K2OQ. 0000Z **Oct 25-2359Z Oct 26**. Roberson Museum's New Historic Train Exhibit. 14.270 3.901 7.275 7.038. Certificate. K2OQ at Roberson Museum, 30 Front St, Binghamton, NY 13905.

<http://www.rkrc.org/>.

**Brevard, NC:** Transylvania County Amateur Radio Club, K4HXZ. 1400Z-2100Z **Oct 31**. Halloween in Transylvania County. 28.335 21.365 14.295 7.237. Certificate. TCARC, PO Box 643, Brevard, NC 28712.

November

**Stuart, FL:** Martin County Amateur Radio Association, K4ZK. 1400Z-2000Z **Oct 25**. Treasure Coast Vintage Car Club show. 21.255 14.255 7.255. Certificate. Ron Tagg, KD4PQQ, 8629 SW Tropical Ave, Stuart, FL 34997.

**Columbus, OH:** Central Ohio ARES, WA8RES. 1500Z-2000Z **Nov 1.** Ohio Bicentennial. 28.450 21.300 14.500 7.260. Certificate and QSL. Frank Piper, 496 Hillview St, Pickerington, OH 43147-1197. <http://www.qsl.net/coares/events/WA8RES.html>

**Lafayette, LA:** Acadiana Amateur Radio Association Inc, KESLP. 1300Z **Nov 1-2400Z Nov 2.** Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.240. QSL. Roland Guidry, NA5Q, 118 W Betty St, Rayne, LA 70578. <http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>.

**Panama:** Radio Club de Panama, HP100RCP. **Nov 1-Nov 3.** 100 years of the Republic of Panama. All bands. QSL. Radio Club de Panama, PO Box 10745, Panama 4, Panama. <http://www.radioclubdepanama.org/>.

**Whitefish Point, MI:** Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society, N8F. 1700Z **Nov 7-1700Z Nov 9.** Remembering the *Edmund Fitzgerald*, lost November 10, 1975. 28.465 21.325 14.265 7.265. Certificate. Richard Barker, W8VS, 264 N East St, Brighton, MI 48116. <http://www.qsl.net/w8njh/>.

**Birmingham, AL:** D&G Amateur Radio Association, W4V. 1500Z-2200Z **Nov 8.** Celebrating the restoration of the Vulcan statue. 14.250. QSL. Daryl A. Isbell, W4DAI, PO Box 51, Alton, AL 35015-0051.

**Hackensack, NJ:** USS *Ling* SS297/10-70 Repeater Association, NX2ND. 1400Z-2100Z **Nov 8.** Honoring Veterans Day, and USS *Ling*, NX2ND, 3rd anniversary. 21.380 14.280 14.055 7.040. Certificate. Bill Satagg, KC2BLN, 38 Rutgers Dr, Oakland, NJ 07436. <http://www.10-70.org/>.

**Chandler, AZ:** Central Arizona DX Association, K7UGA. 0000Z **Nov 8-2359Z Nov 9.** K7UGA Special Event. CW up 32 kHz from band edge, SSB 5-10 kHz up from General class band edge, 6 m, WARC. QSL. CADXA K7UGA Special Event, PO Box 11042, Chandler, AZ 85248. <http://www.cadxa.org/>.

**Arlington Heights, IL:** Armored Force Amateur Radio Net, KA9NLX. 1800Z **Nov 8-2200Z Nov 11.** To honor military veterans. 21.375 14.325 7.283 7.040. Certificate. John Paskevicz, 1423 North Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

**Denton, TX:** Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, W5B. 1201Z **Nov 8-2400Z Nov 11.** Choctaws--The Original Code Talkers. 28.460 21.375 14.270 3.850. Certificate. Paul J. Cowan, 4056 Hartlee Field Rd, Denton, TX 76208.

**Baton Rouge, LA:** USS *Kidd* ARC/Baton Rouge ARC, W5KID. 1500Z-2300Z **Nov 11.** Veterans Day. General class bands, 14.250 to 14.320; CW QRP subbands. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS *Kidd* Museum, 305 S River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

**Bellevue, NE:** Strategic Air Command Memorial Amateur Radio Club, K0AIR/K0GR. 0600Z-1800Z **Nov 11.** To recognize Veterans Day and Curtis E. LeMay's birthday. 28.347 21.347 14.247 7.247. QSL. SACMARC K0AIR/K0GRL, PO Box 1292, Bellevue, NE 68005. <http://www.sacmarc.org/>.

**Fort Monmouth, NJ:** Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Association, N2UL. 1200Z-2400Z **Nov 11.** Labor ARS remembers those who served our nation. 28.420 21.360 14.260. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

**Albuquerque, NM:** Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club, N5VA. 1500Z **Nov 11-0300Z Nov 12.** Veterans Day from Albuquerque VA hospital. 28.560 21.360 14.260 7.260. QSL. Tom Lea, 1009 Clancy Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112. <http://www.qsl.net/albuquerquearc/index.html>.

**Guthrie, OK:** Edmond Amateur Radio Society, K5EOK. 1400Z-1900Z **Nov 15.** Celebrating OK Statehood Day. 28.389 21.289 14.289 7.289. QSL. Edmond ARS, PO Box 48, Edmond, OK 73083-0048.

**Lakeland, FL:** Lakeland and Tampa Amateur Radio Clubs, W4B. 1300Z-2200Z **Nov 15.** Gulf Ridge Council BSA Bi-Annual Council Camporee. 28.425 21.320 14.265 7.265. QSL. Bill Bode, 14302 Capitol Dr, Tampa, FL 33613.

**Disneyland, CA:** Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Service, WD6MM. 1700Z **Nov 15-0000Z Nov 19.** Celebrating 75 Years with Mickey and Minnie Mouse. 28.375 21.375 14.275 7.275. Certificate. Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Service, c/o Archie Willis, 9276 Borden Ave, Sun Valley, CA 91352.

**Prescott, AZ:** Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, K7NRA. 0100Z-1000Z **Nov 17.** 132th birthday of the National Rifle Association. General Class frequencies. QSL. Mike Campbell, K7NRA, 404 Lampliter Village, Clarkdale, AZ 86324.

**Watson Lake, Yukon Territory, Canada:** North Country DX Association, VY1/K7ICE. 1700Z **Nov 17-2300Z Nov 23.** ARRL November SS Contest (phone) and USI 10th Anniversary. 28.450 14.250 7.250 3.950. QSL. John Reisenauer, PO Box 4001, W Richland, WA 99353.

**Attleboro, MA:** Sturdy Memorial Hospital ARC, W1S. 0000Z **Nov 19-2359Z Nov 23.** Sturdy Memorial Hospital ARC's 25th anniversary. 21.400 14.300 14.050 7.250. Certificate. Sturdy Memorial Hospital ARC, 64 Scout La, North Attleboro, MA 02760. <http://www.w1smh.com/>.

**Columbus, OH:** Central Ohio ARES, WA8RES. 1500Z-2000Z **Nov 22.** Ohio Bicentennial. 28.450 21.300 14.500 7.260. Certificate and QSL. Frank Piper, 496 Hillview St, Pickerington, OH 43147-1197. <http://www.qsl.net/coares/events/WA8RES.html>

**Franklin, TN:** Williamson County Rescue Squad ARC, W4F. 1500Z **Nov 22-2300Z Nov 23.** Civil War Battle of Franklin. 28.480 21.380 14.280 7.280. QSL. W4SQD, PO Box 408, Franklin, TN 37065.

**New York City, NY:** Monster Island Amateur Radio Society, W2W. 0000Z **Nov 23-2400Z Dec 4.** 40th Anniversary of *Doctor Who*. 28.348 21.348 14.240 7.248. QSL. Monster Island ARS WW2MI, c/o Barry A. Schwartz, N2SHP, 52-15 65th Pl Apt 1C, Maspeth, NY 11378-1310.

**Hyder Island, AK:** US Islands (USI) Awards Program, KL7USI. 1700Z **Nov 25-2300Z Nov 28.** 10th anniversary of USI. 28.460 21.360 14.260 7.260. QSL. John Reisenauer, PO Box 4001, W Richland, WA 99353.

**Plymouth, MA:** Whitman Amateur Radio Club, WA1NPO. 1400Z **Nov 29-2000Z Nov 30.** The first Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts. 28.360 14.270 7.250 3.890. Certificate. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382.