

The OVH ARC Newsletter
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
FM Repeaters - W4OVH - 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+
D-STAR Repeater - W4OVH - 442.5125+
OVH Packet - Port 1: 145.730 Mhz, Port 3: 223.540 MHz - Sysop: Bill/N4SV
<http://www.w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

Renew your OVH
membership now!

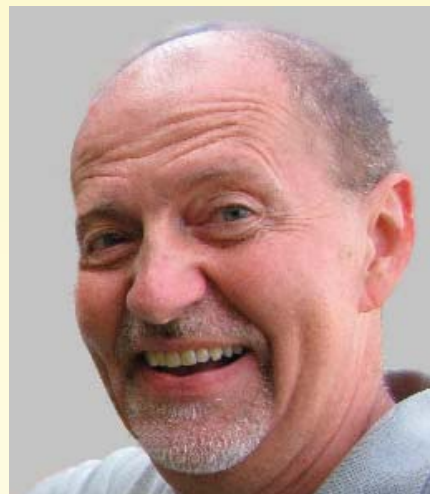
December 2010

Next Meeting: Monday, December 20, 2010

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all, at the time of writing this letter the OVH Christmas party is still in the future, consequently there is no feedback yet.

On November 21st the OVH volunteered to help Brian (WC4J) with antenna removal work. Brian asked several clubs in the area to help him. Even though Brian is not a member of the OVH, in the spirit of Hams helping Hams, the OVH was there in force. Gene (N4HFW), Joe (KI4OHR), Bob (K4HJF), Keith (KM4AA), Wayne (AG4ZZ), Dwight (N4GSD formerly AI4II), and yours truly were there on behalf of OVH to do the job. I have to tell you this act of kindness did not go unnoticed. Brian was very thankful. More so, he said in his time of need the OVH were the only club responding to his call for help. Once again the OVH has exceeded all expectations despite past issues we came out and helped a fellow Ham. Again I find my self very proud to be part of this outstanding organization. Thank you all that supported this effort.



The OVH Christmas Party will be held on this coming Saturday, December 18th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at my QTH. We have received lots of RSVPs and looks like it's going to be a great event again this year. Hope to see you all there. More information can be found on the OVH web page.

The DV-Board project is still on the back burner until time allows, hopefully soon after the New Year.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party and at the next regular OVH meeting on Monday, December 20th at 7:30 p.m. the Red Cross in Manassas.

73 George K4GVT and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Sunshine Corner:

Very happy birthday wishes to Jeff / W4JWX, Clarence / K4CNM, Scott / KJ4VTO, Ken / W5AOC, Ross / N4RP, Trisha / KI4PCM, Dianne / KI4FVV, Bill / N4SV, **Cont'd on Page 3**

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	George Tarnovsky	K4GVT	791-5956
Vice Pres:	Wayne Kline	AG4ZZ	791-2100
Secretary:	Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3556
Treasurer:	Gary Gilham	WG4ARC	932-1118

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdel	W4HJL	369-2877
Art Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451

WEEKLY NETS

Thursdays - 8:00 PM	JOHN H	257-3566
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HAMFEST 2010

Chris	KI4POT	361-3257
Bruce	AB8CI	361-8873

FIELD DAY 2010

John	KG4NXT /	257-3556
Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3556
Wayne	N7QLK	393-8447

CLUB ROSTER

Blaine	KB4RKL	369-2877
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
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ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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F.A.R. REPS.

Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234
Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877

FINANCE

Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877
Joe	KI4OHR	369-2639
Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Bill	N4SV	590-9562
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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JOTA

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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LEGAL

Pete	KB4RME	369-2436
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Bruce	AB8CI	361-8873
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PACKET

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562

PROGRAMS

TBA

WINTER FIELD DAY 2011

Joe	KI4OHR	369-2639
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PUBLICITY

Trisha Wells	KI4PCM	335-1096
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844

W4OVH / W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3556
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

George	K4GVT	791-5956
Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939

All tel. numbers listed 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 © 2010 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday of the month at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and all other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also always be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.97 & 224.660 Mhz. Up to date information about OVH activities and meetings is also available on the OVH web site at <http://www.w4ovh.net>.

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Approx. Circulation - 170.

Last Rev: 11/5/2010

Charles / WA1FFX and George / N4XSL, hope your celebration is a wonderful one.

Thank you to Mark / WA4KFZ on conducting another successful Tech class on top of several earlier ones this year. Also congratulations to all the new hams and thanks to our Volunteer Examiner (VE) team for a job well done!

Thank you to George / K4GVT and his wife Evelyn for once again hosting our Holiday party at their home on Saturday, December 18th.

Thanks too to our club members who turned out to help at the Manassas Park Light Parade.

I think it's safe to note that 2010 was a busy year for the club and it looks like 2011 will be just as busy!

The first club event of the new year will be Winter Field Day. Contact Joe / KI4OHR for questions or to let him know you can participate!

Just a reminder, the Thursday night net is going strong at 8:00 p.m., please join us on the OVH repeater! If you would like to be a net control just let John / KG4NXT know.

A very happy Holiday and prosperous New Year to you and your family!

Please send me your news to kg4tvm@hotmail.com or call 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting November 15, 2010:

George / K4GVT called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 26 OVH members and 1 guest.

John / KG4NXT presented a program on sending email via Winlink.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the October meeting were approved as read

Treasurer's report was given by Gary / WG4ARC, report was approved as read.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Theresa / KG4TVM presented applications for Steve Duren / KJ4YHA, Robert Cole / KJ4SDD and Richard Shannon (no call sign yet) to be voted on. All 3 were voted in.

ARES – Steve / N4OGR reminded us about the Manassas Park Christmas Light Parade and asked for volunteers; also wanted to know if we would like to put a float in the parade.

D-Star/Repeaters – Keith / KM4AA reported no change; George / K4GVT has received the cables for the duplexer and he needs to schedule time to do the work. See New Business below for additional Repeater related business.

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Training – Mark / WA4KFZ just finished a Tech class with 10 students, the VE exam will be Wednesday, November 17th at the Red Cross Building in Manassas; Mark thanked the Red Cross for use of the training room.

Hamfest – George / K4GVT is still looking for a chairperson for the 2011 Hamfest, he has already been in contact with some vendors already; Steve / N0DWB and his wife Lisa will work on the postcards.

Field Day – Also needs a chairperson for next year.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa / KG4TVM reported the birthdays for November, thanked our Veterans; let us know that Butch / W4HJL had surgery on his ankle and Happy Thanksgiving!

Membership Renewals - Art / W1CRO asked for people to provide their 9 digit zip code on their renewal membership applications.

BREAK

NEW BUSINESS

Repeater - Work is needed on the tower, the climbers close \$80 per hour and we have to pay for 2 for 10 hours; replace antenna for 2 meters and 440; George / K4GVT will donate 440 Antenna. Motion to allocate up to \$3,000 for hardware and labor for 2 meter and 440 antenna replacement at NOVEC site; Approved as read.

D-Star 2 meter allocation – George K4GVT let us know that the funds allocated may not be used since there is no frequency; George moved to leave the funds allocated until further research can be completed.

Christmas Party – the date has been changed to Saturday, December 18th, still at the QTH of George / K4GVT, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

John / KG4NXT let everyone know the date on the invitations (already mailed out) for the Christmas Party is not correct, but there will be a sticker on the back of each envelope with the new, correct date. George / K4GVT asked for the club to donate \$100 for food items for the party, this was approved.

Steve / N4OGR let us know that the NRA Special Event is November 17th commemorating the 139th birthday of the NRA.

George thanked Bob / K4HJF, Al / KB4BHB, Gene / N4HFW and Butch / W4HJL for helping with the installation of Bob Voss' / K9OYD's tower; Bob donated \$3000 to the club for their help. [See some pictures of that work in process later in this newsletter.] George also let us know that Brian / WC4J has asked for help to take down towers and antennas on Sunday, November 21st.

Mystery Box/50-50 – George / K4GVT won the Mystery box which collected \$4 and John / KG4NXT won the 50/50 of \$6, John donated his winnings back to the club.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, February 5, 2011, Frostfest, Richmond, Virginia. More info at <http://frostfest.com> This excellent hamfest got frosted out by the blizzard in February, 2010.

OPERATING EVENTS AND CONTESTS

Saturday, January 29, 2011 - Sunday, January 30, 2011, OVH Winter Field Day. Mark this on your calendar. This is being organized and coordinated again this year by Joe / KI4OHR. Set up will begin on Saturday morning and take down on early Sunday afternoon. Check with Joe / KI4OHR, the OVH web site and next month's OVH Newsletter for more information.

There are many operating contests almost all of the time. The excellent web site maintained by WA7BNM lists most of them! See <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

OVH CHRISTMAS / YEAR END PARTY

Saturday evening, December 18, 2010 at the QTH of George / K4GVT and his wife, Ev. If you don't know how to get there, get the address from QRZ.com and driving directions from Google Maps. Everyone is invited, potluck food and refreshments. Lots of fun!

PUBLIC SERVICE / TRAINING / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://www.pwcares.org> for latest updates. David maintains a comprehensive calendar for upcoming events at that web site.

Tower Construction / Operation - Recent Books

Active hams almost always want to improve their station performance and capabilities; improving an antenna system is almost always one of the most effective ways to accomplish that. In theory, constructing a tall tower provides a straightforward means to improve many types of antenna systems. However, constructing a durable, tall tower presents a host of mechanical, electrical, safety, cost and construction issues. The best way to learn about tower construction has always been by consulting with someone who had considerable experience with towers - someone who had "been there, done that." Two such individuals have recently written books on this subject.

In 2010 the ARRL published "Amateur Towers for Radio Amateurs - A Guide for Design, Installation and Construction" by Don Daso, K4ZA. Another recent (2009) book addressing this subject is "Up The Tower - The Complete Guide to Tower Construction" by Steve Morris, K7LXC, Publisher: Champion Radio Systems. Although the subjects addressed are similar in each book, anyone considering putting up a tower should, in this reviewer's opinion, get and read through both books despite overlap in coverage. "Up The Tower" is organized into 36 chapters, each relatively short and focusing on a very specific topic area. Checklists and a few references are provided - enough usually to point one in the right direction to seek further technical information, for example, by web search. "Amateur Towers for Radio Amateurs" is a longer text, with a lengthy appendix and more drawings and illustrations; it provides a good overview of all issues as well as lots of specifics, including specific references to earlier ham radio and industry publications.

The main shortcoming in both books, in this reviewer's opinion, is the relatively terse treatment of how to select / design optimal rotating antenna system(s) for use on specific tower(s).

In November, 2010, OVH volunteers assisted in installing a concrete base for new tower at the QTH of K9OYD near Manassas, Virginia. The following pictures (worth a 1,000 words) show what was done.



Continued on next page



**<<<< To the Left:
The Tower to be installed on the base.**

RE M I N D E R



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!!
Below is the 2011 Renewal Application.

Please fill out the form below (for database), attach your check
and mail to the address below or drop off at a meeting.
Be sure to update all information, especially e-mail address and
9 digit ZIP

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB" 2011

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

CALL SIGN: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____
BIRTHDAY: _____

ARE YOU PRESENTLY AN ARRL MEMBER? (YES/NO)
ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER EXAMINER: (YES/NO)
DO YOU WANT YOUR PHONE NO. LISTED IN THE OVH ROSTER? (YES/NO)
WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT LICENSE CLASS? _____

Dues are now **\$10.00** per year and payable on January 1, 2011
Dues for additional family members **living at the same mailing address** are **\$5.00**

AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS:

Name: _____
Name: _____

Call: _____
Call: _____

Return to: Treasurer, OVH
P.O. Box 1255
Manassas, VA 20108-1255