

The OVH ARC Newsletter
OLE VIRGINIA HAMS™ AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
OVH FM Repeaters - 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+ & 443.500+
OVH D-STAR Repeaters - W4OVH - 146.865- & 442.5125+ (now temporarily out of service)
Web Site at <http://w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

Renew your OVH
membership now!

December 2015

Next Meeting: Monday, December 21, 2015

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all and I hope this message finds you healthy and in good holiday spirits.

Let me begin this column with condolences on behalf of the Ole Virginia Hams, to the family and friends of our sorely missed club member, recent silent key, Alan McCormick / WA2GTT. Alan, a long time OVH member, was very well liked by almost everyone who knew him; he had a deep and long term love for ham radio, especially, early radio equipment. At our May 2015 OVH meeting he gave a superb presentation about his recently refurbished a Zenith Transoceanic Radio. We all will miss him on the air and at our club meetings and events, including his soft voice check in at our weekly net. More about Alan in Remembering Alan / WA2GTT later in this Newsletter.



For those who were unable to attend the OVH's annual Year End/Christmas party held at the Yorkshire Restaurant on December 13th, you really missed out! The place was filled up and there was plenty of great food and good cheer to go around. On that note, three cheers for Theresa / KG4TVM for coordinating this event again. It was also an opportunity to meet some of the significant others of our members / operators. More details on this later in the Newsletter and in photos posted. I hope to see you there next year.

Again this year, OVH members supported the long running City of Manassas' Christmas Parade on December 5th. Special thanks to George / K4GVT and Clarence / K4CNM for coordinating and leading this effort with the City of Manassas. Those who participated got an early breakfast, and enjoyed the nice weather and the parade. Some pictures later on.

Coming up next month, we've been asked to participate at the HayMaker STEM Expo at the Battlefield High School on January 23, 2016; more details will follow, but those who can't wait should contact Ed / KK4PHP for information now.

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Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Wayne Phillips	N7QLK	393-8447
Vice Pres:	Clarence Meese	K4CNM	791-6424
Secretary:	Byron Dillon	AK4XR	222-2095
Treasurer:	Terry Erlacher	KC4DV	571-292-1490

DIRECTORS

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

WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time	JOHN / KG4NXT	257-3566
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HAMFEST 2015 - Chairman

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
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FIELD DAY 2015 - Co-Chairs

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KM4ABL	753-7863
Byron	AK4XR	222-2095

CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Clarence Meese	K4CNM	791-6424
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ARES - EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	703-628-3868
email: KG4GIY@ARRL.NET		
Prince William County ARES website	http://pwcares.org	

FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490

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

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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JOTA

Scott	KB8NUM	365-2642
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LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	KJ4FDK	361-4885
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PROGRAMS FOR MEETINGS

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435

W4OVH — TRUSTEE

Stu	W4PR	335-5267
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W4PVA — TRUSTEE

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Bill	N4SV	590-9562
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939
David	KG4GIY	628-3868

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 © 2015 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday. In July, 2014, and is held in the Main Conference Room in the Manassas Public Works Building, 8500 Pubic Works Drive, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend without obligation. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz. The OVH's two D-Star repeaters on 146.865- and 442.5125+ MHz are temporarily off the air due to maintenance work beyond the OVH's control. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeater 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>

Articles and quotations in the OVH Times newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the OVH ARC and any other noted source. Proposed materials for publication including pictures, articles, letters to the editor, classified ads, notes about specific errors, complaints or the like are solicited from all readers. Forward such items to the OVH Times Newsletter Editor: PAUL@W4ZB.COM as soon as available at any time, but the cutoff deadline for the OVH Times each month (usually the second Monday of the month) may preclude publication/correction until the following month.

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Clarence / K4CNM is putting out a tentative schedule for the Mini-Tri events for 2016; notices about Mini-Tris have often gotten to OVH members who might otherwise participate at the last moment. No more: watch the email reflector and Newsletter for more details.

Speaking of the New Year - 2016, please remember that this means that the time for OVH membership renewal is here again. The OVH greatly appreciates your membership, support, and participation and urges you to renew your membership again right away. For those with an active interest in ham radio, the dues are very modest. Nevertheless, , but needed for the Club's operation. Details about how to renew are on the OVH web site and a renewal form for 2016 appears later in this Newsletter.

At our upcoming final club meeting for 2015 on Monday, December 21st, Gordon / NQ4K will present details about the 2016 Virginia QSO Party which will be held in March; that annual event is always a lot of fun for all who participate.

I hope to see you at that meeting, Monday, December 21st at 7:30 pm at the Manassas Public Works, 8500 Public Works Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

Keep the thoughts and ideas coming to me at: N7QLK@ARRL.net.

73 Wayne N7QLK

Sunshine Corner:

Ending the year with lots of candles, Happy Birthday wishes in December to: Clarence / K4CNM, Shannon / KK4NMR, David / KJ4EPF, Ed / KK4PHP, Ross / N4RP, Dianne / KI4FVV, Bill / N4SV, Mike / KI4SNE, Peter / KM4CJI, Alan / KD4KBX, Paul / KD8PQF, Byron / AK4XR, Charles / WA1FFX, David / KK4ZUU and George / N4XSL.

Thanks so much for all the toy donations for Toys For Tots, we really had an outstanding contribution to the community. Thank you also for attending our Year End / Christmas / Holiday Party on December 13th, the fellowship & food were tremendous!

Thanks to George / K4GVT and Clarence / K4CNM for organizing the OVH's participation in communications support for the City of Manassas' Christmas Parade. No one could have asked for nicer weather in December!

Thanks to Steve N4OGR for putting together a crew to help at the Manassas Park Parade and again great weather, we are on a roll here!

As everyone has probably heard by now Alan / WA2GTT passed away on November 24th. Most of Alan's family lives in Delaware but they had his memorial service here in Manassas. Many of you sent messages of condolence on the reflector and to me on facebook I copied every one of the messages and put them all into a word document and sent them to the family. It did mean a lot to them to get your messages. A special thank you goes to Jeff / WB6UIE and Rosalie / W-I-F-E for opening up their home to Alan's now orphaned cat, Buster. Also, as most of you know, Alan had a lot of radios – ham radio as well as antique radio, almost all in near perfect condition. The family is making plans to sell the equipment off so if you are interested in purchasing something, please let me know.

Hamfest planning meetings are in full swing for the 2016 Hamfest, please contact Terry KC4DV and let him know how you can help.

Looking back at 2015 we have been a very busy club! 2016 is looking to be just as busy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our house to yours!

73 Theresa KG4TVM email: kg4tvm@hotmail.com

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting

November 16, 2015:

OVH club President, Wayne / N7QLK, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held at the Manassas City Public Works Building in Manassas, Virginia.

After the Pledge, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 22 OVH members and 5 guests in attendance.

BUSINESS MEETING

Treasurer's report – Terry / KC4DV gave the report; motion by Terry / WA5NTI to approved the Treasurer's report as presented. Al / KB4BHB seconded the motion. Motion passed by vote of all members in attendance.

Minutes from the October meeting were sent out in the newsletter. Motion to accept October's minutes with corrections to the Training Report, to indicate that all of Mark's students did not attended the VEC Session by John KG4NXT. Sandy KM4JUS, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Membership –Bill Lesser / KM4KWX, who was read in last month, was voted on and passed. Luther / KJ4FDK, then read in three new applications: Don Meyerhoff / KM4HRG; Tony Ohe / KM4KLB ; and Richard (Dick) Jacob / No Call (yet). The three will be voted on next month.

ARES – The ARES event at Marine Corps Base Quantico this Saturday is ham radio support for the Turkey Trot. Stations will be posted at the start/finish, at each of the six-mile markers, at the two water points, and as the event coordinator's shadow. If you would like to help out contact Clarence / K4CNM or David Lane / KG4GIY

Repeaters- no formal report though everyone present agreed that all repeaters seem to be working except for the D-Star repeaters which are being / will be reinstalled.

Training - Mark / WA4KFZ reported that the classes are finished and some of his former students are attending our club meeting. Mark is looking into a possible "What next class" for those new ham trying to find out what to do with their new licenses. There was some discussion on asking if we could use the smart board in the conference room for possible classes in the future.

Scholarship- No report.

Hamfest – Terry / KC4DV will have at planning meeting for the 2016 Hamfest on December 3rd. More details as to where will come out on the email reflector. All are welcomed to attend.

Field Day- 2016 Field Day is still looking for a Chairman.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa / KG4TVM wished Wayne / N7QLK a Happy Birthday along with everyone else who had a birthday in November. Also she wished our Veterans a Happy Veterans Day, and everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Alan / WA2GTT is still recuperating and would like receive visitors or a telephone calls. Contact Theresa at KG4TVM@hotmail.com for more details.

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The OVH's annual Year End / Christmas / Holiday Party will be held at the Yorkshire Restaurant on Centreville Road on Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 pm. The restaurant will be providing the main courses (Turkey and Ham). Bring a potluck side dish or salad. Also bring an unwrapped toy for "Toys for Tots". Contact Theresa with any questions at KG4TVM@hotmail.com. Yes, there will be venison chili.

The City of Manassas' annual Christmas Parade is held on the morning of Saturday, December 5th this year at the usual location in downtown Manassas. If you would like to help out with communications support, contact George / K4GVT. Also, please plan to bring a reflective vest if you have one. There are some to borrow at the parade. It's a lot of FUN and there will be a free breakfast and a hat for each participant.

JOTA- No report, next JOTA event will be in Fall 2016.

4-H – Terry / WA5NTI reported that the 4H is getting ready to support the Youth Lounge at the Hamfest again in 2016. They are getting things together and could use some help from members in the two ham radio clubs, OVH and Woodbridge Wireless, which support the Youth Lounge. Contact Terry / WA5NTI at 3t3@comcast.net to participate or for more information.

Old Business: More early Hamfest volunteers needed and a Field Day chairman is needed.

BBHN - Clarence / K4CNM reported that another BBHN Workshop was held on Saturday, November 14th at the Central Library with 15 attendees, 4 who were new. One of the attendees was Andre Hansen, K6AH, one of the main programmers of the Linksys router BBHN firmware. He is the current program manager for AREDN - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Net. He presented discussions about many of this current projects and observations about both BBHN and AREDN. The best take-away was his announcement that BBHN and AREDN are currently cooperating and that each program is currently compatible with the other.

Several hams showed off their BBHN equipment and projects. The most impressive was that of Ken / KE2N (going foot-portable) and Mark / WA4KFZ (going mobile) with their AREDN equipment and connecting back to the workshop. Ken was about half a mile down Mathis Avenue (near the intersection with Liberia Avenue) and Mark drove about a mile down Mathis Avenue (near the intersection with Sudley Road) and both were able to connect back to the library. They were using channel -2 (that is correct: channel "minus 2"), which is available to hams only, and not congested with commercial or consumer user router traffic.

Following are the several URLs for more BBHN related information which Clarence passed around during the OVH meeting: <http://qrz.com/db/K6AH> <http://www.aredn.org/> and <http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/announcing-aredn-the-amateur-radio-emergency-data-network.471965>

BREAK

50-50 - Sandy / KM4JUS won the drawing and donated all of it to the scholarship fund.

W4PVA License – Arthur / W1CRO reported that as a director of the OVH, he was able to get the W4PVA license renewed.

Theresa / KG4TVM made a motion to adjourn, seconded by ;Jeff / WB6UIE. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

UPCOMING HAMFESTS:

Saturday, February 6, 2016, Richmond Frostfest Hamfest in Richmond, Virginia. More info online at <http://frostfest.com> First "local a" Hamfest of the year - a couple of carloads for OVHers usually drive down to Richmond for this early in the morning so ask around if you need a ride.

Sunday, March 20, 2016 - Vienna Wireless' Winterfest at the close by George Mason University Annandale Campus in Fairfax County. OVH usually has a table at this Hamfest.

OVH HAMFEST COMMITTEE MEETING:

Early January 2016, evening in Manassas, date, time and place to be announced for the Fourth Hamfest Committee meeting for the June 2016 Manassas Hamfest. Check the OVH email reflector for more details, date, time and place. All are welcome to attend.

SCIENCE FAIR TYPE TECHNICAL RELATED EVENT:

Expected Date: Friday, January 23, 2016, at the Battlefield High School, Haymarket, Virginia: The HayMaker STEM Expo. Contact Ed / KK4PHP for information and watch the OVH's email reflector for more details.

SPECIAL HAM RADIO EVENTS:

Third Thursday evening each month - AMRAD meets in McLean, Virginia - meetings usually consist of high level amateur radio related technical presentations on specific topics. Check the <http://amrad.org> web site for upcoming topics, and exact dates, times and places.

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.

REMEMBERING ALAN / WA2GTT †

First, a few of the comments sent and received

I am very sad and heartbroken to report that Alan / WA4GTT passed away peacefully at the Prince William Hospital in the evening on November 24, 2015. The card for Alan that many of our club members signed at the November 2015 OVH meeting was delivered to him the day after that meeting and he very much appreciated it. He definitely knew we were all thinking of him. Theresa / KG4TVM & John / KG4NXT

Echoing Theresa's comments, Joyce and I were both shocked to hear Alan had passed away unexpectedly. He will be sorely missed. Arthur & Joyce / W1CRO

So good of you and John to go and see him. Prayers for all. Kristen Saul / NoCall

Alan and I were good friends. Butch / W4HJL

Sad news indeed. He will be missed. Richard / KI4KXJ

Our deepest sympathy to family and friends. I will always remember his soft check-in on the Thursday night net. Wayne / N7QLK

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A true gentleman was Alan, on and off the air. His knowledge and love of working with and refurbishing the older ham equipment was well known. A ham's ham...a great loss to the hobby. I count myself lucky to have known him. Bill / N4SV

This is so sad. My condolences to everyone in his family. 73 Mark / WA4KFZ

Always enjoyed talking with Alan. Sad times when one of our senior hams passes. John "Z" / WA1STU

That is sad news indeed. David / KG4GIY

Alan was a kind man and will be missed. Rest In Peace WA2GTT- Terry / KC4DV

This is very sad news. My condolences go out to Alan's family. He will be missed by our OVH family. George / K4GVT

Our condolences to Alan's family - Lisa & Steve / N0DWB

Alan was always friendly and very well liked by just about everyone who knew him or had dealings with him, and he will be missed by everyone. His unfortunate passing at a relatively young age of 68 demonstrates again that life can be too short for many. Paul / W4ZB

Alan's orphaned cat Buster has been adopted by us and he is doing nicely in his new home, with his new cat friend, Minnie. Jeff / WB6UIE & Rosalie / W I F E.

Some Pictures from the Memorial Service for Alan and Past OVH Pictures of Alan





The Saturday, December 5, 2015 Event: The CITY OF MANASSAS' CHRISTMAS PARADE
Many OVH Members provided communications support for this event, Pictures of some of them appear below



A Few Pictures / Images from the December 13, 2015
OVH Year End / Christmas / Holiday Party



Continued on page 11



Happy Holidays
and
Merry Christmas to all!

REMINDER



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!! Below is the 2016 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, including your e-mail address, telephone number(s) and nine digit ZIP

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB" 2016

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

CALL SIGN: _____
Home Tel: _____
Cell Tel: _____
Work Tel: _____
EMAIL: _____
BIRTHDAY: _____

ARE YOU PRESENTLY AN ARRL MEMBER? (YES/NO)

ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER EXAMINER: (YES/NO)

MAY YOUR TELEPHONE NOS. BE LISTED IN THE "Members Only" OVH ROSTER? (YES/NO)

WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT LICENSE CLASS? _____

Dues are now **\$20.00** per year and payable on January 1, 2016. Dues for each additional family member living at the same mailing address are \$10.00. Dues for a full time student at the college undergraduate or lower level [list school attended and grade or level: _____] are \$10.00.

AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS:

Name: _____
Name: _____

Call: _____
Call: _____

Return to: **Treasurer, OVH**
P.O. Box 1255
Manassas, VA 20110-1255