

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+ (temporarily - limited functionality)

Web Site at <http://w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

June 2018

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 19, 2018

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

June started out as a very memorable month. The rain, the 44th Manassas Hamfest, and the rain. It truly will be one we will be talking about for years.

I am grateful for all the club members that volunteered for the Hamfest and Field Day. Don / WA2SWX did a fantastic job as chairman of his first Hamfest and I hope many more. He and his team made it look easy. Please check out Don's remarks on the club web page. I really enjoyed myself at the Hamfest this year, maybe because I actually got to purchase some things this year, but probably from the camaraderie (which means fellowship, I had to look it up the spell it correctly). The "many hands make light work" is really true in this case. A few pictures from the Hamfest appear below.



In one instance Deb (the vendor), commented on how great it was to have help bringing their inventory in from their vehicle. In between setting up and waiting for the vendors to arrive I had many conversations with club members which I find enjoyable since I always seem to learn something new about the hobby. Thanks to Jay / N4QT, I learned some things about APRS that I didn't know. I have been trying it out ever since I found out that 2 of my radios (Yaesu and Kenwood) have APRS on them. Jay / N4QT will be using APRS during his Field Day in California later this month to let us know when he is on the air so we can try to contact them. Yes, it is possible to send messages to individuals using APRS.

Speaking of Field Day: it is coming up on June 23rd and 24th. It will be at the Nokesville Park again this year. This is the activity I really enjoy the most. Getting out there and setting up the antennas and all the equipment is interesting and fun. If you are new to the hobby I recommend that you come out Saturday morning to help with the setting up. It is truly a learning experience. It seems like no time before we are ready. Oh I forgot

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Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Byron Dillon	AK4XR	222-2095
Vice Pres:	Jeff Fuller	WB6UIE	791-5916
Secretary:	Sandy Knight	KM4JUS	930-8164
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 2018 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2017 s

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Open

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
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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CO-WEBMASTERS — W4OVH.NET

Kevin	KX4KU	540-439-3289
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651

TWITTER & FACEBOOK ACCOUNT MODERATOR

Jeff	KM4FTK	830-4155
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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JOTA - 2018

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	WA3FMO	361-4885
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PROGRAMS

Jeff	WB6UIE	791-5916
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KE2N	753-8587
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042

W4OVH — TRUSTEE

Stu	W4PR	335-5267
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W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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SCHOLARSHIP

Sandy Knight	KM4JUS	930-8164
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Ken	KE2N	753-8587
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
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 © 2018 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Tuesday at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, 7190 Yates Ford Road, 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 operating with limited D-Star capabilities. 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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something, lunch is served at some point while we are setting up. Hamburgers, hotdogs and bratwurst, and all the trimmings. I can hardly wait. There is something about good food, good company and good conversation, about you know, amateur radio. We usually are ready by the time 2:00 pm arrives and the race for contacts begin. The potluck dinner will be at 5:00 pm on Saturday. I am always amazed by the CW operators. Each year as I watch them the desire to learn CW grows, maybe this will be the year. Operating is a lot of fun too. Breaking through the pile ups to make the contact is a great feeling. I hope to try a digital mode too.

This Field Day we will be having a Fox Hunt as part of the educational activity. John / KG4NXT will provide the fox (transmitter) and he and Gil / KM4OZH, put together 5 yagi antennas that can be used with an assortment of HT's. If you have your own 2 meter or 70 cm yagi bring it along. If you don't have a HT one can be borrowed from the club members.

Don't forget the Field Day dinner on Saturday evening! Bring your family (and other ham radio friends) for dinner and then they can try out the fox hunt.

I hope to see you at the upcoming meeting on June 19th at 7:30 pm in the conference room at the Buckhall Fire Station, Manassas and at Field Day on June 23 / 24.

73 BYRON AK4XR

Sunshine Corner:

Happy Birthday wishes in this June for: Jan / KE4TMW, Jim / KM4SXM, Emma (No Call), Steve / N4OGR, Derrick / KV4SH, Doris / KI4DAL, Rosemary / KI4SND, Wayne / AG4ZZ, Gene / N4HFW and Bob / K4HJF. (Sorry if I missed anyone - I'm taking a break, see below!)

Despite the dire weather prediction of rain, and actual rain during part of the day, the Manassas Hamfest on June 3rd was still well attended, although not nearly as well as it would have been had there been no rain in the forecast. Special thanks to the event chairman Don / WA2SWX for coordinating and organizing all aspects of the Hamfest and to all of the Club's members who volunteered and assisted with this event to make it a success.

Butch / W4HJL has been recovering very well and was active at the Hamfest and in very good spirits - notwithstanding his recent interactions with doctors, surgeons and hospitals.

The ARRL / OVH 2018 Field Day is almost here - it will be on the Saturday and Sunday during the weekend of June 23rd and 24th this year. Aside from the ham radio operating activities and events during Field Day itself, this is also a major OVH club social event, especially the potluck dinner at 5:00 PM on Saturday evening. OVH provides the main dishes and drinks. Everyone (members and non-members), including family and friend of ham radio are invited; Byron / AK4XR [email: ak4xr@dillonelectric.com] is chairman for this event again this year, and a good time is promised for all. Even if you are unable to stay for very long, plan to stop by at Field Day site at the pavilion at the Nokesville Park at least for a while during the event. Check the OVH's Thursday Night VHF net and the email traffic on the OVH's closed email reflector for the latest details about the upcoming Field Day.

Yours truly is taking a break from the Sunshine Corner in June and July due to a build up of work at work! Will be back with you in the Sunshine column in

Continued on page 4

August; of course, I expect to see many of you at other club events in the meanwhile!

Please try to check in to the Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net. You will hear updates and information on everything going on! How to do that is on the OVH web site at <http://w4ovh.net>. You will find us on the 146.970 and 442.200 FM repeaters at 8:00 PM every Thursday evening.

Also, please check out the OVH's club web site (W4OVH.NET) and Facebook (W4OVH) and Twitter (W4OVH) pages for up to date information. Also, be sure to monitor emails originating from the OVH's closed email reflector system on which all members may post.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on May 15, 2018:

OVH President, Byron / AK4XR, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the main conference room in the Buckhall Fire Station, Manassas, Virginia.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 19 OVH members and 1 guest in attendance.

Presentation by Don / WA2SWX on uBitx software defined radio

BUSINESS MEETING

Membership – Luther / WA3FMO, Membership Chairman, made a motion to vote in Robert / N0DGN, Gene / KN4JMB and Jack / KN4HHQ. John KG4NXT seconded the motion, all approved.

Minutes from April meeting – Luther / WA3FMO made a motion to approve with no changes, seconded by Jay / NQ4T, all approved

Treasurer's report – Terry / KC4DV was out of town and had his report to Byron / AK4XR who read it to the group.

ARES – Andy / KJ4MTP gave a report on the Warrior Ride which took place during the weekend just before this meeting.

Repeaters – Ken / KE2N spoke about and described the upgrades that will allow people to check into the net from any location; John / KG4NXT mentioned that Charlie / WA4YGI was able to check in from Lake Anna; Al / KB4BHB asked that everyone attending give the repeater committee a round of applause.

Mark / WA4KFZ is planning to host an online “What Now?” event for newly licensed ham radio operators; he will be working on putting that together soon.

Hamfest – Don / WA2SWX held the last pre-event planning meeting last night, reminded everyone that we need baked goods for the bake sale table; Don will get flyers & post cards to Mark / WA4KFZ so he can distribute at the Dayton Hamvention later in May.

Jeff / WB6UIE congratulated Kevin / KX4KU and Jay / NQ4T for coming up and ordering business cards for the OVH. These will be very helpful as handouts at future events.

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Web page – Kevin / KX4KU reported that he and Andy / KJ4MTP has been working on the membership list that is posted on the web site

4-H – they will be at Hamfest for the Youth Lounge again this year.

New business – Al / KB4BHB was given a single axel camper and truck shell for anybody that might be interested. Contact Al.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa announced May birthdays and also thanked the club for her appreciation dinner/

No 50/50 was held

Old Business – Mark / WA4KFZ announced that there will be a mesh network event on June 10th at the Bull Run Park in Fairfax County, this event is open to anyone interested in attending.

Field Day – Byron / AK4XR will hold one more planning meeting before Field Day; the educational activity will be a Fox Hunt after dinner on Saturday; bring an HT 7 arrow antenna if you have one available

Motion to adjourn at 8:16 PM and the meeting was adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS

June 30, 2018 (Saturday) - Firecracker Electronics Expo and Hamfest, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. This is the biggest annual hamfest in central Pennsylvania - about a two hour drive away. See the flyer later in this newsletter or go to <http://w3uu.org>

August 5, 2018 (begins at 7:00 AM until afternoon) Sunday - The 68th Annual Berryville Hamfest sponsored by the Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club at the Clarke County, Virginia Fairgrounds, Berryville, Virginia. This always a well attended mid-summer hamfest about an hour drive from Prince William County - numerous OVH members usually attend it. For more info, see the 2018 Berryville Hamfest flyer later in this newsletter.

HAM RADIO RELATED:

June 23rd - 24th, 2018 (Saturday & Sunday) - ARRL / OVH Field Day at the Pavilion at the Nokesville Park on Aden Road, Nokesville, Virginia. Setup and testing will begin in the morning on Saturday, Field Day radio operating begins at 2:00 PM local time, and continues (non-stop) until Sunday afternoon when tear-down will occur. Those desiring to operate HF radios (Voice, CW and digital modes) will have plenty of opportunities to make contacts with thousands of other stations throughout the USA and Canada who are participating. Food will be served, Lunch and Dinner on Saturday, Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday. The potluck dinner on Saturday at 5:00 PM is a big event - OVH provides the main dishes and drinks. All OVH members (and families and ham radio friends) are invited to attend this major OVH social event. Even if you can't stay for very long, be sure to stop by to enjoy the fun and talk with other club members.

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AMRAD meets monthly 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 which have been changing around recently.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

The ARRL has a Contest web page at its web site, but a much more comprehensive, up-to-date, and long range planning contesting calendar with links to the rules for the various events is maintained by WA7BNM at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal>. If you get the radio contesting bug or just want to find out what and how much is going on, that is a good place to look!

PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

Also, always check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcares.org> for the latest ARES 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.

VP's Corner

Jeff Fuller
WB6UIE

I'll begin this month's column with a thank you to Hamfest Chair Don, WA2SWX, and his team of volunteers. They worked tirelessly to fill the vendor hall, provide a top notch series of drawing prizes, and schedule some interesting presentations like the wireless weather station by OVH member W4KRL (<http://www.w4krl.com>). Those who helped carry those big wooden tables during setup and cleanup can testify that there was also quite a bit of physical labor involved. Unfortunately this year there was one obstacle we couldn't clear - the weather. Pouring rain most of the day really put a damper on attendance and resulting revenue. We'll hope for better luck next year.

Recruiting is up with several new members joining the club over the last two months. Some, like myself, started hamming as youngsters and are returning years later to enjoy the hobby once again in retirement. Others are newcomers and recent graduates of Mark's fine work at the school house. When you see one of them, please take a moment to introduce yourself and welcome them to the club.

Field Day will be here soon - the weekend of June 23rd this year. More details and map coming soon... Designed as an emergency preparedness exercise, Field Day is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and get to know your fellow club members. Come for the camaraderie, stay for the food. Hope to see you there!

ARRL / OVH FIELD DAY — for beginners and newcomers

The first ARRL sponsored Field Day was held in 1933, and a Field Day ham radio event has been held every year since 1933 - except during World War II when amateur radio operations were suspended.

Field Day was originally conceived as an emergency radio operating test or preparedness event. As a result, many Field Day participants set up temporary stations (sometimes with multiple transmitters) powered by emergency generators in tents or other temporary locations with portable or temporary antennas. Other participants operate from their home stations. One of the main objects of the radio operating portion of Field Day is to contact as many other Field Day participants throughout the USA and Canada as possible during the Field Day operating period. In recent years, there have been approximately 30,000 ham participants in the USA and Canada each Field Day so there are many, many stations available to contact for short radio exchanges.

During an OVH Field Day event about ten years ago, an OVH operator contacted at least one station in each of the States of the USA. Quite an accomplishment! Normally, the OVH Field Day operation makes several hundred contacts with stations in 40 or more of the States and many of the Canadian provinces.

Many of the organized Field Day operations pre-register with the ARRL which maintains a web site which shows the station locations. See, <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> where you can find W4OVH

Over time, Field Day has developed an elaborate set of rules and regulations. These are important [See, <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2018/2018-Field-Day-Packet-Complete-Rev-6-June-18.pdf>] to some but are not particularly important for first-timers who are simply looking to have fun. The local organizers make sure that the rules are followed and often try to organize operations during Field Day to maximize “points” earned according to latest the Field Day rules.

The OVH usually selects a nearby Field Day venue such as the Nokesville Park off of Aden Road, Nokesville, VA. At the Nokesville Park, the OVH has again reserved the Pavilion there for its base of operations this year. The Pavilion is an excellent location which provides good cover in the case of rain. Some members camp overnight in tents on the nearby grounds.

The OVH Field Day is an excellent opportunity to operate radio, meet and talk with other hams in the club and enjoy plentiful food. All members, member family members, and other friends are invited to attend. Everyone has a good time. The OVH also puts on an educational program and provides activities for non-hams or others who don't want to operate radios. This year there will be a Fox Hunt - hunt for a hidden VHF transmitter beginning at about 6:00 pm on Saturday. Radio operators are always needed, especially over night. Some number of the more dedicated OVH members will be there from start to finish. Plan to attend Field Day at the Nokesville Park Pavilion even if just for an hour or a few hours!

Some Possibly Useful or Interesting Information

1. Software Defined Radio Academy. The SDR based in Europe has a Youtube Channel with a series of technical lectures by hams about Software Defined Radio, each 20 min. to 1 hour in length. Almost all of them are in English and are well produced. Worth checking out to learn more about Software Defined Radio. Look at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1GAlgAQRkjeeLmIkCB8pgQ>

2. The 2018 Contest University - which took place in Dayton, Ohio just before the Dayton Hamvention, already has the slides from its lectures posted. Check out <https://www.contestuniversity.com/files> These are very good. Unfortunately, no audio from the lectures - maybe next year the audio will be recorded too.

3. The K0NR.com web site blog has some interesting observations about why the new FT8 mode has become so popular so quickly.

4. Low priced, ham radio transceiver kits - save money and learn something by assembling the kit yourself: BITX kits at <http://hfsignals.com> ; QCX (single band CW) kits at <http://qrp-labs.com>

A few pictures from the 2018 Manassas Hamfest



W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club 47th Annual



Saturday June 30th 2018



FIRECRACKER

Electronics Expo and Hamfest
Harrisburg Area Community College

Fire Training Grounds

3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, PA

- ◆ Covered indoor Commercial Tables Available
- ◆ Largest Tail Gate / Electronic Flea Market in Central PA
- ◆ Hundreds of tailgate spaces available
- ◆ New and refurbished equipment dealers on site
- ◆ ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest
- ◆ Great Food (Breakfast and Lunch)
- ◆ Meeting room available for clubs and discussions
- ◆ DXCC & WAS cards checked on site until 10:00 am

W3UU
146.16/76 MHz
PL 100 Hz

Special Event
Station
In operation at the
Convention

General Admission: \$5.00 (Non
ham XYL & kids under 12 free)

Tail Gating: \$5.00 per space

Tables: \$12.00 each before June 1
\$15.00 on or after June 1

General Admission: 8:00 AM

Dealer Setup: Hamfest Day 6:00 AM

Prior Day 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (Strictly enforced)

For further information contact:
Web Site: www.w3uu.org

Table Sales
Joe Stepansky (KQ3F)
KQ3F@comcast.net
717-329-1906

General info
Tim Lehman (KB3OZA)
PO Box 453
Hummelstown, PA 17036
KB3OZA@arrl.net 717-461-3398

General info
Terry Snyder (WB3BKN)
PO Box 355
Halifax, PA 17032
717-979-9515
Wb3bkn1@gmail.com



The Shenandoah Valley
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST



68th Annual Berryville Hamfest

Sunday, August 5, 2018

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds
890 W. Main St., Berryville, VA

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



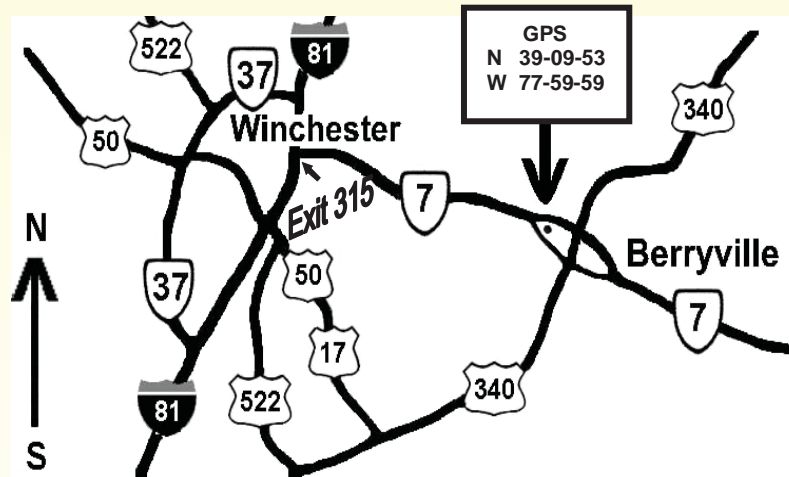
DONATION \$10.00, children under 16, free

- ADDITIONAL \$10.00 FOR A TAIL-GATE SPACE (First come, first served)
- INDOOR VENDOR TABLES BY RESERVATION (see below)
- SPECIAL HOTEL PRICE: HAMPTON INN (1204 Berryville Ave, Winchester 540-678-4000)
- \$15.00 FOR A CAMPER SPACE~~ RURITAN RULES: **NO Pets, Pornography, or Weapons**

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



VE Exams will be given by the **Laurel Amateur Radio Club VE Team of the LARC VEC** at the Cooley School – opposite the Hamfest. Walk-ins are welcome. Testing begins at 12:00 noon. A 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.svarc.us/hamfest>

For more vendor information, contact: John (WD4GEK) or Elizabeth (W4EHC) Cottrell
BerryvilleHamfest@gmail.com • Phone: 540-436-3818 • If no answer: 540-333-0837