

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 -- 145.030 Port 2: 223.660 (SysOp Use Only) Port 3: 223.540 MHz
BBS--BBSNVA/N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)

<http://www.qsl.net/olevahams>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

NOVEMBER 2000

Next meeting: November 20, 2000

**Committee Chairperson's!!!! Need your input for
the Newsletter!!!**

(Editor)

Message From One of the Directors

Greetings to All OVH Members:

It appears that fall is finally here and Christmas is just around the corner. It's time for everyone to settle down on these long evenings and tune up that transceiver for a little DX .

We are approaching the end of 2000, and there is still work to be done. The OVH Amateur Radio Club has two major events during the month of December. The first of those is Manassas Christmas Parade, one of our major public service events. The parade takes place on the first Saturday in December, and our radio support certainly contributes to the success of the parade. If you are going to be in the area that weekend, please lend your assistance to this effort.

Also during December, OVH will be holding a VE session at the Manassas Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. So those members who are thinking of upgrading their licenses, should start studying for that new license.

Remember that the next meeting is Monday, November 20th at the Northern Virginia Electrical CO-OP in Gainesville at 2200. Hope to see you all there.

73 John (N4YOB)

**"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"
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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 sameade@erols.com

Letters to the Editor and Classified Ads are accepted and welcome. Approx. Circulation - 170

Minutes of the OVH Meeting

16 October 2000

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Art Wittum/KW4AW acting as Chair.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs.

Attendance: 14 Members and 4 Guests.

The past month's minutes and current financial status were approved by the membership.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Jeff Poulin/KV4AP - Gerald (Jerry) Engman/WB3IWY, was voted in - Welcome!

Training: Bill Hinely/K4WRG - We are getting good publicity and turn out. 8-10 people attended the initial class and more have shown interest in attending. The class runs through the 12th of December with the VE session scheduled to occur on the 16th of December. Also, Bill brings to our attention that there are a variety of videos available from the ARRL on various topics that might be of interest.

VE Session: Art Whittum/KW4AW - Keith cannot lead the effort for the VE session scheduled for the 16th of December, but Ruth/KU4WH is willing and working the lead. A locale is needed to host the session (suggestions include the Bennett School and the Manassas Campus of NVCC.) If you know a VE that is willing to help us out, have them contact Ruth.

Repeater: Art Whittum/KW4AW - We still have 3 going strong. 2M amp still needs work. There is talk of another packet node.

ARES: Art Whittum/KW4AW/Brian Cochran/KE4NFK - Brian passes on his thanks to all those who helped out with the Bike tour on the 30th. Next year there will be water stops. **Jeff/KV4AP** passes on the information that there will be a basic (Level 1) **Skywarn** class at the **National Weather Service's** Sterling Office from 9 am to 12:00 Noon.

JOTA: John Fritch/N4YOB - The **Jamboree on the Air** (JOTA) will be held on Saturday October 21st with setup on Friday before starting at 1600h. The actual operation will begin at 0800 for the operators and the Scouts will begin at 0900. There will be 3 HF rigs operating.

New Business:

The issue of a **club banner/logo** was introduced by **David Lane/KG4GIY**. Logo ideas are posted on the web site. Club members are invited to submit suggestions or their own ideas. Also the issue of participating in the Manassas City **Christmas Parade** was raised by **Brian Cochran/KE4NFK**. Brian will look into the issues and what is involved. David also mentioned that we might consider participating in the Manassas City Fall Festival as well.

The evening presentation was **QRP**, presented by "**Les Wattly/ (CEO of What's At Hand Technology, Inc.)** - standing in for **Daniel James/AE4HS**. It was a great presentation with lots of hands-on QRP building experiences.

The meeting was not formally adjourned as everyone was busy building QRP rigs. The next meeting is Monday November 20th and **John Fritch/N4YOB** will Chair.

SUNSHINE CORNER

Happy Birthday to our Ham friends born in November! – **Butch/W4HJL, Charlie/WA4YGI, Gene/KD4RHC, Ken/KM4UH, Michael/N4REI, Joseph/KD2RO, and Joe/AB4QV.**

I am glad to report that **Mary Lu's** back is doing better now -- she had hurt it about the time of the last meeting. Please continue to keep her in your good thoughts!

Also, please keep **Charlie/WA1FFX** in your good thoughts, as he had surgery on November 1st. We hope he's well on his way back to good health!

Have a great Thanksgiving, and a great fall!

73 de Jan/KE4TMW

OVH Members Smoke Up the Place for October

Many thanks to **Professor Les Wattly/AE4HS** for the fine presentation on homebrew and QRP at the October OVHARC meeting. The Professor had enough QRP equipment to start a radio supply house. Also to **Bob/W9JOP** and **Joy Chapman/KA9TTB** for bringing Bob's **Tuna Tin 2** up for our enjoyment and inspection. Bob has 31 states confirmed with the TT2 since April. When he turns his dipole, the other 19 states ought to fall right in line.

Four teams of OVH-ers pressed the limits of endurance during the program. Our goal was to construct a 40 meter transmitter, using '**Manhattan style**' construction, and make it "beep" before the meeting ended. Most of the teams were close to finishing but we ran out of time and had to assign the final solder joints as 'homework.'

All of the kit materials, including schematics and instructions, were provided by the Professor who rallied the teams and provided advice and help throughout the evening. Thankfully, no one was burnt and no animals were injured during the making of this event.

73, Art/KW4AW

Christmas Parade

Brian Cochran/KE4NFK is heading up this year's Christmas Parade support. Normal staffing for this event calls for up to six or seven checkpoints and a net control. Each location needs at least two people and the net control needs two plus two rovers to work with the parade committee. Please contact Brian and let him know you can help. More info will be published as soon as we get it.

73, Art/KW4AW

"Quick and Dirty Hearing Aids"

A recent shopping trip to one of "Dollar Tree/Dollar Store" shops in Manassas resulted in many treasures to cart home. One of them a little package marked "**Audio Accessories Stereo Earphones**". The earphones are of the "ear bud" variety; complete with spare ear sponges and a 7.5mm adapter plug (in addition to a four foot cord with the normal 3.5mm plug. 32 ohm impedance, but close enough for transistor outputs. Can't beat it for a buck! These things should be great for weekend field trips, field days and any QRP adventure. And for a dollar, if you forget where you put 'em ... it won't spoil your weekend. Back to the Dollar Tree/Dollar Store for another set.

The shops are also a good source for little plastic containers to store parts and "stuff".

73, Art/KW4AW

ALL-HAM CREW SETTLES IN ABOARD ISS

The all-ham crew of US astronaut and ISS Expedition 1 Commander William "Shep" Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, now is aboard the International Space Station. After blasting off from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan October 31, the crew arrived at the ISS early November 2 aboard a Soyuz vehicle that will remain docked with the space station.

"Give us a fast ship," Shepherd--a Navy captain--was quoted as saying before the launch. Shepherd, 51, is only the second US astronaut to go into space aboard a Russian launch vehicle. The Soyuz lifted off from the same launch pad where the space race began 43 years ago last month with the launch of the Sputnik 1 satellite.

Not long after arriving aboard the ISS, Shepherd asked for and was granted at least temporary permission to dub the new space outpost "Alpha."

In a NASA interview, Shepherd said the ISS will give humans "unique access to the space environment where we hope we can do very interesting and productive research." But he and

the other Expedition 1 crew members also say they view the ISS as a stepping stone on the pathway to human habitation of space.

"If we don't have this progress with this space station, it means that humans in space are pretty much destined to stay close to the Earth, and I don't think that's what humans are about," Shepherd said.

The Expedition 1 crew's four-month stay in the station will begin the permanent human habitation of space. NASA said the crew's first tasks would be to activate the station's food warmer, set up the sleeping quarters and perform communications checks with flight controllers in the US and Russia.

"This is a huge, huge event," said US Astronaut Frank Culbertson, who directed the joint US-Russia program to put American astronauts aboard the Russian Mir space station in the 1990s. Culbertson is set to command a space station mission of his own next year. Yuri Semenov, who heads the Russian Energia company that built the Russian ISS modules, called it "a historical, remarkable day."

The crew has a busy schedule that primarily involves getting the ISS up and running for future research activities. Amateur Radio operation is not expected to commence until mid-month, although the crew is said to be enthusiastic about firing up the initial Amateur Radio on the International Space Station--or ARISS--gear. Once installed temporarily aboard the Zarya module, the equipment will provide FM voice and packet capability on 2 meters.

Tentative operating frequencies are: Worldwide downlink for voice and packet, 145.80 MHz; worldwide packet uplink, 145.99 MHz; Region 1 (Europe) voice uplink: 145.20 MHz; Region 2 and 3 voice uplink, 144.49 MHz. Crew members may use their personal call signs or one of the "club station" call signs issued for ISS use--NA1SS, RZ3DZR, or DL0ISS.

The Keplerian elements bulletin from ARRL now includes data for the International Space Station.

Expedition 1 is scheduled to leave the station next February, when the three-member Expedition 2 crew arrives on STS-102. When it's completed in 2006, the ISS will be one of the brightest objects in the night sky and be as roomy as a jumbo jet.

For ARISS information and updates, visit the ARISS Web site, <http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.

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