

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.qsl.net/olevahams>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

MAY 2003

Next meeting: May 19, 2003

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

(Editor)

Greetings to all OVHers,

In Spring, an OVH's fancy turns to the Hamfest. Yes, it is that time of year once again. On Sunday, June 1st, we will be having our club's premiere event at the Prince William Fairgrounds. We are still in need of your help in order to make the Hamfest a success. On Saturday, May 31st, we will be setting up the Fairgrounds for the "show". We will be meeting for breakfast (courtesy of OVH) at the McDonalds restaurant near the Fairgrounds at 8 AM. Set up is usually finished by noon. On Sunday, we will need volunteers for the front and rear gates as well as in the tailgate parking area. We cannot have a successful Hamfest without YOU! So, please come out and help.

The next OVH meeting will be held on Monday, May 19th, at the NOVEC Technical Center in Gainesville, VA. In addition to the Hamfest matters, we will be awarding our annual scholarships to deserving local high school students. Also, a representative from the Prince William County Fleetwatch program will be present to talk about how those of us in the amateur radio community can help make our community a safer place.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

73 for now,

Ruth (KU4WH)

“OLE VIRGINIA HAMS”
Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA. 20108

OFFICERS

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 Vice Pres: John Heartney KG4NXT 257-3566
 Secretary: Phil Colling AC4PL 393-8658
 Treasurer: Bill South N4WJN 590-9562

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 Art Whittum KW4AW 791-4330
 Jack McDermott N4YIC 335-9139

WEEKLY NETS

Thursdays - 8:00 PM WB4ZOH (Ken) 361-3482

HAMFEST 2003

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FIELD DAY 2003

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 Art KW4AW 791-4330

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Blaine KB4RKL 369-2877

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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Brian N8FK 257-9545

ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David KG4GIY 361-3042

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 Mary Lu KB4EFP 369-2877

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Paul N2PJ 330-0796

LEGAL

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NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLINE

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PACKET

Alan KD4KBX 330-8844
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Ellie KF4NBO 361-8059

PROGRAM'S

TBD

PUBLICITY

Steve N4OGR 361-0008

O' MASTER

Steve N4OGR 361-0008

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 Butch W4HJL 369-2877
 Milt N4SN 369-7265
 Mike WV3H 753-9346
 Steve N4OGR 361-0008
 Alan KD4KBX 330-8844

REPEATER TRUSTEE

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SCHOLARSHIP

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SUNSHINE

Jan KE4TMW 257-0897

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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 kb4of@arri.net

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

Minutes of the OVH Meeting - 21 April 2003

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by **Ruth Frock/KU4WH**, President.

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

Attendance: 23 Members and 2 guests

The **program** was presented by **George Corron/AF4JH** on **station electrical grounding**. In brief, there are rules that have to be followed to successfully ground your station. Follow those rules. The rules come from the Uniform State Building code. Improper grounding resulting in problems are your responsibility.

There are **three types** of grounds, **Solid** (called effective by the ARRL) which contains no intentional impedance; **Effective** which contains up to 20% arrester impedance placed on the line; and **Impedant** which has some form of impedance placed in line. Article 810 of the **National Electric Code** contains the rules. Grounds **MUST** be number **#6 wire** (copper if going to earth). Grounds from **your rig** to the grounding bus must be **at least #10**. **Braid is better** than solid for **RF to the bus**. You **MUST** have lightning arrestors on your antennas. Thanks for the great presentation George.

The past month's minutes, with a correction to **Tom/WA2QAC's** call, and current financial status were approved by the membership.

Committee Reports:

Repeater: Art/KW4AW - Problem with the **repeater** was a **failure of the band pass filter**. It has been removed for repair. The **job of Chair of the Technical Committee and Repeater Trustee is available**. Please **contact Ruth** if you are interested in either position.

Education: Bill/K9ZD - This week is class 5 of 10. The last class will be about a week and a half before the Hamfest test session. Still 8 students. Enrollment is 12.

Hamfest: Jack/N4YIC - Jack needs someone to **take up the task of arranging for rear gate staffing**. **Front Gate** and **Tailgate** have coordinators. We are on course and **table prices** were **lowered** to **\$20** a table.

Membership: Charlotte/KG4QXO Dennis Wilson/KD4WGN was read in to be voted at the May meeting.

Field Day: Bill/K9ZD - Bill is **looking for operators** to work the **overnight hours**. If you are interested, please **contact him** so he can **block out the schedule** (k9zd@arrl.net). **Bill South/N4WJN** will provide a turnkey **802.11b networked logging system** this year. **Brian/N8FK** will head up and be the call on the **GOTA** station.

ARES: David/KG4GIY - Thanks to **Ruth/KU4WH**, **Mark/KG4JAM**, **Brian/N8FK**, **Phil/AC4PL**, **Art Pond/KD4FBT** and **Marc Spaziano/KG4UHO** for helping with the **MS Walk**.

Upcoming events are posted on the **PWC ARES** Web site (www.qsl.net/pwcares). Of note is the **NCAC institute, May 24th**. The morning will consist of **panel discussions** on **ARES/RACES**, lessons learned in the **LaPlata, MD tornado**, and how to **attract young people** to amateur radio. The afternoon will have two tracks, one on **handling NTS traffic**, the other on **directed net procedures**. There will also be a "**Science Fair**" of neat stuff and a discussion on incident command. You can sign up at <http://www.ncacdc.com>, and click on the **Institute link**. **Pre registration is encouraged**. **Cost is \$10**, which **includes lunch**. **MMT 100** is the weekend of the **10th of May**. **MS 150 Bike Ride** is the **17th**.

New Business

Jack/N4YIC requested \$700 for two new batteries for the repeater. The motion was passed.

Brian/N8FK motioned to **send the repeater(s)** back to **GE** for testing (in rotation). He was requested to **get more information**, including costs.

Steve/N4OGR requested **\$25** for a **mast support** for our **mobile mast**. This allows us to **use it** as a **tripod** as well as a **monopole**. **Motion passed**.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50.

Submitted for the Secretary by **David/KG4GIY**.

SUNSHINE CORNER

Congratulations to **Elizabeth/KG4NXV**, whose **freshman crew team** from **Thomas Jefferson High School** is the **state champion!** Her boat placed first in its class, and was over **10 seconds ahead** of the next boat at the **State Regatta**. Elizabeth's crew team now **moves on to national competition**. **Good luck and great job, Elizabeth!**

Happy Birthday to our friends and fellow Hams: **Blaine/KB4RKL, Mark/KG4JAM, Bill/WA4FIC, Craig/N4WUV, Nick/N3WG, John/KG4NXT, Bill/K9ZD, Bill/WB4KFU, David/KG4GIY, Bob/N4RL, Jack/N4YIC, James/W4JTP, Susan/K3SSP, Wesley/N5RTY, and Craig/WA3UFY**. Hope you each have a great day!

Congratulations to **John/KG4NXT**, who **upgraded to Extra** when I wasn't looking. **Good going!**

Get planning for **Hamfest** -- what to sell at the **OVH Table**, what to **donate** to the **Bake Sale**, who to contact to **volunteer where you can help the most** -- looking forward to seeing you there!

73 de Jan/KE4TMW

NCAC Institute is BACK!

The Institute is BACK! After several years, the NCAC Institute is back. New people coming into Amateur Radio since **September 11th** are especially **emergency communications conscious**. Renewed cooperation between the amateurs of Maryland and Virginia has resulted and the time is right to revive a successful training tool for all amateurs, but especially those in **ARES** and **RACES: The NCAC Institute**.

The Institute will be held on **Saturday, May 24th**. **Registration** will begin at **0800**, and the **first presentation** will start at **0830**. The **fee** will be **\$10** and **includes lunch**. In the morning, there will be a **series of keynotes** and **panel discussions** on **ARES** and **RACES organizations**, presented by the **leadership** of the **Maryland/DC** and **Virginia** sections, a discussion of the **La Plata tornado** and the **lessons learned**, and coverage of how we can increase the involvement of **young people** in amateur radio. The **afternoon** will break out into **two sessions** on related topics. In one track, **Mike Carr, WA1QAA, SEC for Maryland/DC**, will cover **NTS Traffic** handling in a **2-hour lecture/activity** format. In the second track, **David Lane, KG4GIY, EC for Prince William County and an ARRL CCE Mentor** will cover **directed net Procedures**, also in a 2-hour lecture/activity format. Following these two tracks, there will be a discussion on the **incident command system (ICS)**. Also during the afternoon, there will be a "**Science Fair**" of useful and **inventive solutions to common emergency communications problems**.

The Institute **will be held** at the **Alexandria Fire & EMS Academy**, 1108 Jefferson St. at the intersection of the Capital Beltway and Rt. 1 north (first exit into Va. from Woodrow Wilson Bridge). **Talk-in will be on 146.655**.

Directions from Beltway: north on Rt. 1 (Patrick St.), left onto Gibbon St., left onto Fayette St. which dead-ends into parking lot. Go to the end of the parking lot--Academy is on your left. Enter door nearest to bay doors.

Directions from the North via Rt.1 or G.W. Parkway: Turn right onto Gibbon St., left onto Fayette St. which dead-ends into parking lot. Go to the end of the parking lot--Academy is on your left. Enter door nearest to bay doors.

For pre-registration and more information, please see the NCAC web site at <http://www.ncacdc.com/>. **Pre-registration is required.**

David A. Lane, KG4GIY
EC Prince William County, VA
<http://www.qsl.net/pwcares/>

Fleet Watch Program

We're on for a Fleet Watch program Monday nite. Officer Varvaro will give us an update on Fleet Watch activities in the county, and a bit of a refresher. He also will have new bumper stickers and hand outs for us.

73 de Steve/N4OGR

IN BRIEF

* ARRL Emergency Communications course registration: Registration is closed for the Level I ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-001) that begins May 20, sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Registration opens Monday, May 12, 12:01 AM EDT (0401 UTC), for the Level II Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-002). Registration remains open through May 18 or until all available seats have been filled--whichever comes first. Class begins Tuesday, May 27. Thanks to a grant from United Technologies Corporation, the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the Level II course. During this registration period, approximately 50 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. A new service now allows those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future to receive advance word of registration opportunities via e-mail. To take advantage, send an e-mail to prereg@arrl.org. On the subject line, include the course name or number (eg, EC-00#). In the message body, include your name, call sign, e-mail address, and the month you want to start the course. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> and the C-CE Links found there. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, dmiller@arrl.org; 860-594-0340.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration for the ARRL Antenna Modeling (EC-004) course <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> opens Monday, May 12, 12:01 AM EDT (0401 UTC). Registration remains open through Sunday, May 18. Class begins Tuesday afternoon, May 20. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> and the C-CE links found there. For more information, contact Certification and Continuing Education Program Coordinator Howard Robins, W1HSR, hrobins@arrl.org.

* Turkish hams help following earthquake: Within hours after a deadly earthquake hit in the vicinity of the city of Bingol in southeastern Turkey on May 1, a contingent of Amateur Radio operators arrived on the scene. Amateurs, who traveled from Erzurum with a Civil Defense team, were able to reach the repeater in Erzurum--some 3210 meters above sea level--from some parts of the stricken city. From Erzurum, a Turkey Radio Amateur Club (TRAC) station relayed traffic via HF, said TRAC President Aziz Sasa, TA1E. Sasa says a three-person team from TRAC's Malatya Branch arrived at the disaster scene about 10 hours later and got an HF station on the air at the Incident Command Center. In addition, he said, two members from TRAC's Ankara Branch were deployed via a military aircraft with Civil Defense personnel. The Amateur Radio operation wrapped up May 4 along with rescue activities. "During the four-day operation a nationwide HF network was active," Sasa said. "As there is the fear of some further strong seismic activities in that particular region, we will try to arrange a VHF-UHF local area voice network there as quickly as possible." He said ham radio operators and equipment are scarce in the extremely mountainous area, but the elevation eases the installation of a VHF-UHF network.

All IN BRIEF items from The ARRL Letter, Vol 22, No 19