

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!

January 2017

Next Meeting: Monday, January 16, 2017

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings one and all, and I hope your New Year is getting off to a good start. Last year ended on a high note, with a few new licensees and a warm holiday party; what more could we ask for?

First order of business -- It's that time again where I'd like to remind all OVH members - who have not done so already - to renew his / her club membership(s) for 2017. The club needs the support of all of its members. A mail-in form to accomplish membership renewal appears later in this Newsletter; you can also renew (and pay) online at <http://w4ovh.net> under the Membership Application tab; or, you can pay at the upcoming meeting.

Next order of business -- OVH officer nominations are now being received; there will be a vote for new officers for 2017 at the February, 2017 OVH meeting. Please let the OVH directors know who you would like to nominate to run for the offices for 2017, and be sure your dues have been paid so you can vote.

The New Year 2017 is off to a fast start. I recently took the plunge and tapped out my first QSO with a straight key! Thank you John / KG4NXT and Al / KB4BHB; it did take a bit of nudging. My goal now is to get above 3.5 words per hour. Recently, Mark / WA4KFZ held another "Now What?" session to help answer questions that many newly licensed HAMS ask. This is invaluable; getting an initial license is relatively straight forward (book learning and memorization), but then, without any practical experience or mentors, not knowing what to do next can threaten to be a "show stopper." I've seen some suggestions



Cont'd on Page 3

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Wayne Phillips	N7QLK	393-8447
Vice Pres:	Ray Knight	KM4EKR	930-8222
Secretary:	Byron Dillon	AK4XR	222-2095
Treasurer:	Terry Erlacher	KC4DV	571-292-1490

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdell	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
----------------------------	---------------	----------

HAMFEST 2017 - Chairman

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
-------	-------	--------------

FIELD DAY 2016 - Co-Chairs

Ken	KD4VA	753-7863
Byron	AK4XR	222-2095

CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
--------	-------	----------

EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
------	--------	----------

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
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
---------	--------	----------

WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
------	------	----------

BROADBAND HAMNET (BBHN)

Terryl	WA5NTI	445-2801
--------	--------	----------

EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
------------	--------	----------

JOTA - 2016

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
------	--------	----------

LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
-----	-------	----------

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	WA3FMO	361-4885
--------	--------	----------

NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
------	------	----------

NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
---------	--------	----------

PROGRAMS

Jeff	WB6UIE	791-5916
------	--------	----------

QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
-------	-------	----------

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
-----	------	----------

W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
--------	-------	----------

SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
-----	-------	----------

SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
---------	--------	----------

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 © 2016 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday which 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.

Approx. Circulation - 170.

Last Rev: 201610134

of demonstrating digital communication (e.g., PSK31, etc.) as an option. Good idea! On that note, let me also add that we shouldn't overlook CW (Morse code) even though CW knowledge is no longer required for any ham radio licensing or even emphasized. Nevertheless, there continues to be a large amount of CW operations within the hobby.

Speaking of QSOs, the Virginia QSO Party is just a month and a half away. This is an excellent opportunity to be an Elmer for a newly licensed member to get some easy experience on the 2m level, contesting, and getting over microphone fright. Let's reach out and get those participation numbers up!

We've also received word too, that FunRunRacing would like us to support the next Prince William Half Marathon. Mark your calendars for 1 October 2017!! For more information, checkout <http://www.princewilliamhalf.com/sweet-julia-grace/>

Elsewhere in this Newsletter, you will find details of yet another piece of legislation that has potential impact on our hobby. Please take the time to fire off a letter or email to your Virginia Legislator, addressing Senate Bill # 860, and how, as currently written, it is unlawful for any person to operate an amateur radio while in a moving motor vehicle on the highways in the Commonwealth; but not so for citizen band radio.

Finally, I have decided that personal demands will require me to step down from my position as OVH President at the end of my current term, quite reluctantly; essentially, I foresee a number of pressing matters coming my way over the next 24 months that would challenge or conflict with my ability to give the OVH all of the effort that the President's position needs. Over the past two years, I've appreciated the support and patience from all. It has been rewarding to watch teamwork that made all of the activities/events successful. To each OVH member, thank you so much for your support. I trust someone would like to take the baton.

Keep your thoughts and ideas coming to me at: N7QLK@ARRL.net. I hope to see everyone at the upcoming meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday, January 16, 2017.

73 Wayne N7QLK

Sunshine Corner:

Happy birthday wishes in January to Justin KJ4LAS, Elizabeth KG4NXV, Chuck W4XP, John WA1STU, Ken KE2N, Milt N4SN, Ed WD4AVU and Woody N4MQ, hope you all have a warm and exciting day!

Thank you again to everyone who attended our Year End Holiday party at the Yorkshire Restaurant on December 11th, I think it was a great way to wrap up our busy year!

Please keep Terry / WA5NTI in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers from the effects of his stroke. Check for details about Terry on the OVH's email reflector.

Special thanks to Mark / WA4KFZ for putting on and completing the Technician Licensing course in early December for 8 attendees, all of whom have by now successfully

Continued on page 4

passed the Technician licensing exam.

Thank you too to our now large VE Team for holding another VE test session on December 19th. The great group of VEs from the OVH included: Luther / WA3FMO; Steve (aka Ogre) / N4OGR; Ray / KM4EKR; Bill / WB4KLC; Byron / AK4XR; Al / KB4BHB, Mark / WA4KFZ; Stu / W4PR; Wayne / N7QLK, Chris / W0EU and John / KG4NXT. So many VEs were there that they must have been falling over each other during the session; nevertheless, a great job was done by all with quite a few new hams and hams with upgraded licenses. Mark's Technician class had 8 attendees, each of whom now has a Technician (or higher) license; there were also about other 12 "walk-in" examinees at the VEC session. In summary, everyone who took an exam at the VEC session got either at least one new license or an upgrade. In total, there were 18 new Technician exams successfully passed, 6 new General exams successfully passed, but no Extra Class exams passed. Also, the VEC session did have 4 candidates attempt General after making Technician but failed the General; and we had one guy who passed the Technician and General, but failed the Extra Class exam.

Still more special thanks to Mark / WA4KFZ for holding another "What Next" session on January 7th. A lot of attendees and a lot of interest shown, and not enough time to cover many of the topics of interest. Another one will hopefully be scheduled soon?

It's not too soon to be thinking about the Virginia QSO Party in March, more on this next month! Hamfest planning meetings are now happening once each month, feel free to join in. Contact Terry / KC4DV who is Hamfest Chairman.

Looking forward to a busy 2017! If your name is missing from the list of birthdays when your month rolls around, please let me know – kg4tvm@hotmail.com

Please try to check in to the Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net. You will hear updates and information on events! How to do that is on the OVH web site at w4ovh.net. You will find us on the 146.970 and 443.500 FM repeaters at 8:00 pm every Thursday evening.

Please email me with your news! kg4tvm@hotmail.com

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Informal Meeting -- December 11, 2016:

OVH club President, Wayne / N7QLK, called an informal meeting during the OVH's Year End Holiday Party at 6:15 pm at the Yorkshire Restaurant. The attendees / revelers and their family members were having too much fun at the Party visiting with others in attendance for any real business to be conducted and the meeting was, therefore, immediately adjourned with no business conducted. The next regular OVH meeting will be on Monday, January 16th, 2017 at the regular time and place.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS AND SPECIAL HAM RADIO EVENTS:

Saturday, February 4, 2017, 8:30 am through afternoon, in Richmond, Virginia, the Frostfest - Hamfest. This has been the Mid-Atlantic's largest winter hamfest for many years and many OVH members drive down to Richmond to attend; if you haven't gone before, ask around and you can probably get a ride with someone. More info at <http://frostfest.com>

Sunday, March 19, 2017 beginning early morning - Winterfest, sponsored by Vienna Wireless, will be held again at the George Mason University campus in Annandale, Virginia. For more information and details, go to: <http://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest> Please note that as of this writing, the "Flyer" on that web page is still for the 2016 Winterfest and has the 2016 date.

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:

Saturday / Sunday, March 18-19, 2017 - The Virginia QSO Party sponsored by the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club. This is an annual contest event which is very easy for newcomers to the participate in. See, http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2017_VQP/2017_VQP_Main.html Each year for many years now, many OVH members have participated and submitted scores; We are expecting to have a speaker from the Virginia QSO Party at our February meeting.

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

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.

National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) Update - by John / KG4NXT

The NPOTA contest ran during Calendar 2016 and has now finished. Some of the participants, including KG4NXT, are reporting "National Parks Withdrawal". It was an excellent contest and many OVH members participated.

You could participate either as a "Activator" or a "Chaser". If you went to the national park and operated, you were an activator. If you contacted stations in a national park, you were a chaser. You had to record your QSO in the logbook of the world to make it count.

David, KK4ZUU, helped kick off the contest by activating Manassas battlefield on 1/1/2016. John, KG4NXT, and Theresa, KG4TVM, visited and helped him set up. The top club activator was David, W5DDR, who is an inactive OVH member. David had 50 activations and was ranked 3rd highest activator in Virginia; he worked one station from Mozambique while operating as an activator.

Next, we had Terry, KC4DV, who had 19 activations and was ranked 17th in Virginia. Terry also sponsored a club event at the Manassas Battlefield which showed people how to

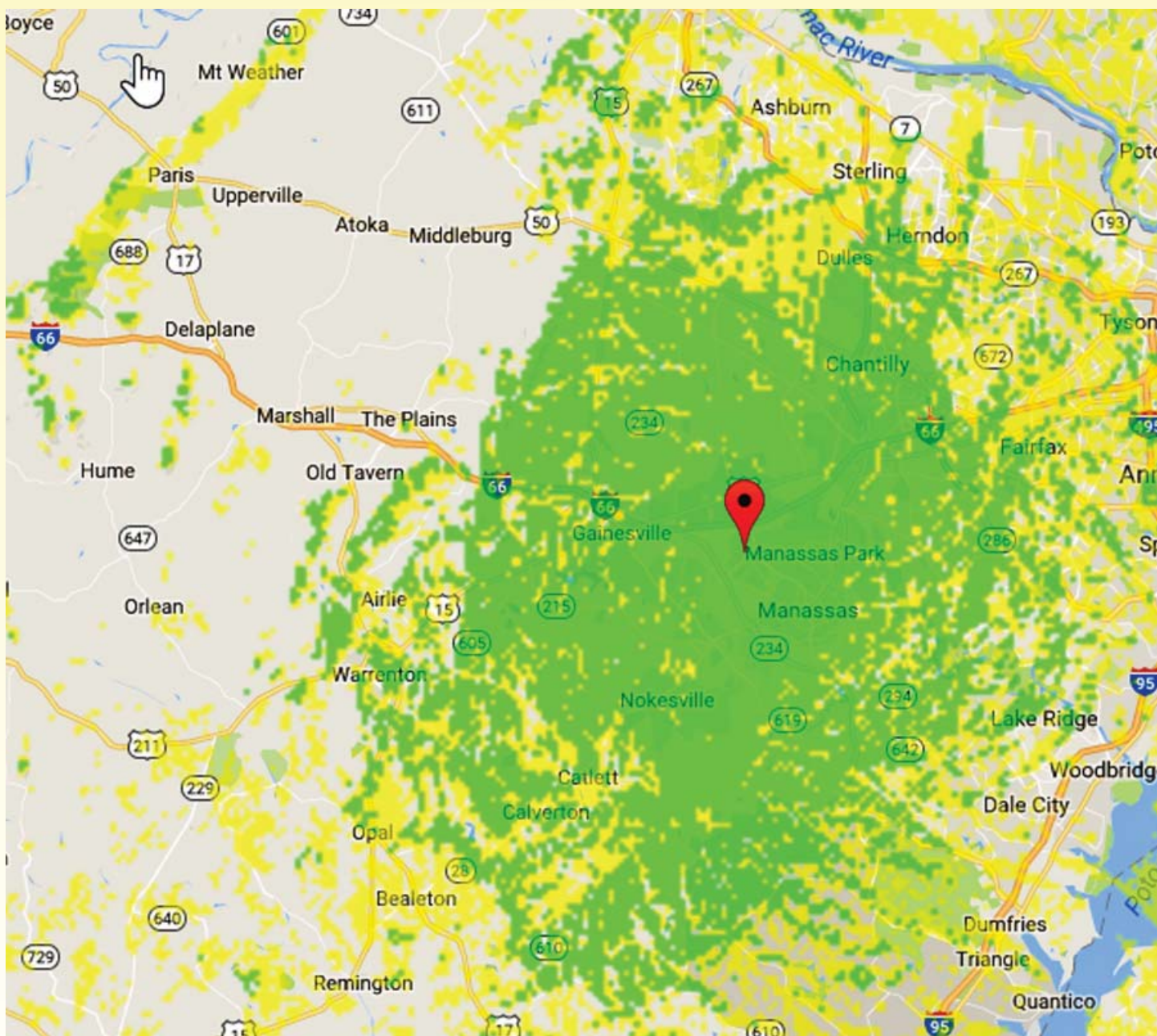
Cont'd on page 6

activate. David, KK4ZUU, had 7 activations and was ranked 22nd in Virginia.

David, W5DDR, was also the top chaser. He had 282 parks for a rank of 485 nationally. Next was John, KG4NXT, with 174 parks for a rank of 835 nationally. Wayne, N7QLK, had 3d place in the club with 7 parks and 5083 rank nationally. Terry, KC4DV, has 6 parks for a ranks of 5517 nationally. David, KK4ZUU, had 2 parks for a rank of 9620 nationally. Stu, WP4PR, had one park for a national rank of 11583. Al Dugas, KB4BHB, worked at least one national park but does not have logbook of the world. All of the above number are as of 1/7/2017. They could change slightly because operators can still add contacts to logbook of world and have them count until 1/31/2017.

Expected Useful Coverage for the new 442.2 Repeater at Mount Pone

Ken / KE2N has provided the following “Radio Mobile” coverage prediction map the expected useful coverage area for the new 442.2 Repeater located at Mt Pone. “Useful Coverage” has been computed for a “typical” mobile station; fixed stations with high antennas will, of course, experience a longer range.



“Radio Mobile” is a freeware, VHF to Microwave Propagation Simulation Application created by Roger / VE2DBE. Go to <http://www.cplus.org/rmw/english1.html> to learn more about “Radio Mobile.”

OVH Club Nametags - Update from Jeff / WB6UIE

Great news ! Our sample order has arrived and we'll be showing them off at the Jan 16th club meeting.

What's next ? Pending club approval, Rick (The SignMan) will add our design to his drop down menu of club items. Members will then be able to place their orders by selecting "Ole Virginia Hams badge" and filling in their name and callsign. Price will be \$11.50 with the standard safety pin fastener. Other fasteners are available for slightly more.

Many thanks to those of you who helped with artwork and proofing (and to Rick for his flexibility in working with me to create that nice looking engraved product).



The SignMan
of Baton Rouge

Custom Signs
& Name Badges

<http://www.thesignman.com>

Pending Virginia Legislation Potentially Affecting Mobile Ham Radio Operations

If you have been following the OVH email reflector recently, you are aware that certain overly broad legislation now pending before the Virginia General Assembly threatens to declare mobile ham radio operations illegal for safety reasons. The true reason for the legislation is simply to prohibit the use of cellular telephones while in motion. At last look, the legislation contains an exemption for CB radio operation. The email threads on the OVH reflector suggest specific ways for contacting your Virginia representatives to complain about this. Please do so!

Some Possibly Useful or Interesting Information

1. Are you a Technician considering upgrading to a General (or Extra Class) license so you can get privileges on HF or a ham who has not yet operated on the HF bands? If so, be sure to check out the ARRL's new tutorial at <http://www.arrl.org/tutorials/#f-widget-122779> about HF band operations.
2. Misplaced your vacuum tube manual(s)? If so, check out the following URL which provides an extensive list of electron vacuum tube data sheets: <http://frank.pocnet.net/sheets/049/suppinfo> For newcomers to the hobby, vacuum tubes (which predated semiconductor devices) used to be readily available and were used almost exclusively in ham radio equipment until about the mid-1960's.
3. Your editor is looking for a new home for a complete 20 volume set of the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology - 1997 Edition; large size books, 30" of shelf space, excellent condition. This is a very good primer and technical reference resource for all of the many topics presented; despite being 20 years old, virtually all technical information in this set is still valid. Reason for disposing of it: acquired a more recent Edition. If interested, contact the editor. Will give away to a good home, i.e., to someone who may be able to make good use of it or if anyone offers to buy it, the proceeds will be donated to the OVH.
4. Want to listen to ham radio related podcasts? Check out <http://hamradio360.com/index.php/podcast-player/> for numerous ham radio related topics.
5. What is a DXcluster? They used to all be on 2 meter VHF packet radio and broadcast HF DX spots provided by the users. Now most are on the Internet. Check out: <http://www.dxcluster.info/> to learn more!

REMINDER



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!! Below is the 2017 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" for 2017

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____
ADDRESS: _____ 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, 2017. 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.

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS: AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____

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

NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S LARGEST

Manassas Hamfest



AMATEUR RADIO & MAKER TECHNOLOGY SHOW

An ARRL-Approved HAMFEST Presented By:

The OLE VIRGINIA HAMS Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

(Featuring Youth Lounge Activities for the Youngsters Attending!)



Sunday, June 4, 2017

Prince William County Fairgrounds

Large Outdoor and Covered Pavillion flea market areas, two indoor air-conditioned buildings, several covered buildings and ample parking

10624 Dumfries Road - Route 234 - Manassas, Virginia -- Talk-In Repeaters on 146.97- and 442.200+

<p>INDOOR EXHIBITOR SPACE 8-foot tables: \$30* each with chairs & electricity (\$25 if reserved by May 1st) <i>Setup 2-10 PM Saturday</i></p>	<p>GENERAL ADMISSION \$10* per person at gate (Age 18 and younger: no charge) (*See web sites for prepayment discounts before 5/15/2017) Gates open at 7 AM</p>	<p>TAILGATING (admission is extra) Outdoor Spaces: \$10* per space Covered Pavillion: \$15 per space (*See web sites for details about online prepayment discounts before 5/15/2017) Gates open at 6 AM</p>
--	---	--

* Online ticket sales and vendor registration at <http://manassashamfest.org>

For our Most Current Vendor Info, Lists and Ticket Sales Visit our Web Pages:

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

PRIZES

- Door prizes hourly 9 AM to 1 PM (be present to win)
- Major & Tailgate prizes awarded at 2 PM

INFORMATION

- ARRL Roanoke Division Officers attending
- Virginia Section Manager Forum & other Forums
- 4th Call Area QSL Bureau Representatives
- DXCC QSL Card Checking will be available
- Virginia QSO Party Awards Ceremony
- Check our web pages (below) for the most up-to-date information

ACTIVITIES

- Flea Market & Vendors - all day
- VEC License Exams: 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- "Maker" group technology demonstrations
- ARRL style Youth Lounge programs all day for youngsters - by the OVHARC and 4-H
- Maker Robotics Corral and Demos
- Amateur Radio Satellite Forum
- BroadBand Ham Networks ("BBHN") Forum
- Virginia QSO Party Awards and Forum
- More Forums to be announced, check web sites

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

Dealer Info from George / K4GVT: vendors@manassashamfest.org

General Info from Terry / KC4DV: chairman@manassashamfest.org

VE Testing / Exam Information: vetesting@manassashamfest.org