

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

JULY 2000

Next meeting: 17 July 2000

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

(Editor)

Message From One of the Directors

Greetings to All OVH Members:

Field Day has come and gone. The stalwart crew nailed down contacts while having some fun and testing endurance, wrist joints and bug spray. **Butch** was seen "doing the honors" at the grille. I'll let the Field Day crew make the report. But the weather was great for it. Consider engraving the Field Day date on your next year's calendar for a fun time - a few hours here and there, a few burgers here and there. Fun in the sun! If you are a little hesitant about operating, then try contact logging as part of the team.

July 4th presented a new challenge for **Erv/KT4DS**, to hone his skills on responding to short notice events. For the first time in a number of years, we supported interagency communications at the Manassas Park Fourth of July Celebration held at Signal Hill Park. Perhaps next year we'll get more than a few days notice. Erv should have a synopsis for us at the July meeting, so I'll stop at that.

The lull in the activities should allow folks to enjoy the summer, take a vacation, or visit friends. But then, there's always a summer contest or even a "sprint" to sharpen up operating skills and have fun too. Whatever your plans, if they include attending the July meeting (and we hope they do!), we will take a look at another FET voltmeter project that adds a little more capability to the one shown earlier. As usual, several partial parts kits and plans will be available for those interested in "trying one on for size".

If you have an idea for a club meeting presentation or a "show-and-tell" session, pass it along. We have had some good presentations by folks who know their business - Dick **Maylott/W2YE**, Mike **Toia/K3MT**, Ed **Harris/KE4SKY** among others.

Don't forget **BERRYVILLE!** August 6th! A swell hamfest under the trees! Hope to see you there.

Art Whittum/KW4AW

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

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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

19 June 2000

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 PM by Don "Butch" **Blasdell/W4HJL** acting as Chair.

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

Attendance: 18 Members and 1 guest

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

Committee Reports:

Hamfest: Jack **McDermott/N4YIC**

Hamfest was a success. Some of the questions we need to ask for next year is how much do we need to earn vs. how much do we want to earn? Do we want to consider moving the date of the Hamfest because of the change of the date of the **Dayton Hamfest** and so we are not competing with **Rochester**?

We need to get the **county** to address the issue of "**authorized**" signs at the side of the road (currently it is **\$100** fine per sign on county property).

Changing the date may incur a penalty from the fairgrounds because we have to reserve the property so far in advance. Jack is putting together his thoughts and will present them at a future meeting for the membership's consideration.

All the prizes have been delivered to their winners.

Jack would like to thank everyone who helped out for giving up their weekend so that others could have a good time.

Butch thanked Jack for his effort in putting together another successful Hamfest.

Repeater: Butch **Blasdell/W4HJL** - There is a problem with the 2nd amp on 2m - **Art** suspects a hairline crack in solder on the board. The 440 amp is in fix mode.

License Classes: Bill Hinely/K4WRG

All classes were completed before Hamfest and initial reports are that all students obtained some form of license at the **VE** session. The question was raised about having a class in the fall before the fall **VE** session. That is being investigated.

Membership: Mary Lu **Blasdel/KB4EFP** - Membership for **Mac McMillian** of Lake Jackson was read in. His call is pending.

New Business

Field Day is 24-25 June 2000. Operation will run from 2 PM Saturday through 2 PM Sunday, with setup scheduled for early Saturday before the 2 PM kickoff. After the operational event, there will be a picnic for **OVH** members and participants. Antennas will include verticals, dipoles and a beam. There will be a novice station, and 2 meter, along with generator operation. We will be competing under **2A** rules.

ARES: Erv **Whalen/KT4DS**

We are in the summer doldrums, and there are no planned events.

Art **Wittem/KW4AW** will chair the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

David Lane/KG4GIY

Repeater News

The **146.970 MHz** repeater stumbled twice in June. The Final Amplifier failed and had to be replaced just before Hamfest, and then again later in the month. Both defective units are "in the queue" for repairs.

The **224.660 MHz** repeater has been operating normally with no reported problems. Although audio levels may need to be tweaked.

The **442.200 MHz** repeater was locked-up once during the period for no apparent reason and would not transmit. The problem has been isolated to one of the microprocessors, but that is all that's known at this point.

The "new" **GE MASTR II 442.200 MHz** repeater has been repaired, mated with a brand new set of duplexers and the transmitter adjusted for 60 watts output. As soon as the receiver has been aligned, it will be installed at the **NOVEC** site for operation (sometime in July).

Thanks to **Warren Brooks/WB4DRI**, for donating a large quantity of **GE MASTR II** spares and boards. In addition to an "untouched" UHF exciter board, he provided over a dozen partially populated 40 watt UHF modules which became the boneyard for picking the parts needed to restore operations on our unit. Warren has indicated that there is "more to come." So, Warren, thanks again.

Tone Encode-Decode features and some improvements to the back-up power circuits for the repeater controller and telephone modem still pend finishing the schematics for construction.

73, Art/KW4AW

SUNSHINE CORNER

Happy July Birthday to our friends and fellow Hams: **John/N4YOB**, **Steve/KB4OF** our Esteemed Editor, **Brenda/WD4RKH**, **Dan/KF4KKF**, and **George/KE2AM**.

Congratulations to **William/K4WRG** who has upgraded to **Extra**, and **Alan/KD4KBX** who has upgraded to **General**, **Vinh/KF4PQI** who has upgraded to **Extra**, **Jeff/KV4AP** who has upgraded to **Extra**, **Erv/KT4DS** who has upgraded to **Extra**, and **Art/KW4AW** who has upgraded to **Extra**. Good job, folks!

Have a great summer and keep me aware of any events in your life, Ham-related or otherwise!

73 de **Jan/KE4TMW**

FIELD DAY 2000

Ole Virginia Hams had a very successful **Field Day** and a good time was had by all. This year we had 19 participants – and more contacts than last year. (Bill will have the results on the web page very soon.) Well done to **Bill/N4WJN** and his **6 meter** operation and **Brian/KE4NFK** for his **10 meter** novice station contacts. A special thanks to **Art/KW4AW**, **Jack/N4YIC**, **Erv/KT4DS**, **Milt/N4SN**, **Charlie/WA4YGI**, **Dan/KF4KKF**, and **Doc/W1IMX** for help setting up. Some of the operators who stayed all night were: **Russ/WB4HHN**, **Erv/KT4DS**, **Bill/N4WJN**, **Brian/KE4NFK** and **Butch/W4HJL**. Other operators included **Milt/N4SN**, **Doc/W1IMX**, **Charlie/WA2YGI** on **20 meter CW** and **Cathy/AE4UM** and **Mary Lu/KB4EFP** on phone. Also – thanks to **Tommy/KA4AFU** for keeping the generators running the whole time, as always and to **Jeff/KV4AP** for standing by as our **Talk-In Station**.

This was the first year that we used the **club call, W4OVH** – and it seemed to work well. There was an information booth, with a visitor sign-in log (we actually had visitors) and info packets about the club. We cooked hot dogs and hamburgers and had plenty of food for dinner on Saturday and for after the "take down" on Sunday. Some of the family members joined us for a good time also.

Submitted by: **Butch/W4HJL**

OVH FIELD DAY – 2000

See the main OVH WEB site for pictures of our Field Day

FOR SALE

Two Power Supplies – 13.8 and 20 Amp Variable with meter.
RG-8U Coax Cable – Connectors
Kenwood 241A 2meter/50W
Radio Shack 2meter/45W
50 Channel Scanner
Everything is in fine condition and very reasonable.

Andy Anderson/WB4ZIG
703-250-1643 or 703-978-8564 Leave Message