

The OVH ARC Newsletter
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
FM Repeaters - W4OVH - 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+
D-STAR Repeater - W4OVH - 442.5125+
OVH Packet - Port 1: 145.730 Mhz, Port 3: 223.540 MHz - Sysop: Bill/N4SV
<http://www.w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

August 2010

Next Meeting: Monday, August 16, 2010

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

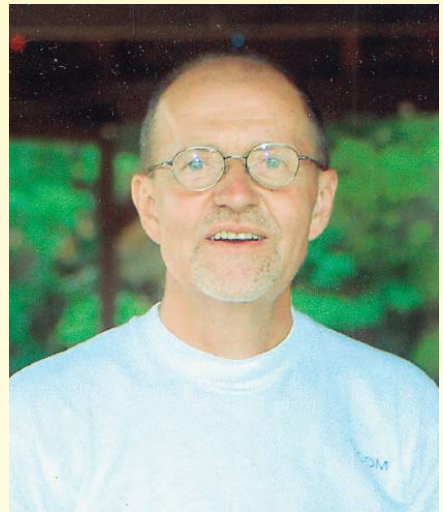
Greetings, hope everyone is doing well with this summer heat. Not to much to say this month due to vacations and work.

I do want to remind everyone of the special event station the OVH will be having to commemorate The Second Battle of Bull Run which will be held at Signal Hill Park In Manassas Park on August 29th. If you can't make it out for the event, I hope you'll at least be able make the contact. Each contact will receive a very beautiful QSL certificate. This is a very nice event and hope to see you all there.

The D-star DV build project again has had to be put off until next month. I will notify each of you with the new date.

I hope you all can make the upcoming OVH meeting on Monday, August 16th at 7:30 p.m. at the meeting room at the Prince William County Red Cross at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas.

73 George K4GVT



Sunshine Corner:

Very happy end of summer - August - birthdays to Dale / N4EDE, Karl / W4KRL, Anthony / KJ4FZJ, DC / WD4FOX, and Jim / WD4OJY.

We were fortunate to vote in two new members at the July meeting – Richard / KI4KXJ, and Glenn who is looking forward to getting his call sign very soon. Welcome to you both and we hope to see you at some of our meetings and events.

Congratulations to Gary / WG4ARC, the The Prince William Chapter of the American Red Cross's senior director of operations, programs and services, who has taken on a new role within the organization as coordinator, disaster relief and

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Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	George Tarnovsky	K4GVT	791-5956
Vice Pres:	Wayne Kline	AG4ZZ	791-2100
Secretary:	Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3556
Treasurer:	Gary Gilham	WG4ARC	932-1118

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Art Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091

WEEKLY NETS

Thursdays - 8:00 PM	JOHN H	257-3566
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HAMFEST 2010

Chris	KI4POT	361-3257
Bruce	AB8CI	361-8873

FIELD DAY 2010

John	KG4NXT /	257-3556
Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3556
Wayne	N7QLK	393-8447

CLUB ROSTER

Blaine	KB4RKL	369-2877
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
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ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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F.A.R. REPS.

Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234
Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877

FINANCE

Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877
Joe	KI4OHR	369-2639
Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Bill	N4SV	590-9562
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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JOTA

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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LEGAL

Pete	KB4RME	369-2436
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Bruce	AB8CI	361-8873
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PACKET

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562

PROGRAMS

TBA

WINTER FIELD DAY 2011

Joe	KI4OHR	369-2639
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PUBLICITY

Trisha Wells	KI4PCM	335-1096
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844

W4OVH / W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3556
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

George	K4GVT	791-5956
Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939

All tel. numbers listed 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. This edition of the OVH Times is Copyright © 2009 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday of the month at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and all other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also always be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.97 & 224.660 Mhz. Up to date information about OVH activities and meetings is also available on the OVH web site at <http://www.w4ovh.net>.

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service to the Armed Forces Emergency and International Services of the National Capitol Region at Quantico Marine Corps base. Gary / WG4ARC in the picture to the right.



Some sad news. Twelve year old Wolfie who attended the last seven OVH Field Days died in an tragic accident; her last Field Day picture is on the last page of last month's OVH Newsletter.

Al / KB4BHB is geared up for the 5th annual commemoration of the Second Battle of Manassas special event station on Saturday, August 28th. Plan to come out to Signal Hill Road just across from the Signal Hill Park entrance in Manassas Park starting at approximately 8:00 am.

I'm looking forward to chairing the Girl Scout Adventure Day on October 16th at the Prince William County Fairgrounds, more details in the next newsletter.

Just a reminder, the Thursday night net is going strong at 8:00 pm, please join us on the OVH repeater! If you would like to be a net control just let John / KG4NXT know.

Good luck to all the kids going back to school in the next few weeks.

Please send me your news to kg4tvm@hotmail.com or call 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting July 19, 2010:

George / K4GVT called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 21 OVH members and 1 guest.

George / K4GVT announced that we will have a review on OVH Manassas Hamfest and the OVH Field Day later during the meeting.

Minutes from the June, 2010 meeting were approved as read

Treasurer's report was given by Gary / WG4ARC was approved as read. George / K4GVT mentioned that the OVH Hamfest had really boosted our club balances this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Repeaters – Keith / KM4AA hopes to work on the duplexer soon, and we will be using Butch's / W4HJL Kenwood to help out; Keith will follow up with the roof repairs within the next month and would like to see an air conditioner installed in the DStar shed; George / K4GVT let us know that Steve / N4OGR can help with the installation; Ken / KJ4VTP asked about air conditioning for 2 meters, Keith advised that it isn't needed at this time.

ARES – Steve N4OGR is looking for volunteers for National Night Out on July 31st from 1:30 – 5:30 pm.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa KG4TVM announced the July birthdays.

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Membership – Theresa KG4TVM presented applications for Richard / KI4KXJ and Glenn (no call sign yet) to be voted on. Both applications were voted on and approved by the members present. Applications were read in for Clarence Meese / K4CNM and Scott Downey / KJ4VTO.

BREAK

Drawing for the mystery box was won by Patty / KI4FQF, \$23 was collected. The 50/50 was won by George / K4GVT and he donated his winnings back to the club for a total of \$14.

Hamfest Review – George / K4GVT stated that this was one of our best in years in several and he thanked the club members for their help, including especially Chris / KI4POT who chaired the event again this year; George also thanked Keith / KJ4GUT for providing security, all the vendors were happy with the security and only one vendor complained about business; George spoke to Keith at the fairgrounds and was told there were no issues on site; Keith / KJ4GUT asked whether the club wished to buy the 6 or 7 orange vests he had purchased for the Hamfest, George said yes; George congratulated Chris / KI4POT again on a very successful chairing the OVH Manassas Hamfest event again this year. Chris indicated this would be his last year for chairing the Hamfest; George asked club members to consider chairing; Keith / KJ4GUT let us know that people outside at the Hamfest could not hear the announcements because the PA system had not been working and George has talked to the fairgrounds staff about the speakers; Steve / N4OGR asked about the carney people, Keith / KJ4GUT said they were told they would be removed if they misbehaved; Keith / KM4AA asked for video of the main building so it could be uploaded to youtube; Chris / KI4POT suggested selling tickets in advance on line via paypal, also Chris let us know that Virginia Beach has a very nice web page for their Hamfest; George / K4GVT will check prices for ads in QST; Ken / KJ4VTP asked if we could get an ad on the Comcast page; Chris / KI4POT also posted on Ham Boards and asked that any ideas be send to the Hamfest web address; Food vendors did well and everyone complimented the food.

Field Day Review – John / KG4NXT reported that the fox hunt was a great success; George / K4GVT sent John's picture with the kids putting the antenna together to the ARRL; George / K4GVT asked whether we should consider another location for next year so we would have more public contact; Mark / WA4KFZ asked if we could have it at the Red Cross Building; Keith / KM4AA asked if we could have it at the Manassas Museum; Art / W1CRO asked if ARES would let us have it at the Ferlazzo Building and also asked about Signal Hill; Gary / WG4ARC let us know that will would have to pay to set up at Signal Hill Park; George / K4GVT asked to keep the ideas coming.

OLD BUSINESS

Al KB4BHB reminded everyone of the Special Event commemorating the Second Battle of Manassas will be held on Saturday, August 28th beginning at 8 a.m.; this special event station operation has been listed in QST again. Al KB4BHB read off a list of items needed; Al's hometown will be having their special event on the same day and he is hoping to make contact with them again this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Gary / WG4ARC reported that next year will be the 150th Anniversary of the First Battle of Manassas; a big turnout is expected there will be events during July at the Manassas Museum.

Theresa / KG4TVM reported that the club has been invited to participate in Girl Scout Adventure Day on Saturday, October 16th at the Prince William County

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Fairgrounds, Wayne N7QLK had passed on contact information with the scouts for this event; this event will be very similar to the Boy Scout JOTA day; Theresa has volunteered to chair the event this year and would appreciate club members participating.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

September 11, Virginia Beach Hamfest at the Virginia Beach Conventions Center, Virginia Beach, VA. Details and more information at <http://vbhamfest.com>.

OPERATING EVENTS AND CONTESTS

August 14 (0000 UTC) to 15 (2359 UTC), WAE (Worked All Europe) DX CW contest. Excellent chance to pick up missing countries in Europe. Lots of activity on HF Bands. More information at <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/rules/>.

August 28th, Saturday, OVH Special Event Station across from Signal Hill Park to commemorate the Second Battle of Manassas. Check with Al / KB4BHB for more details.

There are many operating contests almost all of the time. The excellent web site maintained by WA7BNM lists most of them! See <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

PUBLIC SERVICE / TRAINING / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://www.pwcares.org> for latest updates. David maintains a comprehensive calendar for upcoming events at that web site.

SOME LINKS TO INTERESTING TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Coaxial Cables: (PDF files of references from Belden)

<http://www.belden.com/pdfs/Techpprs/CoaxialCablesandApplications.pdf>

http://www.belden.com/pdfs/03Belden_Master_Catalog/22Technical%20Information_Glossary/22Technical_Information.pdf (note: this URL, split into two lines, must be reassembled)

Batteries:

<http://www.mpoweruk.com> <http://batteryuniversity.com> <http://www.buchmann.ca>

Online Mathematics References - thanks to nist.gov

<http://dlmf.nist.gov/> Digital Library of Mathematical Functions

<http://math.nist.gov/> Math, Statistics and Computational Science

RF Propagation Resources - Powerpoint Presentation

<http://www.k1ra.us/RF-Propagation-Resources-and-Beacon-Projects.ppt>

PVRC Webinars - Tutorials

<http://pvrc.org/webinar/webinars.htm>

Miscellaneous Ham Focused Technical Information:

<http://fermi.la.asu.edu/w9cf> <http://vk1od.net> <http://www.k3lr.com>



A Few
Of The
Attendees
At The
July 2010
OVH
Meeting
Before It
Started

The SMITH Chart Revisited / Updated With Some Reminiscences

Your editor still recalls as a would be Novice licensee in 1960 observing his tutor and examiner for that exam (Howard / W1DG - SK since the 1970's) avidly reading one of the early QST articles about how to use the Smith Chart, a nomograph for solving antenna and transmission line matching problems, among others, using preprinted paper Smith Charts. I still remember back then thinking that if that was so interesting for him, it might be worth learning about.

Howard lived a 1/4 mile away, was the father of one of my school friends, a Georgia Tech graduate, WWII naval officer and a senior engineer working for Radio Free Europe. He was a active ham radio operator at the time with a somewhat dated station. His receiver was a National HRO-60 which, while very sensitive, used a pre-WWII design in which bands were changed by physically changing sets of coils. His transmitter was a B&W 5100, which had a distinctive appearance which I had seen and recognized in newsreels a few years earlier in use in Fidel Castro's camp when his revolutionaries were still in the mountains in Cuba. His B&W transmitter fed an array of coils and variable capacitors which fed a wide 600 ohm line which ran out to feed-through insulators in a basement window to a further outdoor 600 ohm transmission line feeding a large (nearly 3/4 acre) fixed wire antenna array electrically pointed toward Europe. Every weekend W1DG worked schedules on AM HF with colleagues in Germany and Portugal, and almost always made his contacts.

As common as antenna and transmission line matching problems are, the mathematics needed to solve them discretely or in closed form are neither simple nor particularly intuitive except in simple or specialized cases. QST (and QEX) over the years have had many articles about the Smith Chart and you should check out the technical search facility at the ARRL's web site. The first computerized Smith Chart program which I found intuitive and effective was the DOS MSMITH program distributed by the ARRL, but now discontinued, although MSMITH still runs well on DOS emulators. A new freeware Smith Chart program known as Quicksmith which runs on Windows XP+ has now become available and is the subject of a current series in QEX: see Using Quicksmith - Part 1: July/August 2010 QEX at pages 26-33. Worth checking out! Quicksmith can be downloaded with documentation at <http://nathaniyer.com>



Does this look a little like one of the workstations of George / K4GVT? It is a bit neater, but otherwise not too surprising if it does for it belongs to George's son, Chris / N2JTA, at his firm, FlyLogic in Vista, California.

Chris was written up in MIT's Technology Review for July / August 2010 which described how Chris used this workstation to "open" a protected, secured integrated circuit chip to examine and determine the exact security codes embedded within the chip structure. "It takes a significant effort to crack the chips, as Christopher Tarnovsky, a former U.S. Army computer security specialist, demonstrated in February. By dissolving the chip's outer casing with acid, removing a protective inner mesh with rust remover, and tapping the communications channels with tiny needles, Tarnovsky was able to force a module to release its secret information. Such an attack might let someone who had stolen a laptop unlock remote websites or pose as the laptop's owner, but fortunately, it would be impractical to do this on a large scale."

More information at <http://technologyreview.com/>