

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

August 2016

Next Meeting: Monday, August 15, 2016

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings one and all!

I hope this message finds you all well.

It's all about initiative...There are a number of activities within OVH that bear recognition, and some ideas that I'd like to throw out for thought.

Work on the new repeater shed at the water tower which will eventually house the D-Star repeaters (again) as well as other facilities / capabilities continues to advance; we just need to get the "hired" hands in one place at the same time. If we can get the gear installed, weatherhead and coax installed, antennas placed on the tank, and the multitude of small details completed before cold weather, we will have done well.

Terry / WA5NTI is running (figuratively of course) with the baton once carried by Clarence / K4CNM in the Prince William County Broad Band Ham Net (BBHN) arena. He continues the effort of coordinating with Woodbridge Wireless for building a county-wide net. He will be discussing this at this next meeting; I highly encourage anyone with interest in this endeavor to get in contact with Terry.

OVH has been invited to support the Prince William Half-Marathon, sponsored by Novant Health. This 13 mile, 3.5 hour marathon is scheduled for September 25th. Currently, we have half the volunteers needed; we need another eight. If you have an HT and can spare a Sunday morning, please contact me at my e-mail address below. More information can be found at <http://www.princewilliamhalf.com>

And there is activity towards vinyl on the trailer and nametags or embroidered shirts! More on these efforts to follow.



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Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President: Wayne Phillips	N7QLK	393-8447
Vice Pres: Clarence Meese	K4CNM	791-6424
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
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HAMFEST 2016 - Chairman

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
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FIELD DAY 2016 - Co-Chairs

Ken	KD4VA	753-7863
Byron	AK4XR	222-2095

CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Clarence Meese	K4CNM	791-6424
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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
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WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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JOTA - 2016

Open

LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	WA3FMO	361-4885
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PROGRAMS FOR MEETINGS

Jeff	WB6UIE	791-5916
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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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
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W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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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

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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>

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Those are current initiatives. Now for a couple of possible future initiatives....

I'd like to see a recruiting/marketing committee (for lack of a better term) that would help identify opportunities to build our ranks or increase our visibility within the community. We're off to a good start with the Manassas Air Show and the upcoming Half-Marathon. There could be additional opportunities with the Manassas Community Emergency Response Team (MCERT).

As has been discussed among some members, how about 'builder's seminars' where hands-on gatherings could build [no pun intended] upon the 'Now What' sessions put on by Mark / WA4KFZ, which are especially helpful for newer hams (hopefully also OVH members)?

Finally, anyone with thoughts or ideas for greater fund-raising opportunities beyond Hamfest, please make them known? Keeping the coffer filled is how we can expand our horizons and accomplish great things.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the August 15th meeting (Monday evening) where we'll vote to fill the vacant seat of the club Vice President and Terry / WA5NTI will give a presentation on Prince William County BBHN (Broad Band Ham Network). Don't forget, 7:30 pm at the Manassas Public Works, 8500 Public Works Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

Keep the thoughts / ideas coming to me at: N7QLK@ARRL.net.

73 Wayne N7QLK

Sunshine Corner:

Happy birthday in August to Kristen / NoCall, John / KK4TCE, Karl / W4KRL, Matthew / KK4SUM, Stu / W4PR, Serge / KK4ZUT, Ronnell / KK4ZUR, Jim / WD4OJY, Vern / K0LVS, Duane / KM4RTB and Raymond / KK4AQR, best wishes to all!

Congratulations to Jay / KM4JOJ on successfully upgrading to Extra Class at the Berryville Hamfest. Quite an indicator of how active Jay has been (we all know that) and a real achievement for a relatively new but very enthusiastic ham!

Good to see other OVH members at Berryville Hamfest earlier this month, a very pleasant morning there!

Please do check out the picture to the right, which is from an OVH Field Day event in the early 1970's (or 1960's?). If you know the location, year or can identify the individuals in the picture (besides Milt / N4SN who provided the photo), please let me know and I will post the information in next month's newsletter. It appears that the radios are on a table in front of a old bus parked in a field with high grass and brush, there may be an HF beam on a short mast as well as a wire antenna.

Ron / N4RZ will be moving back to Seattle late next month, several club members met



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to have an early “going away” dinner for Ron (see, to the right). Ron has been a very active member of the OVH, taking on responsibilities as Club Secretary for a few years, working with Hamfest and helping out where ever he was needed. We are going to miss seeing him regularly.

Congratulations to the 2016 OVH scholarship awardee, Anya Owsenek, (see photos later in this newsletter), best wishes as she starts her college career this Fall.

If you participate in a ham event or take your radio on vacation, please send me a photo for the newsletter. Be sure to check into OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net, details at <http://w4ovh.net> under “Nets.”



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

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting July 18, 2016:

OVH Club President, Wayne / N7QLK, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on July 18, 2016 at the main conference room at the Manassas City Public Works Building in Manassas, Virginia.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 32 OVH members and 5 guests present.

Scholarship - Anya Owsenek, the OVH Scholarship Awardee for 2016 was present with her parents, and received a scholarship check for \$1000 at the meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the June meeting were sent out in the July newsletter. Motion to accept the June minutes by Sandy / KM4JUS, seconded by Al / KB4BHB, motion passed.

Treasurer's report –Terry / KC4DV gave the report. Motion by George / K4GVT to approved the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by John / KG4NXT, motion passed by vote of all members in attendance.

Membership – Luther / KJ4FDK reported there were no new member applications this month. Luther presented John Tittle / KM4VCJ who had been read in last month. The members in attendance voted him in.

ARES – This past Saturday, July 16th, the PWCARES conducted outdoor training at the

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Prince William County government facility learning how to remotely control a station using Team Viewer software and practiced digital communications using FLDIGI. Sunday was the Super Summer Sprint at George Mason, thanks for those that came out to support the event.

The next major Mini-Tri will be September 18. Requests for help and the action plan will go out in August. After the mention of the Mini-Tri, Wayne N7QLK mentioned the we had been approached about helping out with a marathon in September. More to come later in the meeting.

Repeaters – George / K4GVT. After some inquires and discussion about the next steps to be taken at the Mt. Pone Water Tower site to move the project along, it was announced that the Repeater Committee would hold a planning meeting Monday at 6:00 pm on July 25, 2016 at Tony's NY Pizza on Mathis Avenue. All interested members are invited to attend.

Training - Mark / WA4KFZ is looking at holding another “what next class” for all the new licensees and others interested. A vote was taken at the meeting and there was a large number of people in attendance that were interested in the class. Look for the date of that class on the reflector. Mark will start a new Technician class in October.

Hamfest – Terry / KC4DV gave the club a detailed oral report on the Hamfest. A motion to match the Donation from the Bake Sale was made by Steve / N4OGR, seconded by Ray / KM4EKR, motion passed. The OVH actually made more money this year than last year even though it first seemed like it wasn't going to be as good. There was a large round of applause for Terry for the fine job he did as Committee Chairman. A discussion was held about finding a possible new location for the 2017 Hamfest due to some changes proposed by the Fairgrounds, which might make it difficult to have a successful Hamfest there in the future. Some places being investigated are: Stonewall High School and George Mason University. More discussion to follow at our next meeting.

BBHN - Terry / WA5NTI reported that he would be giving a presentation next month. He handed out a draft on the Prince William County Broad Band Ham Network and a map showing possible Service Authority water tanks that nodes could be placed on.

Field Day - was very successful. The Club scored 2982 points which is higher than last year. Thanks to the many people that came out and operated. We had a lot of CW QSOs, which really helped the OVH's score. Thanks to the many people that came out and helped setup on Saturday. Thanks to the many people that worked on the stuff before the actual Field Day that helped tremendously to get those bonus points. Thanks to the people that brought out the equipment we used, some of it their own personal equipment. Thanks to Phil / AC4PL for the great meals he prepared. Check out the pictures in the July newsletter to Field Day and Hamfest pictures.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa wished all those with birthdays in July a Happy Birthday. She then displayed pictures from the Hamfest and Field Day.

Web page - Paul / W4ZB reported the web sites are continuing to work. Anyone with specific suggestions or comments for additions or corrections, please send them by email to Paul at his email address in the Newsletter.

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4-H -Terry / WA5NTI, reported not much happening right now.

Break, then New Business

Marathon- The marathon would run from Jiffy Lube Live to the Battlefield. Details are still being worked out.

Wayne N7QLK, mentioned that he had received interest indications from Ray KM4EKR, and Jeff WB6UIE to take over the vacant Vice-President position. To help the members decide each was asked to write a paragraph to be included in the August newsletter and a vote would be taken at the August meeting.

Wayne / N7QLK, asked for a volunteer to head the Scholarship committee. Jim Parsons / W4JTP has headed the committee for many years and had done a great job. Thanks to Jim for his many years of service. It was reported that Kristin Saul (MOM/NoCall) had volunteered to head the committee. She was not present to confirm the report so we will wait till our next meeting.

Ray KM4EKR suggested that the club needs members who out serving in the public to have shirts and or hats which identify them as club members to help promote our club. Sandy KK4JUS volunteered to research the subject. An informal vote was taken of those that would like to have a club shirt. A very large majority voted affirmatively.

50-50 - \$21.00 was raised so the winner would receive \$10.50. Duane Martin / KK4BZ, won the drawing and donated the funds back to the club..

Motion to adjourn by George / K4GVT, seconded by Bob / K4HJF, motion passed.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

UPCOMING HAMFESTS:

Saturday, September 10, 2016 - Virginia Section Convention Hamfest at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Excellent site for a hamfest and this used to be a major hamfest, but OVH members attending in recent years (e.g., Terry / KC4DV) report it has shrunk greatly in size. More info at: <http://www.vbhamfest.com>

SPECIAL HAM RADIO EVENTS:

September 16-18, 2016 - The 35th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference, St Petersburg, Florida. This is a technically oriented meeting which addresses all aspects of digital communications. More info at <https://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>

Sunday, September 18, 2016 - Tri-It-Now (aka MiniTri) event at the George Mason University campus in Manassas. The OVH will be providing communications support again.

Saturday, September 25, 2016. The OVH is planning to provide communications support (similar to that for the MiniTri's - UHF/VHF handhelds - but spread out over a larger area) for the Prince William County Half Marathon event. Contact Wayne / N7QLK who is organizing the OVH volunteers. More info about the event itself at <http://www.princewilliamhalf.com>

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 - August 13th/14th, 2016. The Worked All Europe (WAE) CW (Morse Code) DX contest. Detailed info at <http://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/rules> This is a major contest sponsored by the DARC with a very high level of participation by the hams in Europe. If you are looking for contacts (or “new countries”) in Europe, this contest is a place where to you can and will find them. Similar WAE contests using the SSB and RTTY modes are held during the second full weekends in September and November, respectively. Lots of fun.

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 / TRAINING / 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.

The OVH's 2016 Scholarship Award

The OVH's 2016 scholarship of \$1,000 was awarded this year to Anya Owsenek of Manassas, Virginia during the July 18, 2016 regular OVH meeting which she attended with her parents. Anya recently graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School. Although she is not a ham radio operator, but she is very interested in computers, software and hardware, and likes working with both, and had an excellent high school record. She will be attending the University of Colorado at Boulder where she plans to study and major in Computer Engineering. The OVH wishes her great success in her studies and future endeavors.



A few more pictures from the 2016 Manassas Hamfest (June 19, 2016)



Mark / WA4KFZ in the Youth Lounge



Kristen / NoCall in the Youth Lounge



Terry / KC4DV and Arthur / W1CRO
in the Hamfest Mangement Trailer

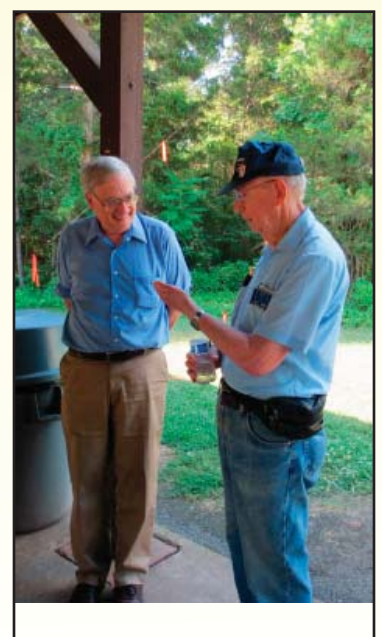
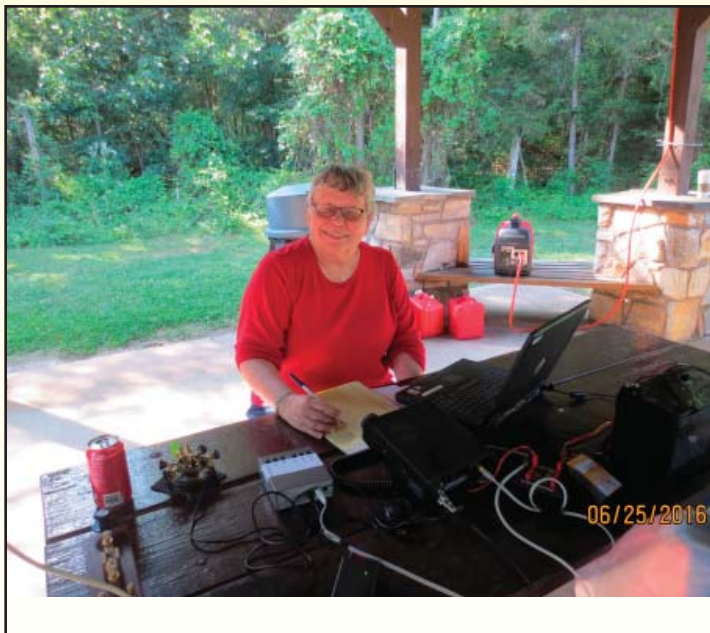


Jan / KE4TMW and Steve / N4OGR

A few more pictures from the 2016 ARRL/ OVH Field Day Event (June 25 & 26, 2016)



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Statement by Ray Knight / KM4EKR --- Where I see the club to in a year

When I joined OVH 2014, it was based on how accepting the club was. My first observation was that it is a group of very talented members with exceptional skills. This is a group that I could learn from and advance my skills. To enhance my knowledge of the club, I started to review the monthly newsletters from 1999 to understand the interworking of the club. The common dominator that surfaced was that a group of approximately 20 people were involved with club operations on a monthly basis. One of the major things I would like to see happen, is the involment of more club member in our activities. After all, you do join a club to participate in activities that you enjoy doing. This is a group effort. OVH has a lot to offer, and we need to venture out to new areas to keep the hobby alive. We have started by having a presence at the Manassas air show. I hope we do this again next year. The avenues for club exposure are there, we have to pursue them. To sum everything up, we need more club member participation (including youth & adults), different ways to promote the club, and the Ham Radio community. The larger the exposure OVH has, the more audience that we can draw. This in turn promotes the opportunity to increase the membership base. That is where I see the club in a year.

Statement by Jeff Fuller / WB6UIE

After listening to Ray's passionate speech at our July meeting, I think it's clear that he is the stronger candidate for the VP position. I've opted to withdraw from the race at this time. In support of Ray's efforts to raise club profile at events, I've contacted two vendors about club name tags. I'll be bringing a sample from each to the next OVH meeting along with ordering info and options.

Some Possibly Useful or Interesting Information

1. The Dayton Hamvention is relocating for 2017. The HARA Center north of downtown Dayton, Ohio where the Dayton Hamvention has taken place for many, many years is being closed down later this year. As a result, the Dayton Hamvention for 2017 will be held at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio which is southwest of Dayton. Many of the major activities associated the Dayton Hamvention which have occurred in hotels in downtown Dayton for many years have announced that they will continue downtown. Nevertheless, this may be a difficult transition: the Fairgrounds at Xenia does not appear to have nearly the amount of indoor space for indoor commercial exhibitors as used by the indoor exhibitors at the HARA Center.
2. The European "Ham Radio" Hamfest which is comparable to Dayton Hamvention (about the same size) which has been held at the Friedrichshafen Convention Center in Southern Germany for many years also found itself "bumped" for 2017. An major "Outdoor Gear Show" somehow took over "Ham Radio's" dates at the end of June. In 2017 "Ham Radio" will be held on July 14th - 16th at the same place as usual.
3. If you are interested in finding out what kind of Broadband Internet service might be available at various locations in Virginia, go to <http://www.gis.vt.edu/mapbook> (Thanks to Terry / WA5NTI for this reference) where you will find many options. Internet Service Providers which provide service in particular locales also provide coverage maps for Internet Wireless and Internet (wired, cable or optical) Service on their own web sites. The ultimate test, of course, is whether the actual service providers in your area can provide the service you want so you will eventually need to contact them directly to find that out for sure.
4. Several of the presentations from the 2016 Antenna Forum at the Dayton Hamvention are now available online. Check out <http://www.k3lr.com/Dayton/Dayton2016> to find them if you didn't make it to Dayton.
5. Panadaptors - which allow one to visually surveil and assess radio transmitting activity on a band or over a "wide" range of frequencies - are a "wish list" items for most hams, only available in or as accessories to the most expensive equipment. Things are changing for those who are experimentally inclined, but lack skills to construct the sophisticated hardware and integrate it with specialized software. See, <http://sdrplay.com> An SDR_Play device together with software from VA3FSQ.com can reportedly produce a panadaptor for Elecraft equipment for under \$200. Humm, those approaches likely can be adapted to other equipment configurations.