

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+ (temporarily - limited functionality)
Web Site at <http://w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

October 2018

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 16, 2018

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Wasn't the Prince William Half-Marathon a great event? It was a chance for all of the many OVH members who participated to provide excellent communications support for the event and have fun doing what we like to do!

I actually beat John / KG4NXT to our site which allowed me to setup an antenna for our site and have it ready when he arrived. It was just a quad band vertical which I clamp in tripod type bicycle repair stand.

I have used that same setup at the Marine Corp Marathon in the past also. It allowed us to use John's radio at reduced power to save the batteries. I also like to bring extra stuff just in case it would be helpful. Examples include: my ICOM 7100 which I haven't installed in my truck yet, a few extra 12 Volt batteries, PowerPoles and a few extra HT's just in case.

Later in the race I got to break out my ICOM 7100 and set that up when John's radio ran out of power. We stayed in contact with our HT's while I was setting up my rig. Speaking of rigs (I wish I had taken a picture) you should check out Duane / KK4BZ's antenna. John calls it the Staff of Duane. He has a small vertical mounted on a 5- or 6-foot piece of white PVC pipe. He connects his HT to that.

Back to the event. We tried to cheer up the racers as they went by our position. We had our professional cheerleader, Duane / KK4BZ, leading us in cheering them on. Check out the video of Duane on the W4OVH.NET web site along with other information about the event. Our police support was a K9 unit and it was amazing to me to see such a well-trained dog.

Of course, I had to ask him for advice on training my new puppy. Overall the PWHM was a great event for our club. Many of the racers thanked us for our participation as they went by our position which I am sure they did as they went by other positions too. Special thanks to Wayne / N7QLK for organizing our club's part in this event and thanks to all that came out to help. The OVH participants are listed later in this newsletter.

Cont'd on Page 3



Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Byron Dillon	AK4XR	222-2095
Vice Pres:	Jeff Fuller	WB6UIE	791-5916
Secretary:	Sandy Knight	KM4JUS	901-4664
Treasurer:	Don Meyerhoff	WA2SWX	597-3211

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 2019 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
-----	--------	----------

FIELD DAY 2019

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
Don	WA2SWX	597-3211

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

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

WEB COMMITTEE — W4OVH.NET

Kevin	KX4KU	540-439-3289
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651
John	KG4NXT	257-3566

TWITTER & FACEBOOK ACCOUNT MODERATOR

Jeff	KM4FTK	830-4155
------	--------	----------

EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

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

JOTA - 2018

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.	KG4NXT	257-3566
-------	--------	----------

PROGRAMS

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

QUARTERMASTER

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

REPEATER CONTROLLERS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KE2N	753-8587
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042

W4OVH — TRUSTEE

Stu	W4PR	335-5267
-----	------	----------

W4PVA — TRUSTEE

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

SCHOLARSHIP

Sandy Knight	KM4JUS	901-4664
--------------	--------	----------

SUNSHINE

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

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Ken	KE2N	753-8587
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
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 © 2018 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Tuesday at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, 7190 Yates Ford Road, 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 operating with limited D-Star capabilities. 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: 20180920

I will not be able to attend October's meeting because I will need to be in Colorado to help my father with his house. The upcoming meeting will be conducted by V.P. Jeff / WB6UIE who expects to see all of you there on Tuesday, October 16th at 7:30 pm in the conference room at the Buckhall Fire Station, Manassas.

73 BYRON AK4XR

Sunshine Corner:

Wishing the following OVH club members a happy birthday in October: Terry / WA5NTI, Doc / W1IMX, Robert / KK4MXU, Ray / KM4EKR, and Phil / AC4PL

The communications support for The Prince William Half Marathon event on Sunday morning, September 30, 2018 by the OVH was chaired by Wayne / N7QLK. It was a beautiful morning to be outside working the radios, and our work was greatly appreciated by the runners and the event promoter/sponsor. Thank you to everyone that participated on behalf of the club, great job! See further info about that event later in this Newsletter.

Thank you to Andy / KJ4MTP for the outstanding job he has done with the Tri It Now Mini Tri events during the year.

The monthly planning meetings for the 2019 Manassas Hamfest are underway; these are open to all club members (and non-members) who are welcomed to attend if interested learning how this major event is planned for an put on. Please contact Hamfest Chairman, Don / WA2SWX, to find out how you can help the club during this event. You can reach Don at wa2swxdm@gmail.com The most recent meeting was on October 9th - see picture to the right for some of the attendees.



The local Jamboree on the Air ("JOTA") radio event will be held on Saturday, October 20th at Camp Snyder, 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, Virginia. This will be concurrently with the national and international JOTA event. For the local event, the OVH will be setting up with the Scouts at Camp Snyder; a large number of Scouts are expected, and, if you can come out and visit, the OVH setup will be on right - right after you come in Camp Snyder's main entrance. The camp store & parking lot will be right there and the scouts have a large canopy they will put up outside the camp store. If you are not available to come out to Camp Snyder, please plan to listen on the air for Scouts calling CQ and try to make some contacts with Scouts from home!

Please try to check in to the Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net. You will hear updates and information on everything going on! How to do that is on the OVH web site at <http://w4ovh.net> and you can now check in either by radio or via Internet connection.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018:

OVH President Byron AK4XR called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on September 18, 2018 in the main conference room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, Manassas, Virginia.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their name and call sign. There were 24 OVH members and 4 guests present.

A presentation was given by Rob / W4FSK, regarding the upcoming Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event which will be held on October 19th thru October 21st. The local event will take place at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, Virginia. Rob indicated a need to help with the JOTA station on Saturday, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. If anyone is interested in more information or wishes to help, contact Rob or John / KG4NXT.

John Humphrey / W4IM was at the meeting and reminded us of the upcoming ARRL elections in November for the Roanoke Division. John is running for Vice President.

August Meeting Minutes: Sandy / KM4JUS made a motion to accept the August meeting minutes, with no changes. Gene / KN4JMB seconded and minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report was given by Art / W1CRO. Details will be posted for members on the OVH's web site. Jay / NQ4T made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and was seconded by Theresa / KG4TVM. Motion passed.

Membership report was presented by Luther / WA3FMO – Mark / KN4OGC was voted in.

ARES – PWC ARES training has been postponed until October. Get the most up to date info is on the PWC ARES web site.

Repeater Status: maintenance issues are being worked on by Ken / KE2N.

Andy / KJ4MTP gave an update on the COMCAST situation about improving the Internet connection at the Mt. Pone and NOVEC locations. He is still gathering information. COMCAST has called Andy three times asking what more can they do, having difficulty finding a contact at the NOVEC location. Upon further discussion, Jeff / WB4TT made a motion to go with COMCAST. This was seconded by John / KG4NXT, the members approved.

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ will hold an online Tech Class, starting Thursday, September 27th, at 7:00 pm. He will send notification. There will be a VE session after the Tech class is completed. John / KG4NXT is looking for a location.

Hamfest Planning Committee meetings have started and will be held on the second Tuesday in each month through May. OVH has a verbal agreement with the PWC Fairgrounds for the Sunday June 2, 2019 Hamfest date.

Sunshine–Happy Birthday wishes to those with September birthdays.

WebPage committee is meeting to identify how to get off 'Go Daddy'. Another meeting with the committee & board will be scheduled soon. Many thanks to John / KG4NXT for posting articles.

Cont'd on page 5

Wayne / N7QLK gave an update briefing on the upcoming Prince William Half Marathon, which is scheduled for Sunday, September 30th. If you are interested in helping or participating, please contact Wayne. He will be testing this Saturday, September 22nd for a couple of hours in the afternoon.

The last Tri IT Now for the season was held on Sunday, September 16th. Many thanks to Andy / KJ4NTP for his organization and leadership for the club with that event.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS

No nearby Hamfests are scheduled in October / November.

HAM RADIO RELATED:

Saturday, October 20, 2018, The local Jamboree on the Air (“JOTA”) radio event by OVH will be held on Saturday, October 20th at Camp Snyder, 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, Virginia. This will be concurrently with the national JOTA event. For the local event, the OVH will be setting up with the Scouts at Camp Snyder; a large number of Scouts are expected, and, if you can come out and visit, the OVH setup will be on right - right after you come in Camp Snyder main entrance off of Antioch Road. The camp store & parking lot will be right there and the scouts have a large canopy they will put up outside the camp store. If you are not available to come out to Camp Snyder, please plan to listen on the air for Scouts calling CQ and try to make some contacts with Scouts from home. More information about national JOTA can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/jota>

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 locations for the meetings which have been changing recently.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

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

Also, always check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcares.org> for the latest PWC ARES 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.

VP's Corner

Jeff Fuller
WB6UIE



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jack-o%27-lantern_in_Sanok.JPG

Cooler temperatures of fall will soon be here and, along with them, the beginning of the holiday season. I'm sure your family, like mine, has some holiday traditions which have been passed down over the years. We carry them on, not necessarily for practical reasons, but as a means of bonding and connecting with past generations.

The amateur radio family has its own set of traditions. Some, like QSO procedures, we use regularly regardless of operating mode. Others, like Morse code, seem at risk of fading away into the sunset.

Many years ago, a Morse code test was part of every amateur radio license exam. General and higher license exams were administered at FCC district offices. I can still remember that crisp fall day many years ago, crammed into a room full of applicants with my 13 year old hands shaking a little as I waited for the code test to begin. Switch thrown, the tape on the exam machine galloped along at a mighty 13 words per minute, and somehow ... I managed to pass. Along with pride of accomplishment, that new license opened up acres of new spectrum to explore.



Today, Morse has all but disappeared from military and commercial HF communications. Seems everything is computer oriented. Why would anyone want to learn Morse code? Because, pound for pound, it's still one of the most efficient modes. Simple low power equipment running CW will cut through heavy noise and interference when nothing else will. There is still a lot of Morse activity on the ham bands, and, simple homebrew CW rigs remain well within reach of the new amateur experimenter.

Interested in learning Morse? Want to carry on a ham tradition linking us with generations of military and commercial operators? We're putting together a study group. Contact me with your ideas for classes and training aids. And encourage some of our younger members to join (tell them to think of it as the original texting).

Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

1. QRM / Wireless Interference. Hams are always concerned about QRM - interference to their two way radio communications, but severe QRM problems are not limited to two way communications. Several years ago a private business managed to obtain a no cost FCC authorization under unusual circumstances to set up a ground based wireless network on frequencies which overlapped with the GPS satellite downlink frequencies. That business was forced into bankruptcy when the FCC withdrew its authorization for that much touted wireless system after DOD and other GPS industry advocates conducted tests demonstrating that the proposed system would severely disrupt GPS receivers. A formal proposal now before the FCC, if granted, would authorize cellular systems on frequencies which overlap with weather satellite downlink frequencies. Go to: <https://eos.org/opinions/wireless-frequency-sharing-may-impede-weather-satellite-signals> to learn more about the almost certain, ill considered, QRM consequences of that.

Cont'd on bottom of page 7

OVH Communications Support for the 2018 Prince William Half Marathon

On Sunday Sept 30, 2018, the OVH provided the communications support for the Prince William Half Marathon for the third year. The Prince William Half Marathon has become a major regional “running” event. See, <https://www.princewilliamhalfmarathon.com> for more details about the overall event. The OVH’s involvement in providing communications support was planned and chaired by Wayne / N7QLK; the communications support ran very smoothly due to good planning, good operators and good procedures.

This year the half marathon itself had 1,400 runners -- plus 500 additional runner participated in a 5K race within the half marathon race. The 5K race runners started after the Half Marathon runners had left and only did a portion of the overall half marathon course.

The OVH was well represented by 18 members / radio operators who were all volunteers for this event. Only one member who had planned to attend, was unable to do so due to illness. Thus, nearly 20% of the OVH’s membership participated in the event this year - a very good turnout!

The three net control operators maintained a white board for the progress of the race. This included the current locations of the first male runner, the first female runner and the last runner. This greatly assisted the marathon managers in monitoring the progress of their event.

When one runner needed medical assistance, Eric (call pending) at the net control station went to the first aid tent and convinced an aid person there to follow him to the runner. They soon arrived in a golf cart type vehicle and all was taken care of. We should also mention that all OVH volunteers worked smoothly with the Police Officer at or near their posts.

On a lighter note, a number of the runners ‘high fived’ the OVH volunteers. One female runner that high fived John/KG4NXT had a T-shirt that read “I hurt all over and I am dying”.

The OVH member who participated were: (see location diagrams on next page and pictures on page 9):

Net Control: Wayne/N7QLK, Chick/KC1PIA, Eric/Call Pending

Start/Finish-Wellington Rd: Greg/KM4CCG

Post A: Ray/KM4EKR: Vicinity of University Blvd Overpass over I-66.

Post B: Jay/NQ4T (formerly: KM4JOJ), Luther/WA3FMO, Cat/KM4PBD: NY Monument Loop.

Post C: John/KG4NXT, Duane/KK4BZ, Byron/AK4XR): Deep Cut Parking Lot/Featherbed Lane.

Post D: Al/KB4BHB, Don/WA2SWX): Brawner Farm Loop and Pageland Lane.

Post 1: Theresa/KG4TVM: Corner of Wellington Road and University Boulevard.

Post 2: David/KG4GIY: Intersection of Route 29 and University Boulevard.

Post 3: Mary/KK4GOW: Intersection of Route 29 and Pageland Lane.

Post 5: Joe/KI4OHR, Baofang/KK4JFK: Intersection Route 29 / Featherbed Lane / NY Monument.

Post 6: Andy/KJ4MTP: Intersection of Route 29 and Sudley Road (Route 234) turnaround.

Much of the half marathon course was within the Manassas National Battlefield Park. See the operator location diagrams on page 8. Thanks to John/KG4NXT and Wayne/N7QLK for all of this detail.

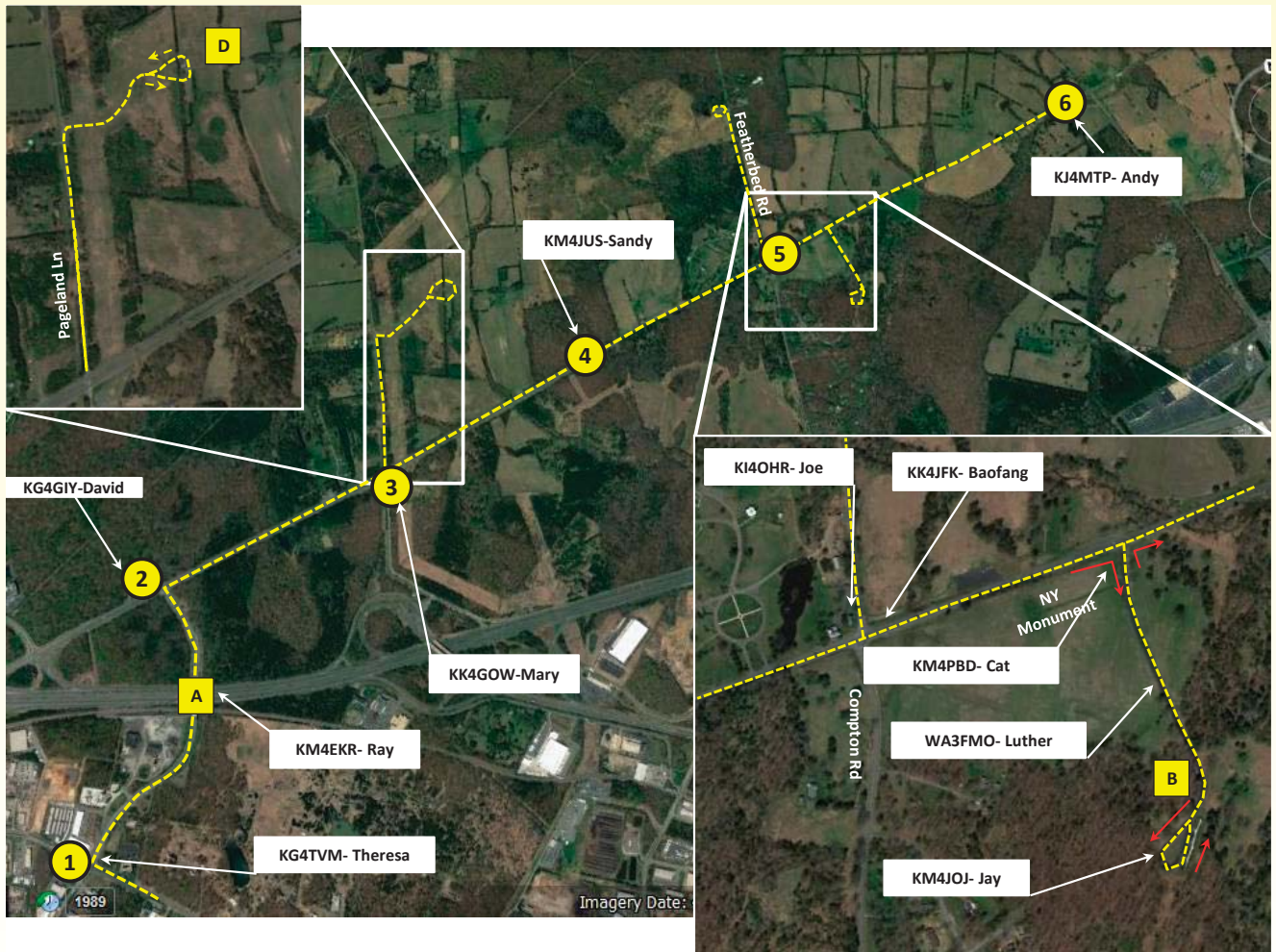
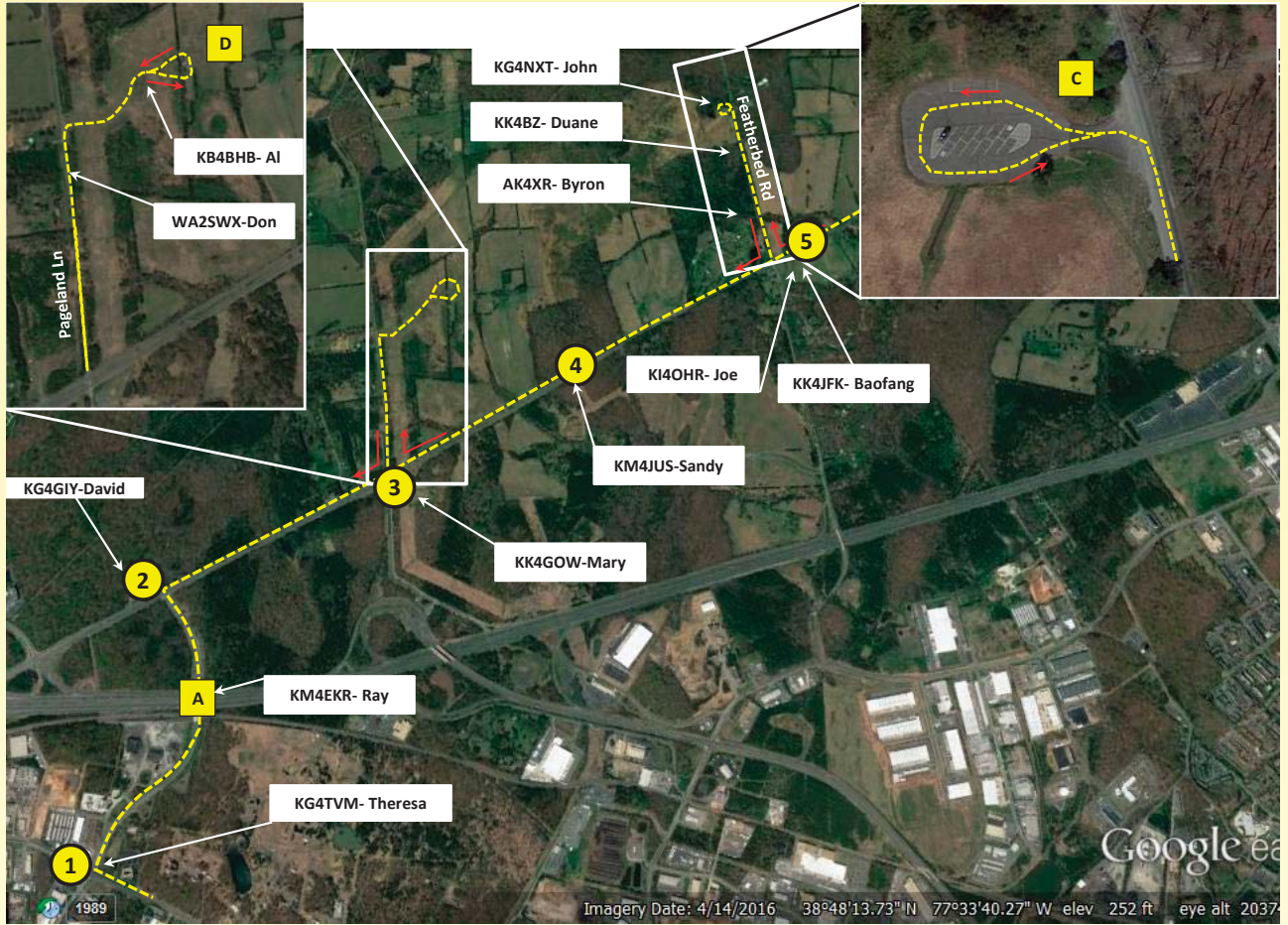
Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information - Contd from page 6.

2. One of the few still flying B17 WWII bombers will be at Manassas Airport on October 19 thru 21, 2018. Both ground tours (inexpensive) and flights (\$\$\$) are offered. Some of these very famous WWII bombers still have original radio equipment on board. Go to <http://B17.org> for more info and details.

3. Who hasn’t thrown out gear damaged by white corrosion from leaking alkaline batteries. Can that be remedied? Perhaps, see: <https://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Fix-Corroded-Battery-Terminals>

4. Analog Devices has published an interesting article with good images on old (and newer) radio receiver technologies. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/AD-100yrsRadioRcvrs> Also available as a PDF.

OVH Operator locations during the Prince William Half Marathon Event - 9/30/2018



Some Pictures from the 2018 Prince William Half Marathon



Above: Runners at Deep Cut Turn-Around
On the Left: OVH Net Control

Below: Jay / NQ4T near NY Monument
Left: Runners - near Rte 29 & 234 TurnAround

