

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

November 2018

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 20, 2018

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are doing well as we go into the Holiday season, with our first snowfall of this season just happening as I write this. This time of the year we have a few events that the members help out with.

The first event coming up is the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade on Saturday morning, December 1st. George / K4GVT has already been soliciting for volunteers to help out with communications support and other tasks, and quite a few have already stepped forward. The the volunteers will meet around 7:00 am when a breakfast is provided. This is a big annual event in Manassas (previously known as the City of Manassas Christmas Parade) and it is held this year for the 73rd time.

The second event is the annual Christmas Lights Parade in Manassas Park on Saturday, December 8th beginning at 5:45pm. Greg / KM4CCG is coordinating this again this year so contact him directly to volunteer with communications support. That's all the details I have on that one for now. More information should come out on the reflector as the date gets closer.

The last event for the Holiday season will be, of course, the OVH's world famous Holiday Party to be held again at the Yorkshire Restaurant. We gather on Sunday evening, December 9th, for our meeting/party. Theresa / KG4TVM is in charge as usual so a great time is guaranteed for all! Come one, come all, bring family members who are also invited, and bring a side to be shared. Plan to try John / KG4NXT's venison chili. And bring an unwrapped gift for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots. More information will be on the OVH's email reflector.

I wish to express my thanks to all the veterans for their service to our country.

I also want to thank Jeff / WB6UIE and Don / WA2SXW for their discussion on the reflector about WWII Nazi radio operators. It lead me via link to a memoir written by one of the key participants in the FCC during WWII which was very fascinating. I could not

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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
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HAMFEST 2019 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2019

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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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
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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
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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JOTA - 2018

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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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.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PROGRAMS

Jeff	WB6UIE	791-5916
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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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
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W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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SCHOLARSHIP

Sandy Knight	KM4JUS	901-4664
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SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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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>

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stop reading it, well whenever I could, as it goes on and on describing many memorable events and incidents and with lots of technical and other details. I learned that the FCC had a Radio Intelligence Division which was so good at finding spy transmitters that the Japanese would not allow their spies to use radio because they knew they would be captured. They were also very good at finding lost aircraft and were asked to help a lot during the war. The discussion on radio direction finding was very educational. I would write more but I don't want to spoil it for you. I highly recommend reading it. Get the free PDF at <http://users.isp.com/danflan/sterling/ridhist.pdf>

I look forward to seeing all of you at the November OVH meeting on Tuesday, November 20th at 7:30 pm in the conference room at the Buckhall Fire Station, Manassas; and also at the OVH's annual Holiday Season Party on December 9th. .

73 BYRON AK4XR

Sunshine Corner:

Wishing the following OVH club members a happy birthday this November: Wayne / N7QLK, Kevin / KX4KU, Baofang / KK4JFK, Theresa / KG4TVM, Butch / W4HJL, Greg / KM4CCG, Jeff / WB4TT, Gene / KD4RHC, Charlie / WA4YGI and Joe / AB4QV.

The planning meetings for Manassas Hamfest 2019 are well underway and our Chairman, Don / WA2SWX, is taking a strong lead in the face of some unusual planning challenges this year - which will be the 45th for the Manassas Hamfest. All members (and non-members) are invited to attend these meetings to learn how such a major event is planned. Check out notices on the OVH's email reflectors and web site or you can reach Don at wa2swxdm@gmail.com

JOTA – Jamboree on the Air, was held on Saturday, October 20th at the Camp Snyder Boy Scout Camp in Haymarket, Virginia. We had great participation by OVH club members who explained and demonstrated ham radio operation to the scouts; thanks to everyone who attended or participated, including those who answered calls on the radio. Very nice turnout of scouts and parents. See some photos later in this Newsletter.

Condolences to Jeff / WB6UIE and Rosalie / WIFE on the death their beloved and very loyal dog.

At the upcoming OVH club meeting on November 20th, we will have just a little over one month left in 2018, with still many OVH activities to end the year. Please mark your calendar for the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade on December 1st and the OVH's annual Holiday Party on Sunday, December 9th beginning at 6:00 pm at the Yorkshire Restaurant. Please bring a favorite dish to share. This is a family event, so bring family members. We will also be collecting new, unwrapped toys for the Toys For Tots campaign.

Please try to check in to the Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net at 8:00 pm. 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 also check in either by radio or via Internet connection.

Wishing everyone a HAPPY THANKSGIVING! And the Thursday night net will be held on Thanksgiving so don't fall asleep early if you eat too much.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on Tuesday, October 16, 2018:

OVH Vice President, Jeff / WB6UIE, called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on October 16, 2018 in the main conference room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their name and call sign. There were 34 OVH members and 3 guests present. Former Manassas area OVH member, Ron / N4RDZ was present and visiting from the Seattle area. Welcome back Ron!

Prince William Marathon: Wayne / N7QLK provided a summary of this very successful event, and gave out shirts and medallions available to the participants. Prince William Marathon has already advised it would like the OVH to assist again with communications support for this event in 2019. Wayne also mentioned setting up an 'antenna creation Saturday'.

September Meeting Minutes: Sandy / KM4JUS made a motion to accept the September meeting minutes as reported in the OVH Newsletter, with no changes. Gene / KN4JMB seconded, minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Don / WA2SWX provided the report. Details will be posted for members only [login by members required to view] on the OVH web site at w4ovh.net.

Membership Report: Membership Chairman Luther / WA3FMO read in completed applications by Matt Rombold / KX4HC and John McNamara / KG4HZC and an informal application (no completed application) by Jack "Brian" Cochran / WC4J.

Repeater: Ken / KE2N reported on the maintenance issues being worked on, including the efforts to identify a noise on repeater (possibly from feedline, antenna, or connectors?).

Andy / KJ4MTP and Ken / KE2N have been working with COMCAST.

Training Report – Mark / WA4KFZ stated that his online Tech Class has three students, a low number, likely do to some changes with not enough advance publicity. Nevertheless, an open VE examination session has been scheduled for Saturday, November 17, at the Manassas City Public Works building.

2019 Hamfest Update: Don / WA2SWX reported that the committee is looking at alternate venues and other less expensive sites for 2019 and following. Don wants to make the decision by mid-to-end of November. Because the PWC Fairgrounds is expected to be sold to developers after June next year, numerous options for future Manassas Hamfests locations are being researched and considered. Don and the committee will present proposals and alternatives at the November meeting for club vote.

Sunshine by Theresa / KG4TVM: Happy Birthday wishes to Ray KM4EKR. The JOTA event went very well, with approximately 100 scouts attending. The Greater Manassas Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 1st. George / K4GVT will coordinate the club's support activities. The club voted to enter the club trailer in the parade again. Theresa / KG4TVM will submit the application. The OVH year end Holiday Party will be held on Sunday, December 9th at the Yorkshire Restaurant, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The main course and drinks will be provided as

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usual. Please plan to bring a side dish to share. Family members are invited too as usual. Everyone is also asked to bring something for Toys For Tots.

Web Site– Kevin / KX4KU and the committee is meeting to identify how to get extricated from the clutches of ‘Go Daddy’. A meeting with the committee and the OVH board will be scheduled soon.

Discussion was held regarding Corporate Sponsors for OVH. Bob / K4HJF will assist in writing a formal OVH letter to use for such purposes.

Duane / KK4BZ gave an update of upcoming long distance (50 miles) horse rides to be held on Saturday, October 19th starting at 7:30 am. Anyone interested in participating talk with Duane.

Jeff / WB6UIE has information on ordering OVH polo shirts and name-tags.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, February 2, 2018 - Frostfest Hamfest in Richmond, Virginia.

HAM RADIO RELATED:

Sunday, December 9, 2018, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm - OVH's annual Year End Holiday Season Party at the Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Road, Manassas, Virginia. This is always a major, fun club event with lots of time to socialize with other members - don't miss it!

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

Saturday, December 1, 2018 beginning 7:00 am (breakfast) or earlier - OVH communications support for the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade in Manassas. George / K4GVT is coordinating this again and looking for more volunteers! Contact him and watch the OVH email reflector for more info.

Saturday, December 8, 2018 beginning 5:30 pm (or earlier) - OVH communications support for the Parade of Lights in Manassas Park, volunteers needed. Greg / KM4CCG has the info.

Also, always check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcared.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

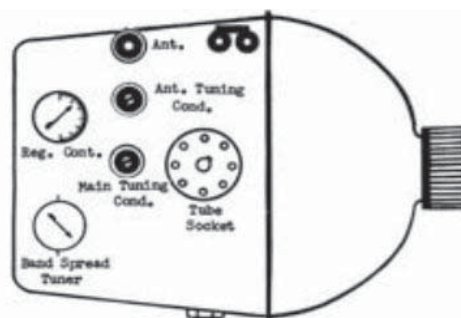
The approaching holiday season and year's end are traditionally a time for reflection and giving thanks for our many blessings. This Veteran's Day, lets take a moment to express thanks to our veterans - the young ones who are in harm's way today defending our freedoms, and those who have gone before, sometimes giving all.

Amateurs have a proud history of contributions during our nation's conflicts. This Veteran's Day I'll cover a fascinating but little known part of that history - radios built by American and Allied prisoners of war. For a moment, imagine yourself as a WWII POW. You're injured, on short rations, and living in primitive conditions. How will you find parts for even a basic receiver? And, of course, the design will be yours (no references or tube manuals). Since consequences of discovery by your captors will be severe, your design must also be small and concealable.

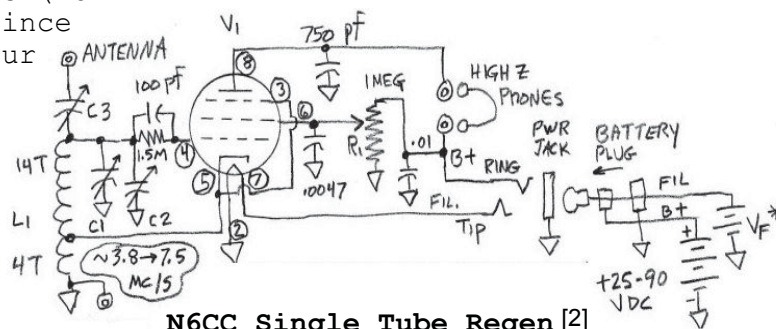
The German policy of assigning POWs to work details did make the challenge a little easier. Radio parts just seemed to disappear from the repair shop now and then.



Thanksgiving on Combat Outpost Cherkatah, Khowst province, Afghanistan (U.S. Army)



Canteen Radio [1]



A replica receiver built by N6CC based on POW descriptions.

Japanese camps, on the other hand, were notorious for their brutality. Those in the Philippines were among the worst. Disease and starvation were rampant. Imagine trying to assemble a radio under those conditions. Shown above is a clever design by a POW in one of those camps. Its one tube regenerative circuit was concealed in a GI canteen. Stowed by day in its canvas pouch, it looked just like any other issue canteen. At night, POWs used it to search for news of MacArthur's pending invasion.

Punishment for possessing a radio in one of those camps could range from severe beatings to execution. In spite of brutal mistreatment by suspicious guards, no one gave it up. Another reminder that freedom is not free.

1. The K0NR Radio Site: "POW Canteen Radio" November 2015
<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2015/11/pow-canteen-radio/>

2. N6CC web site: "Canteen Shortwave Radio Receiver" November 2017
<https://www.n6cc.com/canteen-radio-receiver>

Pictures from the October 20, 2018 “Jamboree On The Air” Event Boy Scout Camp Snyder - Haymarket, Virginia



To the left - getting the main tent ready and finalizing set up of ham radio equipment, antennas , etc. for the more than 100 Boy Scouts and their parents who visited this 2018 JOTA event at Camp Snyder, Haymarket, Virginia

OVH Members participated on site and from home where they answered radio calls from Boy Scouts.



What are the antennas now at the OVH’s Mt. Pone repeater site? To the left is a nicely labeled picture by Ken / KE2N. An older picture of Byron / AK4XR



below: the installing of another antenna (no longer in service??) on the top of the Mt. Pone water tower. tnx to Bill/N4SV.

Some pictures, including of the radio equipment, in the still flying WWII B17 bomber owned by Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA.org) which visited Manassas Airport (KHEF) in late October, 2018 - for inspections, ground tours and flights by members of the public.



To the left - an image of the B-17 on approach for landing on Runway 16L at Manassas just before the flight taken by your editor on 10/22/2018.

To the left below, B-17 taxiing in to the ramp after landing.

The B-17 ground tours are inexpensive but the short exhibition flights are a bit pricey. However, a B-17 flight has been a long time bucket-list item!

The weekend flights were all filled up and then many were cancelled due to bad weather. A slot opened up on the last flight.

Some of the WWII HF radios are shown below, as are other images taken during the flight,



Above - (to the left) - full set of HF band tuners for the transmitter& antenna system, (center) the HF transmitter with a tuner installed, (to the right) the radio op's table with BC-348 receiver, J38 key and control boxes. Below, other pictures.



Above, L to R: View from a machine gunner's port on the left side, view of the pilots flying the B-17 from just behind them in the cockpit, view from the bombardier's window at his station, view of the two left engines and propellers turning.