

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

Renew your OVH membership now!

## December 2019

### Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 21, 2020

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all.

Well December is here which means the grand kids are getting excited and my wife is busy getting ready. It also means that since our kids no longer live at our home, I have to help with putting up the decorations on the outside of the house. Before, I just had to make sure all the lights on the strings and decorations worked. It was getting easier with the slow switch to LED lights. However, now I have to actually place them along the gutters of our house. I have just one complaint. The plastic hooks that we are using to attach them to the gutters which get left behind when the lights are taken back down don't last more than one season. If I try to reuse a hook from the previous year, it just snaps off. I wonder if its because they are designed to be biodegradable?



The Greater Manassas Christmas Parade was another successful event for the many club members who participated. Thanks to all those club members that participated. Thanks to George / K4GVT for organizing our club's participation and thanks to Theresa / KG4TVM, for entering and decorating the trailer for the parade. Ray KM4EKR, towed the trailer and Pinky (Rosalee / KN3ZLY) rode in the back (it was reported that Pinky was looking for a wrist transplant after all the waving she did). I can't vouch for the other participants though I can speculate that they all had as great a time as I did in helping with this event. Cat / KM4PBD roamed the parade route taking pictures, so check the web site and later in this newsletter for some of the pictures from this event. Jim, Dana, and I were helping out in the staging area so we got to see all the parade participants and help get some of them in their spaces in the staging area. If you have never volunteered for this in the past, you should try it next year, it was a lot of fun.

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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:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
Treasurer:	Don Meyerhoff	WA2SWX	597-3211

## DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdel	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://	<a href="http://pwcares.org">pwcares.org</a>

## 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	540-445-5183
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651
John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KN4DD	622-2638

## 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

Wayne	N7QLK	571-237-0520
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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 © 2019 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 Repeaters each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. or through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>

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The Holiday party was another successful Holiday party. I was going to say event but it was more than an event. Theresa / KG4TVM, really did an outstanding job of organizing this end of year party / meeting. (If you haven't heard by now, there is not regular club meeting in December:) There was of course, good food (my wife kept commenting on how good the food was, so its not just my word for it.) Including the venison chili. A kind of funny thing was, we had so many shrimp platters brought by club members Theresa had the great idea of just passing them out as cocktails to each table before the meal. And, of course, the company was good. It was great seeing everybody there. I didn't get to talk to everyone that I wanted to, however, I think everyone had a great time (not that talking to me means you will have a great time). Awards were given out (for fear of messing up who got what let me refer you to the club web page). Some of the award recipients were not present so their awards will be presented at our January meeting. We had a U.S. Marine join us for dinner and we had a bunch of toys donated for Toy for Tots. I am not sure if "bunch" adequately describes how many toys were donated. I want to say "S--t Ton" when I think of how many there were, but there may be some who frown on the use of that word. Last but not least, there were the desserts. Cheesecake, a variety of cookies and I am sure a lot more, however, I never made it passed the chocolate overdose cake. You know, so much chocolate that after one bite you are full. Great job, Theresa!

Thanks to Wayne N7QLK for putting together a small group to provide communications for a Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day at the GMU campus. Thanks to all that helped out with this race. With the New Year coming up, we will be voting on Officers for the club in February. If you think you would like to campaign for a position let us know by the meeting next month.

I also want to remind all club members that the end of the calendar year is also the time to begin thinking about renewing your OVH membership - paying dues - for the upcoming year, 2020. You can use the form later in this newsletter and mail in your check; or you can log on to the club web site and pay your dues for 2020 online.

Another end of the calendar year event is the ARRL's Straight Key Night - this starts at 0000 UTC on January 1st which is 7:00 PM EST on December 31st. It's always a lot of fun for would be and as well as experienced CW operators - and there is surprising amount of activity on the HF bands. More info about that later in this newsletter. .

Thank you and Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you. Please keep Al / KB4BHB's wife Hanna, in your thoughts and prayers. I hope to se all of you at the next regular OVH meeting which will be on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:30 PM.

73 BYRON AK4XR

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## Sunshine Corner:

Happy birthday in December to the following club members: David / KK4ZUU, Tony / KM4KLB, David / KJ4EPF, Ed / KK4PHP, Jay / N4QT, Dianne / KI4FVV, Bill / N4SV, and Charles / WA1FFX. Hoping you all are able to enjoy your special day during this Holiday season!

Please keep Bill / KM4KWX in your thoughts as he is recovering from surgery.

Thanks to all the club members that helped at the Manassas Christmas parade. Special thanks to Ray / KM4EKR for pulling our club trailer in the parade.

Thank you to everyone that attended our Holiday Party on December 8th. A very huge thank you for your tremendous donations to Toys for Tots, the amount of toys donated was very heart warming. It is always an extra nice addition to our party when we have an active duty Marine attend to collect the toys. This year "DJ" attended and had the best time-sharing stories with you all, he told me he is going to watch for our event to post next year and he will volunteer to come back!

Congratulations to those that received recognition at the party, your efforts thru out the year are truly appreciated and are what makes our club as successful as it is.

Paul / W4ZB is a grandpa again (#7) with the arrival of another granddaughter in Austin, Texas, at the end of November.

We missed Al / KB4BHB and his wife, Hanna, at the Year End Party for the first time in many years. Hanna is facing very difficult medical issue, please keep both in your thoughts and prayers.

A couple of photos I took at our last monthly meeting at Buckhall in November are included later in this Newsletter.

Wishing you all a very happy Holiday and looking forward to 2020!



Continue to send news or other items to me via email at kg4tvm@hotmail.com or telephone: 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

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## Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019:

OVH President Byron / AK4XR called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on November 19, 2019 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, Manassas.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns.

We had a video presentation by Joe Taylor / K1JT, on FT8 and beyond.

Ken / KE2N, had a show and tell on a 70 cm modem capable of 500 kilobits per second. The symbol rate is limited to 50 kilobits by FCC rules and the mode is capable of that thanks to a suggestion by Ken.

The minutes of the September OVH meeting were approved as amended by Luther / WA3FMO to include the reading in of William Miller / KN4YPG.

The Treasurer's report by Don / WA2SWX was read by Jeff / WB6UIE and was approved.

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. He read in Scott / KN4ZMC and James / KA4BOL as member applicants. And William / KN4YPG was voted in as a new member.

Jeff / WB6UIE gave the ARES report. The November 21st training session has been canceled.

Ken / KE2N gave the Repeater Report. Nothing to report.

Jeff / WB6UIE gave the Hamfest report. Karl / W4KRL will give his Internet of Things program again at the Hamfest in June 2020.

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Byron / AK4XR stated that the Field Day planning meeting would start in January of the New Year.

Theresa / KG4TVM gave the Sunshine report. Butch / W4HJL recently had his 80th birthday. The Greater Manassas Christmas Parade will be on December 7th and the OVH Trailer will be one of the floats. Decorating the trailer to be announced. The OVH Year End Holiday Party will be on Sunday Evening, December 8th at the Yorkshire Restaurant – please bring a covered dish and a new unwrapped toy for Toys For Tots. Gene / KN4JMB had his 36 year old son die unexpectedly. The family wants a scholarship or charitable contribution in lieu of flower. The club voted to send \$100. Al / KB4BHB's wife Hanna is in the hospital.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web report and urged all members to sign in and check their database record. Send any corrections to him.

George / K4GVT spoke on the communications support for the Manassas Christmas Parade. George will attend the City Planning meetings for the event but will be out of town on the day of the event. Steve / N4OGR will run the event on the day of the event. George asked for volunteers and a sign up sheet was passed around.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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## **Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:**

### **HAMFESTS:**

February 1, 2020 (Saturday) -The Frostfest Hamfest, Richmond, Virginia. This is one of the few, nearby mid-winter hamfests, and a major one, not too far away. A bunches of OVH members always go to this so ask around if you need a ride. More info: <http://frostfest.com/wp>

February 7-9, 2020 (Friday - Sunday), Hamcation 2020 at the Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, Florida. More info at <https://www.hamcation.com> This is the biggest Florida hamfest; and the weather is warm or mild in Central Florida in February.

### **HAM RADIO RELATED:**

December 31, 2019, (New Year's Eve) beginning at 7:00 PM EST (or 0000-2359 UTC on January 1, 2020.), ARRL's Straight Key Night. Years ago, before the Novice class of operator was eliminated, this event used to be something like Novice night for all of the new five word per minute Novice CW (Morse code) operators. That changed and now it is a lot of fun for newbies and experienced CW operators using straight keys on the HF bands where there is a good level of activity. Check out <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night> for more details.

### **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 at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal> by WA7BNM. 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**

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.

## PINKIE'S CORNER

Hello everyone! It's that time of year again! Time to enjoy all the holiday festivities, and also to reflect on all the events of the past year. (Jeff gets a break from his VP Corner Column this month!)

The OVH had an outstanding Hamfest in June! It was one of the best. We had a new location and everything worked out great!

The weather was good for the Christmas parade. It was a bit cold and windy, but it wasn't snowing! I got to "ham it up" and wave my little arms off! A good time was had by all!

Our holiday party was a smashing success thanks to Theresa's hard work and phenomenal planning skills! She's wonderful at pulling these events together! She created and awarded trophies and certificates to John, Jeff, Don, Wayne, Gil, Byron and Cat for their achievements and contributions to the club, and I even got one for being "Pinkie"! That was very sweet and thoughtful! I think Theresa deserves an award for all that! A BIG "THANK YOU" to Theresa!

We celebrated Butch's 80th birthday with a beautiful cake and balloon.

Art and his new wife attended the party. Congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple!

Byron passed out knives. They are very nice and will come in handy! Thank you, Byron!

With all the other excitement, I almost forgot that I'm now a real "ham"! My call sign is KN4ZLY.

So, as the year draws to a close, I wish everyone love, peace, and good health in the New Year! See you all in the new year!

Pinkie-----signing off! . . . . . de kn4zly

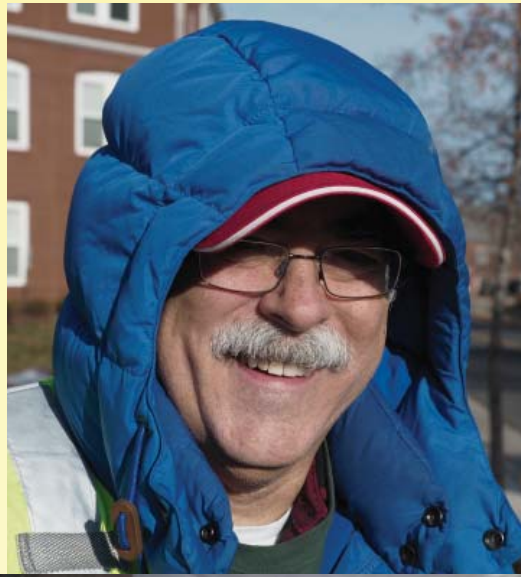
**Pictures from the OVH Meeting on November 19, 2019**



# Some Pictures from the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade on 12/7/2019 during which OVH Provided Communications Support and a Float



Cont'd on page 8



Special thanks to photographer  
Cat / KM4BPD

**Some Pictures from the OVH Year End / Christmas Party on 12/7/2019**



**Cont'd on page 9**





# REMINDER



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!! Below is the 2020 Renewal Application.

Please fill out the form below (for database), attach your check and mail to the address below or drop off at a meeting. Be sure to update all information, including your e-mail address, telephone number(s) and nine digit ZIP

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB" for 2020

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
BIRTHDAY: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU PRESENTLY AN ARRL MEMBER? (YES/NO)  
ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER EXAMINER: (YES/NO)  
MAY YOUR TELEPHONE NOS. BE LISTED IN THE "Members Only" OVH ROSTER? (YES/NO)  
WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT LICENSE CLASS? \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are now **\$20.00** per year and payable on January 1, 2020. Dues for each additional family member living at the same mailing address are \$10.00. Dues for a full time student at the college undergraduate or lower level [ list school attended and grade or level:  
\_\_\_\_\_ ] are \$10.00.

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS:

AMOUNT ENCLOSING: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_  
Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: **Treasurer, OVH**  
**P.O. Box 1255**  
**Manassas, VA 20108-1255**