

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

Renew your OVH membership now!

February 2020

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 2020

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello - I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather in between the cold snaps. Unfortunately, it seems to me, the warmer weather is accompanied by rain most of the time. It makes it hard to work on projects outside. I am still trying to get ready for the Virginia QSO Party next month.

This month our regular OVH Club meeting will ne held on Wednesday, February 19th (NOT on Tuesday) at the normal time (7:30 pm) at the regular location: Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas. This day of the week change for February (and also for March) is due a minor snafu with the scheduling desk at the Buckhall Fire Department. The correct meeting dates are posted on the OVH's web site: W4OVH.NET

The Virginia QSO Party March 21st & 22nd is coming up in March, but you might want to start to plan for it now. Gordan from SPARC will be giving the presentation on the upcoming Virginia QSO Party. I always enjoy his presentations which make me want to participate since it is so easy and fun. Also coming up in March, the Winterfest hamfest on the 29th of March put on by Vienna Wireless at the NOVA Annandale campus.

We have just had our first Field Day planning meeting where we discussed how many transmitters we should have (no decision yet) and made assignments for things that need to be done before Field Day. Our next field Day planning meeting will be March 10th at Sam and Joes Pizza. Check the web site and keep an eye on the reflector for FD meeting places and dates.

Our upcoming February meeting is when, each year, we elect or reelect



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:	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://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	540-445-5183
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>

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. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20191008

club officers for the ensuing year. As most of you know, I will be stepping down as President after several terms - time to give another club member a chance to serve as president and to free up some of my time for more ham radio activities and at home. So anyone who wishes to run or who is considering running for President, make yourself known to the OVH's Board of Directors and to other OVH members before the meeting! And be sure to be at the meeting. There are a few requirements: you must have been a member for two years and you also must hold an Extra Class License. I can think of a number of club members who would do a great job as President. To be eligible to vote you must have already paid your OVH dues (or renewal dues) for 2020. Incumbent officers who have already announced that they are candidates for re-election are: Don / WA2SWX running for Treasurer. Jeff / WA6UIE, running for Vice-President, and John / KG4NXT running for Secretary. Other club members can run for those other offices too. Come out and vote. I should end this by thanking everyone for their support while I have been serving as President. It has been a good time and I will miss working so closely with the other club officers. They really do a great job. When first elected I was thinking that there were a lot of members who would be more qualified than I was, and I still think that. I am looking forward to supporting our next Club President.

Once again, I remind everyone that it is time to renew your OVH membership for 2020. That means paying your dues which are very modest. That can now be done via PayPal on the OVH web site at <http://W4OVH.NET> or by using the paper mail in form later in this Newsletter.

I hope to see all of you at the next regular OVH meeting which will be on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:30 PM at the Buckhall Fire Station.

73 BYRON AK4XR

Sunshine Corner:

Happy Birthday to all of those OVH Club members celebrating another year in February: Dick / WN7S, Harvey / WB6TTF, Jeff / WB6UIE, Art / W1CRO and Mike / KN4NDI.

Best wishes to Dana, Jim's / KM4SXM's YL as she continues to recover from a bad fall.

The OVH had a table at Frostfest in Richmond on Saturday, February 1st. We handed out lots of flyers for and talked up the OVH's 2020 Manassas Hamfest to be held in June. Good to see many club members attending the event.

The Virginia QSO Party is coming up in March, more info at the February meeting!

OVH / ARRL Field Day 2020 is in the planning stages and we have just had the first planning meeting at Sam & Joe's on Center Street in Manassas. See, photo to the right. Any help, questions, etc. contact Byron / AK4XR.



Continued on page 4

Hamfest are well under way. Please check in with Don / WA2SWX and let him know how you can help the Club during this event.

Happy Valentine's Day! Stay warm and continue to send news or other items to me, email at kg4tvm@hotmail.com or telephone: 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held in January, 2020:

OVH President Byron / AK4XR called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on January 21, 2020 in the main hall room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station.

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

Byron / AK4XR presented an engraved glass award to Ken / KE2N for his outstanding service on the technical committee.

The Treasurer's report by Don / WA2SWX was approved. Don also mentioned the need for an inventory for insurance purposes and that the OVH would have a free table at Vienna Wireless' Winterfest hamfest in March in Annandale, where there will also be an AUXCOMM conference for the first time.

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. Scott / KN4ZMC and James / KA4BOL were voted in. Luther read in Lori / KC0EWN and Lynn / KX4HR who will be voted on at the next meeting.

The minutes of the November OVH meeting were approved.

Ken / KE2N gave the Repeater Report. He gave an overview of our repeaters and proposed replacing the 220 MHz repeater at NOVEC to increase its connectivity. It will also need a new computer. The 442.200 MHz repeater will not be linked to the 146.970 MHz repeater during the weekly OVH Net – instead the 224.660 MHz repeater will be linked in. Ken also want to replace the Windows 7 based machine at Mt. Pone because Windows 7 is now off support from Microsoft. There was discussion and these proposals are headed to the budget committee.

Mark / WA4KFZ gave the training report. He reported on the problems encountered with the technician classes and the 'What now ?' sessions. Mark asked for comments and suggestions via email. John / KG4NXT reported that an OVH VE session was scheduled for March.

Kevin / KX4KU gave the Web Committee report. The new Hamfest pages are ready and there are no other big concerns.

Byron / AK4XR gave the Field Day report. The Nokesville Park site for Field Day is secured for 2020. There will be a Field Day planning meeting on February 11, 2020.

Greg / KM4CCG gave the ARES report. The January training went as scheduled. There were four endurance awards given out. The next meeting will be in March.

George / K4GVT showed some call sign display with laser engraving and remote control. He is selling this and the club gets \$5.00 for each one purchased.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

March 29, 2020 (Sunday) - The Vienna Wireless' long perennial Winterfest has slipped a few days further, and now is in Spring. Nevertheless, it is close by at NOVA in Annandale and is usually well attended by OVH members. See, <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest> for more info as well as the Flyer later in this Newsletter.

June 13, 2020 (Saturday) - the OVH Manassas Hamfest - a major annual Hamfest put on by the OVH, this year for the 46th time. Save this date for this! See <http://manassashamfest.org> or look at <http://w4ovh.net/welcome-to-manassas-hamfest> and the Flyer later in this Newsletter for more info.

HAM RADIO RELATED:

June 27-28, 2020 - ARRL / OVH Field Day event at the Nokesville Virginia Park. Save these dates! This is a major OVH event each year.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

March 21 and 22, 2020 - the Virginia QSO Party. This is a big local (Virginia) event and lots of OVH members participate, particularly on the VHF and UHF bands. There is more info at https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2020_VQP/2020_VQP_Main.html The Virginia QSO party also takes place on the HF bands if you also operate there.

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://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.

OVH at Frostfest in Richmond - February 1, 2020

OVH had a table at Frostfest 2020. We handed out flyers for the Manassas Hamfest and there were only four flyers left by the end of Frostfest. Theresa / KG4NXT and Don / WA2SWX,



also gave each vendor a flyer. Theresa chatted up the vendors to try to get them to the OVH Manassas Hamfest in June. John / KG4NXT, sat on his butt, handed out flyers and answered questions at the OVH table. Other OVH members observed wandering about at Frostfest were Stu / W4PR, Ray / KMK4EKR, Sandy / KM4JUS, Ken / KD4VA and Mark /WA4KFZ..



VP's Corner

Jeff Fuller
WB6UIE

It seems our recruiting efforts have been paying off with several new members joining the club recently. When you see them at a meeting or club function, please take a minute to introduce yourself and welcome them to OVH.

Club recognition has definitely helped our recruiting. So, as spring approaches with Hamfest and other activities, this would be a good time to order your club nametag and polo if you don't already have them. Nametags may be ordered from:

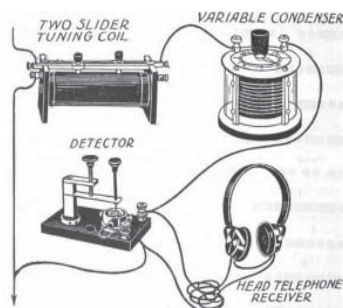
<http://www.thesignman.com/clubs/ovhcart.html>

I have club polos in stock which can be customized locally with your name and callsign. Email me your size.

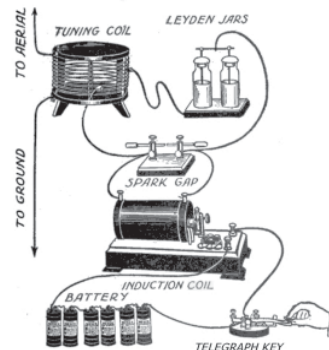


This month in radio history ...

A February 1902 *Scientific American* article on building a simple wireless station[1] is credited with bringing the first amateur radio to the U.S.[2]

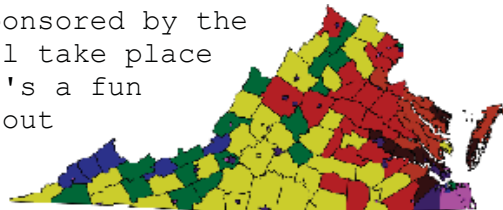


An early spark receiver



A spark transmitter

This year's Virginia QSO Party, sponsored by the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club, will take place the weekend of 21-22 March. It's a fun contest as well as a chance to check out your rig and NVIS antenna to see just how much of Virginia you can cover. Here's a link to their web page:



https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2020_VQP/2020_VQP_Main.html

For more info about the Virginia QSO Party, join us for a presentation at the February OVH meeting. A reminder -this month's club meeting has been moved to Wednesday 19 Feb at our usual time - 1930 local. Hope to see you there!

1. Collins: "How to construct an Efficient Wireless Telegraph Apparatus at a Small Cost" *Scientific American Supplement*, Feb 15, 1902, <https://earlyradiohistory.us/1902cons.htm>

2. FCC: "A Short History of Radio With an Inside Focus on Mobile Radio" Winter 2003-2004, https://transition.fcc.gov/omd/history/radio/documents/short_history.pdf

The W4OVH Scholarship Program

The Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club promotes ham radio through many different avenues. Our club's mission is to award annual scholarships of \$1000 to a graduating senior in a Prince William County high school. The scholarship may be used at any accredited college or university where the student will be pursuing a Bachelor's degree in electrical/electronics, engineering, or computer-related science. We are accepting completed applications via the email submission form available on the Club's web site at W4OVH.NET or via regular mail to: Sandra Knight, OVH Scholarship Committee, PO Box 1255, Manassas, Va 20108. All applications must be received by Friday, May 1, 2020. Any questions may be directed to Sandy Knight, scholarship committee chair via email [KM4JUS@hotmail.com] or via telephone at 703-901-4664.

If you have difficulty finding a copy of the application form for this scholarship, please be sure to send all of the following information, neatly printed or typed, to Sandy Knight by May 1, 2020 in order to apply.

**Name Address Age Telephone Email High School Class Rank School Activities (and offices held):
Community Activities (and offices held) Important Life Experiences Hobbies and Special Interests:
Plans for Financing College Education Written letter of recommendation from a faculty member.
Ham Radio Call Sign and Ham Radio Interests/Activities (not required to qualify for scholarship):
Transcript of grades Separate written statement from applicant describing career plans.
Copy of letter of acceptance from school of choice.**

Some Technical Information from Ken / KE2N - mini-Box computers - Digital Pocket Radio

Ken showed small (mini-) box computers which at the January 21, 2020 OVH meeting. He does not endorse any of them but observes that the smallest one is *just* capable of running the real-time DSP mode of AllsStarLink). Various operating systems (and applications) can be loaded on these.

The mini-pc Ken brought to the meeting was the last and the fastest one in the list below, but which had not yet tested by Ken. These all use Intel Celeron CPU's with the defining characteristic that the max CPU power is 10 watts. All run from just 12 VDC; the power supply voltage range had not been tested but Ken had found that the second one would start as high as 13.8 volts and continue to run down to about 10 volts.

The "Passmark" scores shown below are based on the https://www.cpubenchmark.net/cpu_list.php procedures. You can find vendor sources for these CPU's and more details about each online by Googling: site:amazon.com with the following CPU designators:

J3160 CPU Passmark 1794

N4100 CPU Passmark 2246

J4105 CPU Passmark 2646

The fastest CPU in this list is roughly equal in processing power to an Intel Core I3-2350M - which has a typical power of 35 watts.

FYI - the Intel Atom D510 and D525 (that Ken has previously been running with some of his repeaters) have Passmark scores of 658 and 705 -- much lower.

These Celeron CPU's are more like an Atom C3558 in terms of processing power. Find sources and more information by Googling: site:amazon.com Atom C3558 CPU

Ken also provided information about SharkRF - openSpot 3 - Pocket Digital Radio which is specified to work with DMR, D-Star, APRS and other digital protocols.

More info about this at <https://www.sharkrf.com/products/openspot3/>

INTERESTING STUFF!

2020 ARRL Virginia Section Convention

at **WINTERFEST!**TM

The National Capital Area Ham Radio Fair and AUXCOMM Conference

Inaugural AUXCOMM Conference
ARRL Leadership Presentations
ARES/VA; AREDN; SKYWARN; WINLINK
Over 60 Vendors, indoor and outside
Ham Radio, Electronics, Computer Parts,
Pieces, and Paraphernalia
Licensing Exams -- get licensed or upgrade at Winterfest
Large Indoor Exhibit Area
ARRL QSL checking for WAS, DXCC, VUCC
150 Paved tailgate spaces
Improved and expanded loading dock
FREE On-site parking

FEATURING

- ~ Tailgating ~ Tailgate area opens at 6:00 AM
- ~ Indoor Exhibit Area ~ 8:00 AM-1:00 PM
- ~ AUXCOMM Conference ~ 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
 - ~ Door Prizes 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
 - ~ QLF (CW) Contest-- Hourly
- ~ License Exams ~ 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- ~ Walk-ins encouraged!

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Outdoor 6AM-1PM, Indoor 8AM-1PM

Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus
Enter off Wakefield Chapel Road - Parking Lot B
8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale, VA
38.8333/-77.2362 or 18 S JU 0580/0056



Admission: \$10.00 per person

**Tailgate spaces: \$20 for one space (includes one admission)
+\$10/each additional space**

Talk-in 146.91 MHz -- Courtesy of Fairfax ARES and the NVFMA

More Information at <http://www.viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest>

**Table Sales -Mike, WA8AHZ
tablesales2020@viennawireless.net
(703) 870-1730**

 **Vienna Wireless Society**
Amateur Radio Club Since 1963 **PO Box 418**
Vienna, VA 22183

NVCC does not sponsor or endorse this event; Attendees shall follow all written policies of the College, as published at <https://www.nvcc.edu/policies/Default.aspx?cat=General%20Policies>

NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S LARGEST

Manassas Hamfest



AMATEUR RADIO, TECHNOLOGY & MAKER SHOW

An ARRL-Approved HAMFEST Presented By:

The OLE VIRGINIA HAMS Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



Note: same location as last year!

Saturday, June 13, 2020

Location - at the Manassas Park Community Center
with outdoor and indoor flea market areas, indoor
air-conditioned commercial areas and ample parking

Street address: 99 Adams Street - Manassas Park, Virginia -- (same as last year) --

INDOOR EXHIBITOR SPACE

6'foot tables: \$30* each
with chairs & electricity
(\$25 if reserved by May 31st)
Setup 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Friday
and 5:00 AM - 6:30 AM Saturday

GENERAL ADMISSION

\$10* per person at gate
(Age 18 and younger: no charge)
(*See web sites for prepayment
discounts before 5/31/2019)
Gates open at 6:30 AM

TAILGATING (admission is extra)

Outdoor Spaces: \$10* per space
(*See web sites for details about online
prepayment discounts before 5/31/2019)
Gates open at 6:30 AM

* Online ticket sales and vendor registration available on website *Saturday*

For our Most Current Vendor Info, Lists and Ticket Sales Visit our Web Pages:

<http://w4ovh.net/welcome-to-manassas-hamfest/>

Talk-In Repeater on 146.97-600 CTSS 100

PRIZES: (Will be listed on website for 2 wks after event) ACTIVITIES:

- Door prizes hourly 9 AM to 1 PM
- Major & Tailgate prizes awarded at 1 PM

INFORMATION:

- Virginia QSO Party Forum and Awards
- No Pets or Firearms. Also, no overnight camping. Check website for campground info
- Increased number of handicap parking spaces
- Multi-room vendor space this year as well!

- Flea Market & Vendors - all day
- VEC License Exams: 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM (\$15.00 Fee per Examinee at the VE Exams)
4th Call Area QSL Bureau Representatives & DXCC QSL Card Checking will be available
- Various technology and radio demos
- More Forums to be announced, check web sites

<http://manassashamfest.org> and <http://w4ovh.net>

Dealer Info from Don / WA2SWX:
General Info from Don / WA2SWX:
VE Testing / Exam Information:

vendors@manassashamfest.org
chairman@manassashamfest.org
vetesting@manassashamfest.org

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

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