

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

## July 2020

Next Meeting: July 21, 2020 online, details below.

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello and Greeting to Everyone!

With life returning a little more to normal and summer rolling in, it feels like only yesterday I was getting ready for field day; and here we are approaching the middle of summer with the next meeting around the corner.

Boy time flies when you're busy with radio stuff, as Field Day was followed up by the 13 Colonies event; and being increasingly busy at my job also helps make the time fly in a different way.

I hope everyone's Field Day was enjoyable. Mine started out unusual, as I found and fixed a newly discovered problem with my antenna several days early; rather than at 1pm on Saturday. I operated as a 1D on both phone and digital for a few contacts, but the bands were crowded and conditions were difficult for me. I know several OVH members were on the air doing "distributed field day" this year; especially Gil/KM4OZH with his tractor assisted setup, and David/KK4ZZU who went camping with his son and operated from Loft Mountain Campground. Both of their adventures are published on the website. Thanks to everyone else who operated and submitted logs. Even though we couldn't operate together as a club; we could still operate as a club.

I was distracted by the arrival of some radio equipment while 13 Colonies was going on, so I'm sure John/KG4NXT, Al/KB4BHB, Wayne/N7QLK, and Ken/KE2N worked far more stations than I did. But it was fun working the few I did, and GB13COL seemed to put up quite a challenge. The rather large 2m/70cm antenna I was installing on my car didn't even put up that much of a challenge; and it put up a bit of a challenge. So much radio, so little time.



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# Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255  
Manassas, Virginia 20108

## OFFICERS

President:	Jay Moore	NQ4T	571-316-4738
Vice Pres:	Jeff Fuller	WB6UIE	791-5916
Secretary:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
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 2020 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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## FIELD DAY 2020

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: <a href="mailto:KG4GIY@ARRL.NET">KG4GIY@ARRL.NET</a>	

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

## EMAIL REFLECTOR — [w4ovh@googlegroups.com](mailto:w4ovh@googlegroups.com)

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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## JOTA - 2020

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

## TWITTER & FACEBOOK ACCOUNT MODERATOR

Jeff	KM4FTK	830-4155
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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 © 2020 by the Ole Virginia Hams which holds its 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. 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 through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>. Articles in this newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the OVH ARC and other source(s) noted. Proposed materials for publication, classified ads, notes about specific errors, complaints or the like are solicited. Forward such items to the Newsletter Editor: [PAUL@W4ZB.COM](mailto:PAUL@W4ZB.COM). Approx. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20200310

Woodbridge Wireless has organized a rabbit hunt/foxhunt and sent an open invitation. I'd like to thank David/KG4GIY for passing that to the reflector as I actually went to one of their hunts way back in 2003; and I remember it being quite a lot of fun. Unlike the smaller hunts done at Field Day, this is over a much much larger area. A pre-hunt meeting and teaching session was held on Saturday July 11th, with the hunt happening on Saturday July 18th. I saw OVH members Mark/WA4KFZ and Gus/N4MLE there, though Gus already told me he wouldn't be able to make the actual hunt. I know I'll be spending my Saturday running around the eastern half of the county. (I also may have used it as an excuse to buy a new antenna.)

Thanks to Theresa/KG4TVM for the engraved travel mug. As someone who drinks a lot of coffee, I can never have enough things to drink it from.

Our next meeting will be on July 21, 2020 at 7:30pm. Due to continuing restrictions at our meeting location; we will be having it virtually at <https://ovh.nq4t.com/meeting> . Separately, don't forget to come join us on the VHF FM net at 8:00 pm every Thursday.

73 Jay NQ4T

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## Sunshine Corner

Happy birthday to our club members celebrating another year this month: Jack / KN4HHQ, Steve / KB4OF, Ken / WB4ZOH, Philip / KI4WCC, Jeff / KM4FTK, George / K4GVT, Sandy / KM4JUS, Rosalie / KN4ZLY, Dwight / N4GSD, Mary / KK4GOW, Jeff / K9VEG, Richard / KJ4ZIH and Luther / WA3FMO. I hope everyone found a way to celebrate his or her special day!

Very happy to announce we have a new member of the Heartney clan, Ben was born on June 19th to Elizabeth & Nick. They live near Seattle so if all goes well we will see them in August.

Way back in February, we had our last in person club meeting and it was the elections of officers. My intention was to present a plaque to Byron / AK4XR at the March meeting for his service as club president for 2 years. Also, I had

engraved travel mugs for Jay NQ4T, Jeff WB6UIE, Don WA2SWX and John KG4NXT, all our current officers. So at the beginning of July, John KG4NXT and I hit the road and social distanced each person outside to make the presentations. See pictures of these presentations later in this Newsletter. Thank you to these guys for taking care of the OVH club business!

Remember to check in at 8 pm on the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net - details are on the OVH's web site: W4OVH.NET That is a great way to stay in touch, especially now when many of us are subject to "social distancing!" Stay safe, if anybody needs help, please reach out, we need to stick together! Hope to see everyone in person soon. Continue to send news or other items to me, email at [kg4tvm@hotmail.com](mailto:kg4tvm@hotmail.com) or telephone: 703-257-3566. Happy Summer!

73 Theresa KG4TVM



# Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on June 16, 2020 Online:

The OVH regular meeting for June, 2020 was held over the Internet using the Jitsi platform hosted by Jay / NQ4T. The meeting began at 7:30 PM on June 16, 2020 The Jitsi attendee counter counted 22 attendees at its peak.

Because the meeting was being held virtually, OVH President, Jay / NQ4T dispensed with the saying of pledge of allegiance and with each members individually stating his or her callsign and name.

The minutes of the OVH May, 2020 online meeting as reported in the June, 2020 OVH Newsletter were approved.

Treasurer's report - no report.

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. He read in Bruce / KN4TS and Kenneth / KI4EOH. We voted in Ron Crowley / WB3LCV and Matt Tritle (no call yet).

Greg / KM4CCG gave the ARES report. Nothing planned until at least August.

Ken / KE2N, gave the repeater report via email. All working fine except a DStar problem with one of the computers which is being worked on.

Mark / WA4KFZ give the training report. There is some local VE testing going on. There was a discussion about outdoor testing. Mark mentioned a DMR presentation by NVFMA with details on the reflector.

Kevin / KX4KU gave the web committee report. Everything is working and the problems with the VP column input format have been solved.

Field Day. The OVH field is cancelled. Members are encouraged to operate at their homes and list the club in their log sheets. Wayne / N4HCR discussed an invitation to a virtual field by the Lynchburg club with details on the reflector.

Theresa / KG4TVM gave the Sunshine report. Birthdays were reported. Long time OVH member Russ / WB4HHN has passed and the club approved a motion to donate \$100 to St. Judes.

Scholarship report. Jay / NQ4T and Sandy / KM4JUS, awarded the scholarship to Benjamin Jacob at a ceremony at his house.

With business concluded, Cat / KM4PBD moved to adjourn the meeting and that motion passed.

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

### **HAMFESTS:**

August 2, 2020 (Sunday) - the Berryville Hamfest, the long-standing, perennial favorite for many OVH members to attend. THIS HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR 2020 DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. Bummer. For more info, see <https://svarc.us/coronavirus-update-3-16-2020>

### **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 on the OVH web site, W4OVH.NET for information about upcoming 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.

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OVH members who recently received service awards, all well known for their service to the Club.

Above - Left to Right:

John / KG4NXT

Byron . AK4XR

Don / WA2SWX

Bottom Left:

Jay / NQ4T

Bottom Right:

Jeff / WB6UIE





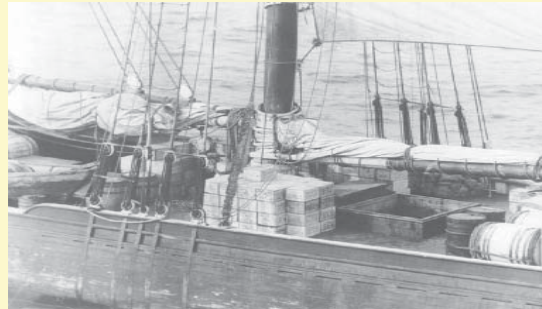
# VP's Corner

Jeff Fuller  
WB6UIE



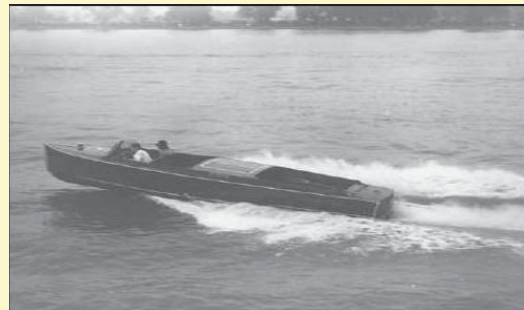
Hope everyone had a safe and happy Independence Day as we celebrated our nation's birthday. August marks another important birthday - that of the U.S. Coast Guard, tasked with protecting our shores from smugglers and terrorists. As we honor that anniversary, here's a sea story about one of that service's epic battles. It began 100 years ago this year with the passage of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Popularly known as Prohibition, the new law forbade the import or manufacture of alcoholic beverages in the U.S. Predictable results followed its opening kickoff. British and Canadian distilleries ramped up to full production and the smuggling race was on.



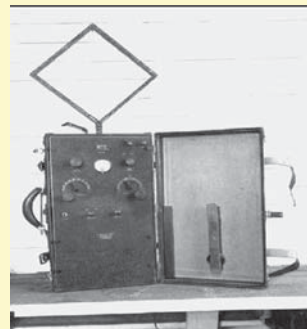
Seagoing smugglers loaded up motherships for rendezvous with small speedboats just outside U.S. territorial waters. Coast Guard's task was a daunting one. A limited number of cutters had to cover thousands of miles of coastline. And modern navigation aids were virtually nonexistent. No GPS, no LORAN, no radar ... just celestial and DR (dead reckoning). Busts were almost a matter of chance encounter.

Motherships ran blacked out and anchored just outside territorial waters.



Small speedboats dashed out to the motherships to load up.

Initially, smugglers were small groups of opportunists. By the late 1920s, large criminal syndicates had recognized the huge potential profits and had virtually taken over. A corresponding orchestra of radio messages hit the ether[1] as they coordinated shipment and rendezvous.



Coast Guard Type X portable direction finder.

Coast Guard astutely recognized the mob's new orchestra as a potential achilles heel and began working with labs and industry to develop a new series of direction finders.

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What followed was a series of shore based coastal DF sites along with a variety of portable units. Impressive, considering that direction finding was still in its infancy.

Some of the first smuggler shore stations tried to pass themselves off as amateur radio operators. They used amateur like callsigns and procedures on air. Some even had neatly arranged home stations complete with QSL cards on the wall[2]. I didn't find any info on whether real hams were involved. I did find that the bad guys were paying their head radio op \$10,000 a year, a huge sum in 1930. With the Depression in full swing, you can imagine the level of temptation.

Law enforcement teams with their new portable direction finders hustled to locate and bust shore stations when they were active. If you've ever tried mobile HF T hunting, you know this is no small task ...

Meanwhile, shore based DF sites went after the motherships, hoping to achieve a fix and vector the nearest cutter to the scene in time for a bust. Another innovation from the team, shipboard DF, improved their odds significantly. Coast Guard managed to "borrow" Army civilian William Friedman and installed a DF system aboard one of their 75 foot patrol boats. Results were impressive. Shipboard DF offered both cutoff bearings to the shore sites and the ability to follow a bearing to a bust. *(Friedman is better known as leader of the Army Signal Intelligence Service (SIS) team which solved the WWII Japanese diplomatic cipher machine and later as an NSA plank owner.)*

For a successful bust, the Coast Guard cutter still needed to be close enough to the DF fix to catch the speedboats loading before they dashed to shore to unload. What if they could obtain advance knowledge of the rendezvous and set up an ambush? Doing so would require breaking the rum runners' codes.

As the rum running syndicates grew in size and sophistication, so did their encryption, progressing from simple substitution to more advanced ciphers with different keys for each group. Hundreds of daily intercepts soon overloaded Coast Guard's few self taught cryptanalysts. Army's SIS turned down a request for assistance, wary of being a military outfit drawn into civilian law enforcement.

Enter Elizebeth Friedman, wife of William Friedman and top notch cryptanalyst. Brought onboard in a civil service position, she and her team soon achieved remarkable success. Her courtroom testimony was instrumental in convicting senior syndicate members. And her response to scrutiny by one of Washington's infamous bean counters was legendary. Pointing out her team's successes, she coolly noted that her entire annual budget was less than the price of one tank of fuel for a Coast Guard cutter.



75 ft patrol boat like the one used for HFDF trials.



Elizebeth Friedman

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Washington finally threw in the towel on Prohibition in December of 1933. But Coast Guard's effort was hardly wasted. As the first hint of war clouds gathered over Europe and Asia, Navy inherited a number of the well calibrated and smoothly functioning shore based DF sites. And the lessons learned from portable direction finders would prove valuable in chasing Axis agents. When war broke out, Coast Guard became part of the Navy and its well trained team continued its cryptanalysis efforts.

Elizebeth and William Friedman were honored by induction into NSA's Cryptologic Hall of Honor, along with Coast Guard cryptologist Captain Leonard Jones. And the Friedman's each have an auditorium named in their honor - Elizebeth at ATF (Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms) and William at NSA. Coast Guard once again acknowledged the importance of its cryptologic mission with establishment of Coast Guard Cryptologic Group in 2007.

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### References and further reading

1. Bowdoin, Charles: **Waterways of Innovation: The Marine Technological Advancements of America's Prohibition Era**  
Thesis, Master of Arts in Maritime Science January 2016  
East Carolina University Institutional Repository  
<https://thescholarship.ecu.edu/bitstream/handle/10342/5317/BOWDOIN-MASTERSTHESIS-2016.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
2. Lee, Bartholomew KV6EE: **Radio Spies - Episodes in the Ether Wars**  
California Historical Radio Society 2002, 2006  
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3. Ensign, Eric LT, USCG: **Intelligence in the Rum War at Sea 1920-1933**  
Joint Military Intelligence College 2001  
[https://ni-u.edu/ni\\_press/pdf/Intelligence\\_RUM\\_WAR.pdf](https://ni-u.edu/ni_press/pdf/Intelligence_RUM_WAR.pdf)
4. Mowry, David: **Listening to the Rumrunners: Radio Intelligence During Prohibition**  
National Security Agency Center for Cryptologic History 2014

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## Field Day Operation from the National Radio Quiet Zone - David / KK4ZUU

My son and I set up a portable operation at Loft Mountain Campground for ARRL Field Day 2020 [FM08PF]. [See the picture of my son cooking while I was setting up to the right.] We operated solar/battery powered on 6M/40M SSB S&P, and on VHF/UHF FM Phone. We operated Saturday from 6 pm to 10:30 pm ET (shutdown to observe quiet hours), and on Sunday from about 11:00 am to 3:00 pm ET. We logged 64 QSOs, all voice mode.

The weather was beautiful, especially in the evening when temps were 55-60 degF overnight with light 5-10 mph breezes. If only we could have brought some of that evening weather back in a jar! The closest storm was north of us in Luray, Virginia (~30m north). The campground does not have online reservations so we went early Friday to get a site (first come, first served); by 11:30 am the campground was full for Friday /Saturday.



My Tundra pickup truck bed held the antennas: 14' of 1" guyed PVC with my Elk Antenna Log Periodic Antenna mounted vertically for FM. I worked stations using this setup being a bit over 3,200ft ASL, it has proven its worth before on other portable trips. On HF, I spent 2h Saturday trying to tune a Hustler 4-band vertical antenna/coil setup using a Rig Expert AA-600. I made a few 6M and 40M SSB contacts on the Hustler setup but I switched to the HF antenna I was going to run on the mobile for VaQP (pre-covid) so I could field

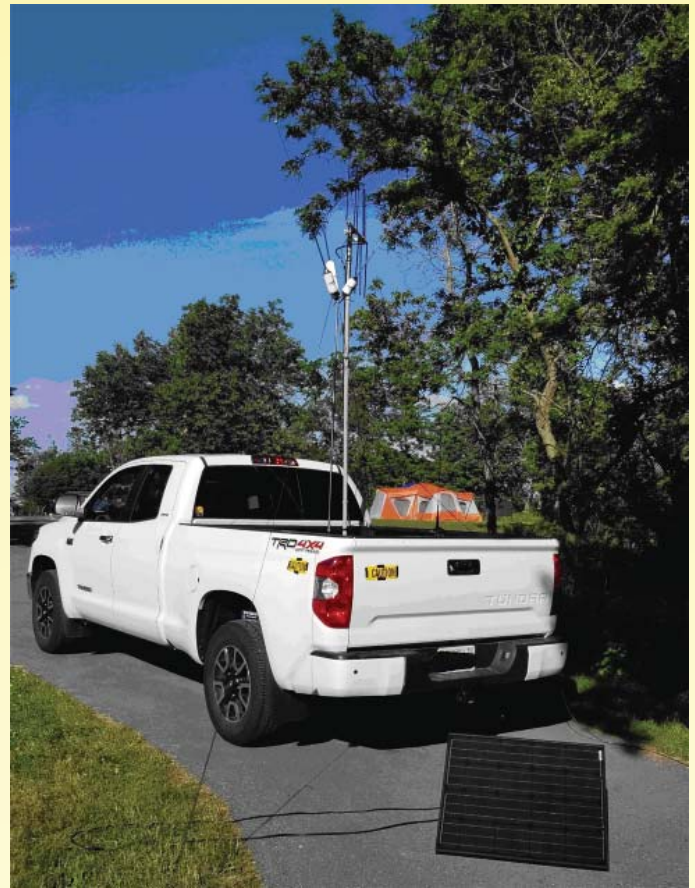
**Cont'd on page 9**



test its operation: A 104" SS Whip from DXEngineering and a Wolf River Coil (Silver Bullet 1000) (picture on QRZ.com). Once tuned for 40m SSB, I received great feedback on the whip/coil HF antenna setup at 75-100W. I did not work 6M once I placed the SS Whip/coil in-place on 40M.

Visitors: I had two people (a ham and his girlfriend) sign a sheet that they visited our site (first name, town), I did not think of that until others had left. I talked to more than 20 people as my truck/antennas were right at the road in the campground. That was just as enjoyable as operating the radio, that actually surprised me. The questions about what the antennas were for were amusing: Is that for cellular? - that was my favorite and the most common one although several people (hams) knew what FD was but they had forgotten it was that weekend and did not even have an HT on them (yes I shamed them and sent them on their way, HI HI). I did not let anyone operate my gear, COVID was not worth the health risk.

Power: We operated as 1B, battery. The battery I have is a 30Ah LiFEPO4 from Bioenno Power, it



normally runs the radio in the shack and is solar charged. The West Mountain Radio Epic PwrGate has jumpers inside to set it to safely charge this battery (it is not set that way by default, RTM or you'll damage a LiFEPO4 battery if you do not change the jumpers inside) and it has a USB interface if you care to set different charging parameters.

### Notes: Operating in the NRQZ (National Radio Quiet Zone)

The campground is inside the NRQZ (National Radio Quiet Zone) so one week prior [earlier is better], I contacted them to notify them of my intention to operate portable inside of the NRQZ so they could check for any potential impact on their schedule based on my plan (an example follows). Once approved by email, they handled notifying Sugar Grove, no response came back from them so I was clear to operate. The NRQZ is a very large area in VA and portions of other states, if you operate inside the NRQZ area please see their site for the boundary, rules, and contact information. Please note that my permission for Field Day 2020 is not transferable to any future operation by me or others; fines and penalties are steep to include seizure of all gear, your ham license, fines, and I think potential jail time -it's just not worth ignoring and you'll see in the example below how easy it is to obtain permission for licensed portable/mobile ham radio operations. Some online URLs for the NRQZ:

NRQZ Website: <https://science.nrao.edu/facilities/gbt/interference-protection/nrqz>

NRQZ Map: [http://www.gb.nrao.edu/nrqz/NTIA\\_map\\_bw.gif](http://www.gb.nrao.edu/nrqz/NTIA_map_bw.gif)

My initial email and reply to NRQZ Coordinator on 6/22/2020 follows as an example:

"Email Subject: NRQZ: Amateur Radio Field Day [June 26-29, 2020] Amateur Portable. Good afternoon, I am writing to request to operate portable amateur radio gear within the NRQZ. All portable antennas, nothing aimed directly western. Dates: June 26-29 (ARRL Field Day Weekend) Location: Shenandoah National Park, Loft Mountain Campground. ApproxGPS Coordinates: 38.246706, -78.670701 [center of mountain top, campground area].

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The park is not reserving campsites online so I selected the approximate center of the top of Loft Mountain for this request as it represents the worst case interference profile wise, etc. If GPS selected coordinate is an issue, I am usually 100-200' lower on the S-SE side of Loft Mountain.

Antennas - omni directional

- FM, 5/8 wave 2m/70cm on my mobile for VHF/UHF voice, 5-50w [2m: 3dBi, 70cm: 5.5 dBi]
- HF/6M, 104" SS Whip on mobile [parked] and a wolf river coil for base loading [2-3.5 dBi]

Antennas - directional

- FM, 2m/70cm Elk Antenna [gain: 2m: 8.7 dBi, 70cm: 9.0 dBi]
  - 6M, 2 element antenna, approx 120 deg 'beam like' antenna (moxon) [~ 6.3Bi gain]
- (Any directional antenna will be pointed North to East to South, 15-23dB loss to rear of ant)
- flexible on these directional antennas, on 6M power 5-20w [or less]
  - [note: I did not use the moxon for 6m]

6 meters (USB modes)

50.125-52.500, analog voice, 20-100w

50.260-50.326, digital, FT4/FT8/JT9/JT65/MSK144/PSK31/PSK63, 5-20w

6 meters (50 mhz) to 80 meters (3.5 mhz)

Typical bands/modes, General Class Licensed Amateur Station

5-100w (analog voice), 5-20w (digital modes)

antenna: 105" SS Whip, Wolf River Coil (base) - omni antenna (6m-80m)

daytime: in the daytime, both digital or analog voice modes are planned

night time: due to noise regulations, digital modes would be used 9pm-7am [not all night]

Please advise if any parameters above need adjusting, I can request an eastern campsite that would be 100-200' below the summit of the GPS coordinate above (depending on availability when we arrive Fri). If the campground is full, we will operate elsewhere (mobile).

Thank you, David kk4zuu "

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The reply from the NRQZ Coordinator was received by email on 6/23/2020 [<24 hours later]:

Thanks David. I'll make a note of it and advise Sugar Grove. Looks like we have at least one good obstacle in the way for both the Observatory and their site as well. Be safe in your travels and thanks for the notification. Paulette

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That is how simple it is to remain legal inside the NRQZ. Feel free to use this format, it is one I wrote on my own and the format is used every time I have operated in the NRQZ, including being less than 15 miles away from the telescope at Middle Mountain Cabins, WV. You may encounter issues using larger antennas, beams pointed at them without any mountains, and if you fall into a fixed antenna category they will have a spreadsheet for you to fill out so for /P or /M operations stick to verticals or wire dipoles and coordinate your operations. All in all, a great trip, great weather, campsite, food, and ham radio -what else is needed? Our next trip: The ARRL September VHF Contest [6m ft8, need more FFMA grids]

73 david kk4zuu

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### Additional Field Day Activities by OVH Members

Due to the damn covid pandemic, the OVH did not have its usual Field Day event Nokesville Park this year. However, many club member did participate in various alternative Field Day activities such as KK4ZUU reported above.

Other known OVH Field Day operators include: Al / KB4BHB, Wayne / N7QLk, George / K4GVT, Butch / W4HJL, Jay / NQ4T, Tony / KM4KLB, Ron / K3FR, John / KG4NXT, Jeff / K9VEG, Wayne / N4HCR,

**Cont'd on page 11**



Kevin / KX4KU, Mark / WA4KFX, Bill / N4SV, Ron / N4RDZ, and Jim / KM4SXM. If you were missed, let John KG4NXT know and we will add you to the list on the W4OVH web site.

There was a lot of digital operating this year. At least three of us did FT8 with auto logging: Wayne N7QLK, John KG4NXT and Bill N4SV. Mark WA4KFZ worked both Wayne and John and sent us pictures of the contacts. See, screen captures below.

UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message	Rx Frequency
000500	14	0.1	2075	~ W0UJ N5KLE R 1D AR	
000515	-1	0.7	2334	~ CQ FD KG4NXT FM18 U.S.A.	
000532	Tx		2334	~ KG4NXT WA4KFZ 1D VA	
000545	-2	0.7	2334	~ WA4KFZ KG4NXT R 1D VA	
000600	Tx		2334	~ KG4NXT WA4KFZ RRR	
000615	-8	0.7	2334	~ WA4KFZ KG4NXT 73	
000630	Tx		2334	~ KG4NXT WA4KFZ 73	

UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message
194500	-2	0.2	742	~ CQ FD K7GQ DM09 U.S.A.
194520	Tx		1540	~ K7GQ WA4KFZ 1D VA
194530	-14	0.2	742	~ CQ FD K7GQ DM09 U.S.A.
194545	Tx		1540	~ K7GQ WA4KFZ 1D VA
194615	Tx		1540	~ K7GQ WA4KFZ 1D VA
194630	-13	0.2	743	~ W3SSH K7GQ R 1D NV
194645	Tx		1540	~ K7GQ WA4KFZ 1D VA
194530	7	0.3	1056	~ VE3HSU N7QLK 73
194650	Tx		1540	~ N7QLK WA4KFZ 1D VA
194715	Tx		1540	~ N7QLK WA4KFZ 1D VA
194730	3	0.3	1539	~ WA4KFZ N7QLK R 1D VA
194745	Tx		1540	~ N7QLK WA4KFZ RRR
194800	3	0.3	1539	~ WA4KFZ N7QLK 73
194815	Tx		1540	~ N7QLK WA4KFZ 73

Of course, we did not have GOTA station but Cat / KM4PBD brought her brother Austen to KG4NXT's QTH where he did some digital contacts and also assembled a satellite antenna as shown in the picture to the right.

Several members got extra points. Jeff / K9VEG got an elected official to visit his station. Tony / KM4KLB got extra points for 100% emergency power, message to section manger, 10 NVTN messages, copied W1AW Field day bulletin, Natural power QSOs and web submittal. Also those bonus point will be rolled into the club total.

Gil / KM4OZH was busy haying at the farm he owns with his brother and could not start operating until 10:00 pm on Saturday night. Not to be deterred, however, he put a ladder on the hay wagon he had been using and it supported an inverted V antenna loaned to him by Jeff / WB4TT so he could operate haywagon transportable. Gil worked from then until one minute before the contest ended on Sunday. When it rained on Sunday, he put a tarp over the equipment and continued. See pictures below.



Cont'd on page 12



More: Haywagon Transportable Pictures:



## Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

1. More Field Day stuff to read. Active OVH member and consumer technology writer, Wayne / N4HCR recently published an article titled: “Thousands Of Radio Operators Band Together To Practice For The Worst” in Forbes Magazine online. Of course, that article is for a general audience and is about the ARRL Field Day event. You can find it at [forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com/sites/waynerash/2020/06/30/thousands-of-radio-operators-band-together-to-practice-for-the-worst) at: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/waynerash/2020/06/30/thousands-of-radio-operators-band-together-to-practice-for-the-worst> We would reprint that article here except that Forbes owns the copyright. Worth reading online.

2. The current edition of the IEEE’s Spectrum Magazine includes a timely article about the future of ham radio. Find it at <https://spectrum.ieee.org/telecom/wireless/the-uncertain-future-of-ham-radio> Thanks to Ken / KE2N for pointing this out. “The Uncertain Future of Ham Radio” is thought provoking and definitely worth reading. The article notes that historically, many individuals who go into electronics or other technically related businesses historically got their starts as ham radio enthusiasts as teenagers or earlier, and that this is no longer happening in the USA at the same rate that it used to. Several OVH members have already circulated their views / opinion on this subject on the W4OVH closed email reflector, and, if space allows, several of those will appear in the August 2020 Newsletter.