

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

April 2021

Next Meeting: April 20, 2021 - online, see below

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings everyone, Well we are clearly on our way in to spring. It's no longer dark at 5 PM, the weather is getting warmer, the trees are turning green and my allergies are starting to go nuts. Its a good time to get out and fix or inspect your antennas before the trees get too thick.

I know many of us are saddened by the cancellation of the 2021 Manassas Hamfest, the second year in a row for such a cancellation, due to COVID-19 uncertainties, but the good news is the OVH's alternative Manassas Tailgate Event is a go! Information has already gone out via email: it will take place on Saturday, June 12, 2021, from 8 AM to 2 PM in the field across the street from the Signal Hill Park. That Park is at 9300 Signal View Dr. Manassas Park, Virginia. Stay tuned for additional details as planning gets underway. The first official planning meeting for this will be the day after our upcoming online, regular club meeting.

We had some very good news from the scholarship committee. Thanks to the support of our members we received over \$4000 for the N4OGRs scholarship. It has been decided to issue two scholarships this year with the remainder going toward scholarships for 2022. Applications have been flowing in and we'll announce the recipients soon.

I'm also happy to announce that OVH is holding a VE Session May 8th at the Nokesville Park. If you're looking to upgrade, or know someone who is, that will be the perfect opportunity to do so.

The Nokesville Park is also where we usually have our OVH/ARRL Field Day; we are planning to hold that this year but in a slightly scaled-back version. We will have details soon; a planning meeting for that is scheduled for shortly after our April online regular OVH meeting.



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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:	Ken Brant	KN4DD	622-2638
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 2021 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2021

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
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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

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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WEB COMMITTEE — W4OVH.NET + Twitter & Facebook

Kevin	KX4KU	540-445-5183
John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KN4DD	622-2638

Web Committee "help request" email: webmaster@w4ovh.net

EMAIL REFLECTOR — 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

Ray	KM4EKR	930-8222
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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
Cat	KM4PBD	571-213-2179

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 © 2021 by the Ole Virginia Hams which holds its regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. every third Tuesday at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas, Virginia except during the COVID pandemic (in 2020-2021) during which the monthly meetings are being held online. See the Newsletter for login details for monthly online meetings. 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. Approx. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20210222

Looking to the slightly further future, the Serve Our Wounded Warriors bike ride is happening again this year. The event will be on September 11th this year, and numerous volunteers will be needed for this very large event. If you are able to help, please save the date. Additional information on the event and where to sign up will be passed along when I get it.

As we are going to press, it appears that the FCC has exercised its considerable administrative regulatory muscle by announcing in a 159 page publication that, beginning very soon, all hams (and other operators of transmitters) will have to be prepared to do RF Safety analyses and prepare calculations (and possibly conduct tests) whenever they set up or significantly modify a transmitting station to demonstrate that the RF radiation from the station will not be dangerous to humans. This, after 110+ years of ham radio operations with no (or almost no) known instances of harmful RF effects to radio hams (or others) from ham station radio frequency radiation! Of course, I'm excluding from this electrocutions, burns and the like from physically touching high voltage or RF conductors, or transmission lines and individuals falling off of transmitting towers, ladders, etc. while working on antennas, which are outside the scope of the FCC new rules. These new rules will impose new burdens for us to be "legal" and will require new efforts for all of us. Hopefully, some of the RF gurus and experts in the OVH will spend some time looking at these new regulations to help the rest of us to figure out what must be done.

We had an excellent presentation from Gil/KM4OZH on his contesting adventures at the March OVH meeting online. Thanks for sharing your adventures. This month club member, Bill / AF4LL, aka "Mr. 10 Meters" has invited some his friends, Quin / K8QS and Tom / WA9TDD on 10 meters to provide information about how to get on 10 meters cheaply and effectively. With the solar cycle starting up and summer on the way, 10 meter openings can provide some fun DX even with compromise antennas.

Our April meeting will be on Tuesday evening, April 20, 2021 at 7:30 PM at the usual web site: <https://ovh.nq4t.com/meeting> - hope to see everyone there.

73 Jay NQ4T

Sunshine Corner

Happy Spring or Winter (depending on the day) Birthday wishes in this April to: Harry / KC9TXL, Harry / KN4IJY, Brian / KK4CBS, Gene / KN4JMB, Gil / KM4OZH, Paul / N4PD, Joe / KI4OHR, Steve / KJ4YHA, Chris / KU4FT, Lillian / KK4MXY, David / KI4AZX, Paul / W4ZB, and David / KD4DEE

John / KG4NXT and I had a great time during the Virginia QSO party! Saturday morning we hit the road early and drove up to Skyline Drive, where we made our first contact. The day was beautiful and the park was in great shape! We left thru the gate in Front Royal and headed to Winchester, then pointed the car towards Manassas. On Sunday afternoon, we went out again to Loudoun County and hit Manassas & Manassas Park. Overall, a great weekend, we operated for the first time as Multiple Operators Mobile, a lot less logging for us and we had a personal best for the number of contacts. Logs were due by April 15th - I hope you didn't forget to submit your and to list the OVH as your Club.

Well, we finally have several events coming up! Very exciting!!!! On **Continued on page 4**

May 8th, there will be a VE Session for anyone wanting to get a ham license or trying to upgrade to a higher class license. The VE Session will be at the Nokesville Park starting at 8 AM. Also, on June 12th, from 8 am to 2 pm, the OVH will hold a Tailgate Event in the field across from the Signal Hill Park in Manassas Park.

Information on both events is on our club website at W4OVH.NET and you can hear more about these events on the Thursday night VHF/UHF FM net.

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. Having issues with your radio equipment or need help with anything ham radio? The Thursday Night net is a great forum to ask questions and hear the latest news on current club events. 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 online on March 16, 2021:

The meeting was held online using the Jitsi platform hosted by OVH President, Jay / NQ4T. Since we were meeting virtually, Jay dispensed with the pledge and the members saying their callsigns, and Jay ran the meeting.

The minutes of the February 2021 meeting were approved.

Gil / KM4OZH gave the presentation on his January 2021 VHF contest with some hints on contesting in general. After his presentation, he answered a number of questions including some on his home brew mobile antennas.

The minutes of the February 2021 meeting were approved.

Don / WA2SWX gave the Treasurer's report which was approved.

Membership report. No report. However, the club did vote in two new members who had been read in at the last meeting: Richard Massie / KY4DN and Ross Elliot / No Call Yet.

ARES report. No report.

Ken / KE2N gave the repeater report. The replacement computer for WIRES-X has been undergoing testing in Ken's basement. The Windows 10 partition received a windows update and rebooted with WIRES-X still running. As Ken becomes fully vaccinated, he will be making a trip to NOVEC to installed the repaired 220 repeater.

Mark / WA4KFZ gave the training report. He mentioned that the FCC has still not yet

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decided how to collect the \$35 licensing fee. Mark mentions a virtual General class given by the Albemarle club.

Sandy / KM4JUS gave the scholarship report. The Steve Frick Scholarship has received about \$4500 in contributions. The scholarship committee plans to award two \$1000 scholarships this year and two next year when the excess to be applied the year after that. The committee has received two applications already.

Don / WA2SWX gave the Hamfest report. We have secured a very large grass field across from Signal Hill Park. This will be on June 12 as a tailgate only event.

Theresa / KG4TVM gave the Sunshine report. She mentioned the March birthdays. She also mentioned that upcoming Virginia QSO party and thanked all who contributed to the Steve Frick Scholarship fund.

Kevin KX4KU gave the web committee report. Everything is working.

Field day report. Don / W4HJL has secured the Nokesville Park Pavilion for the OVH/ARRL Field Day for 2021 to be held on June 26 - 27, 2021.

New business: None

The meeting was adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFEST AND VE SESSION TYPE EVENTS:

The COVID pandemic, regrettably, has killed off almost all live hamfests like events for the time being. No live Hamfests are currently scheduled nearby.

April 24, 2021 - Saturday - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, ET, the ARRL Virginia Section Convention for 2021 being put on by a ZOOM conference, being sponsored by the Vienna Wireless Association. See, <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest> for more info and detail, including the URLs to be used for ZOOM conference log-in. No charge for anyone to attend!

May 8, 2021 - Saturday - 8:00 am to noon - at the Nokesville Park Pavilion in the Nokesville Park, 12560 Aden Road, Nokesville, Virginia. A live, open air (under the pavilion) VE Examination Session for all first or upgrade FCC amateur radio licenses. Further information is at W4OVH.NET and in the Flyer later in this Newsletter.

The Dayton-Hamvention which would have taken place in May, 2021 has been cancelled again for 2021 due to Covid uncertainties.

The OVH Manassas Hamfest for early June, 2021 was been cancelled after several months of active Hamfest Committ preparation work due to the continued pandemic uncertainties. There will be a Manassas Hamfest in June 2022, date and more details to be announced.

June 12, 2021 (Saturday) 8:00 am - 2:00 pm - the OVH Manassas Tail Gate Event will be held in the field across Signal View Drive from the Signal Hill Park which is at 9300 Signal View Dr., Manassas Park, Virginia. Further info available at the W4OVH.NET web site and on the Flyer later in this Newsletter.

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HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

June 26 - June 27, 2021 - ARRL / OVH Field Day event to be held at the Nokesville Park in Prince William County near Nokesville, Virginia. This is the OVH's traditional location for the its Field Day activities in recent years. Save these dates and check back for more details. Field Day is always a major OVH event for its members.

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://contestcalendar.com> by WA7BNM. This is a relatively new URL for this web site. If you get the radio contesting bug or just want to find out and how much is going on - a lot is going on, that is a very good place to look!

PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar on W4OVH.NET for information about upcoming OVH related 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.

Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

about the FCC's new attempt to regulate harm to humans from RF radiation by hams - Rant warning.

If you don't feel that your world in 2021 is already overregulated by bureaucrats and an assortment of supposed government "experts," consider the FCC's recent 159 page Report and Order which will affect all US based ham radio operators: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-19-126A1.pdf> As though we didn't already have enough real things to be concerned or worried about, our beloved ham radio hobby is now saddled with almost inscrutable requirements to avoid harm to humans from RF radiation from ham radio transmitters, specifically from new ham stations with a transmitter or from changed or modified ham stations with transmitters. Try to read those 159 pages without dozing off, it's difficult to do, but all of us now have to at least learn about and understand them to remain "legal." This will be deterrant for prospective hams by suggesting that the risks are real and to be worried about.

This comes now after 110+ years of ham radio station operation involving millions of ham operators with scarcely any evidence that any ham operator (or other individual) was ever damaged or injured from RF radiation from the operation of a ham station transmitter. Not to suggest that the ham radio hobby doesn't present dangers - over the years, many hams have been burned or electrocuted by direct contact with high voltage or RF current carrying conductors as well as by falling off of towers, ladders and trees while doing antenna work. But those well known dangers are not being regulated because they do not directly involve "RF radiation." The relatively small group of ham operators experimenting with very high power transmitters generally have been smart enough to take care with appropriate precautions.

Now we will all have to do analyses, calculations and perhaps tests to determine RF radiation risks in order to be "legal." Who is going to check that? What if a bona fide mistake is made? Who is going to verify that actual operation is in accordance with that analyzed and calculated? What is the penalty for not being legal? Old-timers in the OVH will remember that for many, many years all hams had to maintain accurate written logbooks of all radio transmissions and contacts, including tests to be "legal." But those were only very, very rarely checked, and the burden of that regulation could not be justified. So it was eliminated! Now this.

**The Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club
Is happy to announce they are hosting a
Ham Radio Tail Gate Party**



**Saturday, June 12, 2021
8 am to 2 pm Rain or shine**

Across from Signal Hill Park in Manassas Park, VA

38° 45.2710'N, 77° 26.2800'W

**Signal Hill Park address is 9300 Signal View Dr. Manassas Park – the field is located on
Signal View Drive across the street from the park entrance**

**The field is on the east side of Signal View Drive just past the National Monument for the First
Battle of Manassas**

**Admission \$5 per person over 18
\$20 per vehicle to set up and sell
All attendees will park in the field**

More information www.w4ovh.net

**ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR HAM RADIO EXAM?
DO YOU WANT TO UPGRADE YOUR HAM LICENSE?**

THE OLE VIRGINIA HAMS ARE SPONSORING A VE SESSION ON

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021

8 AM TO 12 NOON

**NOKESVILLE PARK PAVILLION
12560 ADEN ROAD, NOKESVILLE, VA
NO PRE-REGISTRATION IS NEEDED**

COST IS \$15.00 - CASH OR CHECK – NO CREDIT CARDS

PLEASE BRING A CURRENT, GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTO ID

FRN NUMBER IS REQUIRED - PLEASE BRING THIS WITH YOU.

**PLEASE OBTAIN THE FRN NUMBER PRIOR TO COMING TO THE VE SESSION AT THE
FOLLOWING SITE: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>**

QUESTIONS OR MORE INFO CONTACT JOHN AT KG4NXT@ARRL.NET OR

703-789-6449

WWW.W4OVH.NET



REMINDER



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!! Below is the 2021 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 2021

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, 2021. 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