

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

## August 2021

Next Meeting: August 17, 2021 - online, see below

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings all,

Well as we enter August that can only mean one thing, the end of summer is near. While some of you may be sad to see it go; the heat has been nasty and my shack doesn't have AC. I'm looking forward to being able to play radio without being soaked with sweat.

I did however make it down there long enough to finally complete my WAS. I had been chasing North Dakota for a number of years to complete my mixed WAS and finally snagged it! How long had I been chasing it? The vast majority of my QSO credits were from 2015! I've sent a picture of my certificate for our editor to include if there is room; however it has been posted on the OVH web site. Now on to the last 30 entities for my DXCC!



I was unable to make it to Berryville, but I've seen some pictures and heard reports from a lot of people. I'm sure it was good to get back out to a hamfest, see everyone face to face, and do a little wheeling and dealing. I'm anxious to hear about what I missed and what new toys some of you may have bought.

September also means we have a major event to support coming up, the Serve Our Willing Warriors (SOWW) event, the Warrior Bike Ride, is on Sept. 11 and we are in need of as many volunteers as we can get. This is a rather large event spread over a huge area and needs both people with HTs as well as more powerful mobile. Andy/KJ4MTP is the organizer and has put information on how to sign up as been sent to the reflector. If you can come help, please do.

With any luck, this month will be our last virtual meeting before being able to return to in-person. I have not heard if the increase in cases has closed the firehouse to us or not. I will do everything to confirm over the next month; however ultimately the decisions lie with the firehouse and local government. Please keep an eye

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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
	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](mailto: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
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 Repeaters 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: 20210515

on the web site and reflector for any changes, including last minute ones.

We did have our first breakfast last month and it was excellent. Thanks to those that came out. We will be doing it again on Saturday morning, August 14th, 8 A.M. at Yorkshire Restaurant.

Thanks to Kevin/KX4KU for a wonderful presentation on his remote operating setup. Kevin remote operates his own rig using the RigPi system and spoke about how it worked and all the issues he had. This month Tim Duffy/K3LR from DX Engineering will be joining us to talk about some new products.

The meeting will be on Tuesday, August 17th at 7:30 PM at our usual address: <https://ovh.nq4t.com/meeting> - I will open the meeting room a bit early as usual.

Hope to see you at breakfast or at our meeting. Don't forget the weekly net on our repeaters every Thursday at 8PM.

73, Jay/NQ4T

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## Sunshine Corner

Happy birthday in August to OVH members: John / KK4TCE, Karl / W4KRL, Stu / W4PR, Ronnell / KK4ZUR, Vern / K0LVS, Chick / KC1PIA, Duane / KK4BZ and Raymond / KF4AQR. I hope everyone is able to enjoy their day!.

I'm currently on vacation but just wanted to say Happy Birthday to our club members.

Please remember the Thursday night net at 8:00 pm on the OVH's VHF FM repeater, 146.97 Mhz, and on several of the other OVH repeaters too. See W4OVH.NET web site for details. Having issues with your radio equipment or need help with anything ham radio? This is a great forum to ask questions and hear the latest news on current club events.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

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## Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held online on July 20, 2021:

The meeting was held online on July 20th, 2021 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 call signs, and Jay ran the meeting.

Kevin / KX4KU gave an extensive presentation on remote station operation based upon the specific remote system he is using daily. He explained how he uses a Raspberry Pi based MFJ 1234 to operate his station at he nephew's house from Kevin's apartment in Culpepper. Kevin explained how he started with free HamPI and then transitioned to the MFJ and upgraded the MFJ 1234 by replacing the RPI 3+ with a RPI 4.

The minutes of the June OVH meeting were approved.

Don WA2SWX gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved.

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Luther / WA3FMO gave the Membership report. He read-in Mike Stewart / KO4HBU. We voted in Bruce Pinto / WD4PAC and Bill James / KO4QDL.

ARES – No report

Ken / KE2N gave the repeater report. All repeaters are working. Ken provided information requested by NOVEC and andNOVEC has not contacted him after that.

Training report – Jay / NQ4T read the report from Mark / WA4KFZ. Mark has been elmering Edward / KK4PSL.

Scholarship report. Jay / NQ4T announced that he has appointed Ken / KN4DD to the scholarship program to help them with their workload.

Byron / AK4XR gave the post-Field Day report. The 2021 field day was a big success. Jay noted that Gil worked all day haying and then came to field day and worked 80 meters all night.

Sunshine report. Jay gave the sunshine report from the written report submitted by Theresa KG4TVM. She mentioned the upcoming Berryville hamfest and the Thursday night net.

Ken KN4DD gave the web committee report. All is working fine. The attacks on the website this month have been routine and have been contained by our defensive software.

There was no old business.

New business - None.

The meeting was adjourned

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

### **HAMFEST AND VE SESSION TYPE EVENTS:**

The COVID pandemic, although now ending (/), regrettably, has STILL killed off many of the live hamfests type events. No live Hamfests are currently scheduled nearby until early August, but the OVH Manassas Tail Gate Event will be held on June 12th. See below.

The OVH Manassas Hamfest will be held in June, 2022, exact date and more details about it to be announced later on.

### **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://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!

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## PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

September 11, 2021 - early morning - Broad Run, Virginia - the Serve Our Willing Warriors event, the 2021 Warriors Ride. SOWW is looking for OVH volunteers again to assist with communications during this event. See further info from Andy / KJ4MTP and KB / KN4DD below.

Check the online Calendar on W4OVH.NET for information about upcoming OVH related events. Also, check the online Calendar maintained by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcared.org> for the latest PWC ARES updates. Complete direct contact information for David also appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

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### MORE ON THE UPCOMING SOWW EVENT -- Ken / KN4DD

On September 11, 2021, the Ole Virginia Hams will be supporting the 2021 Warrior Bike Ride.

The response from our membership has been good so far, but we still need about 6 more volunteers.

I am writing to ask those who haven't yet volunteered to please consider doing so.

The race is physically huge, and a lot of preparation, work and support are going into it. If we are going to field a full cadre to help protect the participants, we need your support, and need it soon.

We are even willing to bribe you.

We will provide breakfast and Mission BBQ will provide your lunch. You can bring folding chairs, if you think that will help you support us.

I have copied and pasted the original message from Andy, KJ4MTP, including links to help you research your decision, below the asterisk line.

Please volunteer!

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Subject: W4OVH Support for Serve Our Willing Warriors - 2021 Warrior Bike Ride

The Serve Our Willing Warriors Bike Ride date is now firmed up and coming fast on Saturday, 11 September 2021 from the Haymarket starting point.

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The W4OVH Club has agreed to support this Warrior Ride for road course safety throughout Prince William and Loudoun Counties and for that we NEED you to volunteer. I will work with you to ensure you can assist our efforts on the day of the event with both handheld radios as well as 50-watt mobile radios. This is a fun event day over a larger geographic area and all of our volunteers will be provided t-shirts, free breakfast and lunch and potentially other goodies for supporting this event. Our BIGGEST CHALLENGE is getting the 20 volunteers to cover the geographic course to provide good course coverage for the safety of the participants. Please volunteer!

The event will be held on the same course as last year throughout Prince William and Loudoun County. I have attached the flyer for everyone's awareness and viewing pleasure.

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The event, as in previous years will be based out of the Haymarket Farm Brewery.

The event will have a Challenging Metric Century and Half Metric Century Courses through Prince William and Loudoun Counties and a 13 Mile “Honor Our Flag bike ride. As in past years, the Nam Knights Motorcycle Club will ride lead and trailing positions to both support the riders and give us situational awareness of the various courses and rider positions. There will also be the three (3) break areas on the courses. The courses have been combined to the best extent, meaning that the same roads will serve multiple courses, making it easier for us to manage various course positions we will need to staff in order to provide course safety and oversight.

I will send the course routes outlined on Goggle Maps so all volunteers can see the areas we will need to cover.

Course Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?hl=en&mid=1jShgqs5cJ5DGH4LRRBLKWK9jT5yzsJZX&ll=38.95183681422429%2C-77.71009455000001&z=11>

In order to have our W4OVH Club volunteers help out on this club support event, we have a Volunteer Web site that we need you to sign up on. As in past years, we ideally need 20 or so volunteers. Some positions will allow for handheld radios, however most will necessitate 50-watt mobile transceivers. Also as in past years, I will request that the club request the dedicated use of the Bluemont Repeater for the event.

Here is the volunteer page web site. Please sign up to help support this event.

<https://www.bikereg.com/volunteers-warrior-ride>

If you have any particular questions, please email me and ask for more information. I have another planning meeting for the SOWW event coming up and will let everyone know what develops prior to the event. I will send out the Operations Plan for the event once I have the volunteers registered on the event site.

Thank you and stay safe...

73, KJ4MTP / Andreas Gamponia / Cell: (703) 786-4651

### VP - OVH - Round - Up from July, 2021

July was another very busy month for the Ole Virginia Hams:

- OVH supported two Tri-It-Now events, one on July 4th and the other on July 27th.
- On July 17th, we saw the return of the OVH Breakfast.
- Last in this month’s roundup is the 13th Annual 13 Colonies Special Event.

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### Return of the OVH Monthly Saturday Breakfast

July 17,2021 saw the return of The Ole Virginia Hams Breakfast at the Yorkshire Restaurant. Originally started by former President Byron / AK4XR, this was the first OVH Breakfast since 3/14/20; the breakfasts stopped after that due to the COVID pandemic. It was good to see everyone again in person. We all had a nice time before

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breaking up and getting into our day.

COVID permitting, these breakfasts will be held on the Saturday @ 8 AM before each of the OVH's Monthly Meeting which are held on the Third Tuesday of the Month. The next breakfast will be on August 14th, . Hope to see you there.



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### OVH Support for Mini-Tri Marathon and Tri It Now events

The Ole Virginia Hams provided support for a 4th of July "Mini-Tri" marathon for Prince William County, led by Wayne, N7QLK, code named "Shadow".

Officially titled The Freedom Firecracker 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run, it was scheduled to start on Sunday, July 4th at The Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center, Manassas.

At this time, we would like to recognize the following people for their support:

Wayne, N7QLK; Al, KB4BHB; John, KG4NXT & "The Other Ken", KN4DD

We were all in position by 8 AM, 3 fixed positions and one roamer with the race coordinator.

We were operating simplex on 147.525 with our 146.970 repeater as our alternate.

It was a great day for a race, weather wise. Mid 80s temperature with a dew point of about 60.5°. We met @ the Swim Parking Lot @ 7:30 AM for coffee, donuts and of course to review our assignments from Shadow (Wayne).



The 5K race started about 8:30 AM on the 4th & finished about 9:30 AM. All without incident.

OVH also supported a Tri It Now event on the 25th of July at The Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center, Manassas. This time we had to meet much earlier for races, led by Andy, KJ4MTP, code named "Shadow". If you are wondering about the continued use of the name Shadow, it is because that person has to shadow the race coordinator, which in itself is an arduous job.



This set of races was officially titled Tri It Now THE LADIES CHOICE.

At this time, we would like to recognize the following people for their support:

Andy, KJ4MTP; Oscar, KN4DWW; "The Other Ken", KN4DD; Sandy, KM4JUS; Andrea, KI4SXM; Al, KB4BHB; Charlie, K4RSU; Greg, KM4CCG & Ray, KM4EKR.

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We were all in position by 7 AM. There were 10 spotter positions to fill, and for a while it looked like we were going to come up significantly short. A last-minute e-mail blast on the reflector brought several more volunteers. At the time of the race, we were able to fill 9 of the 10 positions.

Once again, we were running a tactical net, operating simplex on 147.525 with our 146.970 repeater as our alternate.

The Ladies Choice races that were supported were:

Triathlon: Swim 400 meters, then Bike 8 miles, then Run 2 miles

Duathlon: Run 2 miles, then Bike 8 miles, then Run 2 miles

Aquabike: Swim 400 meters and then Bike 8 miles

Aquathlon: Swim 400 meters and then Run 2 miles

Tri Relay: 2 or 3 person teams with each person completing 1 or 2 legs of the triathlon

It was another good morning for a race. While it did hit 91° later in the day, the morning was in the mid-80s and humidity was low, with a nice breeze to boot. This time we met @ the Swim Parking Lot @ 6:30 AM for coffee, donuts and of course to review our assignments from Shadow (Andy).

The first race started about 7:30 AM on the 25th& finished about 10:45 AM. While we didn't have any physical incidents like bike crashes, we did have a few minor events. Over the radio one could hear reports of individual bicyclists without helmets or not following the official routes. Nothing serious, but it did keep us on our toes.

A big thanks to everyone who turned out to support OVH in the Tri It Now endeavors.

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Thanks to AMELIA POWELL, Parks and Recreation division, Manassas Park

Back in 2019, the Prince William Fairgrounds announced that it had been sold. This was significant to the Ole Virginia Hams because this was the traditional home for our Hamfest. And so, it was time to move our Hamfest location.

We looked at many venues, schools, shopping centers and could not find anything that met our needs.

And then we met Amelia Powell.

Amelia works for the Parks and Recreation division of Manassas Park.

It was Amelia who booked us at the Manassas Park Community Center

This was a much bigger task than many people realize. The Hamfest Planning Committee, led by Don, WA2SWX, had to completely change venues. Planning and implementation changes included parking, security, food sales, setup access and tear down.

Amelia was very helpful every step of the way.

You probably remember that Hamfest 2019 was very successful. Amelia Powell was an important part of that success.

In 2020, plans were well underway again, when we had to deal with COVID-19. Because  
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of this, we did not have a Hamfest in 2020. But we did get our deposit back from Manassas Park with no issues.

During June 2021, we wanted to have a Hamfest, however, Manassas Park was not renting the Community Center because of continuing COVID concerns. Despite this, the Hamfest Planning Committee sensed pent up demand from both the OVH membership & the ham community in general.

The idea of the Tailgate Party took hold. Manassas Park was not renting the Community Center because of COVID, but offered us a large field across from Signal Hill Park at a very reasonable price. But, another change of venue.

Again, Amelia helped us with all the setup issues including marking of the field, access to setup, garbage can, porta potty set up and removal. It was a joy to work with Amelia – doubly so after our experiences with the PWC Fairgrounds staff.

In recognition of her continual help, Don, WA2SWX, as Chairman of Hamfest and Tailgate events, decided to recognize Amelia for her extraordinary help. We had a custom engraved award created for her, that stated:

In great appreciation for your hard work in making our club events happen.

We also had a custom embroidered polo shirt made for Amelia which had her name on one side and our name, Ole Virginia Hams, on the other side.

Don, as Chair of the two events, the Hamfest and the Tailgate Party, presented the award and the polo shirt together to Amelia on July 23, 2021. As you can see from the picture, it was very well received. [Write up by Ken / KN4DD - OVH VP]



### The ARRL “Worked All States” Award - Recently achieved by Jay / NQ4T

Congratulations to Jay / NQ4T who recently qualified for the ARRL’s WAS (Worked All States) operating Certificate. Obtaining WAS requires persistence and skill because it is necessary to have confirmed 2-way contacts with other ham stations in each of the 50 states of the USA. Before the ARRL’s LOTW, it was necessary to produce paper QSL cards to confirm 2-way contacts with all 50 states, and those QSL had to be submitted for checking. Find more info about this ARRL award at: <https://tinyurl.com/ARRL-WAS-Rules>

