

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

August 2022

Upcoming Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, August 16, 2022

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Location, location, location! As a Florida boy, I know that Hurricane Season officially starts on June 1st. However, here in the Mid-Atlantic region, it unofficially begins in a few weeks. Now would be a good time to check your emergency communications equipment, supplies, including batteries. It would also be a good time to verify the integrity of both your antenna(s) and the guy wires.

I'm reminded that three years ago George / K4GVT suffered a lightning strike around this time. It completely obliterated his antenna & damaged his radios & other electronics. So I think it would also be good to review your safe grounding & isolation setups.

Back on July 24th, the OVH supported The Tri It Now – Summer Super Sprint - <https://www.triitnow.com> - at the Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center in Manassas. Lead by Andy / KJ4MTP - code named Shadow, we were all there by 6:45 AM with everything and all of us gone by three hours later. As is our custom, we operated on simplex at 147.525. We backstopped this with the W4OVH repeater at 146.970 - PL 100.0. We would like to acknowledge our volunteers who were present and participated : Jeff / K9VEG; Erik / K4SOK; Ken / KN4DD; Al / KB4BHB; John / KG4NXT; Greg / KM4CCG and our new member James / KQ4CAX. I am happy to report we had no incidents.



Berryville Hamfest (<https://berryvillehamfest.com>) took place on Sunday, August 7th @ 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM EDT at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, 890 W. Main Street, Berryville VA 22611. There was a good



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Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Ken Brant	KN4DD	622-2638
Vice Pres:	Tony Ohe	KM4KLB	596-2508
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 2022 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2022

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 - volunteer needed!

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	W4RKU	540-445-5183
John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KN4DD	622-2638

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

EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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JOTA -

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

Open - volunteer needed!

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 2022

Ken	KN4DD	622-2638
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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: 20220713

turnout by OVH members and the weather was also very good.

SOWW - The OVH is and will be supporting the upcoming Warrior Bike Ride which will take place on September 10th, now less than a month away. We will need about 28 volunteer spotters to man this 60 mile long bike ride. I know this is a lot of volunteers, but this is a very worthwhile charity and we really need the help. This will be largely a mobile 50-watt radio event using both the W4OVH repeater and the Bluemont repeater. Some locations will be able to operate using hand-held radios, but that is only in very few locations. The event will be that Saturday morning from 0600 - 0800 starting (depending on your location through about 1400-1500 (2:00 – 3:00 PM ending time). Lunch and volunteer shirts will be provided to all. Here is the volunteer registration site for Ham Radio Operators: <https://www.bikereg.com/55394> If you are interested, please contact Andy / KJ4MTP via e-mail @ andy@gamponia.com You also might want to look at Andy's July 20, 2022 email on the OVH email reflector, which is included in at the end of this Newsletter for more information



No triathlons or marathons this month, but those will resume on September 18th with the Tri It Now “The 14.06”

You don't have to wait until our in-person meetings to see everyone again; you can come out Saturday morning, August 13th at 8:00 AM for our monthly breakfast. Pioneered by Byron / AK4XR, we get together every Saturday before our meetings at a table or two in the back of Yorkshire Restaurant for some good food and good conversation at 7537 Centreville Road. Manassas, Tel: 703-368-4905. The Menu is at: <https://www.yorkshirerestaurantmanassas.com/menu> We hope to see you there.



George, K4GVT reminds us to “Save the Date” for the 76th Greater Manassas Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3rd @ 10 AM. We will need volunteer spotters, but if you can't volunteer, please at least come out to watch the parade and support our OVH Parade Float. See George's e-mail of August 2, 2022 on the OVH email reflector for more details.

Also, a reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net at 8 PM. We are still wrestling with intermittent repeater problems, so please be patient. Details about how to do that are on the OVH's web site: <https://w4ovh.net> This is a great way to stay in touch.

I am grateful to the many people working to get the problem at Mt. Pone corrected. As you know, we have been wrestling with this can of worms for awhile now. We see the

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emails regarding the issues and the discussions between those involved and know they are working hard on these problems. But for now, a big thank you all from the club for your continued pursuit of a solution to those difficulties.

Our next OVH regular monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, August 16th, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas. Hope to see everyone there.

Questions, comments or war stories can be directed to my e-mail: KN4DD@arrl.net

73, Ken / KN4DD

Sunshine Corner

Happy birthday wishes to our club members celebrating in August – Ken / KD4VA, John / KK4TCE, Karl / W4KRL, Matthew / KK4SYM, Stu / W4PR, Ronnell / KK4ZUR, Vern / K0LVS, Chick / KC1PIA, Duane / KK4BZ, Raymond / KK4AQR and Andy / KJ4MTP. Hope each of you has a wonderful day!

John / KG4NXT and I did go to the Berryville Hamfest on August 7th, great turnout there. Saw quite a few OVH members there!

Best wishes to all our club members' kids, grandkids, etc. who are going back to school this month. Good luck to everyone for a successful school year! Let's hope the kids will be taught and learn all of the basic and essential curricula so their parents won't have to worry about that, separate from whatever new stuff school boards (and politicians) may now order to be taught.

In 2021, we found out that Charles Murphy / WA1FFX had passed away. Charlie was a long time member of the OVH and was very active for many years in the OVH. Sadly, Claire, his wife, passed away in July. Those who knew Claire and Charlie who would like to see Claire's obituary written by her family which put a lot of heart into writing it, go to the OVH web site at W4OVH.NET where that has been posted. Our thoughts and prayers to their family.

After fifteen years of working on the Sunshine Corner almost every month, I am planning and very much want to hang up doing that by the end of 2022, sooner if possible. So hopefully, some other OVH member will step up and be willing to take over that important OVH job which does require commitment and carry through and at least a hour or more of time each month. The ideal replacement will be an OVH member who is moderately active in ham radio, who is able to and enjoys keeping in touch with other members, who follows and keeps current with what is going on within the club and with its members and their families. I found the limited work involved quite rewarding most of the time! If you volunteer to take this over, I will help with the transition and you do not need to agree to do it for many years as I eventually did! Please call or contact me with any questions; I will be happy to discuss what is involved with any OVH member!

Every Thursday at 8 p.m., we have the Thursday night net. Please join us, hear up-to-date information on club news as well as upcoming events.

73 Theresa KG4TVM
kg4tvm@hotmail.com

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held live on Wednesday, July 19, 2022:

OVH President, Ken / KN4DD, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on July 19, 2022 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. Seventeen members were present.

The minutes of the July meeting were compiled by Andrea Cumberland / KI4SXM who stood in for John / KG4NXT who was unable to attend.

Program: Tony / KM4KLB gave a hastily put together presentation on Emergency Power after Karl / W4KRL, the planned program presenter, was unable to attend due to last minute conflict. Despite a series of problems (e.g. – no back room, dead laptop, no projector due to a missing video cable converter, etc.) Tony was able to give an excellent presentation of about 30 minutes on topics including solar panels, backup batteries, car inverters and such. Tony indicated that he would provide written material from the presentation for the web site and the newsletter.

The minutes of the June 2022 OVH meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No Report as Treasurer Don / WA2SWX, was unable to attend.

Membership Committee by Luther / WA3FMO, received via email: Sorry, I am and expect to be out of commission for the 07-19-2022 meeting. Nevertheless, the OVH has two read-ins to do for July: first, Sean Morris / KO4ZTO (General); and second, James Lemond, Jr. / KQ4CAX (Technician); and one vote in: Alan Taylor / KD5VEZ. My apologies for missing the meeting. Luther / WA3FMO. Vote in of Alan Taylor / KD5VEZ was approved unanimously, and the two read-ins were accomplished, to be voted upon at the next regular meeting.

ARES – Tony / KM4KLB reported that ARES cancelled last week's activities; he also reported that the 3rd Annual "Vettes for Vets" Car Show was moved due to weather to Saturday, July 30, 2022, 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM when it will be held at Warrior Retreat at Bull Run, 16013 Waterfall Road. Haymarket, Virginia 20169.

Repeaters - Ken/KE2N - Ken is still home recovering but provided his report via email: Thanks for the invitation. I could, in fact, limp in there and attend the meeting. The problem is transportation - since I am unable to drive a car again (yet). Following is the report. WHAT IS WORKING: 146.97 FM (split-antenna operation) with linking via asterisk node 46931; 224.66 FM and linking via asterisk node 47551; 442.2 FM and C4FM with Wires-X linking; DSTAR 2 meters; DSTAR 440; Microwave link between Mt. Pone and NOVEC; Conference and DVSwitch Asterisk node 48032; the 2 meters and 224 repeaters are linked most of the time. The 224.1 machine of NV4FM (Fairfax) has been linked by their control op from time to time, including two of the Thursday night nets. WHAT IS NOT WORKING: The DSTAR gateway at NOVEC – consequence: no linking to reflectors or status online. No registration of new users is possible; Remote access to the Wires-X PC at Mt Pone (no operational consequence currently – Wires X

still working); Supermon2 web-based system monitor not accessible (lightning strike at NQ4T). Minor inconvenience. WORK UNDERWAY AT THIS TIME: Trouble shooting at Mt Pone – George / K4GVT re-tuned the big duplexer; this did not fix the problem. Next step will be to try replacing the repeater itself. K4GVT provided a “sister” unit for testing. Presently being programmed and tested at KE2N. KNOWN FURTHER WORK NEEDED: The DSTAR Gateway off-line status at NOVEC may have been due to a power dip (recent lightning “fiesta” in the Manassas area). The UPS there failed some time ago and KE2N procured a replacement (in March of this year), but it has not been installed. Looking for a volunteer to pick up the UPS and put it in-line with the Gateway PC at NOVEC and push the “on” button. With luck, it will go into run. If it does not, then no harm done.

Training/Education - No Training/Education Report this month.

Scholarship - Ken/KN4DD: nothing to report at the present time, but he plans to solicit club members directly to replenish scholarship fund shortly.

Hamfest (Don/WA2SWX): Don / WA2SWX could not attend the meeting. Ken / KN4DD stated that Don was resigning as Hamfest Chairman after four years of good and successful work in that position and that Don would remain as Treasurer.

Field Day (Byron/AK4XR): After presiding over the best Field Day (point wise) in years, Byron / AK4XR indicated he would like to go out on top. Byron DID stop short of expressly resigning as Field Day Chairman.

Website/Internet (Ken/KN4DD): Ken / KN4DD stated that an increase of SQL injection attacks on W4OVH.net had occurred in the last month, but noted that the defensive software worked as designed, preventing damage. Additionally, he reported curious upticks in events just moments before his logins. Indicating perhaps a glitch in the defensive software. He will continue to monitor.

JOTA (John/KG4NXT): John / KG4NXT was unable to attend. Ken / KN4DD reported that his last conversation with John on this topic indicated a high likelihood of OVH cancelling this year’s JOTA involvement due to a lack of response to OVH overtures to meet about scheduling and logistics.

Sunshine (Theresa/KG4TVM): Completing this month’s Hat Trick, Theresa / KG4TVM is planning to resign her position as the curator and writer of the “Sunshine Column” (for the OVH Newsletter and for the W4OVH web site) effective December 31, 2022 after about fifteen years of doing that. We need a volunteer to take over that important job – Theresa will help make the transition smooth.

50/50 Drawing and Break: No drawing or no break. Too few members in attendance.

Old Business: No Old Business; New Business: No New Business.

Meeting was adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFEST AND VE SESSION TYPE EVENTS:

The COVID pandemic has wound down or has completely ended, depending upon who you believe. Hamfests are at last being held again, but no local ones to report this month.

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HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

One of the biggest DX contests each summer is the Worked All Europe CW contest which this year will be on August 13 and 14. Numerous stations from all European countries are usually on. Go to <https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/wae-dx-contest/en/> for the contest rules and more details. This is a good opportunity to pick up “rare” EU countries.

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

Saturday, September 10, 2022 - SOWW event - see the President’s Letter and the email from Andy / KJ4MTP [email: andy@gamponia.com] at the end of this Newsletter for more info.

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://pwcares.org> for the latest PWC ARES updates. Complete direct contact information for David also appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

A Few Notes from Emergency Power presentation on July 19, 2022 – by Tony / KM4KLB

Having power is a key element to be able to communicate during an emergency. Here are a few notes from my Emergency Power discussion. I will add that this is just my perspective based on the system and equipment I currently use or have used within the past few years.

Background & Videos

Two video’s that can provide some good background on emergency power:

1. Vienna Wireless: <https://youtu.be/gLc2czyWEJA>
2. OH8STN Ham Radio: <https://youtu.be/AAQfS-tEUQA>

Those videos discuss the options and planning needs to setup you emergency power system.

Batteries

I discussed several types of batteries. The first is the tried and true sealed lead acid battery (SLA) and the second is the newer generation of batteries, the lithium iron phosphate (LiFePO4) battery. Each type of battery still has its purpose in ham radio. Here are links to the three that I had on display:

1. Universal Power Group 12V 100Ah Solar Wind AGM SLA DEEP Cycle VRLA Battery 12V 24V
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00S1RT58C/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1
2. Ampere Time LiFePO4 Deep Cycle Battery 12V 100Ah
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B084DB36KW/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&th=1
3. The Bioenno Power Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4) Battery Model BLF-1212AB (12V, 12Ah)
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B084DB36KW/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&th=1

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A few key take a ways on the two different battery types:

Sealed lead acid battery

- Life span is about three years
- Very heavy in weight
- Can use about 50% of capacity (100Ah = 50 hours of use at 12V1A)
- Voltages decreases as used
- Appears fairly inexpensive

Lithium iron phosphate (LiFePO4) battery

- Life span is about ten years
- Fairly light in weight
- Can use the full capacity (100Ah = 100 hours of use at 12V1A)
- Voltage only has a slight decrease over time
- Appears to be expensive

Discussion: Many folks rave at the inexpensiveness of the SLA batteries, boasting that they are half the price of a LiFePO4 battery. I personally will call them a great startup battery to help you initially build a system and learn what you want or need. In the long run (10 year lifespan of the LiFePO4 battery) the SLA batteries can be triple the expense of a LiFePO4. Let me explain using the two 100Ah batteries I displayed. The SLA battery cost approx. \$200 (Amazon). With SLA battery's capacity at 50%, it means we will need two to reach the 100Ah capacity of a LiFePO4 battery. That puts the SLA battery pack at about \$400, which is the current cost for a LiFePO4 on Amazon. Now consider that the SLA battery life span is about three years (the expected lifespan and where mine have lost their capacity). You will need replace the battery pack three times to get you to nine years of use. Two batteries replaced three times put you at a grand total of \$1,200 for the nine-year period. I will admit that this calculation is based on the verified life expectancy of a SLA battery at three years and the published life expectancy of 10 years for LiFePO4 batteries. I have only had my LiFePO4 batteries for less than a year so I can't verify their lifespan.

Power Management/Distribution

I use a West Mountain Radio Epic PWRgate to manage my power and battery charging. This system allows for both main power input from my switching power supply and input from my solar panel. [http://www.westmountainradio.com/product_info.php?products_id=epic-pwrgate]

I also use a Powerwerx 75A Input 4 Position Distribution Block to distribute my power to the various systems in use. [<https://powerwerx.com/75amp-input-4-position-powerpole-distribution-block>] My power lines use in-line fuses so I do not need additional fuses at my distribution point as you would see in a West Mountain Radio RigRunner. I have considered upgrading to the RigRunner and will most likely do so in the future.

Solar Panel

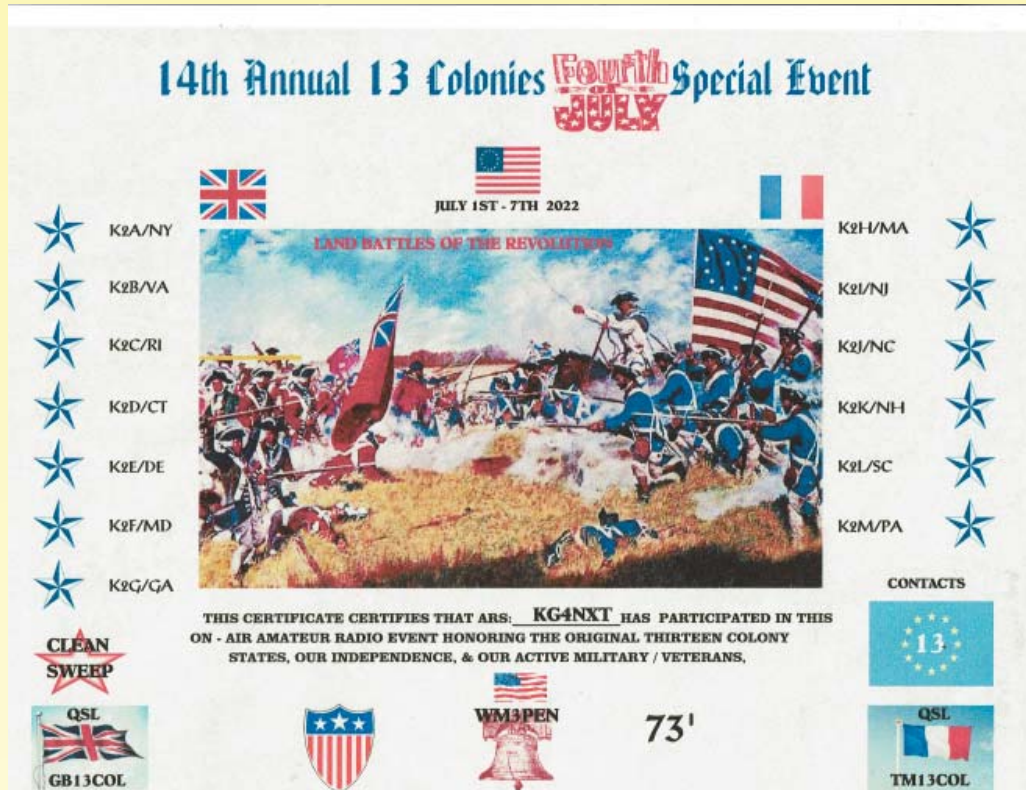
The solar pan I had displayed was a Bouge 170 Watts Monocrystalline Solar Panel. That system has been upgraded to a 180 watts and available on Amazon.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07MN1QS7L/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1

I hope what I described helps you design the system that meets your specific needs. As you consider the options and emerging equipment, you find that emergency power is a growing area with continued improvements. -- 73, Tony / KM4KLB

The Thirteen Colonies Special Event during the first part of July, 2022:

Certificates from the Thirteen Colonies Special Event which takes place each year in early July have been arriving. If you have contacts with all 13 colonies, it is a "CLEAN SWEEP." There are also bonus stations for the Liberty Bell, a station in England and a station in France. Known OVH club members who participated this year include Al / KB4BHB, Wayne / N7QLK, Ken / KE2N, Byron / AK4XR, Jim / KM4SXM and John / KG4NXT. See the certificate to the right:



Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

1. Check out <https://www.iota-world.org/iotamaps> if you need an online Grid Map locator. While the web site is intended mostly for IOTA work, you can use it find an exact six symbol ham radio Grid locator for any station, location or address you can find or pinpoint on a map. Thanks for this tip to Bill / N4SV/9.

2. A recording of the Ham Radio Lawyers / Legal (50 mins.) Session at the recent 2022 Hamvention was recently posted at <https://youtu.be/odbz4HLDDA0> Unfortunately, it is an unedited, raw recording (a bit annoying); nevertheless, it contained some quite interesting discussions in four topic areas: **1.** The importance of Congressional Lobbying / Impact on FCC Regulation of Ham Radio; **2.** Effective ways to get involved in FCC Administrative Proceedings affecting Ham Radio; **3.** Estate Planning for Radio Hams - what can / should be done to avoid / minimize problems / waste / burdens on family members who become survivors of radio hams with "unique" equipment collections; and **4.** recent Amateur Radio Zoning cases. #3 on this list is a topic most of us should eventually give some careful thought to, and might be worth looking at to get some better insight into those potential problems.

3. Earlier this week I got a text message from a former secretary who was visiting in Germany with her children along, asking me if I would like her to bring back something for me. (Her mother was German and she speaks that language fluently - I don't but I read and write quite well and even understand a lot when it is spoken.) Right away I texted back: Nein danke, ich habe schon zu viel Zeug! (No thanks, I already have too much stuff!) Part of that "too much stuff" is a large collection of CQ-DL and FunkAmateur monthly magazines going back 30 to 40 years. CQ-DL is the official publication of the DARC (darc.de), the ARRL equivalent in Germany, and FunkAmateur (funkamateur.de). "Radio Amateur" is a publication covering ham radio / electronics and software. Both have excellent technical content. If anyone who can read in German is interested in getting a free part of that collection of "stuff", please let me know. Otherwise, most of it will eventually end up in a local landfill. Your editor.

Information about the upcoming SOWW
from Andy / KJ4MTP at andy@gamponia.com to All OVH Members:

It is that time of the year again. We are looking for Ham Radio operators/volunteers who can support the Serve Our Willing Warriors 2022 Warrior Ride throughout Prince William and Loudoun Counties for four (4) existing possible Warrior Bike courses through our beautiful Northern Virginia countryside.

On September 10, 2022, Willing Warriors is hosting an event that you don't want to miss! The Warrior Bike Ride is a great community event with something for everyone. Whether you're an avid bike rider, adventurous spirit, or simply enjoy a nice family outing this event is for you. All proceeds from the Warrior Bike Ride will go directly to the Warrior Retreat at Bull Run which provides cost-free retreat stays and non-medical services that positively affect the recovery of wounded, ill, and injured service members and disabled Veterans. Many wounded warriors and their families will be participating in this event. In fact, the event itself is helping wounded warriors who bike ride for rehabilitative reconditioning. If you're not a biker, please consider sponsoring some of the many warriors who have signed up to ride. You can also volunteer or just come out to join us and cheer everyone on.

Here is the volunteer registration site for Ham Radio Operators: <https://www.bikereg.com/55394>

The event, as in past years, will be based out of the Farm Brewery at Broad Run , 16015 John Marshall Hwy, Broad Run, Virginia.

The event will require almost 28 volunteers, as we will cover four bike courses. A thirteen (13) mile ride, a thirty (30) mile or half-Century ride (in kilometers), a sixty (60) mile or Century Ride (in kilometers), and back by popular demand a Gravel Ride up Bull Run Mountain (two loops). All rides are generally between the START at the Haymarket Farm Brewery and along the side of Bull Run Mountain to Aldie and then in a beautiful loop in the country towards Airmont, back to Middleburg, through Aldie and then back to the Haymarket Brewery to FINISH the ride.

We need lots of volunteers. Please go to the registration site (you can register as a guest and don't need to sign up for an account if you don't want to) and register as a HAM RADIO OPERATOR VOLUNTEER.

If anyone has any difficulty signing up, please let me know and I can assist.

I will prior to the event be publishing the run of show, event operations plan and position assignment for the event volunteers. If you have any particular location or skills you wish to exercise, you can send me an email to discuss.

This will be largely a mobile 50-watt radio event using both the W4OVH repeater and the Bluemont repeater. Some locations will be able to operate using hand-held radios, but that is only in very few locations. The registration will ask you some questions on what equipment you have to give me a better idea of where I can station you on the course. I will need a few folks that can setup and external antenna to get better coverage.

OK, if you have questions, please let me know. The event will be that Saturday morning from 0600 - 0800 starting (depending on your location through about 1400-1500 (2-3PM ending time). Lunch and volunteer shirts will be provided to all.

Thank you for your support.

Andy / KJ4MTP