

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

**Renew your OVH
membership now!**

December 2022

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, January 17, 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to All! Well, here it is December. The year is winding down and the OVH event calendar is over for the year. Overall, 2022 has been a lot better than the last two years, and we continue to grow back into normalcy. We returned to Hamfest this year from last year's Covid inspired Tailgate Party. We had excellent turn outs for Field Day this year as well as our Mini-Tri and Warrior Bike Ride events. Things will continue to improve in 2023 and I am counting on your continued support of club activities.



Get ready to renew your OVH annual membership dues which are now \$25 per year per the vote taken at the October 2022 meeting. Remember this the new amount when you make your payment, either online at W4OVH.NET or by using the mail-in Flyer form later in this Newsletter. For you to be eligible to vote in our annual upcoming February elections, you will need to be current with your annual dues.

Now would be a good time to start thinking about nominees for club leadership positions. You might even decide to serve your fellow members as an officer. You will still need to be a member in good standing to be on the ballot.

Another reminder: the annual ARRL Straight Key Night (SKN) returns on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, January 1, 0000 – 2359 UTC, which is 7:00 PM EST on December 31st. This promises to be a lot of fun for the novice CW (Morse code) operators in the OVH who are just learning as well as for experienced CW operators - there is a lot of CW activity on the HF bands during this event and at other times. For

Cont'd on Page 3

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) Blasdel	W4HJL	369-2877
Arthur Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451

WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time	JOHN / KG4NXT	257-3566
----------------------------	---------------	----------

HAMFEST 2022 - Chairman

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
-----	--------	----------

FIELD DAY 2022

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
-------	-------	----------

CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
--------	-------	----------

EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
------	--------	----------

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Open - volunteer needed!

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
---------	--------	----------

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
------	--------	----------

JOTA -

vacant	—	
--------	---	--

LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
-----	-------	----------

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	WA3FMO	361-4885
--------	--------	----------

NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
------	------	----------

NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John.	KG4NXT	257-3566
-------	--------	----------

PROGRAMS

Jeff	WB6UIE	791-5916
------	--------	----------

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
-------	-------	--------------

W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
--------	-------	----------

SCHOLARSHIP 2022

Ken	KN4DD	622-2638
-----	-------	----------

SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
---------	--------	----------

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
Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431

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: 20220921

more information, go to: <http://arrrl.org/news/straight-key-night-is-january-1-2022-utc>

Since last month's President's Letter, the OVH supported the Prince William 5k Turkey Trot and Mashed Potato Mile at The Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center, Manassas, See, John / KG4NXT's November 30, 2022 article about it on the W4OVH.net web site.

On December 3, 2022, the Ole Virginia Hams supported the 76th Annual Greater Manassas Christmas Parade. The parade ran from 10 AM until 12 noon but many of the participants were there prepping from 6:30 AM on. The weather was awful during the prep time but continued to clear from start time throughout the day.

Yours truly towed the OVH club trailer with Theresa / KG4TVM giving moral support and helping with directions. (Yes, it IS possible or me to make a wrong turn in a parade). Thank you to everyone who came out to help provide communications support for the Parade. And special thank you to both George / K4GVT for organizing the OVH's participation and Theresa / KG4TVM for handling many other details, including trying to decorate the trailer for the Parade. I say trying because, when we tried, the rain was making everything just slide off the sides of our trailer.

I can't vouch for the other participants who were in that early rough weather, but I hope they all had as nice a time as I did in helping with this event. If you have never volunteered for this in the past, you should try it next year; it was a lot of fun.

George, K4GVT, also roamed the parade route taking pictures; go to the following link: <https://k4gvt.com/ovh/Manassas%20Christmas%20Parade%202022> to all those he posted on his private web site. Some appear later in this Newsletter.

Our World Famous OVH Christmas Party was on Sunday evening, December 11, 2022, once again held at the Yorkshire Restaurant. We had a good turnout. I had forgotten to count, but we seemed to have 40 to 46 people, which would be about 10 to 12 more than last year. The assortment and quality of all of the food was superb! Several awards were given out. Your Officer Cadre (John / KG4NXT – Secretary; Don / WA2SWX – Treasurer; Tony / KM4KLB – Vice President and yours truly, Ken / KN4DD – President) received handsome, spill proof coffee cups stenciled our names, call sign, position and year.

Additionally, Don / WA2SWX received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his many years both as Treasurer and as Manassas Hamfest Chairman. When Don took over our affairs in these areas, were less than optimum. He has worked quite hard over the years to get us to where we are today. Our repeater committee members also received certificates of appreciation – Gil / KM4OZH; John / KG4NXT; Al / KB4BHB; Byron / AK4XR; Cat / KM4PBD; Jeff / WB4TT, and George / K4GVT. The Chief of our Technical Committee Ken / KE2N was presented with an acrylic award of appreciation.

Congratulations to all of this year's award winners!

Another thank you to Theresa / KG4TVM for organizing the year end party coordinating to for two U.S. Marines, who dined with us and received the OVH's

Continued on page 4

donations to the 75th Annual Toys for Tots campaign. It is my belief that the US Marine Corps dress blue uniform is the sharpest of all branches of the U.S. Military Services. Quite a concession coming from an old Army guy!

Thank you to everyone to donated gifts to Toys for Tots during this difficult year, and thanks to everyone who came out to the party. Thanks too, to the Yorkshire Restaurant for again hosting us and providing us with the turkey and ham.

It sure seems as if George, K4GVT, has become our resident photographer. See all of his party picture at: <https://www.k4gvt.com/ovh/christmasparty2022> . Some appear later here.

Because our Christmas / Year End Party was also December's monthly meeting, there is no monthly breakfast this month. We will resume our monthly OVH club breakfasts on Saturday, January 14th at 8:00 AM.

Our next monthly meeting will be next year - Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at beginning at 7:30 PM at the Buckhall VFD, 7190 Yates Ford Road. Manassas, Virginia. The presentation during that meeting will be on the upcoming VIRGINIA QSO party.

Also, a reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net at 8 PM. The details for that are on the OVH's web site: <https://w4ovh.net>

Lastly, a very big and special thank you to Theresa / KG4TVM for her many years of dedication doing her Sunshine Column, she is hanging up her Underwood N° 5 typewriter. This December is her last foray as our Sunshine Columnist. Your work will be missed. Andrea / KI4SXM is be taking over from Theresa beginning in January, 2023. While Theresa leaves some big shoes to fill, we know that Andrea is up for the challenge.

Thank you and Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all and see you in January! Questions, comments or war stories can be directed to my e-mail: KN4DD@arrl.net

73 Ken KN4DD

Sunshine Corner

Happy birthday wishes in December to our club members celebrating this month – Tony / KM4KLB, Ed / KK4PHO, Jay / NQ4T, Dianne / KI4FVV, Bill / N4SV, Kelly / (no call), Alan / KY4DN, Byron / AK4XR, David / KK4ZUU and Marwood / KL7AW. Hope you all end the year with lots of candles!

On Saturday, December 3, 2022 we attended the Manassas Christmas Parade. Club members were along the parade route providing radio communications to net control (Wayne . N7QLK). Special thanks to Ken / KN4DD for pulling our club trailer through the full parade route as one of the units. It started as a very dark, grey, rainy day but by the time, the parade kicked off the weather had moved on. There will be other mentions in the Newsletter along with photos by George / K4GVT. This is an event to consider for next year especially for our new members, it is a great event and our presence is very much appreciated.

Cont'd on page 5

WOW, our Holiday Party was incredible! Everyone did a wonderful job bringing covered dishes and toy donations. The food was great!

We were thrilled to have the Marines represented by Staff Sergeant Hevarti and Gunnery Sergeant McHale, both based at Quantico.

Several of our members were recognized at the party – our officers Ken / KN4DD, Tony / KM4KLB, John / KG4NXT and Don / WA2SWX. Also, our repeater committee received certificates of appreciation – Gil / KM4OZH, John / KG4NXT, Al / KB4BHB, Byron / AK4XR, Cat / KM4PBD, Jeff / WB4TT, and George / K4GVT. Ken / KE2N is our repeater go to guy and keeps everything moving forward, Ken was presented with an acrylic award of appreciation.

Lastly, the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Don / WA2SWX for holding key positions in the club over the last 7 plus years and keeping our bank account solvent and the annual Manassas Hamfest / Tailgate event going.

Anyone that was not at the party will have their certificates handed out at the January club meeting. Thank you to everyone that attended and also to those that dropped off toy donations ahead of time.

Thanks to Bruce / KN4GDX for providing the program at last month's club meeting. Also thanks to Ken / KE2N for providing repeater information.

Beginning January 1, 2023 Andrea / KI4SXM will be taking over assembling information and preparing the Sunshine Corner. Thanks to Andrea for taking this on! Send your information to her at email: sunnybeach4us@gmail.com It has been my pleasure doing this for the club for during the last 15 years!

Every Thursday at 8:00 pm, we have the club's weekly net. Please join us, say hello and hear up-to-date information on club news.

Happy Holidays to you! See you in 2023!

73 Theresa / KG4TVM kg4tvm@hotmail.com



Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held live on Tuesday, November 15, 2022:

OVH President Ken/KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on Tuesday evening, November 15, 2022 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns.

Program. Bruce/KN4GDX gave a program on “Quantum Computing.” His slides contain many links to other resources and will be posted on the W4OVH.net web site under Presentations.

Minutes. The minutes of the October 21, 2022 OVH meeting were approved as amended. The amendment was that “Pater Brown” should read: -Peter Brown-.

Treasurer’s Report. Don/WA2SWX gave the Treasurer’s Report which was approved.

Membership. Luther/WA3FMO reported there was one vote-in this month, Peter Brown / KM4FTJ, who was approved unanimously.

ARES report. No report.

Ken/KE2N gave the repeater report. He gave a slide presentation on the failure of the 442.2 repeater and the options for replace it. Ken recommended 1) Install the used DR !X; 2) watch for price drops on the dr-2x; 3) train some one to support one of the MMDVM options. We passed a motion to implement Ken’s recommendations.

Training. Mark/WA4KFZ mentioned that John/KG4NXT had organized a VE session for November 19th in Centreville.

Scholarship. Ken/KN4DD reported no activity this month.

Tailgate: Don/WA2SWX reported that the contract for the tailgate space had been signed for contract price of \$350. The tailgate event is scheduled for June 3, 2023rd with a reserved rain date of June 10, 2023 in the same contract.

Field Day. As mentioned by Cat KM4PBD in a reflector email, the first order of business will be to get the Nokesville Park location reserved and that cannot be done until after the first of the New Year.

Web Committee. Ken/KN4DD reported all working and low level of attacks this month.

JOTA report. Possible outreach to the Scouts in the spring.

Sunshine. Theresa/KG4TVM reported: The Manassas City Christmas Parade is December 3rd and the OVH will participate. Ken/KN4DD will drive the OVH trailer in the Parade.. George/K4GVT will handle parade communications. Wayne/N7QLK will be net control. On December 11th, OVH will have its holiday party at 6 pm at the Yorkshire restaurant. You are asked to bring a covered dish. We will be collecting toys for tots. We have been promised two Marines.

Old Business: None

New Business: Wayne/N4HCR asked for volunteers for GOTA for Life. Wayne described GOTA for life program. Contact him directly for more details.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFEST AND VE SESSION TYPE EVENTS:

The COVID pandemic has wound down or completely ended, depending upon who you believe. Hamfests are being held again, but none nearby until March.

No news to report about the Frostfest in Richmond which is usually in early February.

Friday - Sunday, February 10 - 12, 2023 - Hamcation Hamfest in Orlando, Florida - one of the biggest winter time Hamfests. More info at <http://hamcation.com>

Sunday, March 19, 2023 - Winterfest 2023 in Annadale, Va. sponsored by Vienna Wireless. More info at <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest>

OVH CLUB EVENTS:

None to report, next regular OVH meeting will be on January 17, 2023.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

January 1st, 2022 UTC - ARRL Straight Key Night. Info: <http://arrl.org/straight-key-night>

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

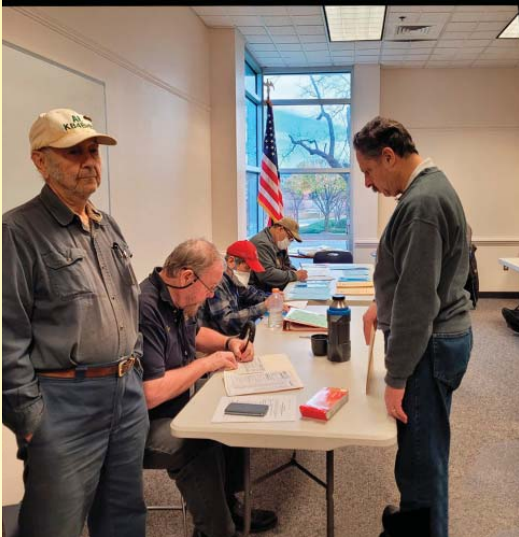
None to report.

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.

Traveler Bill / AF4LL missed the OVH year end party due to a trip to Alaska; below left: at the Arctic Circle; right: in Fairbanks. Bill expect to visit the Anchorage ARC before returning.



OVH VE SESSION - 11/19/2022 - IN CENTREVILLE



On November 19, 2022, the OVH sponsored a VE exam session at the Centreville Central Library. Byron / AK4XR had secured the space in response to demand. The VEs assisting were John/KG4NXT; Al / KB4BHB; Ken/KN4DD; Luther/WA3FMO; James/KQ4CAX, and Mark/WA4KFZ. Theresa/KG4TVM assisted with registration and ID checking. She also prepared a handout which included an OVH club membership application and the steps to follow to check on the application and pay the new \$35 FCC fee. Seven applicants appeared and each passed at least one exam, as a result, we have five new Technicians and two new General Class Licensees.

OVH SUPPORT FOR THE 76TH GREATER MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE

What a difference a year makes; on December 3, 2022, the Ole Virginia Hams supported the 76th Annual Greater Manassas Christmas Parade. While just cloudy last year, this year's forecast called for poor weather. They got it part right. While the weather was gloomy during the preparation phase or setup phase of the parade, the weather did improve as the day went on.

John, KG4NXT, Theresa KG4TVM and yours truly met at the Manassas City Yard at 6:30 AM to collect & decorate the OVH trailer. It was about 50 ° at that time. Overnight and that morning we had about .3" of cold rain, which made lying on the ground to hook up the trailer and electrical just miserable.

It was too wet to put a lot of decorations on the trailer. The wreath, garlands and magnetic stickers just kept sliding off. We opted to decorate my truck and use just one string of Christmas lights on the trailer itself.



This was my first time towing our trailer and the first time driving in our parade, so Theresa wisely decided she best ride with me to keep an eye on both me and our travels. I am grateful. As an experienced hand, she gave me a sense of calm throughout the drive.

According to the archived weather for nearby Dulles Airport, the temperature went

Cont'd on page 9

from 50°F at 6:30 am to a whopping 53°F at the start of the parade at 10 am. But it was still raining intermittently leading up to the parade start.

A bit of an unusual incident took place at the beginning of the parade as well. A woman attending had what might be described as a cardiac event, stating she had chest pains and couldn't breathe. We were nearby and there was enough of a commotion from the sidewalk crowds that Theresa left my truck to see if she could give assistance. She returned shortly afterwards to get Manassas Emergency Services involved. Manassas City was certainly well prepared. EMT people were on site almost immediately. With the crush of spectators on either side of the road and parade participants clogging the middle of the street, it was clear that a normal size ambulance would not just drive up. But Manassas Emergency Services was ready for this scenario with an ATV vehicle the size of a "stretch" golf cart. They were able to treat the woman and then transport her in the cart over to the nearby ambulance.

Fortunately that was the only noteworthy "incident." After that, the parade proceeded normally and even the weather improved. The weather broke near the end of the parade around 12 noon when the warm front came through and it was a balmy 63°F and the rain and clouds were gone by mid-afternoon.

Of course, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus were present, and as were some slightly confused looking dogs decked out as reindeer pulling wagons of Christmas presents.



I guess it really is true. People really do love a parade! We had a number of drop outs and cancellations due to the weather. However, quite a few OVH members came out and stayed with us as did most of the parade watchers.

Wayne/N7QLK (shown to the left) operated Net Control for the Parade, an "out of sight" but critical function for the parade, and he did a great job..

At this time, I'd like to recognize our other volunteers who assisted with the Parade. As usual we were lead by

Cont'd on page 10

parade liaison coordinator with the City of Manassas, George/K4GVT, with John/KG4NXT; Theresa/KG4TVM; Byron/AK4XR, Greg/KM4CCG and Lynn/KX4HR also assisting. Thanks to everyone who was able to participate!

73 Ken KN4DD

A Few Pictures from the OVH Year End / Christmas Party on 12/11/2022

Special Appreciation and Awards for some:



One view of the foodline, some plates of the assortment of dishes and desserts, the best ever at an OVH party!



Cont'd on page 11

Visiting and Camaraderie





REMINDER



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!! Below is the 2023 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 2023

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 **\$25.00** per year and payable on January 1, 2023. Dues for each additional family member living at the same mailing address are \$12.50. Dues for a full time student at the college undergraduate or lower level [list school attended and grade or level:
_____] are \$12.50.

AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS:

Name: _____

Name: _____

Call: _____

Call: _____

Return to: **Treasurer, OVH**

P.O. Box 1255

Manassas, VA 20108-1255