

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

Renew your OVH membership now!

February 2023

Next Monthly Meeting: Monday, February 20, 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

I hope you all are enjoying the recent spring like weather. I know I have. I also know that everything costs something, so I won't be surprised if the bill comes due in the form of actual winter weather. Just the same, I wouldn't mind if our recent weather stays around for the rest of the season.

Speaking of spring like weather, now would be a good time while we still have "see through trees" to get out there and check those antennas. Better now (and easier) than when the foliage returns.

VERY IMPORTANT: our monthly OVH meeting in February will be on **MONDAY**, February 20, 2023 at the usual time and place. This is one time change from the monthly meeting which are regularly held on the third Tuesday of each month. The March meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21st.

I was informed of the results from the June 2022 ARRL VHF contests shortly after I had published the January 2023 President's Letter. So, even though this is a bit late, I want to congratulate two of our own, Gil / KM4OZH and Ron / K3FR. Both Gil and Ron took Virginia first place for their respective categories. Way to go, guys!

Ron is now also getting a bit more famous in his own right. He and one of his homebrew antennas got some ink on page 24 of the January-February 2023 National Contest Journal. A picture and a few more details later (page 7) in this Newsletter.

A planning meeting (announced on the OVH email reflector) for our Second OVH Tailgate Party (in lieu of the Hamfest) was held on February 15th.



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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

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

TAILGATE (HAMFEST) 2023 - CHAIRMAN

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2023 - CHAIRPERSON

Cat otohime.1978@gmail.com	KM4PBD	571-213-2179
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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	628-3868
See http://pwcares.org	email: kg4giy@arrl.net	

FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
Don	WA2SWX	597-3211

GENERATORS

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

TRI-IT-NOW & WARRIOR BIKE RIDE - CHAIRMAN x2

Andy andy@gamponia.com	KJ4MTP	785-4651
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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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MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE - OVH COORDINATOR

George	K4GVT	791-5956
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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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CHRISTMAS / YEAR END PARTY - CHAIRPERSON

Theresa.	KG4TVM	257-3566
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PROGRAMS

Tony	KM4KLB	331-3705
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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

Andrea	KI4SXM	868-5363
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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
Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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All telephone numbers listed above are for Area Code 703 unless otherwise noted. This is the official monthly publication of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc., a §501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. Copyright © 2023 by the Ole Virginia Hams which holds its regular monthly meetings 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 were held online. The Newsletter will have login details for monthly online meetings if applicable. 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: 20230101

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Next up is the 2023 PVARC Mini Ham Fest - HAMFEST / CONVENTION.. The OVH has a table there and we will be handing out flyers for our June Tailgate Party. The Mini Ham Fest takes place on Feb. 18, 2023 at: VFW Post 9292, Elkton, 13958 Spotswood Trail, Elkton, VA 22827 More Info: <https://sites.google.com/view/pvarc/home> And if you didn't know, this is sponsored by the Page Valley Amateur Radio Club.

Also, and you should be interested in going because it is nearby, Vienna Wireless Society's 47th WINTERFEST will be held on Sunday, March 19, 2023 as a traditional Hamfest. The OVH has been given a table and has a couple of tickets.

A personal ask, if I may: While OVH has a table at each to give out our Tailgate Party flyers, a table full of only flyers is not as exciting as it could be. If you have some gear you'd like to sell or books & magazines you'd like to sell or give away, please consider using our tables at these Hamfests. It would certainly help draw in attendees to our tables, and you might sell some stuff. WIN – WIN. If this sounds interesting, please contact our Tailgate Party Chairman Don / WA2SWX at wa2swxdm@gmail.com

OVH's involvement with the Tri-It-Now mini triathlons to provide safety for the racers on the road course is about to begin for 2023. OVH volunteers are stationed along the course to provide support, communicate any necessary information, and help keep the race running smoothly. The first race, Tune Up Tri, will be on March 26, 2023

With a lineup of events that offer a challenge for everyone, Tri-It-Now is the place to be for triathlon enthusiasts. For Ham Radio enthusiasts, it is the perfect start to become "radio active" and support the event in radio safety communications. If you are interested in radio safety communications support, contact Andy Gamponia (andy@gamponia.com) and volunteer for a few hours on a Sunday morning to support this year's Tri-It-Now mini-triathlons and you're guaranteed a fun and exciting day at Tri-It-Now.

Our monthly breakfast returns this Saturday, February 18th at 8:00 AM. 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.

Of course a big thing upcoming are the OVH annual elections. That's right, it's time once again to decide who is going to sit at the front table. We have a full slate on the ballot this year. Gil / KM4OZH is on the ballot for Vice President, John / KG4NXT and Don / WA2SWX will be running again for their respective positions of Secretary and Treasurer; and I, asking for a second year as club President.

Remember please that your dues need to be paid in order to vote in the elections and our new annual amount is \$25.00 this year. Dues can be renewed online at W4OVH.NET or using the mail-in sheet later in this Newsletter.

Gordon, / NQ4K is going to present about the 2023 Virginia QSO Party at the upcoming OVH meeting on Monday, February 20th. The VAQP will be held on 18 March 1400 UTC to 19 March, 0400 UTC and 19 March, 1200 UTC - 2400 UTC this year.

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Last but not least, I'd like to like to give a big thank you to our outgoing Vice President, Tony / KM4KLB for his service in that position and for his many years of service to the club. He is not leaving the club, but his time is now needed for family. Tony's time devoted to OVH club has been greatly appreciated by all. He has undertaken taken a number of ideas and run with them including Parking Control for both our first Tailgate Party & last year's Hamfest. Additionally, Tony has developed a yearly schedule for our monthly meeting presentation schedules and brought them all to fruition. His attention to detail is well known among the club's officer cadre. And just as important, he has been a technical resource for many of you. Thanks again Tony.

Remember 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> 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 this February, 2023 – Dick / WN7S, Harvey / WB6TTF, Jeff / W86UIE, Art / W1CRO, Mike / KN4NDI, Tyssen / W8ZM, Gerald / KN4DWT and Scott / KN4ZMC. Hope you all have wonderful birthdays with lots of candles! !



Congratulations Sub-Corner:

Ron / K3FR for homebuilt indoor Antenna Article published in the ARRL's National Contest Journal. Great Job !!!!

Don / WA2SWX, completed Worked All States ("WAS"), and received a WAS certificate from ARRL for that achievement. Outstanding / bravo!!!!

On January 31st , there was a Field Day Planning meeting for this June event at Sam & Joes restaurant chaired by Cat / KM4PBD. Please contact Chairwoman Cat if you can help out with this event, or go to the OVH web page, Membership link on the top menu bar, then at the dropdown, click on Members page, and there you will see a Tailgate 2023 and a link. Clicking on the link takes you to a spreadsheet of the volunteer list where you can type in your name and call sign (if any), then press ENTER to save the info.



Every Thursday at 8 p.m., we have the club's weekly net on the OVH's VHF/UHF FM repeaters. See W4OVH.NET web site for details of how to join in. Please join us, say hello and hear up-to-date information on club news. Having issues with your radio equipment or need help with anything ham radio? This is a great forum to ask

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questions and hear the latest news on current club events.

Friendly Reminder!!! Just Six More Weeks of Winter

Andrea / KI4SXM is now providing the input to the Sunshine Corner. Please send your information via my new Email address (see below).

73 Andrea / KI4SXM sunnybeach4us9@gmail.com

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Informal Meeting held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023:

OVH President Ken / KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on January 17, 2023 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs.

Ken announced that the meeting next month will be on the third Monday in February, or February 20 – NOT on the third Tuesday. This is a one time change. In March and later, the meetings will again be on the third Tuesday each month.

Bruce / KN4GDX gave a program on a digital mode called VarAC. The slides will be posted on the web site under presentations.

Jason / N3JLT gave a presentation proposing a remote receiver for the 147.300 machine to be located at Mt Pone with Jason providing all materials including coax. The presentation also described a remote receiver at Bluemont for 146.970. The club approved a motion to accept the remote receiver at Mt. Pone. No decision was made on the remote receiver at Bluemont.

The minutes of the November 15, 2022 OVH meeting were approved.

Ken / KN4DD gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved.

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. There were two read-new ins: Brandon Loudenslager / KQ4EFJ, and Matt Strachan / KE7EX.

ARES report. No report.

Ken / KE2N gave the repeater report. The Dstar computer crashed and was rebooted in person with additional safeguards against hackers. The 2M and 440 repeaters are working fine. The 442.2 machine is putting out 5 watts which goes to an amplifier which puts out 70 watts to the antenna. We hope the lower power output of the 442.2 repeater will insure long life. Wires-X is also working.

Training. There was a discussion of using Exam Tools to conduct VE exams. John KG4NXT has registered as a VE with exam tools. We will need a sandbox training session before we attempt this.

Ken / KN4DD gave the scholarship report. We will award one scholarship this year. Ken will send out letters to the schools on the week of Jan 25.

Don / WA2SWX was not present because of a death in the family. John / KG4NXT gave the Tailgate report. There was a tailgate committee meeting on Jan 10. The web modifications for tailgate are live on the w4ovh.net website. The tailgate flyer is done and Theresa KG4TVM had 400 copies printed in color at a good price. We will be taking the

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flyers to the Elkton hamfest.

Cat KM4PBD gave the Field day report. Butch W4HJL filed the paper work to get the Nokesville site. They have asked for a copy of our 501c(3) tax exemption. Butch has found the original and is sending it in. Once we know if we have Nokesville or not, Cat will call a tailgate meeting.

Ken KN4DD gave the web committee report. The calendar app uninstalled itself but Ken and Kevin W4RKU have restored it. Otherwise, things are working fine.

Andrea KI4SXM gave the Sunshine report. She recognized the birthdays and covered several other club activities. She asked that anyone with club news forward it to her as the new sunshine corner chair.

Old Business: None

New Business: Mark WA4KFZ donated a paper bound 100th Anniversary ARRL handbook to be raffled off. We need to get the terms of the raffle defined by next meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFEST AND VE SESSION TYPE EVENTS:

No Frostfest event will be held in Richmond this year (2023), but the sponsors report that they are hopeful there will be another Frostfest early next year, in 2024, to be announced.

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

Saturday, June 3, 2023 (rain date: June 10), 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, OVH Manassas Tailgate Party (replacing the Manassas Hamfest) - see Flyer later in this Newsletter for more info.

OVH CLUB EVENTS:

Nothing special to report, except that the next upcoming OVH meeting will be on Monday evening, February 20, 2023 at the usual time and place. After this upcoming meeting, the regular meetings will be on the third Tuesday of each month again.

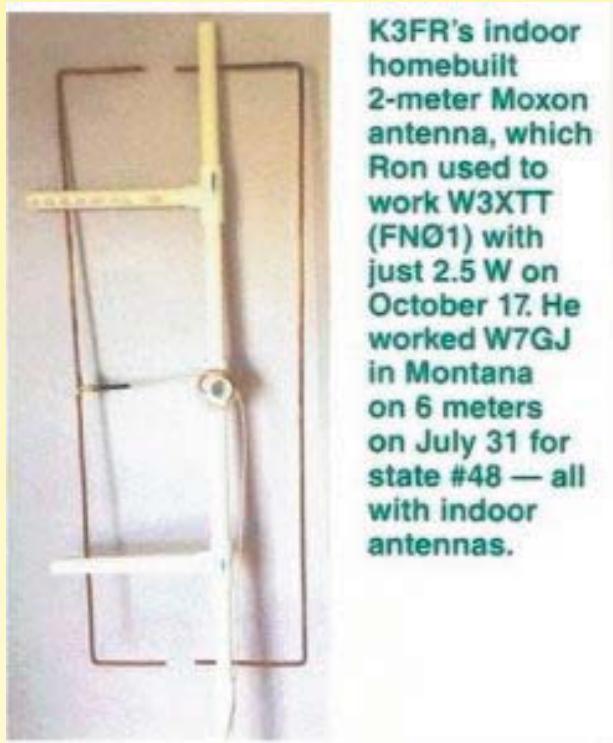
HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

March 18 -19, 2023, Sat. thru Sun., with two separate operating time ranges, the Virginia QSO Party. This is a big event each year, with lots of participants. For more info, go to: https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2023_VQP/2023_VQP_Main.html If and when filing a log, be sure to indicate your affiliation with the OVH Radio Club.

CHECK other sources for more. The ARRL maintains a Contest web page at its web site at ARRL.org, 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. If you get the radio contesting bug or just want to find out and how much is going on - a lot is going on, these are very good places to look!

PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

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



The Image & caption in the picture to the left is from page 24 of the National Contest Journal, the Jan. - Feb. 2023 issue. That Journal which is published by the ARRL formerly was available only in print, but it is available online to all ARRL members

The caption for the image is a little bit off. According to Ron / K3FR, the antenna in the picture is one that he actually uses only for foxhunting, and was not used for the contest event being reported. In fact, Ron was using a five element Yagi when he worked W3XTT with QRP. Further his stated score is actually his raw score from 2021.

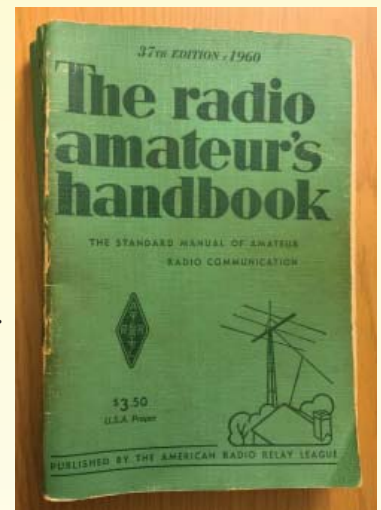
Nevertheless, Ron certainly deserves recognition as a great contester.

Old and new ARRL Handbooks

Over the years I've accumulated many ARRL Handbooks, including a reprint of the first one (1923) which the ARRL reissued a few years ago, as well as some from the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s at hamfest and swap meets, and quite a few other ones purchased new every few years after I got my ham ticket in 1961. Comparing these side by side over a range of years leaves no doubt that the technologies and practice of radio (and ham radio) have changed vastly over the years. My most worn and intensely read Handbook, however, is the one with a green cover (price \$3.50), the 37th (1960) which I (then a 14 y.o.) in Connecticut found under the Christmas tree that year. I still have it; It was read it over and over; I got help learning difficult subjects from a nearby ham (W1DG) who was a Radio engineer, who administered the Novice exam and verified that I could copy 5 wpm Morse code.

I constructed quite a few of the projects in that 37th Handbook and became increasingly fascinated with the technical aspects of radio, as well as operating, DXing and the early semi-automated digital mode (RTTY) as I assembled an HF station, put up antennas and picked up an RTTY machine in the early 1960s. My parents encouraged this, my brother (Fred / N3KVV) helped. A few years later I left home to study electrical engineering, stuff that wasn't in the 37th Handbook, and lots more.

I hadn't brought a new Handbook in about 10 years so I recently picked up the 100th (2023) (hardcover \$79.95) after noticing it had a chapter on Fourier Transforms, a topic not covered in any Handbook I had. This one, like recent ones, now includes a PDF files of the entire Handbook; extracts of QST articles which amplify topics in the Handbook, and ham related software apps. More about this later! - Paul / W4ZB.



The Vienna Wireless Society invites you to...



WINTERFEST!™

Tailgating!



RAFFLE!



Grand Prize: Yaesu FTDX10

DATE: March 19, 2023

LOCATION: Oakton High School, [2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Oakton+High+School,+2900+Sutton+Road,+Vienna,+VA+22181).

Operating Hours: Tailgating: Opens at 7am | Indoor Market Fair: 8am to 2pm

Talk-In Frequency: NV4FM 146.910 MHz (Negative offset, CTCSS 77.0 Hz)
(Courtesy of the Northern Virginia FM Association)

Attendance Tickets: Advance Tickets: \$10 plus service fee, includes one raffle ticket. At the door: \$15, includes one raffle ticket.

Raffle: You do not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets may be purchased for \$10 each. Go to: <https://ticketstripe.com/VWS-WinterFest-2023>

Prizes: See <https://viennawireless.net/wp/winterfest-2022-door-prizes/>

Tailgating: \$20 for first parking space; \$10 for each additional space. Price includes one admission ticket. Go to <https://ticketstripe.com/VWS-WinterFest-2023>

Indoor Market Fair Vendors: Indoor vendor registration is sold out at this time — Contact TableSales2023@viennawireless.net for information and to be placed on the waiting list.

Check this website <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest/> for updates.

Check out radio gear

Vendors

Food!

The Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club

Is happy to announce they are hosting a

Ham Radio Tail Gate Party

Saturday, June 3rd, 2023

8 am to 2 pm

RAIN DATE – SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH - SAME TIME, SAME LOCATION

Across from Signal Hill Park in Manassas Park

General Admission \$5 per person over 18

\$20 per vehicle to set up (includes 1 admission ticket)

All attendees will park in the field

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

More information www.w4ovh.net



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.

NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____

Return to: **Treasurer, OVH**
P.O. Box 1255
Manassas, VA 20108-1255