

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

**Renew your OVH membership now!**

## March 2023

### Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all.

Well, we had our annual club officer elections at our meeting last month. I would like to thank everyone who participated. I am reminded of a line from a song by The Who years ago. "Meet the new boss, same as the old boss".

John / KG4NXT; Don / WA2SWX and I (Ken / KN4DD) are returning to our positions as Secretary, Treasurer and President, respectively. I want to give a big thank you to Tony / KM4KLB for his service as Vice President. The new addition to our cadre of officers is Gil / KM4OZH as the new Vice President. Gil has been active with the OVH since 2015 and has been behind the scenes in many activities. Most recently and perhaps most importantly, Gil has joined our Technical Committee. So please give a big welcome to Gil / KM4OZH to the front table as the club's new VP.

Next, your annual dues, which are now \$25, are due by March 31st. Many of you responded after John / KG4NXT's reflector message prodded you. However, a significant number of you have yet to catch up. As you are all aware from your home life, every cost is going up. The two major ways our club makes money is our Tailgate Party and our dues. Our club expenses for repeater maintenance are particularly noteworthy at this time. If you have not yet paid, please get caught up before the end of March membership suspension dates occur. You can pay by mail using the form later in this Newsletter or online at the W4OVH.net club web site.

New Field Day Chairwoman Cat / KM4PBD, called the second 2023 Field Day planning meeting at Sam and Joe's Pizza & Subs in Manassas on March 7th. It was very well



**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) 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 <a href="mailto:otohime.1978@gmail.com">otohime.1978@gmail.com</a>	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 <a href="http://pwcares.org">http://pwcares.org</a>	email: <a href="mailto:kg4giy@arrl.net">kg4giy@arrl.net</a>	

## 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 <a href="mailto:andy@gamponia.com">andy@gamponia.com</a>	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](mailto:webmaster@w4ovh.net)

## EMAIL REFLECTOR — [w4ovh@googlegroups.com](mailto: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](mailto:paul@w4zb.com). Approx. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20230101

## Cont'd from page 1

attended with nine club members in attendance. We actually had to pull over another table to accommodate all of us. This is a good problem to have, if you ask me. If you are interested in helping us, there is still more room (and tables to pull) for everyone.

Our monthly breakfast returns this Saturday morning, March 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 the Yorkshire Restaurant for some good food and good conversation. Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Road, Manassas, VA 20111.

After the presentation by Gordon / NQ4K about the Virginia QSO Party last month at our meeting, I would be remiss if I didn't remind you about the actual event this month. The 2023 Virginia QSO Party will be held during the upcoming weekend, Saturday, 18 March, 1400 UTC - Sunday, 19 March, 0400 UTC and Sunday, 19 March, 1200 UTC - 2400 UTC. Remember, if you make any contact and submit a log, be sure to designate the OVH as your club.

The Vienna Wireless Society's 47th Annual WINTERFEST Hamfest will be on Sunday, March 19th, 7 am to 2 pm but at a NEW location different from where it has been held now for many years. The new location: Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna Virginia, 22181. Tickets are \$15 at the door and \$10 if bought at in advance online. See the flyer later in this Newsletter.

As always, these events and more are easily found on the OVH's web site at [w4ovh.net](http://w4ovh.net)

Our next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21st, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT at the Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas, Virginia.

Bruce / KN4GDX, will give a presentation at the March meeting on the timely topics of Balloons and Fox Hunts.

Our involvement with local Community Service begins again this month. OVH will once again provide spotters for the Tri-It-Now mini triathlons. This year, as in the past, the Tri-It-Now events will be supported by our club, who will help ensure the safety of all racers on the road course. The club's volunteers will be stationed along the course to provide support, communicate any necessary information, and help keep the race running smoothly.

The first race of the season is the Tune-Up Tri, which will take place on March 26, 2023 in Manassas. 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 at [andy@gamponia.com](mailto:andy@gamponia.com) and volunteer for a few hours on a Sunday morning. You are guaranteed a fun and exciting day at Tri-It-Now.

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](mailto:KN4DD@arrl.net)

73 Ken KN4DD

## Sunshine Corner

Happy birthday wishes to our club members celebrating this March, 2023 – Wayne /N4HCR, Scott / KM4FTD, Gary / K4MRL, Jeff / N1SN, David / KG4GIY, Michael / KO4BCN, Fred / N3KVV and Matt /No Call Sign, Hope you all have wonderful birthdays with lots of candles!



Happy St. Patty's Day to everyone today, even if you're not Irish or part Irish!

Congrats to one of our own, Gil / KM4OZH, who has become a national level competitor in radio contests and who is also the OVH's new Vice President.

There is also a new report about OVH members activating the Manassas National Battlefield Park for Parks on the Air on the OVH web site and later in this newsletter.

Upcoming in Vienna on Sunday, 3/19/2023, is Winterfest – The National Capital Area Ham Radio Fair in Vienna. A flyer about that appears later in this Newsletter.

On March 7th, the team had Tailgate Planning meeting at Sam and Joes Restaurant and also discussed the Field Day Planning, both events in June. Great Dinner!!!! Please contact Chairwoman Cat, KM4PBD, if you can help out with the Field Day event, or you can go to the OVH web page Membership link to sign up to help with the Tailgate Event. On the top menu bar there, click on it and then, at the drop down, click on members page, and there you see a Tailgate 2023 and a link to the spreadsheet of volunteer list. Type in your name and call sign (if you have one) into one of the blank lines, if not call sign, hit enter so your information will be saved.

Upcoming is the Virginia QSO Party this weekend, March 18 to 19, 2023.

Also, the 2023 QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will be held on March 25–26, 2023.

With the number of club activities upcoming, this would be a very good time to order your club name tags and polo shirts if you don't have them. Name tags may be ordered directly. If you would like a polo email Jeff directly at [jfuller@silcom.com](mailto:jfuller@silcom.com) and with your size and he will bring to next club meeting.

Every Thursday at 8 p.m., we have the club's weekly net. Please join us, say hello and get up-to-date information on club news. See [W4OVH.NET](http://W4OVH.NET) 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.

Andrea / KI4SXM is now doing the Sunshine Corner round up so please send her all of the information you would like to be included.

73 Andrea / KI4SXM [sunnybeach4us9@gmail.com](mailto:sunnybeach4us9@gmail.com)



## Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Informal Meeting held on Monday, February 20, 2023:

OVH President Ken / KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on February 20, 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 / KN4DD stated that it was election night and presented the known slate of candidates for OVH offices: Ken / KN4DD for President, Gil / KM4OZH for Vice-President, Don / WA2SWX for Treasurer and John / KG4NXT for Secretary. Ken then asked for additional candidates and no one responded. Ken then moved to elect the slate by acclimation and that motion passed unanimously.

Bruce / KN4GDX gave a program on a digital mode called VarAC. The slides will be posted on the OVH's web site under presentations on the Members-Only pages.

Gordon / NQ4K gave a presentation on the Virginia QSO party. He spoke about several 2023 rule changes including the new rover category. The slides from the presentation are available on the web.

The minutes of the January 17, 2023 OVH meeting were approved.

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

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. There were two vote-ins both of which were voted in: Brandon Loudenslager / KQ4EFJ, and Matt Strachan / KE7EX.

David Lane / KG4GIY gave the ARES report. ARES training will be held on March 18th at the EOC, Check [pwcares.org](http://pwcares.org) for more details. The Tune UP TRI will be held on Sunday morning, March 26th, and the next following Mini-TRI will be on April 22nd. The twenty-four hour Prince William Forest Run will be in May.

Ken / KE2N gave the repeater report. Everything is working including DSTAR, 2 meters, 440 and Wires-X. The spur on the input of the 2 meter machine comes and goes but only affects the weakest of signals. Ken also mentioned that Don had been able to drop our monthly internet costs in half by negotiating with Comcast.

Mark / WA4KFZ gave the Training report. Nothing to report.

Ken / KN4DD gave the Scholarship report. In light of the projected 2023 OVH budget deficit, we will suspend the Steve Frick scholarship for one year. We plan to revive it next year.

Don / WA2SWX gave the tailgate report. A porta potty has been ordered. The Virginia QSO party will have their awards ceremony at our Tailgate. We took tailgate flyers to the recent Elkton, Virginia Hamfest.

Cat / KM4PBD gave the Field day report. We had a tailgate planning meeting. Byron / AK4XR can bring solar panels for the natural power extra points.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web committee report. A slight uptick in internet attacks but the defenses have held up. There was a discussion of using ZELLE payment for club dues.

Andrea / KI4SXM did not give the Sunshine report because she was with her ill mother.

**Cont'd on page 6**

Old Business: None

New Business: Mark / WA4KFZ donated a paper bound 100th Anniversary ARRL handbook to be raffled off. We raffled it off for \$5 a ticket. Jim Rosseau / WI4EE won the raffle and took possession of the handbook.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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## Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

### HAMFEST AND VE SESSION TYPE EVENTS:

Sunday, March 19, 2023 - Winterfest 2023 in Annadale, Va. sponsored by Vienna Wireless More info at <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest> See the Flyer later in this Newsletter. Make careful note that there is NEW location for the event this year.

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:

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.

Saturday / Sunday, June 24 and 25, 2023, OVH / ARRL Field Day event at the Nokesville Park. This is a major club event each year. More details to follow.

### 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](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

The TUNE UP TRI will be held on Sunday morning, March 26, 2023. More information about that at [trinitnow.com](http://trinitnow.com); contact Andy Gamponia at [andy@gamponia.com](mailto:andy@gamponia.com) for more information and to participate.

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

## POTA Activation of the Manassas National Battlefield Park

On Saturday, February 25, 2023, OVH members Al / KB4BHB, Don / WA2SWX, Gene / N4HFW and John / KG4NXT activated the Manassas National Battlefield Park by setting up and operating ham radio station(s) there.

We started our operations initially at the Visitor Center but the Park Rangers asked us to operate in the “Amateur Radio Area” in the picnic grounds off of Groveton road. As a result, we moved and set up there and were glad for the windbreak on one side of the picnic shelter. It was late February and cold and windy. We used Don’s Wolf River Coil Vertical antenna with 3 radials. The transmitter was the digital



only QDX by QRP labs which put out 5 watts. We had an amplifier available but it would not key up. We needed a minimum of 10 contacts and got 11 so it was a successful POTA activation.

Once we got home, we found the problem with the Tokyo Hy Power HL-45b amplifier. It would not function with only 12 volts on the supply but was quite happy with 13 volts. John and Don returned to the Groveton picnic shelter on Sunday, February 26 and got the amp going for additional 18 contacts. Don used his 20 watt Xiegu G90 to make still 14 additional contacts.

If you activate a park on POTA, feel free to write it and sent it with pictures to John / KG4NXT or Ken / KN4DD. john/kg4nxt



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](mailto: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 10<sup>TH</sup> - 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](http://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

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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION**  
**“OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB”**  
**for 2023**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ 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**