

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

May 2023

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, May 16, 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello Everyone,

I would like to jump right in this time. After a two year transition, the FCC implemented its new RF Exposure program.

Ron, K3FR, reminded us at our last meeting on April 18th, that the rules phase-in would begin on May 3rd. As of this writing, that phase-in occurred about one week ago. Ron informed us that on pages 64 thru 66 in the May 2023 issue of QST magazine, there is an excellent article detailing this event. He also reminded us that on page 65, the ARRL provided a link to an ARRL RF Exposure calculator tool that is free. See, <http://arrl.org/rf-exposure-calculator> The May 2023 QST article also states there is a simple method that many hams would like, but cautioned it might be too conservative for other hams, and the more complex methodology might better suit those operators.



At that same meeting, our Training Coordinator, Mark, WA4KFZ, urged everyone to save their work, whether you chose a digital method or used pen & paper to perform those calculations. It was important, Mark cautioned, that we be able to demonstrate a good faith effort, in the event of an inspection or a concern filed by a neighbor.

Our next OVH Monthly Breakfast get together will be on May 13th @ 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM EDT at the Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Road, Manassas VA. We usually have 8 to 10 people that show up. I hope to see you there.

The next regular OVH will be held on Tuesday, May 16th, at 7:30 PM in the training room at the Buckhall VFD, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas. John / KG4NXT will present a video on all band HOA stealth antennas - "HF in an HOA: The BBTD Attic Antenna" by Corey / KD3CR.

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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:	Gil Thompson	KM4OZH	369-0431
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: 20230316

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The month of June is always the busiest month of the year for the OVH with two major club events:

First, the Manassas Tailgate Party (in lieu of the Manassas Hamfest) on Saturday, June 3rd from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM EDT at 9300 Signal View Drive, Manassas, Virginia - on the open lot across the street from the Signal Hill Park. For those of you with long memories, this is the same location we were at back on June 12th 2021. In case of inclement weather, our rain date is June 10th. Please keep an eye on the 3 day weather forecast at that time. Our web page will display any date changes as soon as we know them, but obviously this may not be timely enough for some out of town visitors.

Second, the ARRL/OVH Field Day event will take place on June 24-25 at the Pavilion at the Nokesville Community Park at 12560 Aden Road, Nokesville, Virginia. Set up will begin earlier, but the ARRL/OVH Field Day event itself will take place from 2 PM on Saturday, June 24th until 2 PM on Sunday 25th at the Pavilion at the Nokesville Community Park. Come and be "Radio Active". Or, if you would rather watch, you could see HF, VHF/UHF and Digital modes in action. With so much to explore, the opportunities are endless. If you are new to The Hobby, make sure you are there for setup; then stick around and try to make a few contacts. Don't worry if you are inexperienced, there are plenty of members around to help you get those first few contacts. As this is a family event, we are pleased to tell you the Saturday night dinner is back. This is a potluck dinner, so please bring a favorite dish to share and dinner will be around 5 PM. This will be a rain or shine event as we will be under the big pavilion. So come on out and get on the air!

Both of these have been signature events for the OVH for the last 40+ years, and the Tailgate event (or the Manassas Hamfest) has also been one of the OVH's main revenue sources.

You may have noticed we did not have a Tri-It-Now event last month, nor will we have one in May. The Tri-It-Now folks have scaled back their mini triathlons by one in 2023. Our next supported event, officially called "The Tri It Now - Manassas Mini Triathlon" will be June 11th at 8:00 AM. Andy / KJ4MTP, is the coordinator for OVH's participation with communications support for these mini triathlons. If you haven't volunteered yet, please contact Andy / KJ4MTP via email at andy@gamponia.com to do so.

Andy, is also the coordinator for OVH's participation with 2023 SOWW Warrior Bike Ride. We provide communications support for these 3 simultaneous bike rides. The riders will embark on "Quarter Century", "Half Century" and "Century" bike rides. Those names derive from a metric (kilometers) distance of each bike ride. This event always occurs on the Saturday closest to 9/11. This year that will be Saturday, September 9th. If you haven't volunteered yet, please contact Andy / KJ4MTP via email at andy@gamponia.com to do so. Also, you may go to <https://willingwarriors.org> to see why this is a great opportunity for us to volunteer for a good cause.

A reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net at 8 PM - details are on the OVH's web site: <https://w4ovh.net> This is a great way to stay in touch.

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

73, Ken / KN4DD



Sunshine Corner

Happy Birthday wishes to our club members celebrating this May – John/KM4VCJ, David/KG4GIY, Bill/WA4FIC, Jack/N4YIC, Carl/KK4ZYX, Craig/WA3UFY, Roberto/KM4RIE, Susan/K3SSP, Bruce/KN4GDX, Don/WA2SWX, Robert/KJ4EQR, John/KG4NXT, Dick/KM4UXE, Kenneth/KI4EQH, Lynn/KX4HR. Hope you all have wonderful birthdays with lots of candles!



Kudos for Jeffery/K9VEG, for POTA award and receiving the Georgia Aster 800 Award for working 800 unique reference areas in the Parks on the Air Program dated 4/3/2023. Way to go, and awesome.



Congrats to the OVH's two Virginia QSO Party (VaQP) plaque winners. Gil/KM4OZH won the High Virginia Rover Single Operator Single Transmitter plaque for 2023, and Jay/NQ4T won the High Virginia Single Operator Phone Low Power plaque. It takes a lot of dedication and sustained effort to come out on top in the VaQP. AWESOME!!!

Tri It Now – Reminder all events are held on Sunday mornings and last typically from around 0700 to around 10:00 or 10:30 for our communications support role. Next event on June 11, 2023. Contact Andy Gamponia / KJ4MTP at his email, andy@gamponia.com to sign up. See: <https://trititnow.com> for more information. A schedule for Tri It Now events should be on our W4OVH web site event calendar for all upcoming 2023 Tri It Now mini triathlons and races and the calendar widget on the right side of our web site will show a link for our upcoming calendar events.

Our friends in Shenandoah need some help with an upcoming long run in the woods and are looking for eight or more folks. The primary support will be at the aid stations which are in low valleys that are hard to communicate from. Cell service is spotty at best across the course. Other sites will need coverage as determined. If you can help, please contact Alex Papadopoulos (alex@athletic-equation.com) directly. He is actively recruiting.

Friendly Reminder: the upcoming Manassas Tailgate Party event scheduled for June 3rd needs more volunteers. Contact Theresa at kg4tvm@hotmail.com for sign-up.

The OVH's weekly VHF/UHF radio net is every Thursday at 8:00 pm. Please join us, to say hello and hear up-to-date club news. Go to the w4ovh.net web site for more details about how to participate. 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. Happy Ham'In!

73 Andrea / KI4SXM sunnybeach4us9@gmail.com

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Informal Meeting held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023:

OVH President Ken KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on April 18, 2023 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns.

The program was a video of a POTA activation using a kite antenna. All aspects of the kite antenna were explained. The OVH projector used worked as it should, without any problems – donated by John Held / KK4TCE.

The minutes of the March 21, 2023 OVH meeting were approved.

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

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. There were no read-ins and no vote-ins.

ARES report. No report.

Ken / KE2N gave the repeater report. Everything is working fine. There was a discussion of the timing of the new Internet speed at Mt. Pone.

Mark / WA4KFZ gave the Training report. He has had one inquiry on VE session availability. John / KG4NXT has an OVH training session scheduled for May 27. John also mentioned additional VE opportunities with a group headed by Katie / K4TER.

Manassas Tailgate Party report. The final Tailgate planning meeting will be on May 9. OVH will have a table at Thawfest to promote the Manassas Tailgate Party event. If members have something they want sold at Thawfest, they should contact John / KG4NXT or Don / WA2SWX. Theresa / KG4TVM passed around a signup sheet for volunteers for Tailgate. We need more members to volunteer for Tailgate. Log in to w4ovh.net, then click on membership, then click on the members page where you will see a link for Tailgate. Click on it and add your name on the spreadsheet. No enter is required.

Field day report. We will have a Field Day planning meeting on May 23. Bruce / KN4GDX visited the field day site to prepare for the fox hunt.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web committee report. No remarkable web site attacks this month. A map plugin has been removed.

Sunshine report. No report.

John / KK4TCE won the 50/50 raffle and donated his winnings to the club.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ron / K3FR noted that the FCC RF exposure rules go into effect May 3. Mark / WA4KFZ has given a presentation on this.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFEST, VE SESSION TYPE AND HAM LEARNING EVENTS:

Thursday May 18, 2023, from 7:00am to 5:00pm, Dayton, Ohio, just before Hamvention (see next item) starts in nearby Xenia, Ohio - the annual Contest University cram session, a fully packed day full of ham radio related information on how to improve and enhance you ham radio station, and your operating techniques with an emphasis of radio contesting. Speakers are top operators. Several OVH members have attended past sessions two or more times. If you can make it, very much worth attending. See, <http://contestuniversity.com> for more details. Note: videos and slides from some of the past sessions are available at that web site.

Friday - Sunday, May 19 - 21, 2023, Hamvention at Xenia, Ohio. Probably still the largest hamfest type event in the Western Hemisphere. Many OVH hams used to attend each year when it was held in nearby Dayton, Ohio. Not too late still to plan to attend, every ham should attend at least once. More info and details at <https://hamvention.org>

Saturday, June 3, 2023 (rain date: June 10), 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, OVH Manassas Tailgate Party (replacing this year the Manassas Hamfest) - see Flyer later in this Newsletter for more info, also on the w4ovh.net web site.

Friday - Saturday, June 23 = June 25, 2023, Hamradio - Friedrichshafen, the largest Hamfest in Europe, attendees from more than 60 countries, including the USA and from the ARRL' This multiday hamfest event in Germany is almost as large as or larger than the Hamvention in Xenia, More info at <https://hamradio-friedrichshafen.de> An ideal venue for a hamfest in a idyllic location, and worth at least one trip there via Munich or Zurich.

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 Community Park. This is a major club event each year. More details to follow.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

Saturday, May 13, 2023 beginning at 1700 UTC to 0300 UTC on Sunday, May 14, the Canadian Praire Provinces QSO Party contest. This one is definitely primarily for HF operators (40 meters and up) on SSB and CW; QSOs with stations in these provinces (VE4s, VE5s and VE6s) are not the easiest to make routinely. If you've every visited any of them, you probably remember the trip well; most of the land area is sparsely populated praire (with just a few large cities) with farming, ranching and extractive industries. More info including, rules and some interesting photos at <https://cpqp.ve6hams.ca>

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

Tri-It-Now event, Sunday morning, June 11, 2023. OVH will provide comm support for this event. Event info at: <https://www.triitnow.com> Also, contact Andy Gamponia / KJ4MTP

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at email: andy@gamponia.com to sign up to assist with comm support.

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.

Some Possibly Useful or Interesting Information

My brief discussion here last month about sampling theory (as applied to audio and radio) brought several follow up inquiries. This further discussion here now is intended to provide some other sources for some further follow up.

Chapter 8 of the 100th ARRL Handbook (the latest 2023 Handbook) deals with basic SDR and DSP fundamentals. More particularly, Chapter 8.6 discusses the basics of signal sampling and digitization, and Chapter 8.7 discusses very briefly the Fourier Transform. Most of the discussion there is focused on variations of digital implementation of the Fourier Transform; although digital implementations (algorithms) of the Fourier Transform were originally developed by mathematicians in the mid-1800's, that work was largely forgotten until the late 1960's when the Fast Fourier Transform was rediscovered at last when digital circuitry and digital computers became fast enough to allow real-time computation of Fourier Transform in digital systems.

I have previously referred the massive trove of learning materials relating to a wide range of technical subjects that are available free online at the MIT OpenCourseWare ("OCW") web site which has been in operation, constantly expanding since 2000. Depending upon the subject matter of the particular topic or course, one can find a wide range of materials from Course Lecture Slides and Notes, Videos of Lectures, Textbooks and Notes being developed into Textbooks, Instructor/Professor teaching notes, homework assignments (and sometimes solutions), etc. Sometimes full downloadable PDF copies of basic textbooks can be found. See, <https://ocw.mit.edu> for the basic entry point to the OCW web site. Of course, MIT has a lot of materials relating to computers and electrical engineering which is in its department known as Course 6.

When looking there, I found the OCW materials for a particular course [Course 6.003] which is particularly relevant to sampling and digitization of sampled signals. To find that material, Google: ocw.mit.edu 6.003 and look at the slides/notes and other materials especially for Lectures 21 and 22 under Course 6.003. The Lecture 21 materials deal with sampling (and digitization of analog signals) and Lecture 22 expands the discussion to also deal with quantization (and basic processing) of sampled and quantized digital signals in multidimensions - not just on an audio timeline as suggested in the discussion last month but also in the X-Y plane of an (digital or digitized) image and video with a series of images running along a timeline. If you are interested in these topics, you can learn many of the basic concepts and many of the practical ideas and trade-offs involved by looking through these Lecture Notes/Slides even if you don't understand the mathematics involved (which can be ignored). The general discussion includes audio, MP3, CDs, digital cameras and printers, videos and DVDs.

There are, of course, now many other "free" online sources of information on these topics for learning about these basic subjects relating to radio, including ham radio.

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

