

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

## July 2023

### Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, July 18, 2023

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings All,

I want to jump right in as this month's presentation will be very important. Opioid abuse really has become rampant in today's society and has even affected relatives of our OVH membership. As such, at this meeting, we will be stepping away from our normal format of ham related topics.

Our monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 18th, will feature a presentation by Jim Wooller, BA, QMHP-A, CPRS - Behavioral Health & Wellness Specialist for Prince William County who will give a presentation on Narcan. Naloxone, sold under the brand name Narcan among others, is a medication used to reverse or reduce the effects of opioids. It is used to counter decreased breathing in opioid overdose. The training session is about 40 minutes long and everyone who attends will receive Naloxone nasal spray.

Additionally, this meeting will be open to the general public. Please feel free to invite anyone you might think is interested, including friends, relatives and neighbors: OVH Regular Monthly Meeting, 18 July 2023 at 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM EDT at the Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas VA 20111. We hope to see you there.

I have to say, I'm glad it is mid-July. In recent weeks we've held our Tailgate Party, supported the Tri-It-Now Manassas Mini Tri, the ARRL/OVH Field Day, supported the Firecracker 5K and participated in the ARRL 13 Colonies Contest. It's been a whirlwind for some time now.

Our June monthly meeting on June 20th was a bit of an adventure. The Buckhall VFD EMTs had our meeting room when we arrived to set up. It seems that when there is a Federal Holiday on a Monday (Juneteenth in this case), the EMTs Monday meeting is moved to a Tuesday. And the OVH Officers were not informed until we got there. We were

**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:	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 <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: 20230316

## Cont'd from page 1

told we could have the room once they had finished, in about 10 to 15 minutes. So we began our meeting in the Buckhall VFD parking lot, and retook the classroom about 20 minutes later. I still think our unofficial motto should be “Semper Gumby” (Always Flexible).

On June 24th and 25th the OVH took part in ARRL Field Day 2023. It was Chairwoman Cat / KM4PBD's, inaugural event and she did a terrific job. Now that the “unknowns” are now known to her, it is our sincere hope she returns as Chairwoman again in 2024.

Lines were shot in trees on Friday afternoon and antennas began to be strung. Yours truly got the newly repaired OVH Trailer (thanks to Gil, KM4OZH – See the previous article by John, KG4NXT) there Saturday at 9 AM, and already there were many people at work. Byron, AK4XR, once again brought his cherry picker for antenna placement. We were ready to go long before things got started. We also had the return of the Pot Luck Supper on Saturday so there was no shortage of camaraderie.

Back on the 4th of July, OVH supported The Freedom Firecracker 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run. Normally run by Wayne / N7QLK, we were lead by Andy / KJ4MTP. Wayne had been called away unexpectedly at the last minute. We were very fortunate that Andy was willing and available to step into the role of “Shadow” at that time. Thank you Andy. This race was a bit different than normal also. The organizers had part of the race off of George Mason property, and onto the county streets, so instant radio communication between spotters was paramount. A 5K race doesn't take very long, so we were there by 7:15 AM and gone by 9:30-ish.

Also back in the first week of July is the popular 13 Colonies Contest. It ran July 1st thru July 7th. We had many participants and I look forward to reading our stats.

You don't have to wait until our in-person meetings to see everyone again; you can come out this Saturday, July 15th at 8:00 AM for our monthly breakfasts. Pioneered by Byron / AK4XR, at the start of 2019, we meet every Saturday before our meetings to get together at a table or two in the back of Yorkshire Restaurant for some good food and good conversation. Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Rd, Manassas, VA

Coming up on Sunday, July 30th, the OVH is supporting the: Tri It Now – Summer Super Sprint at The Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center, 9100 Freedom Center Blvd., Manassas, VA. Volunteer spotters are needed. We will meet at the rally point on Sunday, July 30th by 7:30 AM and are expecting to run until approximately 12:00 noon. Our support for the Manassas Mini-Tri is also a great way for our new hams to get acquainted with their equipment and with our club members. All that is needed is an HT and a desire to serve. If you are interested, please contact Andy Gamponia – you can reach Andy via email: [andy@gamponia.com](mailto:andy@gamponia.com)

If you are itching for some Hamfest action, Berryville is just around the corner. It is on the OVH calendar on our website. I know a number of OVH members attend regularly, so you're sure to see some of us. It's just a few of weeks away, August 6th at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds in Berryville, Virginia. More details at <https://berryvillehamfest.com/>

Also, a reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net at 8 PM each week. The details for that are on the OVH's web site: <https://w4ovh.net> This is a great way to stay in touch with everyone.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I would like to say thank you.

**Cont'd on page 4**

During this year's Tailgate Party and also this year's Field Day event some of our volunteers had logistical issues. This is to be expected in an all volunteer organization such as the Ole Virginia Hams.

At each event both John and Theresa jumped into action. Especially Theresa. Thank you both for being so flexible and continually jumping into the breaches as they occur. The Tailgate Party & our Field Day events were better because you care and were immediately available. Again, thank you both.

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

Semper Gumby, Ken, KN4DD



## Sunshine Corner

Happy Birthday wishes to our club members celebrating this July month – Stephen / KO4GQR, William / WB4KLC, Jack / KN4HHQ, Ken / WB4ZOH, Philip / KI4WGC, Jeff / KM4FTK, Bruce / KN4TS, George / K4GVT, Sandy / KM4JUS, Rosalie / KN4ZLY, Dwight / N4GSD, Mary / KK4GOW, Jeff / K9VEG, Luther / WA3FMO, Richard / KJ4ZIH, Tony / KK4YZK. Hope you all have wonderful birthdays with lots of candles!



Congratulations Corner: Congrats & many kudos and thank yous to the OVH team for holding a great Field Day event at Nokesville Park on June 24th and 25th, and all our great volunteers. Thank you for folks making this happen! Many thanks again to Cat / KM4PBD for chairing the event, and to George / K4GVT for providing great pictures. Everyone had a great time. Planning for next year, remember to bring calamine lotion. See the pictures at the URL link: <https://www.k4gvt.com/ovh/fieldday2023>

July Special Event: 13 Colonies Special Event activity was great fun, Members John / KG4NXT, Jay / NQ4T, Bill / N4SV, Duane / KK4BZ were able to take a sweep of the 13 Colony stations, plus the 3 bonus stations as Bill/N4SV mentioned, plus was able to work all of them on digital, FT8 and FT4, and, new this year, and was able to work at least one station on every ham band from 160 meters all the way up to 6 meters. Bill / N4SV had something of an advantage being further away from most of the stations, and the higher bands, 10 thru 17 meters, were probably easier for me that those of you more local to many of them, where local HF propagation is less likely. Maybe can have a demo from Bill/N4SV on this Special Event at one of our OVH Monthly meetings.

Amateur Events: Rookie Roundup is a contest aimed at Amateurs licensed for three years or less. This six-hour event is held three times per year (April, August and December). Rookies can contact anybody, while “Old Timers” make contact with only Rookies. Mentoring is a big part of this event! see <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

TRI\_IT\_NOW: Sunday, July 30, 2023 (Manassas, VA) See <https://www.triitnow.com>

**Cont'd on page 5**

and email Andy Gamponia: [andy@gamponia.com](mailto:andy@gamponia.com) to sign up. Tri It Now events schedule should be on our W4OVH web site event calendar to show all of the 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.

Upcoming Hamfests:

Roanoke Hamfest, August 5, 2023. Info at <https://roanokehamfest.info/>

Berryville Hamfest, August 6, 2023 gates open 6am. Info: <https://Berryvillehamfest.com>

Condolences: Sad news to report. On July 3rd, George / K4GVT's mother-in-law Oma passed at age 90. She often attended OVH Holiday parties and was known and beloved by all. She had been in hospice care for some months.



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](http://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.



Please send me your news for Sunshine Corner. Happy Ham'In!

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

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

OVH President Ken / KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on June 20, 2023 in the parking lot at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station due to a momentary conflict with the usual meeting room.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns.

The minutes of the May 16, 2023 OVH meeting were approved.

Gil / KM4OZH gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved.

John / KG4NXT gave the membership report, one new read-in: David McKinney / KD0ODS.

There was one vote-in who was voted in as a new member: Ford Engelbrecht / KM4KJT

The meeting then moved from the parking lot to the regular meeting room.

John / KG4NXT gave a presentation on a DIY battery capacity tester. The slides will be on the OVH web under membership > presentations.

**Cont'd on page 6**

ARES report. No report this month.

Repeater Report: Ken / KE2N registered two new DStar users on W4OVH. There was a one hour of new interference on the 145.970 repeater input frequency. It caused loud buzzing. Ken will continue to monitor this situation.

Training report. No report.

Field day report: Cat / KM4PBD advised that W4OVH will run as a Class 3A station with no GOTA station. There will be a potluck dinner Saturday night. There will be antenna line party at the park at 1 pm. We will start set up at 10 am on Saturday.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web committee report. One of the calendar apps failed again and knocked down the website. Ken and Kevin / W4RKU fixed it. They think this happens during Wordpress upgrades,

Sunshine report. Andrea / KI4SXM did birthdays. She mentioned the July 4th run which Wayne / N7QLK is chairing. They have enough volunteers.

Eva Daraban Ramos / KQ4IKQ won the 50/50 raffle and donated her winnings to the club.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The meeting was then adjourned.

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## **Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:**

### **HAMFEST, VE SESSION TYPE AND HAM LEARNING EVENTS:**

August 6, 2023 (Sunday) beginning at 6:00 am, the Berryville Hamfest in Berryville, Virginia. Lots of info about this major, close-by Summertime Hamfest at <https://Berryvillehamfest.com>

### **HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:**

The ARRL maintains a Contest web page at its web site at [ARRL.org](http://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**

July 30, 2023 Sunday TRI\_IT\_NOW: See <https://www.triitnow.com> and email Andy Gamponia: [andy@gamponia.com](mailto:andy@gamponia.com) to sign up.

Also check the online Calendar on the OVH's web site at [W4OVH.NET](http://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.

## OVH TRAILER REPAIR - Thanks Gil!

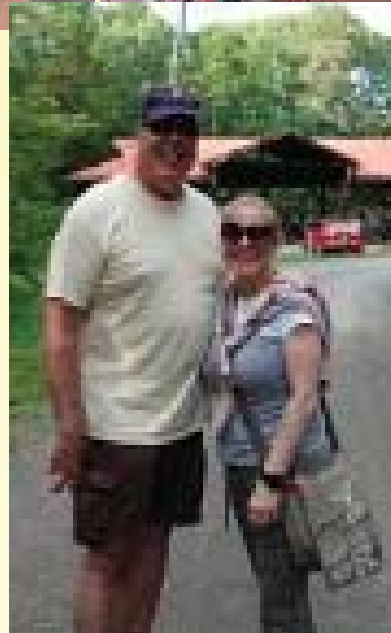
When we were getting ready to haul the Club's trailer to the OVH Tailgate event, we noticed that a HOLE had been punched into the top front of the trailer. It was high up, beyond any easy reach. No idea how that happened but it was there and it needed to be fixed quickly. How do you fix a hole in the aluminum skin of the trailer? One very good answer: you call on our OVH member who is a machine shop owner, Gil / KM4OZH. When asked, Gil quickly assessed the situation and had the trailer towed to his home with the attached machine shop. He fashioned a very nice patch which is shiny at the front top of the trailer. While the trailer was at his place, Gil also fixed two back stabilizer problems, one of which required welding. THANK YOU GIL.



A Few Pictures from the OVH 2023 Field Day Event - thanks, George / K4GVT



Cont'd on page 8



Cont'd on page 9







The Shenandoah Valley  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST



# 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Berryville Hamfest

## Sunday, August 6, 2023

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds  
890 W. Main St., Berryville, VA

- GATE OPENS AT 6:00 AM • VENDOR BUILDINGS OPEN BY 8:00 AM



Admission \$10.00, children under 16, free

- Tail Gate Spaces are \$10 each (First come, first served)
- Online Indoor Vendor Table Registration at [berryvillehamfest.com](http://berryvillehamfest.com)
- Special Hotel Price: Hampton Inn (1204 Berryville Ave, Winchester [540-678-4000](tel:540-678-4000))
- \$15.00 FOR A CAMPER SPACE~~ RURITAN RULES: *NO Pets, Pornography, or Weapons*

Country Ham & Eggs Breakfast at 7:00 AM

Prizes given each hour through 1PM

Prizes:

- HF Rig
- VHF Rig
- VHF Hand Held
- Gift Certificates



VE Exams will be given by the Laurel Amateur Radio Club VE Team of the LARC VEC at the Clarke County High School. Walk-ins are welcome. Testing begins at 12:00 noon. A photo ID, FRN, and email address are required. For more information, contact John Creel, [WB3GXW@arrl.net](mailto:WB3GXW@arrl.net);