

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

August 2023

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, August 15, 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello Everyone!

With September only a few weeks away, I am reminded that while Hurricane Season officially starts on June 1st, here in the Mid-Atlantic region it unofficially doesn't begin until September. Now would be a good time to check your emergency communications equipment, supplies, including batteries. It would also be a good time to verify the integrity of both your antenna(s) and the guy wires.

Over the years, the Ole Virginia Hams have had several members completely fry their equipment due to lightning strikes. So, I think it would also be good to review your safe grounding and isolation setups. While depriving you of a good story, it'll save you a lot of money and (replacement and setup) aggravation later on.

Head injury for Cat/KM4PBD. Back at the end of July, Cat/KM4PBD, gave us quite a scare with a misadventure at work. Her metal press failed while she was working with it, and she suffered an injury to her head. She was understandably shaken up and went to the hospital to get checked out. Thankfully, it was more of a scary event than it was a serious injury event. And yes, she is doing much better now.

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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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Mini-Tri. Back on July 30th, the OVH supported The Tri It Now – Summer Super Sprint at the Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center in Manassas. <https://trinitnow.com> OVH participation lead by Andy / KJ4MTP - code named Shadow, we were there by 6:45 AM & gone by 9:45 AM. As is our custom, we operated on simplex at 147.525. We backstopped this with the W4OVH repeater at 146.970 - PL 100.0. We would like to acknowledge and thank our volunteers: Mike / KO4BCN; James / KQ4CAX; Lynn / KX4HR; Al / KB4BHB, John / KG4NXT; Ken / KN4DD and David / KG4GIY. I am happy to report no incidents occurred during the event.

Berryville. The Berryville Hamfest took place on Sunday, August 6th from 6 to 3 PM EDT, once again at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, 890 W. Main Street, Berryville, Virginia. The Berryville Hamfest had great weather and great attendance. Theresa / KG4TVM and John / KG4NXT observed the following club members at the Hamfest: Cat / KM4PBD; Gil / KM4OZH; John / KK4TCE; Bill / AF4LL; David / KD4DEE as well as brand new members, Luis / KQ4GBC and Daniela / KQ4IKQ. Cat was buying tubes for an audio project. We only have one picture from the Hamfest which is below. It is a group shot of NVTN net people, and includes Bill / AF4LL and John / KG4NXT.



top ten nationally in limited rover class - <https://contests.arrl.org/scores.php?cn=janvhf>

top on 4th call area

ARRL January VHF Contest - Scores

From the list below, select the contest or call sign for which you want to view scores and then click on Go.

Contest: ARRL January VHF Contest Go

Year: 2023 Limited Rover U.S. Call Area 4 or Select CQX Go

Show Operators Show Club

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Rank	Category	Call Sign	QTH	Year	Score	QSOs	Mults	Hours	Operators	Club	50	144	222	432	902
1	RL	KM4OZH, VA		2023	8,342	151	43	32.3			49/11	78/17	13/3	21/4	

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top in Roanoke division (which means also top in virginia)

ARRL January VHF Contest - Scores

From the list below, select the contest or call sign for which you want to view scores and then click on Go.

Contest: ARRL January VHF Contest Go

Year: 2023 Limited Rover Roanoke Division or Select CQX Go

Show Operators Show Club

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Rank	Category	Call Sign	QTH	Year	Score	QSOs	Mults	Hours	Operators	Club	50	144	222	432	902
1	RL	KM4OZH, VA		2023	8,342	151	43	32.3			49/11	78/17	13/3	21/4	

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Scores in italics were received after the deadline and/or are not eligible for awards.

ARRL VHF. Contest. The results of the January's ARRL VHF contest are in. See image to the left. Once again Gil / KM4OZH has shown himself to be a force to be reckoned with.

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POTA. The OVH is developing a dedicated group of POTA enthusiasts. The two pictures below are from a recent POTA activation at Lake Brittle by OVH club members. The members were James / KQ4CAX; Don / WA2SWX; Gene / N4HFW and John / KG4NXT, who is closing in on 2,000 contacts. James / KQ4CAX made 50 contacts that day. Other guys in the second photo are Al / KB4BHB; Gene / N4HFW and Don / WA2SWX



The Warrior Bike Ride. The OVH is again supporting the 6th Annual Warrior Ride on September 9th, only about a month away. We will need about 26 volunteer spotters in total to man this 60-mile bike ride. I know this is a lot of volunteers, but this is a very worthwhile charity and we really need the help. And a big thank you to those of you who have already volunteered and registered. This will be largely a mobile 50-watt radio event using both the W4OVH repeater and the Bluemont repeater. Some locations will be able to operate using hand-held radios, but that is only in very few locations. The event will be that Saturday morning from 0600 - 0800 starting (depending on your location through about 1400-1500 (2 - 3PM ending time). Lunch and volunteer shirts will be provided to all. Go to <https://bikereg.com/volunteers-warrior-ride> to register. **PRESIDENT'S NOTE:** This is a FREE event to ham operators. But you must start the registering process from the website above, AND THEN SCROLL DOWN UNTIL YOU SEE "HAM OPERATOR". Select "Ham Operator" only. If you then finish the web form, you will see at the bottom that the cost to you is \$0.00! If you are interested, please contact Andy/KJ4MTP at andy@gamponia.com

No triathlons or marathons this month, but these will resume on September 10th with the Tri It Now "The 14.06"

You don't have to wait until our in-person meetings to see everyone again; you can come out Saturday, August 12th at 8:00 AM for our monthly breakfast. 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 at the Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville, Road, Manassas. .We hope to see you there.

Our upcoming OVH monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, August 15th at 7:30 PM at the Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas. .

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 August month Ken / KD4VA; John / KK4TCE; Karl / W4KRL; Stu / W4PR; Ronnell / KK4ZNR; Chick / KC1PIA; Vern / K0LVS; Duane / KK4BZ and Raymond / KK4AQR. Hope you all have wonderful birthdays with lots of candles!



August OVH Meeting: If you want to know more about the OVH, please attend one of our meetings that are held on the third Tuesday of the month. Our next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday 08-15-2023 at 7:30 PM at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas, VA 20111. You are welcome to attend without obligation. From the parking lot, you will see a wing wall projecting from the building with signage that reads "Training Room". The single door to the room where we usually meet is at the left end of the wing wall on the corner of the building. If you are able to attend, we will ask you to tell us a little about your amateur radio biography, but only if you are comfortable doing so. OVH is a friendly, welcoming club and we hope you will attend. Our meetings often start with a presentation on a radio-related topic and this may be my favorite part. Please contact Luther, WA3FMO with any questions or concerns.

Amateur Events: August 20, 2023: 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! Please see <http://arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

TriItNow: Sunday, September 10, 2023 See link: <https://triiitnow.com/1406/the1406.htm> Contact Andy Gamponia at 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.

The OVH is again supporting the 6th Annual Warrior Ride on September 9th, and that event is still looking for many volunteers. See details in the President's Letter on the previous page.

NET NIGHT: Every Thursday at 8 PM, we have the club's weekly net. Please join us, say hello and hear up-to-date information on club news. See W4OVH. NET web site 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.



Please send me your news for Sunshine Corner. Happy Ham'In! and Enjoy an amazing solar activity and summer!

73 Andrea / KI4SXM sunnybeach4us9@gmail.com

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

OVH President Ken / KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on July 17, 2023 at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, Manassas in the usual meeting room.

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

The minutes of the June 20, 2023 OVH meeting were approved.

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

John / KG4NXT gave the membership report. There was two read-ins: Russell Garner KQ4CAT and Phillipp Stuppert, III / KJ6GZY

There was one vote-in who was voted in as a member: David McKinney / KD0ODS

Jim Wooler and Lauren gave a presentation on NARCAN. Every one present received a two dose package of NARCAN and there was a box of face shields available to take home.

ARES report: No report.

Ken / KE2N gave the repeater report. All systems are currently working. There have been a few more bouts interference on the 145.970 repeater input frequency. Ken is watching it on the spectrum analyzer and it slides around in frequency. Ken will continue to monitor this situation.

Training report. No report.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web committee report. He praised Cat . KM4PBD for a well run and successful Field Day as chairwoman. He expressed hope that she will chair field day next year.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web committee report. One of the calendar apps failed again during an upgrade. It knocked down the graphical calendar but not the website. Ken has contacted the app developer with details.

Sunshine report" .No report.

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.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFEST, VE SESSION TYPE AND HAM LEARNING EVENTS:

None nearby. Check out <https://arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar> for the ARRL's listing of hamfests.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS:

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

September 10, 2023 Sunday TRI_IT_NOW: See <https://www.triitnow.com> and email Andy Gamponia: andy@gamponia.com to sign up.

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

Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

The ARRL for a number of years now has had its magazine publications available online to ARRL members either through a web browser interface or an iPhone, Android phone or iPad app as well as through printed magazines. Previously and since about 1914, QST was only available as a printed (initially for a few years only as a newsletter) monthly magazine; the receipt of QST magazine was one of the benefits of ARRL membership. Reading back through old QSTs into the 1920s enables one to follow the history and develop of the amateur radio hobby, including communications, electronics and equipment development, radio contesting, DX chasing, traffic handling and general operating. Much later, the large subgroup of hams with interests focused on radio sport (contesting) activities spawned the NCJ (National Contest Journal) because QST could not fully cover contesting due page limitations and its readership with broader interests. The NCJ was available for many years only through a separate paid subscription but it too is now available online. The coverage of the NCJ went well beyond what non-contesters might regard strictly as radio sport topics and included how to design and construct (ham) radio stations with advanced antenna systems and other advanced features - all intended to heighten the competitiveness of station operation in radio contests. The top contesters have always tried to have and improve their stations to be top performing stations. QEX, from when it started in the late 1970's (?), was intended to cover more advance technical topics relating to radio which were deemed too advanced (too complicated) for the general QST audience. QEX was available for many years only via a separate paid subscription but now is online too. The ARRL's On The Air, is a relatively recent publication by the ARRL which is focused on newcomers to the hobby. The ARRL has recently issued a short Youtube video which explains how to access these various ARRL magazines. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmZfC2IUIs>