

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

March 2024

Upcoming Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello again, everyone.

Welcome to what is shaping up to be a very wet March. In February we held our annual club officer elections during our monthly meeting. I'd like to thank everyone who participated. In a clean sweep, your entire officer cadre was reelected.

John / KG4NXT; Don / WA2SWX; Gil / KM4OZH and I (Ken / KN4DD) were returned to our positions as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President, respectively,

Also at our February meeting, Gordon / NQ4K, gave his presentation on the upcoming Virginia QSO Party. His original presentation has more than 133 slides long, but he graciously trimmed that down significantly to fit in his allotted time. And as usual, he was very well received. A big thank you from everyone to Gordon!

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, the two major ways our club makes money is our Tailgate Party and our dues. Repeater maintenance expenses are always significant. If you have not yet paid, you could always bring a check to our next monthly meeting, (which will be March 19th) with the check made out to the Ole



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Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 4293

Manassas, Virginia 20108-0728

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) 2024 - CHAIRMAN

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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FIELD DAY 2024 - CHAIRWOMAN

Cat otohime.1978@gmail.com	KM4PBD	571-213-2179
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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VE COORDINATOR

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

WARRIOR BIKE RIDE - CHAIRMAN

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

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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QUARTERMASTER

Open - volunteer needed!

THURSDAY NIGHT NET / REPEATER CONTROLLERS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KE2N	753-8587
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794
James	KQ4CAX	628-5186
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Cat	KM4PBD	571-213-2179

W4OVH — TRUSTEE

Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431
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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

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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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 © 2024 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: 20240217

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Virginia Hams. Please get caught up before the end of March membership suspension dates occur.

After a very successful freshman year, Field Day Chairwoman Cat / KM4PBD, returns for her sophomore season. One exciting new development expected this year; instead of the traditional Fox Hunt, the OVH will be launching and tracking weather balloons. I think this is a timely development as these balloons have been in the news last year and again this year. I am excited that they have been included in this year's Field Day activities. Cat has called for a Field Day planning meeting at Sam and Joe's Pizza & Subs in Manassas on March 12th.

Don, ("this time I really, really mean it") WA2SWX had retired from Hamfest Chairman previously. We are lucky to have him back once again as Tailgate Party Chairman. Don has called for a planning session at Sam and Joe's Pizza & Subs in Manassas on March 14th. Yes, two meetings at the same restaurant in the same week. Sometimes these things just happen. Think of this as a chance to try something new on the menu. As I said a few paragraphs back, this is our biggest moneymaker of the year, and we could use your help. If you are interested in helping, we would love to see you.

Our monthly breakfast returns this Saturday, March 16th at 8:00 AM. As I write this, I am realizing that there is an awful lot of food scheduled into our activities that week.

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

I am happy to say that the OVH's regular monthly meetings are back on our normal "third Tuesday of every month" schedule for the rest of 2024. Our next monthly meeting will be on TUESDAY, March 19th, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM EDT, Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road. Manassas.

David Bruce / KD4DEE, will be giving us a presentation on CERT – the Community Emergency Reaction Team at that upcoming meeting.

And lastly, a reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF repeater net at 8:00 PM. Details on how to do that if you are a newcomer are on the OVH's web site: [HTTPS://W4OVH.NET](https://w4ovh.net)

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

73 Ken KN4DD

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Sunshine Corner



Happy Birthday wishes to these club members this March: Fred / N3KVV, Wayne / N4HCR, Scott / KM4FTD, Gary / K4MRL, Jeff / N1SN, Michael / KO4BCN, David / KO4HIR, Matt (no call), Noel / NW5N and Michael / KO4HBU. Each of you enjoy your day!

On Sunday, March 10th, Don / WA2SWX, John / KG4NXT and I set up an OVH table at the Vienna Winterfest. There was an amazing turnout for this Hamfest this year; we had several OVH members stop by the table to let us know what purchases they were able to make! Photos follow and if you are interested in the radio that is in the left hand corner of the table. let us now. It was donated to the club by Bob / K4HJL, THANKS BOB!!!!



The upcoming Virginia QSO Party will be on Saturday and Sunday, March 16th and 17th; I hope to hear you on the air. Please put the OVH on the log as your club when you send your log in! The Heartney's and Meyerhoff's are trying something different this year; we will be starting from a cabin at Twin Lakes State Park, which is southwest of Richmond in Prince Edward County. We will be mobile on Sunday. Hope to see some OVH members win some of the plaques for this event.

Tailgate and Field Day planning meetings are in full swing. The events are successful when we have a great club participation. If you can help at Tailgate Event, please contact Don / WA2SWX, for helping at Field Day, please contact Cat / KM4PBD.

On April 10th - we will be setting up a club table at Thawfest in Ruckersville, Virginia, looking forward to this event.

Don't forget about our Thursday night net at 8:00 pm, good way to keep up with current events and hear what everyone is up to!



Please send me your news, good, not so good and ham related info for this column!

73 Theresa / KG4TVM kg4tvm@hotmail.com Tel: 703-257-3566

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Informal Meeting held on Wednesday, February 22, 2024:

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on February 22, 2024:
OVH President Ken / KN4DD called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on February 22, 2024 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns.

Ballots for the election of OVH officers were distributed. No additional candidates came forward.

Gordon / NQ4K gave a presentation on the Virginia QSO party. His slides will be posted on the OVH website.

Theresa / KG4TVM collected the ballots and tabulated them. The officers for the coming year are Ken / KN4DD - President, Gil / KM4OZH - Vice-President, Don / WA2SWX - Treasurer and John / KG4NXT - Secretary.

The Minutes of the meeting held on January 17, 2024 were approved.

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

Luther / WA3FMO gave the membership report. There was one read-in: Johnathan Bradley / KQ4NPB, to be voided on next month.

There were applicants for membership up for vote, and both were voted in: Edward Hodapp / KQ4DPP and Richard Williams / K0ADY.

ARES report: No report this month.

Repeater report. Emailed in by Ken / KE2N. All repeaters are working fine. One new DSTAR user registered. Reminder that the 224.660 and 146.970 repeaters are normally linked and 442.200 is not normally linked.

Don / WA2SWX gave the Tailgate report: There will be a planning meeting next month. Don, Theresa and John went to the Elkton Hamfest to distribute Flyers. They will also go to the Vienna Winterfest to distribute flyers.

Cat / KM4PBD gave the Field Day report: ARRL has not yet posted the new logo for the 2024 Field Day and this is holding up invitation letters to elected officials. The reservation for the Nokesville Community park has been firmed up and paid and we have a receipt. There will be a planning meeting in March.

Ken / KN4DD gave the web committee report. Russian attacks this month but our software is successfully repelling the attacks. Ken did some conversions and has made the Powerpoint format presentations also available in PDF.

Sunshine report. Theresa / KG4TVM announced birthdays and other matters.

Ken / KN4DD won the 50/50 raffle and donated his winnings to the club. Thanks Ken.

Old Business: None New Business: None

The meeting was then adjourned.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Sunday, March 10, 2024.- The 48th Winterfest by the Vienna Wireless Association. More info and details at <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest> and above in this newsletter. OVH will have a table at this event, and because it is close by in Vienna, Virginia, many OVH members usually attend.

Saturday, June 1, 2024, 8:00 am until 2:00 pm, The OVH Tailgate Party event (in lieu of the Manassas Hamfest). See, <https://w4ovh.net/event/2024-ovh-tailgate-party-in-lieu-of-hamfest> and be sure to save this date.

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST / PROPAGATION EVENTS:

Saturday / Sunday - March 16 and March 17, 2024. The Virginia QSO Party - a major local event and contest event in for stations in Virginia. Many OVH members participate and submit logs as OVH members. See the OVH members only email reflector and web site for more info. The official web site is http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/QSOParty.htm

Monday, April 8, 2024 - Solar Eclipse - The afternoon eclipse in the Manassas area (starts: 2:03pm, maximum: 3:20pm, ends: 4:33pm) will not be total in this area but will be complete enough to darken daylight at 3:20pm EDT and cause unusual radio propagation effects.

Saturday / Sunday - June 22 and June 23, 2024 - ARRL and OVH Field Day. This is a major annual Hamradio event in North America (USA and Canada) each year. The OVH event will be at the Nokesville Community Park again this year, part a family social event for OVH members and guests and part a ham radio operating event during which radio contacts are made with other ham radio Field Day stations all over North America and others throughout the world. Save the date. .

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 <https://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

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 KG4GIY also appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

Your editor is certainly not a regular reader of The Atlantic magazine. But the April 2024 issue has an interesting article with what I think are several stunning photographs of a late 20th century Morse Code Maritime Radio Station (formerly KPH north of San Francisco, California) by photographer: Ann Hermes. The station continues to be kept in limited operation by some dedicated ham radio operators in northern California. You can find the article at the following URL:
<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2024/04/ann-hermes-morse-code/677468/>
The article's title is unfortunate: "America's Last Morse Code Station" because it does not consider the many, many ham radio station which continue to operate CW. See, images on the following page.

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REMINDER



Yes, it is almost that time of year again!!!! Below is the 2024 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. Note: please check online at <https://w4ovh.net> for ways to do this renewal online.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB" for 2024

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, 2024. 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 4293
Manassas, VA 20108-0728