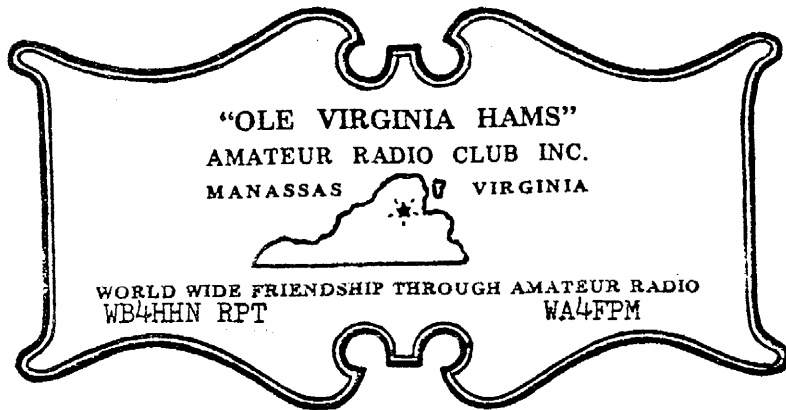


P. O. BOX 1255
MANASSAS, VA. 22110.

CLUB REPEATER
146.37/.97
EDITOR, Steve Meade KB4OF

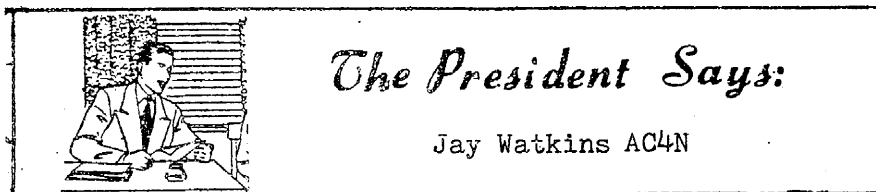
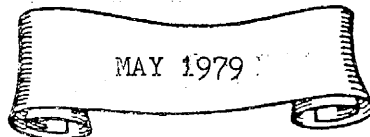


The Club meets on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at the Manassas Park Recreation Center, on Old Centreville Rd, Manassas Park, Va. Meetings start at 8:00 PM and visitors are always welcome.

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 14, 1979.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President Jay Watkins AC4N Secretary Steve Meade KB4OF
Vice President Herb Plummer W4PJP Treasurer Ed Fleming WD4AVU



As I promised at last month's meeting, I have done some homework on our club's repeater. I want to report this information in the newsletter to give it the widest possible circulation since the repeater belongs to the whole club. At the repeater site, I found that:

1. Site's location is excellent in all aspects.
2. All equipment on site is club property.
3. Equipment is currently all healthy.
4. Problems that might come up are in two areas:
 - a. The 12V power supply runs warm in summer.
 - b. The 2 meter receiver is aging.

At Mike's (K4ALG) I saw the new receiver and all of the new Autopatch equipment. The technical status is:

1. The design and circuit documentation is extensive and up-to-date.
2. There is no equivalent off-the-shelf gear.
3. The Autopatch/Repeater-controller will have already been tested on the air by the time you read this.

Work remaining to be done includes:

1. A logging recorder with 1 year tape supply.
2. A proper ID-er board.
3. Purchase of spare parts for future repairs.

Financial status is that a lot of time and money have been spent and little if any of either can be recovered. I guess-timate that less than \$200.00 will completely finish the job.

I think we should finish this project. The autopatch will enhance our ability to provide community service. We're almost done and the people doing the work say that they have the time needed to finish it. We will have to monitor the repeater and autopatch to prevent abuse, but a more immediate problem is that we may have to tweak our rigs and T/T pads to make them conform to the repeater's very high quality T/T decoder!

FIELD DAY

Field Day - 1979 is right around the corner. This year, our Big Event will be held on June 23 and June 24. Our first planning meeting was held on March 26 and 8 members were present.

The total Field Day responsibility has been shared by the following members:

STATIONS

10 Meters	Ro Spooner WB4NWC
15 & 20 Meters	Al Picard K4IQH and Milt Warnock N4SN
40 Meters	Dick Allardyce N4RA
20 Meters	Mike Feher N4FS
2 Meters	
Novice	

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

POWER	Tommy Watts KA4AFU
ANTENNA COORDINATION	Herb Flummer W4FJP
LOGS	Steve Neade KB4OF
FOOD	Bob W3BBQ & Kay Fasulkey W3BBN
MISC. EQUIPMENT	Butch Blasdell W4HJL
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Henry Ahalt N4AZC
GENERAL CHAIRMAN	Jim Fry WA4ZWN
HOPING FOR GOOD PROPAGATION	<u>EVERYONE</u>

Anyone wanting to volunteer to head-up the 2 Meter or Novice station please get in touch with Jim Fry. If you have any equipment we can use contact Jim Fry WA4ZWN or any person named above. The location will be the same as last year - Godwin Drive, about 1/2 mile in on the right from Route 234, behind the Prince William County Fair Grounds. Most of all, we need YOU to spend as much time as possible with us on Field Day. Our club should be on TOP, but this depends on how much each member gives of his time and talents. Last year we placed 95th of 303 stations, which put us in the top third, but we want to do better this year.

Our club is attempting to set up a Club Station and be active in Emergency Communications and this is our chance to see if we are ready. We also will be inviting many local dignitaries to Field Day to observe our capability under emergency situations.

Watch the newsletter for further details but volunteer NOW!!! Harry Glessner WA4CUU is coming from Richmond to work with us and I also hope Walt Short N4SW can make the trip.

JIM FRY WA4ZWN
FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

AUTOPATCH AND THE 911 NUMBER

The autopatch and the new receiver were installed in the repeater on Saturday May 5. As of this writing, the phone line has not been turned-on. It will probably be turned on sometime during the next week or so.

When the autopatch is fully operational, under NO circumstances, use the 911 number for autopatch tests. Also, use 911 ONLY during an emergency, when you need FIRE AND/OR RESCUE UNITS, NOT when you want to call one of the local police departments. You must dial the police phone number when you want the police, NOT the 911 number.

(Russ Stevens WB4HHN, Repeater Trustee)

NEW MEMBER

Last month at the club meeting, the membership voted to accept Dave McClure KB4AI into club. Welcome to the club Dave!

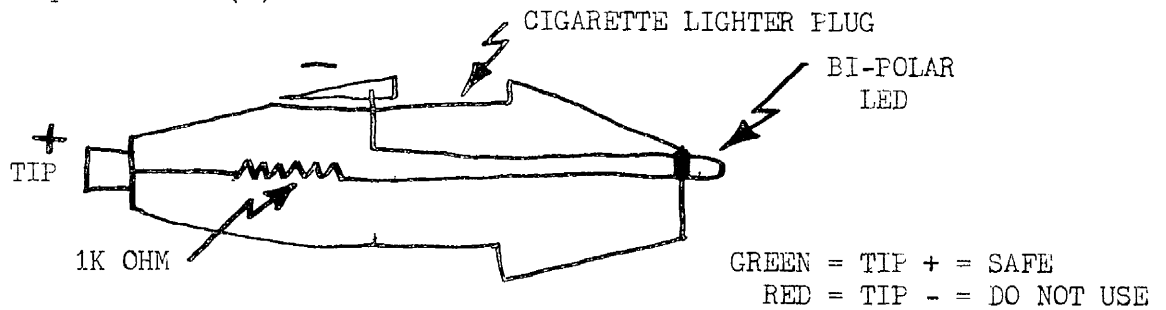
SIMPLE CIGARETTE LIGHTER POLARITY TESTER

The following article appeared in QST, Hints & Kinks - April 79, Page 45.

Before connecting your new rig to that cigarette lighter of your newly purchased automobile, check out the polarity. Older cars generally had the casing of the lighter socket grounded to the chassis but some newer cars constructed with plastic dash panels may have the casing wired to the positive supply line. In cars where this may be so, unless a correction is made in the circuit, damage could occur to equipment attached to this voltage source.

Simple Cigarette Lighter Polarity Tester design by Andy Gibson W4NSU and submitted to QST/Hints & Kinks Editor.

A simple voltage polarity tester may be constructed out of two (2) components as shown in my drawing. The entire circuit may be mounted within a cigarette lighter plug. The bi-polar LED should be wired into the circuit to light GREEN when the Tip is Plus (+) and RED when the Tip is Minus (-).



Anyone else who has homebrew designs or what have you, if you would like to share them with the rest of the club members, I will try my best to get them into the newsletter. (Editor)

H-E-L-P

Your help is needed for the HAMFEST. If you can lend a hand to help with the set-up arrangements on Saturday June 2 (approx. 10 AM - 6 PM) please return the slip below to: OVH Hamfest, P.O. Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110 or turn in at the May monthly meeting.

NAME _____ CALLSIGN _____

TELE. # _____

HOURS AVAILABLE _____

(Telephone replies accepted, call Milt (N4SN) at (703) 369-7265 any day or evening)
CLEAN-UP HELP ALSO NEEDED (After 4 PM Sunday June 3)

RETURN TO:
OLE VIRGINIA HAMS A.R.C.
P.O. BOX 1255
MANASSAS, VA 22110



FIRST CLASS



TO: