

Newsletter

REPEATER NOTES #2

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
P.O. Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110



A non-profit organization serving the interests of
Amateur Radio in the greater-Manassas community

APRIL 1984

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--- LAST MEETING ---

35 people attended the March meeting: 32 OVH members and 3 guests. Of those attending, 20 were ARRL members. New members accepted at the March meeting, and at previous meetings during the last six months, are listed later on in this Newsletter. Welcome to you all. New committee assignments made at the meeting were: PROGRAMS - CURT WANN, K4ITO; REFRESHMENTS - JACK (WA6OYU) and ROSEMARY (WB6OYP) GUNSETT; and TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (including TVI investigations) - TIM WAYNE (KB4NR).

--- NEXT MEETING ---

The next meeting of the OVH will take place on Monday, the 16th of April. The meeting will begin at 2000 LMT at the Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative building, 10323 Lomond Drive. Curt Wann, K4ITO, has scheduled a demonstration of 2 Meter VHF-FM RTTY using VIC-20 computers and Microlog AIR-1 communications interfaces. With a little bit of luck, and good propagation (across the room), we may be able to show off the equipment capabilities and log one of the shortest K4/W1 QSOs ever (short of eyeball-to-eyeball).

APOLOGIES: My apologies to you, and to the new club officers for 1984. The short paragraph on the election results in last month's Newsletter left too much to the imagination. What I should have said, but didn't, was: The following members were elected unanimously, at the February meeting, for the 1984-1985 term =

President: Mike B. Feher N4FS
Vice President: Warren Mallory N4GLW
Secretary: Mary Lu Blasdell KB4EFP
Treasurer: Jim Lascaris WA2Q EJ

My comments last month about support still stand, though. I don't intend to get sloppy about platitudes (e.g., every little bit helps), but club support is where it's at, and you are "it."

APOLOGIES ALSO TO: Bob Kelley KA4NES, HAMFEST Committee Chairman, for the slash job I did to his Hamfest copy for last month. What he said was:

Preparations for the Tenth Annual Manassas Hamfest are well underway. All the committees are organized and functioning so as to make this the best hamfest ever (Mother Nature willing!) We have adequate staffing to get us through the hamfest (thanks to the organizing session we had at the last club meeting) but there is more than enough work to go around if anyone else would like to get in on the action and learn about this biggest club project of all.

So you know who is doing what, and who to call to help out in a particular area, here's the list of Hamfest Committee Members:

Bob Kelly, KA4NES, General Chairman Phone 361-9468(H)
Advertising 367-3070(W)

Bob Zaepfel, K4HJF, Exhibits

Dick Miller, WD4AZG, Features
Bernice Miller, KA4SCA, Features

Tommy Watts, KA4AFU, Facilities
Butch Blasdel, W4HJL, Facilities

Al Picard, K4IQH, Tailgating

Warren Mallory, N4GLW, Gate Staffing

Allen Krasnasky, KF4FH, Prizes

Jim Lascaris, WA2QEJ, Finance

Hank Gross, K4BFJ, Mailing

HAMFEST NOTES

contributed by

Bob, KA4NES

As many will recall, we had to share the Fairground last year with a tractor pull. This year we will not have to put up with that particular problem, although, as a result, we will not get the price break which we had last year because of that particular inconvenience. At any rate, we got a very reasonable price for the Fairground this year considering inflation and our past experiences with the typical asking price for the Fairgrounds.

The first set of advertising flyers has been printed and some of them were distributed at the Vienna Winterfest. We also plan to distribute flyers at the Dayton and Charlotte Hamfests, and any others where attending OVH members would be willing to distribute them. Anyone who will be attending hamfests between now and June and would be willing to assist with this simple task are encouraged to call Bob Kelly, KA4NES, so that we can arrange to have a set of flyers ready for distribution.

All the major magazines have been sent Manassas Hamfest info (these include QST, HamRadio, 73 and CQ.) We will have full page ads in both Autocall and the CVRA Repeater Journal.

We have received our approval as an official ARRL hamfest from Gay Milius, ARRL Roanoke Division Director. Gay also informed me that the Virginia Beach club will be once again coming in force in a charter bus, so we want to be sure and save them their regular spot in the "Pavillion"!

(CONT'D)

We will soon receive a set of club mailing labels from ARRL, and the direct mailing labels are being typed into the computer in preparation for that mailing in early May. Anyone interested in participating in the typing effort should also contact Bob. This is one of the most time consuming of all hamfest chores. Hank Gross, K4BFJ, is in charge of all mailing activities. Give him a call if you would like to help out there.

We will be staffing the ticket selling activity at the entrance gate and for the tailgaters this year on a continuing basis between now and June. Warren Mallory is heading this staffing activity, so you should give him a call if you are ready to schedule your stint at the gate to sell tickets (remember, the choice times go first, so the earlier you call him the more likely you'll get the time you want.) Warren could also use help in telephone canvassing of the members to get everyone signed up for slots, so be sure and give him a call soon.

So, you can see there's a lot going on. With everybody pulling together we're sure to have another great hamfest. Watch this space in the newsletter the next few months for more info on the hamfest. 73 KA4NES SK.

THANKS: To Harry Vorhauer, (W4PVA) - and Congratulations on completing another year behind the mike as Net Control Operator for the OVH Thursday Night Net.

THANKS: To Jack Gunsett (W60YU) for working up the new Westlink News broadcasts for the Thursday Night Net. Sounds good, Jack!

REPEATER NOTES: Make sure that you are "full quieting", or nearly so, before attempting an utopatch. USE THE # SIGN TO TERMINATE THE PATCH. If you need to use 911, the access is *911. DON'T FORGET THE *! Make sure that it is an emergency. If you are in your car, and it is safe to do so, stop and find out the details so that the Fire Board can act on the best information possible.

Please remember the requirement to identify station transmissions. When you access the time, a simple "W4XXX, TIME CHECK" will suffice. Although your two key tones may not be heard on the repeater, they are still in the clear on 146.37 MHz.

Now for the latest from Tim, KB4NR:

* REPEATER NOTES *

By Tim Wayne, KB4NR
4/7/84

Several items to report that transpired in regards to the repeater: First, and most notable, by removing a lot of gibberish that the "loudmouth" on our repeater was doing.

On the more serious side of the subject, we may have to endure the squelch-tails and the blips of touch-tones for a little longer. It seems that ACC erroneously sent me the defective "SAD" chip (SAD4096) that I originally sent them for replacement and a new one is on its way. Now for the good stuff... In the very near future, perhaps by the time you read this, you will have the option of making "Semi-private" autopatches. That means one side of the conversation, namely the person using the radio, will be obliterated by a cover tone and not heard on the repeater. To use this feature, merely enter " **2 " prior to making a patch. EXAMPLE: You wish to call someone and desire a semi-private option. After identifying and announcing that you will make a patch, dial **2, release the push to talk and wait for the repeater to confirm your command with a verbal "C", now proceed to dial the access and phone number in the usual manner. Nothing to it. CAUTION! you are still on the air so watch what you say!

COMING ATTRACTIONS... Multiple emergency-use numbers, not only 911 but police, both west as well as east end of Prince William County, state police, AAA, etc... With just two digits, NO ACCESS CODE REQUIRED! Also confirmation of readback numbers on your auto-patches before the number is actually dialed. If there was an error in the readback, for whatever the reason, do nothing and it will automatically abort the patch; confirm it and it dials it! This will apply to regular patches only. Emergency patches will go all the way as soon as you enter the two digits. Watch for more details as to when and how this will occur!

UPGRADE: The cutoff date for applications for the 7 May - 11 May FCC exams was 15 April. Next exam period will be 6 August - 19 August. Cut off date to apply for an appointment for the August exams is 15 July. (Thanks to Bruce, KB4IFS).

See Hamradio, CQ, and QST for news about the Volunteer Examiner Program. Also stay tuned for the OVH Thursday Night Net for up to date ARRL Bulletins and other info about the Volunteer Examiner Program.

MISCELLANY:

DX - Check out the Sunday Foreign Service Net. 14316 kHz (1500Z), 21416 kHz (1530Z), and 28616 kHz (1600Z). Net Control W3DOS and NN3SI; "Sub Control" W4HU (John).. Time-to-time, rare DX might just hop up and grab you. (Thanks to Hank, K4BFJ)

CATV/CATVI - Watch for next month's Newsletter: a little info on what's happening in Prince William County with the CATV installation.

LOGOS - The new ARRL logos on the Newsletter were supplied by Gay Milius (W4UG), our ARRL Roanoke Division Director. He thought they'd look good. Maybe after I get some more "layout" practice, they will. Thanks Gay.

SWAP AND SELL:

SWAP TIMEX 1000 computer, brand new, complete; for a 2 meter mag mount antenna. QSO Bruce, KB4IFS.