



P. O. BOX 1255
MANASSAS, VA. 22110

Repeater - WA4FPM -- 146.37/97 Digipeater - WA4FPM-1 -- 145.09
220MHz Digipeater - WA4FPM-3 -- 223.4



OCTOBER 1987 NEWSLETTER

On Monday Night, September 21st, 1987, the Meeting of the OVHARC was called to Order at 8:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op Building, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

A Motion was made and Seconded to buy a second computer for the Club, to be kept by the Secretary.

Randy (KA4UFF) was elected to once again coordinate the Manassas City Christmas Parade communications. Please contact Randy for information and to volunteer.

Tim (KB4NF) said there is no word yet regarding our frequency coordination for the 220 Repeater. Tim also gave a demonstration on the use of the new DVR, including the Mailbox and Self-Testing features.

Jack (KI4VP) gave a brief update on the two Digipeaters, 2M and 220MHz.

● Listen to the Westlink Report at 8:00 pm Thursday Evenings during the OVH Weekly Bulletin. ●

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

* REPEATER NOTES *

By Tim Wayne, KB4NR
Technical Committee Chairman

It appears that the firmware supplied by ACC for our new DVR may have a bug in it. This allegation has not been confirmed by ACC. George, KU30, had it happen to him. Butch, W4HJL, was able to duplicate it so that we could analyze it. Members should be aware of the symptoms and what the remedy is, should it occur again.

When a mailbox access is made, to leave a message for someone, the mystery girl prompts you: "Who is your message for?" You would normally key your mike and state someone's call letters and unkey, the next prompt will be to record your message. If, however, you should double-key at the first prompt, the problem occurs.

Normally the DVR would store the call letters and note the address location where it stored it. It appears that if a rapid double keying occurs at this time, no address location is noted and when it is interrogated it cannot find it. This causes it to enter into an endless loop which hangs up the repeater. A simple error trapping routine would, no doubt, correct this bug.

Jim, WA2QEJ, has discovered that if you send a # sign from your radio for a few seconds, the DVR will normally release and revert controls back to the RC-850 controller. You should notify one of the control stations so that they will disable the DVR, otherwise the next person who interrogates the mailbox will hang it up again. I hope that we will get a fix for this problem soon.

We now have enough slots for every club member to have at least one phone number stored into the autodialer. This may be of great benefit for those of us who have a radio that can store up to seven or eight digits for redial. Previously that feature on our radios was worthless, because eleven digits were required. Now it can be done, four or five for access plus up to three for a autodial slot. If you would like to have a phone number stored in the autodialer, please let me know.

Some club members were under the impression that the new repeater upgrade lost us some of the old features. On the contrary, we have all the old features plus many new ones and some that we have not used yet! This may be a good time to ask if any members have pagers that they can put on our output frequency and if so, what type. Our new controller firmware can now support almost all types of pagers, therefore, let me know the type and your code. Of course, be aware that if we program your code it will be listed in the directory.

As a reminder, our repeater is capable to be placed in PL access mode, if we ever need to. The PL access tone is 146.2 Hz.



OVH DIGIPEATER NEWS

The last of the bugs have been worked out of the Digipeater and we have not experienced a reset in the TNC in the last three weeks. I have been working on a battery backup to keep the Mailbox from losing it's messages during power outages. Speaking of the Mailbox that resides in our Digipeater, I would like to cover what it will do. First, connect to the BBS by using the call "WA4FPM-2". This can be done on 145.09 or 223.40. You will get the following response:

```
cmd:*** CONNECTED to WA4FPM-2
WELCOME TO WA4FPM'S PERSONAL BULLETIN BOARD
ENTER COMMAND: Bye, Kill #, List, Read #, Send (callsign)
>
```

From here the following commands can now be used:

- B (Bye) - This command will cause the personal mailbox to initiate a disconnect.
- L (List) - This command causes the personal mailbox to list messages in the system addressed to you or to "ALL".
- R # (Read #) - This command will read the message you specified by number.
- K # (Kill #) - This command will delete the message you specified by number. These are messages either originated by you or addressed to you. Only the messages addressed to "ALL" can be deleted by the originator, so if you place a message for everyone to read remember to remove it after some period of time.
- S (Send + "callsign") - This command will is used to leave a message in the mailbox for the "callsign"

GENERAL INTEREST

On Sunday, October 4th, 1987, the Prince William County Park Authority sponsored a Bicycle tour in the Western Prince William County Area. About 80 bikers participated. Also a group of Fams supplied communications for the event. The ride covered a road distance of about 35 miles, but since no two points on the route were much more than 12 miles apart, Simplex operation sufficed.

The Park Authority supplied five vehicles (with drivers, of course) and a Fam was assigned to each. Mag Mounts were used on a Two Meter Frequency.

Fortunately no injuries were incurred. However, a couple of minor problems did appear. The first: a biker, reported missing from the pack, was found with a flat tire. Ham radio brought help. The second: at the close of the ride, one rider was still unaccounted for. A search was organized with a Ham in each search vehicle. The rider was found shortly and Ham radio was utilized to recall all searchers.

Hams participating were:

Kerry Kingman -- WA4BQM
Tom Lindsley -- W4FHK
Ken Moen -- N4NLC
Steve Frick -- N4CGR
Bonnie Frick -- N4QPB
Harry VorHauer -- W4PVA
Milt Warnock* -- N4SM

*Milt participated from his QTH, monitoring in case telephone communications were required.

Also, Margarete Lindsley (KB4IKU) was present at the commencement, but had need to return home.

A real successful ham operation -- we were USEFUL.

Submitted by Harry (W4PVA)

Twinkle, Twinkle...

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star,
How I wonder what you are,
Up above us in the sky,
Are you a Satellite, drifting by?
--Bill Plimpton (W21XH)--"Worldradio", Sept. Issue 1987.



.....
Are you involved in
public service?
.....

OSCAR 10 IN TROUBLE

AMSAT-OSCAR 10 can no longer be used for communications for at least another month. Due to the low angle of the sun there will not be enough illumination to recharge the satellite's batteries. It is estimated the next period of communication via the satellite will begin around November 20th when the sun's angle will be enough to charge the battery. Meanwhile, total abstinence is required. "Auto-call", 1987.

FCC DENIES WARNING LABELS ON CELLULAR PHONES

The FCC has denied a request by the Washington Legal Foundation (WLF) that the Commission issue a proposal to require a warning label on cellular telephone reading "Privacy of communications may not be ensured when using this phone." The WLF had argued that warning labels would be the most cost-effective means of informing cellular telephone users that their calls are subject to interception.

LOVE THEM 88's

K4&&& QRZ on sixteen-seventy six...QRZ QRZ QRZ the Repeater, QRZ QRZ QRZ QRZ from K4&&&, anybody copy this station QRZ QRZ QRZ QRZ.

K4\$\$\$ this is WA4&&&, how copy. WA4%% this here's K4\$\$\$ and-a & copy arm-chair here, how you copy WA4%% this am K4\$\$\$.

Fine, Phred. Full quieting, as always.

WA4%% this is K\$\$\$\$...just got up my stacked 88 element beam. How do they sound.

Your signals full quieting Phred, you're only six miles from the repeater.

WA4%% this am K\$\$\$\$ fine on everything old man. How's my new antenna sound, got 88 elements up one hundred feet. WA4%%, this is K4&&&.....over!

Okay, Phred. Beautiful signal into the repeater.....go ahead.

WA4%% this is K\$\$\$\$. Can you tell any difference in my signal compared to last night. I got up 88 elements now, you know. WA4%% this here am K4\$\$\$.....over!

WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO

The repeater always pins my "S" meter, Phred. You going to try to work some DX on simplex? K4\$\$\$ from WA4%%.

WA4%%...this is K4\$\$\$. Naw...I never work simplex much...maybe 94 once in a while. Not many people on 94 direct though. Some radicals tried to talk me into getting 52 crystals, but nothing doing. I've been working ninetyfour direct for 8 years and I'm not about to change frequencies just because some repeater twenty miles away planted himself on thirty-four/ninety-four. Besides, I was on 94 first. If anybody is going to move, it'll have to be those kids on 34/94. I was using 94 when those kids were still in college getting their smarts. WA4%%, heah's ole KA4&& and-a \$....

Yeah, Phred, by the way, I'm having a little trouble understanding you!

WHAT?...ooops...WA4%%this is K4&&...almost forgot...Having trouble reading me? Wait...yeh...let me turn the 88's. The side is on the repeat....no wonder (click, click, click, click) How's that...WA4&& this is K4...&...&...&...go haid.

You're still a little fuzzy, Phred, but don't worry about it....

WA4%%, K4\$\$\$ DON'T WORRY? Maybe it's my new antenna. Maybe I shudda put it up a little higher. I coulda gone up another couple of feet above the rotator. Maybe that's what I shudda done. WA4%% from K4&&.

Don't worry bout it Phred, it just sounds like your deviation might be a little high. You might check with someone else. My ears aren't all that accurate, Phred..... DEVIATION CONTROL?

Yeah, you know...the little pot that controls your frequency swing.

Oh yeah...I keep it cranked wide open. I wanna get all the punch I can from this little rig...oh...by the way, did I identify? WA4%% this is K4\$\$\$.

Yes Phred, several times.

WA4%%, this is K4\$\$\$...well 73's old man. Enjoyed the chat. Hope you have a nice day tomorrow...and a nice night tomorrow night...and a nice weekend this weekend, and a nice Thanksgiving and a nice Christmas...if I don't talk to you again before then. 73's again, and again I really enjoyed it, and don't work too hard and take it easy. We'll see you on down the old log...73's and good luck and good DX. So until next time, this is K4\$\$\$ signing with WA4%% after a short, but very enjoyable QSO. 73's old buddy!

● **SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT** ●
AMATEUR RADIO!!!

Good night, Phred, K4\$\$\$ this is WA4%%% clear.

QRZ QR QRZ QRZ on sixteen seventy six, QRZ QRZ QRZ QRZ, this here's K4\$\$\$ and-a \$ looking for a signal report on my new antennas...QRZ QRZ QRZ QRZ the repeater, QRZ QRZ QRZ QRZ! "Repeater Journal", August 1987.

Jacques Saget (F6BEE), 34, rue Maurice Ravel, 8690 Les Essarts Le Roi -- Took ALL FCC Elements -- from Novice through Extra-- and passed at the last OVH Exam Session (June 1987). Submitted by Harry (W4PVA)

TRIVIA

1. Because the velocity of wave Propagation is so great, we tend to ignore it. Do YOU know how long it takes a radio wave to travel around the world?

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| A. 300 seconds | B. 1/7 of a second |
| C. 10 seconds | C. 1 1/2 seconds |

2. Is it legal to use tactical call signs when engaged in Public Service Communications?

(Answers further along in the Newsletter)

HELP HELP HELP

This Newsletter needs a name. Do you have any suggestions? If so, please contact the Newsletter Editor -- Steve Frick (N4OGR) by radio or phone--361-0008.

NOTE

The Newsletter needs Technical and/or Operating Articles. Any contributions will be greatly appreciated.



Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

ITEMS FOR SALE

FREE...FREE...FREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

YOU CALL, YOU HAUL, THAT'S ALL, YOU-ALL!!

RADIO NEWS: OCT '43, APR-OCT '47, JAN-JULY '48
RADIO & TELEVISION NEWS: AUG-DEC '48, JAN-DEC '49, JAN-APR '50,
JUL-DEC '50, JAN-DEC '51, JUL '53 (2), AUG '53 (2), JAN '54, APR
'55, JUN '56, OCT '56, AUG '58, NOV '58
RADIO ELECTRONICS: JAN '52, JUL-AUG '53, AUG '54, MAY '55, AUG
'58
POPULAR ELECTRONICS: DEC '56

CQ MAGAZINE: MAR '48, APR '49, SEP '49, JUL '51, FEB '52,
JUN-JUL '53, MAR-JUN '55, SEP '55, MAR '56, SEP-OCT '56, FEB-APR
'57, MAY-DEC '83, JAN-APR '84.
QST MAGAZINE: (FAIR TO POOR CONDITION): JAN-FEB '46, JUN '46,
SEP-DEC '46, MAY-DEC '49, JAN-DEC '50. (GOOD CONDITION): SEP
'52, DEC '54, MAY '57, APR-DEC '71, JAN-DEC '72, JAN '73,
MAR-DEC '73, (VERY GOOD CONDITION): JAN-FEB '74, MAY-DEC '74,
JAN-DEC '75, JAN-MAY '76, AUG-DEC '76, JAN-DEC '77, JAN-DEC '78,
JAN-DEC '79, JAN-DEC '80, JAN-DEC '81, JAN-DEC '82, JAN-DEC '83.

WLCRO, ART, (703)791-4330

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Answers to this Month's TRIVIA Questions:

1. B ("The ARRL Antenna Book", 14th Edition)
2. Yes, Amateurs may use such tactical call signs as "Unit One" or "Check Point Charlie" to promote efficiency and coordination in Public Service Communications Activities. However, the types of identifiers are not substitutes for station call signs when fulfilling the identification requirements of Section 97.84 of the FCC Rule Book. Amateurs must always identify their station's operations with its FCC-assigned call sign. (FCC Rule Book.)

If you have any articles or comments to submit to the Newsletter please contact Steve (N4CGR) or Forrie (N4QPB) by radio or by phone--(703) 361-0008 or 690-6547.





**** HAMFEST**

CALENDER **

10/18/87 -- 4th Annual Cumberland County
Hamfest
Carlisle, PA

Walk-in: 145.27, 145.52 and 433.3

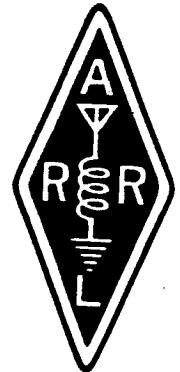
6/5/88 -- MANASSAS HAMFEST AND
COMPUTER FAIR

Contact: Randy (KA4UFF)

HAMFEST ADDICT

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VEC EXAMS



DATE: PLACE: CONTACT:

- Oct 31st -- Andrews AFB -- Al Abercrombie - (301) 868-0399
- Nov 7th -- Middletown, VA -- Walt Quitter - (703) 869-5241
- Nov 8th -- Goddard Space Center -- Willis Holmes (301) 336-0684
- Nov 14th -- Frederick, MD -- Rick Ogden -- (301) 845-0684
- Nov 14th -- Portsmouth, VA -- George Parsons, 4800 Manor Ave.,
Portsmouth, VA
- Nov 15th -- Baltimore, MD -- Steve Silberman -- (301) 578-8527
- Nov 21st -- Manassas, VA -- Harry Vorhauer (703) 368-5050
- Nov 21st -- Richmond, VA -- Ron Boltoni (804) 798-5191
- Dec 9th -- U of MD Campus -- Scott Rosenfeld -- (301) 586-4008
- Dec 9th -- Scranton, PA -- Bob Chimel -- (717) 586-2596
- Dec 12th -- Woodbridge, VA -- Don Ross -- (703) 944-7014
- Dec 12th -- Virginia Beach, VA -- Tom Weikel, 433 W. Farmington
Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23454
- Dec 12th -- Salisbury, MD -- John Rupprecht -- (301) 749-7444

Ole Virginia Hams

DON'T FORGET!!!

What: CVH Annual Picnic
Date: Sunday, September 18th, 1987
Time: After 1:00 pm till WHENEVER
Where: At Art's Place (W1CRO)
12212 Woodlark Court

If you wish, please bring a covered dish to serve yourself and several others (casserole, salad, dessert, etc).

Directions to Art's: From Manassas -- Take 234 South, Cross over Lake Jackson, go past 7-11 Store on left, turn right on Morning-side which will be the first right after the 7-11, go 7/10ths of a mile to the corner of Morningside and Woodlark. Art's house will be on the right of Morningside.

Talk-in will be on 146.97 and on Simplex 146.52. If all else fails 791-4330.

For more information, please contact Bernice (KA4SEA) or Mary Lu (KB4EFP).

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the OVHRC will be held on Monday night, October 19th, 1987, at 8:00 pm, in the NOVEC Building. Please use the side basement entrance. A feature presentation will be given by Nancy Draheim (NK4RU) on the 4 Call Area Outgoing QSL Bureau.

Please note, there will be no meeting in the month of November. So, please try to be at this month's meeting.

