



Ole Virginia Times

The OVH ARC Newsletter



P. O. BOX 1255
MANASSAS, VA. 22110

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO

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

FEBRUARY 1988 ISSUE

January Meeting Notes:

On January 18th, 1987, the meeting of the OVHARC was called to Order at 8:00 pm, in the Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op Building, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

A very interesting and informative presentation on "Lightning and Bonding" was given by Richard Brooks of the FAA.

The Election Committee put forth their nominees for the position of Officers as the following:

President -- Ed (KC4YY)
Vice President -- Joe (KB4VHK)
Secretary -- Randy (KA4UPF)
Treasurer -- Steve (N4OGR)

Elections will be held at this month's Meeting.

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

CLUB OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Directors:

Bob McCann (N4RL)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR)
Mike Feher (N4FS)
Jeff Noel (K4ZKU)

Officers:

President -- Gene Roberts (N4HFW)
Vice President -- "Butch" Blasdell (W4HJL)
Secretary -- Randy Moler (KA4UFP)
Treasurer -- Jimmy Lascaris (WA2QEJ)

Repeater Trustee:

Art Whittum (W1CRO)

OVH Weekly Net:

Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)

Emergency Coordinator:

Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)

Repeater Controllers

Art Whittum (W1CRO)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR)
Milt Warnock (N4SN)
Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ)
Steve Meade (KB4OP)
Russ Stevens (WB4HHN)

Technical Committee:

Butch Blasdell (W4HJL)
Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR)
Bob McCann (N4RL)

Field Day Chairman:

1987 Curt Wann (K4ITO)

Sunshine Chairperson:

Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)

Program Chairman:

Club Newsletter:

Steve Frick (N4OGR)
Bonnie Frick (N4QPB)

Generators:

Tom Watts (KA4FU)

Publicity Chairman:

Open

F.A.R. Representative:

Ed Stalder (KC4YY)

1988 Hamfest Chairman:

Randy Moler (KA4UFP)

Membership Chairman:

Ken Moan (N4NLO)

Refreshment Committee:

Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)

Computer Committee:

Dick Miller (WD4AZG)
Milt Warnock (N4SN)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR)

Scholarships:

Mike Feher (N4FS)

Mail List:

Dick Miller (WD4AZG)

Club Picnic:

Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)
Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)

Educational Committee:

Bob McCann (N4RL)

Notes from the Editor

The Ole VA Hams Newsletter is published monthly by the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, and is mailed free to members of OVH. Permission is granted for use of material contained in this Newsletter, provided proper credit is given. This editor will swap Newsletters with other Clubs and Associations upon written request. Newsletter deadline is the 5th of each month. The Newsletter is entered as First Class Mail at the Post Office in Manassas, Virginia

Remember, we are always looking for interesting items for the Newsletter. If you see or know of articles, shack tips, items for sale or wanted, brain teasers, etc., please send them to the Newsletter Editor, c/o Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110, or give us a landline (361-0008 or 690-6547). If it is interesting to you, chances are it will be interesting to others.

Steve (N4OGR)



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

New Members as of December:

Greg Brunacci	--	N4RKV
James McKinley	--	WD40JY
Steven Delage	--	WA1VQN
Greg Narden	--	KC2VM
Bill Mosher	--	No Call
LeRoy Black	--	N4ANW
Nancy Draheim	--	NK4U

New Members as of January:

Sam Yakulis	--	KA4NVC
Mike Squires	--	N4REI

EMERGENCY CALLS -- 911 -- AND THE REPEATER

911 is an EMERGENCY NUMBER and must not be used for anything but emergency calls. An emergency is defined as a life threatening or property destruction situation. This does not include trash in the road blocking traffic, or, because of the heavy rain, the water is almost overflowing the bridge. Situations such as these can be reported on the non-emergency speed dial number. Repeated misuse of this feature on the repeater may result in elimination of the service.

If the situation you are trying to report is life-threatening, or a property destruction situation, call the 911 number and be prepared to give as much precise information as possible. Please, remain on the scene. It is not possible to give complete, precise information 5 to 10 miles down the road. Remember, all information that you give will help to get the proper emergency vehicles to the proper location.

Also, remember, ALL calls for assistance are recorded.



GENERAL INTEREST



Amendment to the Communications Act:

The amendment to the Communications Act which permits FCC to delegate examinations for amateur operator licenses to volunteers also provides for delegation of monitoring amateur activities to amateur licensees. FCC's Field Operations Bureau has an agreement with the ARRL whereby necessary monitoring tasks are turned over to ARRL's "Amateur Auxiliary to the FCC's Field Operations Bureau." (QST, October, November 1987 Issue -- **Worldradio**, January 1988 Issue)

WARNING:

Both telephone companies and banks are issuing the following warning: **DO NOT GIVE OUT YOUR TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD NUMBER OR VISA OR OTHER BANK CARD NUMBERS TO PEOPLE CALLING FOR THEM UNDER PRETEXT OF CHECKING FOR FRAUD!**

Pacific Bell, San Francisco says criminals have developed a new tactic to fleece customers. Patrons in the 213, 805 and 916 area code were called by criminals claiming to be telco employees asking for calling credit card numbers. To gain them, the callers would say they were telco police investigating fraud. The number once gained is immediately put to illegal use! One Sacramento resident had 180 long distance calls billed to his calling card in only three hours after he wrongly gave out his number.

Both telephone companies and banks urge customers to immediately report any such calls. A customer did this recently and the telephone company relayed the news to the police. A suspect was apprehended who held seven stolen calling numbers!

Both telephone companies and banks say that any employee that rightfully needs to know this information knows that it can be obtained from company data. There is absolutely **NO NEED** to call customers. A word to the wise! (TSRAC BNT, January 1988 Issue.)

CANADIAN HAMS PREPARE FOR NORTH POLE SKITREK:

Canadian Amateurs under the guidance of the CRRL, the Canadian Radio Relay League similar to ARRL, are getting ready to participate on-the-air with the joint Russian-Canadian SKITREK across the North Pole. Both Russian and Canadian hams that plan to participate in the SKITREK are in training. Amateur Radio will be their link with civilization and it is expected that both American and Canadian, besides world-wide Amateurs, will be looking for those rest-stops contact to get special certificates or QSL cards when the event is over. Naturally the Event will get full media coverage and don't forget, Amateur Radio is there!

TSRAC will be coordinating a lot of the information and the local area operations through its two Club repeaters. The event will take place in February. (TSRAC BNT, January 1988 Issue.)

ARRL GETS COMMENT EXTENSION:

ARRL and ten other organizations asked the FCC to extend the time for comments on the Docket that permits unlicensed operation for very low RF Devices, which comes under Part 15 of the Rules. This would include items such as remote control units, wireless microphones and cordless telephones. For Amateurs this could become a vast source of complaints for both parties with Amateurs interfering with those devices and by contrast those devices interfering with nearby hams. The FCC changed the comment date until March 7. This shows that these requests for changes in comment time dates do help. (TSRAC BNT, January 1988 Issue.)

GREATS IN RADIO:

In 1906, in Massachusetts, Reginald Fesseden successfully impressed voice and music information on a radio wave by using a high-frequency alternator as a transmitter. The alternator's great advantage was that it generated truly continuous waves, unlike the earlier transmitters.

This device was improved further by Ernst Alexanderson of the General Electric Company. By 1918 the alternator was the state of the art in radio transmitting appliances.

WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO

In 1906, two Americans - Henry C. Dunwoody and Greenleaf W. Pickard -- independently developed the first crystal detectors. Consisting of a wire impressed against a piece of crystal, the device removed the audio-frequency component from a radio signal and allowed it to be picked up by a set of headphones. In the early broadcasting era this "cat's-whisker" galena detector was fairly popular.

In 1906 John Ambrose Fleming of England had developed a diode, a two-electrode vacuum tube capable of detecting wireless signals, based on an effect observed two decades earlier by Thomas Edison. While perfecting the incandescent bulb, Edison had noted that a weak current would pass across a space between the bulb's filament and a metal plate placed above it. Fleming discovered that the bulb-plus-plate would pick up a radio signal and transform it into pulsed direct current, which then could be used to indicate telegraph signals. (W4CA Log, December 1987 Issue)

PRB-1:

PRB-1 (from Private Radio Bureau #1) is the FCC preemption order. Such orders have the authority of federal statute. Even though it does not challenge local authorities' right to designate land use, local municipalities consider it scary when the feds take away any part of the authority.

PRB-1 says three things:

1. Local authorities cannot prohibit Amateur Radio antennas. They must permit Amateur Radio operation in their jurisdictions.
2. Any esthetic requirements, such as screening, must reasonably accommodate Amateur radio communications. They must allow the amateur to be able to communicate.
3. Any restrictions established by the local jurisdiction must be the minimum to accomplish the municipality's purpose.

This means they can require the planting of trees around the base of your antenna; they can require anti-climbing safety devices; they can require that a tower you put up be a crank-up tower. But they've got to let you have an antenna that's functional, and that's where the cases come in. Usually the question for interpretation is: How high must the antenna be?

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

PRB-1 Works:

Marshall Quiat, AG0X, [an Amateur Radio Operator whom is also an attorney], advises that your attorney get the legal kit from ARRL, which tells how to use PRB-1.

Safety:

The other side will argue that a 100' tower must be 100 feet from the lot line. This can be offset by quoting the Ganner Olsen reports. These studies show that properly guyed towers that collapse, fall straight down with in 21% of the height of the tower. Guyed towers do not fall like cut trees.

Real Estate Values:

They will argue that real estate values deteriorate on property next to the tower. Ask their real estate person for specific cases where property was devalued, and you will find that they cannot come up with any.

Deed Restrictions:

Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, has been making a systematic study of deed restrictions. He found that in Los Angeles County, every new development prohibited antennas. In Wayne's study he found that was also true in other places: D.C., Arizona, San Francisco Bay area and the Dallas- Ft. Worth Area.

Today it is not easy to put up an antenna. Everyone believes large antennas cause RFI and small ones don't. Neighbors are increasingly having veto power over what you can do with your land. It is expensive to fight any kind of legal battle over land use matters.

In fighting antenna restrictions, you must show that Amateur Radio antennas are a normal accessory to the use of real property, such as tennis courts, barbecue pits, swimming pools and the like. (See Legal Forum, Worldradio, February 1988 Issue, Page 1, for the complete article.)

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

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

A PRB-1 DECISION:

FCC's PRB-1 Declaratory Order has been used by a federal judge to decide in favor of a Sands Point, New York, amateur licensee whose 86' antenna tower had been denied as a variance of a local ordinance which limits the height of accessory structures, including antenna towers, to 25 feet. The judge said that; "An absolute limitation of height affects (the amateur's) right to the full use of his amateur Extra Class license and the license to use his property as an Amateur Radio station issued by the FCC." Now the amateur and the zoning board must renegotiate his antenna height. (ARRL Letter, 10/07/87 -- Worldradio, January 1988 Issue)

More on PRB-1:

Last September, Andrew Bodony, K2LE, won a portion of his suit in US District Court against the Village of Sands Point, New York, that voided the village's 25-foot height ordinance as applied to Amateur Radio antenna towers. The remainder of his suit was against the village for monetary damages for violations of his constitutional rights. **THE VILLAGE HAS NOW SETTLED OUT OF COURT WITH BODONY.** As part of the settlement, the exact dollar amount wasn't revealed. However, the amount was enough to pay Bodony the vast majority of his attorney's fees, which totaled over \$60,000.

Docket 87-14:

Regarding the Docket 87-14 proposal to allocate the 220-222 MHz of the amateur 220-225 MHz band to the land mobile services, FCC Commissioner James Quello advises: "...As I have stated on numerous occasions, the land mobile community has failed to demonstrate a need for additional spectrum. Indeed the Commission is currently evaluating comments on the need for additional sharing. In my opinion, the issue of 'need', in and of itself, justifies a cautious approach to further land mobile sharing." (Worldradio, February 1988 Issue.)



GOOD OPERATING

Good operating calls for friendly operating. It serves no useful purpose to bad-mouth a repeater -- on that repeater or on any other repeater. It serves no useful purpose to argue about how the controls of a repeater are set -- on the air.

Do it on the telephone, or do it at a meeting. Always keep in mind that many are listening on scanners or VHF receivers. Many are trying to decide whether they like Amateur Radio. You do not help when you stir a hornet's nest.

Good operating demands friendly operating. (Baltimore RATS, MD -- **Worldradio**, February 1988 Issue.)

A GUIDE TO REPEATER OPERATING PRACTICES

1. General Practices:

A. Listening is the best way to start...

When using a new repeater, and, unless you have a real need to transmit, there are three things to do first: Listen, listen and listen. (By the way, it's a good idea to check the setting of your volume control before you transmit, especially with rigs having the power switch concentric with the volume control. Many folks have unintentionally transmitted right on top of someone because they weren't hearing.)

B. Not all repeaters are the same...

When using an unfamiliar repeater you should listen to determine customary operating practices and to identify operating restrictions. For example, some repeaters are dedicated for emergency service and do not permit ordinary conversations. Others use very short timers to discourage long-winded transmissions. Then too, the repeater may be temporarily dedicated to a special event, net, or activity. You should be aware of these things before jumping in.

If things seem too confusing, pick a time when the repeater seems unused, identify yourself, and ask for a control operator or club officer, etc. and ask about the repeater.

C. Breaking in to a conversation...>>Your call letters get you in<<

In general, you should treat on-going conversations just as you would in person. In other words, if there is a topic under discussion, don't break in unless you have something to add to the topic. Wait for the discussion to conclude, then jump in with your call letters and wait to be acknowledged.

The term "break-break" is usually taken to mean an emergency. "Break" without your call letters works, but stating your call letters seems to be the best way to go.

If you have an immediate need to use the frequency and cannot wait for the current conversation to end you should jump in with your call and state your need when acknowledged. If the folks on frequency aren't leaving pauses between consecutive transmissions, as sometimes happens, and you have a real need to get in, there you can use an extreme measure: transmit your call quickly on top of one of the stations in the conversation. As stated, **this is an extreme (and rude) measure, and should be reserved for critical situations only.**

D. Keep the door open...

Leave reasonable pauses between consecutive transmissions in a conversation. Usually, pausing for the courtesy tone is enough. This ensures that someone with an emergency, or someone who wishes to join your conversation, can get in.

When someone breaks in, they should be acknowledged and permitted to transmit IMMEDIATELY. This ensures that a person with an urgent problem won't be kept waiting.

E. Topics of conversation...

This is a tough area to discuss because it is very subjective. I will offer a few guidelines designed to help you say on the good side of the FCC and to help promote friendly relationships.

The law requires that we avoid conducting business on the repeaters. This means that you should **NOT DISCUSS BUSINESS MATTERS WITH FELLOW EMPLOYEES, NOR SHOULD YOU MAKE BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS, ETC.**



Many, many folks, both licensed and repeaters. To avoid giving offense, giving ham radio a bad reputation, criticizing products and individuals taught us, if you can't say something well. I don't mean to censor your con- Politics, religion and sex seem to be that you consider the audience and the hobby. **THE FCC DOES FORBID THE USE OF**

There is one point that cannot be emphasized strongly with someone's opinion you should confine your comments to the face meeting. **ARGUMENTS AND PERSONALITY THE REPEATERS.**

E. Dealing with jammers...

There are individuals who express opinion attention, by jamming conversations or by touch-tone commands and the autopatch. I of the club officers and trustees to deal

Please do not fulfill their need for attention by responding to them verbally, or by transmitting on top of the culprit preventing accurate bearings and from measuring key f

If you are listening when jamming occurs, whether or not you can hear a signal on the frequency, its strength, and, if possible, your location. This data should be reported Repeater trustees. (LEARA, May 1987.)

LOCH NESS MYSTERY SOLVED:

Operation Deepscan, the October 1987 search for the Loch Ness Monster, may not have conclusively proved or disproved the creature's existence, but it did uncover some interesting facts. One set of sonar returns, larger than anything recorded at such a depth, registered an inverted "V" shape. KA9OIH speculates that the creature might be induced to surface if offered a high-gain antenna such as a Yagi! (QST, February 1988 Issue.)



WINTERFEST™

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 28

*This is the
correct Date*

Vienna Community Center

120 Cherry Street • Vienna, Virginia

Vienna Repeater 146.685/.085

VIENNA WIRELESS SOCIETY, INC.

VEC EXAMS

FEBRUARY 13, 1988

FREDERICK ARC (FREDERICK, MD) (ARRL VEC) LIMITED WALK-IN
CONTACT: RICK GGDEN N3EO 301/345-2670

FEBRUARY 18, 1988

BALTIMORE ARC (TOWSEN, MD) (LAUREL VEC) WALK-IN
CONTACT: RON CERENCI 301/765-2043

FEBRUARY 27, 1988

VIENNA WIRELESS SOCIETY (VIENNA, VA) (ARRL VEC) WALK-IN
CONTACT: NANCY DRAHEIN NK4U 703/691-0078

MARCH 5, 1988

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ARC (COLLEGE PARK, MD) (WSYI VEC) WALK-IN
CONTACT: SCOTT ROSENFELD NF3I 301/963-4008

SOUTH PENINSULA ARC (ARRL VEC) WALK-IN

CONTACT: SID EVANS N4IIC 804/3511-5573

MARCH 13, 1988

MONTGOMERY/MONTGOMERY COLLEGE/ROCK CREEK/ WASH. ADVENTIST ARC (ARRL VEC)
ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUESTED
CONTACT: JOHN MULLER, 301/654-0178

MARCH 19, 1988

SUMMIT ARC (CATONSVILLE, MD) (LAUREL VEC) WALK-IN
CONTACT: N3ECR 301/922-4747

RICHMOND ARC (RICHMOND, VA) (ARRL VEC), WALK-IN

CONTACT: RON BOLTON WU4G 804/798-5191

MARCH 20, 1988

BALTIMORE RADIO AMATEUR TV SOCIETY (BALTIMORE, MD) (LAUREL VEC)
CONTACT: STEVE SILBERMAN, K3RMX 301/578-8527

MARCH 31, 1988

MONTGOMERY/MONTGOMERY COLLEGE/ROCK CREEK/ WASHINGTON ADVENTIST ARC
(TAKOMA PARK, MD) (ARRL VEC) WALK-IN
CONTACT: JOHN MULLER W3QR 301/654-0178 OR BOYD NELSON KZ3Z 301/434-0934

SWAP & SHOP

Kenwood R600 General Coverage Receiver w/500 Hz Filter --
\$275.009.

R/C Radio: Futaba Magnum Junior w/Micro Receiver and Two S32
Servos -- \$95.00.

R/C Electric Car Battery: 6 - Sanyo Nickle Cadmium Battery Packs
-- 7.2V and 8.4V, 1200 mAh -- \$12.00 to \$16.00 each.

2 Meter Linear Amplifier: TE Systems, Model 1410G, low in 170W
out, w/preamp. Factory updated and tested -- \$245.00.

HF Receiver Antenna Tuner and PreAmp. MFJ #959 1.8 MHz - 30 MHz
-- \$39.00.

If you are interested in any of the above, please contact Joe
Tutino (KB4VHK) at (703) 369-5636.

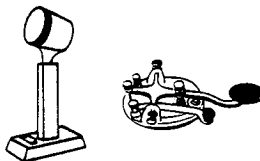
WANTED:

"Tentec 509 QRP" or HW8 -- either in good working order.
Contact: Dale (N4EDE) at (703) 368-7540.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the OVHRC will be held on Monday Night,
February 15th, 1988, at 8:00 pm, in the NOVEC Building. Please
use the side basement entrance.

DON'T FORGET, THIS MONTH'S MEETING IS ELECTION NIGHT!!!!





JOIN ARRL



BENEFITS FOR YOU: QST, QSL Bureau, Awards (DXCC, WAS, etc.), Low-Cost Insurance, Operating Aids, Government Liaison and more — Much more! For You!

USE THIS COUPON OR A FACSIMILE AND MAIL TODAY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PRO/83

Atlantic Division Director
Hugh Turnbull -- W3ABC
5903 Rhode Island Avenue
College Park, MD 20740
Phone: (301) 927-1797

Roanoke Division Director
Gay E. Milius -- W4UG
1416 Rutland Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
Phone: (804) 481-5095

Name _____ Call _____
 Street _____
 City _____ Prov./State _____ PC/ZIP _____
 \$25 in U.S./\$30 in Canada/\$33 elsewhere (U.S. funds)
 Licensed Amateurs, age 17 or under or age 65 or over, upon
 submitting proof of age, may request the special ques rate of \$20 in
 the U.S. (\$25 in Canada, \$28 elsewhere (U.S. funds).
 For postal purposes, 50 percent of dues is allocated to QST, the
 balance for membership.
 VISA or Chargex No. _____ Expires _____
 Master Card No. _____ Bank No. _____ Expires _____

The American Radio Relay League
225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 USA

AUTO-
CALL

Note:

If you are joining the ARRL for the first time and you wish to thank the ARRL-Affiliated Club that introduced you to the ARRL, please enter its 4 digit code (club members can tell you what their code is) in the space provided below.

Enter 4-digit code for sponsoring club, if any:

0 5 0 7

Ole Virginia Hams

Fun and Games with Your Calculator

- A few 'fun' things you can do with a calculator.
- * Say hello to your calculator by punching in 107734, then read the display upside-down.
 - * Multiply 33928.75 by 12 and invert to read the name of a famous Civil War battle.
 - * What does the movie "Casablanca" have in common with a weekend golfer? Enter 2562, add 97 and multiply by 12.
 - * Here are two tricks:
 - Enter your age. Double it. Add 5. Multiply by 50. Add the amount of change you have in your pocket up to \$1. Subtract the number of days in a year. Add 115. Divide by 100. Finally, push the = key. Your calculator will display two numbers to the left of the decimal — your age — and two numbers to the right — the correct amount of money. (From *The*

Calculating Book. by James T. Rogers, Random House, 1975.)

- Take the month of your birth (January = 1, February = 2, etc.) and multiply it by 100. Add the date of your birth (the first of the month = 01, etc.). Multiply by 2, add 9, multiply by 5, add 8, multiply by 10, subtract 422, add the last two digits of the year of your birth and subtract 108. The result will be your birthday. (For example, November 3, 1951 will read 110351). ~





FEBRUARY MEETING IS ELECTION NIGHT -- PLEASE, MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO ATTEND!!!!
FEBRUARY MEETING IS ELECTION NIGHT --
FEBRUARY MEETING IS ELECTION NIGHT --

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Ole Virginia Hams A.R.C., Inc.
Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA 22110



FIRST CLASS MAIL

