



Old Virginia Times

The OVH ARC Newsletter



"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110

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

JULY 1988 ISSUE

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK:

Had great weather for Field Day, and a turnout to match. Personal thanks to Curt (K4IT0) for coordinating the whole thing. Also to Skip (W4NFQ) for furnishing the site and getting it ready. I won't single out any more members because the list would be very long, but alot of people worked hard, and it sure resulted in alot of fun.

Now we can settle down to more mundane Club activities, but no less important. Don't forget Bob McCann will have a Novice Class this Fall. Spread the word and give prospects Bob's name and phone number. Also, Harry is always busy with VEC Exams, parades, bicycle rides, horse rides, and all the other activities the Club supports throughout the year.

Guess we will have a picnic coming up and, hopefully, another Christmas dinner, so I guess we will keep busy.

Lets encourage potential members (both hams and non-hams) to come to our meetings. See you at the next one.

Ed (KC4YY)

HOSPITAL REPORT:

Bernice Miller has just returned home from a stay at Prince William Hospital. From all of us, We Wish You a Very Speedy Recovery!

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)
Butch Blasdell (W4HJL)

Officers:

President -- Ed Stalder (KC4YY)
Vice President -- Joe Tutino (KB4VHK)
Secretary -- Randy Moler (KA4UFF)
Treasurer -- Steve Frick (N4OGR)

Repeater Trustee:

Art Whittum (W1CRO)

OVH Weekly Net:

Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)

Emergency Coordinator:

Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)

Repeater Controllers:

Art Whittum (W1CRO)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR)

Technical Committee:

Butch Blasdell (W4HJL)
Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ)
Milt Warnock (N4SN)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR)
Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ)
Bob McCann (N4RL)
Steve Meade (KB4OF)
Russ Stevens (WB4HHN)
Butch Blasdell (W4HJL)
Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)
Jack Gunsett (KI4VP)--Digipeater

Refreshments:

Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)

Sunshine Chairperson:

Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)

Field Day:

1988 Curt Wann (K4ITO)

Program Chairman:

Open

Club Newsletter:

Steve Frick (N4OGR)
Bonnie Frick (N4QPB)

Historian:

Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV)

Publicity Chairman:

Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV)

F.A.R. Representative:

Don Hammond (N4PYJ)

1988 Hamfest

Randy Moler (KA4UFF)

Generators:

Tom Watts (KA4FU)

Computer Committee:

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

Membership:

Ken Moan (N4NLO)

Scholarships:

Mike Feher (N4FS)

Westlink Report:

Mail List:

Dick Miller (WD4AZG)

Club Picnic:

Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)
Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)

Jack Gunsett (KI4VP)

Educational Committee:

Bob McCann (N4RL)

The Ole Virginia Times 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 request. Newsletter deadline is the 5th of each month. The Newsletter is entered as First Class Mail at the Manassas Post Office Virginia.

The Editor

WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

1988 OVH FIELD DAY REPORT

Field Day 1988 was held at Skip Justice's (W4NFQ) field June 25-26, 1988. This location, southwest of Manassas, proved to be ideal along with the weather. We struggled a bit putting up antennas but once they were up, operating conditions were great. A new antenna was constructed: a four-legged, center-fed 80M dipole which was connected to Gene's (N4HFW) TS-940. From what I heard, loading it was a "piece of cake". Tallying up the score is just starting (thanks to MaryLou - KB4EFP) and results will be available for next month's newsletter. This year we didn't participate in as many bonus point categories and I don't believe we operated as much as in previous years - however, the camaraderie was up and we added a Saturday evening steak barbecue.

No real casualties except for Art's (W1CRO) flat tire and lots of ticks to watch out for. J.R. (N4BXA) did his usual insuring there was sufficient wire; Bruce's (WD4ODM) RV made its usual appearance; and Jack (KI4VP) brought out the packet station. And of course thanks to Tommy (KA4AFU) we had lots of generator power.

Listed below are the hams I noted as coming out to the Field Day site and either helped set up, operated, ate, or socialized. Additionally, there were several XYLs and children who came out. Y'all made it a great time!!! (And if I left anyone out, call me and I'll get your name in next month along with the score.)

Dick -	WD4AZG	Bernice -	KA4SCA	Steve -	N4OGR
Bonnie -	N4QPB	Milt -	N4SN	Mike -	N4FS
Blaine -	KB4RKL	Lisa KA4RKS KA4SCA		Ed -	KC4YY
Jack -	KI4VP	Curt -	K4ITO	Tommy -	KA4AFU
J.R. -	N4BXA	Butch -	W4HJL	MaryLou -	KB4EFP
Joe -	KB4VHK	Bob -	K3QHD	Skip -	W4NFQ
Pete -	KB4RME	Greg -	N4RKV	Bruce -	WD4ODM
Gene -	AI4W	Jim -	WD4OJY	Carl -	KA1AVD
Gene -	N4HFW	Art -	W1CRO	Ken -	KB4BWM

N4RL
Bob

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

REPEATER RAMBLINGS

This is just a random series of thoughts on repeater operation. You find yourself in Fairfax County or Fauquier County or someplace other than good ole PWC. Something goes wrong. What do you do? First, try to access a repeater that covers the county or area in which you are travelling. Then pass the information to someone that can help. If you have to use the "97 Machine", then consider this: Don't try to use the autopatch unless you are SURE your signal is autopatch quality. The "mailbox" feature of the repeater will enable you to record a message for instant playback so you can hear yourself and determine your signal quality. Then, determine the nature of the "something goes wrong" situation. Life-threatening incidents need 911 attention. Other situations should be dealt with through the appropriate service's dispatcher (State police, county police, etc.) The dispatcher, in all likelihood, can relay your problem to the appropriate county/state service for the county you are travelling through.

If a situation is important enough to report, you should stop at the scene and get as much information as you can - if you can. Common sense should prevail though. For instance, a brush fire on Route 66 doesn't need an extended survey of witnesses to figure out what's going on...but a traffic accident might. In some cases where property damage is low with no personal injuries, police assistance is not required - and may not be desired by the unfortunate participants. On the other hand, the participants may very much want police assistance or more. Another case might be where a vehicle has become disabled and the driver appears to need help because of age, infirmity, confusion etc. Still another variation is the impaired driver - hopefully you are behind him. This situation needs no thesis work - get the vehicle description and tag numbers, location and direction of travel and turn him or her in to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

On the other side of the coin, what if you are monitoring and an emergency or reportable situation occurs? Help if you can. This includes advising the calling station that he's so far down in the mud that he's unreadable for telephone work. It includes relaying if you can. I guess it all boils down to common sense things. Engage brain before engaging the push-to-talk switch. Any comments or suggestions? Drop me a line or give me a call. W1CRO, PO Box 1794, Manassas, VA 22110.

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

From: WB3FFV Date: 880616/0438
Subject: NEW!! HAM-ONLY Telephone BBS !!

Hello All HAM's,

I am going to re-post this message one more time since when I posted it the last time I developed some real bad trouble with my serial ports and most people that tried never gained access to my BBS system!!

I have placed a telephone based BBS online for the amateur community at large (restricted to HAMS ONLY !!), in hopes that it will provide a medium for us to exchange files, software, and information that is related to the great world of Amateur Radio. The BBS is running on an 80386 based UNIX server, and has approximatley 190 megabytes of online storage space, which I am sure will be sufficient for our needs (hehe..). The system also has several incoming phone lines supporting baud rates of 1200, 2400, 9600, and 19,200 (9600 & 19200 with Telebit Trailblazer modems only!). To access the BBS just call the number listed below, and when you receive the 'Remote Login: ' prompt enter 'bbs', and you will be on your way. Unfortunately to keep the BBS HAM-ONLY, I must use a validation procedure, so please fill out the questionnaire when you first login and I will try to validate you within a day (sometimes less, if I am here). I am keeping copies of the most current KA9Q TCP/IP software, TheNet (NET/ROM compatible) software, and WA7MBL BBS software on the system (that I can get my hands on). I also have many letters, and modifications stored online, and with your help I hope the collection will continue to grow. If you have any questions (or problems) feel free to leave a message for me on the W3ITM-9 BBS, and I will try and get back to you as soon as possible...

WB3FFV Telephone BBS Number: (301)-335-1955 [local in Baltimore]

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 149.07 FROM AMSAT HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, DC May 28, 1988

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

As previously announced, here are the Phase 3C operating frequencies. Frequencies of Phase 3C operation have been published in ASR #173 and the upcoming ASR Special Edition #177. The frequencies also appear in June QST, page 22. The operating bandplan and schedule will be announced after launch.

Mode B: Uplink: 435.420 - 435.570 MHz
Downlink: 145.975 - 145.825 MHz
GB: 145.812 MHz
EB: 145.985 MHz
Mode JL: L Uplink: 1269.620 - 1269.330 MHz
J Uplink: 144.425 - 144.475 MHz
RUDAK up: 1269.710 MHz
L Downlink: 435.715 - 436.005 MHz
J Downlink: 435.990 - 435.940 MHz
RUDAK down: 435.677 MHz
GB: 435.651 MHz
Mode S: Uplink: 435.601 - 435.637 MHz
Downlink: 2400.711 - 2400.747 MHz
Beacon: 2400.325 MHz



SWAP & SHOP

FOR SALE: * 10MB internal hard disk drive with full length HD Controller card and interface cables. Recently removed from a Corona Data Systems Model PC-HD (Similar to IBM-PC-XT).

* AEA MBA-RO Code Reader. 32 character display. Copies CW: 3-99 WPM, RTTY: 60,66-2/3,75 and 100 WPM, ASCII: 110 baud. Runs on 12VDC @ 500 ma.

* VFO-820 Remote Variable Freq Oscillator with interconnecting cable. Originally for TS-820. I used it on a TS-520 with no problems.

Art Whittum (W1CRO)



Memo from
Harry Vorhauer

Docket 88-281:

A total of 26 people attended the Upgrade Exam given on June 18th, 1988. 57 Exam elements were given, and of these, 38 elements were passed (67% passed overall).

Before the FCC is Docket 88-281, it concerns general coverage receivers and scanners which carry a label warning that certain frequencies are forbidden to listen to. Cut off date for comments is August 5th, 1988.

- Novice Code Test -- 100% passed
- Novice Written -- 100% passed
- Advanced Written -- 100% passed
- Extra Written -- 100% passed
- Extra Code Test -- 83% passed
- General Written -- 36% passed
- General Code Test -- 18% passed

Harmonics from the Editor:

CONGRESS IS COMING TO THE AID OF HAMS:

GENERAL INTEREST:

Is your Ham License Hard to Read?:

Here is a reminder to those who receive their Amateur Radio license in the mail, expectantly tearing open the official-looking envelope, only to find that they are unable to read the call sign!

On June 14, 1988, House of Rep. Robert K. Dornan introduced H.R. 317 to save the lower 2MHz of the 220MHz band from Land Mobile Service.

Also a concurrent bill S.R. 127 was introduced by Senator Pete Wilson.

The licenses are typed on carbon copies already in the mailer--a money-saving measure for the FCC--at times making for "difficult copy" by the amateur on the receiving end!

Neither Bill will pass without the help of Hams. ARRL is asking all Hams to send letters or a QSL Card to your Senators urging them to support S.R. 127 and to your Representative urging them to support H.R. 317. Also, send a card to Perry Williams (W1UED), our ARRL Liaison, 225 Main Street, Newington, Conn. 06111, showing your support.

If you are thinking of going over the call with a pencil to darken it up, **DON'T!!** ANY alteration to the license automatically voids it. The "enhanced" license, if presented to a VE team for license upgrade, will probably be rejected.

It is a must that we hams respond by writing our Senators and Representatives, not only to save the 220 MHz Band, but other ham bands in the future. Hams have to care before others will.

If your license arrives in "unreadable" condition, simply request a duplicate license from the FCC, Box 1020, Gettysburg, PA 17326, explaining the circumstances. (The ARRL Letter, July 5th, 1988 Issue.)

So, take a few minutes, spend a few cents for postage, and send a letter or Card to let our Congress and the FCC know we want to keep **ALL** of our bands.

Get around to it!! **TOP** Do it now, before it's too late. You will be glad you did.

Editors

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. *****

Winners of OVHARC Scholarships:

The winners of this years' OVHARC Scholarships were all from Osbourne Park High School. And they are:

James Reynolds -\$1000.00 Scholarship
Monica Banyai-\$500.00 Scholarship
Christine May-\$500.00 Scholarship

Congratulations to you all!!!!!!!!!!!!

ARRL PACKET RADIO CONFERENCE

The ARRL will be hosting the Seventh Annual Packet Radio Conference Saturday, October 1, 1988. The Conference is scheduled to be held at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, near Columbia, Maryland.

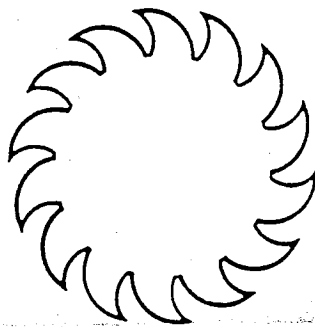
Papers are sought for this Conference, and must be submitted, camera-ready, prior to August 25, 1988. Technical papers on all aspects of Amateur Radio are invited. Those on digital techniques are of particular interest.

To submit a paper, or for further information, contact Maty Weinberg at ARRL HQ.

Grecian 'pen pal'

How would you like a radio "pen pal" in Greece? HANDI-HAM member Agis Sarakinos writes:

Dear Friends, I would like to correspond with any person who is handicapped, invalid, disabled, blind, etc. and is under depression. My address is: Dr. Agis Sarakinos, Ph.D (SVIAC'S), 4 Chiou, Chalandri, Athens, 15231, Greece.



Receivers for sale

The Courage HANDI-HAM System has a large number of old receivers for sale to the highest bidder. These were acquired in 1971 and 1972 as donations to Jim Bamberg, K4UBF, with the expectation that they would be restored and issued to members. However, more modern equipment became available and the program was ended. For information and a list of equipment, send a SASE to James B. Bamberg, K4UBF, 6701 Starcrest Dr., Charlotte, NC 28210 (704)552-2974.

Antenna set-up

The following are directions for making the KC7NS 300-ohm 2 meter J-Pole antenna (see diagram):

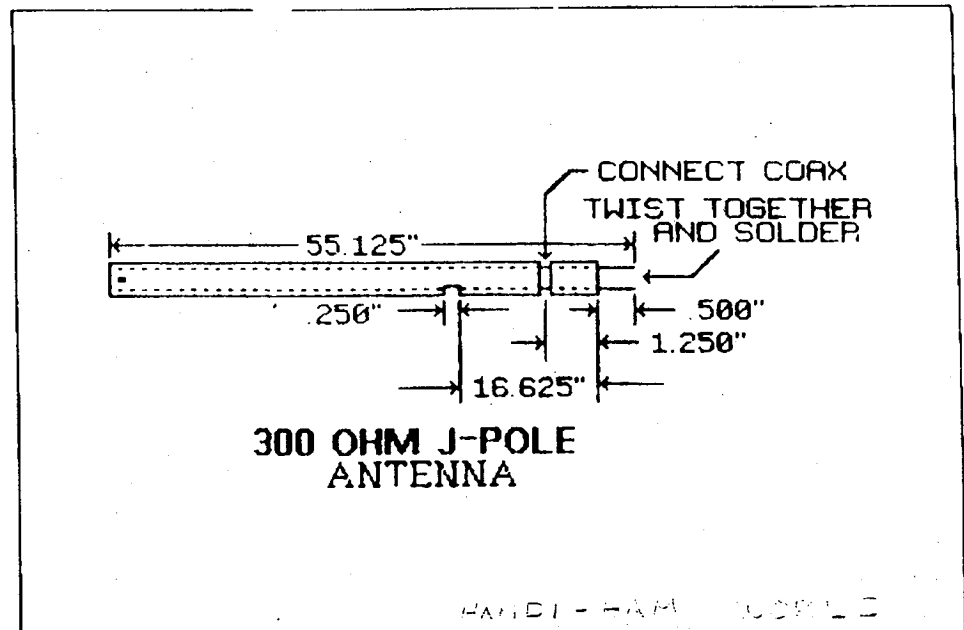
1. Cut a piece of standard 300 ohm twinlead to 55 1/8 inches.
2. At the end, strip 1/2 inch of insulation off both conductors.
3. Twist these two conductors together and solder them.

The following measurements are from the soldered end:

4. Cut one conductor to 16-5/8 inch long by cutting a 1/4 inch notch out of it at 16-5/8 inches. Do not remove the rest of the conductor on that side.

Remove enough of the insulation from both conductors at the 11-1/4 inch point to connect the coax.

6. Connect the braid of RG58/U COAX to the short (16-5/8 inch) side.



7. Connect the coax center conductor to the long side.
8. For support and protection, put a piece of heat shrink or tape over the soldered connection point.

9. Punch a small 1/16 inch hole in the insulation at the far end. Tie a string there in order to hang the antenna from the ceiling or a convenient support.

Cancelling the Call Sign of a Silent Key:

The FCC no longer deletes the call signs of Silent Keys unless their cancellation is specifically requested. Since the term of an amateur license is now 10 years, plus a two-year grace period, the family of the deceased amateur could continue to receive correspondence, based upon FCC records, for that period. In order to avoid this unwanted correspondence, families of deceased amateurs are urged to send the license, or a letter if the license cannot be found to the FCC, Consumer Affairs Office, Gettysburg, PA 17325, requesting its cancellation. (The ARRL Letter, July 5th, 1988 Issue.)

Worked All States (WAS) applicants:

Remember that postage rates for the return of your QSLs has increased. Funds needed for the safe return of cards in the US are now \$1.25 for First Class, \$2.10 for certified and \$5.75 for registered delivery. For further information, including postage rates for the return of your 5BWAS and DCC QSLs, ask for MCS Form 16 from the Special Requests desk at HQ. Please include a SASE. (QST, July 1988 Issue.)

The FCC proposed rewrite of the Amateur Radio Service rules, which was reported in last month's Highlights, is too long to reproduce here or in other Amateur Radio publications in its entirety. The government print occupies 37 pages. However, "If you have any special concerns regarding the FCC rules, or if you simply want to be well informed on a matter of great importance to Amateur Radio, you should obtain your own copy of the NPRM. A large self-addressed envelope with 85 cents postage, sent to ARRL HQ and marked 'Docket 88-139' will speed a copy back to you." (ARRL Letter, 5/13/88) The ARRL address is 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. (Auto-Call, July 1988 Issue.)

WANTED:

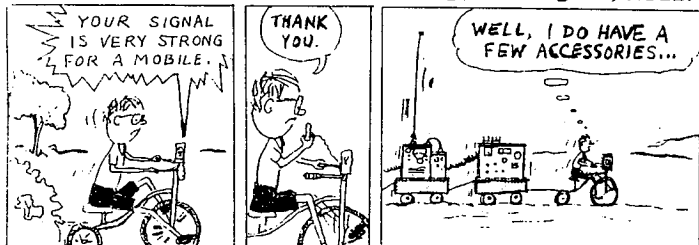
EEO employer needs a well organized, well voiced, competent person to take over the recently opened position of Chairman of the 1989 Manassas Hamfest and Computer Fair. No previous experience is necessary, will train. Great fringe benefits. Apply in person at the next Meeting, or send application to Ole Virginia Hams ARC, Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the OVHARC will be held on Monday night, July 18th, 1988, at 8:00 pm. Please use the side basement entrance. Look forward to seeing YOU there.

ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



ARRL FIELD FORUM

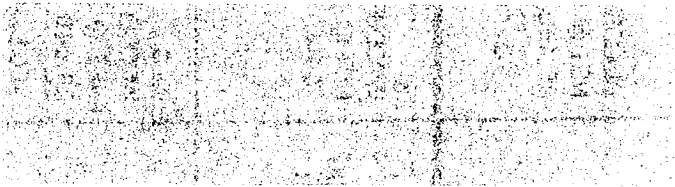
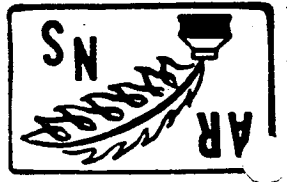
OLE VIRGINIA HAMS

CALENDAR FOR JULY AND AUGUST

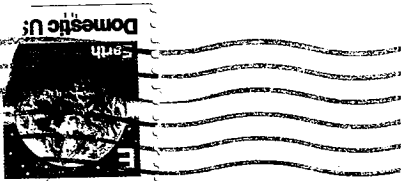
1 7 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	1 8 OVH CLUB MEETING	1 9	2 0 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	2 1 OVH NET @ 2000 146.37/97	2 2	2 3 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAMS RICHMOND, VA
2 4 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	2 5	2 6	2 7 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	2 8 OVH NET @ 2000 146.37/97	2 9	3 0 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440
3 1 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- HAMFEST HOWARD CO.	1	2	3 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	4 OVH NET @ 2000 146.37/97	5 LAST DAY FOR NEWSLETTER INPUTS	6 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440
7 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- BERRYVILLE, VA HAMFEST	8	9	1 0 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	1 1 OVH NET @ 2000 146.37/97	1 2	1 3 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAMS FREDERICK, MD
1 4 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	1 5 OVH CLUB MEETING	1 6	1 7 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	1 8 OVH NET @ 2000 146.37/97 ----- VEC EXAMS BALTIMORE MD	1 9	2 0 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440

NOTES: 1. For more information on VEC testing, contact Harry W4PVA.

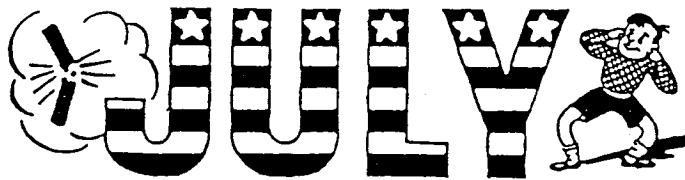
2. The Powwow net meets daily at 2100 on 28.400.



FIRST CLASS MAIL



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



INDEPENDENCE DAY