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**Ole Virginia Times**  
The OVH ARC Newsletter

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

Repeater: WA4FPM -- 146.97  
WA4FPM -- 224.66

Digipeater: WA4FPM-1 -- 145.09  
WA4FPM-3 -- 223.40

APRIL 1989 ISSUE

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK:**

The ARRL and amateur radio industry have NOT proposed a no code class of license. But, there is currently a study group formed by the ARRL to look into the matter. As of now, there is no proposal.

I quote a local ham "Remember, code does not make a good ham or keep those from using our frequencies illegally. Just listen to 75 meters or below 10 meters."

I comment -- originally code was essential because without a big pile of dollars, none of the younger ones (at that time) would ever have been able to get on the air. A bare bones code rig was the simplest, cheapest way to get on the air. Today's trend toward commercially built equipment sort of does away with that. Also code sort of limited licensing -- and still does today -- to people that would exert

that little extra effort. The result seems to have kept out **some** of the riff raff.

A No Code license deserves some serious consideration!

"73's"

Harry (W4PVA)

\*\*\*\*\*

**LET'S WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS"**

Matthew Cleland -- KA9DSQ  
Rick Rodman -- KC4BCK  
Luell Watts -- W9UUS  
John Kracke -- N4UUM

WELCOME!!! WELCOME!!! WELCOME!!!

● 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 -- Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)  
Vice President -- Joe Tutino (KB4VHK)  
Secretary -- Ken Moan (N4NLO)  
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)  
Milt Warnock (N4SN)  
Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ)  
Steve Meade (KB4OF)  
Russ Stevens (WB4HHN)  
Butch Blasdell (W4HJL)  
Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)  
Jack Gunsett (KI4VP)--Digipeater

**Technical Committee:**

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

**Refreshments:**

Woody Woodworth (N4MQ)

**Sunshine Chairperson:**

Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)

**Field Day:****Program Chairman:**

Open

**Club Newsletter:**

Steve Frick (N4OGR)  
Bonnie Frick (N4QPB)

**Historian:**

Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV)

**Publicity Chairman:**

Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV)

**F.A.R. Representative:****1989 Hamfest**

Joe Tutino (KB4VHK)  
Greg Brunacci (N4RKV)

**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:**

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



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WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO

# MANASSAS HAMFEST

## No Code Proficiency Tests At the Hamfest This Year?

As I grew up and learned about electronics, I always loved to go to hamfests for the electronic bargainers I'd find there. Of course I wanted to be a ham operator, too, but the code was hard and I didn't know any hams where I lived to give me the tests. At least, those were my excuses.

A couple of years ago, I was encouraged by a friend (Rick Brown, KK4LT) to go ahead and get my license. So, while I was struggling to get my speed up, the Manassas Hamfest came along and there was a Code Proficiency Test - unofficial, of course, but a chance to be tested in the way that I would be tested in the future.

Well, I learned right away that I needed more practice. But I was encouraged by seeing some of the people there sticking right with it all the way to 35 words per minute. Amazing! At that speed, the dots and dashes seem to turn into a continuous wave.

This year, they say there won't be any Code Proficiency tests, due to lack of interest.

Hamfests are an opportunity to show a lot of people (electronics and computer hobbyists, passersby and others who thought they were going to get a dinner of Smitfield's finest) that ham radio is fun and worth getting into. Instead of waiting to see if there will be interest, we need to **MAKE** the interest. Instead of just having people talking to each other on handie-talkies, there should be demonstrations of packet radio, radioteletype, slow-scan TV (maybe "see yourself on SSTV") from one end of the hamfest to the other). And

that's why there **SHOULD BE** Code Proficiency tests.

Contributed by:

Rick Rodman (KC4BCK)

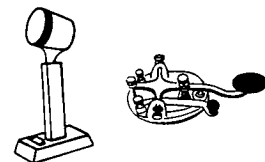
(Thanks Rick! Extremely good point, in my opinion!)--Bonnie (N4QPB)

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## OLE VIRGINIA HAMS

It's time, a little past, to say goodbye to last year's Officers. And, to say Thank You for a job well done. As we look back and contemplate the events of the past year, (the 1988 Hamfest, followed quickly by Field Day, then the Club Picnic, etc), we realize that the 1988 Officers of the Club have again, as with all past Officers, helped the Club to grow a little bit more. They have ingrained their knowledge and decisions into the history of the Club and, through their effort, guiding the Club towards it's heritage of community service and friendship through Amateur Radio. And, now as we say a heartfelt "**THANK YOU**" to our 1988 Officers, we must also say a big "**WELCOME**" to our 1989 Officers.

President - Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)  
Vice President - Joe Tutino (KB4VHK)  
Secretary - Ken Moan (N4NLO)  
Treasurer - Steve Frick (N4OGR)



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

**Prince William Bike Tour:**

Sunday, April 16th, 1989  
Check-In: 9:00 a.m.  
Tour Starts: 10:00 a.m.

The tour will begin from (and return to) Nokesville Community Park located on Aden Road (Route 646) in Nokesville.

Amateur Radio Operators have been asked to provide communications for the bike tour. Please arrive early enough to set up and test your equipment.

Hams will ride in Park Authority Vehicles, most of which are not equipped with cigarette lighter outlets. Thus, handhelds with mag mounts are desirable. If you wish to use vehicle power, a lead wire (long enough to reach between the passenger seat and the vehicle battery) with connector clips will be necessary.

Frequency used will be the 146.37/.97--Manassas Repeater.

The easiest directions are:

28 toward Culpeper  
Turn left onto Fitzwater Drive  
Take Fitzwater to Aden Road  
Turn right onto Aden Road  
Nokesville Community Park will be on the right hand side of Aden Road.

For more information, contact Harry (W4PVA).

## General Interest

### No Hams Allowed:

A Six flags Amusement Park in New Jersey reportedly is not permitting any ham radio gear to be brought into the park, claiming it causes interference to their communications. KA2QHD reports he was told that "Either I leave or the HT leaves." There were no signs posted and a no refund policy if he decided to leave rather than part with his HT. John suggests you may want to check before planning to visit any Six Flags parks. (Auto-Call, April 1988)

### But, did you know:

Disneyland has a 2 meter repeater that visiting hams are welcome, and encouraged, to use? All that the Park personnel ask is, in addition to normal contacts with other hams that you help in various situations such as a lost child, etc. (See article entitled "Mickey Mouse Repeater" in the Sept. 1988 Issue of Olve Virginia Times; and, the July 1988 Issue of ARNS.)

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Make a difference—  
**VOLUNTEER**

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**JUNE 4, 1989**  
**MANASSAS**  
**HAMFEST**  
AND COMPUTER SHOW

## ANNOUNCING THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MANASSAS HAMFEST

An ARRL approved Hamfest

### How to put up an antenna tower

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information on my recent accident. In block No. 3 of the accident reporting form, I put "poor planning" as the cause of the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

I am an Amateur Radio operator. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 ft. antenna tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and hardware down by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley which, fortunately, was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

Securing the rope at the ground level, I went up to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and hardware into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding tightly to ensure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools and hardware.

You will note in block No. 11 of the accident report form that I weigh 155 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the tower.

In the vicinity of the 40 ft. level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone.

Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I had regained



my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly to the rope in spite of my pain.

At approximately the same time, however, the barrel hit the ground, and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools and hardware, the barrel now weighed 20 pounds.

I refer you again to my weight in block No. 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 ft. level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed

me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and hardware and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools and hardware, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 ft. above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope." □



*(Editor's note: Old accident reports never disappear. They resurface again and again and again...)*

(WorldRadio, April 1989 )

Contributed by Ken (N4LTU)

# SPRING HAS ARRIVED

# Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

## General Motors Ham Survey Underway:

Do you operate your ham rig mobile from a GM truck? If so, GM is looking for some information from you.

General Motors is conducting a survey of Amateur Radio use in medium and heavy duty trucks. If you operate your rig in one of these units, please write and describe the bands you operate on, the power output and antenna location. Send responses to the following address:

EMC Department  
General Motors Proving Ground  
40-EMC  
Milford, MI 48042

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## AMSAT 10 Meter Net Operational:

A new educational 10 meter net began operations February 12. Sponsored by AMSAT, the weekly net meets on Sundays at 1900 UTC on 28.460 MHz.

The frequency was chosen to promote Novice/Technician class licensees operating, and to introduce them to OSCAR satellites.

A wide range of satellite-related topics will be discussed on the net. The level of all discussions will be "introductory" in nature.

(The ARRL Letter, Feb. 28, 1989)

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*Check your license expiration date.*

## WANTED:

Operating Manual -- instructions, parts lists, etc., for an Olympic Compact Printer, Model NP----contact Randy Moler (KA4UFF) at 991-3061.

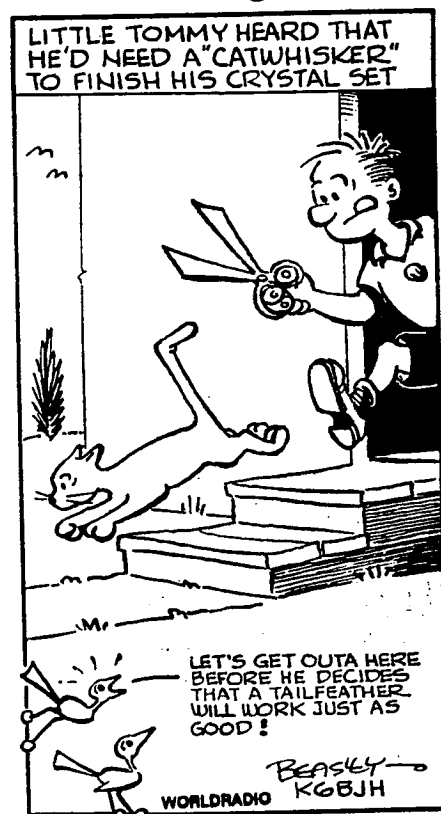
ROHN 45 Tower Sections---contact Mike Ryan (703) 451-0081.

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## NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the OVHARC will be held on Monday night, April 17th, 1989, at 8:00 pm., in the basement Meeting Room (use side entrance) of the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

## Yesteryears



Samuel F. B. Morse was a portriat artist by profession.



**MANASSAS HAMFEST  
AND COMPUTER SHOW**  
Presented By The Ole Virginia Hams A.R.C., INC.  
Sunday, June 4, 1989

AN ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST

- CONCESSIONS •      • HOURLY PRIZES •      • INDOOR EXHIBIT •

**INDOOR SPACES AVAILABLE FOR DEALER AND MANUFACTURERS**

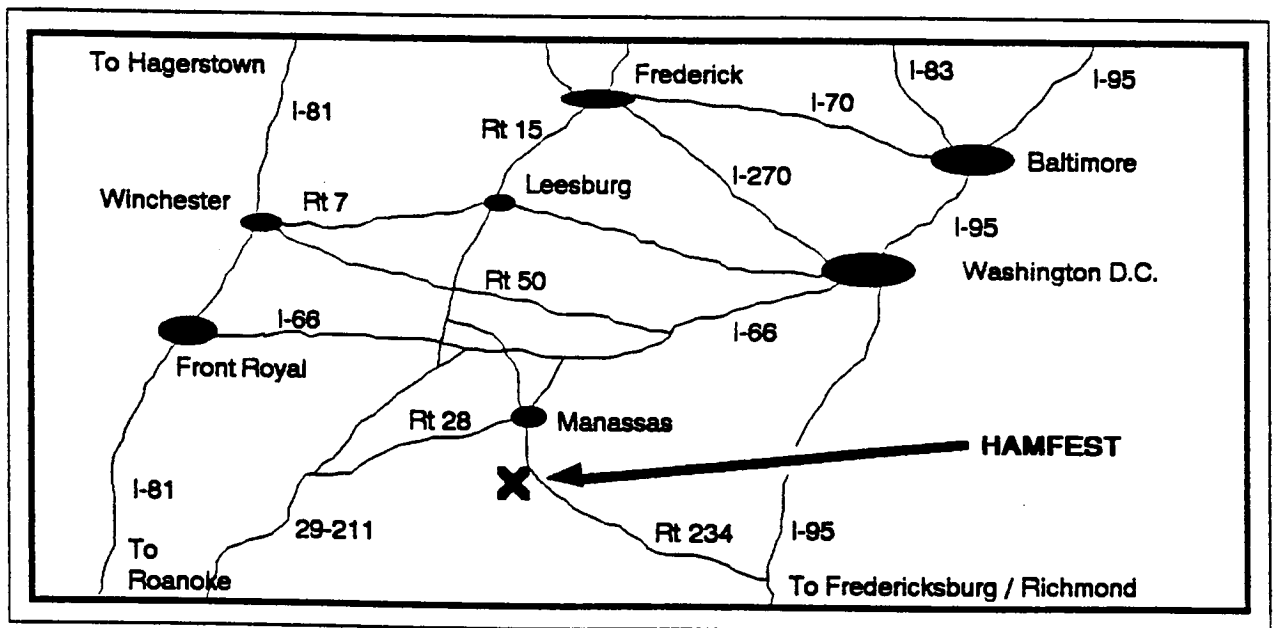
**GENERAL ADMISSION:**

\$5.00 Per-person at gate  
No advanced sales  
Children under age 12 free  
Gates open at 8:00 A.M.

**TAILGATING:**

\$5.00 Per-space in addition  
to general admission  
Ample room - 25 Acres  
Gates open at 7:00 A.M.

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 1/2 MILE SOUTH OF MANASSAS  
ON ROUTE 234, TALK IN ON 146.97 AND 224.66 REPEATERS**



Mail Request for information to:  
Ole Virginia Hams A.R.C. Inc.  
P.O. Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110

Dealers Information call:  
Joe (K4FPT) 703-368-8599

General Information call:  
Jim (WD4OJY) 703-369-3940

**"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"**  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**1989 MANASSAS HAMFEST / COMPUTER SHOW**  
Manassas, Virginia

**COMMITTEE OUTLINE**

General Chairman: Joe Tutino, KB4VHK, H 369-5636  
Greg Brunacci, N4RKV, H 680-6425

Prize Chairman: Mike Hawley, KC4IRL, H 335-1550  
Jim Lascaris, WA2QEJ (Computer)

Advertising Chairman: Jim McKinley, WD4OJY, H 369-3940

Commercial Exhibitor Chairman: Joe Schlatter, K4FPT, H 368-8599  
Jack Gunsett, KI4VP, H 361-5255

Facilities Chairman: Butch Blasdell, W4HJL, H 369-2877  
Tommy Watts, KA4AFU, H 369-2741

**Set Up/Clean Up - ALL OVH MEMBERS**

Features Chairman: Dick Miller, WD4AZG, H 791-3839

Ladies Program/Bake Sale: Bernice KA4SCA & Lisa KA4RKJ

Outside OVH Table: Jeff Barr, KB4IWD, H 830-1150  
Matthew Clark, H 361-3678

Inside OVH Table: Bill Ellis, WA4FIC, H 335-9935

Financial Chairman: Steve Frick, N4OGR, H 361-0008

Entrance/Exit Gate Chairman: Herb Plummer, W4PJP, H 754-7480

Tailgate Area Chairman: Gene Robert, N4HFW, H 361-3983

Talk-in: Harry Vorhauer, W4PVA, H 368-6050

Legal Advisor: Pete Stekedee, KB4RME, H 369-2436

Photographer: Randy Moler, KA4UFF, H 791-3061

## CALENDAR FOR APRIL AND MAY

<b>16</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- RALEIGH, NC HAMFEST	<b>17</b> <b>OVH CLUB MEETING</b>	<b>18</b>  SPRING SPRINT 1 1/4 METERS	<b>19</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>20</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 -----
<b>23</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 VEC EXAM HAGERSTOWN, MD	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91 ----- SPRING SPRINT 432 Mz	<b>27</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 -----
<b>30</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91 ----- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>4</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>5</b> VEC EXAMS PENTAGON ARC ARLINGTON, VA PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED	<b>6</b> WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAM COLLEGE PARK, MD
<b>7</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>11</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAM FREDERICK, MD TEN METER DASH
<b>14</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- MOTHER'S DAY	<b>15</b> <b>OVH CLUB MEETING</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>18</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66 ----- SPRING SPRINT 2304 Mz	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAMS WOODBRIDGE, VA

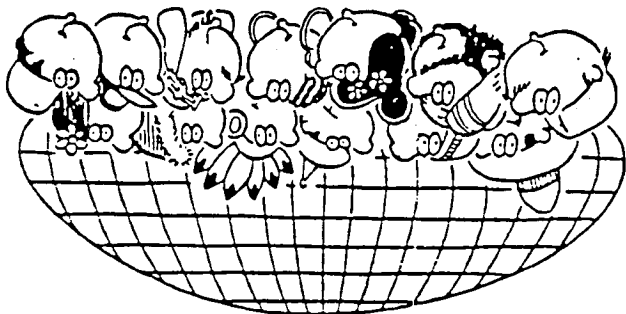
**NOTES:** 1. For more information on VEC testing, contact Harry W4PVA.  
 2. The Powwow net meets daily at 2100 on 28.400.  
 3. Dayton Hamvention, April 28th thru 30th.

AN ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST

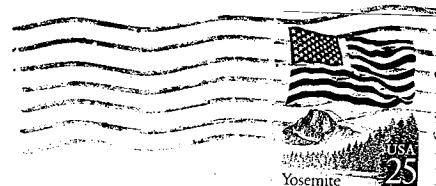
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

