



# Ole Virginia Times

The OVH ARC Newsletter



"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

## FEBRUARY 1989 ISSUE

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK:**

Well, election of Officers takes place at the February meeting. The Nominating Committee presented a good slate of candidates, and there may be more nominations from the floor prior to the election. It is obvious the Club will be in good hands for the coming year.

As I look back over the past year, many happy memories come to mind. foremost, of course, is the Hamfest. It was great, as usual. Only through the volunteer efforts of many of you (make that most of you) could this event be such a success year after year. This is our source of income and we trust it will continue to be a success for many years to come.

Not far behind is Field Day. We don't set any records, we don't operate a lot of stations, but we sure have a lot of fun, and get much experience operating under adverse conditions. Most of all, we get to know each other better.

I will enjoy the Club as a member in the back row at the meetings just as much as at the head table. If you all cooperate with the next President as much as you have with me, he (she) will certainly have no problems.

See you at the February meeting.

Ed (KC4YY)

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FEBRUARY MEETING IS ELECTION NIGHT -- FEBRUARY MEETING IS  
ELECTION NIGHT -- FEBRUARY MEETING IS ELECTION NIGHT --  
PLEASE, MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO ATTEND!!!!  
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● Listen to the Westlink Report at 8:00 pm Thursday Evenings during  
the OVH Weekly Bulletin. ●

er 1988 Curt Wann (K4ITO)

**Newsletter:** **Historian:**

Frick (N4OGR) Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV)  
Frick (N4QPB)

**Representative:** 1989 Hamfest

Joe Tutino (KB4VHK)  
Greg Brunacci (N4RKV)

**er Committee:** **Membership:**

Miller (WD4AZG) Ken Moan (N4NLO)  
Warnock (N4SN)

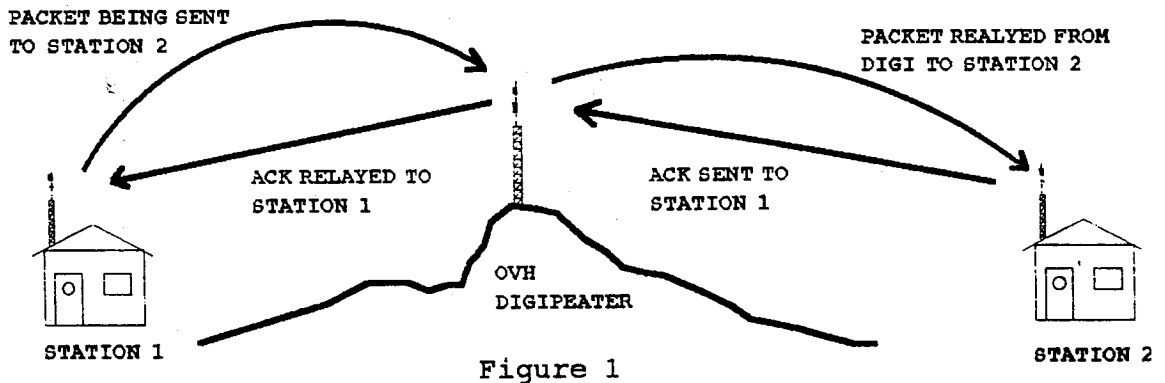
ayne (KB4NR) **Mail List:**

**ink Report:** Dick Miller (WD4AZG)

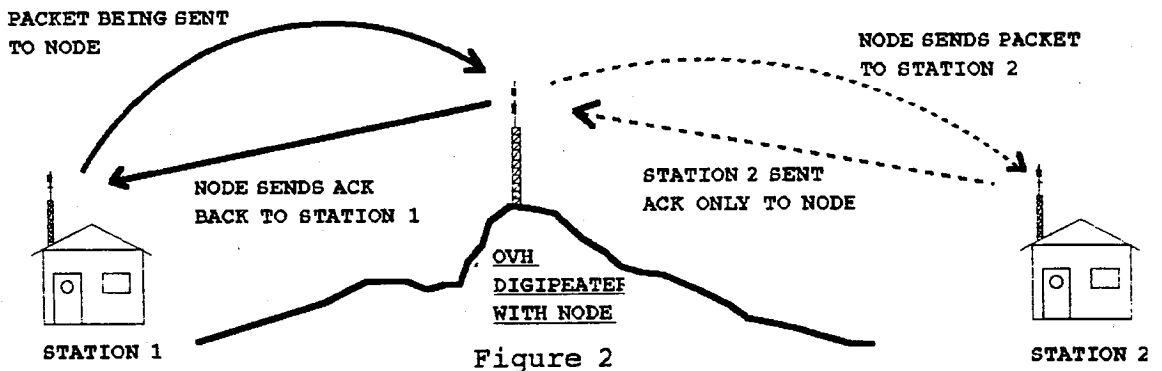
~~Gunsett (KI4VP) Educational Committee:~~

## OVH DIGIPEATER NEWS

The Ole Virginia Ham's Digipeater is staying up with the times. The latest firmware has been installed in the packet controller to give our digipeater many new features. The big feature is that the digipeater now contains a "Node". You ask what is a node? Before nodes the digipeater would simply relay packets of information through its system and relay the acknowledgment (ack) that the packet was received back to the originating station, this was called end-to-end (See Figure 1).



If we use a "Node" instead of a digipeater, each packet that is sent to the node is acknowledged back to station 1. Then the node sends the packet to the station 2. Now station 2 only has to send a ack back to the node (See Figure 2).



This method reduces the number of retries because the nodes brake the distance up into smaller links. Hope I did not confuse you too much. A lot of enhancements have been added to the Packet Mailbox and our 220 Mz side of the digipeater is operating well and seeing activity. If you would like more information on Packet, please contact Milt (N4SN) or Jack (KI4VP) or any of the many members that have become involved with this new mode.

By - Jack (KI4VP)

# OLE VIRGINIA HAMS

## General Interest

### Ohm, Volt Values to Change:

Effective in January 1990, the ohm and volt values will change worldwide--which means very sensitive instruments will need recalibrating.

In the US, the volt will change 9.2 ppm (parts per million) while the ohm will change about 1.7 ppm.

In other words, "...any voltage instrument that will read better than 50ppm (.05% accuracy) might need to be looked at"...ohm measurement instruments will need calibrating if their accuracy is within .005%

Chances are the seven- to eight-digit meters would need recalibrating, but three- to four-digit meters would not.

For more information, contact Dr. Barry Taylor at 301-975-4220.

Submitted by Steve (N40GR).  
(Excerpts taken from "Radio World", January 15, 1989 issue.)

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### Another 'bad guy':

Forest Industries Telecommunications (FIT), a trade association of forestry two-way radio interests, asked the FCC to allocate more than the proposed amount of spectrum - 3, not 2, MHz - to land mobile at 220. FIT held this position while at the same time applying to the FCC for permission to become an Amateur Radio Special Call Sign Coordinator in PRB-3!

Fortunately for amateurs, the FCC disagreed. "We do not believe the benefits of providing an extra MHz for land mobile outweigh the negative impact that it would have on the Amateur Service." ("W5YI Report", "Worldradio" Feb. 1989)

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### Tower Builder Faces Fines:

OSHA has charged a McLean, Va tower contractor with 3 safety violations regarding the collapse of an antenna in Colony, Mo, last June, which resulted in the deaths of 3 workers. If upheld the company faces possible fines of \$17,000. The 1905 foot tower, from which a TV and FM radio station broadcast, collapsed while workers were replacing diagonal rods at the 480 foot level.

OSHA classified one of the charges a serious one: classifying "serious" as one in which there is substantial probability that death or serious injury could result and that the employer knew, or should have known, of the hazard. This violation also charged that the company did not maintain a safety program nor enforced safe work procedures. ("Radio World", Jan 15, 1989).

(Note from N40GR: It should go without saying--when you need to do antenna work, always take your time, look things over carefully and thoroughly -- don't leave things to chance. Have someone with you to help or get help. Take safety precautions seriously. Remember Amateur Radio is a hobby, and it is kind of hard to enjoy it when your tower and/or antenna has fallen due to poor "planning" or lack of safety precautions and routine maintenance inspections. Not to mention injury to yourself or others!

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**JUNE 4, 1989**

**MANASSAS  
HAMFEST**

**AND COMPUTER SHOW**

**ANNOUNCING THE FIFTEENTH  
ANNUAL MANASSAS HAMFEST**

An ARRL approved Hamfest



## DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-

17 JAN 1989

U-1421/VP-PW

Editor, QST  
225 Main Street  
Newington, CT 06111

Dear Sir:

I am the Chief of the Defense Intelligence Agency Special Office for Prisoners of War and Missing in Action; I am also K4FPT. My office is responsible for collecting and analyzing information that possibly relates to Americans who remain unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. While some of the information we collect is generally accurate and some is helpful to U.S. Government efforts to account for our missing men, from time to time we encounter bogus information. Sadly, bogus information often receives greater attention than valid information.

I am writing this letter to alert the U.S. amateur radio community to an incident that occurred in October 1988 and to describe the outcome of that incident.

On 4 October, two U.S. amateurs -- in North Carolina and in Ohio -- monitored a 10-meter CW transmission. The sender claimed to be one of "700 U.S. Marines" being held prisoner near Hanoi and used the name "John Gefton." This transmission included several SOS calls and pleaded for anyone receiving the transmission to notify U.S. officials. The amateur in North Carolina tape-recorded a portion of the transmission. Both U.S. amateurs noted that the transmission had a very rough, chirpy note.

On 6 October, the North Carolina amateur monitored what he believed to be the same transmitter on almost the same frequency. At that time, the station was signing a Swiss call sign, was in contact with Canadian and U.S. stations and indicated that he was located near Geneva. In checking the call book, the U.S. amateur noted that no such call sign appeared in the Swiss listings. He notified the FCC, who monitored the transmissions and conducted direction finding. Also, the North Carolina amateur tape-recorded most of the 6 October transmission.

Analysts in my office interviewed both of the U.S. amateurs and spoke with the FCC Monitoring and Enforcement Division. In the first place, there are not "700 Marines" still missing in Southeast Asia. Fewer than 300 Marines are unaccounted for. Secondly, there is no one missing with the name "John Gefton" or any reasonable variation thereof.

Most important, however, is the technical evidence analyzed by the FCC. In comparing the 4 and 6 October tape recordings, the FCC concluded that both signals originated from the same transmitter. The FCC DF'ing located the transmitter in Europe; lines of bearing encompass Geneva. Furthermore, the lines of bearing, if extended around the globe, do not come close to Vietnam.

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS

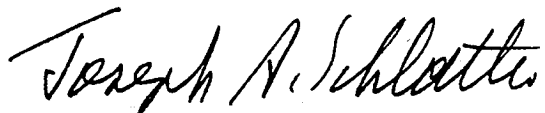
Thus, based on both internal and external evidence, we have concluded that the 4 October "distress" signal was a hoax, probably originating from a bootlegger in Switzerland.

I feel it is important that this information be disseminated among the U.S. amateur community for two reasons. First, I understand that some details of this caper were printed in one or more amateur newsletters, and I want to ensure that the outcome receives the same coverage as the initial report. Secondly, I want to advise U.S. amateurs of what to do if any such incident comes to their attention in the future.

If anyone should monitor any transmissions alleging knowledge of, or in any way connected with, Americans missing in Southeast Asia, please do the following:

- a. Tape record the transmission.
- b. Note frequency, time, date, type signal.
- c. Obtain a beam heading.
- d. Copy if it is a CW signal, gist if it is voice.
- e. If possible, notify nearest FCC field station and ask them to DF the signal.
- f. Notify me: Colonel Joe Schlatter, DIA Special Office for PW/MIA or one of the analysts in my office. You should telephone collect, (202) 694-4708 or (202) 695-0501. Follow up by writing: DIA, Special Office for PW/MIA, Room 2E230, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20340-5390.
- g. Monitor on or near the same frequency for several days.

The U.S. Government is exerting every effort to obtain the fullest possible accounting for our men missing in Indochina. My office has 39 full-time intelligence professionals dedicated solely to this issue. We are assisted by teams in Southeast Asia collecting information and by the entire spectrum of U.S. intelligence and diplomatic activities. General John W. Vessey, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serves as the President's personal POW/MIA Emissary to Vietnam and continues to have close contact with Vietnamese officials, urging them to cooperate in reaching the accounting we seek. The support for this issue from Congress, veterans, the general public and -- most importantly, the families of the missing men -- is superb. Sadly, answers to the fates of these men are not yet available to the U.S. Government. The answers lie with the Indochinese communist governments. Their cooperation recently has improved and the uncertainty of over 100 families has been ended in the past few years.



JOSEPH A. SCHLATTER  
Colonel, USA  
Chief, Special Office for Prisoners  
of War and Missing in Action



# **AMATEUR RADIO NEWS RELEASE**

## **For Immediate Release**

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to award thirty-two (32) scholarships for the academic year 1989--1990 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of fifty local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds four of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. It administers, without cost to the donors, seven (7) scholarships for the Quarter Century Wireless Association, five (5) for the Baltimore, (MD) Amateur Radio Club, three (3) for the Radio Club of America, and two (2) each for the Dade (FL) Radio Club, the Amateur Radio News Service, the 10-10 International Net, and the West Allis Radio Amateur Club of Milwaukee. It also administers one (1) each for the Richard G. Chichester Memorial, the Young Ladies' Radio League, the Columbia (MD) Amateur Radio Association, the Frederick (MD) Amateur Radio Club and the Vienna (VA) Wireless Society.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. Some of the scholarships require the holding of at least an FCC GENERAL Class license or equivalent. The awards range from \$500 to \$2000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs.

Additional information and an application form can be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to May 31, 1989 from:

FAR Scholarships  
6903 Rhode Island Avenue  
College Park, MD 20740

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purpose of the Amateur Radio Service.



AFFILIATED

## Swap & Shop

FOR SALE: Radio Shack TRS-80 Model 1 with Monitor--\$40.00; Model 3--\$50.00; MC-10 Micro Color Computer--\$40.00; Computer Terminals: Direct 820--\$75.00; HP 2622A--\$75.00; HP2640B--\$60.00; HP2645A--\$75.00; Heathkit Apache AM/CW Trasmmitter--\$100.00; Much, Much More!! Xerox 820 Computer system with monitor and two 5 1/4" drives, two 8" drives and decwriter II wide-carriage printer--\$175.00. Contact: Mike (N4FS) at 361-8318.

FREE FOR THE ASKING: Whip antenna for a Drake TR22 or TR33 2 Meter hand held. Contact: Harry (W4PVA) at 368-6050.

FOR SALE: Tandy 1000 EX Computer System, 640 K Ram, Serial Card, 1200 Baud Hayes Modem, Color CM-5 Monitor, DMP-105 Dot Matrix Printer and two 5 1/4 Disk Drives. Complete--\$1500.00. Contact: Greg Lesko at 335-1993.

FOR SALE: Yaesu 2 M FT-209RH Handie Talkie -- \$225.00; 70cm (440) FT-709R Handie Talkie --\$250.00. Contact: Greg (N4RKV) at 690-5949.

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### CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Mike Hawley on getting his "ticket". His call is KC4IRL!! We look forward to hearing you on the "air"!

### CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Joe Tutino (KB4VHK) on upgrading to General!

### CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Ken Miller (N4LTU) on becoming a member of the WIAW Kilowatt Club.

### NEW AUTOPATCH ACCESS:

The new AutoPatch Access Code will go into effect on March 1, 1989. For those of you that have paid your dues up to February 12, 1989, your Membership Card with Access Code is attached to this issue of the Newsletter. For those of you that have not paid your dues, Membership Cards can be obtained at the next monthly meeting as soon as your dues are paid!!

### NEXT MEETING:

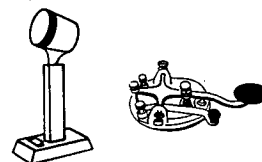
The next meeting of the OVHARC will be held on Monday night, February 20th, 1989, at 8:00 pm, in the basement Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia, at 8:00 pm. Please use the side entrance located on the left side of the building.

**DON'T FORGET**---at this meeting we will be voting for new Officers!

**ALSO**---We will also have a slide show presentation from the Co-Op Extension from VPI. (Re-scheduled from last month!)


**SO**--make a point of being at the February meeting! Hope to see you there!!!

"73's"

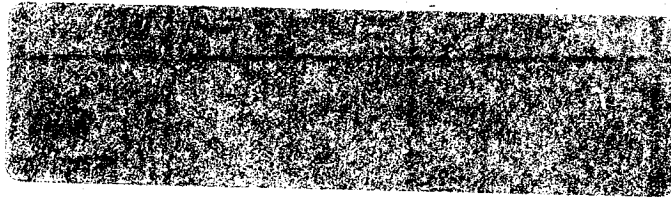
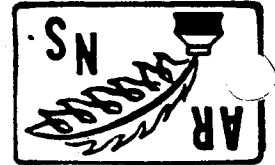




# CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

<b>21</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340		<b>22</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>23</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAMS VIENA, VA
<b>OVH CLUB MEETING</b>		WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY			
<b>26</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>2</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAMS COLLEGE PK., MD
<b>27</b> WINTERFEST VIENA, VA					
<b>5</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>9</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAMS HARRISONBURG VA
<b>6</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE					
<b>12</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>16</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b> WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440
<b>13</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340					
<b>19</b> AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	<b>23</b> OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440
	<b>20</b> <b>OVH CLUB MEETING</b>				

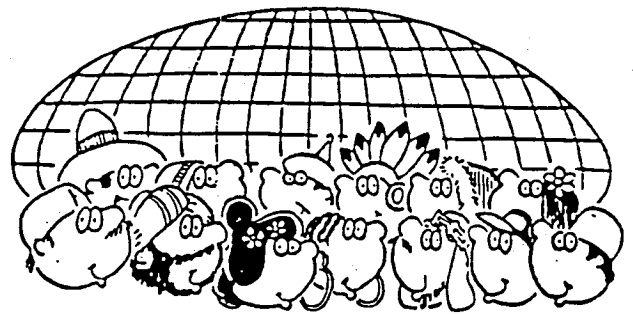
**NOTES:** 1. For more information on VEC testing, contact Harry W4PVA.  
2. The Powwow net meets daily at 2100 on 28.400.



FIRST CLASS MAIL



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



WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO

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**MANASSAS HAMFEST  
AND COMPUTER SHOW**

Presented By The Ole Virginia Hams A.R.C., INC.

**Sunday, June 4, 1989**

AN ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST

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