



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

MARCH ISSUE 1989

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK:

The new 1989 Administration is now installed and I hope to justify your selection for President of the Ole Virginia Hams ARC.

I am quite sure that your selections for the other offices will do quite nicely.

All the current committee appointments will continue as previously arranged EXCEPT for the Education Committee. It seems that Bob McCann, N4RL, will not be able to continue in this capacity - due to medical problems (our best wishes go with you Bob). Therefore, a replacement is in order. I ask, please, each member to give this some consideration. If you can help or can come up with something, please pass it along to me.

I have been somewhat alarmed concerning the proposed Canadian Amateur frequency deletion of the entire 220 MHz band. According to some reports, commercial interests in Canada want to gobble up this entire band. My concern takes the form of a series of questions:

1. What will result on this side of our common border?
2. How will, if the 220 MHz band is deleted in Canada, this affect U.S.Hams?
3. How will it affect us here in Virginia?

Since this is a Canadian matter, they will decide what comes to pass -- only time will tell us the results.

As all probably know, on Monday - meeting night - the repeater transmits an "M" as a beep. This is a reminder of the meeting -- see you there!

Harry (W4PVA)

● 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: OVH Weekly Net: **Emergency Coordinator:**
Art Whittum (W1CRO) Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA) Harry Vorhauer (W4PVA)

Repeater Controllers: **Technical Committee:** **Refreshments:**
Art Whittum (W1CRO) Butch Blasdell (W4HJL) Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)
Tim Wayne (KB4NR) Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ)
Milt Warnock (N4SN) Tim Wayne (KB4NR) **Sunshine Chairperson:**
Jim Lascaris (WA2QEJ) Bob McCann (N4RL) Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)
Steve Meade (KB4OF) **Field Day:**
Russ Stevens (WB4HHN) 1988 Curt Wann (K4ITO)
Butch Blasdell (W4HJL)
Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)
Jack Gunsett (KI4VP)--Digipeater

Program Chairman: **Club Newsletter:** **Historian:**
Open Steve Frick (N4OGR) Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV)
Bonnie Frick (N4QPB)

Publicity Chairman: **F.A.R. Representative:** **1989 Hamfest**
Gregg Brunacci (N4RKV) Joe Tutino (KB4VHK)
Greg Brunacci (N4RKV)

Generators: **Computer Committee:** **Membership:**
Tom Watts (KA4FU) Dick Miller (WD4AZG) Ken Moan (N4NLO)
Milt Warnock (N4SN)

Scholarships: **Mail List:**
Mike Feher (N4FS) Tim Wayne (KB4NR)
Westlink Report: Dick Miller (WD4AZG)

Club Picnic: Jack Gunsett (KI4VP) **Educational Committee:**
Bernice Miller (KA4SCA)
Mary Lou Blasdell (KB4EFP)

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

General Interest

ARRL BULLETIN NR 8:

FCC has opened the 18 MHz band for Amateur operation. Stations with General, Advanced and Extra Class Operators are now authorized to use the band from 18.068 to 18.1158 MHz. A1A emissions may be used in the whole band. Digital emission F1B for direct printing, telemetry, telecommand and computer communications is permitted below 18.110 MHz and analog emissions such as FAX, SSTV and Phone may be used from 18.110 up. The normal power limit of 1500 watts output applies, but amateur operations must not cause harmful interference to U.S. Government and Foreign fixed service operations. The authorization is contained in a report and order in PR Docket 88 467. Under its terms and those of WARC 79, the band becomes exclusively Amateur on July 1, 1989.

WRITING LETTERS To The Editor:

Amateurs anywhere can be attacked by unwarranted legislation and regulation at any time. It is a shame when Amateur Radio operators fall victim to some half baked ideas cooked up by politicians trying to make their futures by attacking rather than building. Amateurs need to have their opinions showing up on these editorial pages. We must fight on this intellectual battlefield in addition to all else we do combating ignorance.

Letters to the editor are important because they can indicate strong community support those in the media may not have known was there. The editors expect associations and clubs to ship a letter on the club station[a]rly protesting a proposed

antenna height restriction. Though that letter may represent several hundred hams in a community, it still is only one letter on his desk. If everyone writes, all of a sudden he has a pile on his desk. First, you are getting his attention. Then when one of the letters gets published you have your point of view before the public. The facts are now where they belong. You can debunk some of the myths. It is a good feeling.

Here are some general guidelines for those writing to your legislators and other regulating agencies. Keep in mind, always, you are a citizen and a voter in this society and not only deserve to be listened to but also have a responsibility to speak up if you see something wrong.

1. Have a clear goal in mind with your letter. Define your ideas and know exactly what you want to say. An outline may be helpful, at least make a list. Organize your thoughts so they can be easily followed.
2. Respond to a particular article or news item that is already in the paper when possible. If it hasn't been in the paper, the editor may have already decided his readers aren't interested. You need to be relevant.
3. Respond in a timely fashion. In the news business an item must be "hot" enough. Time is a critical factor.
4. Don't get hysterical. A bunch of wild claims, ranting with a flock of unsubstantiated rumors, and name calling can present the editor with a piece that will show your side as an ignorant shouting rube. This kind of letter does more good for the opposition, if published, than for the side you want to help.
5. Be clean in your writing. Make sure grammar is correct, use a dict-

MANASSAS HAMFEST

ionary, and use a typewriter double spaced. Don't use a bunch of attention getting gimmicks like capital letters and underlining. The editor doesn't want to do a lot of work on your letter. He wants to decide what to emphasize. Both are his job. Make it easy for him.

6. Be persistent. Only a few letters are published each day. The odds just from that perspective are formidable. Writing puts one more letter in the editor's mailbag from your point of view. It lets the editor know there a lots of folks interested, thus enhancing the odds that someone with your point of view will be selected. He can't ignore a lot of letters that convey the same idea.

7. Keep it short. One page, double spaced is almost an absolute maximum. If you can say what you want with a paragraph or two, and a catch phrase, you will be remembered. No one quotes an entire novel to get an idea across. Try to say what you want in one page and make an attempt to shorten it from there. A shorter letter almost always will be picked over a long letter that says the same thing.

8. Be a real person. Give your name, address, and telephone number to the editor. If you have a problem with the publication of your name, tell him, but he deserves to know the source of material he is publishing. If you have particular qualification and are somewhat of an authority in the subject your are writing about, so much the better, and this should be indicated. Anonymous letters don't go very far.

9. Get to know the editor's name, write to him directly and be respectful.

(January 1989, ARRL Field Forum as printed in ARNS Buletting, February 1989.)

NEW NO-CODE AMATEUR RADIO TEST:

By KC3YB from GEARVAKF Newsletter, via VA DX CC Newsletter, Carol Shrader, WI4K, Editor

According to an un-informed source within the FCC, the No-Code license may soon be implemented. Additionally, in a simultaneous action, the FCC will abolish the current five amateur license classes. "One size fits all," according to the FCC Chairperson. "Either you have it or you don't," he said. Citing the frequently heard CW defense that "the code test keeps the riffraff out," he explained that the new written test will have the same effect.

"GEARVAKF BULLETIN" special investigative reporter, R. Jonquil Sumaria, recently learned the full test of the new No-Code amateur radio operator's test through a secret inside-FCC source known only as "Deep Transmitter." According to Deep Transmitter, Samaria reports, there is only one copy of the new test. Therefore, the contents had to be memorized before being leaked to reporter Sumaria. The "GEARVAJF Bulletin" is fortunate to have obtained a copy of the memorized text and is publishing the questions here.

THEORY: Explain in 1,000 words or less the principle of operation of the PNP transistor. Use of the word "hole" will disqualify your answer. You may use any ancient language except Greek or Latin.

PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE: The box inside your desk contains a piece of Gaenium Arsenide. You will be taken to an abandoned copper mine and supplied with a pocket knife and a ball of twine. You have one hour to construct an operation SSB transmitter and contact at least ten DX countries, three of which must have

official names beginning with the letter "Q". Use the DX contacts to foster international goodwill.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: Select a hurricane of your choice. Precede it through three states establishing a series of portable locations. Utilizing either solar or pedal power and a long wire antenna, establish and maintain contact with the GEARVAKF Memorial Ham Station at GEARVAKF Headquarters as the storm passes overhead on four occasions. Loss of contact for any reason will result in disqualification. (ARNS Bulletin, Feb. 1989)

Westlink Report:

Amsat says 10 M F.M. operators are creating havoc with satellite Mode A operations. According to the approved band plan 29.300 - 29.500 MHz is set aside for satellite operations. 29.500 - 29.700 MHz is set aside for F.M. repeater and simplex.

NEW "OARS" BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

The beloved "Operating An Amateur Radio Station" was the operating bible of many a neophyte ham of yesteryear. It has not been available in recent years, but you have asked for it back and you got it! The "new" 48-page "OARS" is again available from ARRL HQ for \$1.00.

This popular booklet traces its beginning to a four-page pamphlet called "Rules and Regs". It has undergone many changes and updates since those days, with this latest revision bringing this popular guide in line with current operating practice.

ANNOUNCING THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MANASSAS HAMFEST

An ARRL approved Hamfest

The new book covers such topics as basic operating techniques, logging, QSLing, message handling, awards available and operating activities.

The background of the League is discussed, and the field organization is broken down into "digestible" size bits. "OARS" is designed to assist traffic handlers by giving principles and procedures, now updated to include packet radio. (The ARRL Letter, Feb. 11, 1989)

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

Due to conflicts of interest and a slight lack of interest from Club Members, I am resigning my position as Editor of the **Ole Virginia Times** effective April 1st, 1989.

It is very hard to put a Newsletter together with no input (or very little input) from Club members. There are only 4 people who I can count on to put articles in the Newsletter. Which means that Steve (N4OGR) and myself were doing most of the work. Due to conflicts of interest with my other hobbies, I find I can no longer spend as much time as necessary to put together a Newsletter with very little contributions from Club members. Thus, this is the last issue of the **Ole Virginia Times** which I will edit. It has been fun, and a lot of hard work. And, it has been nice to work with all of the contributors. I am sure that the new Newsletter Editor can count on their support as much as I did.

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



Wanted:

Newsletter Editor for the Ole Virginia Times. Position to be available April 1st, 1989.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the OVHARC will be held on Monday night, March 20th, 1989, at 8:00 p.m., in the basement Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

Create a weak link

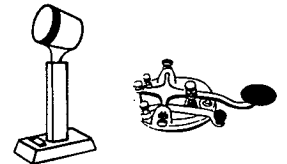
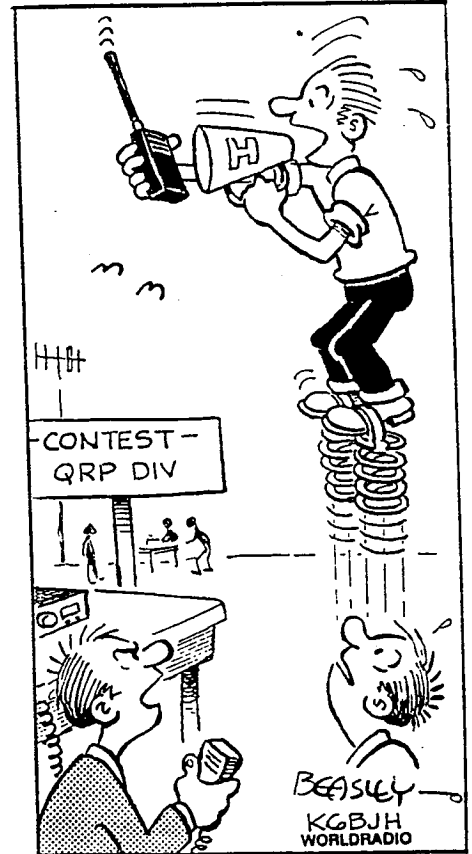
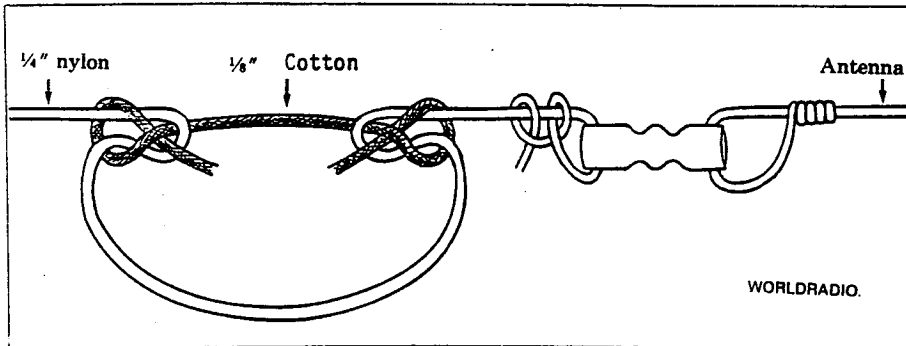
John Young, WA8KNE

I have several wire antennas strung between pine trees. These make nice antenna supports but do tend to sway in the wind, breaking the wires and ropes. You can get control of the trees by giving them something they can

break without causing a problem.

I make a 2' loop in my support ropes and close it with a piece of light cotton line which will break before anything else in my antenna. When the cotton breaks, the loop is opened and the antenna gets 2 feet of slack and will not break.

—Beaches ARS, Jacksonville, FL □



YAD SLOOF LIRPA YAD SLOOF LIRPA YAD SLOOF LIRPA

A	Raffle ... Now hear this ... Raffle	A
P	At the next meeting a Icom 781	P
R	(Rack mounted HF transceiver)	R
I	and a Henry 3KW Amp WILL BE RAFFLED OFF	I
L	If this is not enough to get you to	L
	come out to the meeting the above	
F	station comes with a 120 foot tower	F
O	and a Hy-Gain TH-7 antenna that the	O
O	club members will install for you.	O
L		L
S	<u>YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN</u>	S

YAD SLOOF LIRPA YAD SLOOF LIRPA YAD SLOOF LIRPA

CALENDAR FOR MARCH AND APRIL

19	AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- VEC EXAMS BALTIMORE, MD	20	OVH CLUB MEETING	21		22	NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	23	OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	24		25	WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- CQ WORLD WIDE PREFIX CONTEST
26	AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- CQ WORLD WIDE PREFIX CONTEST	27		28		29	NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	30	OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	31		1	WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAMS COLLEGE PK., MD & TIMONIUM, MD
2	AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- TIMONIUM HAMFEST	3		4		5	NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91 ----- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	6	OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	7		8	WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 ----- VEC EXAMS STERLING PARK VA
9	AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	10	SPRING SPRINT 2 METERS	11		12	NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	13	OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	14		15	WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440
16	AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 ----- RALEIGH, NC HAMFEST	17	OVH CLUB MEETING	18	SPRING SPRINT 1 1/4 METERS	19	NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.31/91	20	OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	21		22	WOODBRIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440

NOTES: 1. For more information on VEC testing, contact HarryW4PVA.

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

3. VA state QSO Party, sponsored by Sterling Park ARC, 1800Z 3/18/89 to 0200Z 3/20/89