



Old 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

HARRY'S HAPPENINGS

A Problem:

A number of times, especially during public service events, I have heard a station on the operating frequency with a microphone "stuck" in the "ON" frequency (perhaps someone was sitting on it). The next thing heard was another station coming onto the frequency with "all stations check your mike".

The statement "check your mike" is not real helpful to the person with the "stuck" mike as he/she can not hear the announcement due to the characteristics of a transceiver!

If background activities/noise, etc., allows one to personally notify the operator with the "stuck" mike, please do so. Other than that, the only solution I know of is to wait until the operator with the "stuck" mike discovers the problem and then after the mike is freed, ask them to be careful.

If you are covering a special event, or just listing at home, or are mobile, and have not heard anything for some time, check your own mike (or batteries). It could be you we all hear!

An Interesting Case:

RG8/U cable has approximately 3DB/100 foot loss at 150 MHz (about 2 Meters).

If an antenna with an input VSWR of 2:1 is connected to the end of a 100 foot long RG8/U cable and the transmitter end of the cable measured, it will read 1.4:1 VSWR. In fact, an antenna VSWR of 5:1 will measure only 2:1 at the end of the 100 foot RG8/U coax cable.

This apparent loss of VSWR (or better match) is due to cable losses (called attenuation).

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

Since RG58/U has about 7DB/100 foot loss -- a similar reduction in VSWR will be observed with only 40 feet of the cable.

Please note: This is at 150 MHz which is close to 2 Meter wavelength.

Transmission Lines:

All transmission line has losses. These losses are expressed in DB/100 ft of the line. The losses are higher for higher frequencies when a given transmission line is used.

At a 40 Meter frequency, the losses of RG8/U and RG58/U are small enough to not be a factor when choosing a transmission line to feed an antenna.

Electrical Length:

The characteristic of a transmission line is to slow down the propagation of radio energy through it. Different types of lines cause different slowing factors. This slowing is due to the type of electric used in the transmission line.

Since the input frequency is constant and the propagation of energy is slowed, the electrical length of a given piece of line is longer in wave length than its physical lengths. Sections of line used for phasing elements in a driven array must take this "Coefficient of Propagation" into account.

License Expiration:

Check the expiration date on your license. A ten year license carries a two year "period of grace". That is, you may go two year beyond expiration and still renew without a re-examination, but the expired license is NOT valid during this period and you are OFF the air until the license is renewed. It is my understanding that call signs/licenses renewed within the grace period will have new call signs issued from the normal alphabetical listing. So, renew on time if you want to keep your present call sign.

I have a supply of 610 Forms available upon your request. It is to be noted that these carry the expiration date "12/31/89". However, the FCC has announced it will continue to accept these 610 Forms until further notice.

Another note -- in the event of a ham's demise, the survivor should notify both the FCC and the ARRL if no further ham related mail is desired. This will not cure all of the mail sent to the "silent key", but it will stop most of the mailings.

73's

Harry (W4PVA)

Pro-2005
A Product Review

de
NS5N

Do you have a favorite frequency that you like to listen to almost all of the time? Does it program into your new handheld radio? Most of them do now days. The big problem is that we don't sit on the same frequency day in and day out like we used to. For 2 Meters, I was always on the local repeater, and not just because that was the only pair of crystals that I had, but because I didn't really feel I had a need to be elsewhere. On HF, there were the favorite frequencies for each band and mode also.

Time and awareness have changed. Most of us frequent more than one repeater and have an avid interest in listening to public service calls, too. It may be because we now live in the most traffic congested area in the work, (at least it seems that way at times), but listening to police and emergency calls has become a way of life on the long hauls to and from work. Also, there is the dependency upon more than just the local repeater, just in case!

If there is a receiver that does it all or better than the PRO-2005 does, then it, at the very least, is well outside my meager means of income. This wonderful Christmas present from the XYL allows me to copy FM, WFM and AM of four distinct groups of frequencies: 25-520 MHz, 760-823.945 MHz, 851-868.945 MHz and 896-1300 Mhz. Trust me, this is a lot of ground to scan! Fortunately, there are 400 channels which can be programmed. Since Christmas, I have managed to program about 40 of them.

What first appealed to me about this unit was that it covers the 220 Mhz band. I had not run across a scanner which would do this. It covers all amateur bands above 25 Mhz. That is alot in itself. Now covering this much frequency does create problems. Scanners have always generated their own "birdies" and this one is no exception. It lists 337 birdies all its own and, yes, they are there. They are, however, no problem. "WHAT"? You say. "How can 337 birdies not be a problem?" By the use of a small, front panel switch labeled "sound squelch". When the scanner comes across a frequency or birdie that is unmodulated, it waits for 0.5 seconds for modulation. If no is detected, it goes on. On my other scanners, I used to scan bands and work on other projects at the same time only to discover that about 5 minutes after I started the scan, it locked up on a birdie and never scanned again. No more problems of that nature!!!!

The unit has a very small footprint (3X8X8) and is housed in an attractive cabinet. It is powered by 120 VAC or 13.8 VDC and has a 9 VDC memory back up. It comes with a sectioned antenna or you may use the antenna connector on the rear panel for an outdoor type. There is also a tape output, internal speaker and external speaker jack. I won't go into the tech aspects such as the sensitivity and such, but suffice to say that it can and does hear. The soft green display even has a dimmer for low light levels. I feel the unit is work it and will probably be the last unit I will buy for some time!

73's

de
J. Edgar (NS5N)

Independent Hill 220 Repeater:

On the air, at Independent Hill, is a new 220 Repeater, KB4CVL -- 224.34 Output, 222.740 Input.

Also, for Packeters, on 145.670 is KB4CVL-7 Node, KB4CVL-3 Gateway and KB4CVL-1 PBBS. Try these to crossconnect to 2 Meters from 220, from 220 to 2 Meter Packet, and also as a path to the popular DCA Node Stack.

On the air 24 hours a day

73's

Mike (KB4CVL)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Maryland Emergency Phone Net:

The Maryland Emergency Phone Net (MEPN) is a club, a member of the National Traffic System (NTS) and meets every night on 3920 kHz at 1800 Local for the purposes of training operators in net procedures and traffic handling; to handle traffic for Maryland and the District of Columbia; and to establish communication links in these areas so that, in the event of an emergency requiring Amateur Radio communication assistance, the MEPN will be prepared to exercise these links until the emergency subsides.

All Radio Amateurs are invited to participate in the MEPN, and those wishing to join the club and receive the monthly bulletin and roll-call sheet should contact either K3RXK or K3ONU. Yearly dues are \$7.00. There are currently 65 members.

We would really welcome some new blood into the traffic handling side of ham radio, and we need liaison to both the SSB and CW nets to which we belong, and who are the main gateways into and out of MDC. A few nights a week would be all you have to volunteer. Even packet now has a legitimate liaison responsibility to our net. Something for everyone, and everyone is welcome....

Pud - W3DQI

(Auto-Call, Sept., 1990)

Just for Laughs:

We hear rumors that Joe is having some marital problems. His wife, Mary, is a computer buff. Joe isn't. And that is the source of most of the problems. When Mary commented that she had some Bugs in her program, Joe went out and got a can of Raid. Mary wasn't impressed. Then Joe came in to watch Mary work and brought in his cup of coffee and a crumbly cookie. Mary chased him out. "Absolutely no food is allowed in the computer room," she told him. Looking at her computer he asked, "Does this include Apples?" But the crowning blow came when Mary sat down at her desk the next day and put her fingers into a rat trap! It seems Joe overheard her talking about having a Mouse on her computer. (Auto-Call, Sept. 1990)



Radio Interference Bulletins:

The Baltimore office of the FCC has a number of new Bulletins regarding radio interference which have been researched and written to aid the public in locating and resolving a number of different types of interference. Each bulletin (or "Monitor", as they are called) deals with one specific type of interference source and possible solutions.

The "Monitors" are exceptionally well done and should be in the library of every Amateur Radio club -- if not on the shelf of every Amateur Radio station. In fact, I would like to see them in the hands of every consumer in the country. Author Joycelyn Walls, the Public Affairs Specialist at the FCC field office, describes the symptoms, causes, resolution and solution to all the most common interference problems. And she takes a refreshing attitude toward who or what is most suspect. She doesn't suggest (as so many have in the past) that anyone experiencing any t y p e o f radio/television/cable/telephone/co mputer interference go around the neighborhood and look for tell tale evidence of an Amateur Radio Station! Joycelyn, where have they been hiding you all these years?

The six Monitors we received cover information on the following subjects:

- No. 1 Electrical A R C Interference
- No. 2 Telephone Interference
- No. 3 Interference from Citizens Band Radio Service
- No. 4 Commercial Radio Broadcast Interference

No. 5 Cable Interference

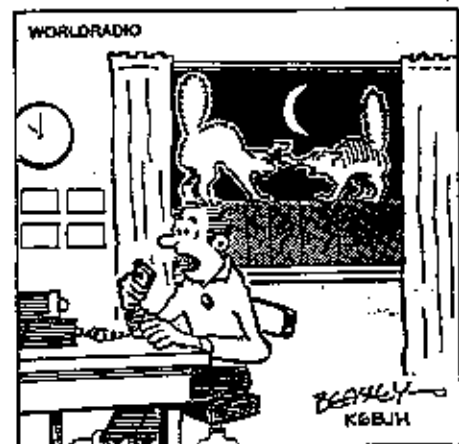
No. 6 Computer Interference

To obtain copies of the Monitors, write to the following address:

Federal Communications Commission
31 Hopkins Plaza, Room 1017
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Attn: Joycelyn Walls
Public Affairs Specialist

We would like to recommend that you order all of these Monitors and let the FCC know we appreciate the effort that has gone into them. There is no charge. (Auto-Call, Sept 1990)



DIDN'T COPY TOO WELL, QIM-- YOU'VE GOT A HORRIBLE HETERODYNE, OR SOMETHING, ON YOUR SIGNAL!

MAGNAVOX CM80 MONITOR - 12" Monochrome (green) composite monitor (color compatible). With manufacturer's data and interconnecting cables for C64, C16, Plus 4 and Atari computers; also cable for Commodore 128. Used as a color compatible monitor with a AT286 until I could afford a real color monitor. Original box. \$ 45.00

Seagate (ST-4036) 30 Megabyte Hard Drive (MFM) [no bad tracks] and WDXT-GEN Hard Drive Controller Card. Upgraded and don't need it any more. Installation manual, and XT/AT Advanced Diagnostics Disk or Seagate Disk Manager to get you going. \$240.00

GRAPHICSMITH Monochrome Printer Card. Removed from AT when I went to color monitor. Supports Monochrome display (720 X 348), parallel printer and light pen. In box with User's Manual. \$ 25.00.

DELUXE RS-232 INTERFACE. For VIC-20, C64, C128, SX64 and Plus 4 Computers. Used for packet TNC interface. Good for 300, 1200 and 2400 baud. Original box and User's Manual. \$ 25.00

CW/RTTY/ASCII/PACKET SET UP. The following items make up a complete dedicated CW/RTTY/Packet control system:

VIC-20 with power supply, TV Modulator (modified for separate video and audio outputs) and keyboard dust cover. Commodore 1530 Datassette with cable for VIC-20. VIC-1525 Graphics Printer with VIC-20 cable. Microlog AIR-1 CW/RTTY plug-in module for VIC-20. MFJ-1274 Packet TNC Controller with cable and terminal program for VIC-20. Also throw in VIC-20 "Six-Pack" includes Personal Finance 1 & 2, Loan/Mortgage Calculator, Home Inventory and Expense Calendar programs (all Basic). \$200.00

ALL THE ABOVE: Call Art Whittum, W1CRO, at 791-4330 - 7PM to 9PM week days or most any time week-ends.

NEED: Missing part of a Tube Tester (Hickok Model 533BM) Roll Chart...between 6F-- and 10A--. Need to borrow roll or Tech Manual to copy.

HAVE: A Friend of mine has some "stuff" left from an estate. He's looking to see if anything can be used. Here it is:

- Browning MD-33 (#138) TV Monitor
- GE LS-3 Loudspeaker
- RCA Radiola III (Type R1) 220 - 550 M Rx
- Hickok 533-BM Tube Tester
- KAAR Series 25E 500 - 5500 kHz + XTAL rx
- KAAR Series 96 XTAL TX
- KAAR Model 8813 XTAL RX
- KAAR Model 8034 Power Supply
- Ballantine Model 300 VTVM
- Forway TS-117/GP (#50) Wavemeter
- Forway 4464-PP-61 Test Set
- Weston Model 571, Type 3A Output Meter

Call Art Whittum, W1CRO, 791-4330 if you have any interest.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

... NEXT MEETING

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

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

73's

Bonnie (N4QFB)
Editor

The next meeting of the OVHARC will be on Monday night, September 17th, 1990, at 8:00 p.m., in the basement Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

Jeff Barr (KB4IWD) has arranged for Harry Dannals (W2HD) to be our guest speaker for the September meeting. Harry Dannals is a Past President of the ARRL (1972 - 1982) and the current President of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). Harry will be speaking to us regarding "Where is Amateur Radio Going?"

Lets have a great turnout for this meeting. I look forward to seeing YOU there!!

73's

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

16 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 VEC EXAM VIRGINIA BEACH	17 OVH CLUB MEETING	18	19 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.1979 224.10	20 OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	21	22 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAM LAUREL, MD
23 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	24 OVH CLUB MEETING	25	26 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.1979 224.10 WIAW QUALIFYING RUN	27 OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	28	29 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAM ARLINGTON, VA RUTY DX CONTEST
30 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	1	2	3 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.1979 224.10 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	4 OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	5	6 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAMS RICHMOND, VA COLLEGE PARK, MD
7 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340	8	9	10 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.1979 224.10	11 OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	12	13 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440 VEC EXAM ANNE ARUNDEL RADIO CLUB
14 AMER EAGLE NET @ 1700 ON 28.340 CARA HAMFEST HOWARD CO. FAIR GROUNDS	15 OVH CLUB MEETING	16 CRRL FALL SPRINT 2 METERS	17 NVFMA NET @ 2000 146.1979 224.10	18 OVH NET @ 2000 146.97 224.66	19	20 WOODBIDGE NET @ 2100 28.440

K /FS: 1. For more information on VEC testing, contact Har. V4PVA.

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

**OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

DIRECTORS

Bob McCann (N4RL) 703-361-7335
 Tim Wayne (K84HR) 703-494-2737
 Mike Feher (N4FS) 703-361-8318
 Butch Blasdel (W4HJL) 703-369-2877

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Art Whittum (N1CRO) 703-791-4330

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tim Wayne (K84HR) 703-494-2737
 Jim Lascaris (W4QEJ) 703-791-2932
 Al Picard (N4IQH) 703-358-8910
 Lisa Miller (K4ARKJ) 703-968-3929
 Steve Frick (N4OGR) 703-361-0008

OVN WEEKLY NET

Harry Vohauer (W4PVA) 703-368-6050

REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Art Whittum (N1CRO) 703-791-4330
 Tim Wayne (K84HR) 703-494-2737
 Milt Warnock (N4SN) 703-369-7465
 Jim Lascaris (W4QEJ) 703-791-2932
 Steve Meade (K84DF) 703-368-6961
 Russ Stevens (W84HN) 703-368-6435
 Butch Blasdel (W4HJL) 703-369-2877
 Mary Lou Blasdel (K84EFP) 703-369-2877
 Jack Gunsett (K14VP) --
 Digipeater 703-361-5255

SCHOLARSHIPS

Mike Feher (N4FS) 703-361-8318

NEWSLINE REPORT

Jack Gunsett (K14VP) 703-361-5255

OFFICERS

President - Joe Tutino (AB4QV) 703-369-5636
 V. P. - Harry Vohauer (W4PVA) 703-368-6050
 Secretary - Ken Mean (K84UH) 703-369-5287
 Treasurer - Steve Frick (N4OGR) 703-361-0008

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Harry Vohauer (W4PVA) 703-368-6050

MAIL LIST

Dick Miller (W4AZG) 703-791-3839

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Butch Blasdel (W4HJL) 703-369-2877
 Jim Lascaris (W4QEJ) 703-791-2932
 Tim Wayne (K84HR) 703-494-2737
 Bob McCann (N4RL) 703-361-7335

CLUB PICNIC COMMITTEE

Sernice Miller (K4RSCA) 703-791-3839
 Mary Lou Blasdel (K84EFP) 703-369-2877
 Dick Miller (W4AZG) 703-791-3839

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Sernice Miller (K4RSCA) 703-791-3839

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

Dick Miller (W4AZG) 703-791-3839

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Jeff Barr (K84LHD) 703-830-1150

1990 HAMFEST CHAIRMAN

Jim Lascaris (W4QEJ) 703-791-2932

CLUB NEWSLETTER

Sernice Frick (N4QPB) 703-361-0606

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Jim McKinley (W84DJY) 703-369-3949

REFRESHMENTS

Healy Woodworth (N4MQ) 703-754-5377

1990 FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Bonnie Frick (N4QPB) 703-361-0606

F. A. R. REPRESENTATIVE

Mike Squire (N4REI) 703-754-4875

HISTORIAN

Greg Brunacci (N4RKV) 703-580-6425

GENERATORS

Tommy Watts (K44FU) 703-369-2741

COMPUTER COMMITTEE

Dick Miller (W4AZG) 703-791-3839
 Milt Warnock (N4SN) 703-369-7465
 Tim Wayne (K84HR) 703-494-2737

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Greg Brunacci (N4RKV) 703-600-6425



THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF
THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS
WELCOME YOU TO
THE GREAT CITY OF
HARLEM
BRONX
NEW YORK



FIRST CLASS MAIL



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

