



Cle

Virginia

Times

The OVH QRC Newsletter



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

Repeater: WA4FPM -- 146.97
WA4FPM -- 224.66

DECEMBER 1992 ISSUE

From the President's Shack
John (N4YOB)

OVH has just completed its final amateur radio licensing class of 1992. We were able to license some new Hams this year -- particularly some youngsters. Mary Lu (KB4EFP) spent alot of time with the young people and I am sure this was a factor in their successfully passing the exam.

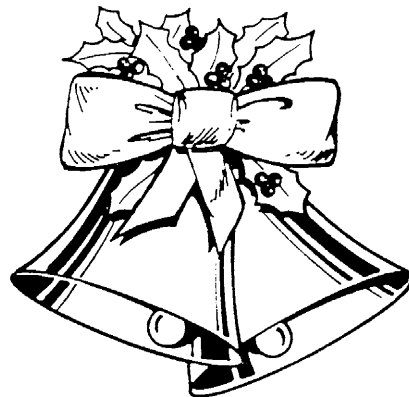
Remember our next meeting is Monday the 21st of December. Please make it a point to attend this last meeting of the year. We will have a program for the meeting! It is also a good time to get together to wish all those contacts we meet on the repeater a Happy Holiday Season!!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting. For those who are unable to make it, have a Happy Holiday Season and a safe New Year.

New Hams

On October 24, Frances Pike (MYL) of Tom (KC4VMV) passed her Novice exam. On November 21st, she passed her Technician Class!! And now, she is eagerly awaiting her "ticket" in the mail!!!

"CONGRATULATIONS!!!!"



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Packet Bursts

Well, it finally happened. On Sunday, November 8, 1992, the OVH Node went on the air on both the 2 meter side and the 220 side. On 2 meters we're on 145.03 Mhz and on the 220 side we're on 223.54 Mhz. Many thanks to WA2QEJ for a very professional looking installation on the cabinet which was provided by W1CRO.

The Node has shown excellent connectivity all over Prince William and surrounding counties, even as far away as Martinsburg, WV on the 220 side!

KI4RO brought up the G8BPQ Node software and the WORLI BBS software at his QTH to give everyone a opportunity to learn a little about those two packages in anticipation of N4WJN moving the BBSHRG to 145.03 Mhz. Through these two packages all existing OVH packeteers were given an opportunity to "play and learn" as well as have their call added to the OVH distribution list.

The big day finally arrived on Wednesday, November 18. N4WJN brought his BBS up on frequency and the OVH BBS and the WRNTN node left the air. N4WJN has received a copy of the OVH distribution list and included it on his board. This should adequately serve the needs of all who were concerned about having a "private" mailbox area for Club Members. To send a message to all OVH active packeteers, simply enter SB ALL @ OVH, then enter your message as usual, ending your message with a CTRL-Z or /EX. If you would like to have your call added to the list, simply connect to the board and leave N4WJN a message telling him your wishes.

So far, we're very pleased with the results, but please feel free to leave WV3H or KI4RO any comments regrading the Node or Node operations on BBSHRG.

Stay tuned to this column for further updates and tips!

73 and Happy Connecting!

John (KI4RO)

SWAP N SHOP

For Sale:

Heathkit Warrior Kilowatt
Linear Amplifier w/Manual
-- \$150.00

Heathkit Marauder
Transmitter w/Manual --
\$50.00

OR TRADE for 2 M Mobil Rig

Contact: Ro (WB4NWG)
703-594-2812

For Sale:

Antenna Tuner (1), 300 watt,
MFJ941D w/manual -- \$50.00

Cushcraft AV5 Vertical H.F., 2000
watt 10-80 M w/manual -- \$80.00

Contact: Alan (KD4KBX) at 703-330-
8844 for any of the above.

Harry's (W4PVA) Corner

Baluns:

A BALUN is a device primarily intended to convert a BALanced line into an UNbalanced line. It can be so arranged so as to simultaneously transform one input impedance into a dif-ferent output impedance. An example would be to trans-form between 50 ohms and 200 ohms.

Most TV sets contain a BALUN.

An unbalanced line is one where one of the two conductors is operated at ground while a balanced line has neither wire grounded.

An unbalanced line will not radiate the rf CONTAINED with-in and an unbalanced line will not "radiate" the signal on it. The unbalanced line nonradiation is due to shielding of the currents while the balanced line "non-radiation" is due to each con-ductor radiating equal and op-posite polarity signals that cancel each other -- thus no net radiation.

If a transmission line is exposed to an rf field it will have a current set up on it as a result of the rf field. In the case of an unbalanced line, this current will flow on the outside of the line AND IT WILL RADIATE. This current can come from either direct connection of the coax shield to the antenna or from the coax departing the antenna at an angle with radiation being introduced by antenna radiation. This transmission line current will radiate in an unpredictable manner resulting in distortion of the desired dipole pattern.

For the unbalanced line feeding a dipole, two things are desirable: 1) A BALUN (to keep conducted currents off the outside of the coax) and 2) the coax should depart the antenna at right angle with the antenna conductor.

In the case of the balanced line, no balun is needed but it too should depart the antenna at right angle to prevent the antenna from introducing currents on the balanced line that would again distort the dipole pattern.

a 4:1 impedance BALUN can be used to feed a folded dipole with a coax transmission line but please note that a 50 ohm line would have a VSWR of about 1.5:1. This is not serious enough to cause trouble at frequencies 10 M or below.

There are many forms of baluns. They can be transformers, bazooka type, including gamma match devices for beams.

In summary: no balun = distorted antenna pattern unless a balanced feed is used.



Ham Festers

Manassas, Friday, November 13. The OVH 1993 Hamfest Committee kicked off the festivities tonight with its first meeting. The committee managed to plow through a list of 35 tasks, of which 80 survived, and assigned responsibility for most to committee members (present and, heh, heh, heh, absent)!

In attendance were Bonnie (N4QPB), Jeff (KB4IWD), Joe (AB4QV), Ken (KM4UH), Steve (N4OGR), Woody (KD4DEG), and yours truly -- me!

Although OVH has done this year after year, there is always room for improvement and innovation. We are once again blessed with a fine crop of willing and able participants.

There is more than enough work to go around, however, both leading to and during the event. It is never too early nor too late for you to jump in, and we extend a cordial invitation that you might share the pleasure. Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered.

The next committee meeting will be in mid-January. Date and time will be announced through the usual channels. We hope to see you there!

73 ES TNX YALL DE KC4EWT

From the Editor

The Ole Virginia Times deadline for articles to be contained in an issue is the 25th of the previous month.

Articles can be typed or handwritten. They can be sent via the mail to the address listed below, sent to the Club Post Office Box. If you have questions, please contact me at 703-361-0008!

Bonnie Frick
246 Kent Drive
Manassas Park, VA 22111

The Deadline For Articles to Appear in the January 1993 Issue is the 25th of December.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club will be on Monday Evening, December 21, 1992, at 8:00 p.m., in the basement Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Co-Op, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, Virginia.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



PHD Associates
"THINK COMMUNICATIONS"

Rag-[W-ing: are OMs S]lobs?

... TNX FER CALL ES GE OM ... How often have you heard or sent this to a stranger? How do you arrive at the conclusion that your correspondent is male?

Statistics seem to be on your side, so you are likely to be correct most of the time. Are we redefining *OM* to address female hams, like *Sir* addresses female military officers? Are these now sexless terms, or is it a legacy of a time when women were assumed to have no interest in amateur radio? (No purchasing power, anyway.)

The OVH roster (not the most recent: I can't find my copy of the new one) lists 128 members: 11 have names normally given to females. For our informal purpose here, women comprise 8.7% of the OVH membership.

It is a leap of faith to assume that OVH is representative of the entire ham population, but it is the only figure I have at hand. Making that assumption, and let's round it to 10%, the 1992 Callbook lists 524,782 hams in the U.S., so that would make 52,478 female hams here.

If women comprise half of the general population, why aren't there 262,391 female hams in the U.S. today?

Back in the days when radio itself was new, magazine advertisements enticed kids to purchase crystal sets, kits, or plans. These were targeted exclusively to boys, however, not girls. It is little wonder if the girls did not feel encouraged.

Popular literature today (magazines, mostly) would have it that there are real differences between men and women. These would have us believe that:

- When confronted with a problem, particularly an interpersonal one, men tend to go straight for solutions, whereas women prefer to talk it out.
- Men seem to have more need than women to belong to a pack or group or seem to feel more comfortable than women with them.

Assuming this is true, do these characteristics determine whether someone becomes an amateur? One might think that the talkers would enjoy it more than the

solvers. Maybe too much solving is required before one gets to the talking.

I have known women who exhibit the characteristics attributed to men and *vice versa*. Are the generalizations true for the majority of men and women? Or do we men do something that alienates women?

We had difficulty attracting and retaining female members in an Explorer Post with which I was associated. EPs are under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, and each usually specializes in a type of sport or profession. In spite of the BSA affiliation, which is more administrative than operational, they are open to high school kids of either sex.

EP 692 (each is assigned a unique number nationwide) met at the old Honeywell building at Tyson's Corner and was a career-oriented, computer science post in the 1970s. Like amateur radio, it was both a kind of a hobby and a serious activity. We had a devil of a time keeping young ladies as members*.

At the first meeting after school started, we would usually have 4 or 5 in a group of 30 or 40, but by the 4th weekly meeting, we were fortunate if one remained. Before a third of the year had transpired, there were none. This happened in much the same manner for four years.

Maybe we were a bunch of arrogant slobs, but we recognized it as a problem and tried to address it. We thought we treated everyone the same, though we did specifically welcome women and talked about how successful they can be in the computer industry. One of the adult advisors, a successful computer professional, was a woman. Maybe the affiliation with BSA doomed us from the start, but we tried.

Membership attrition during the year was normal, because those who stayed were driven by self-motivation for the most part. This is not to say that women

* The spelling checker caught this, but I decided to leave it as I typed it to illustrate that, in spite of good intentions, our hormones and cultural heritage sometimes get the best of us.

have little self-motivation, far from it, but the majority of EP 692 members were truly more concerned with acquiring knowledge and preparing for careers than in more, well, hormonal activities.

EP 692 was a source of excellent computer resources, teaching, and encouragement by the advisors. Maybe young women find association with nerds distasteful? (Were we nerds?)

We may attribute the dearth of female hams to these causes:

- Historical momentum of the earlier exclusion of women from amateur radio.
- Pre-1960s culture in which acceptable goals for a woman were to become married or engage in professions reserved to them (teacher, nurse, etc.)
- The men in a pack thing.
- The generally acknowledged inability of grade schools to encourage success of females in technical areas of study (math and science).
- The sexism of amateur radio jargon at least and attitudes at most.

The momentum of history will continue to slow as other societal forces continue to affect it. Young people today have different attitudes than earlier this century, due in large part to the changes wrought during the 60s. These attitudes affect amateur radio as they do anything else.

Men do not travel in packs as they once did. We do not see burgeoning participation in exclusionary men's clubs, such as lodges. (We men are too busy taking care of the kids.)

Schools are trying to encourage girls to pursue technical education, but we cannot expect schools to work miracles in isolation. Parents must be active partners with teachers to accomplish this.

As radio amateurs, we are in a good position to share our pleasure with school kids. Amateur radio is one of the few pursuits that kids and adults can share equally and as equals. If relaxation of the code requirement makes it easier for kids to become amateurs, then No-Code Tech is a great idea. (They're learning the code anyway once they become amateurs.)

I'd bet you would see the ARRL launch an aggressive campaign to recruit girls

once they figured out that they are an untapped and potentially large QST subscription base.

As for sexism in amateur radio jargon, that is probably the easiest thing we can address directly.

As a matter of principle, I try not to begin my QSOs with "GE CM". The seemingly innocuous use of YL and XYL is subtly derogatory to women. *Old man* and *young lady* can imply superiority or advanced wisdom of men over women. (I'm guilty of use but not intent here, though it is convenient terminology.) Some female amateurs use YL in the names of clubs and magazine columns, however, so I guess it doesn't bother them too much.

We're faced with the same stereotypes as the rest of society. I don't advocate, however, gender-neutral replacements such as *OP* (old person), because in their attempt at fairness, they seem to patronize and sound hollow. With constant use, though, they could become natural: *chair-person* seems normal enough to me, but *congressperson* does not. *OH* (old ham), perhaps? Nah, that's already a word. Why not just drop it entirely? GE ES GLAD MEET U?

It would be interesting to hear some female hams talk about these issues. It would be more interesting to hear from women who *were* interested in amateur radio but decided not to pursue it or dropped out altogether.

Oh, yeah, what brought on this diatribe? I know a woman who is a computer professional with an otherwise progressive company. She does a damn good job and can (and has) run circles around most of the men, yet only her male equals have senior positions. Worse, some of her female colleagues have suffered blatant discrimination and harassment and have received inadequate redress.

That this situation could exist in 1992 infuriates me. That there seem so few female radio amateurs merely disappoints me.

7: ES  DE K[4EWT

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

DIRECTORS

Bob (N4RL) 703-361-7335
 Tim (KB4NR) 703-494-2737
 Butch (W4HJL) 703-369-2877

OFFICERS

President - John (N4YOB) 703-791-5995
 Vice Pres - Jim (WD4OJY) 703-369-3940
 Secretary - Butch (N6NSM) 703-335-9352
 Treasurer - Jeff (KB4IWD) 703-830-1150

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Art (W1CRO) 703-791-4330

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Harry (W4PVA) 703-368-6050

MAIL LIST

Blaine (KB4RKL) 703-369-2877

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tim (KB4NR) 703-494-2737
 Jim (WA2QEJ) 703-791-2932
 Mary Lou (KB4EFP) 703-369-2877
 Pete (KM4REI) 703-369-2436
 Jeff (KB4IWD) 703-830-1150

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Butch (W4HJL) 703-369-2877
 Tim (KB4NR) 703-494-2737
 Bob (N4RL) 703-361-7335
 Jim (WA2QEJ) 703-791-2932

CLUB PICNIC COMMITTEE

Bernice (KA4SCA) 703-791-3839
 Mary Lou (KB4EFP) 703-369-2877

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Bernice (KA4SCA) 703-791-3839

REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Art (W1CRO) 703-791-4330
 Tim (KB4NR) 703-494-2737
 Milt (N4SN) 703-369-7265
 Jim (WA2QEJ) 703-791-2932
 Steve (KB4OF) 703-368-6901
 Russ (WB4IHN) 703-368-6435
 Butch (W4HJL) 703-369-2877
 Mary Lou (KB4EFP) 703-369-2877

PACKET COMMITTEE

Mike (WV3H) 703-335-2642
 Woody (KD4DEG) 703-368-5180
 John (KI4RO) 703-349-2650
 Bill (N4WJN) 703-590-9562

OVH WEEKLY NET

Harry (W4PVA) 703-368-6050

CLUB NEWSLETTER

Bonnie (N4QPB) 703-361-0008

COMPUTER COMMITTEE

Dick (WD4AZG) 703-791-3839
 Milt (N4SN) 703-369-7265
 Tim (KB4NR) 703-494-2737

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

John (N4YOB) 703-791-5995

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Joe (AB4QV) 703-369-5636

SCHOLARSHIPS

Mike (KC4IRL) 703-335-1550

F.A.R. REPRESENTATIVE

Alan (KB4KBX) 703-330-8844

1993 HAMFEST CHAIRMAN

Dan (KC4EWT) 703-709-0847
 Ivan (KD4DFD) 703-818-2405

1993 FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Bonnie (N4QPB) 703-361-0008

NEWSLINE REPORT

Pete (N4RME) 703-369-2436

REFRESHMENTS

Rick (N4) 703-791-5577
 LOOKING FOR REPLACEMENT*

GENERATORS

Tommy (KA4AFU) 703-369-2741

HISTORIAN

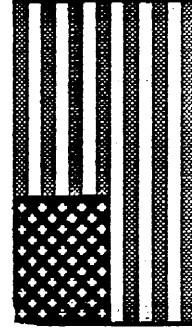
Greg (N4RKV) 703-690-5949

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Ken (KM4UH) 703-369-5287

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Jim (WD4OJY) 703-369-3940



December 20 - January 30

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS ARC

1992

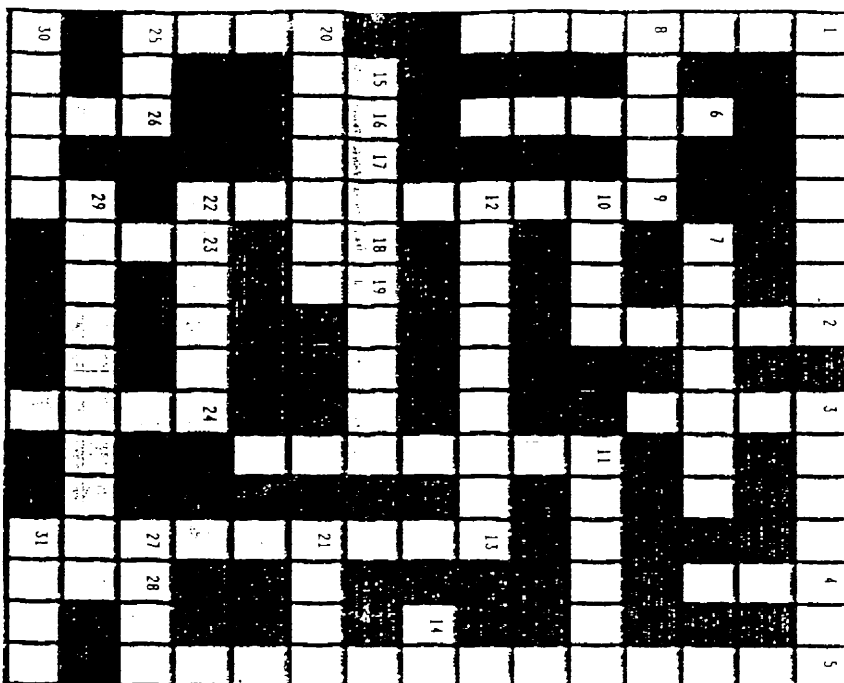
1993

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 20 CHANUKAH	Dec 21 8:00pm OVH Meeting	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24 Christmas Eve	Dec 25 CHRISTMAS DAY	Dec 26
Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	Jan 2
Jan 3 VEC - Landover, MD	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8	Jan 9 VEC - Davidsonville, MD VEC - Washington, DC
Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12 7:00pm SKYWARN Winter Storm Training Class - Sterling, VA	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15 VEC - Laurel, MD	Jan 16
Jan 17 Richmond - FrostFest XVI	Jan 18	Jan 19	Jan 20 B.A.R.C. Mini Fest	Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23
Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26 6:00pm SKYWARN Basic Training Class - Cumberland, MD.	Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29 VEC - Stafford, VA	Jan 30

12/11/1992

Crossword Puzzle

by: John Austin KC4WCK



- ACROSS:
- 1. Manufacturer of amateur equipment located in Niles, Illinois.
 - 3. A diode has an anode and a

- 7. The current times the resistance equals this.
- 8. The anode in tubes are often referred to as the _____.
- 10. The 12th phonetic.
- 11. A coded character set in which five bits represent one character.
- 12. A device that blocks DC current.
- 14. Amplitude modulation (abbr.)
- 15. Device needed for voice contacts.
- 20. Manufacturer of amateur equipment whose US offices are in Long Beach, California.
- 21. A piece of winter clothing.
- 22. A form of EMF that can be generated by walking on carpet.
- 25. _____, two, three.
- 27. You are called by this.
- 29. Opposition to DC current flow.
- 30. The basic unit of capacitance.
- 31. The 5th phonetic.

- DOWN:
- 1. Type of operation in which you transmit and receive on the same frequency.
 - 2. The 4th phonetic.
 - 3. Connects radio to antenna.
 - 4. The basic unit of resistance.
 - 5. EMF = _____ force.
 - 6. Manufacturer of amateur equipment whose US offices are in Cerritos, California.
 - 9. The things that move to create current flow.
 - 11. An energy storage device.
 - 13. The opposition to AC current flow.

- 15. _____, myself, and I.
- 16. Not out.
- 17. Morse code (abbr.)
- 18. Oscar, oscar.
- 19. Police dept. (abbr.)
- 20. The 11th phonetic.
- 23. Found on the end of your foot (singular)
- 24. More than one feline.
- 26. You have one on each side of your head.
- 28. Alpha, echo, charlie.
- 29. Romeo, delta.

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
1993

DATE: _____

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ARE YOU PRESENTLY AN ARRL MEMBER: _____

DO YOU WANT YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER LISTED IN THE OVH ROSTER: _____

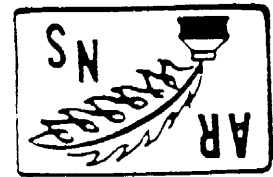
YOUR PRESENT LICENSE CLASS: _____

Dues are \$6.00 (for each additional family member, living at the same mailing address, the dues are \$3.00)

AMOUNT YOU ARE SENDING: _____

NAMES OF ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS (IF ANY): _____

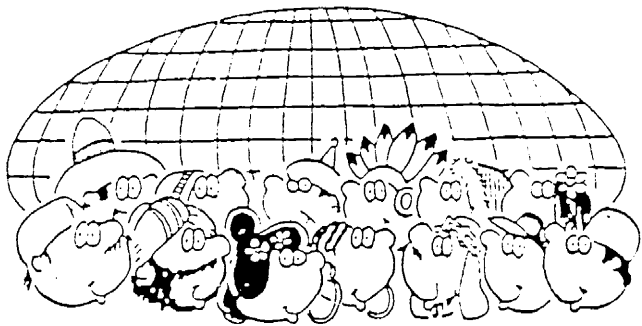
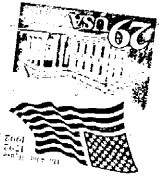
Please fill in all of the above-requested information (please PRINT) and return to the attention of the Treasurer, OVH, P.O. Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110



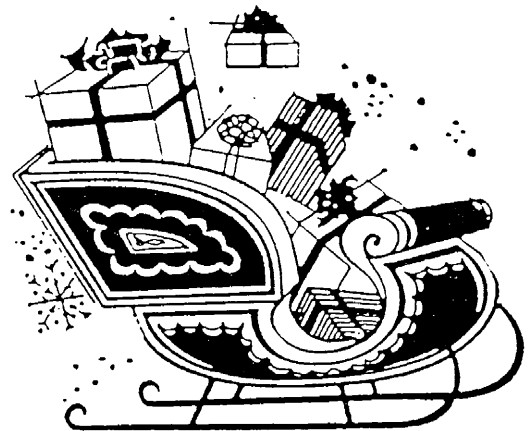
FIRST CLASS MAIL



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



WORLD WIDE FRIENDSHIP THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO



DECEMBER