

The OVH ARC Newsletter

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110
Repeater--WA4FPM --146.970/224.660 Out/146.370/223.060 In
OVH Nodes--145.030/223.620/223.540 MHz
BBS--BBSHRG/N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

FEBRUARY 1994

Welcome to a brand new year! It looks to be an interesting one from the way that it has started. We have missed a meeting or two and things have backed up just a bit. First off, we have elections to look forward to. I have been advised that the selection committee has a group of fine young amateurs ready and willing to fill the posts for the next term and they will present them at the next meeting. This makes the February meeting a very important one. Also, if you are like me, you pay your annual dues in person. This makes it important for me to make the meeting. I also hope to add my wife on to the roles of the OVH, now that she is licensed and operating.

Have any of the club members worked the shuttle? I would like to post a listing of contacts via voice/packet/etc. for the next newsletter. I would also like these members to assist me with an OSCAR attempt for the upcoming Field Day. Yes, it is once again time to think of warm spring days and cold spring nights and the joy that is Field Day. Mr. Ron/NV3S should be passing some information to me soon that I can post in the columns and I would like this year's effort to be an extraordinary one.

You almost lost your editor. I was interviewed and offered a job out in Mt. Jackson and would have had to relocate, but an understanding was struck between the prospective employer and yours truly. I passed on the job for the time being but am in the slot for the Northwest Tracking station when it becomes operational some years down the road. I think that this was a logical choice for the time being and the people I talked to agreed.

Anyone have any interesting winter projects that they worked on and would like to share with the members? Please jot down a few bits and pieces and pass them along to me in person, to my answering machine (703) 330-7333, or on packet, NS5N @ N4WJN.NOVA.VA.USA. It would sure make the newsletter more interesting to us and a bit of an ego trip for yourself when you see yourself in print. I know I get a kick out of writing. I just do not have the time that I used to. Of course, before the newsletter, I could scratch out an article once a quarter. Now, I have to try and think of something on a monthly basis and it gets tough at times. (notice that subtle plea for HELP!)

Well, I am glad you all made it through the really cold days. I know that we will have some more cold ones before we turn the heaters off for good and switch to the air conditioning. It has been a tough flu season, too. I got knocked down pretty good there for a week or so and am still fighting a bit of a grungy throat. Thank goodness for modern medicine and the antibiotics that come with it. I think that we have all been fortunate this winter and besides avoiding traffic incidents on the ice and runs on the bread and milk, we have fared well. 73 de J. Edgar/Editor

The Ole Virginia Hams Classified Ads

For Sale:

MFJ-931 MFJ Artificial Ground	\$55.00
Seagate ST-277 65Mbyte drive with RLL 1:1 controller (AT BUS)	\$150.00
Genoa EGA Card Super Hi-Res 800x600	\$50.00
Central Point Software COPY II Board	\$20.00
Sound Board (B.G. Micro)	\$15.00
Future Domain-TMC-850MEX SCSI Controller (f/u/w CD-ROM only - no floppy or HD support)	\$15.00
286 Motherboard w/1mbyte RAM and Co-processor	\$100.00
6 Each DC-2000/DC-2050 mini data cartridges f/u/w QIC-40 tape drive. Price each:	\$9.00

Contact: Mike (KC4ZNQ) @ 703-335-5031 or on packet, direct (MBX KC4ZNQ-1) or via KF4TE (145.070).

FOR SALE:

ICOM 725 HF Transceiver. This transceiver is a current production model in excellent condition with all documentation and boxes. \$600.00

SB 200 Heath Kit Kilowatt Amplifier. Very Clean but needs new final Tubes. \$285.00

Heath Kit HD 4040 Packet Termina Node Controller (TNC). Was formally use at K4LLQ-5 digi. \$60.00

RG-11 72 ohm Coax Brand New. 0.15/foot

Copies of QST Sept 93 antenna article are available to help you get started building.

Toshiba T1000 Laptop Internal Modem, Brand New, Never installed with all documentation and original box. \$40.00

Antenna Rotator for light weight HF Beam or any VHF Beam. Set to direction and it rotates to that direction. \$35.00

WANTED:

Trying to locate old RTTY Converter Units such as ST-7, Flesher TU470, any HAL unit.

Contact: Larry, K4LLQ @ 703-347-7609.

For Sale:

Logitech Serial Mouse	45.00
GVC 1200 Baud External Modem (as-is)	5.00
MFJ 901B 200W Antenna Tuner.	30.00
WYSE-50 Dumb Terminal	40.00
Epson EX-800 Dot Matrix Printer	75.00

Contact: Ron (NV3S) @ 703-330-1213

For Sale

3 Pioneer cablevision manual converter boxes	\$75.00
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RCA 1000, 100Watt, 3-Channel base station/command center used by State Police. Nice console & clock. 30-50MHz. Best offer wins!

George (N4IXV) @ 703-368-2732

FOR SALE

Two Motorola Thru-the-Window Cellular Antennas Model TAF6151A Call

FREE!

One box of Vacuum Cleaner Bags with spare NEW brush for a Bissel Electric Broom.

Contact: Harry (W4PVA) @ 703 368 6050

For Sale:

IBM PC/XT w/320k, 1 Floppy Drive, Hard Drive	350.00
Princeton HX-12 Color Monitor	350.00
Epson FX-85 Dot Matrix Printer	200.00

Contact: Christopher K. Gatti @ 703-369-1543

**IT'S FUN!
YOUR AD HERE.
IT'S FREE!**

MAJOR CONTESTS

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CONTEST</u>	<u>SCOPE</u>	<u>EXCHANGE</u>	<u>RULES</u>
FEB 19-20	ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX	WORK DX	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	DEC QST
	MARAC 10-METER QSO PARTY (PHONE)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATION DESIGNATOR F-FIXED M-MOBILE	FEB QST
	YL-ISSB QSO PARTY (PHONE/CW)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	FEB QST
25-27	CW WORLDWIDE 160-METER CONTEST (PHONE)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	DEC CQ
	UBA CONTEST (PHONE)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & SERIAL # (STARTING @001)	FEB QST
MAR 5-6	ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST (PHONE)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	DEC QST
12-14	KENTUCKY QSO PARTY (PHONE/CW)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	FEB QST
	WISCONSIN QSO PARTY (PHONE/CW)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	FEB QST
15-16	CLARA & FAMILY HF CONTEST (PHONE/CW)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & STATE/PROVINCE	FEB QST
19-20	BARTG SPRING RTTY CONTEST	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT, SERIAL NUMBER & UTC	FEB QST
	BERMUDA CONTEST (PHONE/CW)	INTERNATIONAL	SIGNAL REPORT & SERIAL NUMBER	FEB QST

LIGHTNING

- n.* 1. A sudden flash of light caused by regions of cloud, or between a cloud and the earth.
 2. The discharge itself.
Funk & Wagnalls
 Standard Encyclopedic Dictionary

This is a very limited view of some of the electrical phenomena that you may encounter as a ham.

It seems that early experiments with electricity disclosed that an electric spark was the "jumping" from one conductor to another by an electric current. This is caused by the voltage between TWO points exceeding a critical value. Changing material between the two points changes the voltage necessary to make the jump.

Another thing that was noticed was that a spark would jump between two points a bit easier if one of the points was sharply pointed. In fact, if the two points were on a surface, it took a bit more than if they were sharp points. (I seem to remember the number "10,000 volts to jump an inch in air." But am not sure if that was two surfaces or points.)

This is the reason that lightning rods are usually terminated in a point at the top so that lightning will jump to them and thus be routed to ground and not injure the protected structure.

Also, the tip top of an amateur radio antenna usually has a relatively small diameter (approximating a point as compared to earth) therefore, lightning is "attracted" to the antenna. Thus it becomes important for hams to have grounded structures-or at least to disconnect their antenna when lightning threatens.

There are two types of things called "LIGHTNING ARRESTORS". Each type has the function of leading a lightning strike to earth (ground). One type consists of a high resistance path between the antenna and ground. This functions to bleed off the voltage gradient in the atmosphere that leads, in turn, to a lightning strike. The second consists of a small spark gap that acts to short the antenna to ground when it is struck by lightning.

A direct lightning strike is not needed to cause damage to a connected radio. A nearby strike will INDUCE a voltage into the radio antenna (by transformer action).

Bleeding off the voltage gradient might prevent the strike from occurring. But, if it does occur, the resistor type will not protect the radio. On the other hand, the spark gap type will not protect against the voltage gradient, but will protect against a relatively small voltage surge.

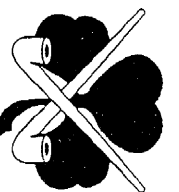
One is a preventative measure while the other is a (hopefully) protective measure.

The most effective measures are to ground the tower, disconnect the antenna and put the end of it outside the shack.

I am reminded of the old music song "*Come Love, Nothing Can Be Done*". This applies to lightning-comes a direct hit, nothing can be done.


Here's hoping you never have this problem.

Harry/W4PVA



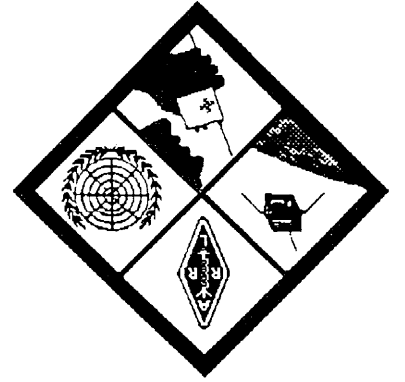
OLE VIRGINIA HAMMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

February 20 - March 26, 1994

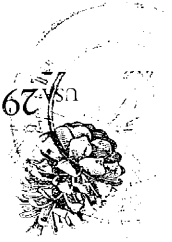
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 20 1300 10-10 NET (28.340) HAMFEST - CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA	Feb 21 2000 MEETING-OLE VIRGINIA HAMMS 2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/ 223.18 MHz	Feb 22	Feb 23 2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79 MHz 2100 NET-FARA-147.165 MHz	Feb 24 2000 NET-OVH-146.970 MHz/224.66 MHz	Feb 25	Feb 26 0730 F.A.R.A. BREAKFAST 1000 MEETING MOOSE ARC HAMFEST - AARCG, LEBANNON, PA VEC - PORTSMOUTH, VA
Feb 27 1300 10-10 NET (28.340) HAMFEST - VIENNA WINTERFEST	Feb 28 2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/ 223.18 MHz	Mar 1 MEETING-SPARK	Mar 2 2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79 MHz 2100 NET-FARA-147.165 MHz	Mar 3 1930 MEETING-VVA BEACH ARC 2000 NET-OVH-146.970 MHz/224.66 MHz	Mar 4	Mar 5 VEC - SOUTHERN PA ARK
Mar 6 1300 10-10 NET (28.340) VEC - LANDOVER, MD	Mar 7 2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/ 223.18 MHz	Mar 8 1930 MEETING-FARA	Mar 9 2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79 MHz 2100 NET-FARA-147.165 MHz	Mar 10 1930 MEETING- WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS 2000 NET-OVH-146.970 MHz/224.66 MHz	Mar 11  NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE	Mar 12 VEC - DAVIDSONVILLE, MD
Mar 13 1300 10-10 NET (28.340)	Mar 14 2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/ 223.18 MHz	Mar 15 MEETING-SPARK	Mar 16 2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79 MHz 2100 NET-FARA-147.165 MHz	Mar 17 2000 NET-OVH-146.970 MHz/224.66 MHz	Mar 18	Mar 19 VEC - LAUREL, MD
Mar 20 1300 10-10 NET (28.340)	Mar 21 2000 MEETING-OLE VIRGINIA HAMMS 2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/ 223.18 MHz	Mar 22	Mar 23 2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79 MHz 2100 NET-FARA-147.165 MHz	Mar 24 2000 NET-OVH-146.970 MHz/224.66 MHz	Mar 25	Mar 26 1000 MEETING-MOOSE ARC VEC - GLOUCESTER, VA



FIRST MAIL



Ole Virginia Hams A.R.C., Inc.
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Thursday, March 17, 1994

