

**"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--Port 1: 145.030 Port 2: 223.660 Port 3: 223.540 MHz  
BBS--BBSHRG N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

## OCTOBER 1994

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### THE WORD FROM THE "POINT PERSON"

Jim. WD4OJY - President of the OVH

Hi All;

Just returned from the OVH picnic and I sure had a good time. There was a lot of food, great conversation and plenty of activities to keep everyone busy. A few that come to mind were chess, horseshoes, fence leaping and of course the picnic table carry and toss. The outing also gave everyone a final chance to see Mo and Jay before his departure to South America.

I would like to thank Mary Lou and Butch for the use of their home, and for all the hard work that went into the preparation for this terrific event.

I received a note from Mikey G0VEZ (WV3H), telling me the BBS he was using in England has gone off the air. Any mail for Mike can be sent to him at N3HYM and Roy will forward it to him.

Scott, KE4HCT has taken over the newsletter and his first issue was out just in time. The first issue sure looked good and we look forward to the future issues from our new editor.

Erv, KD4DFB is the new educational chairman and Charlie, WA4YGI, has agreed to serve on the committee. Charlie and Erv plan to start a class at Stonewall High School, beginning Tuesday the 28th of September. If you know of anyone interested in getting a license, have them get in touch with Charlie.

Well that's all for now. See you at the next meeting and... ..73 for now.

## "OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

Post Office Box 1255  
Manassas, VA. 22110

### OFFICERS

President: Jim McKinley WD4OJY  
Vice Pres: Ervin Whalen KD4DFB  
Secretary: Ivan Reeder KD4DFD  
Treasurer: Jimmy Lascaris WA2QEJ

### DIRECTORS

Bob McCann N4RL  
Don (Butch) Blasdell W4HJL  
Tim Wayne KB4NR

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Jim McKinley WD4OJY

### 1995 HAMFEST CHAIRMAN

Scott Bellefeuille KE4HCT

### WEEKLY VHF NET CONTROL

Thursdays - 8:00 PM - 146.97 & 224.660 Mhz  
Harry Vorhauer W4PVA

The OVH Times is the official publication of the "Ole Virginia Hams" ARC and is published on a monthly basis. The OVH ARC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. The OVH ARC meets at 8:00 PM every third Monday of the month, at the Northern Virginia Electric Coop, located at 10323 Lomond Dr., Manassas, VA. Prospective members are invited.

Local information can always be obtained, at any time, through the usage of the OVH repeaters (146.97 & 224.660 Mhz). All are welcome.

Permission is hereby granted for the reprinting of articles and quotations in this letter, provided full credit is given to the OVH ARC and the author of the article. Contribution of printed articles by both members and non-members is encouraged. The deadline for submissions is the 9th of each month. Submissions should be forwarded to OVH TIMES EDITOR:

Scott C. Bellefeuille KE4HCT  
2170 Logmill Rd.,  
Haymarket, VA 22069

Letters to the Editor and Classified Ads are accepted and welcome.  
Approx Circulation -150

## Notes From The 1st Planning Session Of The 1995 OVH Hamfest

On October 5, 1994 at 7:00 PM, the first planning session of the 1995 OVH Hamfest took place at the training room of the Prince William County Police Station in Manassas. A good turnout resulted in 14 OVH members participating in the session!

The session started out with a review of the 1994 OVH Hamfest by Jack/N4YIC, the 1994 Hamfest Chairman. It was the general consensus that the event was quite successful and productive. The OVH Hamfest is the main income producer of the OVH Club, and is directly responsible for the creation and distribution of \$5,000 worth of educational scholarships that the OVH provides for the area high school students in Prince William County.

A few problems were noted and discussed by all members. A major problem of the 1994 Hamfest was identified by several members, as the problem of inadequate member help in the area of "tailgate parking". Some members thought it was entirely inappropriate that this type of activity was conducted while a OVH table was setup for the same reason. Other members voiced the opinion that the club might want to consider making this event a mandatory appearance event for all members. Other members noted that the club should not affect the morals and ethics of such members, but let their own conscious deal with the matter. Another part of the problem was the fact that some members signed up, but failed to report. The 1995 Hamfest Chairman Scott/KE4HCT, stated that the matter would be reviewed further and no action would be taken at this time.

Another noted problem was the issue of security, specifically that of closing the gates at 10:00 PM sharp. Problems arose last year when certain vendors arrived after the time and demanded entry. It was decided that security and the opportunity for sleep for those OVH members providing security during the night was a paramount concern. The 1995 Hamfest Chairman decided that with the availability of outside parking and camping, the gates will close at 10:00 PM next year. All are welcome before that time to enter and setup. The club will attempt to provide advance notice to all vendors, of this decision.

All comments are welcome and encouraged, regarding the above issues.  
- The Editor

# The View From Here...The Top Of The Tower

Let me first say thank you to all of you who commented on last month's OVH Times. Yes, this was my first newsletter and to be quite honest with all of you...I had no idea of what was required. I enjoyed the experience and made some mistakes, however I will get better. I promise. I felt very humbled to hear from those of you with nice remarks, whom I haven't yet met. Thanks again. Let me remind you all that I received some quality tutoring from NS5N.

Some of you might ask "where in the world did you come up with the title of the Editor's column?" Well, remember that guy named Marconi who "turned me on" to amateur radio? The title reflects my grand Summer of '94 project in the back yard...the building of a 100' Rohn 25G tower. Sooner or later, I'll be at the top of that tower. I am convinced. The tower presently stands at 15', and that's because the anchor points (guy points) needed to be sighted in. I have dug enough holes and mixed enough concrete to last me a lifetime. George/N4IXV will probably testify to that, because one day in the recent past George came over to help me dig the tower shaft...4 1/2' down. Well, George took a couple of whacks with the digging bar, looked at the hole (around 3') and said to me "Scott, that looks plenty deep enough to me!" It was quite amazing one day, after the rains had fallen, I came out and found my tower shaft almost full of water and occupied by a frog! I started to call the hole my frog pond. That little frog stayed around for quite a few days, if I remember correctly. Back to the present. Things have come a long way and I must tell all of you that it has been a tremendous learning experience. I am at the point where the anchor points are completed and we're almost ready to raise some tower. I have already traveled to Price Club and obtained the required cases of beverage. I know it will not be long now! I do plan to cordially invite all of you to participate in my venture, but I'm waiting for the right "rainy, miserable day" to raise the tower. At least that's what

Timmy/KB4NR keeps telling me. That's where the title comes from and I hope to see you all there for lunch and beverages.

Looking back to last month's "Repeater Notes" article by Art/W1CRO. I must say he did a terrific job at putting all that information together. It was quite informative and I'm sure everyone walked away from his article having learned something. Thanks Art! Well done! And so the controversy continues on the issue of the coverage of the OVH repeater. Don't you just love it...I do!

Speaking of controversy, of which I am no stranger to. I want to stress to all of the OVH members that this newsletter belongs to you, and that I strongly encourage all of you to take an active part and contribute. Whether it's this newsletter or at the monthly meeting. Speak what you feel. But don't forget two things! You can't blame others for a decision that you didn't take part in. And, you have to make those meetings to have your voice heard. I've had some members come tell me that when they get home they just feel too tired to come to the meeting. This is very true. But, this club needs you...the member. Especially with the new issue of repeater coverage coming to a head.

I do plan to make this newsletter a little livelier than in the past. I promise I will do my best to get a rise out of all of you, one way or another. Sometimes you will not agree with me. Right Butchie? Sometimes you will. Sometimes you may want to throw some tower at me. Maybe you'll help me put some up...I hope! I hope sometimes I'll bring a smile to your face. Sometimes I won't try. Yet, one thing is for certain, as a result we'll all try to make this a better club! so, lets do the right thing and get involved! Get active!

73 de Editor/KE4HCT

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## Hurricane Season Frequencies Listed

3815	Inter-Island 75 meter Net	14185	Caribbean Emergency
7165	Antigua/Antilles Net	7115	Caribbean Maritime Mobile
14275	Caribus Net		1200 Z
14283	Health & Welfare traffic	3808	Caribbean Weather
14303	Health & Welfare traffic		1030 Z
14316	Maritime Mobile Net	21390	Interamericas Health & Welfare
14325	Hurricane Watch Net		
21310	Health & Welfare (Spanish)		

\* Note - This might be a good time to recheck your storm supplies. Items like batteries, candles, radios, flashlights, canned goods, fuel, lanterns and other like items. Test them before you might really need them. **Be prepared!**  
-The Editor

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Courtesy of W4PVA/ARRL Letter

# KE4HCT'S "BELIEVE IT OR NOT!"

*One night in the recent past I was unable to get to sleep, so I logged onto the OVH Node and then onto BBSHRG and stumbled across one of the most interesting packet messages. I'm sure you will agree once you glance through this story!*

*You really have to ask yourself this (especially you folks out there with "killer" stations and "booming" towers!)...could this really happen in our local area? My answer...you better believe it!*

*Good golly Miss Molly!*

*Many thanks go out to N2TDU for taking the time to send out the story.*

Date: 27 Aug 94 01:49

Message-ID: <35412@N2KZH>  
(25408@N4WJN)

From: N2TDU@N2KZH

To: INFO@USA

Subject: Ham radio court settlement

Path:

N4WJN!KF4TE!WB3FFV!KA4P!N3HYM!K  
D3O!WX3K!WB0TAX ...

From: N2TDU@N2KZH.NJ.USA.NA

To : INFO@USBBS

The following is from the Asbury Park Press  
(Friday, Aug. 26, 1994 pg A12):

## "NEIGHBOR ENDS FIGHT ON USE OF HAM RADIO"

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP - After seven years of fighting, the last four in court, a township resident has settled his dispute with his ham radio operating neighbors by buying their house.

Based on a settlement reached Wednesday, Robert Schnabel

of 16 Demaret Court will pay \$96,000 to buy the home of his neighbors, Anthony and Sharon Marino, 12 Demaret Court. The Marinos' homeowners insurance company, Aetna, will cover \$17,500 of that cost, Schnabel said.

Schnabel and neighbors Michael R. and Marlene Morris of 35 Hogan Court, sued the Marinos, saying the Marinos' amateur radio station, with its towering 64-foot antenna, was electronically interfering with their lives.

They say the Marinos' radio signals pour into their homes through their televisions, telephones, answering machines and even their doorbells. They say the problem has been steadily getting worse, despite persistent pleas for relief.

The Marinos, were told by their lawyer, Judith A. Schneider of Evesham Township, not to speak with the media, could not be reached for comment yesterday, nor could Schneider.

"I'm satisfied as far as the thing being over," Schnabel said yesterday. "We got what we set out to get. It cost a hell of a lot more than we expected."

In their lawsuit, the plaintiffs had asked to have the ham radio operation shut down. They also wanted the Marinos to pay for their legal expenses, as well as more than \$90,000 to cover the loss of property value they say their homes suffered because of the Marinos' radio.

They got neither under the settlement. Schnabel has taken it upon himself to pay the more than \$35,000 in legal bills he and the Morrises have racked up, because he is a widower with no immediate dependents and the Morrises have three young children. Schnabel's wife, Sophia, one of the original plaintiffs, died of cancer in January.

Schnabel said he plans to resell the Marino home as soon as he can. Since the radio station will be shut down, the property values on the Schnabel and Morris homes should climb back up, he said. Aetna had been paying the Marinos' legal bills all along, and the plaintiffs' lawyer, Joseph P. Quinn of Belmar, said he believed the insurance company would have used its deep pockets to fight as long as it could.

The suit was predicated on the idea that the Marinos were essentially electronically trespassing in the Morris and Schnabel homes. However, it appeared that federal laws favored the Marinos.

According to spokesman for the Federal Communications Commission and the American Radio Relay League, a

hobby group. federal laws generally favor the rights of radio operators, because they can use their radios in times of emergencies.

But the Morrises and Schnabel were optimistic they could win if the case were put before a jury. Schnabel said he would have liked to see it go that far, but admitted the cost might have proved prohibitive.

"I am not a millionaire," he said.

"I think everybody came out feeling happy," said Mrs. Morris. "As long as I'm able to live in my home in peace, I guess it's worth it in the long run."

According to the settlement, the Marinos will be able to live in the house as Schnabel's tenants for a "reasonable period of time" before they must move. Schnabel said he thinks two or three months should be adequate for them to find a new home.

\*\*\* END OF ARTICLE \*\*\*

I don't know about you but this certainly did make me think. Are my neighbors going to take me to court because I interfere with their inadequate consumer grade electronic gadgets. I think the problem could have been solved certainly for less than \$35,000 in legal fees and \$96,000 for the house. There had to be more in this than is being said and I hope the Marinos can find peace somewhere else.

What's your opinion? I would like to know. Please send me a reply via packet.

73 de Jeff

N2TDU @ N2KZH.NJ.USA.NA

*Sometimes you just have to wonder about life in general!*

*The Editor KE4HCT*

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## The Wizard Of Wireless - A Sad Follow-Up...

**Marchesa M. Cristina Bezzi Scali** died July 15, 1994, at the age of 94. The wife of Guglielmo Marconi, the two were married in 1927 and had a daughter, named Elettra. Marconi died in 1937 at the age of 63. Elettra will continue the family's work in preparation of "1995, Year Of Guglielmo Marconi". This will be the centennial celebration of Marconi's first wireless telegraph.

-Sept QST

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### VEC EXAMINATION - North Point FM Association

**OCTOBER 29, 1994 @ 9:00 AM, Located at the Lord Fairfax Community College, Middletown, VA.**

Take I-66 W to I-81 N, Exit 302 W to Rt. 11N, the college is on the right. No pre-registration. ARRI, fee exam. Try to be there by 8:00 AM to fill out the paperwork. All license classes available for testing. See you there! - The Editor

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## International News From Across The Great Pond !!!

Word has been received that Mike/G0VEZ (WV3H) is alive and well! Mike can now be reached at the following packet address - G0VEZ @ N3HYM.MD.USA.NOAM. Mike has informed the TIMES that he would like to make some QSO's while he is operating GB4BSA for the Boy Scouts, on the air from Great Britain Oct 15 to 16.

The TIMES is proud to announce that G0VEZ will add a little international flavor to this publication by becoming a contributing columnist with the new column "Hamming In The UK"! Stay tuned folks!

## Night Out ...The October OVH Club Meeting

### Dan Johnson/KC4EWT Named "OVH Ham Of The Month"!

It had come to the President's attention that the OVH Club was having some difficulty naming a chairperson to the Refreshment Committee. It seemed that no one wanted to volunteer for the post, which is probably one of the most important positions to hold in the club! The Refreshment Committee provides all the "goodies" for the members at the so-called break time at the club meeting. In the meantime, Jimmy/WA2QEJ and Mary Lou/KB4EFP had been assuming the duties. Not any more! Our thanks go out to both of you for filling the void. A suggestion was made by Scott/KE4HCT TO allow the winner of the 50 - 50 drawing to assume the chairmanship of the Refreshment Committee for the next month! The idea seemed to carry the approval of the club membership in attendance. And so the drawing was conducted!

The first number was called...but no one claimed to have the winning number! Hmm. Now, we were talking a large sum of winnings here. Something to the tune of \$7.50 ! A good many laughs were heard as we all tried to figure out who had that winning number, but didn't step forward.

You folks know who you are, and I wonder how you managed to go to sleep that night, with this on your conscious.

Undaunted, a second number was called out! Again, no winner stepped forward. I was beginning to feel guilty that I had made this terrific suggestion, but simply forgot to purchase a ticket of my own! Well, not really. Anyway, we're getting to the "Ham Of The Month" story punch line.

Finally, a third number was called out and Dan Johnson/KC4EWT bravely stood up in the crowd and courageously claimed the winning number for \$7.50 and the October Refreshment Committee chairmanship! Well done Dan! It with honor and distinction that we here at the OVH Times, name Dan Johnson/KC4EWT...The October OVH Ham Of The Month for his actions that were above and beyond the call of duty, on the night of September 19th, 1994! Dan feared not where others trembled. Hold your head high Dan, because you're a "good sport" and have the right stuff! Congratulations. Oh yea, don't forget the Bavarian cremes next month!

Art/W1CRO also talked briefly about addressing the repeater coverage issue. We should all support Art and provide any assistance that we can. Art definitely has a plan of action that will provide the club with some facts and hard data. This is information that the club members will need when it comes to making a decision about

repeater coverage in the near future. Go for it Art!

Thanks also go out to Harry/W4PVA for the neat demonstration of his direction finding gear. I almost forgot what a club "program" was. Good job Harry!

A good time was had by all on meeting night. If you happen to run into Dan, don't forget to congratulate him on being "The OVH Ham Of The Month"!

If you didn't make it this last month, you missed a good time and an opportunity to socialize with some fine folks. Try to make it this month, we sure would like to see all of you. The OVH Club has over a 100 members and it takes a quorum of 25 to make any club decisions or policies.

### Educational Committee Posts Filled !!!

Just when you thought it wasn't safe to go outside! Late breaking news from the club meeting in September has it on a good word, that Erv/KD4DFB and Charlie/WA4YGI have taken over the reins of the Educational Committee.

By the time you read this, Erv and Charlie will have started a No Code Tech Class on 9-27-94 thru 11-14-94, starting at 7:00 PM at Stonewall Senior High in classroom 3B. This will be every Tuesday night. The class will finish in time for the OVH VEC Exam in November. It's never too late to enter the class, if you missed the start of it! Call Erv at 335-1029 or Charlie at 361-3091 for further.

*VEC Examination - Coming this November!*

*You are cordially invited...*

*Harry/W4PVA has confirmed the OVH VEC Examination date as November 19th, at the Manassas Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. The exam will be held in room MS 002, which is in the rear of the campus and will begin at 9:00 AM.*

*The exams will finish around noon. This is an open exam session and no pre-registration is required. See you there!*

Note - Any available registered examiners willing to assist Harry, should contact him immediately. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

## Manassas Air Show Classic '94 A Success !

On Saturday and Sunday, September 17 & 18, the Manassas municipal airport held their 2nd annual air show and the OVH club was again invited to set up a booth and demonstration.

The following hams participated in the event, which was led by their fearless leader, Steve N4OGR (with the company of YL Jan):  
KD4KBX Alan  
KQ4PA Jared  
KE4JWY Chuck and his WXY Lynn  
KD4DFB Irv and KE4JWZ Cathy  
K3ICH Charlie  
W4PVA Harry

The only glitch that turned up Saturday morning was the absence of the generators, that the airport stated that they would provide. However, just after the completion of set-up, the generators arrived.

According to Steve, 9 messages for the spectators were sent through the National Traffic System via packet. On Saturday, 10 HF contacts were made. On Sunday, Charlie K3ICH showed up with some extra equipment, which allowed the power output to range between 500 and 600 watts! A total of 96 HF contacts were made this day. A OVH special event's certificate will be mailed to all of those who confirm their contact with a QSL card.

Some of the attractions of the air show included a B-25 bomber, the Flying Farmer, and the Shockwave (which is a 3 engine jet-powered Peterbilt Truck that can reach over 300 mph). The Shockwave raced a stunt plane down the runway and won. It appeared that everyone had a good time.

The OVH folks who participated in the event did a fine job representing the OVH Club and deserve a "pat on the back". Well Done!

Oh, and Steve...don't bring the "door" again!

The Editor

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## NEWS FROM THE ARRL

QST DE W1AW  
**ARRL BULLETIN 74 ARLB074**  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT SEPTEMBER 22, 1994

### TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

### A NEW FCC SERVICE

THE FCC HAS INSTITUTED A TOLL-FREE PHONE LINE AT ITS GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA LICENSING DIVISION FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE INQUIRIES. AMATEURS MAY CALL 800-322-1117 WEEKDAYS BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM EASTERN TIME TO ACCESS AN AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEM WITH RECORDED MESSAGES ON INTERFERENCE COMPLAINTS, FORM REQUESTS, RECORDS, AND AMATEUR RADIO CALL SIGN ASSIGNMENTS. OTHER MESSAGES REGARD FEE INFORMATION AND PROCESSING TIMES. A TOUCHTONE TELEPHONE IS REQUIRED.

THE FCC SAID THE NEW SERVICE WAS PART OF ITS RESPONSE

TO A PRESIDENTIAL ORDER THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BE "CUSTOMER DRIVEN." THE FCC SAID IT USED A SERIES OF FOCUS GROUPS WITH EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS TO IDENTIFY THE DESIRE FOR AN 800 NUMBER AT ITS LICENSING DIVISION.

"WITHIN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS," THE FCC SAID, "CUSTOMER SERVICE STANDARDS WILL BE DEVELOPED FOR OTHER AREAS OF COMMISSION OPERATIONS TO ENSURE THAT FCC CUSTOMERS RECEIVE THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF SERVICE POSSIBLE. AS THESE NEW STANDARDS BECOME AVAILABLE, THE FCC WILL INFORM ITS CUSTOMERS."

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## LICENSE EXPIRATION DATES

AMATEURS RECEIVING NEW OR MODIFIED FCC LICENSES AFTER JUNE 8, 1994 SHOULD CAREFULLY NOTE THEIR EXPIRATION DATE. ONLY NEW, FIRST LICENSES OR SPECIFIC RENEWALS HAVE A FULL TEN-YEAR TERM. AMATEUR LICENSE UPGRADES, CHANGES OF ADDRESS, CALL SIGN, OR NAME, ARE PROCESSED WITH THE ORIGINAL EXPIRATION DATE INTACT. THE FCC, USING NEW COMPUTER SOFTWARE RECENTLY INSTALLED, IS PROCESSING AMATEUR LICENSES IN THIS MANNER TO CONFORM TO THE WAY IN WHICH IT PROCESSES ALL OTHER PRIVATE RADIO SERVICE LICENSES.

THE FCC CURRENTLY RECOMMENDS THAT AMATEURS SUBMIT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS 60 TO 90 DAYS BEFORE THEIR EXPIRATION DATE. THE COMMISSION SAID IT INTENDS EVENTUALLY TO MAIL LICENSE EXPIRATION NOTICES TO AMATEURS. IN THE MEANTIME, THE ARRL IS SENDING LICENSE EXPIRATION NOTICES TO ARRL MEMBERS, ALONG WITH AN FCC FORM 610 AND A RETURN ENVELOPE TO THE FCC'S LICENSING DIVISION IN GETTYSBURG.

JACK KELLEHER/W4ZC  
OCTOBER WORLD RADIO

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QST DE W1AW  
ARRL BULLETIN 78 ARLB078  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 3, 1994

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

## TECH LICENSE RENEWALS

IF YOU HOLD A TECHNICIAN CLASS LICENSE ISSUED BEFORE MARCH 16, 1991, THEN YOU AUTOMATICALLY ARE A TECHNICIAN LICENSEE WITH HF PRIVILEGES (A "TECH PLUS").

IN SOME RECENT INSTANCES THE FCC HAS PROCESSED THE RENEWAL OR MODIFICATION OF SUCH A TECH PLUS LICENSE BUT HAS MISTAKENLY ISSUED A "TECHNICIAN" (NO-CODE) LICENSE. (SINCE JUNE 8, 1994, NEW AND RENEWED TECH PLUS LICENSES HAVE BEEN CLEARLY LABELED AS SUCH).

IF THIS HAS HAPPENED TO YOU, DO THE FOLLOWING: WRITE TO THE FCC, EXPLAINING THE SITUATION, INCLUDING YOUR CURRENT LICENSE STATUS, WITH EFFECTIVE DATE. INCLUDE COPIES OF BOTH YOUR "BEFORE" AND "AFTER" LICENSES.

IF YOU NO LONGER HAVE EITHER A COPY OR THE ORIGINAL OF YOUR PREVIOUS LICENSE, SAY SO IN YOUR LETTER.

SEND THIS TO FCC, 1270 FAIRFIELD ROAD, GETTYSBURG PA 17325-7245 (OR FAX 717-337-1541). KEEP COPIES OF ALL YOUR CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE FCC. EXPECT THE MATTER TO TAKE FOUR TO SIX WEEKS TO BE RESOLVED. IN THE MEANTIME, YOU MAY CONTINUE TO EXERCISE "TECH PLUS" PRIVILEGES.

# MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER OVH MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19, 1994

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The meeting was called to order at 8:01 P.M. There were 22 members and 2 guests present for a total attendance of 24. A quorum was not present.

The Pledge of Allegiance by all members and signing of the attendance list opened the meeting, which was presided over by Erv. KD4DFB, club vice-president.

Erv thanked the following members on behalf of the President:

Scott, KE4HCT, for assuming the position of newsletter editor left vacant by the recent departure of Jay, NS5N;

Art, W1CRO, for his club history presented in the last newsletter; Steve, N4OGR, for organizing the special event station at the air show in Manassas, as well as those members who helped in operating the station.

Erv also announced that he will serve as the new chairman of the Education Committee. A replacement will be sought for Greg, N4NRK, as club historian. John Kanode, N4MM, a club member, is seeking re-election as ARRL Roanoke Division Director.

There was no program at this meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no reports from the Finance, Packet, Technical, Computer, Education, Field Day, or Program Committees, nor from the FAR Representative.

Jim, WA2QEJ, read the Treasurer's report. It was accepted unanimously on a motion by Art, W1CRO, and seconded by Tim, KB4NR.

Mary Lou, KB4EFP, reminded members about the upcoming picnic on September 24.

Harry, W4PVA, reported that the club

will conduct an exam session on Saturday, November 19, in room MS002 at the Manassas campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Prince William County will be hosting a bike tour on Saturday, September 24, and at least three or four additional operators are needed to help provide communications for the event. Joe, AB4QV, was informed that a third circuit of 43 miles was being added to the two other tours that day, increasing the need for operators.

Erv, KD4DFB, presented the Membership Committee report. An application was read from Steve Sondag, WA4TDH.

Scott, KE4HCT, gave the Hamfest Committee report. A meeting to review the 1994 hamfest is tentatively scheduled.

Scott also gave the Newsletter Committee report. The deadline for submissions will be the 9th of each month. The masthead will be reduced in size and detail unless there are changes from the previous month. Contributions are welcomed. The layout will be changed to tabloid format instead of the current single sheet format.

## OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

## NEW BUSINESS

In light of the FCC decision to auction government spectrum to commercial entities, Tim, KB4NR, recommended that the club apply for coordination of repeater and/or beacon frequencies in bands at UHF and above as a hedge against revocation of amateur allocations in these bands.

Erv, KD4DFB, suggested that the function of the Refreshments Chairman be rotated monthly among the membership. Scott, KE4HCT recommended that the responsibility

for the succeeding month should fall on the winner of the current month's 50-50 drawing.

Art, W1CRO, addressed the club about quantitatively assessing the repeater's current coverage with calibrated receivers at specified locations in order to determine how it may best be improved. The means to link a remote receiver to the repeater site would be costly if a leased phone line were chosen, and subject to increased intermod and QRM if a UHF or microwave link were employed. The repeater's current site and frequency coordination are beset with intermod problems. For example, a mixer product from the 1kW NOAA transmitter at Independent Hill and the 400W NOVEC load management transmitter falls within 7500 Hz of the repeater input, causing significant interference during periods of cold weather.

Steve, N4OGR, reported on the club's special event station at the Manassas air show on September 17 and 18. The station operators made 96 contacts and handled nine radiograms. A decision about how long to retain log data for answering QSL requests was left to Steve.

Two members declined to claim the 50-50 proceeds. On drawing of a third ticket, it was won by Dan, KC4EWT.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

After the meeting, Harry, W4PVA, conducted a brief demonstration of direction finding using a simple TDOA unit that he constructed.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ivan Reeder,*  
KD4DFD  
Secretary