

The OVH ARC Newsletter
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 22110
Repeaters -- WA4FPM -- 146.970- & 224.660- & -- **KT4ER** -- 448.325-
OVH Nodes -- 145.030 Port 2: 223.660 (SysOp Use Only) Port 3: 223.540 MHZ
BBS--BBSHRG/N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

JULY 1996

**Next meeting: 15 July 1996
NOVEC Basement Meeting Room**

**Committee Chairperson's!!!! Need your input for the Newsletter!!!
(Editor)**

Message From the President

Hey OVH;

JTMOTH - what I call 'June, The Month Of The Ham' has now passed us by and what a month it was. Hamfest, VE's, Field Day, Bike rides and the resurgence of ARES. This is why I love the ham community. Somehow, we (OVH members) accepted and rose above all obstacles thereby successfully conquering these events. With a swelled chest, my chin up and with all my heart. THANKS to all OVH and their families.

A special THANKS to **Rick/KU3M** for organizing the best-run field day I've seen in my short 'ham career'. My two most memorable moments were watching **Boris/WF3J** on his 'keyer' and **Charlie/WA4YGI** allegedly sending an SOS. The 'Feast in the Field' was provided by the dynamic duo of Rich/KE4TMV (master chef & phone op.) and **Rita/KE4TMU** (dietitian and master chef); a most important job well done (not related to cooking).

It appears as if we specialize in CW or phone for field day. Maybe next year we can combine both for a booming time by all.

A special THANKS to the 14 hams who helped with the 2 days of the BVA Civil War Odyssey Bike tour. This was an outstanding response due to the first day being on field day and the 2nd on a work day.

With the summer 'doldrums' upon us, let's keep an open schedule for our monthly meetings. We still need progress in the ARES world and I'll be getting 'programs' started up again.

TNX FER LISTENING.....73 es CUATM de **Erv/KT4DS**

ZIP CODES HAVE CHANGED!

The Zip Code for most people locally changed on July 1. The club needs you to tell us your new Zip Code for our records.

Post Office Box 1255

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

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Manassas, VA. 22110

OFFICERS

President: Ervin Whalen KT4DS
Vice Pres: Ivan Reeder KT4DZ
Secretary: Charlie Dale WA4YGI
Treasurer: Joe Tutino AB4QV

DIRECTORS

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

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Bob Wikfors KF4FJC

1996 HAMFEST COCHAIRMAN

Jack N4YIC
Woody KD4DEG

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 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: Steve Meade KB4OF,
PO Box 1418, Manassas, VA 22110-1418.

Letters to the Editor and Classified Ads are accepted and welcome. Approx. Circulation - 170

ARES/RACES

Under the ARES banner, OVH was asked to support a Bike Virginia - Civil War Odyssey bike tour starting/finishing in Manassas with 4 days of cycling through the civil war areas of Fredericksburg, Bowling Green, Culpepper and Warrenton (which was supported by other clubs). 14 OVH members volunteered for this event. Roughly, one-half of them 'worked' a public service event for the first time. This effort proved to be a great learning event for them and most said "This is great - when can I do it again?".

We provided assistance for two bike accidents, one of which required medical services for 2 riders. Nothing apparently serious but they were medevac'ed for further analysis.

Formal message traffic was handled by **Maury/W0HYB** and **Matt/KC4ZPM**. (Formal message traffic is entered into and removed from the National Traffic System (NTS) via the Northern Virginia Traffic Net (NVTN) which meets daily at 1930L on 147.300 Mhz.)

An upcoming ARES event is the NCAC Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Scheduled for **17 Aug 96**. This test is to determine our 'disaster' communications capabilities in the Washington D.C. area. This includes setting up at emergency shelters, passing traffic to the County (or equivalent) Command Post, the District 2/NCAC command Post on up to the NTS. The test is projected to last about 4 hours. Therefore, get your ARES registration updated and be prepared to assist in this event if you can.

Erv/KT4DS

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
June 17, 1996

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 PM, with 36 members and 4 guests present for a total attendance of 40.

The meeting was presided over by Erv, KT4DS, and was opened with the pledge of allegiance, oral roll call, and signing of the attendance list. Erv extended a special thanks to all OVH members who assisted with the HAMFEST, especially **Jack/N4YIC** and **Jim/WD4OJY**. He also extended the clubs thanks, which included a roaring round of applause from all present, to **Butch/W4HJL** and **Mary Lou/KB4EFP** for all the work that they have done, and continue to do for OVH, everyday of the year. Erv also thanked **Harry/W4PVA** for his work on the VEC exams and the Virginia bike tour..

On a motion by Erv, the minutes of the May meeting were accepted as read.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER

Joe/AB4QV advised that the Treasurer's report was not available due to computer problems.

FIELD DAY

Rick/KU3M reports that all is set and ready to go. However he does need one more HF station. **Boris/WF3J** volunteered his keyer and **Bob/KE4HCX** offered to donate his laptop for logging assistance. **Charlie/WA4YGI** made a motion to have the committee nominate someone to discuss with the County new expenses for Long Park next year, the motion was seconded and accepted as stated..

TECHNICAL

Butch/W4HJL reported that further action was being taken by the committee to further identify the interference on the 2M repeater.

SUNSHINE

A get well card was circulated for all to sign wishing **Bob McMann/N4RL** a speedy recovery from his recent surgery.

MEMBERSHIP

Bob/KF4FJC read in: **Cyril Fedor/K3DKA**, **Eida Willis/no call**, **John Jester/no call**, **Jerry Teets/no call**, **Frank Aiello/no call**, **Michael Scott/KF4CJH** and **Eric Lambert/KF4HGC**. Voted in were: **Charles Haithcock (Len/KJ4U)**, **Jeffrey Poulin/KF4JSV** and **Loren Carlson KI6NF**.

OLD BUSINESS

Harry/W4PVA reported that during the recent VEC exams there were 30 candidates taking 58 elements, of which 36 were passed for a 62% passing rate and 12 new Hams.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank Aiello, volunteered to set up an OVH Home Page on the Internet WWW. You can E-mail him at faiello@site.gmu.edu.

Erv/KT4DS announced that there will be an ARES simulated emergency test on August 17. He will publish full details. If interested in ARES membership give Erv a call.

Joe/AB4QV announced that we made \$202 on the Hamfest Bake sale. The club will match that amount and donate it to the Cancer or Heartfund, whichever was noted on the Bake sale table.

Charlie/KE4JWY solicited donors for the local Blood Drive being conducted on 22 June.

PROGRAM

Harry/W4PVA gave a short presentation on voltage converters from years past. He also discussed the QST article regarding the commercial attempt to take over the 2m and 440 bands for their Low Earth Orbiting (LEO) satellites. There will be an OVH form letter attached to the next Newsletter for all to work up a proper response as suggested by the ARRL.

The 50/50 was won by **Charles/KF4FJF**.

Respectfully Submitted
Charlie/WA4YGI

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES)

(From the 'ARES Field Resources Manual' published by ARRL)

Prepared by Erv Whalen/KT4DS

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of licensed amateur who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public interest when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible for membership in the ARES. The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve. Because ARES is an amateur service, only amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

There are three levels of ARES organization--section, district, and local. At the section level, the Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) is appointed by the Section Manager (SM - who is elected by the ARRL members in his section) and works under his supervision. In most sections, the SM delegates to the SEC the administration of the section emergency plan and the authority to appoint district and local ECs.

It is at the local level where most of the organization and operation is effected, because this is the level at which most emergencies occur and the level at which ARES leadership makes direct contact with the ARES member-volunteers and with officials of the agencies to be served. The local EC is therefore the key contact in the ARES. The EC is appointed by the SEC, usually on the recommendation of the district EC. Depending on how the SEC has set up the section for administrative purposes, the EC may have jurisdiction over a small community or a large city, an entire county or even a group of counties. Whatever jurisdiction is assigned the EC is in charge of all ARES activities in his area, not just one interest group, one agency, one club or one band.

In large sections, the SECs have the option of grouping their EC jurisdictions into "districts" and appointing a district EC (DEC) to coordinate the activities of the local ECs. In some cases, the districts may conform to the boundaries of governmental planning or emergency-operations districts, while in others they are simply based on repeater coverage or geographical boundaries.

Special-interest groups (i.e. clubs) are headed up by "assistant emergency coordinators (AEC)," designated by the EC to supervise activities of groups operating in certain bands, especially those groups which play an important role at the local level, but they may be designated in any manner the EC deems appropriate. These assistants, with the EC as chairman, constitute the local ARES "planning committee" and they meet together to discuss problems and plan projects to keep the ARES group active and well-trained.

There are any number of different situations and circumstances that might confront an EC, and his ARES unit should be organized in anticipation of them. There is no specific point at which organization ceases and operation commences. Both phases must be concurrent because a living organization is a changing one, and the operations of a changing organization must change with the organization.

To all OVH members:

This form letter is an example to use when drafting your personal letter to the FCC. Please feel free to use all or only portions, but do write a letter regarding this very important matter ASAP. TKS & 73.

Office Of The Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

or via E-mail to: wrc97@fcc.gov

Ref. No. ISP-96-005 - Advisory Committee Informal Working Group 2A.

I am writing to urge you to reject the proposed reallocation of two frequency bands (144 - 148Mhz and 420 - 450Mhz) from the Amateur Radio Service (Hams) to the little LEOs industry. Both are already used extensively for satellite services, moonbounce and extended-range terrestrial operations requiring extremely sensitive receivers and high levels of effective radiated power. Of all the frequencies allocated to Hams in the US, these are the most critical as they are considered the backbone of local public service activities.

Ham radio has a long and honorable public service tradition of providing communications in emergencies of all descriptions, local, regional and national. Even in this era of PC's and cellular telephones, this continues to be true. No one with the slightest background in radio communications could possibly believe that a mobile-satellite service could be introduced into either band without disrupting existing and future public service and other amateur operations.

In a major emergency, commercial telecommunications facilities that are still capable of operation are often overloaded, and ham radio volunteers fill the gap. The mainstay of these efforts is almost always the VHF and UHF networks that have been built and maintained by Hams.

Hams routinely provide public service communications for non-emergency events as well, events like the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington D.C. and similar local community events nationwide. Here again, the VHF and UHF spectra are the key to supporting these activities.

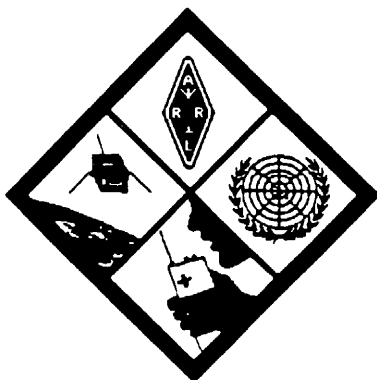
The Ham VHF/UHF networks are also the main communications support structure for voice and data traffic passing on a worldwide basis. The US Amateur service would literally be out of touch with the rest of the worldwide community if these bands were to be reallocated.

So, you can readily see that these two bands are critically essential to not only the Amateur radio enthusiast, but to the general public as well. We therefore request that you reject this reallocation and we thank you for your attention and consideration.

Respectfully,

Name, town or city, and telephone no.

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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