

The OVH ARC Newsletter  
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108  
Repeaters -- WA4FPM -- 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+  
OVH Nodes -- 145.030 Port 2: 223.660 (SysOp Use Only) Port 3: 223.540 MHZ  
BBS--BBSNVA/N4WJN (SYSOP--BILL)  
<http://www.qsl.net/olevahams>

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

JULY 1997

**Next meeting: 21 July, 1997  
NOVEC Basement Meeting Room**

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

## **Message From the President**

OVH Members,

Thanks again to all who helped with the hamfest. It's unfortunate that the rain spoiled part of the day, but all in all it turned out well. Now comes the task of preparing for next year's hamfest. I hope that Jack will consider running the show again next year.

**Field Day** -- I'm working on the logs, and will provide a final score at the July meeting. Due to family commitments I was unable to attend this year, but from what information I received, the turnout was excellent. Thanks to all who took part in this year's event. As a final note, next year's chairperson slot is open. If you are interested in organizing Field Day '98, please let me know.

**Committees** - OVH has an opening for someone to chair the Education Committee. Anyone who can spare a few hours and would like to take on this role, please get in touch with me.

**Newsletter** -- If anyone is interested in seeing columns on DX, Contesting, Packet, Antennas, Software or any other area of Amateur Radio, being added to the newsletter, please speak up. The club has a wide range of talents and maybe some of you would like to share your knowledge or even volunteer to be editor. Comments are welcome!

73's

RICK MICHAEL/KU3M  
[rmicheal@erols.com](mailto:rmicheal@erols.com)

**"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"**  
 Post Office Box 1255  
 Manassas, VA. 20108

**OFFICERS**

|                         |        |          |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|
| President: Rick Michael | KU3M   | 791-3775 |
| Vice Pres: Charlie Dale | WA4YGI | 361-3091 |
| Secretary: Jeff Poulin  | KF4JSV | 361-5865 |
| Treasurer: Jim Hawk     | N3ODZ  | 361-2543 |

**DIRECTORS**

|                     |       |          |
|---------------------|-------|----------|
| Bob McCann          | N4RL  | 361-7335 |
| Don (Butch) Blasdel | W4HJL | 369-2877 |
| Tim Wayne           | KB4NR | 494-2737 |

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

|             |        |          |
|-------------|--------|----------|
| Bob Wikfors | KF4FJC | 361-8059 |
|-------------|--------|----------|

**WEEKLY NETS**

|                     |               |          |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|
| Thursdays - 8:00 PM | W4PVA (Harry) | 368-6050 |
| Sundays - 8:00 PM   | KF4FJD (Lisa) | 330-1473 |

**HAMFEST 1998**

TBD

**FIELD DAY 1997**

|              |      |          |
|--------------|------|----------|
| Rick Michael | KU3M | 791-3775 |
|--------------|------|----------|

**CLUB ROSTER**

|        |        |          |
|--------|--------|----------|
| Blaine | KB4RKL | 369-2877 |
|--------|--------|----------|

**EDUCATION**

|         |        |          |
|---------|--------|----------|
| Charlie | WA4YGI | 361-3091 |
|---------|--------|----------|

**CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR**

|         |       |          |
|---------|-------|----------|
| Harry * | W4PVA | 368-6050 |
|---------|-------|----------|

**ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR**

|     |       |          |
|-----|-------|----------|
| Erv | KT4DS | 335-1029 |
|-----|-------|----------|

**F.A.R. REP.**

|        |        |          |
|--------|--------|----------|
| Alan * | KD4KBX | 330-8844 |
|--------|--------|----------|

**FINANCE**

|            |           |          |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| Mike       | WV3H      | 753-9346 |
| Pete       | KB4RME    | 369-2436 |
| Mary Lu    | KB4EFP    | 369-2877 |
| OVH Treas. | Jim/N3ODZ | 361-2543 |

**GENERATORS**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Tommy | KA4AFU | 369-2741 |
|-------|--------|----------|

**HISTORIAN**

T B D

**HOME PAGE**

|       |       |          |
|-------|-------|----------|
| Frank | K3TRM | 266-0852 |
| Milt  | N4SN  | 369-7265 |

**NEWSLETTER**

|       |       |          |
|-------|-------|----------|
| Steve | KB4OF | 368-6901 |
|-------|-------|----------|

**NEWSLINE**

|      |      |          |
|------|------|----------|
| Mike | WV3H | 753-9346 |
|------|------|----------|

**PACKET**

|      |        |          |
|------|--------|----------|
| Alan | KD4KBX | 330-8844 |
| Bill | N4WJN  | 590-9562 |

**PICNIC**

TBD

**PROGRAM'S**

|     |        |          |
|-----|--------|----------|
| Jim | WD4OJY | 369-3940 |
|-----|--------|----------|

**PUBLICITY**

|     |       |          |
|-----|-------|----------|
| Ken | KM4UH | 369-5287 |
|-----|-------|----------|

**Q' MASTER**

|     |       |          |
|-----|-------|----------|
| Jim | N3ODZ | 361-2543 |
|-----|-------|----------|

**REPEATER CONTROLLERS**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Art   | W1CRO  | 791-4330 |
| Butch | W4HJL  | 369-2877 |
| Milt  | N4SN   | 369-7265 |
| Russ  | WB4HHN | 368-6435 |
| Steve | KB4OF  | 368-6901 |
| Tim   | KB4NR  | 494-2737 |
| Steve | N4OGR  | 361-0008 |
| Alan  | KD4KBX | 330-8844 |

**REPEATER TRUSTEE**

|     |       |          |
|-----|-------|----------|
| Art | W1CRO | 791-4330 |
|-----|-------|----------|

**SCHOLARSHIP**

|      |        |          |
|------|--------|----------|
| Pete | KB4RME | 369-2436 |
|------|--------|----------|

**SUNSHINE**

|     |        |          |
|-----|--------|----------|
| Jan | KE4TMW | 257-0897 |
|-----|--------|----------|

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Art   | W1CRO  | 791-4330 |
| Alan  | KD4KBX | 330-8844 |
| Butch | W4HJL  | 369-2877 |
| Jimmy | WA2QEJ | 791-2932 |

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 20108-1418. Or to sameade@erols.com

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

**OLE VIRGINIA HAMS  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

June 16, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 8 PM by **Rick/KU3M**, with 24 members and 4 guests attending. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, oral roll call and signing the attendance sheet. Rick welcomed the new people.

**Charlie/WA4YGI**, read the Treasurer's report in Jim Hawk's absence.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Hamfest** – **Jack/N4YIC**, reported that negotiations for next year will begin this Wednesday. He thanked everyone for their efforts. The bake sale raised about \$200.00 for charity. The rain caused some problems with attendance but was not too severe. The Hamfest made less than usual but the club still came out ahead.

**Field Day** – **Rick/KU3M**, reported that he still needs volunteers, computers for logging, someone to coordinate food and drink, and a name to be registered with Park Rangers for overnight use of the pavilion. He also stated that the generators and other OVH gear will be moved next Saturday at 9 AM.

**ARES** – **Erv/KT4DS**, told the meeting about the **FARfest**, to be held September 7, in Gaithersburg. He gave a reminder about the **Virginia ARES** net held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 PM on 3963 MHz.

**Membership** – **Lisa/KF4FJD**, read in the names of four people applying to join the OVH.

There was no Technical Committee report at this meeting. Several members expressed concern that the club doesn't know where various matters stand.

**NEW BUSINESS**

OVH received a certificate from John Kanode recognizing that OVH has been an ARRL member club for 25 years.

**Steve/N4OGR**, raised a question about increasing the size of the OVH rented storage facility.

**Rita/KE4TMU**, won 50-50.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jeff/KF4JSV**

Recording Secretary

**SUNSHINE CORNER**

Happy birthday to these independent hams: **KB4KRO/Marc**, **KD4KBS/Gareth**, **N4YOB/John**, **KE4MJL/Jim**, **KC4IRL/Mike**, **N4IXV/George**, **KB0HAS/James**, our own Ole Virginia Times editor **KB4OF/Steve**, and his lovely wife **WD4RKH/Brenda**, **KA4SCA/Bernice**, **KB4BWM/Ken**, **KC4OLE/Aaron**, and **KB2CEV/Steve**. Have happy birthdays all.

Congratulations to **KE4MJL/Jim**, who upgraded to Advanced, and **KB4BWM/Ken**, who upgraded to General! Great job, guys!

Have a happy and safe 4th of July in our great country.

Thanks, **Jan/KE4TMW**

## 440 REPEATER UP AND RUNNING

The OVHARC 440 Repeater commenced operation on 11 July 1997 at the Northern Virginia Electric Coop site in Manassas. **Listen** for the repeater on **442.200 MHz**, **transmit** to it on **447.200 MHz**. No tone access required.

It does not have autopatch capability nor does it have a digital voice recorder (these features are only on the 146.97 and 224.550 repeaters.).

All amateurs are encouraged to try the new machine. We are interested in hearing what the actual coverage area is, so send your comments to [wlcro@monumental.com](mailto:wlcro@monumental.com) - or just pass the word on the air to **Art/W1CRO** or **Alan/KD4KBX** - or any one of the controllers.

73,  
Art/W1CRO

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## **“IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME” (or something like that !!!)**

**No, this isn't "Field of Dreams" the movie, but it is an accurate description of  
OVH's 1997 Field Day.**

On or about Wednesday, June 25th, we heard rumors through the “grapevine” (that is: e-mail and land line) that OVH was not having our annual Field Day! In fact, our “ham” household was invited to participate in another club's event so as not to miss out.

**W4HJL** wondered what could have happened to the folks at the last two meetings who volunteered their time and equipment (radios, antennas and miscellaneous gear) for this very worthwhile event. Could they have all changed their minds or had more important things to do? After all, Amateur Radio is a “**HOBBY**” and family issues always take priority, (unless you're part of an “all-ham” family like ours)!

After a couple of phone calls, it was apparent that these very people were **STILL** planning to attend and participate. For some, it would be their *very first* Field Day and “quite an experience” we were later told.

Field Day is an Emergency Preparedness Exercise where Amateur Radio Operators all over the United States and Canada practice their communication skills. During this time, they also make sure that their equipment, including antennas, radios, generators, etc. are operational and ready to be used in any emergency, local or worldwide. The week of June 23 through June 29th was proclaimed as “Amateur Radio Week” by the Prince William County Board of Supervisors (as seen in the Proclamation in last month's newsletter) because of the public assistance provided by Amateur Radio Operators in this county in the form of emergency radio communications.

The Set-Up Crew met at the Storage Shed with trucks at 9 AM on Saturday and then went on to James S. Long Park on Route #15. They proceeded to erect and test a 3-element beam, two verticals and a G5RV Dipole. The Set-Up Crew consisted of **N4YIC**, **W4HJL**, **WA2QEJ**, **NQ4Q**, **N4SN**, **KT4DS**, **KA4AFU** and **N3ODZ**. **Maury/W0HYB**, brought his whole station and operated the 24 hour period except when other club members that were present “spelled” him for food, nap time, etc. **Boris/WF3J**, brought his equipment also, and operated CW for hours on end for lots of points. **Jeff/KF4JSV**, brought his station and operated the Novice Station, both phone & CW. Others relieved him, including **Chuck Murphy/WA1FFX**. **Charlie/KE4JWY** brought out his packet station and even got **Jimmy/WA2QEJ** to make some contacts on packet. **Frank/K3TRM**, brought out his 6-meter gear and made contacts also. **Erv/KT4DS** set up his Information Booth with pamphlets and info about Ham Radio. Spending the night was **Milt/N4SN**, **Butch/W4HJL**, **Maury/W0HYB** and **Tommy/KA4AFU**, who took care of the generators the whole time.

**Butch/W4HJL and Jimmy/WA2QEJ**, cooked Lunch and Dinner on Saturday and Lunch again on Sunday before the "Take-Down." In all, there was a total of 25 OVH members who came to help out in some aspect, either to operate, help with the food, lend moral support or help with the take-down. There also were 8 visitors who were curious about Ham Radio and toured the facility.

OVH may not approach Field Day as a big "contest" as some clubs do, but we certainly proved that we could get "on the air" in time of emergency and be totally prepared and operational, which is what Field Day is all about. The fact that we accomplished this in such a short period of time, actually makes it much more "realistic." One suggestion for next year is that we have an "additional" station set up so that more hams could "operate" when they attend. It would put us in another Class, 3A, but isn't "preparedness" and practical experience what it's all about? OVH had a very successful 1997 Field Day Weekend and a good time was had by all who attended. Food was plentiful; cooperation, camaraderie and a "team effort" was present at all times.

**Mary Lu Blasdell**  
**KB4EFP**

**SIX METER ORIGINS**  
**Geo, K0FF**  
**(Provided by Neil, AB4YK)**  
and we got it from the FARA Toroid

If six meters seems tough and sometimes uncooperative, unpredictable, etc. IT IS. But this is by design not a dirty trick.

Way back right after WWII when the FCC was getting their act together regarding spectrum allocation of the "New TV" and FM channels, the ARRL was more or less given the opportunity to select the exact frequency for our band. At that time the FM broadcast band was in the 40 Mc range (anyone remember that ? for a time FM broadcast receivers were manufactured with BOTH the 42-48 Mc and the 88-108 Mc just in case) and used the Armstrong patents, but "Col." Sarnoff wanted it changed to the present 88-108 Mc so that he (NBC) wouldn't have to abide by standards set up by his arch rival Major Armstrong (the inventor of FM broadcasting, as well as the original Super regenerative receivers used by everyone in the early days).

Well, politics won out and the 40 Mc band was abandoned, and subsequently Armstrong committed suicide over it.

Anyhow the League could have had the 40 Mc instead of 50Mc band for us, as this really should have been channel 1 TV, and the old 56 Mc band (5 meters) had to be given up to make way for the present channel 2.. It was reported in QST at the time that the League was in favor of the higher (50 Mc) band because they felt like the 40 Mc frequency would be too similar to 10 meters and be "just another low-band".

Well they were right weren't they? 6 Meters is unlike any other band above it or below it!

And indeed it is a challenge. But it is one we chose, so embrace it for better or worse.

**N4QPB'S CONTEST NOTES**  
**(Retrieved from the ARRL Homepage at**  
**<http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/jul.html>)**  
and we got it from the FARA Toroid

**7/19-20/97:**

**Colombian Independence Contest**, 0000-2400Z Jul 19, CW or phone. EXCHANGE: No information provided.

**North American QSO Party**, RTTY, 1800Z Jul 19 to 0600Z Jul 20. Single op and multi-two. Multiops may operate full

12 hours, single ops no more than 10 hours (30 minute minimum). Multiops have a 10 minute rule; single ops may have only one transmitted signal at a time. All entries must use <150 W. EXCHANGE: name and state/province/DXCC country.

**QRP Summer Contest**, 1500Z Jul 19 to 1500Z Jul 20. Take at least 9 hours off in one or two periods. Single op. CW only. EXCHANGE: RST and serial no.

**SEANET Contest**, CW, 0000Z Jul 19 to 2400Z Jul 20 (phone is Aug 16-17). EXCHANGE: RS(T) and serial no. Non-SEANET stations work SEANET stations only.

**South Pacific 160 Meter Contest**, 0700-2330Z Jul 19. Phone or CW. EXCHANGE: No information provided. Work VK/ZL/P2 stations only.

**7/26-27/97:**

**Venezuelan Independence Day Contest**, CW. 0000Z Jul 26 to 2400 Z Jul 27. EXCHANGE: RS(T) and serial no.

**RSGB Islands-On-The-Air Contest**, 1200Z Jul 26 to 1200Z Jul 27. 80-10, phone and CW. Single op, phone/CW/mixed-mode; single op limited, phone/CW/mixed-mode; multi-single island stations. Single op limited stations may operate 12 hours max. EXCHANGE: RS(T), serial no. and IOTA reference no., if applicable. Island stations must send IOTA no.

**The Flight of the Bumblebees**, 1700-2100Z Jul 27. Home and portable. QRP (<5W) CW only. EXCHANGE: RST, state/province/DXCC country/name.

**8/02-03/97:**

**ARRL UHF Contest**

**North American QSO Party**, CW, 0600Z Aug 2 to 0600Z Aug 3 (phone is Aug 16-17). Single op and multi-two (10 min rule). Single ops may not use spotting nets or PacketCluster. and may have only one transmitted signal at a time. All entrants must use <150 W. EXCHANGE: Send RS(T) and state/province/DXCC country. North American stations (including KH6) work everyone; others work North American stations only.

**QRP ARCI Summer Daze SSB Sprint**, 1200-2000 local Aug 3, operate any 4 hours. Single band, all band, high (20-6) or low (160-40) band. Work stations once/band. EXCHANGE: RS, state/province/DXCC country and QRP ARCI no. if member (nonmembers send power output).

**Ten-Ten International Net Summer Phone Contest**, 0000Z Aug 2 to 2400Z Aug 3. Single op, phone only, 10 meters only. EXCHANGE: call sign, name, state and 10-10 number (if member).

**YO DX Contest**, 2000Z Aug 2 to 1600Z Aug 3. 80 to 10 meters, phone and CW. No cross-mode QSOs. EXCHANGE: signal report and ITU Zone. YO stations will send two letters indicating their county.

**8/09-10/97:**

**Maryland-DC QSO Party**, 1600-0400Z Aug 9 and 1600-2400Z Aug 10. Phone and CW, work stations once/band, portables/mobiles once from each county. No packet, repeater or net QSOs. MD-DC stations work everyone, others work MD-DC only. EXCHANGE: RS(T), state/province/DXCC country (MD-DC stations send county) and category (club, QRP, mobile, Novice/Tech and standard).

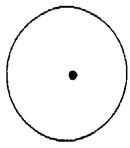
**Worked All Europe Contest**, CW, 0000Z Aug 9 to 2400Z Aug 10 (phone is Sep 13-14; RTTY is Nov 8-9). 80-10 only. Single op (PacketCluster or spotting nets allowed; 36 hours max, off periods at least 1 hour) and multi-single (only one signal/band). EXCHANGE: RS(T) and serial no.

# NOAA Weather Radio Transmitter Sites and Frequencies

Chan. Frequency (MHz)

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| 0 | proposed |
| 1 | 162.400  |
| 2 | 162.425  |
| 3 | 162.450  |
| 4 | 162.475  |
| 5 | 162.500  |
| 6 | 162.525  |
| 7 | 162.550  |

Typical reception area:  
40 mile radius



Compliments of  
Thunder Eagle, Inc.  
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(703) 242-0122  
thuneagle@aol.com

Manufacturer of the  
Weather Eagle 100™  
Weather Alert System



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FEMA Region III and Nearby Transmitters