



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

APRIL 1998

**Next meeting: 20 April 1998
NOVEC Basement Meeting Room**

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

Message From the President

Greetings OVH;

Surely everyone is enjoying our unprecedented weather. A ham's healthy diet is budding new hams.

If anyone has equipment (ie. overhead or 35mm slide projectors, etc.) for required club program use, contact Erv, KT4DS. This would be highly appreciated and on a one-night donation basis. Charlie, WA4YGI, is willing to teach code again, if a theory instructor will come forward.

A lot of dedication and thought along with just plain fun are put into our club nets: Harry's (W4PVA) on Thurs. night, plus Lisa's (KF4FJD) on Sun. night-- each respectively at 8pm. We need to support those that "give something back."

Come out for the April 20 meeting. John Kanode, N4MM, will be giving a program on latest happenings in ARRL. It is sure to be worth your while to attend.

Bills like SB480 will (hopefully) pass because we participate/support both public service and community events. Remember Congress takes note of this so SIGN UP! for as follows: Upcoming spring/early summer activities include: Nissan Ares drill on April 25, Nokesville bike ride (OVH function) on same April date, with June containing Hamfest (the 7th with set up the 6th), VE exams (the 13th), and Field Day running the 27th and 28th.

73 and here to serve YOU, See you Apr 20
Cathy/AE4UM

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA. 20108

<u>OFFICERS</u>			<u>MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN</u>		
President: Cathy Whalen	AE4UM	335-1029	Bob Wikfors	KF4FJC	361-8059
Vice Pres: Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091			
Secretary: Jeff Poulin	KF4JSV	361-5865	<u>NEWSLETTER</u>		
Treasurer: Larry Whitney	KA4CTX	369-0425	Steve	KB4OF	368-6901
<u>DIRECTORS</u>			<u>NEWSLINE</u>		
Bob McCann	N4RL	361-7335	Mike	WV3H	753-9346
Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877	<u>PACKET</u>		
Art Whittum	KX4AW	791-4330	Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
<u>WEEKLY NETS</u>			Bill	N4WJN	590-9562
Thursdays - 8:00 PM	W4PVA (Harry)	368-6050	<u>PICNIC</u>		
Sundays - 8:00 PM	KF4FJD (Lisa)	330-1473	Ellie	KF4NBO	361-8059
<u>HAMFEST 1998</u>			<u>PROGRAM'S</u>		
Jack	N4YIC	335-9139	TBD		
<u>FIELD DAY 1998</u>			<u>PUBLICITY</u>		
Maurly	W4HYB	331-2159	Ken	KM4UH	369-5287
<u>CLUB ROSTER</u>			<u>O' MASTER</u>		
Blaine	KB4RKL	369-2877	Jim	N3ODZ	361-2543
<u>EDUCATION</u>			<u>REPEATER CONTROLLERS</u>		
Charlie	WA4YGI	361-3091	Art	KX4AW	791-4330
<u>CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR</u>			Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
TBD			Milt	N4SN	369-7265
<u>ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR</u>			Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435
Erv	KT4DS	335-1029	Steve	KB4OF	368-6901
<u>F.A.R. REP.</u>			Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Alan *	KD4KBX	330-8844	Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
<u>FINANCE</u>			<u>REPEATER TRUSTEE</u>		
Mike	WV3H	753-9346	Art	KX4AW	791-4330
Pete	KB4RME	369-2436	<u>SCHOLARSHIP</u>		
Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877	Jack	N4YIC	335-9139
Jimmy	WA2QEJ	791-2932	<u>SUNSHINE</u>		
Larry	KA4CTX	369-0425	Jan	KE4TMW	257-0897
<u>GENERATORS</u>			<u>TECHNICAL COMMITTEE</u>		
Tommy	KA4AFU	369-2741	Art	KX4AW	791-4330
<u>HISTORIAN</u>			Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
T B D			Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
<u>HOME PAGE</u>			Jimmy	WA2QEJ	791-2932
Frank	K3TRM	266-0852			
Milt	N4SN	369-7265			

The OVH Times is the official publication of the "Ole Virginia Hams" ARC, 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 5th 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

MINUTES OF OVH MEETING

MARCH 16, 1998

Cathy/AE4UM, opened the meeting at 8:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance, oral roll call, and signing the attendance sheet. She welcomed the 26 members and 2 guests. The previous minutes were accepted unanimously. Cathy announced that **Maury/W4HYB**, will be the **Field Day** chairman and that the club needs an **Emergency Coordinator** for **ARES** functions, a chairman for the Programs committee, and a **FAR** Representative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer – **Larry/KA4CTX**, presented the account information which was accepted without questions.
Technical - **Art** is working on the 440 machine. He is also waiting for the proper FCC form to submit a new club call sign of **W4OVH**.
Hamfest – **Jack/N4YIC**, made more flyers available and urged people to distribute them. Things are generally on schedule and a minor problem with ticket printing should be resolved shortly. **Frank/K3TRM**, mentioned that the web site information for the hamfest is almost ready.
Finance – **Larry/KA4CTX**, reported that most budget items are at 1997 levels or lower. Packet allocations will fall below the request but **Don/W4HJL**, is donating a TNC to serve as a backbone device.
ARES – **Erv/KT4DS**, said that **Bill 480** has passed the state House and Senate but had not yet been signed by the governor. Also, **Erv** has 20 positions to fill for the **April 25 mass casualty drill**. Volunteers are needed for shadows, 5 mobile units and 2 at P.W. Hospital. This will also be discussed on the **Va. ARES net on 3.947 MHz on April 20**.
Scholarship – **Jack/N4YIC**, sent letters to 9 local high schools and asked for their input by May 1. He will write to the local newspapers about covering the awards ceremony at the May 18 meeting.
Membership - **Brian Fowler/KF4VTS** and **Robert Hornby** (no call sign) were voted in to the club unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

The **N4RAG Repeater Group** lost antennas due to ice damage this winter. **OVH** has an old antenna stored in **Art's** garage that hasn't been used in years. **Jim/WA2QEJ**, made a motion to donate the antenna to the **N4RAG** group. The motion passed unanimously.

PROGRAM

John Jester/KF4KKI, spoke about the **Incident Command System (ICS)**. The ICS can be used for any situation that calls for an organized response to solve a problem, especially for emergencies. It is designed to let those in charge respond to a situation with the appropriate level of resources and coordination and to vary that support as circumstances dictate. As part of search and rescue efforts, John has worked within the ICS many times. Although the ICS is comprehensive, dealing with everything from medical teams to box lunches to press relations, John addressed most of his talk to the communications aspects. Communications provides the backbone of the ICS effort. Radio operators are required to keep a log which can become part of a state required legal document. There is a constant emphasis on clear, concise language to avoid confusion and misunderstanding. The effectiveness of ICS and communications depends on common designations and references so that everyone is working from the same page. The radio operators are in the best position to notice inconsistencies and to bring such to the attention of the operations commander for correction. Also, there is a growing interest in packet radio for ICS use since it can provide a written record and is less likely to be intercepted by the press or perpetrators.

50-50 was won by **Dan/W4DKS**.
The meeting adjourned at 9:41 PM

Jeff Poulin/KF4JSV
Recording Secretary

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE

Retrieved from the ARRL Homepage

BRING TO THE EXAM:

- *Picture identification (Minors bring parent with picture ID)
- *Completed FCC Form 610 (most VE Teams will supply at exam)
- *Original and copy of current FCC amateur radio license
- *Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
- *Exam fee (\$6.25)

04/13/98
P Karras at KE3FL@JUNO.COM
301-831-5073
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Westminster, MD 21157

05/03/98
Freddie Battle
301-773-2898
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Palmer Park, MD 20785

04/16/98
Bill Dobson N3WD
410-HAM-TALK
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Towson, MD 21204

05/11/98
P Karras at KE3FL@JUNO.COM
301-831-5073
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Westminster, MD 21157

04/18/98
John Creel
301-572-5124
VEC: Laurel ARC
Laurel, MD 20707

05/16/98
John Creel
301-572-5124
VEC: Laurel ARC
Laurel, MD 20707

04/25/98
Louis Busby
410-378-2771
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Port Deposit, MD 21904

05/16/98
Ed Davis, KF2EN
410-239-8488
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Manchester, MD 21102

04/26/98
Robert Long KD3JK
301-824-5132
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Hagerstown, MD 21740

ARES/RACES by Erv / KT4DS

There are several emergency and public service events coming up in Prince William County that require a significant amount of amateur radio support. This year, it appears that several annual events are scheduled on the same day as opposed to being on consecutive weekends. This means that every ham should step up and support these activities.

Current events: The Northern VA EMS Council is sponsoring a mass casualty exercise on **Sat April 25**. The Nissan Pavillion, at full capacity will have a fire followed by a sniper. All VA ARES Dist. 2 will be involved. 45 victims will be transported to various area hospitals. We have been asked to support 5 hospitals, 12 shadows for EMS council members and 5 busses transporting victims. I was also advised that if I found other places to use hams - please do so. Therefore, I have asked WWI to activate their Communications bus, set up an **HF net on 3947 kHz** to simulate comms with Richmond EOC and staff the Potomac Hospital. I have asked OVH to staff the Prince William Hospital and be the prime source for the on-site positions. All other jurisdiction in VA ARES Dist. 2 will provide coverage for the hospitals in their area and to help with the on-site staffing needs. To sign for this event contact Erv/KT4DS by phone, e-mail or packet:

(703) 335-1029: kt5ds@juno.com: KT4DS@N4WJN.#NOVA.VA.USA.NOAM

The Prince William County Park Authority is sponsoring their **Spring Bike Tour** (of western Prince William County) on **25 April**. To sign up for this event contact Milt/N4SN (see club roster) or meet him on the air (146.97- rprr).

(continued)

ODEN Net: 1830 local, 20 Apr on 3947 kHz

In response to weather spotter training requests by ARES members and in conjunction with Prince William Office of Emergency Services an NWS Basic I spotters class for all Prince William County will be given on Sa., 11 July 98 from 1:00PM - 4:00PM at the McCort Bldg. located at 1 County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia. Preregistration is required by calling (703) 792-6380 before July 8.

Other events in Northern Virginia:

18 Apr Sa. - Bull Run run - Jeff/KC4RON

18 Apr Sa. - MS Walkathon, Reston - Jeff/KC4RON

19 Apr Su. - George Washington Parkway 15K - Steve/K3IZ

25 Apr Sa. - Dogwood Half Hundred VA ARES dist. 1

25 Apr Sa. - Occuquan Boat races - WWI - Bob/KR4KF

26 Apr Su. - March of Dimes Walkathon - Leesburg - KD4DGQ

26 Apr Su. - WalkAmerica Manassas, Leesburg & Fairfax not supported as of 1 Apr.

REQUEST TO FCC

The FCC Form 610V requesting a new OVHARC Club call-sign has been submitted. The following call-signs have been requested in order:

W4OVH

N4OVH

WA4OVH

KA4OVH

The following call-signs were not requested because they were taken already:

K4OVH

WB4OVH

KB4OVH (recent "previously assigned")

So, now we wait. The current backlog appears to be about thirty days long.

73

Art W.

SUNSHINE CORNER

The club sent Best Wishes for a speedy recovery, plus a fruit basket, to Alan/WA2GTT after his emergency appendix removal, out of town. He's been seen out and about, and is doing so well, he's back at work!

Happy Birthday to these Hams born in April! Jeff/KB4IWD, David/KD4DEE, Brian/KE4NFK, Paul/N4PD, Cyril/K3DKR, Lisa/KA4RKJ, James/KC4ZPN, Maureen/KE4GSZ, Charlie/KB4GCR, Mike/WV3H, Madame President, Cathy/AE4UM, Larry/KA4CTX, and Aida/KF4KKO.

According to N4OGR/Hat Man, the latest batch of OVH hats has been ordered, and will arrive on or before our HamFest.

73 de Jan/KE4TMW

Letter to TMARC

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108-1255

22 March 1998

The Middle Atlantic
FM and Repeater
Council, Inc.
P. O. Box 1022
Savage, MD 20763-1022

This is to advise that the OVHARC repeaters in Manassas, VA (146.370/146.970 MHz, 223.060/224.660 MHz and 447.200/442.200 MHz) will be taken off line for extended periods, at various times, over the next six weeks.

We are conducting maintenance, making improvements and installing a new repeater controller. When our effort have been completed, we will be providing emergency (open) autopatch facilities on all three repeaters with a closed autopatch for members. All three repeaters will operate independently with the ability to link two or more repeaters for special events, weekly nets and emergency operations that dictate multiple access nets.

The 447.200/442.200 MHz repeater was taken off-line on 14 March 1998. It is on-line for test in the local Manassas area only.

The 223.060/224.660 MHz repeater is scheduled to be taken off line on or about 04 April 1998. The 146.370/146.970 MHz repeater is scheduled to be taken off line on or about 18 April 1998. We hope to have all repeaters returned to normal operation by 02 May 1998.

We will keep you advised of our progress.

Best regards,

A. R. Whittum (KX4AW)
WA4FPM Trustee

28 MHz Pedestrian Mobile Contact from Australia to U.S.

Via WIA's QNEWS, 13 April March 1998

What is believed to be the first (sunspot) cycle 23 pedestrian mobile contacts between Australia and the US took place on ten metres on Saturday 28 March. Two contacts were made by VK1PK Peter Parker, around midday, to KZ5MM and NE6GN. The contacts followed a successful pedestrian mobile QSO with ZL2RR earlier that morning. This is believed the first time that the Pacific was spanned from the pedestrian mobile station. The pedestrian station used consists of a Johnson Viking converted CB and a 1.8m mobile whip. About 2.5 m of wire forms the ground radial. The power source is a 12v 6AH battery - enough for 2 hours of solid operating. Output power of the station is approximately 12w PEP.

Downloaded from Ham Radio Online Web Site

FCC TO ALLOW ELECTRONIC FILINGS IN RULEMAKING PROCEEDINGS

The FCC has amended its rules to allow the public to file comments and other pleadings electronically via the Internet in many rulemaking proceedings. Starting later this spring, the FCC will permit electronic filing in most notice and comment rulemaking proceedings, most proceedings involving petitions for rulemaking, Notice of Inquiry proceedings, and petitions for reconsideration. The FCC initially had proposed electronic comment filing only for rulemaking proceedings, but--in response to public comments--expanded it to include the other filings.

The Commission says it's "committed to taking advantage of new information technologies to serve the public" and says its new Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) "will make it much easier for members of the public to participate in the Commission rulemaking process and will increase the efficiency of the Commission's operations." Electronic filing now is available only in proceedings specifically designated by the Commission. It will become generally available in early June.

The ECFS will allow members of the public to file, review and print documents on-line through the Internet, rather than having to rely on paper copies accessible through the FCC reference room or copy contractor. The ECFS will accept electronically filed comments in rulemaking proceedings, scan-in paper documents, and locate, retrieve, download and print any documents in the system.

For now, the Commission will not accept electronic comments in broadcast allotment proceedings because of its concern that electronic filings in those restricted proceedings might not be properly served on the parties, and to give the Commission more experience in electronic filing before including the large number of broadcast allotment proceedings.

The FCC acted on the matter April 2 (Report and Order FCC 98-56). Commissioner Gloria Tristani took issue with a provision to permit a midnight deadline for electronic comments while the deadline for paper filers continues to be 5:30 PM.

The complete announcement is at http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/OGC/News_Releases/1998/nrgc8002.html-FCC

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ANDY THOMAS SUGGESTS WE'RE NOT ALONE

US astronaut Andy Thomas, KD5CHF/VK5MIR, thinks we may not be alone. Speaking from the Russian *Mir* space station via Amateur Radio April 8 with high school students in Roswell, New Mexico--the self-proclaimed UFO capital of the world--Thomas said in response to a student's question that he believes there is extraterrestrial intelligent life. "Yes, I think there probably is, when you consider the scale of the universe," he said during a scheduled *Mir*-school contact with students at Goddard High School and Roswell High School.

Thomas described life is "a very tenacious thing," that could exist beyond the bounds of Earth. But he said he very much doubts that space beings ever visited Roswell, as some assert happened in the late 1940s. Tourist attractions in Roswell have since capitalized on the UFO talk.

The high schoolers asked 11 questions during the approximately 10-minute chat with Thomas, which took place via a telebridge with VK5AGR in Thomas' native Australia. Some 120 people, including fellow students, parents, teachers and the news media, were on hand for the occasion.

Mir-school contacts resumed earlier this year after a one-year hiatus. They are being arranged through the SAREX program, a joint effort of NASA, the ARRL, and AMSAT, in cooperation with the Russian space program. Other contacts are set for this month with schools in New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts.

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