

The OVH ARC Newsletter
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
Repeaters -- W4OVH -- 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

FEBRUARY 1999

Next meeting: 15 February 1999
Committee Chairperson's!!!! Need your input for the
Newsletter!!!
(Editor)

Message From the President

Greetings OVH;

If we have heat plus a steaming cup of liquid in our shacks, we possess it all this icy up-and-down winter, thanks to NOVEC's keeping the juice flowing. A ham's healthy diet is "groundhamming"--shadowing Feb's public service events.

In retrospect, a special thanks goes out to the '98 Club officers: **Charlie/WA4YGI**, **Jeff/KF4JSV**, and **Larry/KA4CTX**, who served our club as **VP**, **Sec**, and **Treas**, respectively. **Well done, guys!**

Congratulations to **John/N4YOB**, who will be replacing **Bob/N4RL** as one of the club's directors. Thank you for all your dedicated years to OVH, Bob!

It's time to pay those dues renewals. **MaryLu/KB4EFP** will cheerfully take your money at the next meeting.

February will bring **elections** for **1999 club officers**. Be sure to "voice your choice" on the ballot. In addition to candidates' openings, are a myriad of committees needing to be filled that support OVH's operations.

Hoping to see all **OVHers** at the **Feb. 15th** meeting. This month's program will be by **Dennis Webb** of the PWC chapter of **American Red Cross**. He will be doing a "windshield survey" on damage assessment which is sure to be an interesting eye-opener.

Upcoming winter/spring activities: Apr. 17: **PWC Spring Bike Tour**(Club event) held at **Nokesville Pk**. Contact **Larry/KA4CTX** to sign up.

73 and here to serve YOU, See you **Feb 15!**

Cathy/AE4UM

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS"

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA. 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Cathy Whalen	AE4UM	335-1029
Vice Pres:	Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
Secretary:	Jeff Poulin	KF4JSV	361-5865
Treasurer:	Larry Whitney	KA4CTX	369-0425

DIRECTORS

Bob McCann	N4RL	361-7335
Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Art Whittum	KW4AW	791-4330

WEEKLY NETS

Thursdays - 8:00 PM	KF4JSV (Jeff)	361-5865
Sundays - 8:00 PM	KF4FJD (Lisa)	330-1473

HAMFEST 1999

Jack	N4YIC	335-9139
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FIELD DAY 1999

Maury	W4HYB	331-2159
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CLUB ROSTER

Blaine	KB4RKL	369-2877
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EDUCATION

Charlie	WA4YGI	361-3091
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Larry	KA4CTX	369-0425
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ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Erv	KT4DS	335-1029
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F.A.R. REP.

Alan *	KD4KBX	330-8844
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FINANCE

Mike	WV3H	753-9346
Pete	KB4RME	369-2436
Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877
Larry	KA4CTX	369-0425

GENERATORS

Tommy	KA4AFU	369-2741
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HISTORIAN

T B D

HOME PAGE

Frank	K3TRM	266-0852
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Bob Wikfors	KF4FJC	361-8059
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NEWSLETTER

Steve	KB4OF	368-6901
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NEWSLINE

Mike	WV3H	753-9346
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PACKET

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4WJN	590-9562

PICNIC

Ellie	KF4NBO	361-8059
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PROGRAM'S

TBD

PUBLICITY

TBD

Q' MASTER

Jim	N3ODZ	361-2543
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Art	KW4AW	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Milt	N4SN	369-7265
Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435
Steve	KB4OF	368-6901
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Art	KW4AW	791-4330
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jack	N4YIC	335-9139
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SUNSHINE

Jan	KE4TMW	257-0897
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Art	KW4AW	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
George	KE2AM	791-7688

JOTA(Scouts)

John	N4YOB	791-5995
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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 NOVEC Tech Center in Gainesville. 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 JANUARY 18, 1999

The meeting opened at 8:02 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance, oral roll call, and signing the attendance sheet. There were 18 members and 2 guests present.

PROGRAM

Sgt. Heidi Bouton, a 10 year veteran of the **Prince William Police Department**, presented a program on the **Citizen Police Academy**. CPA was set up to familiarize the public with the Police Department, how it works and why their procedures were developed. It is an **11 week course** with a different topic covered each week, such as **forensics**, **role playing** situations faced by the officer on the beat, **dispatching**, etc. No physical activity is required but participants can volunteer for more strenuous aspects. The **next session** will probably begin on **March 30 or 31**. Participants must be **21 or older** and are **screened** for prior felonies. (A comment by **Keith/KM4AA**, who has taken the course, underscored how the CPA program provides a much better and broader understanding of what the police do and how they do it.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The **Treasurer's** report and previous minutes were accepted without questions or changes.

Packet - Bill/N4WJN stated that there is now a **10 meter 1200 baud port** on packet using **28.185 MHz USB**. He has found that just **20 watts** to a wire antenna can reach to **Arizona**. For those **without 10 meter** capability, a **2 meter** connection to **Port number 3** will give access to the 10 meter port.

Technical - Don/W4HJL reported that **Art/KW4AW** continues to work on the repeaters and upgrades.

NEW BUSINESS

Don/W4HJL, as a member of the **nominating committee**, read a suggested slate of nominees for the **upcoming club officer elections**. As always, **other nominations** can be made **from the floor** before the vote occurs, but be sure the **nominee is willing** to serve. The **suggested slate** is: **President, Cathy/AE4UM; Vice President, Steve/N4OGR; Treasurer, Bill/N4WJN; and Secretary, Lloyd/N4OOM.**

Bob/N4RL is stepping down as a **Director** and asked that **John/N4YOB** fill the vacancy. **Steve/N4OGR** proposed the acceptance, which passed unanimously.

Mary Lu/KB4EFP proposed that **Harry/W4PVA** be made a paid up **life member** of the OVH. **Erv/KT4DS** seconded and the measure passed by acclamation.

Harry/W4PVA won **50-50** (It was obviously his night.)
The meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Jeff Poulin/KF4JSV
Recording Secretary

ASK DAVE: WHAT IS ELECTRICITY?

By Dave Barry

Contributed by Jack McDermott/N4YIC

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity? And where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson: On a cool, dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches us that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important electrical lesson.

It also teaches us how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons," which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpets so they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travels down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

Amazing Electronic Fact: If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpeting.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments -- Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine. Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond just like a normal frog, except for the fact that it sinks like a stone.

But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit: The electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

This means that an electric company can sell the customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact the last year any new electricity was generated in the United States was 1937; the electric companies have been merely re-selling it ever since, which is why they have so much free time to apply for rate increases.

Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2,000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Vaporize Bulldozer" to "Delicate."

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The OVH Nominating Committee met recently and they have come up with a possible slate of officers for the coming year. Elections will be held at the next meeting on February 15, 1999. There can also be nominations made from the floor, as long as the person being nominated has given their permission prior to the Election, and that the nominee meets the criteria as stated in the Bylaws. Election will be by Secret Ballot.

The following members of Ole Virginia Hams have agreed to run for office:

President:	Cathy Whalen	AE4UM
Vice President:	Steve Frick	N4OGR
Treasurer:	Bill South	N4WJN
Secretary:	Lloyd DeLapp	N4OOM

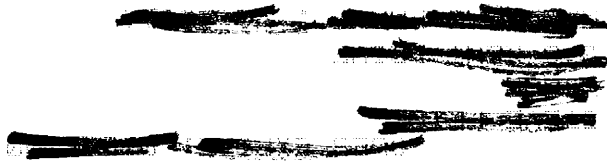
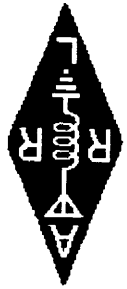
We urge all members of OVH who are able, to attend the February meeting and cast your vote for the new Officers. Then we can all offer our cooperation, support and assistance to the incoming officers for the tasks ahead.

February's Sunshine Corner

Happy Birthday to these hams: **Ed/WD4AVU**, **Francis/W4IWZ**, **Alan/WA2GTT**, **Milt/N4SN**, **Lisa/KF4FJD**, **Ellie/KF4NBO**, **John/NQ4Q**, **Woody/N4MQ**, and **John/WA1STU**.

The **Sunshine Corner** was established to spread sunshine to those in need (a sick or injured ham, the family of a ham who's died) or celebrating a special event (a birth in a ham's family, an upgrade). Please inform **Jan/KE4TMW** if you know of any such event or need.

Thanks, and **73 de KE4TMW**



FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ole Virginia Hams, A.R.C., Inc.
Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, VA 20108

MEETING: FEBRUARY 15TH
8:00 PM

NORTHERN VIRGINIA ELECTRIC COOP
Gainesville Technical Center
5399 Wellington Road
Gainesville, Virginia

PROGRAM: "AMERICAN RED CROSS"
Prince William County Chapter
Dennis Webb on "Damage Assessment"

Remember:

ELECTIONS: Club Officers (at this meeting)
Dues Renewal Time – (Can remit at meeting)