

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

JUNE 1999

**Next meeting: 21 June 1999**  
**Committee Chairperson's!!!! Need your input for the**  
**Newsletter!!!**  
(Editor)

## Message From the President

**Greetings OVH;**

Be it puttering in your own backyard or vacating to Tahiti a few weeks, R & R is a must for summertime. The bridal of operator plus his/her hand-held makes either one pleasant times. A ham's healthy diet: rigging up fun.

Hamfest '99 was as good as it gets. Jack/N4YIC and the OVH crew turned out another great one mixing plain hard work with enjoyment. Upon request, the weather cooperated, which in turn produced a fine crowd. Our bake sale was another success story led by Ellie/KF4NBO. Thanks to EVERYBODY!

Now onto **Field Day '99** (co-chaired by Bill/N4WJN with Wes/N5RTY): the two small pavilions in the vicinity of the usual **Long Park** spot will be ready for working the globe by participants.

Hoping to see all OVHers at the **Jun 21st meeting**. John/N4MM will be giving us the latest on the **ARRL**. It is always a pleasure to have our director from the **Roanoke division** back in familiar territory.

Upcoming summer activities: June has one more, big event--**Field Day** occurring **Jun 26th(set up @10am)** through the 27th until 2pm.

**73 and here to serve YOU, See you Jun 21!**

Cathy/AE4UM ☺

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

**OFFICERS**

|                         |       |          |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|
| President: Cathy Whalen | AE4UM | 335-1029 |
| Vice Pres: Steve Frick  | N4OGR | 361-0008 |
| Secretary: Lloyd DeLapp | N4OOM | 791-4192 |
| Treasurer: Bill South   | N4WJN | 448-2724 |

**DIRECTORS**

|                     |       |          |
|---------------------|-------|----------|
| Don (Butch) Blasdel | W4HJL | 369-2877 |
| Art Whittum         | KW4AW | 791-4330 |
| John Fritsch        | N4YOB | 791-5995 |

**WEEKLY NETS**

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

**HAMFEST 1999**

|      |       |          |
|------|-------|----------|
| Jack | N4YIC | 335-9139 |
|------|-------|----------|

**FIELD DAY 1998**

|      |       |          |
|------|-------|----------|
| Bill | N4WJN | 590-9562 |
| Wes  | NSRTY | 368-8544 |

**CLUB ROSTER**

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

**EDUCATION**

|         |        |          |
|---------|--------|----------|
| Charlie | WA4YGI | 361-3091 |
| Bill    | K4WRG  | 754-7913 |

**CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Larry | KA4CTX | 369-0425 |
|-------|--------|----------|

**ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR**

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

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

|         |        |          |
|---------|--------|----------|
| Ruth    | KU4WH  | 331-1234 |
| Mary Lu | KB4EFP | 369-2877 |

**FINANCE**

|         |        |          |
|---------|--------|----------|
| Mike    | WV3H   | 753-9346 |
| Pete    | KB4RME | 369-2436 |
| Mary Lu | KB4EFP | 369-2877 |
| Bill    | N4WJN  | 590-9562 |

**GENERATORS**

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

**HISTORIAN**

T B D

**HOME PAGE**

|        |        |          |
|--------|--------|----------|
| Bill   | N4WJN  | 590-9562 |
| Blaine | KB4RKL | 369-2877 |

**J.O.T.A. (Scouts)**

|      |       |          |
|------|-------|----------|
| John | N4YOB | 791-5995 |
|------|-------|----------|

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

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

**NEWSLETTER**

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

**NEWSLINE**

|      |        |          |
|------|--------|----------|
| Jeff | KF4JSV | 361-5865 |
|------|--------|----------|

**PACKET**

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

**PICNIC**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Ellie | KF4NBO | 361-8059 |
|-------|--------|----------|

**PROGRAM'S**

TBD

**O' MASTER**

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

**REPEATER CONTROLLERS**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Art   | KW4AW  | 791-4330 |
| Butch | W4HJL  | 369-2877 |
| Milt  | N4SN   | 369-7265 |
| Mike  | WV3H   | 753-9346 |
| Steve | KB4OF  | 368-6901 |
| Steve | N4OGR  | 361-0008 |
| Alan  | KD4KBX | 330-8844 |

**REPEATER TRUSTEE**

|     |       |          |
|-----|-------|----------|
| Art | KW4AW | 791-4330 |
|-----|-------|----------|

**SCHOLARSHIP**

|      |       |          |
|------|-------|----------|
| Jack | N4YIC | 335-9139 |
|------|-------|----------|

**SUNSHINE**

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

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Art   | KW4AW  | 791-4330 |
| Alan  | KD4KBX | 330-8844 |
| Butch | W4HJL  | 369-2877 |
| Mike  | WV3H   | 753-9346 |
| Jimmy | WA2QEJ |          |

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 May 17, 1999

The meeting opened at 8:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call and signing the attendance sheet. There were 23 members and 3 guests present.

### **Minutes:**

The previous month's minutes and the treasurer's report were approved without questions.

### **Committees:**

#### **Scholarship Awards 1999 - Jack/N4YIC**

**Jennifer S. LEMKUL - Osbourn Park HS:** Described as a gifted, motivated, straight-A student while also being very generous with her time and efforts at helping others in the community. She now plans to graduate from Virginia Tech and State University with a Masters in computer science. She intends to establish a career of making computers more efficient and useful for us all. She has been accepted at Virginia Tech as a computer science major, and has qualified for the University Honors Program at Virginia Tech.

**Michael H. KING - KF4YYG - Osbourn HS:** This young Amateur Radio enthusiast earned a wonderful academic record in Math and the Sciences throughout his High School years. He was a member of the Technology Student Association Computer Construction Team which ranked 7th in the State in 1998. His hobbies include Amateur Radio and Computer Science. He was a catalyst in creating an Internet Web Site for Osbourn High School's Latin Club. He plans to pursue a degree in engineering and the applied sciences. He has been accepted into the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia.

**Hamfest** - All aspects of the Hamfest were discussed at length. This discussion covered the majority the remaining time. Some aspects of these discussions are covered in the following: **Fairgrounds** have been contracted for to cover the Hamfest of the next three years. **Liability insurance** is in place. The rental of the tables and chairs has been arranged, along with a truck to haul them. **Tickets** have been printed and are in hand. **Prizes** have been arranged for. The selection is similar to last year's prizes (HF transceiver, 2m transceiver, computer, magazine subscriptions and etc.). **Advertising** - 275 envelopes have been stuffed with fliers and send out to ham clubs within the nearby areas. **Information** about the Hamfest has been placed on packet BBS throughout the local areas. Also have notified all the ham radio magazines. The local radio stations are notified. Members are encouraged to take fliers and place them throughout their local areas. There are a couple competing Hamfests on the same day. The **Winchester Ham Club** will handle the parking for us again this year. **Police** coverage has been arranged. **City officials** have been contacted to obtain permission for signs to be posted. All 3 repeaters will be up and set for open access on the day. The **Westend Lions** will be providing the food concession. A **bake-sale** will be held in the show-barn. Coffee will also be served there. All club members need to bring items for the bake sale on the day.

The **ARRL Representatives** will be here. The **ARRL books** have been ordered. **Cathy** and **Erv** will take care of the book sales for us again this year. The **F.A.R.** and the **Autocall** people will be coming. A courtesy table is being provided for them. The **QSL bureau** and **DXCC** personnel will also be here. A table will be setup for the **Virginia QSL Party** awards ceremony in the show-barn. Some help is still

needed to set up the **PA system** for the Hamfest.

At this point it appears that most everything is proceeding, as it should.

**Field Day - 26-27 June 1999** co-chaired by **Bill/N4WJN** and **Wes/N5RTY**. Please contact Bill and Wes for information and to coordinate activities for field day. Please come out and have a lot of fun the other members of OVH. Bring your families for other activities at the park.

**New Membership Applications: Roy Latham/AC6JM**, and **Lenny DeCamp/KG4CKI** who were read in last month, were proposed, seconded and approved by the members present for OVH club membership.

Welcome **Roy**, and **Lenny**!

**New Business:**

**Brian Cochran/KE4NFR** won the 50/50 raffle.

Details of the latest OVH activities, technical information, and membership information may be found on the Internet at: <http://www.qsl.net/olevahams>

## **HAMFEST '99**

Earlier this year I was reading a commentary by Wayne Williams/K4MOB, editor of the "Repeater Journal." Williams' editorial in the FEB/MAR/APR 1999 quarterly issue outlined a decline in advertising revenue due to dealer cash flow problems and the ebbing of Hamfest activities in general. Paraphrased excerpts from Williams' editorial:

*...In 1998, "Williams Radio" stopped. This year I can name you at least four commercial dealers who travel the Southeast who are contemplating "retiring" from the business. There are three what I call "Fleamarketeers" also getting out of business...*

*...In 1998, two Hamfests canceled, this year there are already four Hamfests canceled and four more undecided. There are about six others who may not have one in 2000, depending on how 1999 does after a bad 1998...*

*...The problem: Not enough Hams support their local Hamfests and local Dealers...*

In keeping with the trend cited above, this year in Manassas we had less dealers booking and less patrons visiting than we did in 1998. The dealer who booked a large middle section of the main building - and then did not appear - didn't help matters. More difficult to overcome than the loss of revenue to our club will be the probability that a number of Hams will have returned home to spread the word at their local clubs: "At Manassas 'half' of the large building was empty."

Like all of you, I wish Manassas were isolated from this general and steady decline. We still put on a nice, folksy, family-oriented Hamfest in a great location. We serve good food, and have been rained on only once in twenty-five years. We support our dealers by advertising as far and wide as we can with the resources we have available. We support our patrons by providing a nice mix of dealers who sell good products at reasonable prices. We were fortunate to have the Icom Radio "Funmobile" with us for the entire day and we will ask them to visit us again next year. Frankly, I don't know what more we can do, and I remain open to any and all suggestions.

Nonetheless, you all witnessed that once again we accomplished what we had set out to do.

We provided a fun-filled and perhaps exciting day for a great number of visitors. You all know this is not done without effort. It takes a great deal of work from many caring and generous club members, augmented by equally generous volunteers from the Winchester Amateur Radio Society, the Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Department, and a number of other community-spirited folks.

Our Manassas Hamfest is still that wonderful place where people from all walks of life who have a common interest in Amateur radio, electronics, and computers can see all the latest equipment and gadgets. Equally exciting are the treasures, relics, and spare parts out in our fleamarket area. We still provide the meeting place for many Hams who might only see each other once a year, and for many others to meet new and old friends. In truth, it's a very nice thing we do for our community.

For those veteran club members, those involved with the Hamfest for the first time, and others who provided so much in so many ways, you can and should feel proud of your varied contributions. Sacrificing your weekend, working hard and giving your best, so that others might have a wonderful day, is a very rewarding experience.

It has been a distinct pleasure for me to be involved with caring people like you in the 1999 hamfest endeavor. I extend to each of you my sincere gratitude and appreciation. We did it right, we did it well and, next year, we'll just go out and do it again.

### **Sunshine Corner**

Thanks to those who helped out at this year's Hamfest. If you didn't, next year will be the time to come out. Everyone can do something, and you go away having had a long, tiring day, but feeling good that you've helped your club and your hobby!

Happy June birthdays to these Hams: **John/W4GTL, Sieg/WB4LII, Jared/KQ4PA, Steve/N4OGR, Jan/KE4TMW, Jim/N3ODZ, Gene/N4HFW, and Bob/KF4FJC.**

Congratulations are in order for **Jeff/KF4JSV**, who's passed the test for Advanced! Good job, Jeff!

A happy and safe summer to all, and happy contacting!

**73 de Jan/KE4TMW**

### **Virginia Beach Hamfest**

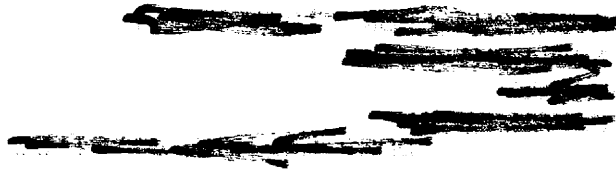
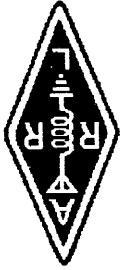
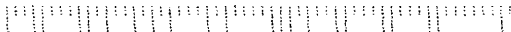
Come and talk to the "Top of the Line"!!!

One of the best opportunities to express yourself about the future of Ham Radio is coming up in September. You will also get to listen to the top brass in the FCC. Who is coming? None other than "Mr. Enforcer" himself: K4ZDH, Mr. RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH!!

Where and When -- The VIRGINIA BEACH HAMFEST on Saturday and Sunday, September 18th and 19th at the Virginia Beach Pavilion.

Plenty of Tailgating! Amateur Exams 3-5 PM on Saturday - pre-registration at (757) 898-8031 by Thursday September 16th. A great banquet is planned also!

Any questions? Just e-mail us at [hamfest@exis.net](mailto:hamfest@exis.net). See you all at the hamfest.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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



**MEETING: JUNE 21 ST.**  
**8:00 PM**  
**NORTHERN VIRGINIA ELECTRIC COOP**  
**Gainesville Technical Center**  
**5399 Wellington Road**  
**Gainesville, Virginia**

**GUEST: John Kanode/ N4MM**  
**ARRL Roanoke Division**

**FIELD DAY 1999 Details**  
**James Long Park, Route 15**  
**June 26 & 27 Weekend**