

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

JANUARY 2000

Next meeting: 17 January 2000
Committee Chairperson's!!!! Need your input for the
Newsletter!!!
(Editor)

Message From the President

Greetings OVH;

We made it through the switch over to a **Happy New Year!** Well done, **OVH** on the First Nite. A ham's healthy diet: "hamvesting" in the future.

Members were treated to a **great Dec. Meeting** highlighted by a **top-notch speaker** (Harry) along with festive finger foods.

Thanks to **Lisa/KF4FJD** who has run the pilot **YL net** for the last four years. Lisa will be missed; hope to see you on the air. Also, thank you **Harry/W4PVA** for filling in on Thurs. nite's net.

It's dues renewal time, so let's start off right by getting our share in to either MaryLu/KB4EFP or Bill/N4WJN.

Since January's meeting will be **officer nominations night** for the **2000-01 Club Year**, be thinking of whom you want on the slate—**ensuring your party's consent.**

Hoping to see all OVH'ers at the **Jan 17th meeting.** Ed/KE4SKY will be covering a basic program on **BATTERIES.** Ed, a guru on this subject, will enlighten us with his expertise in a practical way.

Spring Ham Classes are coming! Contact **Bill/K4WRG** for future updates.

Upcoming winter activities: Good indoor dxing/contests are out there in the works as **Frost & WinterFest** are peaking over the horizon.

73 and here to serve YOU, See you Dec 20!
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 | KV4AP (Jeff) | 361-5865 |
| Sundays - 8:00 PM | | |

HAMFEST 2000

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

FIELD DAY 1999

| | | |
|------|-------|----------|
| Bill | N4WJN | 590-9562 |
| Wes | N5RTY | 368-8544 |

CLUB ROSTER

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

EDUCATION

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

CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

| | | |
|-------|--------|----------|
| Brian | KE4NFK | 257-9545 |
|-------|--------|----------|

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

TBD

NEWSLETTER

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

NEWSLINE

| | | |
|------|-------|---------|
| Jeff | KV4AP | 3615865 |
|------|-------|---------|

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 | 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 |
| Bill | N4WJN | 590-9562 |
| 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 samecade@erols.com

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

DRAFT OF DECEMBER 20 1999 MINUTES

The meeting started at 8:02 PM.

After the pledge of allegiance, all present stated their name and call sign.

There were 16 members and 2 guests present.

Program:

Harry/W4PVA, presented the program a brief history of radio and electronics. This discussion covered the time span from the 1920s until the current time. Some of the developments Harry talked about were the use of a **crystal radio** with the earphones on a bowl to allow his family to listen, the development of the **vacuum tube**, the use of **galvanometers** to detect current flow, the use of battery powered home receivers, the reason for labeling of the batteries as A, B, and C cells. A **fox hunt** with the local ham club where Harry was operating the fox transmitter, and hid on the top of a car lift inside a service station. Also a discussion of the development of the transistor. This was a very interesting talk. **Thank You Harry.**

Break:

Business: The past months minutes and the current financial report were approved.

There was a discussion of donations, which OVH makes during December each year, to various organizations.

MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE - Art/KW4AW Good comments have been heard about OVH's communications coverage of the parade.

OVH officer nominations will be held at the January OVH meeting. All members are urged to attend, and participate.

The **YL net** on Sunday nights was discussed. Many thanks to **Lisa/KF4FJD** for running the net. It is requested that someone else assists or takes over the running of this net. It is desired to keep this net operating. Please remember to participate. **Ruth/KU4WH** indicated that she is willing to organize and operate the net if there is sufficient interest.

REPEATER: A report of interference to some of the NVFMA repeaters was discussed. There is some **new/different interference** to the OVH 2-meter repeater. Members are to note any characteristics of this interference and pass along to the repeater committee, to assist in the identification and correction of this problem.

ARES: Erv/KT4DS - Extensive discussions were held of the planned activities for the year rollover. All members are encouraged to get their gear and themselves ready to support these activities. Several assignments were made for key positions in **Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)** at Prince William County, Manassas, Manassas Park, the Red Cross, and Prince William Hospital. All members are encouraged to check in stating at 9PM on Dec 31st and pass along information on your availability during this time.

There was a discussion of contributions that OVH makes to some organizations during December.

The following were proposed, seconded and carried by a vote of the members present:

The provider of the OVH web site and many other amateur radio web sites - **QSL.NET** a donation of \$100.00. Also, The **Amateur Radio News Line** - \$100.00

50/50 raffle:

Eight prizes of subscriptions to **World Radio Magazine**, as well as the **50/50 split** were awarded as prizes to nine of those in attendance that participated.

Go For Broke! Get That Extra Class License!

Now that the FCC has acted. It is **YOUR** Turn!

And if you need some practice with the theory side of things, try the following web site for a **FREE examination generator**. It is fun to try and gives **instant feedback** on whether you got the answer correct or not.

http://www.biochem.mcw.edu/Postdocs/Simon/radio/aa9pw_java.html

And, if you only plan to try for **GENERAL** Class, there is a copy of that examination also. The generator is supposed to give you a random selection of questions from the pool.

If you only want to have the question pool to study, check out the ARRL site or search on "**Amateur Radio License Examination Question Pool**" and you will find a number of sites that have the entire pool, including pictures and graphics, available for download.

If none of the above works for you, give **KW4AW** a call and arrange to pick up a disk with the exam generator and question pool of your choice.

73, Art/KW4AW (this week)

Updates to OVH WEB!

More updates to the **OVH WEB**, just in time for the Holidays! Lots of good stuff added to the **Swap Shop**, and some new links on the **Ham Links** page. Check it out at <http://www.qsl.net/olevahams>.

Happy Holidays, and an Uneventful Y2K!

73, de Bill N4WJN

INFO NEEDED!!!

I have an old **Icom** mobile **2-meter rig, model IC-255A**. It is about 10 to 15 years old, with a red LED freq readout (only shows the last digit of the mhz and the khz). I am trying to get it back on the air, but have no manual for it. I need to know what model Mic the rig originally used, info on setting up the memories, and other functions of the rig. Any info would be help, and I need it ASAP, as the rig will be used as a **Y2K** support rig for ham support at a local emergency service location. (Unfortunately, this came in too late for last month's newsletter. editor)

Thanks in advance, and hope your **Y2K** is "**Electronically Uneventful**"...73,
de Bill N4WJN

SUNSHINE CORNER

Happy New Year! Many of us participated in the recent **Y2K drill**, and found that it helped us practice many of the same skills that **Field Day** does. Also, it increased the community's awareness of Ham Radio. Altogether a good time was had by all!

Bob Wikfors/KF4FJC, is back in the hospital, for probably 1-2 months. He has a very serious infection in his leg. He is on very strong antibiotics, and his family (**Ellie/KF4NBO** and **Lisa/KF4FJD** and **grandkids**) is hoping that the infection can be cured. Bob is at **Prince William Hospital** on Rt. 234 in Manassas, in **Room 2202**. He can have visitors, even though he is infectious; you will have to gown and glove.

Please keep Bob and his family in your thoughts and prayers, and try to visit or send a card, crossword puzzle, paperback or some other diversion.

Bob Wikfors
Prince William Hospital
Room 2202
8700 Sudley Road
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 369-8000

Please wish these Hams a happy birthday in January: **Ed/WD4AVU**, **Francis/W4IWZ**, **Alan/WA2GTT**, **Milt/N4SN**, **Lisa/KF4FJD**, **Ellie/KF4NBO**, **Woody/N4MQ**, and **John/WA1STU**.

Enjoy the **New Year**, and have fun with **Ham Radio!**

73 de Jan KE4TMW

More Morse Mania

Hello all you "**Morsies**"! Can't get enough of those **dit-dahs**!? Don't have time to set up and copy? Can't get that hidden antenna up in time? Working weird hours?

Try visiting your friendly **ARRL** pages now and then. Go here:

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html>

And download the **ARRL CW practice files** - only a few weeks old. Slap on a set of headphones or earbuds, plug into your home computer and copy. OR! Just let it roll in the background while you are catching up on a little light reading (like the Federal Tax Forms for 1999) and do it by osmosis. Practice on **YOUR** schedule - consider it an **EXTRA** treat.

73, Art/KW4AW

Temporary Outage of N4WJN/BBSNVA Packet BBS

Well, while I made sure that Y2K didn't affect any systems where I work, I wasn't as proactive on my ham systems. I find that my old **BBS** software has a real problem dealing with the year 2000. It seems to **scramble** the dates on listings of messages, as well as the date header it puts on the message. Since I can't allow this system to corrupt messages it handles and forwards to the ham packet network, my **BBSNVA/N4WJN BBS** system will be **temporarily off the air**.

This outage will only be until I decide how I want to handle the situation. I want to take this as an opportunity to possibly move to a **more robust system**, rather than just upgrading to the latest version of the same software I have been using for the last 10 years, if that is the best thing to do for the packet user community.

One of my systems is **still operational**, however not yet receiving and sending "**normal**" ham packet mail...that is my **IPNVA/N4WJN-2 JNOS** system. You can still log into it on **145.03** direct (not a very good signal unless you live close to me). The **recommended path** is from **NIHRAC node**, as I currently don't seem to have a very good signal into **OVH node**. On **IPNVA** you can **currently only send/receive e-mail to/from the Internet**; I hope to make time this weekend to get the standard packet mail flowing to that system, at least as an interim measure.

So, **hang in there** if you're still a packet user, I'm not going away like so many other sysops have lately. **It's just a temporary glitch**. With any luck I'll be back even better quite soon.

For now, 73, de **Bill/N4WJN**

New Virginia ARRL Vehicle License Tags

Dennis Bodson/W4PWF, our **Roanoke Division Vice Director**, is leading the effort to have the **Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)** issue a **new style** vehicle license tag for amateur radio operators in the commonwealth.

The **proposed tag design** is really beautiful and was on display at our **1999 Manassas Hamfest**. It has "**VIRGINIA**" across the top in **burnt orange letters**, and "**American Radio Relay League**" across the bottom in **yellow letters**. The scene conveys a **typical sundown** (yellow/burnt orange) color setting. Your **call sign** will be in the center of the tag in large blue characters. To the right of your call sign there is a **ARRL logo** in black and yellow and, to the far right, pictured against a setting sun, is a typical **trylon tower** with a four-element antenna at the top. The scene includes a person climbing the tower.

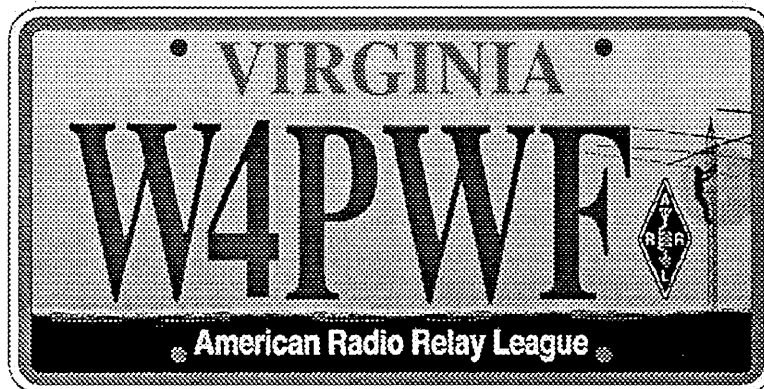
Dennis recently reported that **we still need 200 more** Virginia amateurs to indicate a **willingness to purchase** these tags before the DMV will initiate production and dissemination.

<http://www.arrl.org/divisions/roanoke/va-license.html>

has a wonderful picture of the new tag and explanation about it. This page will probably answer any questions you might have. If you are interested in obtaining one of these tags, just click on the appropriate "how to" line and follow their instructions.

You may also direct questions to **Dennis Bodson** via W4PWF@arrl.org.

Jack McDermott/N4YIC, patnjack@erols.com



RE M I N D E R



Yes, it is that time of year again!!!!

Below is the year 2000 Renewal Application.

Please fill out, attach your check and mail to the address below. (This is for updating the OVH Database!!)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION
"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB"
2000

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

CALL SIGN: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____

ARE YOU PRESENTLY AN ARRL MEMBER? (YES/NO)
ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER EXAMINER: (YES/NO)
DO YOU WANT YOUR PHONE NO. LISTED IN THE OVH ROSTER? (YES/NO)
WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT LICENSE CLASS? _____

Dues are now **\$10.00** per year and payable on January 1, 2000
Dues for additional family members **living at the same mailing address** are **\$5.00**

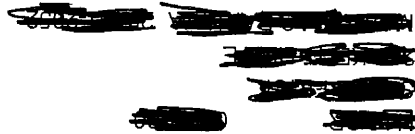
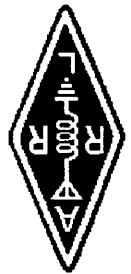
NAME AND CALL OF FAMILY MEMBERS:

AMOUNT ENCLOSING: _____

Name: _____
Name: _____

Call: _____
Call: _____

Return to: Treasurer, OVH
P.O. Box 1255
Manassas, VA 20108



FIRST CLASS MAIL



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

MEETING: JANUARY 17TH

8:00 PM

NORTHERN VIRGINIA ELECTRIC COOP

Gainesville Technical Center

5399 Wellington Road

Gainesville, Virginia

Program: ED / KE4SKY

“Batteries – Information and Practical Uses”

Nominations for Club Officers at this Meeting

(For year 2000)

Who would you like to see on the slate????

(Ask them and get their permission to nominate them!)