

The OVH ARC Newsletter
OLE VIRGINIA HAMS™ AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, Va. 20108
OVH FM Repeaters - 146.970- & 224.660- & 442.200+ & 443.500+
OVH D-STAR Repeaters - W4OVH - 146.865- & 442.5125+

Web Site at <http://w4ovh.net>

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

October 2012

Next Meeting: Monday, October 15, 2012

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Greetings to all, we are winding down from a very busy summer. Well at least we thought. And the weather has become cool and the leaves are starting to turn.

The OVH has some very exciting events coming up later this month and before the end of the year. Later this month, OVH will be participating again in a local JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) Boy Scout event thanks to Scott / KB8NUM who is coordinating that.

I have also recently spoken with the Manassas Christmas Parade chairperson who advises that that Christmas Parade will be counting on us to assist them again as last year. The 443.500 FM repeater is scheduled to go back up on the downtown water tower shortly after completion of repairs, and that will give us excellent coverage in the downtown area again. I'll let you know more details shortly. We also expect to be participating in the Manassas Park Christmas Parade event again too this year. Last year we had a good turnout and proved to be helpful in both events. I hope we'll have a good turnout of volunteers again.

Not everything going on is in a relatively short term timeframe. Terry / KC4DV, 2013 Hamfest Chairman, has been working diligently in advance planning and arrangements for the 2013 Manassas Hamfest which will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2013. The first meeting of the Hamfest Committee was held last week with a good turnout. Considering joining that Committee if you would like to assist with the advance, behind the scenes work for the Hamfest.

With Halloween coming later this month, keep you eyes open for any activity that we may need to report.

I hope all can attend the upcoming OVH meeting on Monday, October 15th at 7:30 PM.

73 George K4GVT



Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President: George Tarnovsky	K4GVT	791-5956
Vice Pres: Wayne Kline	AG4ZZ	791-2100
Secretary: Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3556
Treasurer: Gary Gilham	WG4ARC	932-1118

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdel	W4HJL	369-2877
Arthur Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451

WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time	JOHN / KG4NXT	257-3566
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HAMFEST 2013

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
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FIELD DAY 2013

Randy	WB7RAV	393-1494
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
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ARES - EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	703-628-3868
	email: KG4GIY@ARRL.NET	
Prince William County ARES website	http://pwcares.org	

FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234
Gary	WG4ARC	932-1118

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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JOTA

Scott	KB8NUM	365-2642
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LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PACKET

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
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PROGRAMS

TBA

WINTER FIELD DAY 2013

Joe	KI4OHR	369-2639
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QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435
David	KG4GIY	628-3868

W4OVH / W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa (Acting)	KG4TVM	257-3556
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
David	KG4GIY	628-3868
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512

All telephone numbers listed above are for Area Code 703 unless otherwise noted. This is the official monthly publication of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. Copyright © 2012 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday each month at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz or D-Star repeaters on 146.865- and 442.5125+ MHz. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeaters each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. or on 80 meters (3710 KHz) LSB each Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. (8:00 pm in Summer) or through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>

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Sunshine Corner:

Happy birthday wishes this month to Doc / W1IMX, Ruth / KU4WH, Keith / KM4AA, Bob / KC4TNC and Phil / AC4PL.

Congratulation to Wayne / N7QLK for organizing and leading OVH's participation, and to other OVH volunteers, including George / K4GVT, Ken / KJ4VTP, Al / KB4BHB, Charlie / WA4YGI, John / KG4NXT and Theresa / KG4TVM for helping to provide a ham radio table during the Braemar Community event, 'Braemar Day', on September 22, 2012.

Terry / KC4DV, Chairman for the 2013 OVH Manassas Hamfest has revved up the Hamfest Committee which held its first meeting on October 3, 2012 with a total of 9 OVH members attending.

Scott / KB8NUM [email: scottminke@aol.com & Tel: 703-365-2642] is chairing the JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) Boy Scout event at the Gainesville United Methodist Church on Saturday, October 20th from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Get in touch with Scott if you wish to participate or volunteer. More about JOTA from the ARRL on pages 7 and 8 of this Newsletter.

The Sunshine Corner column is very short again this month; a replacement is needed for me and I will assist with the transition.

Until someone steps forward as a replacement, please continue to send your news / comments to kg4tvm@hotmail.com or by telephone to 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Below: Pictures from the OVH Table at the Braemar Day Event on September 22, 2012



Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting September 17, 2012:

Wayne / AG4ZZ, Vice President called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm in the absence of George / K4GVT, President. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and call signs. There were 15 OVH members and 3 guests.

A Powerpoint program on the National Traffic System ("NTS") was presented by John / WA1STU who was assisted by his granddaughter, Dixie.

Continued on page 4

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the August meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's report – no report; Treasurer, Gary / WG4ARC was unable to attend the meeting.

Repeaters – Keith / KM4AA reported all repeaters are working and that there have been no changes.

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ has a Tech class which will start on October 2nd; indications are that 10 to 12 people interested and will attend.

Hamfest – Terry / KC4DV reported that he will hold a Hamfest Committee meeting on October 3rd at Panera on Liberia for anyone interested in participating. Meeting will start at 7:00 pm, those who wish to eat at Panera before the meeting will get together at 6:00 pm.

Old Business – Terry / WA5NTI reported that the 4H group wants a presentation on Saturday, September 22nd on ham radio; he contacted the ARRL and they are sending a representative to the event, Vice Director Andrea Hartlage KG4IUM.

Al / KB4BHB presented information and prices for the OVH to obtain a new HF radio for \$1630.85 which would include the power supply, discussion followed, Butch / W4HJL suggested that Al submit the request to the finance committee. Al / KB4BHB asked for a show of hands for those interested in obtaining the radio, all but one agreed; Wayne / AG4ZZ thanked Al and the committee for researching the radios.

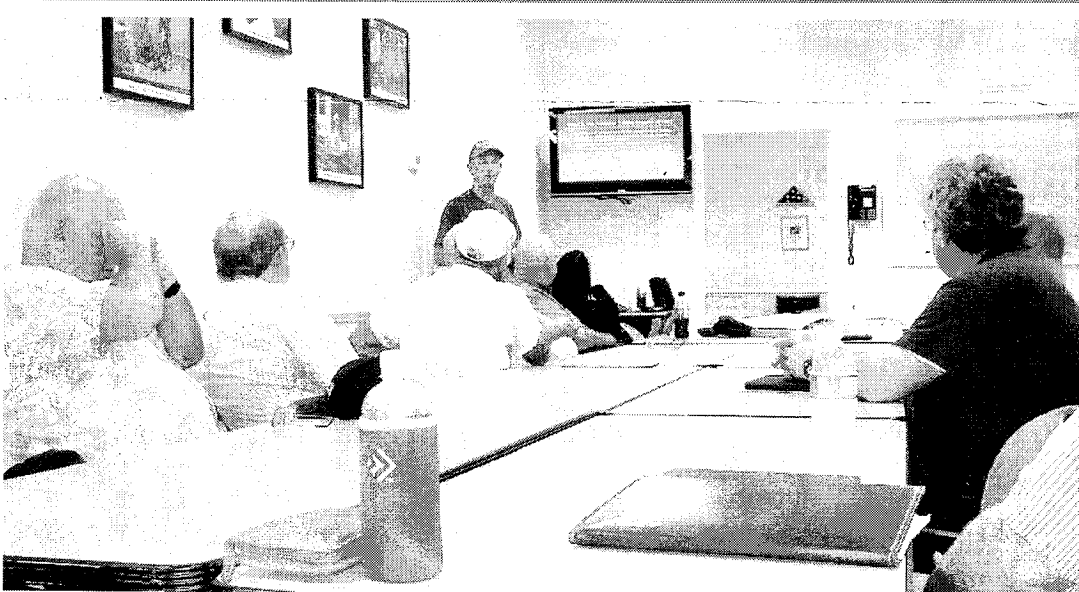
Break

More Business – Scott / KB8NUM reminded everyone about the upcoming JOTA event on Saturday, October 20th at the Gainesville United Methodist Church from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Wayne / N7QLK announced that this coming Saturday, September 22nd will be Braemar Community Day from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. We will have a table set up with radios.

50/50 – won by Al / KB4BHB who donated his winnings back to the club.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.



To the left:
John / WA1STU
giving his
Powerpoint
presentation
on the
National
Traffic System
at the
September 17,
2012 OVH
Meeting

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Two nearby hamfests will occur on the same day this month:

Sunday, October 21, 2012 - Mason Dixon Hamfest, Westminster, Maryland. More information at <http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn/hamfest.html>

Sunday, October 21, 2012 - Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club, Davidsonville, Maryland. More information at <http://www.maarc.org/RadioFallFest.htm>

SPECIAL EVENT / PUBLIC SERVICE

Saturday, October 20, 2012 - JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) - Boy Scout event locally to be held at the Gainesville United Methodist Church from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Contact Scott / KB8NUM [email: scottminke@aol.com] who is coordinating this event and looking for volunteers to assist. See also, pages 7 and 8 of this OVH Newsletter.

OPERATING EVENTS AND CONTESTS

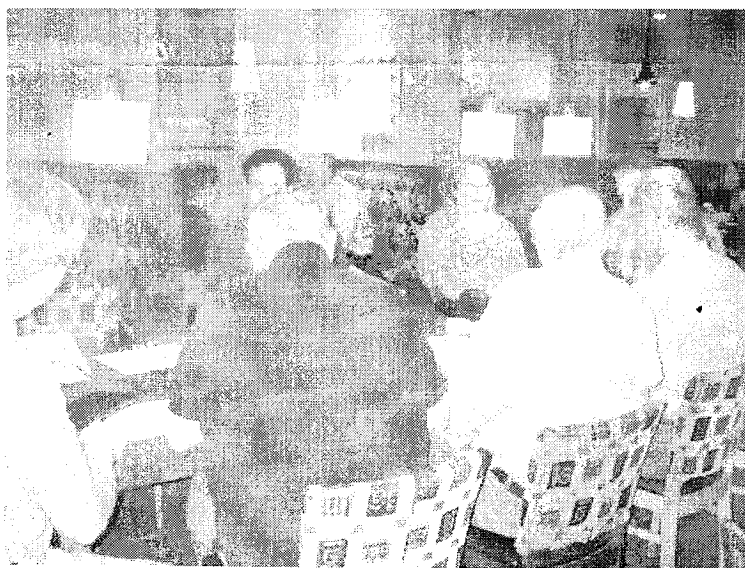
There are many operating contests almost all of the time. The excellent web site maintained by WA7BNM at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> lists most of them!

PUBLIC SERVICE / TRAINING / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://www.pwcares.org> for latest updates. David maintains a comprehensive calendar for upcoming events at that web site. Complete direct contact information for David appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.



Scenes from the
First Hamfest Committee Meeting
held on October 3, 2012
to plan and make arrangements for
the 39th Manassas Hamfest
which will be held on
Sunday, June 9, 2013



The next Hamfest Committee meeting will be held in November. All who wish to participate are welcome to attend.

Spotlight on an OVH Member

George / K4GVT

I began playing with radios in 1963 I was age 11. My Mom thought that was a bit weird and over and over she would tell me "stop playing with that junk, go outside with your friends." I am (and she later in life) was very happy that I didn't follow her instructions. Not only did my interest turn into a great hobby for me, but it also inspired me to study engineering for my career.

When still quite young, I tried to get a local ham to help me and a friend get our Novice licenses. Back in the 1960's all Novice license tests, including the 5 wpm Morse Code tests, were administered by local ham operators who certified the results to the FCC. Anyway, the local ham who we contacted at his house was somewhat strange, he ordered us (two kids) off his property and told us not to return - he would not help us. That made quite an impression on me and is something I have still not forgotten. That unfortunate incident delayed me and my friend from getting our Novice licenses for a while, but eventually we found another Ham who was very willing to help, and we got our licenses. But then life became very busy, resulting in a long sabbatical from radio due to school, dating, and work - even though I maintained my interest.

Eventually, my longtime friend, Fred / KA1CQD and I, who were working together got re-tested by N2CO in about 1974 and got our ham licenses renewed. Fred and I still see each other each year at Dayton. I do remember the General test administered at the FCC office in New York City, which was very intimidating. Since then I have upgraded to Advanced but no further. Several



times I have been asked why I did not upgrade to Extra Class since I am so heavily into electronics and ham radio. Actually, I took that exam at the FCC office years ago when the Morse Code requirement was still to copy 20 wpm plain text; I got a bureaucratic examiner who insisted on failing me because I had corrected an erroneous punctuation symbol, even though he knew I could copy 20 wpm fairly solidly (then). He told me to come back to NYC from upstate New York in a month to retake the Morse Code test. I was so flabbergasted and annoyed that I just walked out, vowing not to return. That was a long time ago; I'm over it now and eventually will get my Extra Class license.

I continue to love the hobby with no lapse time. I feel very blessed that a childhood attraction developed into such a wonderful lifelong hobby which also relates to my career and work interests. I have lived in the Manassas, Virginia area with my wife of 30 years Ev since 1996 (moving here from Newburgh, New York). We have raised five children here, but Ev will tell you it six including me in the count.

I have been quite active in the OVH, participating in many of its activities, since shortly after I moved to the area. I have been President of the OVH since February 2007 which I continue to enjoy most of the time.

The following article on JOTA is from the ARRL Web Site (10/9/2012) with minor editing:

Scouts and Scouters Take to the Airwaves for the 55th Jamboree on the Air

Each year, more than 500,000 Scouts in more than 100 countries take to the airwaves on the third full weekend in October -- and this year on October 20-21, it will be no different. The Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is an annual Scouting and Amateur Radio event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). JOTA is an annual event where Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from all over the world speak to each other via Amateur Radio. Since 1958 -- when the first Jamboree on the Air was held -- millions of Scouts have met through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pal relationships and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years.

Scouts of any age can participate, from Brownies to Ambassadors, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers. Once at the ham radio station, communication typically requires speaking into a microphone and listening on speakers. But many forms of specialized communication can also take place, such as video communication, digital communication using typed words on the computer screen transmitted by radio, communication through a satellite relay or an Earth-based relay (called a repeater). The exchanges include such information as name, location, Scout rank, age and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be other Scouts across town, across the country -- even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2011 JOTA had more than 700,000 Scout participants from nearly 6000 Amateur Radio stations!

Besides being the editor of QEX, Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, is also a lifelong Boy Scout; he is currently a member of his District Advancement Committee and a member of Troop 60 in Oakdale, Connecticut. "JOTA is one of my favorite operating activities," he said. "Whether I am running a station at a District Camporee, Cub Activity Day or just getting on the air by myself, it is sure to be a fun time. Just the mention of JOTA brings a flood of memories. My first JOTA was in a tent in my backyard as a 16-year-old Novice, WN3JQM."

Getting On the Air with JOTA

The 55th Jamboree on the Air is October 20-21, 2012. The official hours are 0000 (local time) Saturday, October 20 (right at midnight Friday) through midnight (local time) Sunday, October 21 (midnight Sunday evening).

Stations that participate in JOTA should call "CQ Jamboree" or answer stations doing so. Any authorized frequency may be used. The World Scout Bureau recommends that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies:

80 meters -- 3.690 and 3.940 MHz (SSB), 3.570 MHz (CW)
40 meters -- 7.190 and 7.270 MHz (SSB), 7.030 MHz (CW)
20 meters -- 14.290 MHz (SSB), 14.060 MHz (CW)
17 meters -- 18.140 MHz (SSB), 18.080 MHz (CW)
15 meters -- 21.360 MHz (SSB), 21.140 MHz (CW)
12 meters -- 24.960 MHz (SSB), 24.910 MHz (CW)
10 meters -- 28.390 MHz (SSB), 28.180 MHz (CW)
6 meters -- 50.160 MHz (SSB), 50.160 MHz (CW)

These frequencies are the "calling frequencies." After contact has been made, you should move off that frequency (either above or below) to continue your contact and allow others to use the calling frequency.

Continued on next page

2012 JOTA Theme: How Big Is Your World?

This year's JOTA theme -- How Big Is Your World? -- is an invitation to Scouts to reflect on how they can enlarge their own world by interacting with others, while using modern methods of communication. Scouts are encouraged to let Scout friends from around the globe step into their world by sharing thoughts, feeling, emotions, ideas, proposals and projects. Hams can certainly resonate with this idea, since Amateur Radio enables personal connections to people all around the world and so often does generate life enriching friendships.

How Scouts Can Participate

In the US, JOTA is primarily a Boy Scout event, though girls are welcome to participate. The best way to get involved is to contact your local BSA Council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local Amateur Radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs here. Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. If there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

How Amateur Radio Operators Can Participate

Contact your local BSA Council and see what may already be planned in your area and how you can help. You can find your council here. If nothing is currently planned, or if current plans aren't reaching your area, you can work with the Council or a local unit (Pack, Troop or Crew) to set up a JOTA station or arrange for visits to your ham shack. You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air.

More Information

For more information on the 55th Jamboree on the Air, visit these links:

1. The ARRL's JOTA web page at <http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>
2. The World Organization of the Scout Movement's JOTA web page at http://www.scout.org/en/information_events/events/jota/the_55th_jota_2012
3. The Boy Scouts of America's JOTA web page at <http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx>

"The best JOTAs have been when I was able to gather a group of Scouts around a radio and let them take over the controls as they found other Scouts and operators to talk with," Wolfgang said. "Whether it is an SSB contact, or operating CW or digital modes, everyone loves to see how far they can reach. There are always plenty of stations on the air for JOTA, so gather some Scouts and have a wonderful time. You may just hook some new operators for your efforts." Thanks to the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the USA for information.

Some Possibly Useful / Interesting Information

The creator of CW Skimmer, Alex VE3NEA, of Afreet Software in Canada has come out with a new and interesting freeware CW practice tool known as Pileup Runner which is a simulator of CW DX pileups. Currently in beta-testing, it is intended for CW DXpedition and contest operators who are curious how a pileup looks and sounds at the DX / called station side. Compared to his popular CW contest simulator, Morse Runner, Pileup Runner has an extra dimension: frequency. To be successful with Pileup Runner, the user also has to tune his receiver through the pileup in an intelligent manner. More information (and the freeware download), go to <http://dxatlas.com> and check out <http://dxatlas.com/PileupRunner>