

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 -- Port 1: 145.030 Mhz; Port 2: 223.660 Mhz (SysOp Use Only)  
Port 3: 223.540 MHz; Port 4: 440.925Mhz 9600 Baud backbone  
BBS--BBSNVA/N3OH (SYSOP--BILL)  
<http://www.w4ovh.net>

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

## OCTOBER 2006

**Next meeting: October 16, 2006**

**Need your input for the Newsletter. The deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month!!!**

(Editor)

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Welcome to Fall

Our main event of this month is Jamboree on the Air, or JOTA for short. We set up at the Urbanna swim club and scouts come by to get on the air. We have morse and other demos.

The club has always turned out for this. This year, JOTA is on Saturday Oct 21 starting at 9:00 am. We are asking the Hams to show up at 8:00 am to do final setup. There is also an antenna party at the swim club on Friday Oct.20 which we would welcome you to. The swim club is at 8030 Urbanna Road in Manassas. If you can help, please contact me or Theresa Heartney at 540-907-9783.

We would like to thank Trish, KI4PCM, for holding the technician class on Thursday nights. Last Thursday, she had various class members and OVH helpers check into the net as part of the class.

Next, Joe, KI4OHR, has taken on a project never attempted before by the OVH. He is going to have school kids talk to the International Space Station via the OVH members and their equipment. This is ambitious. Joe has some time to organize this since it is scheduled for May. His most pressing need now is for a back up station that is satellite capable.

See you at the meeting.

John KG4NXT

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**Post Office Box 1255  
Manassas, VA. 20108**

**OFFICERS**

President:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
Vice Pres:	George Tarnovsky	K4GVT	791-5956
Secretary:	Phil Colling	AC4PL	393-8658
Treasurer:	Bill South	N3OH	590-9562

**DIRECTORS**

Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Art Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091

**WEEKLY NETS**

Thursdays - 8:00 PM	JOHN H	257-3566
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**HAMFEST 2007**

TBA

**FIELD DAY 2007**

George T.	K4GVT	791-5956
Butch B.	W4HJL	369-2877

**CLUB ROSTER**

Blaine	KB4RKL	369-2877
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**EDUCATION**

Trish Rabe	KI4PCM	335-1096
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**CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR**

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
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**ARES AREA EMERGENCY COORDINATOR**

David Lane	KG4GIY	361-3042
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**F.A.R. REPS.**

Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234
Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877

**FINANCE**

Mary Lu	KB4EFP	369-2877
Bill	N3OH	590-9562
Ruth	KU4WH	331-1234

**GENERATORS**

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

**HISTORIAN**

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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**HOME PAGE**

Bill	N3OH	590-9562
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**JOTA**

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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**LEGAL**

Pete	KB4RME	369-2436
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**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

Joe Dobes	KI4OHR	369-2639
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**NEWSLETTER**

Steve	KB4OF	368-6901
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**NEWSLINE**

Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
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**PACKET**

Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N3OH	590-9562

**PROGRAM'S**

TBA

**PUBLICITY**

Trish Rabe	KI4PCM	335-1096
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**O' MASTER**

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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**REPEATER CONTROLLERS**

Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Milt	N4SN	369-7265
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844

**REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Art	W1CRO	791-4330
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**SCHOLARSHIP**

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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**SUNSHINE**

Jan	KE4TMW	257-0897
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**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Art	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBX	330-8844
Bill	N3OH	590.9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939

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 [kb4of@arrl.net](mailto:kb4of@arrl.net)

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

**SUNSHINE CORNER**

**Welcome** to our new members **Trisha/KI4PCM and Edward/WA3TOL** ! It's great to have you!

Happy Birthday to our friends and fellow Hams: **Keith/KM4AA, Phil/AC4PL, Doc/W1IMX and Ruth/KU4WH.**

Hope each of you has a great day.

Have a great Autumn!

**73 de Jan /KE4TMW**

**Minutes of the Ole' Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting – September 18, 2006**

**John / KG4NXT** called meeting to order at 2000 Eastern Time.

Following the **Pledge of Allegiance**, all present stated their names and call signs. There were **26 OVH members** and **five guests** present.

**PROGRAM**

**Kerry Osterhout** of the **Prince William County Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit** gave us a presentation on **Fleet Watch**. Kerry had just returned to the United States after having been overseas for six and one-half years. She is in charge of the County's **Fleetwatch** and **Business Watch** programs, and well as the **Worship Watch** program. Kerry noted that a lot of what the PW County Police do depends on the general public. Our role is to observe. We know our communities best. So, when something doesn't look right, we know. She wants us to report criminal / suspicious activity. **Steve / N4OGR** will be our contact person for Fleet Watch. Kerry brought Fleet Watch bumper stickers and would like for each of us to be a call-in station. The bumper stickers would help identify us as call-in stations.

For emergencies, dial 911. Dial (703) 792-6500 for non-emergencies. Kerry gave us a list of possible suspicious situations, and the handout describes those situations. The handout also described the information that is needed when we call in. Identify yourself as a Fleet Watch member and a member of OVH, and stay on the phone until the operator tells you to hang up and/or call back. If you use the radio, give a callback number. It's actually better to use the cell phone because the operator can get the call-back number through caller id. It would help if we keep a record of the calls that we make.

Thank you Kerry for taking the time to give your presentation on the Prince William County Fleet Watch program to the Ole' Virginia Hams.

**BREAK**

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

**John / KG4NXT** read a thank-you letter from **Mend-a-House**. We donated the money from the **OVH Hamfest bake sale** plus additional funds to Mend-a-House for a total of \$400. For 22 years, Mend-a-House has helped build ramps, lifts, and other devices in homes to make those homes more accessible to people with disabilities. They have a fund raising event on October 11.

**John / KG4NXT** thanked all who helped out with the **OVH Special Event** commemorating the anniversary of the **2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Manassas / Bull Run**. The event went very well, and all of the QSL cards have been mailed out. We also received several QSL cards from Hams who contacted OVH during the event.

**John / KG4NXT** noted that **Bill / N3OH** had an unexpected business commitment and could not be at the meeting, and thus could not update the Treasurer's Report. However, John and **Mary Lu / KB4EFP** noted that the Club's financial situation had not changed significantly since the August 2006 business meeting. We should have an updated Treasurer's report at the October 2006 business meeting.

**Steve / N4OGR** noted that we received a certificate of appreciation from the folks at **National Night Out** for our recent participation in their event.

**MEMBERSHIP: Joe / KI4OHR** – One new potential member was read in by Joe: **Matthew Babcock / KI4RDB**, who will be voted on for membership at the October 2006 OVH meeting. **Edward Morthimer / WA3TOL** and **Patricia "Trisha" Rabe / KI4PCM** were voted into OVH membership by unanimous votes. Welcome to the Ole' Virginia Hams, Edward and Trisha.

**EDUCATION: Trisha / KI4PCM** – The new Technician class starts this Thursday. Several OVH members have volunteered to help with the class. The class will take place at the **Red Cross building in Old Town Manassas**.

**REPEATERS: Art / W1CRO** – All repeaters are currently working well. However, the back-up 440 machine has some problems. Efforts are being made to fix that machine.

**JOTA: John / KG4NXT** - We need some more volunteers to help with the event. We don't yet have confirmation on having the event at the **Urbana Swim Club**, but we are working on that. The event takes place on October 21. **Theresa / KG4TVM** has printed up a flier. We also need people to help with setup the day before.

**BPL: George / K4GVT** – We recently had **Ed Hare/W1RFI** from **ARRL** visit Manassas. He found some more "**BPL hot spots**." But things are relatively and suspiciously quiet at the present time with regard to BPL noise. We have asked the FCC to come to Manassas to verify the situation. George spoke with **Riley Hollingsworth** today (October 18, 2006), and George understands that FCC is coming to Manassas to investigate the BPL situation.

**ARES: David / KG4GIY** - David suggested that we prepare our "action plan" and be prepared in the event of an emergency. David also noted that there are several activities coming up: The **MS Challenge Walk** on September 29 to October 1; **Simulated Emergency Test (SET)** on Oct 7; **Diabetes Association** event at the **Freedom Center** on October 14; **NCAC Institute** on October 21; **Operation Fowl Play** on October 23 to 25

(this is state-wide event that simulates distributing pharmaceuticals); the **Marine Corps Marathon** on October 29. In December, there will be an event for PW County which will be a full-scale demo for Emergency Managers, in which the plan is to demonstrate HF and video communications. If we know a ham on the Pacific Coast or perhaps Alaska, that person could help with a demonstration of long-distance communications. Complete information on these events is on the PW County ARES website. The website address is [www.qsl.net/pwcares](http://www.qsl.net/pwcares).

The **minutes** of the **August 2006 OVH meeting** were approved.

**George / K4GVT** won the **50/50 raffle**. **\$28** was collected, and George donated his winning share of \$14 back to the **Club**. Thank you George.

**Joe / KI4OHR** reminded all that a net takes place from **Virginia Railway Express** train # 327. The net starts shortly after the train leaves Alexandria, which is just after 4:00p.m. The net takes place on the simplex frequency of 146.550.

The meeting adjourned at 2121 Eastern time.

## Attention All Amateurs...



**BPL Orders Exceed FCC's Jurisdiction and Authority, League Court Filing Says** (Oct 12, 2006) -- The ARRL this week notified the US District Court of Appeals -- DC Circuit that it's appealing certain aspects of the FCC's Part 15 rules governing broadband over power line (BPL) systems. The ARRL Executive Committee ratified plans to go forward with the *Petition for Review* when it met October 7. The League is asking the court to review the FCC's October 2004 *Report and Order (R&O)* establishing Part 15 rules to govern BPL systems as well as its August 1006 *Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O)* that dealt with various petitions for reconsideration of the 2004 *R&O*, including one from the ARRL.



**FCC Releases Long-Awaited "Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order** (Oct 12, 2006 [REVISED Oct 12, 2006 13:14 ET]) --

Ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's *Report and Order (R&O)* in the so-called "omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the changes it had put forth in its 2004 *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in the proceeding. The *R&O* the FCC released this week does **not** include action on the Commission's proposal to eliminate the Morse code requirement for all license classes. A *Report and Order* in that proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, is pending. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the League's gratitude to the FCC for acting this week in the wide-ranging proceeding.



**Scouts Worldwide to Participate in Jamboree On The Air 206** (Oct 10, 2006) -- Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) -- a nearly 50-year-old tradition -- provides an opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio for Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides, Cub Scouts and Brownies around the world, some of whom will be part of the next generation of radio amateurs. JOTA takes place this year over the October 21-22 weekend. JOTA founder Les Mitchell, G3BHK, said in 2000 that he never imagined when he drew up the plans and rules for the first JOTA in 1958 that its popularity would increase and spread around the world.



**DXCC Desk approves operation for DXCC credit** (Oct 10, 2006) -- The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved this operation for DXCC credit: 9Q1D (Democratic Republic of the Congo), current operation beginning September 22, 2006. This accreditation also includes 9Q1TB and 9Q1EK. A reminder: The DXCC Desk now is accepting submissions for Swain's Island (KH8). For more information, visit the [DXCC Web page](#). "[DXCC Frequently Asked Questions](#)" can answer most questions about the DXCC program. ARRL DX bulletins are available on the [W1AW DX Bulletins](#) page.



**Nominations Open for 2006 ARRL International Humanitarian Award** (Oct 10, 2006) -- Nominations are open until December 31 for the 2006 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. The award is dedicated to an individual radio amateur or Amateur Radio group devoted to promoting human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established this annual award to recognize Amateur Radio operators who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster.



**Feature: ARDF Update: Try Foxhunting at JOTA This Year** (Oct 10, 2006) -- Give scouts something new and exciting to do during Jamboree On The Air



**ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration** (Oct 10, 2006) –

Registration remains open through **Sunday, October 22**, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education ([CCE](#)) on-line courses: Amateur Radio License Course ([EC-010](#)), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 ([EC-001](#)), Radio Frequency Interference ([EC-006](#)), Antenna Design and Construction ([EC-009](#)), Analog Electronics ([EC-012](#)) and Digital Electronics ([EC-013](#)). Classes begin **Friday, November 3**. These courses will also open for registration **Friday, October 20**, for classes beginning **Friday, December 1**. To learn more, visit the [CCE](#) Course Listing page or [contact](#) the CCE Department.



**AMSAT's Project Eagle Satellite Shifts Direction** (Oct 9, 2006) -- AMSAT-NA has announced it's revamping the design of its Project Eagle satellite, currently in the development stages. The next-generation, high-Earth orbit (HEO) satellite now will take maximum advantage of software-defined transponder (SDX) technology to offer a broader range of easily accessible Amateur Radio payloads. The AMSAT Board of Directors okayed the Eagle upgrade plans during the 2006 AMSAT-NA Space Symposium and Annual Meeting held here October 6-8. Eagle Project Manager Jim Sanford, WB4GCS, outlined the changes at his Space Symposium forum October 7.  
Downloaded from ARRL website



**West Coast Qualifying Run Change** (Oct 6, 2006) -- Rob Griffin, K6YR, who usually handles the West Coast CW Qualifying Run, will be out of town for next week's run; it will instead be handled by Jim Michener, K9JM. The Run will begin at its usual time, October 11, 9 PM PST (October 12, 0400 UTC). The speed range for the October West Coast Qualifying Run is 10 to 35 WPM, and will be transmitted on approximately 3.590 MHz.  
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**Feature: Surfin': Additional Tools and Memories** (Oct 6, 2006) -- This week, the wayback machine only goes back to last week's and the week before to revisit Surfin' and reveal additional Web sites where you will find vintage QSL cards and useful tools.  
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**IARU Monitoring System seeks over-the-horizon radar reports** (Oct 5, 2006) -- IARU Region 2 Monitoring System Coordinator Bill Zellers, WA4FKI, says Amateur Radio stations on the West Coast and as far east as

Arizona have reported hearing over-the-horizon [radar signals](#) on the low bands. VE7BZ in British Columbia recorded the radar's signal October 1, 1353 UTC, on 3.795 MHz. The radar, apparently located on Hainan Island, Peoples Republic of China, has shown up on 160, 80 and 40 meters and sometimes is quite strong. "We're talking about signals 40 over 9!" Zellers told ARRL, adding that the radar is obliterating 160 meters in the Far East. On 80/75 meters it appears as high as 3.8 MHz, while on 40 meters, it's showing up on the lower 25 kHz or so. Typically there are about 50 seconds between signal pulses. He said the radar signals are strongest on a heading of between 285 and 320 degrees from California or Arizona. Zellers requests reports from stations hearing the over-the-horizon radar signals as well as any other signals that do not appear to belong on the Amateur Radio bands. He suggests the following format when reporting: Your call sign, time in UTC, frequency, emission type, signal strength, propagation and signal bandwidth in kHz. Send reports to Zeller via e-mail [wa4fki@nc.rr.com](mailto:wa4fki@nc.rr.com).  
Downloaded from ARRL website



**160-Meter Experiment Will Explore Marconi's 1901 Transatlantic Success** (Oct 5, 2006) -- A 160-meter beacon will take to the air this fall and winter from Cornwall, England, to explore how Guglielmo Marconi was able to span the Atlantic by wireless for the first time on December 12, 1901. Radio history says that's when the radio pioneer at a receiving station in Newfoundland successfully copied the Morse code letter "s" sent repeatedly by his team in the Cornwall town of Poldhu. The latter-day venture is a cooperative effort of the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club (PARK) in Cornwall and the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland (MCRN). The Poldhu club's Keith Matthew, G0WYS, said the 2001 centenary of Marconi's achievement reopened discussion into the mechanism by which the 1901 spark transmitter signal propagated. Downloaded from ARRL website

**The K7RA Solar Update** (Oct 5, 2006) -- This report is appearing one day early this week to accommodate travel schedules. Daily sunspot numbers and solar flux were higher this week. Average daily sunspot numbers rose by nearly 22 points to 34.6. Average daily solar flux was up nearly by 6 points to 76.7.  
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**Space station crew to take brief Soyuz trip** (Oct 4, 2006) -- The all-ham crew of the International Space Station will take a brief ride around the space outpost October 10. Expedition 14 Commander Mike Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, Flight Engineer Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, and European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR, will shut down vital station systems and undock their *Soyuz* spacecraft from its port at the aft end of the *Zvezda* Service Module. "They will then take a 30-minute trip that will relocate the *Soyuz* to the Earth-facing docking port on the station's *Zarya* module," NASA said this week. "The maneuver will free *Zvezda's* docking port for the arrival

of a new Russian Progress cargo spacecraft later this month. Lopez-Alegria and Tyurin are still settling in for their six-month stay in space." Reiter has been aboard the ISS since the summer. No Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARRL](#)) school contacts are on the schedule until later this month.  
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**Martin P. Miller, NN2C, SK** (Oct 4, 2006) -- Martin P. "Marty" Miller, NN2C, of Melville, New York, died September 30. He was 84. Miller was a DXCC Honor Roll member on both phone and CW. An ARRL member, he was very active in the Long Island DX Association (LIDXA), where he was a member for more than 25 years and president for 7 years. "He would regularly bring his new DXpedition videos down to LIDXA meetings and was always trying out new software and hardware in his station," said LIDXA Secretary Ed Whitman, K2MFY. "He loved the hobby with a fervor." Miller was among the US troops that went ashore at Normandy in 1944 ahead of the first invasion wave as part of a special combat assault unit. He received the Silver Star for his actions that day. Licensed more than 30 years ago (he formerly held WB2VEX), Miller also served as president of the QCWA's Long Island Chapter

81 and belonged to the Grumman Amateur Radio Club. Miller was a regular at Dayton Hamvention and at the IOTA [Islands on the Air] conference in England. "November November Two Charlie will surely be missed by his stateside and DX buddies," Whitman said.