

# OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

## July 2025

### Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2025

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello Everyone,

Once again, our busy season is winding down, and it's been a whirlwind for some time now.

On June 28th and 29th the OVH took part in ARRL Field Day 2025. Under the guidance of returning Field Day Chairwoman Cat, / KM4PBD, we had another good Field Day weekend. I look forward to reading our official v. Despite the humidity and light rain, preparation started at the Nokesville Park site the day before the event began, on Friday, June 27th. Antenna lines were shot into the trees Friday afternoon.



We also had our second weather balloon launch (or second and third if you are going to be a stickler for such things) on Saturday. Please see the July 9th article on our OVH web page (and later in this Newsletter) for an in depth look as well as some of the great graphics of that event.

Big thanks to our Balloon Launch project team: returning Chairman Bruce / KN4GDX; Bryon / AK4XR; Gil / KM4OZH and John / KG4NXT.

After the balloon launch, we had our Pot Luck Supper, and there was no shortage of camaraderie.

While still talking about June, I would like to remind you that hurricane season runs from June 1st to December 1st, and thus is already underway. Now would be a good time to review your preparation plans and supplies.

Even though the ARRL linked article below was written several years ago in 2021, I believe it is still a good read for our new hams as well as a good refresher for our grizzled

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# Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 4293

Manassas, Virginia 20108-0728

## OFFICERS

President:	Ken Brant	KN4DD	622-2638
Vice Pres:	Gil Thompson	KM4OZH	369-0431
Secretary:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
Treasurer:	Jeff Porter	K9VEG	216-7734

## DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Arthur Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451
Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3566

## WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

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

## TAILGATE (HAMFEST) 2024 - CHAIRMAN

Don	WA2SWX	597-3211
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## FIELD DAY 2024 - CHAIRWOMAN

Cat <a href="mailto:otohime.1978@gmail.com">otohime.1978@gmail.com</a>	KM4PBD	571-213-2179
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## CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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## VE COORDINATOR

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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## CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Open - volunteer needed!

## ARES - EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
See <a href="http://pwcares.org">http://pwcares.org</a>	email: <a href="mailto:kg4giy@arrl.net">kg4giy@arrl.net</a>	

## FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
Don	WA2SWX	597-3211

## GENERATORS

Byron	AK4XR	222-2095
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

## WARRIOR BIKE RIDE - CHAIRMAN

Andy <a href="mailto:andy@gamponia.com">andy@gamponia.com</a>	KJ4MTP	785-4651
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## WEB COMMITTEE — W4OVH.NET + Twitter & Facebook

Kevin	W4RKU	540-445-5183
John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KN4DD	622-2638

Web Committee "help request" email: [webmaster@w4ovh.net](mailto:webmaster@w4ovh.net)

## EMAIL REFLECTOR — [w4ovh@googlegroups.com](mailto:w4ovh@googlegroups.com)

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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## MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE - OVH COORDINATOR

George	K4GVT	791-5956
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## LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	WA3FMO	361-4885
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## NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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## CHRISTMAS / YEAR END PARTY - CHAIRPERSON

Theresa.	KG4TVM	257-3566
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## PROGRAMS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
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## QUARTERMASTER

Open - volunteer needed!

## THURSDAY NIGHT NET / REPEATER CONTROLLERS

John	KG4NXT	257-3566
Ken	KE2N	753-8587
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794
James	KQ4CAX	628-5186
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
Cat	KM4PBD	571-213-2179

## W4OVH — TRUSTEE

Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431
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## W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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## SCHOLARSHIP 2022

Ken	KN4DD	622-2638
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## SUNSHINE

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Ken	KE2N	753-8587
Andy	KJ4MTP	786-4651
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939
David	KG4GIY	628-3868
Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431

## HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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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 © 2024 by the Ole Virginia Hams which holds its regular monthly meetings at 7:30 p.m. every third Tuesday at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas, Virginia except during the COVID pandemic (in 2020-2021) during which the monthly meetings were held online. The Newsletter will have login details for monthly online meetings if applicable. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend without obligation. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeater each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. or through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>. Articles in this newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the OVH ARC and other source(s) noted. Proposed materials for publication, classified ads, notes about specific errors, complaints or the like are solicited. Forward such items to the Newsletter Editor: [paul@w4zb.com](mailto:paul@w4zb.com). Approx. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20240714

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vets. Family Comes First during Hurricane Preparation for Home and Station. Find it at: <https://www.arrl.org/news/family-comes-first-during-hurricane-preparation-for-home-and-station>

Back on the 4th of July, the OVH supported what used to be called “The Freedom Firecracker 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run”. They have since rebranded as “The IMDC Freedom Firecracker 5k and Sparkler 1 Mile”. The event was short & sweet. We were there by 7:30 AM & gone by 9:30-ish. And what a colorful group. Not as many in costume as the Turkey Trot, but still quite imaginative. Many in patriotic shirts and shorts, as well as an abundance of grown women in colorful and sparkly tutus. A big thank you to John / KG4NXT and his team of spotters – Greg / KM4CCG; Theresa / KG4TVM; Al / KB4BHB and Jerry / KR4EZZ..

Also, back in the first week of July was the popular 13 Colonies Special Event – 2025 which ran from July 1st thru July 7th, an always a popular event.

You don't have to wait until our in-person meetings to see everyone again; you can come out this Saturday, July 12th at 8:00 AM for the resumption of our monthly breakfasts! Pioneered by Byron / AK4XR, way back in the olden days (2019), we get together on the Saturday immediately before our Tuesday meetings at a table or two in the back of Yorkshire Restaurant for some good food and good conversation. Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Road, Manassas. We hope to see you there.

Next, our upcoming monthly regular OVH meeting will be on Tuesday, July 15th, at 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM EDT, at the Buckhall VFD Hall, 7190 Yates Ford Road, Manassas.

July's presentation will be on AI (Artificial Intelligence). This will be my first time back since my wife's and my medical issues, and I am really looking forward to this presentation.

If you are itching for some Hamfest action, the SVARC 74th Berryville Hamfest is just around the corner, and only an hour's drive from Manassas. I know a number of OVH members attend regularly, so you're sure to see some of us. It's just a few of weeks away on Sunday, August 3rd at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds in Berryville. For more details, see, the flyer later in this Newsletter or visit the Berryville Hamfest – Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club web site.

A reminder to check in to the OVH's Thursday night VHF/UHF FM repeater net at 8 PM - details are on the OVH's web site: <https://w4ovh.net> This is a great way to stay in touch.

Questions, comments or war stories should be directed to my e-mail: [kn4dd@arrl.net](mailto:kn4dd@arrl.net)

73 Ken KN4DD

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## Sunshine Corner



Happy Birthday wishes to all of the following OVH club members with birthdays in July, 2025:  
Jack / KN4HHQ, Steve / KM4WVP, Philip / KI4WCG,  
Jeff / KM4FTK, Bruce / KN4TS, George / K4GVT,  
Jim / KB0HSA, Sandy / KM4JUS, Rosalie / KN4ZLY,  
Jeff / K9VEG, Richard / KJ4ZIH, Luther / WA3FMO,



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Stephen / KO4GQR, and William / WB4KLC! Hope each of you have a great year ahead!

Field Day – Wow, we did sweat out there but it was a successful, fun weekend! Tons of equipment, pounds of food, great fellowship and a successful balloon launch. Thanks to everyone that pulled this event together and participated.

Parks on the air (POTA) – Are you interested in POTA? Not sure where to start? Looking for some tips and hints? Well, on Friday, July 18th starting at 9 am and going to 11 am, maybe 12 depending on participation, several of us will be set up at Conway Robinson State Forest on Route 29 South right before Heathcote Blvd. This will be a coffee, donut and POTA event, so come on out and observe and/or operate and have a snack!



Hope everyone had a safe and fun 4th of July!

On the morning of July 4th, several of us provided radio support for the Freedom Firecracker 5K at the Freedom Center in Manassas. It was a great run/walk and everyone was very festive! I was home by 9:30 am and then was able to get on with our holiday celebrations!

Sunday, August 3rd is the Berryville Hamfest at the Clarke County Fairgrounds. Looking forward to attending and supporting our fellow hams, flyer attached!

Please check and make sure on the Members Only Log-In at W4OVH.net that the OVH has all of the correct and up-to-date information on file for you!

Remember that the OVH Thursday night VHF and UHF FM net is at 8:00 pm each Thursday evening. It is a great way to keep up with current events and hear what other active OVH members are up to with their radios! Details are on the W4OVH.NET web site.

Please send me your news, good, not so good and ham related info!

73 Theresa / KG4TVM kg4tvm@hotmail.com Tel: 703-257-3566

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## Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on June 17, 2025:

OVH Vice President, Gil / KM4OZH, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on June 17th, 2025 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. After the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stated their names and callsigns.

The minutes of the previous May 20, 2025 OVH meeting were approved.

Jeff / K9VEG gave the Treasurer's report which was approved.

Luther / WA3FMO emailed in the membership report which reported again, no membership actions this past month.

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ARES: No report.

Ken / KE2N gave the Repeater report by email. Last-minute checks show that the 2m, 224 and 443 MHz repeaters are all working, including the Wires-x and Asterisk. The linking.DSTAR repeaters are responding as expected. The DSTAR portal and Gateway are working, as well as the NOVEC/Mt Pone microwave (WLAN) connection. Three new DSTAR user registrations were processed this month.

Mark / WA4KFZ gave the training report. ARRL VE testing will move to online computers by end of this year, 2025. We will need to re-train our VEs.

Tail Gate – John / KG4NXT was unable to attend the meeting but provided a report to read. Theresa also announced information about the Berryville Hamfest to be held on 8/3/25 and the Page Valley TailGate to be held on 9/6/25. Theresa also reported that all the equipment donated from Ken / WB4ZOH's estate has been sold except for his classic Astatic microphone which will be available for sale during Field Day.

Field Day Report: The pre-setup antenna work is now expected to happen at 2:00 pm on Friday just before Field Day at the Nokesville Park. Saturday set up will start at 10 am; James / KQ4CAX will bring the club trailer to the park between 9:30 and 10:00 am on Saturday. Balloon launch is scheduled for 3:00 pm on Saturday and Gil will be obtaining and bringing the hydrogen for inflation of the balloons. Pot Luck Dinner will be between 5:00 pm and 5:30 pm, please bring a side dish to share, the OVH will provide and cook hot dogs, hamburgers and ribs.

Web site: No report this month except that the Web site is still functioning.

POTA – Theresa is working on a date in July to meet at Conway Robinson Park along nearby Lee Highway (Route 29) for a POTA activation, Watch the club reflector for more specific information.

Theresa / KG4TVM gave the Sunshine report. Birthdays were mentioned. She mentioned that Luther / WA3FMO now has a new knee.

50/50 raffle was won by Noah / KO4IDI.

Old Business – Byron / AK4XR asked about the Meshtastic node, according to Gil, John / KG4NXT is working on getting this set up. Also, another item: Mark / WA4KFZ asked about items in the OVH trailer that need to be consolidated or given away due to excessive weight in the trailer. Theresa stated that she is planning on working on some of the items at Field Day when the trailer will be open and available.

New Business: None

The meeting was then adjourned.

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## Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

### HAMFESTS:

Sunday, August 3, 2025. the 74th Berryville Hamfest. gates open 6:00 am, vendor building opens 8:00 am, at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, Berryville, Virginia. This is a big (nearby) event attended every year by many OVH members. See Flyer below. .

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## OVH EVENTS

Parks on the air (POTA) – Not sure where to start? Looking for some tips and hints? On Friday, July 18th starting at 9 am and going to 11 am, maybe 12 depending on participation, several of OVH members will set up at Conway Robinson State Forest which is just off of Route 29 South near Heathcote Blvd. This will be a coffee, donut and POTA event, so come on out and observe and/or operate and have a snack!

Saturday, July 25, 2025 starting at 8:30 am - another OVH VEC Session for new Ham License applicants. Place: the St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 14640 Soucy Place, Centreville, Virginia. Contact Mark / WA4KFZ at email: wa4kfz@outlook.com for more information and details.

## HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS

Saturday, August 9, 2025 (00:00 UTC) until Sunday, August 10, 2025 (23:59 UTC) - the Worked All Europe (WAE) contest on CW sponsored by the DARC. This is one of the major worldwide DX contests each year with lots of participation, which provides opportunities for operators in North America to work almost all countries in Europe during a single weekend on CW. The Phone version of WAE will be during the second full weekend in September. Complete information is at: <https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/wae-dx-contest/en/wae-rules>

See also, <https://www.arrrl.org/contests> for the ARRL maintained Contesting web page, A lot is always going on. See, <https://contestcalendar.com> by WA7BNM and [NG3K.com](http://NG3K.com) for more!

## PUBLIC EVENTS / PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

Check the online Calendar on the OVH's web site at W4OVH.NET for information about upcoming OVH related events. Also, check the online Calendar maintained by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcared.org> for the latest PWC ARES updates. Complete direct contact information for David / KG4GIY also appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

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## **Amateur High Altitude Balloon (HAB) Launches – W4OVH Field Day 2025**

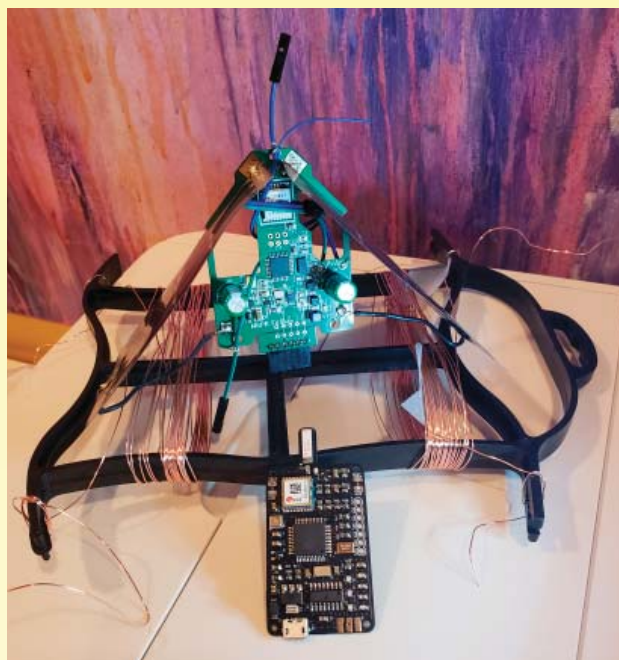
One source of Field Day bonus “points” for a Club Field Day station such as W4OVH for the OVH is to have an educational project. At one of the planning meetings for the OVH's 2025 Field Day, we decided to do another balloon launch with a radio package as our educational project. We has done one before, but with disappointing telemetry. Bruce / KN4GDX, took the project on again for 2025.

Two amateur payloads were planned and prepared for OVH's Field Day 2025 launch. Launch was planned for ~1500 ET on June 28 at the W4OVH Field Day site near Nokesville, Virginia ; and the two launches actually took place about 1530 ET. The following description covers the planning, launch activities and tracking of the two payloads.

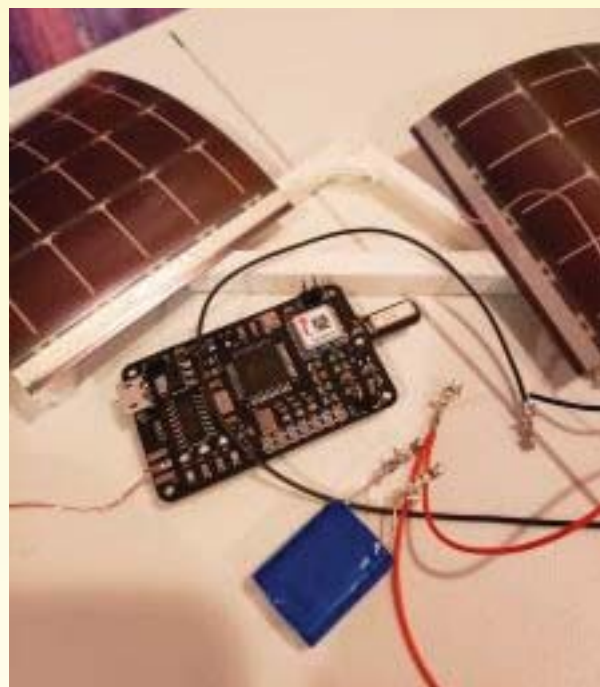
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## Planning and Testing for Balloon Payloads

The first balloon payload, from ZachteK in Sweden (see, <https://zachteK.com> for more info) was similar to the OVH's 2024 HAB payload launch, and is the board shown in the photo to the right. The 2024 HAB payload worked while testing, but unfortunately did not produce track files after it was launched. For 2025 it was also a WSPR payload, this time programmed for the 20 meter band. The photo shows the payload sitting next to its 20 meter dipole antenna. Power for it is supplied by two 5 volt solar panels, seen edge-on here, and backed up with two 2.7 volt super capacitor batteries in series, which are seen here as the large components on the board. At launch, the payload was suspended between the two 17 foot legs of the 20 meter dipole.



The second payload from QRP Labs (see, <https://qrp-labs.com> for more info) is the board shown in the second photo to the right. It contains an APRS payload which transmits through a 50 cm antenna on the 2 meter APRS frequencies. The antenna is attached downward from the board; and the GPS receiver is on the upper edge of the board. The power source and physical attachment in the final configuration was similar to the WSPR board and included an "Aframe" formed from some scrap plastic, two solar panels, power wiring and one 5.5v super capacitor. Programming the payload's on-board computer was done with the Arduino IDE using a payload board-specific application. The on-board application is fairly complex because it has to control APRS transmissions depending upon its geographic location area. GPS signals received by the payload are used to determine its location and then either alter the APRS frequency based on the country, or turn off APRS completely. If the payload should reach an altitude where a long distance "floating" condition is met, this feature is required by the ITU.



Each payload, at completion weighed about one ounce, including the GPS receivers and antennas. The antennas were made from 28 gauge insulated stranded wire. The WSPR payload transmits at about 20 milliwatts; and the APRS payload transmits at about 500 milliwatts. WSPR is tracked on either PSK Reporter, or WSPR.net. WSPR is a "weak

signal” format that can also be heard using WSJT-X software and appropriate receivers. APRS is normally tracked worldwide by APRS receiver stations on 2 meter VHF and reported as APRS-IS on the Internet at APRS.fi.

Both payloads were tested during construction and just prior to launch at the Field Day site. During construction, the WSPR payload was tested using standard HF receivers and the WSJT-X WSPR application. The APRS payload was tested initially with a handheld APRS radio; then also tested in proximity to the W4VA APRS receiver to assure the signal was being reported in the APRS-IS system. on the internet.

### **Balloon Planning and Testing**

In both 2024 and 2025 hydrogen gas was our preferred lifting medium with several balloon options. Hydrogen has become the preferred gas for many amateur and scientific uses due to being cheaper, and also having about twice the lift for a given volume as Helium. During the last few years, helium gas expense and availability has driven both government scientific and amateur balloon launches to hydrogen. Due to hydrogen’s flammability, extra precautions are taken with handling and filling. Gil / KN4OZH, and Byron / AK4XR, were instrumental in procuring the hydrogen ahead of time; and then supporting the filling processes for both balloon types.

Our balloon options included both 48 and 72 inch latex, and 32 inch mylar. These options have very different filling conditions with the latex neck about one inch in diameter, and the mylar neck about ¼ inch in diameter. To enable control of the hydrogen fill process, Bruce made a two part apparatus for matching the hydrogen gauge/valve assembly to both types of apertures.

There is no simple way to “weigh” a filled balloon to test its lift capability, while attached to the hydrogen source, so in both cases, through some trial and error, we were able to fill both latex and mylar balloons to approximately the desired lift as tested with a gram/Newton scale. Our preferred net lift was 10 to 20 grams. The final latex balloon lift was closer to 30grams so it was a bit of a “rocket” at launch. The mylar balloons - we used two, was closer to 5 grams, with expansion space in the mylar – which is preferred, and was a much slower ascent. Under some conditions, a mylar launch of a pico sized payload may achieve a “float” condition in the jet stream. Ours, unfortunately did not. Perhaps next time. Floaters are sometimes achieved with mylar, but are usually planned and launched with a specific type of balloon which has a large volume and is relatively expensive at over \$100, just for the balloon.

### **Payload Tracking**

Our APRS payload was tracked almost immediately by Cat / KM4PBD, after launch and was tracked throughout its flight by a number of APRS other receivers in the National Capitol region. It achieved close to 30,000 feet altitude and descended near the Annapolis High School in a likely heavily wooded area. A friend of Bruce’s who does regular launches with Horus payloads (UHF, USB with 4FSK modulation) lives near the landing site and spent some time looking for the balloon/payload, but without success.

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The WSPR payload tracking was not evident immediately, but was in fact tracked by a large number of stations across the US, Canada and Europe. The flight was fairly short, about 70 minutes, due to the rapid ascent, supposed balloon rupture at high altitude, and descent in the Alexandria area. Following is a log of stations which heard the WSPR balloon

On **20m** show **signals** sent by **the callsign** **w4ovh/4** using **WSPR** over the last **24 ho**

Monitoring W4OVH/4 (last heard 14 hrs ago). Automatic refresh in 4 minutes. 15 reception reports for W4OVH/4 are shown as times (show logbook). There are 21 active WSPR monitors: 21 on 20m, 16 on 30m, 14 on 40m, 13 on 15m, 11 on 17m, 10 on 10m, 9 on 80m, 9 on 12m, 4 on 6m, 3 on

Report	Band	Mode	Distance	Time (UTC)
AA00	20m	WSPR	831 miles	21:04:00
HB9VQQ/RE	20m	WSPR	4157 miles	21:04:00
AK5SD	20m	WSPR	1299 miles	21:02:00
GM0UDL	20m	WSPR	3411 miles	21:02:00
KV4TT	20m	WSPR	354 miles	20:56:00
W2NAF-2	20m	WSPR	199 miles	20:52:00
KX4AZ/T	20m	WSPR	560 miles	20:46:00
N6GN5	20m	WSPR	1483 miles	20:46:00
KK7IXU	20m	WSPR	2334 miles	20:44:00
K5TR	20m	WSPR	1324 miles	20:40:00
AE5AU	20m	WSPR	879 miles	20:32:00
VE3EID	20m	WSPR	474 miles	20:28:00
NG5P	20m	WSPR	857 miles	20:20:00
KM3T-3	20m	WSPR	420 miles	20:10:00
W3OA	20m	WSPR		19:52:00



We all want especially to thank Bruce / KN4GDX, Gil / KM4OZH and Byron / AK4XR each of his extensive efforts in planning and executing the OVH's 2025 Field Day amateur balloon launches. More about these balloon launch events later.

# Logbook Summary for W4OVH for 2025 Field Day as filed by John / KG4NXT

## Summary

Entry received at: 2025-07-01 22:39:52 UTC

Submitted by: **john heartney, KG4NXT** E-mail: kg4nxt@ARRL.NET

Call Used: **W4OVH** GOTA Station Call: **(NONE)** ARRL/RAC Section: **VA** Class: **3A**

Participants: **15** Club/Group Name: **Ole Virginia Hams**

Power Source(s): **Generator, Battery, Solar**

Power Multiplier: **2X**

**Preliminary Total Score: 3,304**

### Bonus Points:

Bonus	Points	Status
100% emergency power	300	
Media publicity	100	Documented by field day media publicity_000025.pdf
Public location	100	
Public information table	100	
Formal message to ARRL SM/SEC	100	File [QTC 1 R RUCKERSVILLE VA 22968.txt] previously uploaded
W1AW Field Day message	100	File [ARRL DOC.pdf] previously uploaded
Formal messages handled (10 x 10, max of 100)	100	File [nvtn_messages.txt] previously uploaded
Natural power QSOs completed	100	File [nat_power.jpg] previously uploaded
Site visit by invited served agency	100	
Educational activity	100	
Safety officer	100	File [2024 Field Day Safety Checklist.pdf] previously uploaded
Social media	100	
Entry submitted via web	50	
<b>Total bonus points</b>	<b>1,450</b>	

### Score Summary - File [W4OVH\_2025.dup] previously uploaded

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total
<b>Total QSOs</b>	83	259	243	
<b>Total Points</b>	166	518	243	

**927 Claimed Score = (QSO points x power mult) = 1,854**

### Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

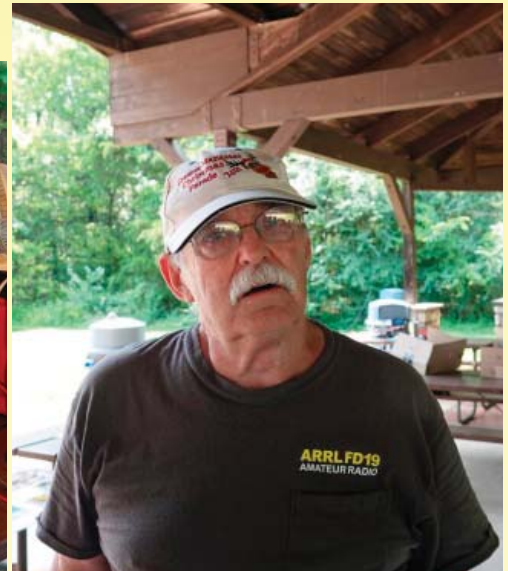
Band	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m						
80m	6	100	41	100	5	100
40m	73	100	59	100	238	100
20m	4	100	159	100		

A few pictures from the OVH / ARRL 2025 Field Day at the Nokesville Park below and on the following page.

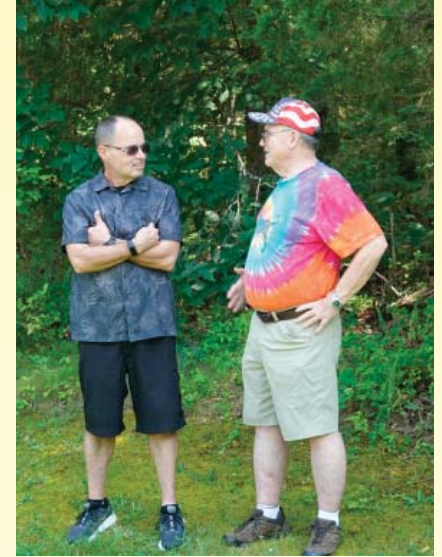
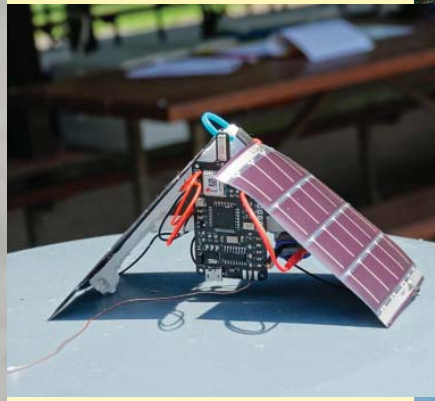
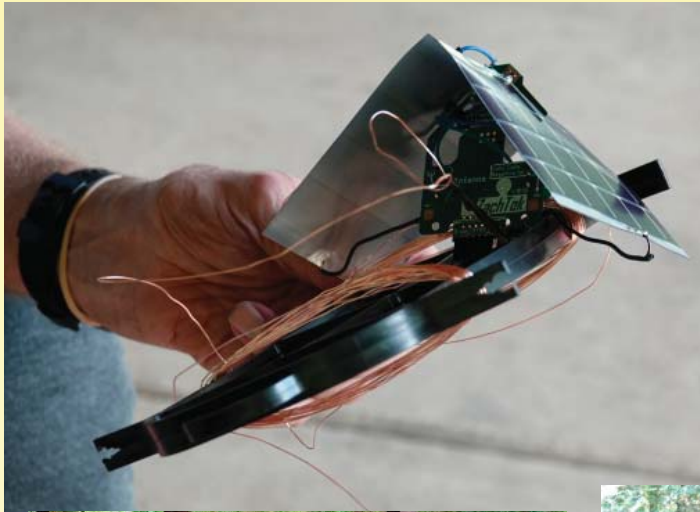


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## Support for the July 4th Freedom Runs at the Freedom Center

Early on July 4th, 2025 the OVH provided communication support and overwatch at the Freedom Center for the Freedom Firecracker races. We watched for safety problems on University Campus where the Freedom Center is located,

Helping out were Greg / KM4CCG, Theresa / KG4TVM, Al / KB4BHB, John KG4NXT and Jerry / KR4EZZ. Jerry had just received his new license on July 2nd and showed up with an HT to support the race. We were released about 10:15 am. The sponsors provided race T-shirts to all OVH members who assisted. The shirts will be distributed out at the July 15th OVH meeting.





The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST



# 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Berryville Hamfest

## Sunday, August 3, 2025

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds • 890 W. Main St., Berryville, VA

- GATE OPENS AT 6:00 AM • VENDOR BUILDINGS OPEN BY 8:00 AM



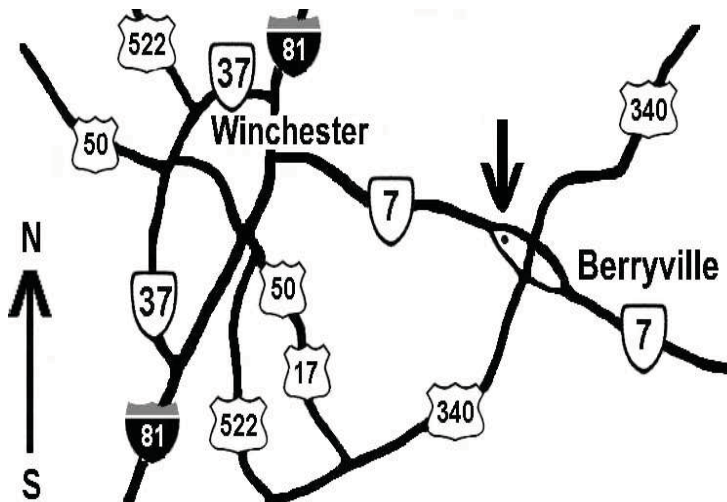
**ADMISSION FEE \$10.00 per person, children 16 and under free**

- ADDITIONAL \$10.00 FOR OPEN-AIR TAILGATE SPACE (First come, first served)
- INDOOR VENDOR TABLES BY RESERVATION (see below)
- PRIZES, 50/50 CASH RAFFLE
- ON-SITE ATM MACHINE!
- SPECIAL HOTEL PRICE: HAMPTON INN (1204 Berryville Ave, Winchester [540-678-4000](tel:540-678-4000))
- \$15.00 FOR A CAMPER SPACE~~ **RURITAN RULES: NO Pets, Pornography, or Weapons**

Country Ham & Eggs Breakfast  
starting at 6:00 AM

Ruritan's famous  
chicken & beef  
barbecue from  
11:00 AM

Grand Prize: HF Rig  
Other great prizes &  
gift certificates  
drawn every hour



**ON-SITE VE EXAMS!**  
Our club's VE team will be hosting this. Walk-ins are welcome. Testing begins at 12:00 noon in Horticulture Building. A photo ID, FRN, and email address are required.  
For more information, contact **John Creel**, [WB3GXW@arrl.net](mailto:WB3GXW@arrl.net).

**REGISTER ONLINE** to request barn or indoor spaces: <https://svarc.us/vendor-registration/>  
Indoor space/table in Ruritan \$20 (air-conditioned) and Arts & Crafts \$15 (not air-conditioned)

[www.berryvillehamfest.com](http://www.berryvillehamfest.com) for detailed info, FAQ

Contact Tom KM4FEC 540-327-3966 at [hamfest-coordinator@berryvillehamfest.com](mailto:hamfest-coordinator@berryvillehamfest.com)