

The OVH ARC Newsletter  
OLE VIRGINIA HAMS™ AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Post Office Box 4293, Manassas, Va. 20108-0728  
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

Renew your OVH  
membership now!

## December 2025

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, January 20, 2026

### VICE PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Seasons greetings from KM4OZH. It's time for parties with friends and family.

Speaking of parties, Theresa and John hosted the OVH wingding at their home. An enjoyable evening, with plenty of great food and some surprise attendees. Many thanks Theresa ,well done.

Best wishes for speedy recoveries to James / KQ4CAX, Al / KB4BHB and Ken / KN4DD.

Radiowise this is a quiet month for me. In preparation for the January VHF contest I practiced and became more familiar with meteor scatter operation.

Using the MSK144 mode I successfully made numerous contacts to the West and Midwest. Learning from seasoned VHF contesters, meteor scatter contacts can provide much needed distant Grid Square multipliers from late night operations. VHF contacts are scarce so another means of making contacts is welcome.

With that I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

All comments and opinions are welcome either to the web site, where moderating issues may exist, or to me at [km4ozh@gmail.com](mailto:km4ozh@gmail.com)

VP Gil KM4OZH 73



# Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 4293  
Manassas, Virginia 20108-0728

## OFFICERS

President:	Gil Thompson	KM4OZH	369-0431
Vice Pres:	Vacant		
Secretary:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	257-3566
Treasurer:	Jeff Porter	K9VEG	216-7734

## DIRECTORS

George Tarnovsky	K4GVT	791-5956
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 otohime.1978@gmail.com	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: 20251025

# Sunshine Corner



Happy Birthday wishes to all of the following  
OVH club members with birthdays in December:

Tony / KM4KLB, Ed / KK4PHP, Jay / NQ4T, Bill / N4SV,  
Dianne / KI4FVV, Alan / KY4DN, Byron / AK4XR and  
David / KK4ZUU. Each of you enjoy your day!



Happy to report that Ken / KN4DD is back home,  
continuing to recover from his knee surgeries. Ken is  
also the recipient of the Club's Lifetime Achievement  
Award which was announced at the club's year end  
party. We will be getting the award to him soon.

Also happy to report that Al / KB4BHB is out of the  
hospital and is recuperating at the home of his son  
and daughter-in-law in Remington. John / KG4NXT,  
Gene / N4HFW and I went to visit Al this past week  
and he is looking a lot better!

James / KQ4CAX is a patient at Inova Fairfax as a  
result of due to having a stroke. John and I visited with  
him on December 20th. His wife, Yong, was there and let  
us know that James needs to have a medical procedure,  
probably on Monday the 22nd. As soon as the hospital feels he is stable enough afterwards,  
he will be moved to the Lake Manassas Rehab. facility. There isn't a definite date on the  
move yet but they are hoping by the end of next week. Visitors are very welcome, talking  
on the phone is not an option yet. James was very interactive with us today and the other  
visitors in the room. John showed him photos from our party last week and was filling him  
in on other club activities. Please keep sending positive thoughts for his recovery.

George / K4GVT wanted me to let everyone know that his neighbor, Bob Voss / K9YOD is  
in the hospital due to a heart attack. George said that several of our club members went to  
Bob's house and helped put up Bob's tower.

John / KG4NXT, David / KG4GIY and I provided radio communications for the annual  
Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day. It was a great event with 2000 participants of all ages.  
Very well-run event and our part was complete by 9:30 am.

We had a visit right after Thanksgiving with Don / WA2SWX/HC4DA and wife Edith,  
visiting from their relocation to Ecuador, good to see both of them.

Super thanks to Sam / KQ4SL for pulling the club trailer thru the Manassas Christmas  
Parade. His son Oliver put most of the decorations on the truck for us. Another great parade  
with a lot of spectators!



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The OVH Holiday Party was great with some surprises! Wayne / N7QLK and wife Vickey traveled to Manassas from Florida to attend, I had no idea they were coming! Also, Ray / KM4EKR and Sandy / KM4JUS traveled from South Carolina to surprise everyone.

Thanks to everyone else that attended, we had some good food with lots of desserts! We collected 55 Toys for Tots donations, which is incredible. Thanks to everyone that donated, the toys were delivered Sunday to the Buckhall Fire Department.

The first Hamfest Planning meeting for 2026 will be on Wednesday, January 7th 6:00 PM at the Hog Shack restaurant at 10470 Dumfries Road. This restaurant on Dumfries Road is very near the entrance to the Prince William County fairgrounds where the Manassas hamfests used to be held. We need all hands-on deck for this Hamfest to be held June 20th at Colgan High School and are still looking for someone to volunteer as Chairperson.

Christmas is on Thursday this year and that is also OVH Net Night. We will be having the weekly VHF/UHF FM net at 8:00 pm as usual so hop on in and say hello! Details about how to join in are on the W4OVH.net web site.



Please make sure the club has your correct call sign and mailing address in the member's only section at w4ovh.net

Please send me your news, good, not so good and ham related info! kg4tvm@hotmail.com

Thursday night net at 8 pm is a great way to keep up with current events and hear what everyone is up to with their radios!

Happy Holidays to everyone!

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 November 18, 2025:

Vice-President Gil / KM4OZH called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on November 18, 2025 in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. All present stated their names and call signs.

Bruce / KN4GDX gave an excellent presentation and situational awareness and training. Links to Bruce's slides and other items are available on the OVH website.

The minutes of the October 21, 2025 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff / K9VEG gave the report which was approved. Jeff stated that we should be looking for a new treasurer.

Membership report: Luther / WA3FMO gave the report with one new read-in, to be voted upon at the December (or January 2026) meeting: Scott Gee / KR4BNF

ARES report. No report this month.

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Repeater report: Ken / KE2N reported all repeaters and web interfaces are working. The 220 repeater works fine if there has not been a recent rain. A Canadian attempted a Dstar registration which was discussed,

Training report: Mark / WA4KFZ reported he will not schedule an Exam tools VE session until the FCC completely reopens after the government shutdown, probably in January.

Hamfest report –John / KG4NXT will not chair this in 2026. Theresa/ KG4TVM has a tentative date of June 20, 2026 at Colgon, but there are still some hoops to go thru for Colgon. A possible planning meeting in January. A chair is needed!

Field Day – Field Day also needs a new chair.

Website report. No report.

Theresa KG4TVM gave the Sunshine report. Birthdays were mentioned. Former President Ken / KN4DD is back to his home from rehab. Al / KB4BHB is back in his home after pneumonia and low iron. James / KQ4CAX will pull the trailer for the Christmas parade. George / K4GVT is still looking for Christmas Parade volunteers. The Turkey Trot event will be on November 27th and we could use more volunteers. The OVH Holiday Party will be on December 13th - please bring a toy for the tots.

Old Business: No special presidential election was held because there were no nominees.

New Business: Jack Ramberg, 571-471-4565, JackRamburg@gmail.com presented on a GMRS network they are trying to build out after losing a site on Bull Run Mountain. They are trying to get the FCC to reallocate some unused frequencies to them. They would like us to host a repeater for them.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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## **Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:**

### **HAMFESTS:**

There are few nearby Hamfests this Winter. Check the ARRL Hamfest Calendar for more information about upcoming Hamfests.

February 13 - 15, 2026: Orlando (Florida) Hamfest. This has been a major / larger hamfest for many years and is worth attending if you can schedule it. More info at <https://hamcation.com>

March 15, 2025 (Sunday), Winterfest 2026 in Vienna, Virginia - more later.

### **OVH RELATED EVENTS**

January 7, 2026, Tuesday, 6:00 PM - Planning meeting for the Manassas Hamfest which is now planned for June 20th, 2026.

### **HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS**

The Winter is prime time for radio contesting events on the HF amateur radio bands. See, pages 65-83 of the November 2025 issues of QST for a Special Section about Contest Season

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2025/2026. The ARRL's "Straight Key Night" will take place on January 1st. The ARRL's VHF contest is in January. Many other radio contests will take place in January and February, 2026.

See, <https://www.arrl.org/contests> for the ARRL maintained Contesting web page; see also, NG3K.com and <https://contestcalendar.com> by WA7BNM for more radio contesting info!

## PUBLIC EVENTS / PUBLIC SERVICE / ARES EVENTS

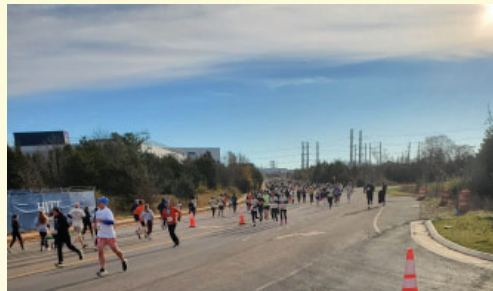
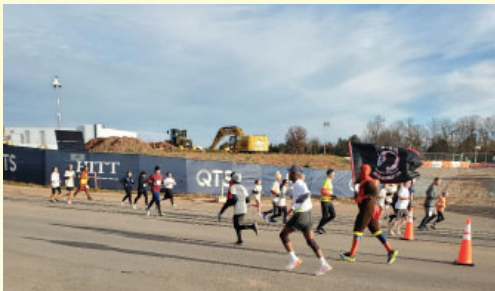
Check the online Calendar on the OVH's web site at W4OVH.NET for information about upcoming OVH related events. Also, check the online Calendar maintained by David / KG4GIY at <http://pwcares.org> for the latest PWC ARES updates. Complete direct contact information for David / KG4GIY also appears on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

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### OVH Again Supports the Local 2025 Turkey Trot Event

On Thanksgiving Day 2025, the OVH again provided communications support for the Turkey Trot race event at the George Mason campus in Manassas. Operators were Theresa / KG4TVM, David / KG4GIY, Duane / KK4BZ and John / KG4NXT. Duane also ran in the race and provided support from various locations as he ran along the course. The rest of us were assigned positions along University Boulevard to ensure safety.

The Turkey Trot this year had its greatest turnout ever with 2,000 individuals registered for the two races. OVH provide support for the longer race which include off campus streets. The police blocked vehicular traffic from the roads for the duration of the Turkey Trot. Below are a few images from the event.



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### OVH Supports the Manassas Christmas Parade

It was cold, very cold at 7:00 am on December 6, 2025 when OVH member volunteers finally assembled near the parade location in Manassas, Virginia to prepare to

provide communications and other support the 79th annual Manassas Christmas Parade. Many of the OVH volunteers first met at a local restaurant for breakfast.



George / K4GVT, was the liaison and photographer. Sam / KQ4SL, pulled the trailer with his son, Oliver. Theresa / KG4TVM, got our trailer entered as a parade float and

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she also took the lead in decorating the trailer. Dianne /, KI4FVV, was net control. Many other OVH members actively assisted too. More images from this event below.





## The 2025 OVH Year End Party

The 2025 OVH Holiday Party was held at the Heartney QTH (house) in Manassas. It was a potluck with Theresa providing ham and turkey. There were so many desserts that we had to put them out on two tables. As in the past, people brought toys for tots. We collected 55 toys and they were dropped off at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Station where we have our regular meetings.

We had several out of town OVH members (who no longer live locally) attend: Wayne / N7QLK and wife Vicki came from Ocala, Florida on the Amtrak Auto Train, a total surprise; and Ray / KM4EKR and Sandy / KM4JUS came from Leesville, South Carolina. Other OVH members attending included Gil, KM4OZH, Byon AK4XR and wife Jane, Jay / NQ4T, Jeff / WB6UIE and Pinky / KN4ZLY, Gus / N4MLE, Alex / KQ4MIG and wife, Ken / KE2N, Luther / WA3FMO, Greg / KM4CCG, John / KG4NXT and Theresa / KG4TVM. Pinky was our photographer.

There was a brief business meeting during which Scott / KR4BNF was voted in as a new OVH member and Ken / KN4DD was awarded the highest OVH award for his distinguished service. Following are a few pictures from this event.

