

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

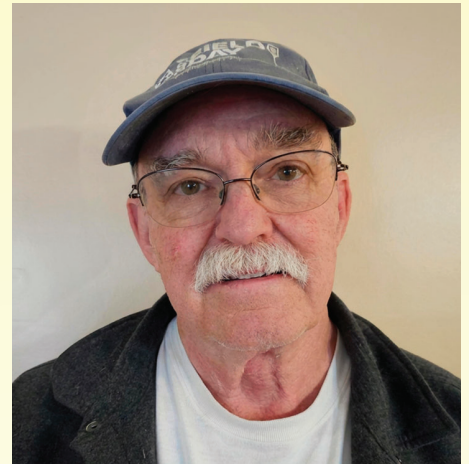
June 2026

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, June 16, 2026

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Welcome all to June. This is the busiest and most important month for the Ole Virginia Hams each year.

This year, we start with our Hamfest on Saturday, June 20th. This is a bigger lift than the tailgates we have had in previous several years. We will be hosting the Virginia QSO Party and have free tables for ARRL and Skywarn and a room for VE testing. This is our only fundraiser and we need to fund our repeater internet, equipment insurance, liability insurances as well as to provide for needed equipment repairs and replacements. This is an all hands on deck event. If you have not already volunteered, contact Chair Theresa at kg4tvm@hotmail.com



The week after the Hamfest, we have our ARRL/OVH Field Day at the Nokesville Community Park. George / K4GVT has his satellite set up working again. He has a new controller that automatically points his twin circularly polarized antennas at the satellite as it move. On Saturday afternoon, Bruce / KN4GDX will again be releasing a hydrogen balloon with a radio payload. We expect to be able to track the balloon in real time at the park. We will have a Saturday night potluck at 5 pm. All are welcome, so bring family, friends and neighbors.

On another note, Jeff / WB4TT is the new trustee of the W4PVA call. This was the call of Harry, who was the club founder. Contact Jeff if you want to use the call at an event.

Many old OVH Newsletters have long been available on the club web site, w4ovh.net, as well as the the archive.org [Wayback Machine] web site. But the folks at archive.org have recently reorganized the archive.org collection of OVH Newsletters at a new, dedicated URL: <https://archive.org/details/ole-virginia-hams> Special thanks Theresa / KG4TVM

Cont'd on Page 3

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 4293

Manassas, Virginia 20108-0728

OFFICERS

President:	John Heartney	KG4NXT	789-6449
Vice Pres:	Gil Thompson	KM4OZH	369-0431
Secretary:	Lynn Timmons	KX4HR	913-205-1742
Treasurer:	Don Meyerhoff	WA2SWX / HC4DA	703-597-3211

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		

HAMFEST 2026 - CHAIR

Theresa	kg4tvm@hotmail.com	KG4TVM	703-257-3566
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FIELD DAY 2026 - CHAIR

John	KG4NXT	703-789-6449
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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 http://pwcares.org	email: kg4giy@arrl.net	

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	andy@gamponia.com	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
Lynn	KX4HR	913-205-1742
Web Committee "help request" email: webmaster@w4ovh.net		

EMAIL REFLECTOR — 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
Gil	KM4OZH	369-0431
Jeff	WB6UIE	791-5916
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 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, education related especially to radio activities, electronics, computers, science and STEM subjects, and public service activities. Copyright © 2026 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. 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 Repeaters 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. Approx. Circ.: 170. Last Rev: 20260307

Cont'd from page 1

(as club historian) for taking many hours to scan original paper versions of the many old OVH Newsletters that have been provided to her so far. We also need to thank Kay Savetz / K6KJN at archive.org for reorganizing all of them on the archive.org site URL mentioned above. If anyone reading this still has some old OVH Newsletters that have not yet been included in these collections, please let Theresa / KG4TVM know so they can be added.

Finally, our upcoming OVH regular meeting on Tuesday June 17th. George / K4GVT will be making a presentation there about on RF and car locks that is very exciting. George's presentation will include material he has presented as a paper at a convention, and we are not allowed to get too descriptive here, except for George's brief summary: Most of us have used keyless automotive entry never thinking about vulnerabilities with the current systems. The automotive manufacturers are well aware of these vulnerabilities. With the exception of a few, they have not corrected this weakness. In this presentation I will explain, illustrate, and live demo a system that will allow access to most vehicles and methods of securing. All demonstrations will be conducted with the owner's permissions.

Hope to see you at the upcoming meeting at 7:30 pm on June 17th, at the Hamfest on June 20th and at Field Day on June 27-28th.

73 John KG4NXT

Sunshine Corner



Happy Birthday wishes to all of the following OVH club members with birthdays in June: Jan / KE4TMW,

Edward / KQ4DPP, Jim / KM4SXM, Sean / KQ4FRQ, Robert / W4PHX, Seth / WA4FZY, Wayne / AG4ZZ, Gene / N4HFW, Bob / K4HJF, Nick (no call), Daniela / KQ4IKQ, Noah / KQ4IDI, David / KQ4BDS, Dana / KM4TTP, Ron / K3FR and William / KO4QDL.



Well, I can now say KG4NXT and I (KG4TVM) have now been to a Hamvention in Ohio in May! What a crazy, but very organized event, it was massive. While we were there, we ran into a number of other OVH club members who were also in Ohio for Hamvention. We all had a great time! See, Hamvention article below.

Congratulations to all the graduates over the last month. I know several club members including myself have graduates this year. Best wishes to all of them!

Safe travels to Ron / K3FR, he has moved to Johnson City, Tennessee. We will miss seeing Ron at Field Day, our monthly club meetings and at other club events.

Hamfest 2026 – June 20th, Saturday! We are ready and waiting for the day! Looking forward to a great event. The QSO Award Ceremony will start at 9 am. The VE testing will start at 10 am. See, Flyer later in this Newsletter.

Field Day 2026 – is just one week after Hamfest, on Saturday / Sunday, June 27-28th,

Cont'd from page 3

so June is definitely a ham radio month! Come out and get on the air with us at Nokesville Community Park. Also, we are having the pot luck dinner on Saturday at 5:00 pm, this is open to club members and their families. Please contact John at kg4nxt@arrl.net or at 703-789-6449 for any questions.



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

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!

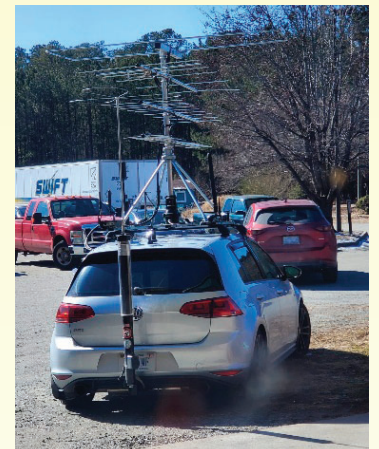
Please send me your news, good, not so good and ham related info! kg4tvm@hotmail.com

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

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting held on May 19, 2026:

Preamble - President John Heartney/KG4NXT, called the meeting to order at 7:25 pm on May 19, 2026. The club meeting was held in the training room at the Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department Station. All present stated their names and callsigns. There were twelve attendees at the club meeting.

Program - The program was excellent with a presentation by Scott/KE4WMF. Scott featured his contest rover that required extensive modifications to his Volkswagen GTI and the evolution of the rover was fascinating. The rear seat was removed to accommodate all the ham radio equipment and power is provided via a 12v 314Ah rechargeable battery. His contest rover can work 12 bands. The assortment of various antennas was incredible and the neatness of the construction and wiring was extremely neat and well done. Scott's GTI contest rover is shown below:



Minutes - The minutes of the April 21, 2026 meeting were approved.

Membership business – Nick Cantos was admitted into the OVH club. Although not licensed yet, he is interested in both voice communications through hand-held and non-hand-held devices as well as CW.

Repeater Report – John/KG4NXT reported for Ken/KE2N, noting the repeater is working.

Website Report – Lynn/KX4HR noted that the website is up and running and plug-ins are up to date. Lynn also noted that the Wordfence Plug-in is thwarting numerous hacking attempts.

Financial Report – Theresa/KG4TVM gave the financial report for Don/WA2SWX. There is approximately \$15,000 in the club account.

Cont'd from page 4

Training – Mark/WA4KFZ again reported on the VE session held on April 18, 2026, in which a 12-year-old took the technician exam and passed handily. Mark noted that the \$35 FCC application fee was reimbursed by the ARRL. Mark reported that a VE session will be held at the Hamfest but the session will be held by another amateur radio club.

Hamfest – Theresa, KG4TVM, reported on the Hamfest which will be held at Colgan Sr. High School on June 20, 2026. Field Day will be held on June 27, 2026 at Nokesville Park 12560 Aden Road, Nokesville, VA. Theresa also reported that she already has quite a few volunteers but 5 more are needed for Hamfest and Field Day.

Field Day – John/KG4NXT reported on Field Day and that he is short on food volunteers.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa/ KG4TVM noted the birthdays for May. Preliminary results are out for the Virginia QSO Party and Gil/KM4OZH is looking good for a plaque and we will see if anyone else comes away with an award!

Old Business: None.

New Business: John/KG4NXT reported that since Art/W1CRO passed on to a better place, a replacement trustee is needed to keep W4PVA as a call sign. Jeff/WB4TT volunteered to be a trustee for the club. A motion was made for Jeff to fill the vacant trustee position. A vote was held and Jeff was unanimously approved to be a trustee of the club.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

June 20, 2026 (Saturday). The Manassas Hamfest 2026 is now scheduled. Save the date and plan to volunteer to assist the OVH in making this a successful Hamfest. See elsewhere in this Newsletter and in the Flyer which is part of this Newsletter.

OVH RELATED EVENTS

June 27 - 28, 2026 - the ARRL / OVH Field Day. The OVH venue this year will again be at the pavilion at the local Nokesville Community Park. This is also an OVH family event, and all family members or other individuals interested or potentially interested in ham radio are invited to attend. There will be a pot luck dinner on Saturday. Portable / temporary ham radio stations will be set up and operated off of generator power. The operations will be in various modes on the HF bands (SSB - voice, CW - morse code, and digital modes) and FM on the VHF / UHF bands. The objective of the radio operation is to make as many two way contacts with other Field Day stations in the USA and Canada as possible during the event, and typically, hundred of contacts are will be made. There are also usually some other events such as technical lectures, fox (hidden radio transmitter) hunts and balloon launches. Be sure to come out even if you can only stay for an hour or so.

Cont'd on page 6

Cont'd from page 5

HAM RADIO OPERATING / CONTEST EVENTS

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.

Hamvention 2026 by John / KG4NXT

Hamvention (in Xenia, Greene County, Ohio near Dayton) is to hams what Mecca in Saudia Arabia is to Muslims. As a ham, you should (must) make the trip at least once. Many who make the trip once, then go again and then sometimes, again and again.

I had asked Theresa / KG4TVM if she wanted to honeymoon at Hamvention back in 2003 but she said "No." This year, that trip was a birthday present from her to me.

We drove out to Ohio and stayed at a state park cabin about 30 miles away from Hamvention at a place called Cowan Lake State Park. We arrived a day early and activated the park and nearby wildlife area for POTA. We did not try to park at Hamvention; instead we parked at the nearby Xenia High School and took a school bus to the Hamvention site at the fairgrounds. The town of Xenia cancels school for Hamvention so there was plenty of parking and a number of perky high school students.

The Hamvention is a huge event every year. See, hamvention.org This year there were 37,924 attendees from over 43 countries and there were over 600 volunteers.

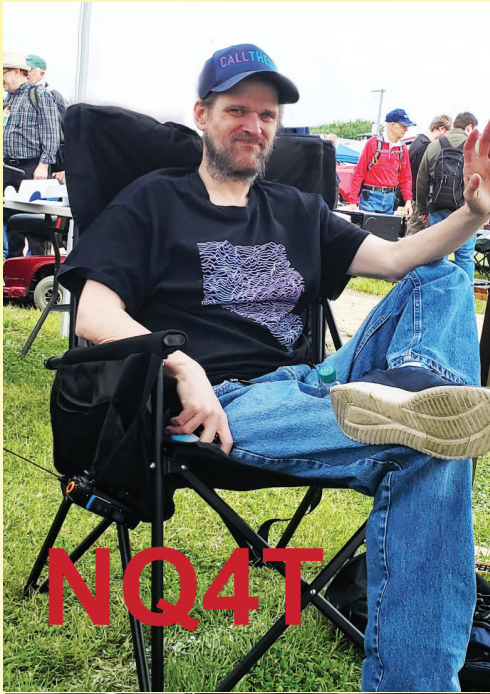
Despite the huge number of people, we encountered a lot of OVH people. Jay/NQ4T was there and part of a group with four tailgate spaces and easy-ups for shelter. Jay invited us to sit and it was a nice place to stop and visit. We also ran into Mark/WA4KFZ and Bill/N4SV and Bill/AF4LL who had his picture taken with Theresa. Jeff/K9VEG we encountered manning the CW Ops booth when we went by. Rob/KR4EEV was also there but we missed seeing him in the crowds. See images on next page from Hamvention.

According to Jay, it always rains at Hamvention and it did rain on Saturday. However, we did not have a sea of mud that has happened other years. Theresa stayed at Jay's booth while I toured the tailgate area while it rained a bit. The most interesting thing that we bought was a HT antenna so flexible that you can tie it in a lose knot and it will be fine. We bought two that glow in the dark.

Theresa and I also spent some time at the POTA tent. They had "POTA BINGO" and we played it. It was a bingo cardfilled with things that can happen on a pota activation and found a person that had done that and they filled in the squarewith their callsign. Only one callsign per card. When your card was complete, you were eligible to put your name and call in for a prize drawing. Neither of us won anything but it was a fun icebreaker.

Thanks to Theresa for a very nice birthday present.

Cont'd on page 7



POTA Activation of the Manassas National Battlefield Park on May 31, 2026

On the last day of May, Theresa / KG4TVM called for a OVH club POTA activation at Manassas National Battlefield Park. The National Park Service has tightened its procedures at that National Park and now only allows POTA activations at one place in the park - the Groveton picnic area off of Groveton Road. That area has a shelter and bathrooms but the trees are puny for supporting HF antennas.

We used a hot spot provided by Byron / AK4XR for spotting ourselves, using the POTA app on the web and for uploading the digital log. Fortunately, we had excellent weather as well as excellent band conditions.

We put up a vertical HF antenna and George/K4GVT's big ears antenna. George set up a SSB station and John set up a digital station.

Cont'd from page 7

OVH members attending were Theresa / KG4TVM, George / K4GVT, Rob / KR4EEV, Ken / KD4VA and John / KG4NXT.

John and Rob got 16 contacts and George got 15. A good time was had by all. See below for some images from this POTA event.



Some Possibly Interesting or Useful Information

1. Convenient Precise Time References. The handy CHU (Canadian) AM broadcast time services just below the 80 meter band (3330kHz) and just above the 40 meter band (7850kHz) are about to go off the air for good. Those have been around as long as I can remember. Canada will continue to provide <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/web-clock> for accurate online time references. Of course, WWV will remain on the air on 2.5 MHz, 5 MHz, 10 MHz, 15 MHz, 20 MHz, and 25 MHz. The US Government also continues to provide accurate online time references via its time.gov web site. Another very handy accurate online time site is time.is - originally set up out of Iceland, which is particularly useful if you need quick references to local time in other time zones.

2. If you use the HF bands, you will always want good, up to date, usable information about current HF propagation conditions. Be sure to check out: prop.kc2g.com which includes an amazing system that combines up to date observation from a large number of research and government propagation observation stations around the world.



INDOOR HAMFEST & TAILGATE EVENT

Saturday, June 20th, 2026

[Charles J. Colgan Sr. High School](#)

13833 Dumfries Rd, Manassas VA 20112

Colgan is a state-of-the-art High School in Prince William County that was opened in 2016, we will be using doors #33 and #34
Please watch for signage at the school

GENERAL ADMISSION
DOORS OPEN AT 8 AM
\$10.00 PER PERSON
OVER 14

INSIDE VENDORS
DOORS OPEN AT 7 AM
\$25 PER TABLE
INCLUDES 1 SIX FOOT
ROUND TABLE, 1 CHAIR & 1
ADMISSION TICKET
ADDITIONAL TABLES \$20
PER TABLE

TAILGATE
SET UP AT 7 AM
\$15 PER PARKING SPACE
DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY
ADMISSION TICKETS

VA QSO
PARTY AWARDS

Watch for updated
information and vendor
list at www.w4ovh.net

ARRL TABLE

DOORS CLOSE
AT 12:30 PM



**OLE VIRGINIA HAMS
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB**

**invites the public to
attend the 2026
Field Day Event**

**24 Hour Event
starts 2 pm June 27th
thru 2 pm June 28th**

**Nokesville Park
12560 Aden Road
Nokesville VA
At the big pavilion
past the baseball
fields**

Rain or Shine!

**More Info:
www.w4ovh.net**

**Balloon Launch on
Saturday Afternoon**

**Saturday evening
Pot Luck Dinner at 5
pm - bring a dish to
share**

This is a family event

All are welcome!