

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

July 2026

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, July 21, 2026

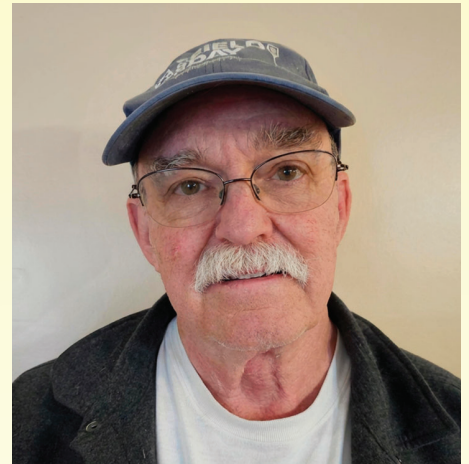
PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

The OVH had a great June with a successful Hamfest and successful ARRL / OVH Field Day the very next weekend.

Theresa / KG4TVM chaired our successful Hamfest on Saturday, June 20th. The OVH had not had a hamfest in several years – having more limited tailgate events instead. The Hamfest was held at local high school and had good attendance, good table sales and good outside tailgate seller participation. Importantly, the OVH made enough money to get us through 2026. A huge thanks to all who made this possible. See, an indoor picture taken during the Hamfest at the bottom, right side of this page, and also later in this newsletter, many more pictures from the Hamfest.

We approached Field Day, a two day event, on Saturday and Sunday, June 27th and 28th, facing a dreadful weather forecast. However, we actually had very little rain locally on Saturday and only a shower on Sunday; fortunately, the shower quit in time for us to take down the antennas without being soaked. George / K4GVT setup his satellite system and made 13 or so satellite contacts.

One negative was that our planned balloon launch had to be cancelled



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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

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the balloon's payload was not hardened to withstand turbulence in most the clouds in the area. Nevertheless, we hope to be able to launch the field day balloon later this summer combined with a club picnic and possibly a POTA activation. Stay tuned.

We had some important visitors at Field Day. George Stewart, the Prince William Supervisor for the Gainesville district stopped by. On Sunday morning we had a visit with Mike / WA8AHZ who is the ARRL Section Manager for Virginia. Bruce / KN4GDX had some serious emergency communication discussion with Mike.

July is also the month of for annual the 13 Colonies contest which takes place early in the month. Don WA2SWX/HC2DA got all but one of the 13 colonies one from his station in Ecuador. Other known OVH participants included Al / KB4BHB, John / KG4NXT, Jim / KM4SMX and Wayne / N7QLK.

Lastly, the Berryville Hamfest is fast approaching on Sunday, August 2nd. This is a big nearby hamfest with several indoor buildings and a large tailgate area. The Ruritans there serve excellent breakfast and lunch. It will be fun to go to this hamfest and not be running it. See the upcoming events section later in this newsletter for more info.

Finally, our upcoming OVH regular meeting will be on Tuesday July 21st. I expect a good part of the meeting will be a post-event review of the recent Hamfest and Field Day so these can be improved on in 2027. Hope to see you there.

73 John KG4NXT

Sunshine Corner



Happy Birthday wishes to all of the following OVH club members with birthdays in July: Jack / KN4HHQ, Steve / KM4WVP, Philip / KI4WGC, Jeff / KM4FTK, Bruce / KN4TS, George / K4GVT, Jim / KB0HSA, Sandy / KM4JUS, Rosalie / KN4ZLY, Jeff / K9VEG, Luther / WA3FMO, Stephen / KO4GQR and William / WB4KLC.



I just recently went thru our membership list and compared it to the birthday list I have. There are quite a few members who I don't have birthday months for. So, if you don't see your name listed in your birthday month, please let me know at my email: kg4tvm@hotmail.com

Condolences to Ken / KN4DD. His wife Paula passed away earlier this month. Her final resting place is in New Jersey. Please keep Ken in your thoughts and prayers, he is still having issues with his knee and needs another surgery.

Condolences to Jay / NQ4T and family on the loss of his aunt Frances. She passed away at the beginning of July.

Get well wishes to Joe / KI4OHR and his wife, Baofang / KK4JFK. They were in a serious car crash and still recovering from their injuries.

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On April 1st of this year, we lost Art W1CRO, a director and very long-time member of the OVH. Art's son John is also a ham. John has been able to obtain his dad's call sign so if you hear W1CRO on the air, please say hello.



Edith, YL of Don / WA2SWX was visiting from Ecuador and we were able to spend a day with her. We are hoping to have both of them visit in the Fall.

I'm happy to report that the OVH has survived the month of June once again. Hamfest and Field Day were back-to-back weekends. We will discuss both events at the July club meeting. It sounds like Colgan High School was a hit for Hamfest and I did receive many positive comments on the location. Field Day was back at the Nokesville Park. If you had listened to the weatherman, the whole weekend was supposed to be a washout. We did have some sprinkles and there was heavy cloud cover most of the weekend. For those that came out, I think it was a good time for all.

Happy belated 4th of July! I hope everyone that celebrated had a great Holiday!

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 June 16, 2026:

General - 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 15 attendees at the club meeting.

Program - The program was excellent with a presentation by George, K4GVT. George presented work he had done relative to car fob security. After the meeting, George provided a live demonstration using various cars from OVH members.

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Minutes - The minutes of the May 19, 2026 meeting were approved with a pending correction.

Membership business – Luther / WA3FMO, had one item of business. William Aviles, KR4WAS, GeneralClass, is up for vote into OVH membership and was subsequently voted into the club. His interests are SSB & FM and he is just starting to get into ham radio and has a lot of areas to learn.

Repeater Report – No repeater report.

Website Report – Lynn / KX4HR, noted that the website is up and running and plug-ins are up to date.

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

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ, reported that there will be a Volunteer Examiner (VE) session at the upcoming Hamfest but it will not be run by W4OVH. Mark is looking at a VE session, hosted by our club in about 2 months.

Hamfest - Theresa / KG4TVM, reported on the Hamfest which will be held at Colgan Sr. High School on June 20, 2026. Theresa noted that there will be a QSO party at 9:00 am. She also presented the table layout for Hamfest. As a general note, Theresa already has quite a few volunteers but 5 more are needed for Hamfest and Field Day.

Field Day – John / KG4NXT, reported on Field Day which will be held on June 27 and 28, 2026 at the Nokesville Park, 12560 Aden Road, Nokesville. Volunteers will be needed to set up antennas on Friday, June 26. Mark / WA4KFZ, will bring a launcher to assist with antenna setup. George / K4GVT, will have his satellite system set up. A balloon launch is also scheduled.

Sunshine Corner – Theresa / KG4TVM, noted the birthdays for June.

Old Business: None New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

August 2, 2026 (Sunday). The annual Berryville Hamfest in Berryville, Virginia in Clarke County, about an hour drive from the Manassas area. This event is very popular with OVH members. For more info, see <https://svarc.us/hamfest> and the brochure later in this newsletter.

August 14-16, 2026 - HamX - The Northeast HamXposition in Marlborough, Massachusetts which is about an hour drive west of Boston. This three day event is certainly not close by, but it is a major hamfest that might be worth visiting. More info at <https://hamxposition.org>

August 15, 2026 (Saturday) The Cincinnati Hamfest in Owensville, Ohio, also not close by, but this is a major hamfest that might be worth visiting. See, cincinnatihamfest.org for more info.

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OVH RELATED EVENTS

August 15, 2026 (Saturday) 8am - 11am - an OVH VEC ham license examination session has been (tentatively) scheduled at the Chantilly Regional Library - Chantilly Conference Room. Check with Mark at wa4kfz@outlook.com for updates and more details.

Balloon Launch event - not specifically scheduled yet, but likely to be scheduled on a weekend on short notice. Keep an eye on the members-only email reflector.

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.

Some Pictures from the June 20, 2026 HAMFEST



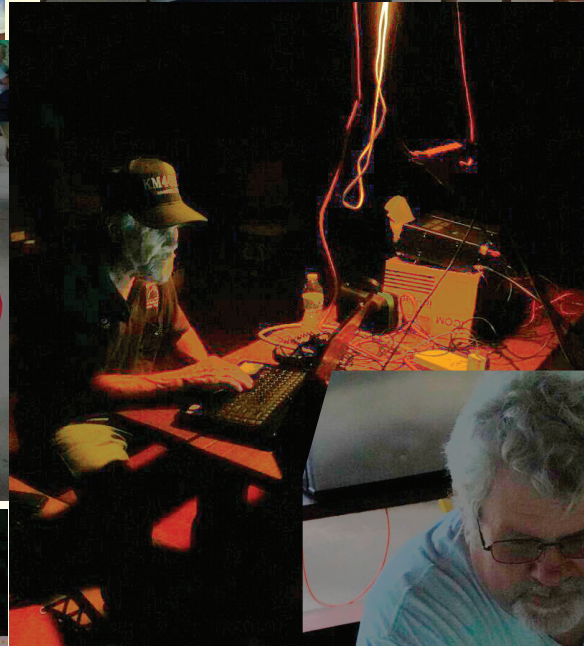
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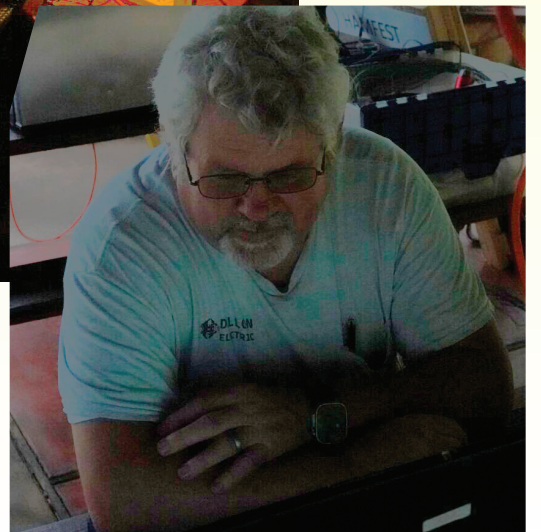
Some Pictures from the W4OVH/ARRL Field Day 2026



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Night Ops





The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club



75th Annual Berryville Hamfest

Sunday, August 2, 2026

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

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



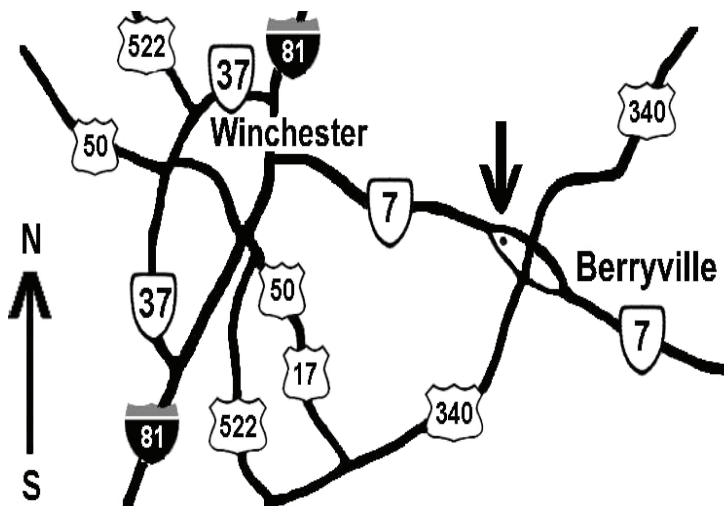
ADMISSION FEE \$15.00 per person, children 16 and under free

- 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 barbecue
from 11:00 AM

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



VE EXAMS!

The Laurel VE team will be hosting this year at the Clarke County High School. Walk-ins are welcome. Testing begins at 12:00 noon. Photo ID, FRN, and email, address are required. For more information, contact

John Creel,
WB3GXW@arrrl.net.

[REGISTER ONLINE](https://svarc.us/vendor-registration/) to request barn or indoor spaces: <https://svarc.us/vendor-registration/>

Indoor exhibits in Ruritan / Horticulture \$20 (air-conditioned)

Indoor exhibits Arts & Crafts \$15 (not air-conditioned)

www.berryvillehamfest.com for detailed info, FAQ

Contact hamfest-coordinator@berryvillehamfest.com