

# DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# SPARKS

P. O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38184-2768 / VOL. 6 / JUNE 2007



Visit our home on the web at: <http://www.deltaclub.org>

**W4BS**  
**REPEATER**  
**SYSTEM**  
146.82, 147.36,  
224.42, & 443.2

## MAY 2007 CLUB MEETING

**DATE:** June 12, 2007

**PLACE:** Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,  
Memphis, Tn. ( 1.5 miles east of Hwy. 64-Stage Rd. )

**TIME:** 7:00 PM

**PROGRAM:** Field Day Plans/Short Program on Special Events Station by KD4NOQ

**VE TESTING:** Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 P.M. and testing begins promptly at 6:00 P.M. Please remember to bring **two forms of identification** and **copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's** you might have. The ARRL VEC exam examination fee is \$14. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 p.m. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information contact...

Joan Thorne, KN4PM, VEC  
Phone: 901-737-5795  
E-mail: [joanthorne@bellsouth.net](mailto:joanthorne@bellsouth.net)

Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is the last day of the month prior to the meeting. All articles **MUST** be in to me by the deadline in order to be published in the next issue. Please forward all articles and items of interest to:

[KI4AJH@bellsouth.net](mailto:KI4AJH@bellsouth.net)

## **Delta Amateur Radio Club Board Minutes of May 1, 2007**

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. K4POM-Lisa, KD4NOQ-David, WB4SLI-Hugh, KI4AJH-Roger, WA4OVO-Joe and KK4D-Darrell were present.

Darrell read the secretary's report and Hugh read the treasurer's report. They were unanimously accepted as read by all.

David gave the board information on a ham fest he had attended.

KE4HHN-Larry Yates' application for membership was presented to the board and unanimously accepted by the board.

The board briefly discussed the upcoming field day.

### **Old business:**

Darrell updated the board on the Freefest held at the Bartlett Civic Center on Stage Road.

### **New Business:**

Hugh and David gave information on an upcoming summer Boy Scout camp. David then advised the board that he would be making the club meeting presentation on the International Space Station.

Joe gave information on the current class he is teaching. He also gave the board information on a possible fund raiser for the club.

Joe mentioned a concern on the audio level of the 220 machine which was discussed.

Respectfully submitted by:  
K4POM-Lisa Sheffield  
DARC Secretary

**Information on News, Contests, Special Events, and Hamfests Can All Be Found At:**

<http://www.arrl.org/search/bigindex.html>

### **SPARKS Input**

If you have any suggestions to be included or removed from the newsletter please let me know. It has been suggested to me that we might include pictures of your home or mobile station setups. If you would like yours to be included in the upcoming issue just send me the pictures. Depending upon the response for this they may not all be able to be included in the next SPARKS.

Roger Schlichter, KI4AJH  
(KI4AJH@bellsouth.net)

## May 8, 2007 General Meeting Minutes of the Delta Ham Radio Club

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with the introductions of the members and guests present.

Darrell read the treasurer's report. NF5B-Richard motioned to accept it as read and it was seconded by several members simultaneously.

Darrell asked the members if there were any objections to accepting the secretary's minutes as printed in SPARKS. NF5B-Richard motioned to accept them and KC0HZU-Kathleen seconded the motion.

### Old Business:

KK4D-Darrell called for nominations for the Vice Presidency from the floor. There being none he went on to new business.

### New Business:

Hamm gave information on field day held on May 12.

KB4SQV-Bill gave an update on the Freefest held on April 14.

Darrell asked the members for help in programming a radio for Mr. Uis Johnson. KB4SQV-Bill offered to help him.

WA4OVO-Joe gave a report on the VE testing for his latest class. He then presented information to the members for a possible fund raiser.

KE4QFW-Eddie gave information on the Memphis in May Triathlon.

KN4PM-Joan gave the VE results of the past two testing sessions. We have 10 new General Class licenses and 4 new Techs. (28 people tested.)

KD4NOQ-David made his presentation on the International Space Station.

There were two door prizes:

W4OQG-Pat Lane won the gift certificate and KI4OTB-Keith Shook won the repeater directory donated to us by ARRL.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
K4POM-Lisa Sheffield  
DARC Secretary

### New Net

There is a new net being held on the 224.42 repeater on Monday nights at 8:30pm. The repeater uses a negative offset and does not require a PL tone.

## **HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2007**

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

### **GENERAL LICENSE TESTING**

Saturday, June 30, 2007

Last Chance for testing from current General Class question pool. Technician and Extra Class license testing available as well.

WCARS will provide testing session at 10am, Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at the Health Department Mullins Station Training Room W-204/206, 1075 Mullins Station Road across from the Penal Farm. For those interested in testing please register with Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO at 683-2701 or at [wa4ovo@yahoo.com](mailto:wa4ovo@yahoo.com).

### **TECHNICIAN CLASS 5-07**

There will be a 5 week Technician Class starting Thursday, July 12, 2007 through August 9<sup>th</sup>. The class will be held in conjunction with Germantown Baptist Church at the church on Thursday nights from 6:30-9:30pm at 9450 Poplar Avenue, Germantown, TN. Rich Garrett AI4BN will be the principal instructor. The instruction will be from the ARRL Technician Class DVD. It is highly recommended that you purchase the Technician book, The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual. Email Rich Garrett, [AI4BN@arrl.net](mailto:AI4BN@arrl.net), or Joe Lowenthal, [WA4OVO@yahoo.com](mailto:WA4OVO@yahoo.com), to receive the workbook in PDF format via email so you can print it out for the class notes. FCC Testing will be held the following Tuesday evening at the August 14<sup>th</sup> regular Delta Club testing session.

### **GENERAL CLASS 4-07**

A General License class was held for three days on Saturday, April 28; Sunday, April 29 and Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department's Mullins Station Training Room. There were 13 students. Since then nine (9) hams upgraded. They are Rich Mayfield KC8KJB, John Proffitt KI4BXZ, Steve Pyle KI4OGY, David Cristil KI4RRM, Gilbert Cronin KI4VCN, Jerry Klein KI4TKZ, Karen Loyd KE5MFX, and Roscoe Bellows KF4QLM. Devin St. Clair made Tech and General.

Thanks to Barry Moore KE4KAG and the Health Department for the use of the training room.

### **EXTRA CLASS**

We contemplate an Extra class if 10 or more hams are interested in the training. Currently, planning is for a class to be held in July and/or August for 4 Saturdays. Please pre-register by going to the Delta Club webpage [www.deltaclub.org](http://www.deltaclub.org); click on Training Classes; and then click on Extra Class to send an email to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at [wa4ovo@yahoo.com](mailto:wa4ovo@yahoo.com) or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

**According To Club Information You May Need To Update Your Ticket**

Last Name	First Name	License Expires	Call Sign
Carter-Tomlinson	Mary	2007/06/10	NV4Z
KELLETT	STEVE	2007/06/12	KF4SJU
Schropp	Kurt	2007/06/12	KU4NH
Schropp	Julie	2007/06/12	KF4SJW
Anderson	Philip	2007/06/28	KF4TAF
Simpson	Barbara	2007/07/23	KA5CFB
Simpson	Alton	2007/07/23	WA5TJB

**News Release**

**STARS AND STRIPES SPECIAL EVENT HONORS AMERICA'S MILITARY**

The historical Stars and Stripes Museum in Bloomfield, Missouri, birthplace of the Stars and Stripes Military Newspaper in 1861, will join forces with area amateur radio clubs to honor America's military around the world. Two local amateur radio clubs plan to operate a special event amateur radio station on June 8th and 9th and have received a special call sign "W0S" from the FCC for this event. The station will be calling "CQ", the internationally known signal to alert other amateur radio operators around the world to call in. Stations that respond to the "CQ" will have the opportunity to learn about the museum, its activities, and the newspaper which is sent to military personnel around the world. Operators making contact with the special event station can receive a special certificate with a picture of the museum and information about its programs. Amateurs collect these certificates as part of their personal history with amateur radio and to confirm their contact with the Stars and Stripes Special Event Station. It is not uncommon for amateur radio operators to make contacts with far away places as Africa, Australia, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. The museum hopes that some of the military personnel stationed around the world will get to talk to the folks back home and become more aware of the Museum's support of our troops. The bootheel and the SEMo Amateur Radio Clubs invite the public to come by the museum on highway 25 South of Bloomfield to tour the museum and see amateur radio in operation.

**AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE .....**

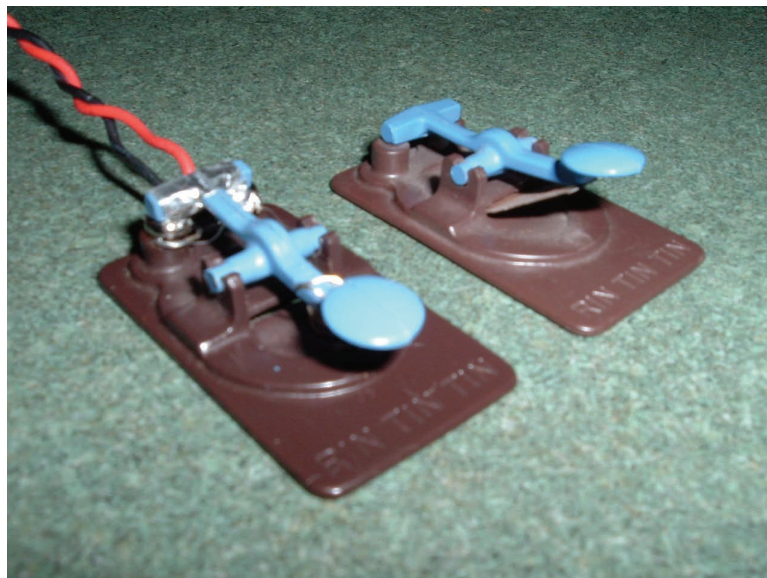
One thing we always look for is a good source of parts to use in building our radio projects. RF connectors, non inductive resistors, high voltage capacitors, and meters are just a few of the parts we may need. MFJ Enterprises has just started to sell electronics parts for amateurs. For the first time I have seen they actually show these parts in their new 2007 catalog. They now have 4 pages of electronics replacement parts. They also include high voltage transformers, tubes, along with high voltage variable caps they use in their antenna tuners. You can also buy their roller inductor by itself along with a full set of knobs. They carry a line of high power RF rotary switches for projects. Go online or get one of their new catalogs and check out all the new parts they now offer. Their website is [www.mfjenterprises.com](http://www.mfjenterprises.com)

James Butler  
KB4LJV

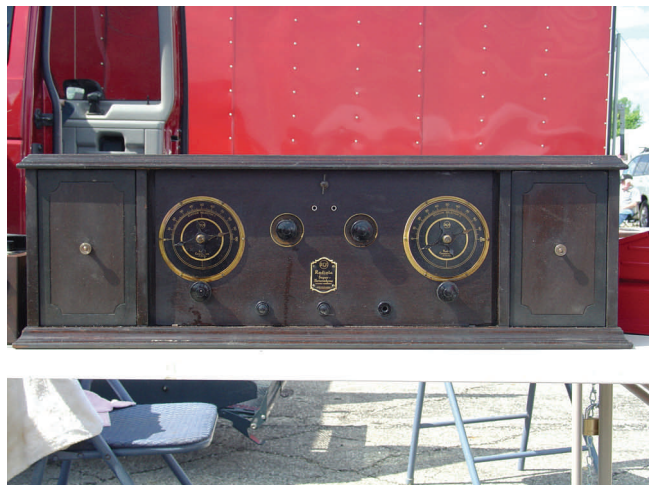
**AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE .....**

Many times we want very small extra morse code keys we can carry in our pocket or just use for the fun of it. Tiny morse code or spy keys have been made through the years. MorseX has sold a small straight key for several years now. One source of small keys I never thought about was toy keys. These have been made through the years and show up on Ebay from time to time. One example I have seen is the G.I. Joe key that went with his radio pack setup. A couple that I found were actually given as prizes in boxes of cereal in the 1950s. These little keys were known as the Rin Tin Tin keys because they had that name printed on them. These had mechanical clickers on them so you could practice morse code. By removing the the clicker and putting in a ball point pin spring on the front of the key I was able to make it function like a real morse code key. Heavy duty aluminum tape at the back and two screws provided the contacts for the key. The logic was reversed with this setup with the contact being closed when the key was not in use so I used a small relay so I could reverse that logic so the relay contact would close when I pressed the key. The picture shows my modified key along side of an unmodified key. Keep an eye out for these on Ebay. They are collectable and a lot of fun to play with.

James Butler  
KB4LJV



**Dayton Hamvention May 2007**  
*(photos provided by Pat Lane W4OQG)*



Dayton Hamvention May 2007 photos (cont.)





# The W4BS Elmer Shack

Please feel free to contact any of our ELMERS to help you enhance your amateur skills. Anyone wishing to be added to the Elmer list please contact Ned at ka4bll@arrl.net or 363-9607.

## Codes:

1. Antennas
2. APRS
3. Contesting
4. CW Operating
5. Direction Finding (fox hunting)
6. DXing
7. Experimenting/ Circuits/etc.
8. HF Phone
9. Packet
10. Repeater Operation
11. QRP
12. Satellite
13. RTTY
14. VHF
15. PSK31
16. Computer logging

K4TTA (Extra) Tom Richardson 386-6268  
k4tta@arrl.net (1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15)

KA4BLL (Extra) Ned Savage 363-9607  
ka4bll@arrl.net (1, 5, 8, 14, MARS, ARES/  
RACES, net control, traffic handling,  
emergency service)

KB4LJV (Extra) James Butler 294-2540  
jbutler@bigriver.net (2, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14)

KD4NOQ (Adv) David Campbell 388-6166  
kd4noq@bellsouth.net (1,2,3,5,9,10,12,14,  
slow scan TV, ATV minor)

KU4AW (Extra) Ben Troughton 372-8031  
bktrough@bellsouth.net (2,4, 8, 15)

N9ACQ (Extra) Bill Kuechler 368-0532  
wkuechl1@midssouth.rr.com (1, 8, 13)

WA2IQC (Gen) Gary Blinckmann 794-5289  
garyblin@midssouth.rr.com (1, 7, 10, 14)

WA4MJM (Extra) Bill Hancock 853-7192  
billwa4mjm@aol.com (1, 2, 8, emergency  
communications, ARES, MARS)

K4DIT (Extra) Ken Gregg 853-7384  
kgregg@c-a-c.com (4, 6, 8, 11, 15)

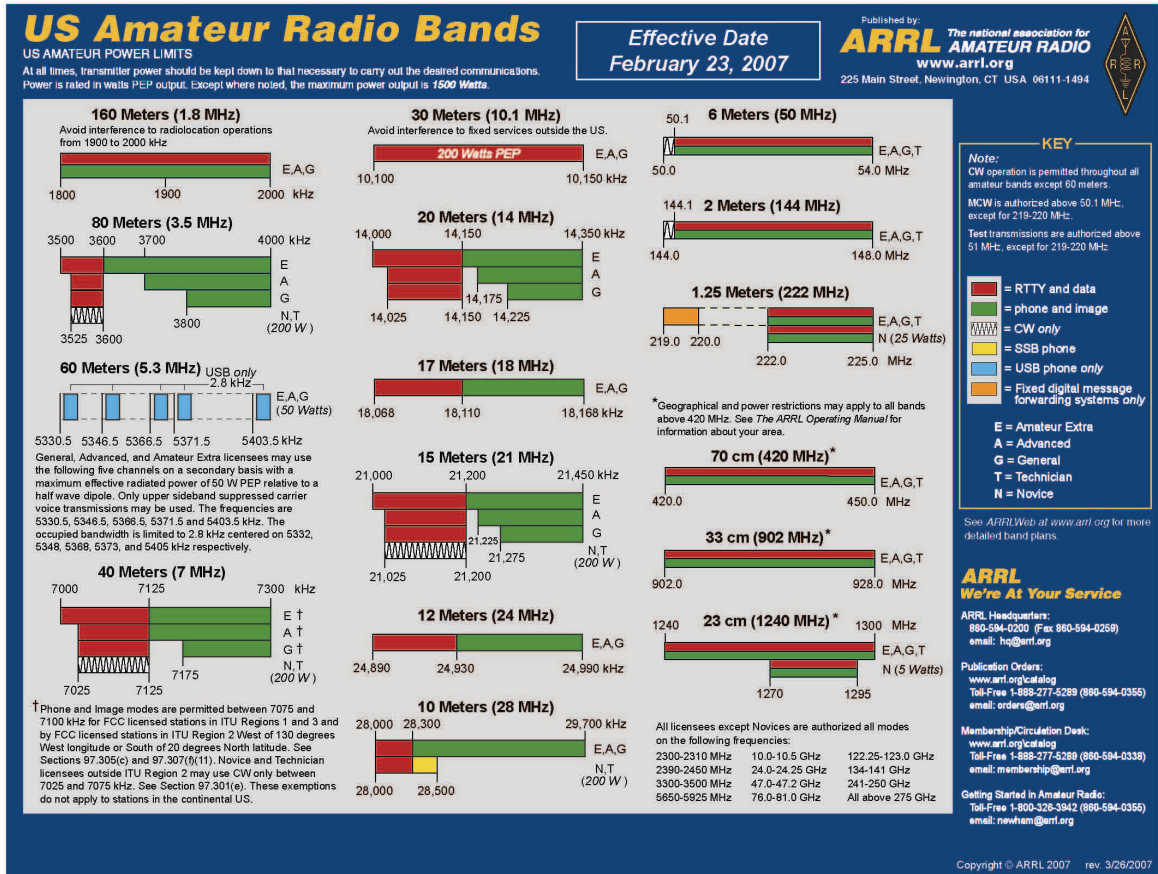
W4GMM (Extra) Ham Hilliard 372-2337  
hamh@bellsouth.net (All categories)



## Frequency Changes as of February 23, 2007

Here is the link for the frequency chart effective 2/23/07 in color:  
[http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands\\_color.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands_color.pdf)

Here it is for the black and white version:  
[http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands\\_bw.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands_bw.pdf)



# June

2007

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					<b>1</b> Charlotte KD4SDH	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>MARA Club Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Mark KI4TGQ	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Robert KD4UJY	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Delta Club Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Boyd N4SSF	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Melissa W5MDV Kathy KE4UYU
<b>17</b> Zachary KG4WKA David N4VKG	<b>18</b> Dwayne N5XUL	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Deborah KI4LXZ	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Billy KD4EYW	<b>25</b> Dick K3ORS	<b>26</b> <b>Shelby Cty., ARES Meeting</b> <b>6:45 PM</b>	<b>27</b> Steve NX3W Harry KI5UK	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Marc KB5ZMU

**Delta Amateur Radio Club**

**TENNESSEE NETS**

<b>Net Name</b>	<b>Freq.</b>	<b>UTC</b>	<b>Day</b>
Tennessee CW Net	3663	0100	Su-Sa
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3682	0130	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3980	1145	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1245	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1400	Sa-Su
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3980	0030	T-Su

**AREA HAMFESTS OF INTEREST**

Egyptianfest 2007  
 Egyptian RadioClub  
 Granite City, IL  
 June 10, 2007

Hamfest/Tailgate Party  
 Upper Cumberland Amateur Radio Association  
 Silver Point, TN  
 June 16, 2007

45th Annual Zero Beaters Hamfest  
 Zero Beaters ARC  
 Washington, MO  
 Jul 15, 2007

1st Annual CARC Mid-Summer Swapfest  
 Cullman Amateur Radio Club  
 Cullman, AL  
 Jul 28, 2007

Swapfest-Tailgate Party  
 Piney Hills Amateur Radio Association  
 Ruston, LA  
 Jul 28, 2007

**Delta Amateur Radio Club  
 May 2007 Treasurers Report**

**Balance 05/01/2007** **\$7,229.87**

**Expense**

Bell South 146.82 phone	59.17
University of Memphis 443.2 phone	<u>22.94</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$82.11</b>

**Income**

**Total Income** **\$00.00**

**Balance 05/31/2007** **\$7147.76**

**SPARKS** is published monthly by the Delta Amateur Radio Club and is emailed to club members and other interested parties. All information published in this newsletter is provided as a service. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the Delta Amateur Radio Club and its officers assume no liability resulting from errors or omissions. All correspondence may be mailed to:

**Delta Amateur Radio Club  
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 Memphis, TN 38175-0482**

**2007 Board of Directors**

***President***

Darrell Sheffield, KK4D  
 901-277-8122  
 (Darrell.Sheffield@Memphistn.gov)

***Vice President***

PENDING SPECIAL ELECTION

***Secretary***

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 901-277-8144 (SassGirlsMom@aol.com)

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David Campbell, KD4NOQ  
 901-388-6166 (kd4noq@arrl.net)

***Director of Meetings and Special Events***

Dean Honadle, N2LAZ  
 901-353-1207 (dean@honadle.com)

***Repeater Trustee***

Suresh Kago, N9GSA  
 901-752-5900 (skagoo@midsouth.rr.com)