

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P.O. Box 750482 * Memphis, Tennessee 38175-0482 * Volume 18 * July 2012



**Welcome to the
Delta Amateur Radio Club!**

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

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820^{-107.2} 147.360^{-107.2}
224.420 443.200

NEXT CLUB MEETING

DATE: July 10, 2012 (2nd Tuesday of each month)
PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70
Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Hwy. 64 – Stage Road)

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Video On The “New Madrid Earthquake”
This video was prepared by the West Tennessee Seismic Commission for
The Center for Earthquake Research and Information
Presented By: David Campbell KD4NOQ

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins promptly at 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of identification and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 PM. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information, please contact:

Bill Stevens, WC9S, VEC
Phone: 901-603-3448
Email: wc9s@att.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Rosalinda Melena AK4SB

Nothing Received.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By: Rick Tillman WA4NVM

Beginning Balance	as of June 1, 2012	\$7,319.22
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Expenses

David Gilbert	Meeting Refreshments	\$11.35
Payment to Tom Fox	Equipment Sale	\$230.40

Total Expense	\$241.75
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SubTotal	\$7,077.47
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Income

Membership Dues	Year 2012	\$125.00
Huntsville Bus Ticket	Pre-Sale	\$1,440.00
Donated Gear	Items Sold	\$70.00
Tickets	November Drawing	\$40.00
Sale of Repeater	Old 443.200 mach.	\$50.00
Tom Fox Equipment	10% to DARC	\$256.00

Total Income	\$1,981.00
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Ending Balance	as of June 30, 2012	\$9,058.47
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Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2012 - Presented by: Tom Raggett KJ4LMH Secretary

1. Present at meeting: David Gilbert, Richard Martin, Bill Stevens, Steve Smith, Rick Tillman, Rosalinda Melena, Tom Raggett.
2. Next meeting will have estate sales for benefit of Greg Butler and DARC. Greg items will be priced and the DARC items will be up for bid. Tom Fox also has items for sale and Bill Stevens will verify how Tom wants to handle.
3. Field Day—Field Day is set for joint meeting with MARA at Tony Brignole's clubhouse on LaCosta. Richard Martin will present to general meeting what is needed for Field Day.

4. Treasury Report—Board recommended approval of the Treasury Report. Richard Martin made motion to accept and Bill Steven seconded.
5. Richard Martin proposed that the club have a Buy, Sell, and Swap bulletin board to be displayed at club meetings. Rosalinda will put together the details.
6. Meeting adjourned.

GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2012 - Presented by: Tom Raggett KJ4LMH

1. Rosalinda Melena called meeting to order and members proceeded with individual introductions.
2. Rick Tillman presented Treasury Report. Ham Hilliard made motion to accept as presented and Larry McMillin seconded.
3. Testing—8 tested, everyone passed. 2 Technicians, 5 General, 1 Extra.
4. Training---No report.
5. HAM HAWK---The bulletin board for Buy, Sell, and Swap. Cards can be attached to the BOARD. Rosalinda will take all cards and blast out email next day with all the items on the HAM HAWK board. Thanks Rosalinda.
6. Field Day---Field Day will be held June 24 with MARA at 2417 LaCosta in Bartlett. Food will be provided.
7. Huntsville Bus Trip---Price steadily increases to \$70 after August 7.
8. MS150 will be held September 8, 9, 2012.
9. Estate Sales---Minutes from last month were unclear where the money went from the Estate Sales. Minutes should have stated that all items from Greg Butler's estate will go to his estate. No money to DARC. Other items will have bid sheets with money going to DARC. Bill Covington made motion to accept the amendment and Ham Hilliard seconded.
10. Bill Covington made motion to adjourn meeting, Ham Hilliard seconded.
11. Meeting adjourned.

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

By: James Butler - KB4LJV

Many times we use our HTs for multiple uses. These radios can be used as either a mobile or base with the right type of antenna. W&W Manufacturing is making a line of battery eliminators for different HTs. These hook onto the HT in place of the battery pack and have a cord with a cigarette lighter adapter on the end. They can be plugged into the car jack and run as long as the car battery allows. Some home power supplies have a cigarette lighter plug on the power supply to allow it to be used for base station operation. The units are radio specific and cost about \$30.00 to purchase. Check out all the battery eliminator models they have by going to the website. The web address is <http://www.ww-manufacturing.com/>

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

By: James Butler - KB4LJV

Many times we want to restore and update older equipment. One problem with older equipment is the indicator lights. The bulbs in older equipment either burn out or the glass will get a silver coating and make the meters and display very dim. On Ebay they are selling flexible strings of LED lights. These usually run on 12 Volts DC. The LED string I have found has 24 LEDs mounted in a clear flexible plastic. These draw only about 100 milliamps at 12 volts for the whole string. The LEDs generate no heat while running. They are available in many colors including white, amber, red, blue, green, and violet. By mounting these in the radio with tape or hot glue you can have nice bright energy-efficient displays on your radios.



The LEDs last a long time. The white LED string I bought was only \$1.50 with free shipping. This is a bargain to light up older equipment meters and displays.

2012 TRAINING CLASSES

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

There is no charge for classes, but the student is responsible for the purchase of the license manual and the \$15 ARRL FCC examination fee.

Licenses Earned in 2012 from Delta Classes

31 Technician

9 General

6 Extra

CLASSES PLANNED

If you are interested in any of the classes, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with your name, email address, and phone number, preferable cell with subject line of the class you are interested in.

None

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

Technician Class 4-12 – July 2-August 2, 2012

Tech Class 4-12 began on July 2nd with 25 students at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 6865 Poplar Pike, just east of Kirby Parkway. The first night began with 25 students entering the world of ham radio. Two additional students are scheduled to join the class for a total of 27.



Tech Class 4-12 with Rick McFarland welcoming the students to Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO is the primary instructor with Pat Lane W4OQG providing added knowledge on antennas and feedlines. FCC testing will be offered on July 30th by Delta Clubs VE team headed by Bill Stevens WC9S headed by Bill Stevens WC9S. Repeater Basics will be covered on August 7th.

CLASS INFORMATION

Technician Class

If you are interested in the first amateur license class, Technician, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@arrl.net with subject line "Technician Class" and give name, email address, and a contact phone number (preferably a cell number). Or you can go to the Delta Club webpage www.deltaclub.org click on Training Classes; then click on Technician Class to send an email, or call at 901-683-2701. We usually publish class schedules a month or two in advance. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set if you send an email informing us of your desire to be in a class.

There is no charge for the class, but registration is required. Advanced study of *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual*, product #0977/ISBN 978-0-87259-097-7 (red-brick colored cover) is strongly suggested as well as study of the 396 question and answer Technical Class License question pool. Barnes & Noble Booksellers may have this manual. You can purchase it online from www.msars.com, www.arrl.org/catalog or on Amazon.com. The list price is \$29.95 (which includes a CD). The older ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Second Edition was priced at \$24.95, but did not have a CD.

The current Technician License question pool, which was approved by the NCVEC on February 1, 2010, can be seen at <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=356>. Testing for this question pool started July 1, 2010.

Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the sample tests, go to www.qrz.com. From the QRZ home page click on **RESOURCES** in the blue band on the top right. Then click on 2010 Technician Exam Practice Test. When you start answering the questions, it will show you if you answered correctly or not with **CORRECT!** or **SORRY BUT THAT ANSWER IS NOT CORRECT**. Statistics are kept below the test question at **This Quiz** with the number of questions answered correctly and the percentage correct. Also shown is the number of questions answered correctly from the 396 questions of the question pool. It keeps track of your correct answers on subsequent tests. Below the **This Quiz** line is **Questions in This Test**, that is a list of the 35 question numbers of the current test. If answered correctly, the question number radio button turns green. If answered incorrectly, it turns red.

There are a number of other free sample-test sites. The following are some other ham radio practice exam sites:

- www.aa9pw.com
- <http://kb0mga.net/exams>
- <http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2010/06/technician-class-practice-test-gadget.html>
- www.qrz.com
- <http://www.hamradioclass.org>

The 35-question FCC exam will be given at the end of class by a Volunteer Examiner (VE) team. There is a \$15.00 ARRL VEC FCC exam fee.

General Class

If you are interested in a General License Class, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@arrl.net with subject line "General Class." Or you can go to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; then click on General Class to send me an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, or call at 901-683-2701. A new question pool became effective July 1, 2011. The new textbook is *The ARRL General Class License Manual, Seventh Edition, item #8119, ISBN 978-0-87259-811-9*. This edition with its question pool is valid through June 30, 2015. Lately, we have been running a combined Technician-General class. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

Basic Electronics Class

The Basic Electronics Class is designed to bridge the electronics-learning gap between the General and the Extra Class licenses. The class textbook is ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics, Second Edition*. The suggested calculator is the Casio fx-260 solar calculator, which can be purchased at Wal-Mart for about \$10. There is no exam for this class. The class has been held in the September-November time frame.

If you are interested in the Basic Electronics Class, please let us know by sending an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to wa4ovo@arrl.net with subject line "Basic Electronics Class" or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

Extra Class

If you are interested in an Extra Class, please pre-register by going to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; then click on Extra Class to send an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at wa4ovo@arrl.net or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set. Classes have been held on Saturdays for 6 or 7 weeks in January and February.

COMPLETED CLASSES

General Class 3-12 – March 26 – May 7th, 2012

Technician Class 2-12 – January 21st & February 4th, 2012

Extra Class 1-12 – January 14 – February 25, 2012

Tech Class 2-12 Revisited

Troop 457 Merit Badge College – February 11, 2012

Troop 225 Merit Badge Class – February 11, 2012

HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST BUS TRIP

August 18, 2012

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

DARC is sponsoring a 50-passenger bus to go to the Huntsville Hamfest on August 18, 2012. There is a graduated scale fare for the bus trip. The fare is \$65 if paid by August 7, 2012. The fare is \$70 if paid after August 7th. There will be biscuit sandwiches, water, sodas, chips, and fruit on the bus going to Huntsville and whatever is left for the trip back. Cash or checks will be accepted for payment. There is plenty of room in the luggage compartment for any items purchased.

Make checks payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club. You can pay at a meeting. You can also send your check to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, 6675 Ashbridge Cove, Memphis, TN 38120. Please include your name, callsign, cell phone number, and email address

Reservations will be on a first come first paid basis.

SPARKS NEWSLETTER & DELTA CLUB INFORMATION

SPARKS is published monthly by the Delta Amateur Radio Club and emailed to club members. All information published in this newsletter is provided as a service. While every reasonable effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the Delta Amateur Radio Club nor its officers assume any liability resulting from errors or omissions. All correspondence may be mailed to:

Delta Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 342768
Memphis, Tennessee 38184-2768

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

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901-921-4474
ki4zkw@gmail.com

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Tom Raggett – KJ4LMH
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Director of Programs:

David Campbell – KD4NOQ
901-388-6166
kd4noq@arrl.net

Director of Meetings & Special Events:

David Gilbert – AJ4LV
aj4lv@hotmail.com

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS --- 2012

If you are a coordinator for any of these events, please review the listed information. If it is incorrect or changes need to be made, please provide me with the correct information. Please email corrections to me at kmlaseter@laseterinc.com.

DATE	EVENT	COORDINATOR	CONTACT INFO.
January 2012			
15 th	Swamp Stompers.	Danny- KJ4FXZ	kj4fxz@arrl.net
February 2012			
11 th	Boy Scout Merit Badge University.	Hugh – WB4SLI	hwardlaw@bellsouth.net
March 2011			
None			
April 2011			
28 th	March for Babies (March of Dimes).	Bob – KF4NDH	kf4ndh@bellsouth.net
28 th	Tour de Cure	Denise – KJ5DG	kj5dg.denise@gmail.com
May 2012			
19 nd	Memphis in May Triathlon.	Ned - KA4BLL	ka4bll@arrl.net
September 2011			
8 th & 9 th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell - KK4D	kk4d@xipline.com
December 2011			
1 st	St. Jude Marathon	Roger – WR4R	wr4r@bellsouth.net
1 st	Bartlett Christmas Parade	Dennis – KJ4BDU	dcvv3714@aol.com
<hr/>			
TBA	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk	Kathleen - KC0HZU	(No Contact Information)

MEMPHIS AREA VHF/UHF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog net	146.535	7:30p	Daily
Delta Club Traffic and Information Net	146.820 - (107.2)	8:00p	Daily
Secret Service Net	224.780 -	8:30p	M
Elmer Net	147.030 + (107.2)	9:00p	M
The Short Winded Net	146.850 -	8:30p	Tu
MedMERS Net	146.730 - (107.2)	12:00p	W
Six Meter Tech Net	53.01 -	8:30p	W
The 440 Net	443.200 + (107.2)	9:00p	W
Collierville CERT Net	444.125 + (107.2)	7:00p	W
TAC 2 Net	224.420 -	8:30p	Th
ARES Training Net	146.880 - (107.2)	9:00p	Th

TENNESSEE HF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3.980	5:40a	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3.980	6:45a	M-F
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3.980	6:30p	T-Su
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	3.810	As needed	
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7.180	As needed	

DELTA CLUB 146.82 NET PREAMBLE (Rev. 2)

GOOD EVENING: This is _____ calling this session of the DELTA CLUB'S TRAFFIC AND INFORMATION NET. This net is affiliated with the ARRL and the NTS and is organized to pass traffic in and out of the mid - south area, in addition to providing information about club events and amateur related topics. This net meets nightly at 8:00 p.m. CT except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 W4BS repeater and **requires** a pl. tone of 107.2 Hz. All stations will refrain from transmitting without being acknowledged by net control.

All licensed amateurs are encouraged to participate.

Before we begin, is there any station with emergency or priority traffic?

During this net should any station have emergency or priority traffic please use a double break followed by your call sign.

Is there an NTS Liaison station on frequency?

Is there any station wishing to list formal written traffic?

Does any station have announcements for the net?

(If anyone asks to make an announcement after you finish handling the ones taken here ask them to hold until after the monolog. Eliminate the following sentence unless there are announcements.)

Does any station have any questions or need any fills?

We will now take check-ins. Are there any stations that are mobile, on battery power, or needing to leave early, if so please come now phonetically with your suffix only and please remember to spread them out?

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ALPHA through HOTEL please come now and remember to spread them out.

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins INDIA through KEEBECK please come now and remember to spread them out.

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ROMEO through ZULU please come now and remember to spread them out.

The DELTA CLUB meets the second Tuesday of each month at the ELLENDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST 7365 HWY 70 in Bartlett at 7:00 P.M. V. E. Registration begins at 5:30 P.M. with testing starting promptly at 6:00 P.M. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information contact Bill, WC9S at 603-3448. For membership information contact Tom, KJ4LMH at 517-0492. For training information contact Joe WA4OVO at 683-2701.

Are there any additional announcements?

We will now take late check-ins from anywhere in the alphabet ALPHA through ZULU please come now and spread them out.

Is there anything that this station or the net can do for anyone before we close?

This is _____ now closing this session of the DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S Traffic and information net and would like to thank all _____ stations for checking in tonight. And would like to ask that everyone to check in tomorrow night at the same time.

GOODNIGHT AND 73: THE NET IS NOW CLOSED. _____ CLEAR

DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS

See Advertisement Order Form for Instructions.

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 342768
Memphis, TN 38134-2768

DARC Meeting: Second
Tuesday of every month
at Ellendale Church of Christ
7365 Hwy 70, Bartlett TN



W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM
146.82- 147.36+ (107.2Hz tone)
224.42- 443.20+ (107.2Hz tone)

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ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM



Delta Amateur Radio Club Sparks Advertising Order Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

TO PLACE AN ORDER

1. Mark the box below indicating the ad size you are purchasing and the three (3) months you want your ad to appear in Sparks.
2. Submit this completed order form, your camera ready ad, and your check payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) to Kenneth Laseter KI4AOH via mail at 684 Oasis Cove, Cordova, TN 38018 or give it to him at the monthly Delta Club meeting. Camera ready means that the ad you submit is exactly as you want it to appear in your ad and fits within the dimensions specified below. Ads may be submitted in gif or jpg format or submitted as a hard copy and we will scan and place your ad for you.
3. Your ad order must be received on or before the first Tuesday of the **month before** you want it to appear in Sparks.

SPARKS ADVERTISING

FULL PAGE \$50.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 8 ½" h <input type="checkbox"/>			HALF PAGE \$25.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 4" h <input type="checkbox"/>			¼ PAGE \$15.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 4" h <input type="checkbox"/>			BUSINESS CARD \$10.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 2" h <input type="checkbox"/>		
Jul 2012	Aug 2012	Sept 2012	Oct 2012	Nov 2012	Dec 2012	Jan 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Apr 2013	May 2013	Jun 2013