

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P.O. Box 750482 * Memphis, Tennessee 38175-0482 * Volume 19 * November 2013



**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^{+107.2}

NEXT CLUB MEETING

DATE: November 12, 2013 (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: “Elections & Annual Prize Drawing”

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins by 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of identification, at least one a photo ID, 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, VE Liaison, Phone: 901-603-3448, Email: wc9s@att.net

Congratulations to Danny Britt KK4CBI for upgrading to General at the October 8th Delta Club test session.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

By: Kenneth Laseter KI4AOH

It's still not too late ! If you would like to be on the board, now's the time to put your name on the ballot. Or, if you know someone you think would make a good director, just let Thomas Raggett kj4lmh@arrl.net or Rosalinda Melena wntwov@gmail.com know. There are only two basic requirements 1) you must be a club member, and 2) you must have attended at least six (6) club meetings during calendar 2013. Please be thinking about helping us fill all the board positions. Remember, election of new officers will be held at our this month's meeting.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Rosalinda Melena WN2V

Not Received.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By: Rick Tillman WA4NVM

Beginning Balance	as of October 1, 2013	\$11,985.75
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Expenses

D. Gilbert/Rosalinda	Meeting Treats	\$79.62
Rick Tillman	November Prize	\$274.75
Bill Stevens	November Prize	\$90.00
JAMS	November Prize	\$152.00
FCC	Renew W4BS	\$16.10
Costco	Business Checks	\$24.89
Patriot Bank	Cert. of Deposit	\$5,000.00

Total Expense	\$5,637.36
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SubTotal	\$6,348.39
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Income

Membership Dues	Year 2014	\$130.00
Tickets	November Drawing	\$551.00
Donations		\$20.00

Total Income	\$701.00
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Ending Balance	as of October 31, 2013	\$7,049.39
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Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 1, 2013 - Presented by: Tom Raggett KJ4LMH Secretary

1. Present: Richard Martin, Rick Tillman, Bill Stevens, Rosalinda Melena, Linda Laseter, Ken Laseter, David Gilbert, David Campbell, Tom Raggett
2. Treasurer's Report—Rick Tillman presented the report and also reported on the purchase of the November drawing prizes. The club had sold more tickets than expected, so the request was made

for more prizes. The report was approved as read and the request to purchase more items was approved.

3. Program for this month—PL259 installation demo by Ham Hilliard.
4. Certificate of Deposit—Proposal was made to the Board to take \$5K from the Checking account and deposit in a CD. Motion was approved and will be done by October 31, 2013.
5. Swapfest—Everyone was reminded of the Swapfest that is to be held on October 26.
6. Election—The Board is working on a slate of Officers and will continue at the next general meeting. The slate of officers will be communicated to the membership via the SPARKS email list.

Meeting adjourned.

GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2013 - Presented by: Tom Raggett KJ4LMH

1. Meeting was called to order by President Rosalinda Melena and introductions were held.
2. Announcements:

Everyone was reminded about the November drawing.

Everyone should sign in.

Ham Hilliard reminded everyone about the J-Pole class to be held on October 12, 2013. Sign up was needed by October 8, 2013.

Swapfest to be held on October 26, 2013.
3. Minutes—Minutes were approved as printed in SPARKS, Ham Hilliard made motion, Larry McMillin second.
4. Treasurer's Report—Approved as read, Ham Hilliard made motion, Ned Savage second.
5. Testing—1 new General.
6. St. Jude Marathon—Roger Schlichter reported that he needed at least 10 more volunteers for the St. Jude Marathon.
7. November Election—Slate of proposed officers is complete and will be communicated via SPARKS email address list.
8. Club Jackets—Orders for club jackets will be taken at the November meeting.
9. Nominations for Ham of the Year and New Ham of the Year—Nominations taken at the November meeting.

10. Program—Ham Hilliard presented the installation of the PL259 connector.

11. Door prize drawing winner—NE7JN- Dan Lasley.

Meeting adjourned.

ST. JUDE MARATHON

Submitted by: Roger Schlicter WR4R

The St. Jude Marathon is run here In Memphis on December 7, 2013. If you can find time in your schedule contact Roger at WR4R@bellsouth.net and volunteer to help out a good cause. Most locations require a 2m HT but some will require a mobile rig with just a little more power to work. Operators will need to be available from 6am till 3pm but most will not be there all that time. Early aid stations arrive early and leave early, later aid station arrive later and leave later. Most operators will only be needed about 5 hours.

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

By: James Butler - KB4LJV

Many new portable electronic devices have started to use 3.7 Volt lithium batteries as their power source. Surplus battery charging modules have appeared on Ebay. These have a PC board with a mini USB connector for input power of 5 VDC and two terminals to solder wires to hook up to your battery. The board contains a complete smart battery charging chip and a red LED for charging and a green LED when fully charged. The best thing about these as they are under \$2.00 for the complete charger. I added one to my Baofeng battery charging base to make sure the lithium ion battery gets a proper charge without damage. The boards are about the size of a postage stamp and are a great way to upgrade equipment to smart charge capability. Go to Ebay and search for “mini USB lithium battery charging board”

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

By: James Butler - KB4LJV

Many times we look for training documentation on different electronics subjects. One source of technical books is the W5YI Group. Two new books they offer are “Using Your Meter” which shows step by step on using a Volt Ohm Meter. The other is “The Worldwide Listening Guide” which goes over all modes and methods for listening to radio including both wireless and internet based broadcasts. They also offer other good technical books for sale. Check their website at www.w5yi.org for more information.

2013 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 2013 from Delta Classes

24 Technician
26 General
7 Extra

New to the Basic Electronics Class is information on a Google website created by Alan Proffitt AE5RX.

SCHEDULED CLASSES

Tech Class 5-13 – November 4 – December 9, 2013

Tech Class 5-13 will be held on 6 Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm from November 4th through December 9th with the FCC exams given on December 2nd. Classes will be held at EMHC ambulance services' office at 6972 Appling Farms Parkway Suite 110, Memphis. If you are interested in the class or know someone who is, have them send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with Tech Class in the subject line and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. See the Future Classes Technician Class below for the text to be used.



CLASSES PLANNED

General Class 1-14

A General class is being planned for starting mid-January either on Saturday mornings from 9am-1pm or Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. If you are interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with General Class in the subject line and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. Specify your preference of one of the two days stated above. See the Future Classes General Class below for the text to be used.

Extra Class 2-14

An Extra class is being planned for starting late February or early March on 6 Saturdays from 9am-1pm. If you are interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with Extra Class in the subject line and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. See the Future Classes Extra Class below for the text to be used.

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

None

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 901-628-4318. 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 questions 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 901-628-4318. 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

Basic Electronics is geared toward bridging the gap between the General and Extra Class licenses. There will not be a Basic Electronics class in the classroom anymore since there is so much on the internet. However, Alan Proffitt AE5RX has created a Google website for basic electronics for the Delta Club with useful links. Click on <https://sites.google.com/site/darcelectronics/my-forms> and then click on syllabus.docx at the bottom of the list. Alan, alan.proffitt@comcast.net, will Elmer anyone who would like help or refer them to another Elmer. One site inside this Google site is the US Navy Electricity and Electronics Testing Site (NEETS). There are 24 modules with excellent information. If you want to go directly to it, go to <http://jacquesricher.com/NEETS/>.

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 901-628-4318. 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

Technician Class 4-13 – July 8 - August 12, 2013

Tech Class 4-11 Revisited

General Class 3-13 – April 1 – May 6, 2013

Tech Class 2-13 – February 11 – March 18, 2013

Extra Class 1-13 – January 12 – February 23, 2013

Troop 225 Merit Badge Class – February 9, 2013

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

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:
Rosalinda Melena – WN2V
901-921-4474
wntwov@gmail.com

Vice-President:
Richard Martin – K4DXF
901-372-3722
k4dxf@att.net

Secretary:
Tom Raggett – KJ4LMH
901-517-0492
kj4lmh@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Rick Tillman – WA4NVM
901-268-7047
wa4nvm@comcast.net

Director of Training:
Joe Lowenthal – WA4OVO
901-628-4318
wa4ovo@yahoo.com

Director of Publications:
Kenneth Laseter – KI4AOH
901-853-0400
kmlaseter@laseterinc.com

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 --- 2013

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 2013			
20 th	Swamp Stompers.	Danny– KJ4FXZ	kj4fxz@arrl.net
February 2014			
8 th	Boy Scout Merit Badge University.	Ken – KI4AOH	kmlaseter@laseterinc.com
April 2013			
27 th	March for Babies (March of Dimes).	Linda – KJ4CTX	llaseter@laseterinc.com
27 th	Tour de Cure	Denise – KJ5DG	kj5dg.denise@gmail.com
May 2013			
19 th	Memphis in May Triathlon.	Ned - KA4BLL	ka4bll@arrl.net
September 2013			
7 th and 8 th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell - KK4D	kk4d@xipline.com
December 2013			
7 th	St. Jude Marathon	Roger – WR4R	wr4r@bellsouth.net

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 628-4318.

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
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 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			HALF PAGE			¼ PAGE			BUSINESS CARD		
\$50.00			\$25.00			\$15.00			\$10.00		
for 3 Months			for 3 Months			for 3 Months			for 3 Months		
7" w X 8 ½" h			7" w X 4" h			3 ½" w X 4" h			3 ½" w X 2" h		
Jul 2013	Aug 2013	Sept 2013	Oct 2013	Nov 2013	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	Jun 2014



DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 342768, TN 38184-2768
2013 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Call sign _____ License Exp. Date ____/____/____ New Member ____ Renewal ____

License Class (Check One) ____ NOV ____ TECH ____ TECH + ____ GEN ____ ADV ____ EXTRA

Last Name _____ First Name _____ ARRL Member ____ Yes ____ No

Address _____ Birthday-Month ____ Day ____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____ + _____

Area Code _____ Home Phone _____ Email _____

This membership current through December 2013

This membership current through December 2013

Club dues:	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (\$30.00)*	\$ _____
	FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ADD (\$5.00)	\$ _____
	DONATION	\$ _____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

* Individual dues will be **pro-rated** quarterly for **new members only** (NOT RENEWALS), as follows: January to March – 100% (\$30.00), April to June – 75% (\$22.50), July to September – 50% (\$15.00), October to December – 25% (\$7.50).

Family membership is five dollars in addition to the individual membership fee, which includes any immediate licensed or unlicensed family members living in your home who desire to be Delta Club members.

Please provide family member information below **ONLY** if you are applying for a family membership.

Name (First, Middle, Last)	Call sign (if licensed)	Lic. Class	Lic. Exp. Date	Birthdate: (Mo/Day)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

CLUB USE ONLY, PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

_____ CASH _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT _____ RECEIVED BY: _____

PROCESSED BY SECRETARY _____ DATE _____

PROCESSED BY TREASURER _____ DATE _____

PROCESSED BY DISTRIBUTION _____ DATE _____