

# DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 \* Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 \* Volume 21 \* February 2015



## Welcome to the Delta Amateur Radio Club

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

EMAIL: [darc4you@gmail.com](mailto:darc4you@gmail.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/darcmem>

**w4bs**

### REPEATER SYSTEM

146.625<sup>-107.2</sup>      146.820<sup>-107.2</sup>

147.360<sup>-107.2</sup>      224.420

443.200<sup>+107.2</sup>

## NEXT CLUB MEETING (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month)

**DATE/TIME:**      February 10, 2015 – 7:00 PM

**PLACE:**              Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70  
                                Memphis, TN ( 1 ½ miles north of Hwy. 64 – Stage Road)

**PROGRAM:**          ARRL Delta Division Director David Norris k4uz  
                                ARRL Tennessee Section Manager Keith Miller - n9dgg

Keith's topic is **What is the future of ham radio in the 21st century and where do we need to go?** David will give some insights from the recent ARRL Board Meeting. Keith will have ARRL Membership Applications with him. He will have a limited supply of ARRL Repeater Directories on hand to immediately give to you when you turn in your paid application (\$39/1yr, \$76/2yrs, \$111/3yrs). There are other free books options available for joining ARRL – these will be sent to you later via U.S. Mail.

**FCC Amateur Radio License Testing:** Don't forget Delta Club FCC testing sessions are held every month except December. 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. You need to know your FCC Registration Number (FRN) if one has been issued. Please be on time for registration; this is to allow our Volunteer Examiner (VE) team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. 2015 test fee is \$15 (cash or check). In 2015, DARC training class students who successfully test for their initial FCC license grant will receive a complimentary individual club membership for the remainder of the current calendar year. For more information, please contact:

Jeff Krause, aj4gy, VE Liaison

Phone: 901-301-6776

Email: [aj4gy@comcast.net](mailto:aj4gy@comcast.net)

There were no testing candidates present at the January test session. The club extends its thanks to the 10 (yes, *ten*) ARRL VEs who made themselves available for the session in support of our Delta Club – FCC Amateur Radio License testing activities!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Joe Wray - wd4gxi

Hi all – hope the New Year finds you well. Personally, I am doing much better now than this same time last year. If you remember, I'd just undergone surgery (thankfully, no additional cuts are planned for me in the near future).

Just in case any of you out there are planning any tower or antenna work, I have a flash. The old groundhog Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, so there will be six more weeks of winter. Don't tell him, but Spring officially starts in seven weeks anyway - so I guess the wintery extension is not really that big a deal. Groundhog Day forecasting was a big deal for the Sun Prairie, Wisconsin Mayor however; he was bitten on the ear by Jimmy the local groundhog. That's what you get for holding a groundhog next to your ear Mr. Mayor!

Now for some Ham news: I didn't make it to Jackson, MS but I heard it was a good Hamfest and everyone that went had a good time. Some Hams really had a good time because they were able to eat at the Whataburger across the street. That would have been the highlight of the trip for me. February is kind of a slow month, and thankfully it is short. You might look ahead to March though, Birmingham Hamfest is being held on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> - the weekend before our March meeting. Remember to stay in good graces with your significant other, because Valentine's Day is Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup>.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting February the 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to check into the DARC 146.82 net at 20:00 hrs (8:00p) each evening, and help us to extend our thanks to all of our fine net control operators.

73

Joe Wray wd4gxi

## Membership Notes

By: David Webb – kv4qi

We encourage everyone to come to our next Delta Club meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>. When you sign in, please check to make sure your membership status is correctly shown. "2015" or "Life" will be displayed by your name if our club records show your membership is up to date for the current year. If you haven't yet paid your 2015 dues, please print the membership application found at the end of this newsletter, and bring it with you to our next meeting. If you're unable to attend, please mail the completed application along with a check for the amount of your yearly dues, so that we might continue to update our membership rolls. It's only \$20 for an individual to enjoy a full year of great Delta Club benefits, and an even better bargain for a family! Please remember that in order to keep the benefits of club affiliation to ARRL, over 50% of the current members must also be members of ARRL. February 10<sup>th</sup> will provide a great opportunity to renew your ARRL membership and get a great bonus gift to boot!

If meeting sign-in sheets don't show your correct information, please check with Rick Tillman or David Webb for assistance.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By: Rick Tillman, wa4nvm

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>as of January 1, 2015</b>	<b>\$9,746.80</b>
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### Expenses

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TN Sec. Of State	Annual Report	\$22.25
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<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$22.25</b>
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SubTotal	\$9,724.55
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### Income

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Membership Dues	Year 2015	\$620.00
Tickets	November Drawing	\$105.00
Donations		\$6.00
Estate Sale Items		\$105.00

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$836.00</b>
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<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>as of January 31, 2015</b>	<b>\$10,560.55</b>
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Submitted by Rick Tillman wa4nvm

Certificate of Deposit #1	Balance	\$10,280.23
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Certificate of Deposit #2	Balance	\$5,025.00
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Total DARC Assets	Balance	\$25,865.78
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## TREASURER'S REPORT – 2015 PROJECTED BUDGET

Submitted By: Rick Tillman, wa4nvm

### 2015 PROJECTED DARC EXPENSES

TN Annual Report	\$20.00
Meeting Space (Donation)	\$200.00
Training Space (Donation)	\$200.00
Meeting Refreshments	\$400.00
Food (Dec. meeting)	\$100.00
Small Prizes (monthly & Nov.)	\$500.00
Attendance Incentives (Nov.)	\$1,250.00
P. O. Box (yearly rental)	\$132.00
Liability Insurance	\$200.00
Equipment Insurance	\$174.00
Repeater Updates	\$6,000.00
SouthEastern Repeater Assoc.	\$30.00
Field Day	\$250.00
DARC Board Discretionary Fund*	\$2,000.00
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*(awards, trailer repair, repeater upgrade, supplies, etc.)	

**PROJECTED TOTAL EXPENSES**

**\$11,456.00**

### 2015 PROJECTED DARC INCOME

Donations	(cash)	\$100.00
Consignment, Donated Gear, etc.		\$650.00
Membership (Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31)		\$2,600.00
Ticket Sales (Nov. meeting)		\$1,800.00
Club Patches		\$25.00
Advertisement		\$10.00
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**PROJECTED TOTAL INCOME**

**\$5,185.00**

Checking Account Bal. 01/31/2015	\$10,560.55
2015 Projected Net Operating Results (Expense-Income)	(\$6,271.00)
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Projected Checking Account Bal 12/31/2015	\$4,289.55
Certificate of Deposit	\$10,280.23
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,025.00
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Projected DARC 2015 End of Year Assets	<b>\$19,594.78</b>

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

7:00p - February 3, 2015 - Presented by: Barri Munday, wb4swp

Officers and Directors Present: Joe Wray, Michael Knight, Barri Munday, Rick Tillman, Jim Cissel, Joe Lowenthal, Jim Sheats, David Webb. DARC Club members present: Bill Stevens & David Campbell

1. Treasurer's Report was presented by Rick Tillman and approved.
2. Mr. Keith Miller– n9dgk - ARRL Tennessee Section Manager is the planned speaker for the DARC meeting on Tuesday 2/10/15. The topic will be "What is the future of Ham radio in the 21st century & where do we go?" There is also a possibility that David Norris – k5uz – ARRL Delta District Director will be in attendance.
3. DARC member Tom Dichiaro - ac5mr has agreed to guide a future meeting presentation on Amateur Radio High Altitude Ballooning.
4. 2015 projected club budget will be published in Feb2015 SPARKS newsletter and presented for approval of the membership in the 2/10/2015 club meeting.
5. Bill Stevens continues to work with the City of Germantown to provide internet access to the 146.625 repeater. Bill will pursue acquisition of the necessary hardware to configure the repeater to take maximum advantage of this opportunity.
6. Tony Brignole from the Mid-South Amateur Radio Association (MARA) has secured 2015 use of the same location used for Field Day 2014. Delta Board members agreed that a cooperative event involving DARC, MARA, & Tri-State Repeater Association resources was a good idea. Michael Knight will coordinate with Tony Brignole.
7. Jelly Thompson & Geoff Wilson continue with organizational meetings to start a new club serving Germantown, Collierville, and areas to the south. DARC Board will continue to offer our support of these activities as a possible means of better serving Amateur Radio enthusiasts from the entire area.
8. Need to obtain capability to print/reprint laminated member ID cards was discussed. D.Webb suggested use of stickers for the year so club doesn't have to make completely new badges every year. David will research and present available options at March Board meeting.
9. There was a discussion regarding how benefits available to DARC club members might be maximized such that people would be incentivized to initially join and maintain active club membership status. D.Webb will research and present for additional discussion at the March Board meeting.
10. J. Lowenthal announced plans for a weekly General class scheduled for February 28th through April 11th with no class on March 14th, 2015. Given sufficient level of student commitments, there may be a Monday evenings Technician level class beginning in March, 2015.
11. It was confirmed that there are plans for a Storm Spotter class to be held in March, 2015. D.Webb will post announcements in the Feb and Mar2015 SPARKS newsletters.
12. J. Lowenthal has found suitable source for the acquisition and embroidery of club logo jackets to be presented to past DARC Presidents in appreciation for their service to the club. Board members again approved plans to proceed.
13. J. Cissell reported that the new club projector was successfully used in the January club meeting, with several favorable comments from club members. Jim also reported he is continuing his investigation into the acquisition of a portable audio system with wireless microphones to improve audio quality of club presentations.
14. J. Lowenthal noted that server hosting the club web page was temporarily out of service. Mr. Ken Gregg has been contacted, and service will hopefully be restored by Wednesday 2/4/2015.
15. With no other business presented, motion to adjourn was made by Jim Sheats, seconded by Michael Knight, and meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

## GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2015 - Presented by: Barri Munday, kd4swp

1. Introduction - President Joe Wray welcomed everyone and called for introductions.
2. Treasurer's report - Ham Hilliard made motion to approve treasurer's report as reported in SPARKS. Jeff Krause seconded. Report approved by voice acclamation.
3. Minutes-Ham Hilliard made a motion to approve the minutes as reported in SPARKS. Ned Savage seconded. Minutes approved by voice acclamation.
4. Training-Extra class ongoing has 8 students started 1/10 & a General class is scheduled to begin 2/28/15 & end on 4/11/2015; final exam taken @ Freefest. Joe Lowenthal would like to have at least 15 people to sign up for the Tech class to be worthwhile to hold it.
5. FCC Amateur Radio License testing - no candidates actually reported for this evening's session. The Club thanks 10 Volunteer Examiners (VEs) who presented themselves for this scheduled session.
6. Repeaters-The 146.625 repeater is operational in Germantown. The noise issues with 146.82 have been addressed. Bill Stevens announced that a new antenna may need to be purchased, will present recommendation(s) after further study.
7. Appreciation Awards were presented to Phil Fentress - Net Control Operator and Steve Frazier - New Ham of the Year. They were absent for December awards presentation.
8. Thoughts and prayers were requested for Rick Tillman and family on his mother Pam's passing.
9. New Business – Please make sure that email addresses and ARRL membership status are correct & up to date; if there are any issues please contact David Webb.
10. General Meeting Announcements
  - Those needing 2015 membership applications may print PDF version from SPARKS newsletter
  - Club needs to report percentage of ARRL members, please be sure to confirm your info on attendance rosters
  - Ham Hilliard will do some radio repair if needed
  - Capital City Hamfest to be held Jan 23-24, 2015
  - Estate sale coming soon
  - Tower Trailer still for sale
  - Meeting refreshments are complimentary
  - Anyone wishing to make cash donations should note amount(s) with the Treasurer
12. Programs - Jim Cissel Program Director wants suggestions for programs for this year. He gave a very interesting presentation on his hamshack, antennas in the house & also on his car. Jim greatly enjoys CW and has many keys in his shack.
13. Adjournment - Ham Hilliard moved to adjourn. Errol Hook seconded.

## SwampStompers Endurance Race Recap

Submitted by: David Webb kv4qi and Danny Banks kj4fxz

One reason that the Delta Amateur Radio Club exists is to provide community service to organizations in and around the Memphis area. One such activity is the annual “SwampStompers” 50k/25k runner’s endurance race held at Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park, Millington, TN.

In this year’s January 18th event, 177 starters (31 finishers in the 50K and 139 in the 25K) navigated a course described at <http://www.mensjournal.com/adventure-races/swampstomper-20140924> as follows: *“The SwampStomper gracefully wends through the dense hardwoods of Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park, punctuated by about a half-dozen steep climbs and descents, and is an ideal blend of terrain for a first-time endurance race (choose 50K or 25K). Until it rains – then the course goes from manageable to slippery to muddy to a bonafide swamp. In fair weather, the winner will complete the 50K in just over four hours and the 25K in just under two. But weather in Memphis is variable in January; expect anything from sub-freezing to 50 degrees and sunny.”*

Wow! *wending through the forest – supported by Delta Amateur Radio Club volunteers* – who wouldn’t want to participate? I learned a new word, and also learned that 2015 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> running of this adventure race! When I think of SwampStompers, I think of Danny Banks - kj4fxz. Danny has headed DARC support for this event since 2011. In 2015, Event sponsors recognized and thanked volunteer DARC operators manning these locations:

Net Control Station at Poplar Tree Lake - **Steven Frazier – kk4vpt ; Ken Laseter – ki4aoh**  
Turnaround Point – **Roger Schlichter - wr4r ; Jason Kyle - kk4kup**  
Woodland Trail Shelter – **Mike McLoughlin - kk4mcl**  
Top of the Red Loop – **Danny Banks - kj4fxz**

Looking forward to next year’s race, Danny will hand over DARC coordination for this event to the capable hands of Mike McLoughlin – kk4mcl. If you think you’d like to operate some mobile 2m, help keep runners safe, and help support fund raising efforts for the Friends of the Forest for Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park next year, put a placeholder on your January, 2016 calendar. Well done Delta Club volunteers!



Photo from <http://www.mensjournal.com/adventure-races/swampstomper-20140924>

Article by David Webb – kv4qi with info from Danny Banks – kj4fxz

## Thank You Letter From St. Jude

Submitted by: Joe Wray wd4gxi

What a great feeling to know that you've helped children battling cancer! Dedicated Delta Club volunteers supporting this yearly event truly help make a life or death difference for these kids! I'm proud to be associated with such a great group of caring supporters!





## **Congratulations To Steve Frazier kk4vpt – DARC New Ham of the Year!**

Submitted by: David Webb kv4qi

At the Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting on January 13th, 2015, club President Joe Wray (wd4gxi) asked Steve Frazier (kk4vpt) if he knew why he was called to the front of the room. With steely calm usually reserved for the most seasoned operators, Steve replied "I read about it in SPARKS!"

No doubt owing to his accomplishments not only getting behind a microphone, but also in his diligent reading of our esteemed club newsletter, Steve was recognized as the 2014 New Ham of The Year.

Congratulations to Steve and all those fine folks who joined the ranks of amateur radio and the Delta Club during 2014. You are all winners in our book!



Steve Frazier (left) receiving 2014 New Ham of the Year Award from DARC President Joe Wray

Photo by David Webb

## AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

Submitted by: James Butler - kb4ljv

Many Amateurs like to help out in bad weather by storm spotting. Some go out mobile to report conditions and look for damage while others just keep track of the weather at home and report conditions on the weather net. The ARRL has published a nice book for those interested in storm spotting. This book is called “Storm Spotting and Amateur Radio” and is co-authored by Mike Corey K1IU, the ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager was W5MPC from Oxford MS. It cost \$22.95, plus shipping and offers lots of good information about this area of Amateur Radio. If you are interested in learning more about storm spotting, check out this new book from the ARRL. The website is <http://www.arrl.org/>

## AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Submitted by: James Butler - kb4ljv

When we operate portable for emergencies, we use a generator. Many of the electrical connections use a twist lock style plug to the generator. These cables can be expensive. You can make an adapter to get from the generator to your radios. Selecting the proper twist lock connector and wire gauge means you can make your own. I used a 12 gauge extension cord. I cut the 115 volt AC male connector off and put on my own twist lock male. I now have a standard power cord to connect to the equipment. Make sure your extension cord has a wire gauge that will handle the current to match the connector you plan to install. My adapter works well and costs a lot less than a factory built one. To see the proper twist lock voltage and current rating for your generator, go to this site that show pictures of the different types of twist lock connectors along with their voltage and current rating. The web site is

<http://frentzandsons.com/Hardware%20References/twistlockplugandreceptacle.htm>



***Editorial note: Improper/inadequate electrical wiring presents potentially deadly safety hazards. If you are unsure of what you are doing, please consult a licensed electrician before starting any work!***

## HAM LICENSE TRAINING 2015

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 to Date in 2015 from Delta Classes*

0 Technician

0 General

0 Extra

### **CLASSES CURRENTLY UNDERWAY/PLANNED**

Extra Class 1-15 is being presented on six Saturdays from 9am-1pm from January 10th to February 21st except January 24th. There are eight students in the class - Bill Flanigan - kk4vps, Steven Johnson - kk4vzt, Arthur Oliver - kj4rck, Paul Roberts - ka9vau, Walter Rook - kj4uce, Jim Sheats - kk4vgl, Tom Showers - ke5veb, and Tom Ungren - kk4zzz. John Jennings - kw4ar is auditing the class. The instructors are Joe Lowenthal - wa4ovo, David Webb - kv4qi, Dean Honadle - n2laz, Pat Lane - w4oqg, and Ed Arndt - kv4lf. The Delta Club ARRL VE team headed by VE Liaison Jeff Krause aj4gy will administer the exam session on February 21st.



Dean Honadle - n2laz giving calculator instruction to Extra Class 1-15 to prepare for the math in Chapter 4

Photo by Joe Lowenthal

### **General Class 2-15**

A General class is scheduled to start February 28th until April 11th except March 14th on five Saturday mornings from 9am-1pm. The sixth class is the FCC exam, which will be offered in the morning of April 11th at FreeFest at Bartlett Municipal Center. There needs to be at least 10 students for the class. If you are interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at [wa4ovo@arrl.net](mailto:wa4ovo@arrl.net) with General Class in the subject line and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. See the Future Classes General Class below for the text to be used.

### **Tech Class 3-15**

A Technician class is in the planning stage. If you are interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at [wa4ovo@arrl.net](mailto: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.

## **FUTURE CLASSES - 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](mailto:wa4ovo@arrl.net) with subject line **Tech Class** and give your name, email address, and a contact phone number (preferably a cell number). Or you can go to the Delta Club webpage [www.deltaclub.org](http://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 Third Edition (effective July 1, 2014)*, [ARRL Order #0222](#), ISBN 978-1-62595-015-0, is strongly suggested, as well as study of the 426 question and answer Technical Class License question pool.

You can purchase it online from [www.msars.com](http://www.msars.com), <http://www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-Ham-Radio-License-Manual-3rd-Edition/> on Amazon.com or possibly Barnes & Noble booksellers.

The new Technician question pool which became effective July 1, 2014 can be seen at <http://ncvec.org/page.php?id=362>. The question pool is in the blue section in the back of the license manual. Practice tests are highly recommended. The [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) website is free. To access the current 2014-2018 sample tests, go to [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com). From the QRZ home page click on **RESOURCES** in the blue band on the top right. Then click on 2014 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 426 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 on the internet. Here are some of the ham radio practice exam sites:

- [www.hamstudy.org](http://www.hamstudy.org)
- [www.aa9pw.com](http://www.aa9pw.com)
- <http://kb0mga.net/exams>
- [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)
- <http://www.hamradioclass.org>

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



### **FUTURE CLASSES - GENERAL CLASS**

If you are interested in a General License class, please let us know by sending an email to [wa4ovo@arrl.net](mailto:wa4ovo@arrl.net) with subject line **General Class**. Or you can go to the Delta Club web page [www.deltaclub.org](http://www.deltaclub.org); click on Training Classes; then click on General Class to send me an email with your name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, or call at 901-628-4318. The current question pool became effective July 1, 2011 and valid through June 30, 2015. The text is *The ARRL General Class License Manual, Seventh Edition* with sample test CD, ARRL product #8119, ISBN 978-0-87259-811-9. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set if you have sent an email.

### **BASIC ELECTRONICS – Internet Training Only**

Basic Electronics is geared toward bridging the gap between the General and Extra Class licenses. 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. 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/>. Alan will assist anyone who would like additional help or refer them to another Elmer (please contact [alan.proffitt@comcast.net](mailto:alan.proffitt@comcast.net) ).

### **FUTURE CLASSES - EXTRA CLASS**

If you are interested in an Extra Class, please pre-register by going to the Delta Club web page [www.deltaclub.org](http://www.deltaclub.org); click on Training Classes; then click on Extra Class to send an email with your name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, to Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo, at [wa4ovo@arrl.net](mailto:wa4ovo@arrl.net) or call at 901-628-4318. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set. Classes are usually held on Saturdays from 9am-1pm for 6 or 7 weeks in January and February. The text is *The ARRL Extra Class License Manual 10<sup>th</sup> Edition*, ARRL Order #5170, ISBN 978-0-87259-517-0.

<p><i>Licenses Earned in 2014 from Delta Classes</i></p> <p>25 Technician 12 General 6 Extra</p>
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<p><b>TENNESSEE HAM RADIO LICENSE PLATE</b></p>
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<p>Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal wa4ovo</p>
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The link below is for information and instructions about Tennessee ham radio callsign automobile license plates :

<http://www.tn.gov/revenue/vehicle/licenseplates/emergency/emergsaftey.shtml>

The application is at [www.tn.gov/revenue/forms/titlereg/f1312601Fill-in.pdf](http://www.tn.gov/revenue/forms/titlereg/f1312601Fill-in.pdf)

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal wa4ovo

<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHERE</u>	<u>CONTACT INFO</u>
MARCH 24 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00PM	Lord of Life Lutheran Church 6865 Poplar Pike	Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO 901-628-4318 <a href="mailto:wa4ovo@arrl.net">wa4ovo@arrl.net</a>

NOAA's National Weather Service established SKYWARN® as a volunteer program and has nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communications to join the SKYWARN® program.

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

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### Basic Disaster Life Support Course

February 20th (Friday) 8:00am-5:30pm 7:30 - 8:00 registration

At the MERI (Memphis Educational and Research Institute)  
44 South Cleveland  
Memphis, TN  
Parking and entrance located off Monroe

This great one day disaster training reviews major hazards (disasters and public health emergencies) that we may encounter and our role in responding to and recovering from those events. With a focus on the management of injuries and illness caused by disasters and public health emergencies along with mass-casualty management.

[www.ndlsf.org/bdls](http://www.ndlsf.org/bdls)

Registration for BDLS is OPEN at: <http://register.ndlsf.org/>

TO REGISTER:

You will need to register on the site first, Sign in, Then register for the course.

To locate the course, choose the date and location on the calendar on the right, then register for the course.

Or the direct link: <http://register.ndlsf.org/course/view.php?id=1105&sesskey=JDUP393wT6>

**\*\*This course is grant funded and offered at no cost to the participant from Shelby County.**

This course is a Pre-Requisite for Advanced Disaster Life Support (ADLS) planned for March 27th and 28th.

[www.ndlsf.org/adls](http://www.ndlsf.org/adls)

For additional information about the courses, go to: [www.ndlsf.org](http://www.ndlsf.org) or contact [jennifer.russell@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:jennifer.russell@shelbycountyttn.gov) or [kstewart@meri.org](mailto:kstewart@meri.org)

Thank you,  
Shelby County Health Department

## 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

Alternative EMAIL address to generically offer Board your suggestions, ask questions, voice complaints is [darc4you@gmail.com](mailto:darc4you@gmail.com)

Please note that you must provide your name and call sign if you're requesting specific actions or personal follow-ups, and also be aware that any profane or mean-spirited comments will be unceremoniously discarded without consideration.

Delta Club Members Can Like Us/Follow Posts On Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/darcmem>

### **2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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*Board members beginning their service in 2015 are listed in red.*

<b>HAM FESTS OF LOCAL INTEREST</b>
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<b>DATES</b>	<b>EVENT URL LINK</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b>March 2015</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Birmingham Hamfest <a href="http://birminghamfest.org/">http://birminghamfest.org/</a>	Birmingham, AL
<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	Ides of March Hamfest <a href="http://www.reelfootarc.com/">http://www.reelfootarc.com/</a>	Union City, TN
<b>April 2015</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	Memphis FreeFest <a href="http://hamcalendar.com/current-data/Memphis%20Freefest%202015.pdf">http://hamcalendar.com/current-data/Memphis%20Freefest%202015.pdf</a>	Bartlett, TN
<b>May 2015</b> <b>15<sup>th</sup> Thru 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Hamvention <a href="http://www.hamvention.org/">http://www.hamvention.org/</a>	Dayton, OH
<b>August 2015</b> <b>15<sup>th</sup> &amp; 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Huntsville Hamfest <a href="http://www.hamfest.org/">http://www.hamfest.org/</a>	Huntsville, AL



## MEMPHIS AREA VHF/UHF NETS

Name of Net	Freq. MHz	Tone	Local Time	Day of Week
<b>Delta Club Information Net</b>	<b>146.820</b>	<b>- (107.2)</b>	<b>8:00p</b>	<b>Daily</b>
<b>YL (Young Ladies) Net</b>	<b>146.820</b>	<b>- (107.2)</b>	<b>7:00p</b>	<b>Sun</b>
ARES Training Net	146.880	- (107.2)	9:00p	Thu
MedMERS Net	146.820	- (107.2)	12:00p	Wed
Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog Net	146.535		7:30p	Daily
The Short Winded Net	146.850	- (107.2)	8:30p	Tue
Six Meter Tech Net	53.01		8:30p	Wed
TAC 2 Net	224.420		8:30p	Thu
Secret Service Net	224.780		8:30p	Mon
The 440 Net	443.200	+ (107.2)	9:00p	Wed
CERTPlus Net	443.200	+ (107.2)	8:30p	Wed
Elmer Net	444.175	+ (107.2)	9:00p	Mon
Super Sunday Niner Net	927.6125	- (146.2)	8:30p	Sun

**Delta Club sponsored Nets are shown in bold/dark blue font style**

## TENNESSEE HF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day of Week
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	Tue-Sun
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3.980	5:40a	Mon-Fri
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3.980	6:45a	Mon-Fri
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3.980	6:30p	Tue-Sun
Tennessee Alternate Phone Net	7.238		As needed
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 (1/1/15)

Good evening, this is [first name and callsign] calling this session of the DELTA CLUB's Information Net. This net meets nightly at 8:00 pm central time except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 w4bs repeater and requires a PL tone of 107.2 Hz. This net provides an opportunity to present information about club events and amateur related topics. This Net also provides new amateur stations training, and allows all amateurs a regularly scheduled session for testing their radios and communicating with the amateur radio community. In the event of severe weather this repeater is available for the National Weather Service Skywarn reports for the Memphis area.

All licensed amateurs are encouraged to participate. All stations are requested to refrain from transmitting without being acknowledged by net control. Stations not providing their callsign or suffix will not be acknowledged.

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.

Does any station have announcements for the net? (Does any station have any questions or need any fills?)

This is [first name and callsign] with the Delta Club's Information Net.

We will now take Early Check-Ins. Are there any stations that need to leave early? If so please come now, phonetically, with your suffix only, and please remember to spread them out by waiting for the courtesy tone. (Ask for additions or corrections only once)

We will now take check-ins phonetically, by suffix only if your suffix begins A – H, Alpha through Hotel. Please come now and remember to spread them out. (Ask for additions or corrections only once if you have a short list)  
This is [first name and callsign] with the Delta Club's Information Net.

We will now take check-ins phonetically, by suffix only if your suffix begins I – Q, India through Keebeck. Please come now and remember to spread them out. (Ask for additions or corrections only once if you have a short list)

We will now take check-ins phonetically, by suffix only, if your suffix begins R – Z, Romeo through Zulu. Please come now and remember to spread them out. (Ask for additions or corrections only once if you have a short list)

This is [first name and callsign] with the Delta Club's Information Net.

1. The Delta Club meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 HWY 70 in Bartlett at 7:00pm.
2. VE registration begins at 5:30pm, with testing starting by 6:00pm. A copy of your license and CSCE is required.
3. For VE information contact Jeff, aj4gy at 301-6776 or by email at [aj4gy@comcast.net](mailto:aj4gy@comcast.net)
4. For membership information contact Barri, wb4swp at 756-5259 or by EMAIL at [annbarrimunday@att.net](mailto:annbarrimunday@att.net)
5. For training information contact Joe wa4ovo at 628-4318 or by EMAIL at [wa4ovo@arrl.net](mailto:wa4ovo@arrl.net)
6. Local area code is niner – zero – one.

Are there any additional announcements? (does any station have any questions or need any fills?)

We will now take late check-ins from any anywhere in the alphabet, A- Z, Alpha through Zulu. Please come now, phonetically, with your suffix only, and please remember to spread them out. (ask for additions or corrections )

CLOSE

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

This is [first name and callsign] now closing this session of the Delta Club's Information Net. I would like to thank all \_\_\_\_\_ stations for checking in tonight, and would like to ask that everyone check in tomorrow night at the same time. Goodnight and 73, the net is now closed. This is [first name and callsign] 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)



**Ben Richhart**  
 Sales and Service Director

**Chick-fil-A at Paragon Place**  
 6282 Poplar Avenue  
 Memphis, TN 38119  
 Phone: 901-766-1875  
 Fax: 901-766-1878  
 E-mail: ben@cfaparonplace.com

*This ad space is available*

*This ad space is available*

*This ad space is available*

*This ad space is available*

**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 months you want your ad to appear in Sparks.
2. Submit this completed order form, your camera ready ad, via email at [dwebb1518@gmail.com](mailto:dwebb1518@gmail.com)  
Make check payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) at monthly Delta Club meeting, or send US Mail to club mailing address at P.O. Box 432768, Memphis, TN 38134-2768. Camera ready means that ad copy is exactly as you wish it to appear, scaled to fit within the dimensions specified below. Ads may be submitted in .gif or .jpg format, or submitted as a hard copy (we will scan and place your ad for you).
3. Your ad order and payment 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		
<b>\$50.00</b>			<b>\$25.00</b>			<b>\$15.00</b>			<b>\$10.00</b>		
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		
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec



**DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
P.O. Box 342768, TN 38134-2768  
**2015 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 2015**

This membership current through December 2015

Club dues:	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (\$20.00)*	\$ _____
	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% (\$20.00), April to June – 75% (\$15.00), July to September – 50% (\$10.00), October to December – 25% (\$5.00).

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. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**CLUB USE ONLY, PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE**

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\_\_\_\_\_ CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

PROCESSED BY SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PROCESSED BY TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PROCESSED BY DISTRIBUTION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_