

# SPARKS

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

146.820 <sup>-107.2</sup>	147.360 <sup>-107.2</sup>
146.625 <sup>-107.2</sup>	443.200 <sup>-107.2</sup>
224.420	

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

**DATE/TIME:** May 12, 2015 – 7:00 PM

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

**PROGRAM:** FedEx MD-11 Captain Kim Coryat, w8kay

*I'll be presenting information about Aircraft Radios in the context of Aviation's Golden Rule: "Aviate, Navigate and Communicate - in that order". Not too much about "Aviate", but quite a bit about "Navigate" (from the A-N beacons of yore to GPS today, it couldn't be done without radios) and especially "Communicate". I'll discuss the radios, frequencies, antennas and message traffic we use in our FedEx MD11 cockpits. There will be a little bit of history, a little bit of personal experience and a whole lot of how we manage our flights with communications.*



**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, people who successfully test for their initial FCC license grant at a Delta Club test session 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)

Congratulations to successful candidates at our April club meeting night test session: Christopher Stafford, km4jxr (Technician); Joseph Sanders, km4jxs (General); and Anthony Sobczak, km4jxt (General).

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Submitted by: Joe Wray, wd4gxi

Hello everyone. I guess I will start by saying my injured leg recovery is just about complete. Thanks for everyone's concern. I hope to see everyone at the meeting May the 12<sup>th</sup>.

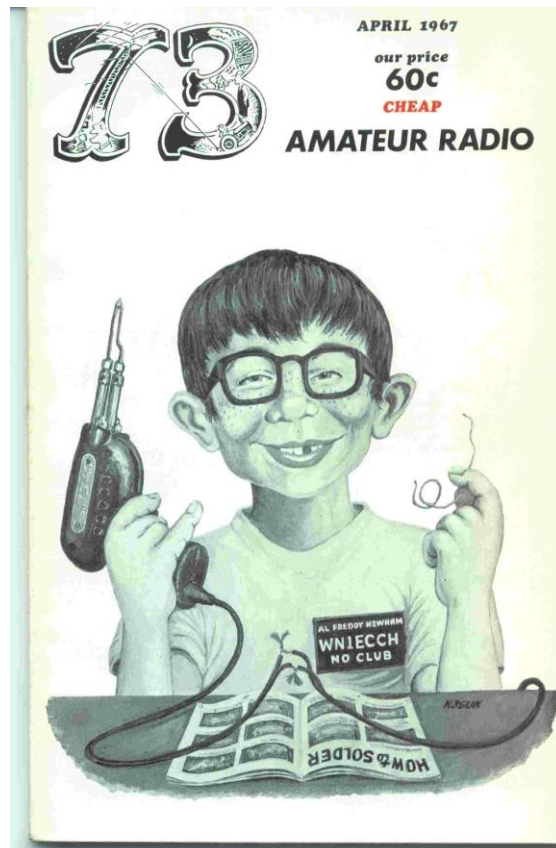
It was also very nice seeing everyone at the Memphis FreeFest®. Tony Brignole, wa4khn - who heads up the affair - said we did very well. I would like to thank all of the Delta club members for their participation and I know Tony does too. It is really great to see the clubs working together for a common cause. I would also like to thank the ones who worked the March of Dimes - March for Babies last weekend - especially Linda Laseter, kj4ctx - for coordinating all the event details regarding Ham radio communication volunteers.

As you should already know the big one (Dayton Hamvention) is the weekend after this month's meeting - May 15-17th. We have quite a few members planning to attend, myself included. If you have never been, I would encourage you to save your change and plan on going next year; it is really impressive. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that one of our local Hams - Tom Medlin, w5kub - will be receiving the Special Achievement Award this year for his 14 years of service providing live webcasts of Ham Radio events.

73 everyone. Be sure and check into the net as often as possible and I will see you Tuesday night the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Joe Wray

*For lack of additional content submission on the part of our many readers, the editor elects to fill this white space with the following – anybody recognize this guy?*



## UPCOMING COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS



The **2015 Armed Forces Day Crossband Communications Test**, frequently called the MARS Crossband exercise, is set for Saturday through Sunday 9-10 May, 2015. There will be two MARS stations active in the Memphis area this year. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will activate WUG-2 at the WKNO transmitter site at 7192 Raleigh LaGrange Rd. For more information on Army MARS operations, contact Pat Lane, w4oqg at (901) 301-9738

Navy Support Activity Mid-south will participate from Millington at the W4ODR station in Building N-100. For more information on Navy MARS operation, contact Ham Hilliard, w4gmm at (901) 387-9051.

This year's test exercise offers Amateur Radio operators a chance to use more modern military communications modes (such as MIL-STD Serial PSK), and will include a new crossband Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) test. This year's event will mark the 65th Armed Forces Day and the 90th anniversary of the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS).

Armed Forces Day actually falls on May 16, 2015, but the test will be held the preceding weekend to accommodate those visiting the 2015 Dayton Hamvention®.

For more details, see the original ARRL article at URL <http://www.arrl.org/news/view/armed-forces-day-2015-crossband-communications-test-to-offer-new-modes>



Pat Lane is coordinating the Ham radio communications for this year's Tour de Cure bike ride. The event will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015 at 50 Harbor Town Square on Mud Island. Volunteer operators will use the 145.45 repeater (PL Tone 107.2). Pat needs 15 Hams with mobile radios to work this event. If you can help support this important fund raiser, please see Pat at the May Delta Club meeting; email Pat at [w4oqg@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4oqg@bellsouth.net) or call him at (901) 301-9738.

For more information about the event, go to [http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/TourdeCure/TourAdmin?fr\\_id=10184&pg=entry](http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/TourdeCure/TourAdmin?fr_id=10184&pg=entry)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by: Rick Tillman, wa4nvm

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>as of April 1, 2015</b>	<b>\$11,408.47</b>
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### Expenses

Crown Manufacturing	Past President Jackets	\$506.92
FreeFest	\$200 Donation	\$200.00
Jim Sheats	Food & Drinks - Meetings	\$141.01

<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$847.93</b>
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SubTotal **\$10,560.54**

### Income

Membership Dues	Year 2015	\$75.00
Tickets	November Drawing	\$130.00
Donated Gear		\$80.00
Bus Trip 2015		\$275.00

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$560.00</b>
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<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>as of April 30, 2015</b>	<b>\$11,120.54</b>
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Submitted by Rick Tillman, wa4nvm

Certificate of Deposit #1	Balance	\$10,280.23
Certificate of Deposit #2	Balance	\$5,025.00
Total DARC Assets	Balance	\$26,425.77

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

7:00p – May 5, 2015 - Submitted by: Barri Munday, wb4swp

Officers and Directors Present: Michael Knight, kk4ioh - Barri Munday, wb4swp – Rick Tillman, wa4nvm - Jim Cissell, ki4i - Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo - Jim Sheats, kk4vgl - David Webb, kv4qi – Bill Stevens, wc9s.

1. J. Cissell confirmed correction to item 9 of the April Board meeting minutes as follows: Kim Coryat, w8kay - will present on aviation navigation and communications at the May 12th meeting; M. Knight will present info on 2015 Field Day at the June 9th club meeting.
2. Given that members did not express any interest in being able to use PayPal in response to meeting items and/or extended SPARKS Newsletter/EMAIL solicitation, it was unanimously agreed to drop this option from further consideration.
3. Absent any compelling need for club issued ID badges, it was unanimously agreed that business cards with club logo and date/signature would be issued as a receipt for annual dues if requested. Prototypes will be presented for courtesy review at future general membership meeting (tentatively in June).
4. Joe Lowenthal reported that he had negotiated additional benefits with the charter bus company, and was successful in having them agree that no advance deposit payment would be due. The rental agreement has been tendered.
5. Reported that no additional club members volunteered to work on the charter update committee. The Board subcommittee consisting of David Webb, kv4qi – Bill Stevens, wc9s – and Michael Knight, kk4ioh will proceed with the effort. Planned process will have sub-committee proposed revisions prepared with involvement of legal counsel, and subsequently presented to the entire Board for summary review. Once that draft is accepted, the resulting document will be published via SPARKS newsletter, and presented for membership vote the following calendar month.
6. Treasurer's Report provided by R. Tillman in advance of meeting was reviewed and approved.
7. Agreed that only Life and Current 2015 member entries will be included on pre-printed meeting sign in sheets; others may use blank sign-in sheets pending receipt of outstanding dues and membership application form updates.
8. J. Lowenthal updated status on recent and planned training classes, noting Technician Class 4-15 will run from 19Jul through 13Aug at the EMHC training room. This class will test one week before Huntsville, and students will be offered the \$60 rate should they desire to ride the chartered bus. No objections were expressed.
9. J. Lowenthal suggested that an amendment to current club policy on complimentary club memberships. DARC currently offers candidates receiving their first FCC license through DARC training or DARC ARRL VE sessions a complimentary individual club membership through the remainder of the current calendar year. Joe proposed that as an ARRL affiliated club, this policy should be modified to require proof of candidates ARRL membership as an additional condition of this offer. Following discussion, it was agreed the new policy would become effective 1July2015.
10. B. Stevens reported that Nashoba Amateur Radio Club (NAMRAC) officers requested Delta Club Board approval to use the 146.625 repeater for NAMRAC sponsored net calls. No objections were expressed.
11. Move to adjourn made by J. Sheats and seconded by D. Webb. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15p

## GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2015 - Submitted by: Barri Munday, wb4swp

1. Introduction – Joe Wray, wd4gxi - welcomed and asked that everyone introduce themselves by name & call sign.
2. Treasurer’s report read by Rick Tillman, wa4nvm. Ham Hilliard, w4gmm made motion to approve and Jeff Krause, aj4gy - seconded. Report approved by member acclamation.
3. March meeting minutes – H. Hilliard made motion to approve the minutes as published in the Sparks Newsletter & Michael Knight, kk4ioh - seconded. Minutes approved by member acclamation.
4. Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo - provided a training update and announced that a new Technician training class is being scheduled to begin on July 9<sup>th</sup>
5. J. Lowenthal presented service award jackets to Past Delta Club Presidents who had not already received them
  - Darryl Sheffield, kk4d (2006-2007)
  - Hugh Wardlaw, wb4sli (2008-2009)
  - Alan Anderson, kj4bix (2010)
  - Rosalinda Melena, w2nv (2011-2013)
  - Joe Wray, wd4gxi (2014-present)
6. J.Wray announced initial committee looking into updating the bylaws, noting the effort should take at least several months, and would involve a club membership vote for final approval and adoption.
7. Jim Cissell, ki4i - made announcement about “Rookie Roundup” for Hams licensed less than 3 years. Yearly event is sponsored by ARRL to help less experienced operators use the HF bands.
8. Tony Brignole, wa4khn - thanked everyone who had helped with the Memphis FreeFest®. Tony commented on the highest number on vendors, many good prizes, noting that \$3400.67 went to LeBonheur. Tony also noted that concession sales were up 20%, proceeds from which cover the rental cost of the facility. Michael Knight was the highest ticket seller so will be awarded a prize at the next MARA meeting.
9. Noted that Field Day 2015 will again be a joint venture with Delta, TriState & MARA clubs. M. Knight will present info about Field Day at the club meeting on June 9th.
10. Linda Laseter, kj4ctx - spoke about need for Ham volunteers to operate at the March of Dimes Walkathon on April 25th.
11. H. Hilliard covered details on an April 18th J-pole training/build class.
12. Multiple speakers addressed the 2015 Armed Forces Day Crossband Communications Test – see page 3 of this month’s SPARKS Newsletter for event details.
13. Glen Popiel, kw5gp - author of Arduino for Ham Radio gave an advance look at the presentation he’ll make at the 2015 Dayton Hamvention®, and autographed copies of his book for Delta Club members lucky enough to snag a copy from the limited supply Glen brought.
14. H. Hilliard made motion to adjourn; Pat Lane, w4oqg seconded. Club membership confirmed their agreement through an orderly departure.

## HUNTSVILLE BUS TRIP

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo

DARC is sponsoring a 50-passenger bus trip to go to the Huntsville Hamfest on August 15, 2015. There is a graduated scale fare for the bus trip. The fare is \$55 if paid by May 31, 2015, \$60 if paid by June 30, 2015, \$65 if paid by July 31, 2015, and \$75 if paid on or after August 1st. There are no refunds if you cannot go. However, you can sell your reservation to someone else. The fare includes the \$8 Hamfest entry ticket. 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. Make checks payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club. You can pay at a meeting or send your check to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, 6675 Ashbridge Cove, Memphis, TN 38120. Please include your name, call sign, cell phone number, and email address.

**Reservations will be on a first come first paid basis.**

The bus will leave Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70, Bartlett, TN at 6:00am on August 15th. A second pickup point will be at Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Avenue at Johnson Road, Germantown, TN at approximately 6:30am. The bus will leave Huntsville immediately after the 4pm door prize drawing and return to Germantown Baptist Church approximately 7:30pm and Ellendale Church of Christ at approximately 8:15pm.

Ellendale Church of Christ has asked us to park in the larger parking lot on the west side of the building to leave the east side open for church activity parking.

The pickup point at Germantown Baptist Church will be on the east side of the church (toward Collierville) just north of the baseball diamonds and south of the gym (called the CORE) between the gym and the baseball diamonds to the front.



*Ride the bus! Go door to door, save money, and leave driving to a licensed professional!*

## AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

Submitted by: James Butler, kb4ljv

Many times we want to build up our own equipment. Design software has come down in price in recent years. One new free software download is a program that allows you to design you own front panels. It allows you to locate holes and cutouts for displays, etc. wherever you want. The software is easy to use with point and click operation. You can also select text to engrave on the panel. You can save the file for later updates. The reason it is free is that you can request a price quote in the program for 5 day delivery. This program also allows you to print out the front panel you designed on your printer. I requested a quote on a 4 inch by 2 inch panel and it came back with about \$30.00. This type of software is a great way to try out ideas for custom design panels. To try this out for free go to

<http://www.frontpanelexpress.com/>

## AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Submitted by: James Butler, kb4ljv



*Photo by James Butler*

Many of our electronics now use a USB style connector to provide 5 Volts DC for power and charging.

This month's project is the **Pill Bottle USB** charging port.

I bought USB ports that plug into a cigarette lighter plug for under \$1.00. I mounted it in a discarded pill bottle. I connected wires to hookup to a 12 volt DC source.

This is perfect for emergencies for charging HTs and cellphones. The ones I bought have dual USB connectors and it works well. If you need USB outlets try these from EBay. Do a search for "**USB mini bullet**" to find different styles and colors.



## HAM LICENSE TRAINING 2015

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo

*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*

7 Technician

4 General

6 Extra



### **Recently Completed Training Tech Class 3-15; March 23 – April 27, 2015**

Congratulations to Mick Douglass, km4kbx; Jim Murry, km4kby; Chuck Turner, km4kbz; Andy Stevens, km4kca; and John Panzer, km4kcb - for taking advantage of Tech Class 3-15 training sessions and earning their Technician Class license. Classmate Joseph Sanders, km4jxs tested early at the April Club meeting and received his General license.

The primary instructors were Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo - and Pat Lane, wa4oqg, with additional instruction being provided by Michael Knight, kk4ioh and Rick Tillman, wa4nvm. Assisting Elmers were Tom Ernst, n4lia; Jeff Krause, aj4gy; and Ray Tant, ki4vdj. The Delta Club Volunteer Examiner (VE) team of Jeff Krause, aj4gy; Stacy Krause, kj4mda; Scott Vanzandt, n2wmd; David Webb, kv4qi; and Joe Lowenthal provided the test opportunity on April 20th.

We continue to be appreciative of the EMHC Ambulance Company for allowing Delta Club to use their training room facility on Appling Farms Parkway.

### **General Class 2-15 - February 28 – April 11, 2015**

Congratulations to our new group of General class license holders: Mike Sparks, kk4vpz (who upgraded early at the Memphis Digital club WCARS test session on March 14<sup>th</sup>) Steve Frazier, kk4vpt; Janice Shaner, km4hzy; and Bob Shaner, km4jro. Bob Shaner was not previously licensed, but used these classes to supplement his scientific knowledge; successfully completing both Technician and General exams in a single test session at the Memphis FreeFest. Instructors were Ed Arndt, kv4lf; Pat Lane and Joe Lowenthal. David Webb helped support both training and testing activities.

*Old salts amongst us (and/or FedEx employees) might recognize signal flags pictured above as Bravo and Zulu - flown by NATO naval forces in tandem to convey the message "Bravo Zulu - Well done". The editor uses this message format to express appreciation to all our Delta Club Students, Instructors, and Elmers for their efforts to expand the knowledge and capabilities of our amateur radio community. Well done, indeed!*

## FUTURE CLASSES - TECHNICIAN CLASS

**Special Note:** Our recent training classes have resulted in positive feedback from students regarding the in-class viewing of some very well-done on line training materials offered by Mr. Dave Cassler – ke0og to accompany the ARRL training manuals we use. This free resource is available at URL <http://dcasler.com/ham-radio/training/> Videos are also posted on YouTube – search “ke0og” for links. All students are encouraged to use this supplemental resource in conjunction with their DARC training opportunities.

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 **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>

## 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, callsign, 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, callsign, 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.

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

<p><i>Licenses Earned in 2014 from Delta Classes</i></p> <p>25 Technician 12 General 6 Extra</p>
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## TENNESSEE HAM RADIO LICENSE PLATE

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal, wa4ovo

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)

## 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**

**President:**

Joe Wray wd4gxi  
901-246-6113  
[wrayjoe@yahoo.com](mailto:wrayjoe@yahoo.com)

**Vice-President:**

Michael Knight kk4ioh  
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**Secretary:**

**Barri Munday – wb4swp**  
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**Treasurer:**

Rick Tillman – wa4nvm  
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**Director of Training:**

Joe Lowenthal – wa4ovo  
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**Director of Publications:**

**David W. Webb – kv4qi**  
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**Director of Programs:**

**Jim Cissell – ki4i**  
901-326-5544  
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**Director of Meetings & Special Events:**

**Jim Sheats – kk4vgl**  
901-756-0031  
[jdsheats@bellsouth.net](mailto:jdsheats@bellsouth.net)

**Repeater Trustee:**

Bill Stevens – wc9s  
901  
[wc9s@att.net](mailto:wc9s@att.net)

**Immediate Past President:**

Rosalinda Melena – wn2v

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

## HAMFESTS OF LOCAL INTEREST

DATES	EVENT URL LINK	LOCATION
May 2015 15 <sup>th</sup> Thru 17 <sup>th</sup>	Hamvention <a href="http://www.hamvention.org/">http://www.hamvention.org/</a>	Dayton, OH
August 2015 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	Huntsville Hamfest <a href="http://www.hamfest.org/">http://www.hamfest.org/</a>	Huntsville, AL

### Silent Keys - Memorials

Harry Scroggins, ki5uk - died mid-March, 2015 in Jackson, MS. Harry and his wife, Vivien, lived in Tunica, MS., where he was first licensed as kb5ljo. Harry could be heard on the Memphis area repeaters and frequented area club activities. He was also an active net control for the 7.123 MHz Sunrise CW Net at 13:00 Zulu.

I, and several area Hams helped Harry get his tower and antennas installed in Tunica and helped take them down when they moved to Clinton, MS to be closer Vivien's sister. Harry was 90 when he died of failing health in an assisted care home. He was a US Army veteran of WW II and served as a cook for our bomber crews based in England. Some of those crews were awakened at 3 A.M. for their missions so you can imagine what time the chow crew had to begin their day.

Ann and I got to visit with Harry and Vivien at their separate care homes after the Jackson (Capital City) Hamfest. Harry told me that he left his rigs and antennas to a local Ham who assisted him with keeping his station on the air. When Vivien called to let us know of Harry's passing, she said Harry had donated his body to medical colleges for research.

*Submitted by Jim Cissell, ki4i*

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The father of Francis White, wa4zyn - Mr. Ben W. White, passed away April 29th. Services were handled by Landess Funeral Home in Campbell Missouri, 573-246-2596; with funeral services held Saturday May 2, 2015.

*Submitted by Joan Thorne, kn4pm*

*Please take a moment to honor the memory of those who have died, and keep members of their family and all of their friends in your thoughts and prayers ...*

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

### **2015 ARRL Field Day on Saturday and Sunday, June 27- 28<sup>th</sup>**

This will again be a joint activity with Mid-South Amateur Radio Association and Tri-State Repeater Association. Location will be the Country Club Estates Clubhouse - 2417 Lacosta in Bartlett, TN. More details on this year's activity will be the subject of a presentation by Michael Knight, kk4ioh - on Tuesday, June 9th at our regular DARC member meeting. You can also review ARRL rules for the event and order hats, T-shirts, etc. by visiting the ARRL web site at URL <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

### **Hams - Please Make Sure Your Membership "Current" Is On!**

Download the new and improved .pdf Delta Club Membership Application Form from the web at

<http://www.deltaclub.org/application-15-2.pdf>

**Thanks for Your Active Support of Delta Amateur Radio Club  
Membership Matters!**

## 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>
Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog Net	146.535		7:30p	Daily
Secret Service Net	224.780		8:30p	Mon
Elmer Net	444.175	+ (107.2)	9:00p	Mon
The Short Winded Net	146.850	- (107.2)	8:30p	Tue
MedMERS Net	146.820	- (107.2)	12:00p	Wed
CERTPlus Net	443.200	+ (107.2)	8:30p	Wed
ARES Training Net	146.880	- (107.2)	9:00p	Thu
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.



### **Mid-South Amateur Radio Supply**

*Serving the Mid-South's Ham Radio Operators...*

#### **Locally Owned**

Located in Bartlett, Tennessee

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**Antennas** (HF, UHF and VHF) -  
Base, HT, Mobile and Wire

**Bulk Cable** - Ladder Line 300 &  
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**Bulk Coax** - RG-8U Mini,  
RG-58A/U and RG-213U

**Connectors** -  
UHF, SMA, BNC and 'N'

Full Line of **Antenna Tuners\***

**Patch Cables, Antenna Wire  
and Insulators**

*Please thank our sponsors by using their services and mentioning  
that you saw their ad in the Delta Club SPARKS Newsletter!*

*This ad space is available*

## 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@cfaparagonplace.com

*Please thank our sponsors by using their services and  
mentioning that you saw their ad in the Delta Club  
SPARKS Newsletter!*

*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		
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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec