

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 27 * April 2018



**Welcome to the
Delta Amateur Radio Club**

Website: deltaclub.org

Contact via [Email](mailto:)

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

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820 ^{-107.2}	* 147.360 ^{+107.2}
146.625 ^{-107.2}	443.200 ^{+107.2}
224.420 ^{-107.2}	
144.390 Digipeater	*Fusion

This month's meeting begins at 7pm on April 10, 2018, at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 (Stage Road)).

Glen Popiel KW5GP will be making an **Arduino** presentation for the April program (See information later in this newsletter).

Delta Club FCC testing sessions are held monthly except December. Registration begins at 5:30 PM; testing begins by 6:00 PM. Please bring a photo ID and another form of identification, copies of existing licenses or CSCEs, and your FCC Registration Number (FRN) if one has been issued. Please be on time for registration to allow our Volunteer Examiner (VE) team to complete their work prior to the club meeting. The 2018 test fee is \$15 (cash or check). Individuals receiving their initial FCC license grant at a Delta Club test session or through a Delta Club training class will receive a complimentary individual club membership for the remainder of the current calendar year when they also show proof of ARRL membership. For more information, please email our VE Liaison, [Jeff Krause, AJ4GY](mailto:), or call at 901-301-6776.

Congratulations to those who passed exams during Delta's March 2018 test session:

Janet M Wehner KN4FBI, passed her **EXTRA** exam and **Brian R Harris** passed his **TECH** exam.

FREEFEST is **Saturday, April 14** from **9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

President's Corner

Submitted by Steve Frazier, KK4VPT

Due to an on-going "behind the scenes technical " issue, we announced earlier this year that we may need to change the URL address for the Delta Club web site.

I am pleased to announce that everything has been worked out and we will be able to keep using Deltaclub.org. While being involved with this, I have learned more than I ever wanted to know about website domains and I have got to say I am amazed the internet as a whole has ever made it this far. I have also learned that we all owe everyone who has been a part of our web site a big thank you for the work. You have all been creating and maintaining this useful and informational asset. I know this year I have used the website more than I have in the past and I encourage you use your Delta Club website too.

In mid March, Kevin Zent (K4KLZ) resigned as Director of Programs.

Kevin provided the club with an interesting variety of programs since accepting the duties of Director of Programs in 2017. His contribution to Delta Club meetings have been appreciated and he will be missed. SO... we now have an opening for Director of Programs on the Board of Directors. If you are interested, please contact me or any other member of the board.

We have the April program covered, but while we are filling the opening; we are looking for input from you for topics you would like to have presented during the monthly meetings.

We have had another change on the Board of Directors, but this one was planned. New member Mary Jean Hall (KN4FBL) offered to fill the position of Secretary for 2018, but did not meet the minimum number of meetings attended for the prior 12 months as required in the by-laws. Steve Evans (KM4VYA) offered his services as Secretary until Mary Jean was eligible. So we have had the rare, but very welcome situation of having a Secretary and "apprentice" Secretary since the first of the year. Mary Jean is now eligible and is still excited to be Secretary, and we are excited to welcome her to the Board of Directors. Based on the great job Steve Evans did as Secretary, I am sure we can look forward to more support from him in the future.

I am honestly looking forward to FreeFest. This will be here soon - Saturday April 14th. Not only is this a good time to check out and pick up what ever you need and some things you didn't know you needed until you saw it. It is also a great place to meet and visit with fellow hams. It is called FreeFest, because your admission is free, but there are also additional tickets you can purchase for your chance at some very nice door prizes that have been donated and all the proceeds from the additional ticket sales go to support Le Bonheur Children's Hospital !!

73

Steve Frazier
KK4VPT

It's Time to Renew Your 2018 Annual Memberships! Download the latest Delta Club [Membership Application Form](#). The 2018 membership renewal fee remains a very modest \$20 for an individual, with an additional \$5 fee for family membership. Thanks for Your Active Support of Delta Amateur Radio Club!

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Monthly Treasurer's Report

For month ended March 31, 2018

Submitted by Linda Laseter Treasurer

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE	
BEGINNING BALANCE as of March 1, 2018	\$4,058.33

INCOME			
Date			Amount
03/08/18		Membership dues	\$ 65.00
03/29/18		Patch sales	\$ 5.00
03/29/18		Donation	\$ 20.00
03/29/18		Membership dues	\$ 355.00
TOTAL INCOME			\$ 445.00 \$ 445.00

EXPENSES				
Date	Check #	To	Description	Amount
03/13/18	1445	Linda Laseter	Prizes and postage	\$ (35.30)
03/13/18	1446	Scott Adams	Refreshments	\$ (30.90)
03/13/18	1447	MARA	Donation - Free Fest	\$ (200.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES				\$ (266.20) \$ (266.20)

ENDING BALANCE as of March 31, 2018 **\$ 4,237.13**

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT			
	Maturity Date	Balance as of	
Certificate of Deposit #1	10/10/2018	1/31/2018	\$ 10,567.95
Certificate of Deposit #2	10/19/2022	3/29/2018	\$ 10,200.16

TOTAL DARC CASH ASSETS **\$ 25,005.24**

This Month's Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2018 Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2018, submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KN4FBL

Attendees: Steve Frazier, KK4VPT, Bob Van Keuren, KM4SEB, Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX, Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, Bob Vawter, KW4RJ, Scott Adams, KM4PMU, Barry McDonald, W5CJ, Len Grice, W4MKS, Mary Jean Hall, KN4FBL.

Steve Frazier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

After some brief discussion, the board decided to move the start time of the Board of Directors meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Barry McDonald said that he was currently accessing what repeater equipment the club has at its disposal, including who has what items and where they are located.

Joe Lowenthal informed the board that the 146.880 repeater was going over to total Fusion, and he asked if ARES could use the 146.625 as a secondary repeater. The board approved.

Linda Laseter read the Treasurer's Report. She noted that Steve Evans signed up with a life membership since he was moving from the area.

Linda L. said that March for Babies, which is May 5 at Shelby Farms, was in need of volunteers for five locations: Main tent, registration, kid zone and a shadow for two individuals. They are looking for 5-10 volunteers so newer hams can be paired with more-experienced hams.

Steve F. informed the board that Mary Jean Hall was now appointed to the Secretary position since Steve Evans will be moving. Mary Jean told the board that she was excited to get to work with them in serving the club members.

Joe L. reminded the board that Field Day is scheduled for June 23-24, 2018, and Armed Forces Day is scheduled for May 12, 2018. More information about the events will be announced in Sparks.

The next Technician Class is scheduled to start Thursday, June 28, 2018, 6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. More details will come soon about the class.

Joe L. asked the board for feedback on stair-stepping the prices for the Huntsville Bus Trip. Those prices will be \$60/\$70/\$75. Anyone who signs up in August will pay the \$75 price, so early sign-ups are encouraged!

The board approved to make some necessary appointments, which would allow the club to be designated as a Special Services Club. Steve F. also announced that Kevin Zent, K4KLZ, resigned from his role as Director of Programs.

The motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 8:33 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;">Minutes of Last Month's Club Meeting March 13, 2018 Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL</p>
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DARC Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2018
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KN4FBL

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Club President Steve Frazier, KK4VPT, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ. Steve F. addressed some concerns about the "roster purge." He informed everyone that members were not being "deleted," but instead, the forms were being revised to simplify the meeting check-in process. Everyone then introduced themselves by name and call sign.

Secretary's Report

Ham Hilliard, W4GMM, moved to approve the previous meeting's minutes as published in Sparks. Marlin Mogy, KM4DPP, seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by the club.

Treasurer's Report

Ham Hilliard, W4GMM, moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as recorded in Sparks. Dan Wehner, KN4FBJ, seconded the motion. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved by the club.

YL News

Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX, announced that the next YL Luncheon is Sat., March 24, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon will be at Outback Steakhouse in Cordova.

Training

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, informed the club that tonight's VE testing produced two Technician Class Licensee(s). He also congratulated Janet Wehner, KN4FBI, for receiving her Extra Class License. There are currently seven students in the Technician class.

Memphis Free Fest

Dennis Foster, KJ4BDU, announced that the Memphis Free Fest is April 14, 2018, 9 a.m. - 3p.m., at the Bartlett Municipal Building (behind the Bartlett Library). All proceeds will be donated to the LeBonheur Children's Hospital. He encouraged any available volunteers to come help vendors unload on Friday, April 13 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Dennis listed quite a few vendors that are expected to be at the event. Those include MFJ, AMR, Ham World and many more!

A few of the hourly prizes include: 2000 watt generator, iPad, radios, \$200 cash prize, 32” Polaroid TV and more! You do not need to be present to win the hourly prizes. Tickets are 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5 or 30 for \$20.

Over \$33,000 has been donated to LeBohneur over the years!!!

Announcements

Joe Wray, WD4GXI, informed everyone that several copies of QST were available for free.

Len Grice, W4MKS, informed the club that everyone who had paid their membership fees up through last month should have their membership card by now. He also encouraged everyone to proofread their card. If you do not have your membership card yet, be sure to let him know.

Steve Frazier, KK4VPT, reminded everyone to be thinking about the Huntsville Bus Trip on August 15, 2018.

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, informed the club that the next ARES meeting was a Skywarn Training that will be held on March 27, 2018, 7 p.m., at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

Presentation

Bob White, AI4G, delivered a presentation on Smith Charts and “Breaking it down for Little Johnny.” Bob offered tips on how to distinguish between helpful and non-helpful videos and resources online.

Drawings and Closing Remarks

Several members won prizes:

Barri Munday, WB4SWP, \$50 WalMart gift card; Bob Vawter, KW4RJ, 2 Range USA range passes; Dana Stine, WI3B, 2 Range USA range passes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

April HQ 101
Submitted by Ham Hilliard W4GMM

Ham 101 is for new hams, old hams, and hams that want to know more about their hobby. This class is for you and I need to know what you want to learn about, so if you have a subject you are curious about let me know and if there is enough interest I will offer it one month. Email me at w4gmm@bellsouth.net.



At the March Ham 101, Ham Hilliard W4GMM, showed a variety of battery types for ham radio operations, discussed charging and care.

The April meeting subject is going to be, "**Methods to get antenna support in trees**". It is going to be a show and tell type of discussion. The meeting starts ~ 6:00 P.M.

Ham Hilliard W4GMM

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2018

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.

If you want to take a class, send an email to Joe at wa4ovo@gmail.com with the class name; ie, Tech Class, General Class, or Extra Class, on the Subject line and name, callsign if you have one, email address, and cellphone number in the text.

Licenses Earned in 2018 from Delta Classes

23 Technician

3 General

7 Extra

Note:

As of September 3, 2015 there is no longer any charge for Vanity callsigns.

The current Technician ARRL Ham Radio License Manual Third Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2014 for four years. This question pool expires June 30, 2018

The current ARRL General Class License Manual is the Eighth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2015 for four years.

The current ARRL Extra Class License Manual is the Eleventh Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2016 for four years.

The next Technician class will probably start June 28th with the new question pool.

The next General class will probably start in early November.

The next Extra class will probably start in early January 2019

CLASSES in PROGRESS

Tech Class 2-18 February 24 – April 7, 2018

Tech Class 2-18 was held from February 24th to April 7th except March 10th and 17th on five Saturdays from 9am to 1pm or 9am to 4pm at EMHC ambulance company training room on Appling Farms Pkwy. There were nine students in the class with five finishing testing.

Congratulations to Carrie Blackwell KN4LCU, Phillip Green KN4LCT, Jim Hambrick KN4LCS, David Robertson KN4LCW and John Volmer KN4LCV for earning their Technician licenses. Additional congratulations to Phillip KN4LCT and John KN4LCV for advancing to the General Class license.



Tech Class 2-18 taking their exam:(from left to right) David Robertson, John Volmer, Phillip Green, Jim Hambrick, and Carrie Blackwell
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO



The WCARS VE team: (left to right) Gary W5EMA, David KV4QI, Len W4MRS, Perry N4PSH, Denise KM4IRR, Bob KW4RJ and (not pictured) Joe WA4OVO
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The instructors were Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Pat Lane W4OQG, David Webb KV4QI, Len Grice W4MKS, Perry Hayes N4PSH, and John Reiners KN4BVH. The equipment demonstrators on April 7th were: Joe WA4OVO on repeater basics, Rick Tillman WA4NVM on satellites, Pat Lane W4OQG on HF/MARS/Winlink, John Reiners on ARES and Rick Pellicciotti on APRS. Michael Knight KK4IOH gave an Echolink, D-STAR, and DMR digital presentation on March 24th.



Tech Class 2-18 with Barry W5CJ instructing
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Extra Class 1-18 January 13 – February 24, 2018

Extra Class 1-18 was held on 5 Saturdays and one Sunday from January 13th to February 24th from 9am to 1pm on four Saturdays, 1-5pm on Sunday January 28th, and at 2:30 on Saturday February at EMHC ambulance company training room, 4th for FCC testing. All classes were at EMHC ambulance company, 6972 Appling Farms Pkwy. There were 10 students taking the class with two recent Extras auditing the class.

The students were Dan KN4FBJ, Janet KN4FBI, Billy K4IOA, Jim KN4GJF, David KM4SEC, Todd W4RTV, Ed K7EDT, Mac KJ4EHE, Carlos KK 4CRO, and Robert KN4FVT. The auditing Extras were Nathan KX4IA and Rick WB9TCB.



Extra Class 1-18 FCC test session Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Congratulations to Carlos KX4IS (previously KK4CRO) and Todd W4RTV for their Extra upgrade at the February 13th Delta Club test session. Congratulations to Robert Horn KN4FVT, David Jackson KM4SEC, Ed Taggard K7EDT, Mac Tidwell KJ4EHE, and Dan Wehner KN4FBJ for their upgrade to Extra.

Thanks to the Delta Club ARRL team for providing the FCC test session. The VEs were Jeff AJ4GY, Stacy KJ4MDA, Perry N4PSH, Barry W5CJ, Tom KK4ZZZ, Bob KW4RJ, David KV4QI and Joe WA4OVO

The instructors were Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Paul Roberts KA9VAU, Dean Honadle N2LAZ, Barry McDonald W5CJ, David Webb KV4QI, and Pat Lane W4OQG.



Dean N2LAZ instructing on Electrical Principles for Extra Class 1-18
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO



Barry W5CJ providing propagation instruction to Extra Class 1-18
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Tech Review for CBU January 29, 2018

A Tech Review class was held on January 29th for 18 Christian Brothers University students in the initial Engineering Department upper division elective course, Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Systems. All 18 students earned their Technician license while one also earned her General Class license. The students were either Electrical or Mechanical Engineering majors. Eric Welch WD5FTA is the professor. He is Department Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering.



Tech Review Class at CBU Photo by Len Grice W4MKS

Thanks to the Laurel VEC team led by Tim Jones N5PYQ for providing the VE session.



Laurel VE Team (left-right) Rick KF5WVJ, Joe WT4N, standing left Tim N5PYQ, Jim KE5RHM, Weldon N5YW and not pictured is Ed KF8PD. Joe WA4OVO, standing right, is helping with the registration paperwork.

Photo by Len Grice W4MKS

YL News
Submitted by Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX

YL NET – Please join us each Saturday night at 8:45 p.m. on the 146.820 repeater for the YL Net. We enjoy hearing from you.

March was a great month for the YL Net. The YLs set a new record when 10 YLs checked in on March 25th. Good job Stacy KJ4MDA on setting the new record. We hope this trend continues. We appreciate everyone who checked in and we especially appreciate the OMs who checked in to support our Net.

Welcome to the YL Net **Jennifer N4JSE** We are glad you joined us and hope you will continue to check in with us each Saturday night.

There are a lot more YLs out there and we would love to hear from you. Set your alarm for 8:45 p.m. Saturday night and join us on the net. It only takes 10 to 15 minutes of your time and it is great practice using your radio.

YL LUNCHEON – We had a good turnout for our March luncheon at Outback. We especially enjoyed the fellowship. Not quite sure what was going on with Outback but some of the YLs had to send their food back because it was overcooked. I love the bread at Outback and could eat a loaf myself but two loaves for nine people is not right.

Unfortunately for Outback we will not be returning as a group. The hostess had to obtain permission from the manager to set up a table for 8 and would not sit us until all 8 were there. I could understand this if the restaurant was crowded, but there were numerous tables available. And when the 9th person arrived to join our group the server was overwhelmed and did not know what to do. YLs to the rescue....we moved the tables a little and pulled up another table. Problem solved! Guess they can handle two to four people at a time or maybe six but eight is just too much for them.

APRIL's PROGRAM LUNCHEON WILL BE:

April 28, 2018

11:30 a.m.

Saturday

Ellendale Church of Christ (the regular DARC meeting location)

7365 US-70

Memphis, TN 38133

Ervin KU4K will be presenting our program for April which will be how to handle a ham gram/radio message. And of course the OMs will be available to answer any other questions you might have regarding your radios, antennas, etc.

Suzy KM4FHS will be making delicious jambalaya for our main course and we will also be serving salad, dessert, and tea. To help us build our YL fund and continue to offer the luncheons monetary donations in whatever amount you would like to give are appreciated.

FreeFest – April 14, 9 am to 3 pm

Please drop by the YL table at FreeFest on April 14, 2018. We will have a table with information about our group and we also plan to have a silent auction with lots of goodies We will be donating 50% of our proceeds to Le Bonheur. Hope to see you there.

YL recent luncheon



L to R: Linda KJ4CTX, Gale KI4VDI, Doris, KJ4THA, Betsy KD4KOM, Jackie KG5DMW, Janice KX4BB, Ann WB4FAA, Kate KJ4KUL, Mary Jean KN4FBL

Amateur Hardware Update
Article and image submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

One of the most useful items we can have around is the alligator clip. These can be used to clamp items to hold them in place. By hooking up wire to them we can make jumpers for antenna connections, radio hookups, and battery hookups. These can prove to be very useful in an emergency. Alligator clips come in a variety of styles and sizes. We can buy a whole box of assorted size alligator clips on EBay for a great price. These include a case and different clips for under 10 dollars. If you need this for your emergency box, check these out. Go to EBay and do a search for “alligator clips”.

James Butler
KB4LJV



Amateur Packet Update
Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

Amateur radio operation means we have to have an antenna to hook to our rigs for communication. Many times we just buy commercial built antennas. One other option is to build up your antennas. The ARRL store has a great book to help in building your own antennas. The book is called “**Practical Antenna Handbook**”. This book with over 700 pages covers many types of antennas. It explains the theory of operation as well as how to build up your own. The book covers dipoles, quads, verticals, and yagis, along with other types. The book also covers mobile and portable antenna. Other topics also include VHF, UHF, and microwave antennas. If you are looking for the ultimate reference for antennas check the book out, The web address fo the book is <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Practical-Antenna-Handbook-McGraw-Hill/>

James Butler
KB4LJV

**Amateur POTA and SOTA contacts:
Tomas Ferrer Porrata K4VOZ**

Dan Lasley NE7JN recently told me about this young man who is doing Parks On The Air (POTA) and Summits On The Air (SOTA) contacts, so I contacted Tommy and following is a brief description of some of this activities. Tommy lives in Bartlett, TN, and is a member of Delta club. Submitted by Bob Vawter KW4RJ

POTA Big Hill Pond KFF-2930 activation:



POTA (WWFF) Meeman Shelby Forest park KFF-2957 activation (January 2017). All QSOs were in CW 30m and 40m. Parks On The Air was fun. Great to be outdoors and do some radio at the same time:



KX3 radio, Norcal Doublet antenna, Paddlette PK-1 Key, End Fed 28' in the table, KX1 is in the Pelican box as backup

I go by Tommy but Tom in CW. I like HF DX hunting and contesting using SSB, digital modes especially RTTY and CW. I also do some CW as well (very active now). Please feel free to e-mail me and extend the QSO.

ferrerc@yaho.com

Ex KP4TOM, WP4MYD Saludos! 73' de Tommy K4VOZ

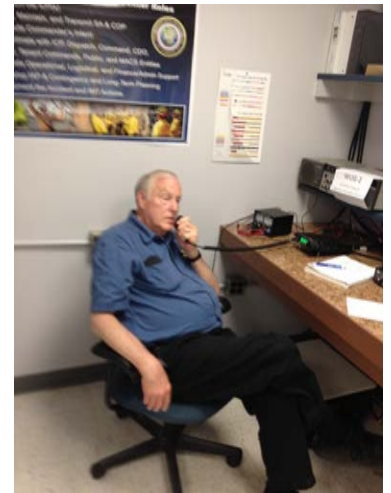
2018 ARMED FORCES DAY COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

May 12th will be this year's 2018 Armed Forces Day Communications Exercise, frequently called the MARS crossband exercise. The US Army Corps of Engineers will activate WUG-2 on that Saturday from 8am to 8pm. The location in Shelby County is to be determined. Hams are invited to help log and operate. This is a great opportunity for new hams to learn how to operate on HF frequencies to get ready for Field Day. Experienced hams will be there to oversee the new hams operating. For more information on the operation, contact Pat Lane W4OQG at 301-9738.

Pictures from last year's Armed Forces Day Communications Exercise:



Ham W4GMM on the 20 Meter Station
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO



Pat Lane W4OQG on the 60 meter
station
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST BUS TRIP - AUGUST 18, 2018
Submitted by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

DARC is sponsoring a 50-passenger bus trip to go to the Huntsville HamFest on Saturday, August 18, 2018. The fare is \$60 if paid by May 31, \$65 by June 30th, \$70 by July 31st, and \$75 in August. The fare includes the \$10 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. There are no refunds, but you can sell your seat to someone else if you can not go. Let me know.

Cash or checks will be accepted for payment. Make checks payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club. You can pay at a meeting. You can also send your check to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, 6675 Ashbridge Cove, Memphis, TN 38120. Please include your name, callsign, cell phone number, email address and whether you want bacon, ham or plain biscuits.

Reservations will be on a first come first paid basis.

The bus will leave Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Avenue at Johnson Road, Germantown, TN at 6:30am. The bus will leave Huntsville immediately after the 4pm door prize drawing and return to Germantown Baptist Church approximately 7:30pm.

Germantown Baptist Church has asked us to park in the back on the northeast side of the church so there will be security cameras on the cars.

The Huntsville Hamfest website is www.hamfest.org.

FCC VIP at FedEx **By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO**

On April 4th Ajit Pai, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, was in Memphis and toured the FedEx Super Hub at Memphis International Airport. One of his tour guides was FedEx Senior Public Relations Specialist Rick Armstrong KN4IKP. Rick said he told Chairman Pai that he was a ham and they had a nice conversation while Walter and Rick led the tour of the FedEx Express hub.



Rick Armstrong KN4IKP and FCC Chairman Ajit Pai
Photo by Walter Kirkemide

**DARC April program notes:
Glen Popiel, KW5GP**

Arduino – The Next Generation

Since its introduction in 2005, the Arduino has come a long way and now includes many new variants and interface options useful in home and amateur radio applications. Join Glen Popiel, KW5GP, author of ARRL's "Arduino for Ham Radio" and "High Speed Multimedia for Amateur Radio" as he introduces and discusses new Arduinos and Arduino variants along with projects from his upcoming ARRL book, "More Arduino for Ham Radio". This new book includes 15 all new Arduino projects that introduces the newer, more powerful, inexpensive, and easy-to-use members of the Arduino family and how you can create your own feature-rich Arduino-based projects for your home and ham shack

Glen Popiel, KW5GP is the author of ARRL's "**Arduino for Ham Radio**", which contains 19 Arduino-based Ham Radio projects, High Speed Multimedia for Amateur Radio, and "More Arduino for Ham Radio, which contains an additional 15 Arduino-based Ham Radio Projects. He is a Volunteer Examiner, member of QRP-ARCI, and the Olive Branch Amateur Radio Club. By day, he is a Network Engineer and Technology Consultant for Ciber, Inc. and the Mississippi Department of Education, specializing in Open Source solutions, and has worked in the computer and electronics field for over 40 years.

ARES SKYWARN PROGRAM

On Tuesday, March 27th, Shelby County ARES hosted the National Weather Service Skywarn basic Storm Spotter Training class for Shelby County at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. One hundred fifteen attended the program presented by Gary Woodall KD5WUT, the Warnings and Preparedness meteorologist at the NWS Memphis office. Gary said that this class was the largest that he has presented to in the 57 county warning area. A number of attendees signed up for Tech class information.



Gary Woodall KD5WUT giving the Storm Spotter Training Class Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

If you are interested in joining Shelby County ARES, complete an application at www.tnares.com. Click (do not pull down) on INFORMATION on the top right of the page. Then, go to TN ARES Membership and Appointment Application Forms and then click on ARES Membership Application: FSD-98. Complete the form and click on Submit at the bottom. You should get an acknowledgement soon after submitting.

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, neither 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

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! Go to <https://www.facebook.com/darcmem>.

2018 Board of Directors		
President Steve Frazier, KK4VPT 901-218-6385	Vice President Bob Van Keuren KM4SEB 901-853-0303	Secretary Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL 901-356-1475
Treasurer Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX 901-268-1766	Director of Training Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO 901-628-4318	Director of Publications Bob Vawter, KW4RJ 901-438-4563
Director of Programs Want to volunteer? Call Steve Frazier!	Director of Meetings & Special Events Scott Adams, KM4PMU 901-573-6280	Repeater Trustee Barry McDonald 901-853-0510
Public Information Officer Len Grice, W4MKS 901-522-6711	Immediate Past President Ken Laseter, KI4AOH 901-487-9103	
Board members beginning their positions in 2018 are listed in <i>italics</i> .		

Public Service Events

If you are a coordinator for any of these events, please review the listed information. Please [email](#) corrections or additions.

2018 Date	Event	Contact Information
Jan. 14	Swamp Stompers 50K/25K Run	Keith Barton, KT4EP
May 5	March of Dimes March for Babies	Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX
Sep. 8	2018 Bike MS: FedEx Rock-N-Roll	Darrell Sheffield, KK4D
Oct. 6	Bluff City Blues 100 Ride	tbd
Dec. 1	St. Jude Marathon	Roger Schlichter, WR4R

Area HamFests

January 26-27	Capitol City Hamfest in Jackson, MS
February 9-11	HamCation 2018 in Orlando, FL
February 17	LCARC's 2018 Winterfest in Hoxie, AR
March 2-3	BirmingHAMfest 2018 in Birmingham, AL
March 24	Ides of March HamFest in Union City, TN
April 14	Memphis FreeFest in Bartlett, TN
May 18-20	Hamvention in Xenia, OH
July 28	Greater Nashville & Middle TN HamFest in Lebanon, TN
August 18-19	Huntsville HamFest in Huntsville, AL

Tennessee Ham Radio License Plate

Submitted by Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO

The link below is for information and instructions about Tennessee ham radio call sign Emergency/Safety automobile license plates:

<https://www.tn.gov/revenue/title-and-registration/license-plates/available-license-plates/emergency-safety.html>

The application can be found at this link:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/revenue/documents/forms/titlereg/f1312601Fill-in.pdf>

As of July 1st, 2017, you must send a copy of or show an ARES membership card to keep from paying the \$25 surcharge for new plates or renewals. If you send a renewal in by mail with the lesser amount and do not include a copy of your ARES membership card, they will return your renewal and check due to insufficient funds.

If you want to become an ARES member, complete an ARES Registration Form FD-98 on the TNARES.com website. The click on Information in the upper right. Scroll down and click on ARES Membership Application: [FSD-98](#).

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSekaoB6a2YrGNKoSvCq1M7UST9aE_RwnewMuT-DfgYmWJ_QRg/viewform

If you are not an ARES member and you do not want to pay the \$25 surcharge for renewal, you can get a regular plate for no additional charge. You will need a copy of your previous registration or there is an additional \$3 charge.

If a spouse is also a ham, only one of the couple needs to be an ARES member if the auto is registered in both names. If registered in the spouse's name, the spouse must have an ARES membership card.

The following link from the Tennessee Department of Revenue <https://www.tn.gov/revenue/article/emergency-safety> has the Amateur Radio auto tag information and listed below:

Amateur Radio

Available to: Tennessee residents who hold an official FCC-issued amateur radio license (unrevoked and unexpired).

Documentation Required: Application supported with copy of the FCC Amateur Radio license.

Cost: Annual fee of \$51.50; Members of emergency, rescue squad and Amateur Radio Emergency Service - \$26.50.

Memphis Area VHF/UHF Nets

Updated January, 2018

Name of Net	Freq. MHz	Offset/Tone	Local Time	Day of Week
Delta Club Information Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:00p	Daily
YL Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:45p	Sat
Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog Net		146.535	[simplex]	7:30p Daily
Secret Service Net	224.780	[no tone]	8:30p	Mon
Elmer Net	145.210	- (107.2)	9:00p	Sun
MedMERS Net	146.820	- (107.2)	12:00p	Wed
ARES Training Net	146.850	- (107.2)	9:00p	Thu
Super Sunday Niner Net	927.6125	- (146.2)	8:30p	Sun

Delta Club sponsored Nets are shown in red.

TENNESSEE HF NETS

As of January 2018

All times are Central Time

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 Alternate Phone Net	7.238		As needed
CUSEC	3.810		As needed
CUSEC	7.180		As needed

(Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)

3980 kHz – Tennessee Phone Net

Mon-Fri - 5:40 AM, 6:45 AM & 6:30 PM

Saturday - 8:00 AM & 6:30 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM only

Holidays - 8:00 AM only

DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS



MID-SOUTH AMATEUR RADIO SUPPLY (MSARS)

6631 Vallendar Cv., Bartlett, Tennessee 38135

tel: 901-371-9700 • fax: 901-266-3374 • web: www.msars.com

CURRENTLY STOCKING

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HF	Window Mount	BNC	450 & 300 Ohm
Wire	Swivel Ball	RCA	Rotor Cable

LDG Electronics	Accessories	Miscellaneous
Automatic Antenna Tuners	RF Chokes	Gordon West Books
Remote Tuners	Power Poles	Coax Seal
Brand Specific Antenna Tuners	Antenna Switches	Fuse Holders
Baluns	SWR/Power Meters	Remote Tuner Boxes
Ununs	Mic Holders	Dog Bone Insulators

**Owners/
Operators**

Steve
W5VAA

Rosalinda
WN2V

Ham
W4GMM

Mid-South Amateur Radio Supply, (MSARS.COM) is owned and operated by local hams who are dedicated to promoting the hobby and providing help to anyone interested in ham radio. We actively support the local amateur radio clubs and are ARRL members.

MSARS offers free antenna building classes each year and help many new hams with guidance on their first radio, setting up a ham shack, programming a radio and much more. We are proud to be a part of the ham radio community and are *here to help you*.

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)



Joe Miller
Owner

Chick-fil-A Paragon Place
6282 Poplar Avenue
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Joe.Miller@cfafranchisee.com
chick-fil-a.com

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

This space is available!

We offer our continued thanks to EMHC ambulance company for generously providing their training room for the many ham radio classes given there.

Advertisement forms can be downloaded from our website – <http://w4bs.org/aboutUs.html>