

# SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 \* Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 \* Volume 28 \* May 2018



**Welcome to the  
Delta Amateur Radio Club**

**Website: [deltaclub.org](http://deltaclub.org)**

Contact via [Email](mailto:)

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 <sup>-107.2</sup>	
144.390 Digipeater	*Fusion

**This month's meeting** begins at 7pm on May 8, 2018, at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 (Stage Road)).

Our program will be presented by **Eric Welch on Ham Radio and Unmanned Aerial Systems** (See biography later in the 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 April 2018 test session:

**JJ Vander Aa KN4IUZ passed Extra, Brian Harris KN4KTY passed General, Nicholas J Drane passed Tech.**

2018 Armed Forces Day Crossband test on May 12! (See details later in the newsletter).

## **President's Corner**

Submitted by Steve Frazier, KK4VPT

In spite of a rainy day, FreeFest was another success this year. It was good to see everyone there and I did find a few things that I felt needed a good home. Thank you to everyone who helped with the setup and take down. I hope everyone enjoyed the good food that was available thanks to all who helped in the kitchen and on the grill out in the rain.

I was glad to a large number of Delta Club members wearing their Delta Club shirts. That reminded me that we ordered the shirts for Field Day last year. I mentioned this to Len Grice W4MKS and he is saying we should be able to place another order for shirts this month and have them back for Field Day. Stay tuned for more details.

We still have an opening on the board for Director of Programs. If you are interested in helping with this important role, please contact me or another member of the board.

Speaking from experience, now that the weather is getting nice and you may be doing yard work around coax cables under leaves and mixed in with weeds and saplings that you may be cutting - be careful. And Ham, if you are needing ideas for Ham 101; I know of at least one member interested in a class on how to replace PL259 connectors.

73  
Steve  
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 April 30, 2018**

Submitted by Linda Laseter Treasurer

**CHECKING ACCOUNT**

BEGINNING BALANCE		
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	as of April 1, 2018	<b>\$4,237.13</b>

INCOME				
Date		Amount		
04/10/18	Membership dues	\$ 120.00		
04/10/18	Donation	\$ 5.00		
04/16/18	Huntsville Trip	\$ 180.00		
04/17/18	Huntsville Trip	\$ 120.00		
04/18/18	Huntsville Trip	\$ 60.00		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$ 485.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>485.00</b>

EXPENSES				
Date	Check #	To	Description	Amount
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>				<b>\$ - \$ -</b>

**ENDING BALANCE** as of April 30, 2018 **\$ 4,722.13**

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT			
	Maturity Date	Balance as of	
Certificate of Deposit #1	10/10/2018	4/29/2018	\$ 10,600.31
Certificate of Deposit #2	10/19/2022	3/29/2018	\$ 10,200.16

**TOTAL DARC CASH ASSETS** **\$ 25,522.60**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>This Month's Board Meeting Minutes</b> May 1, 2018 Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL</p>
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**DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

May 1, 2018, submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KN4FBL

*Attendees: Steve Frazier, KK4VPT, Bob Van Keuren, KM4SEB, Mary Jean Hall, KN4FBL, Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX, Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, Bob Vawter, KW4RJ, Scott Adams, KM4PMU, and Barry McDonald, W5CJ. Guests present: Gale Tisdale, KI4VDI, and Betsy Freeman, KD4KDM. Absent: Len Grice, W4MKS*

Steve Frazier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Linda L. read the Treasurer's Report. She noted that there were no expenses for last month, only income from dues and Huntsville trip fees.

Linda L. informed the board that March for Dimes was this Saturday, May 5, at Shelby Farms. She said that the event would be held rain or shine and that enough hams had volunteered to help.

Steve F. informed the board of the progress made selling consignment items at FreeFest.

YL Logo: Following up to a board member's concerns about the similarities between the YL logo and the DARC logo, as well as actions by a member, the board pursued discussion regarding both. During the discussion, Linda L. informed the board that a member had been publicly expressing disdain about the YL logo in comparison to the DARC logo. After some discussion, the board decided that the main issue was whether or not the DARC Board of Directors supported the YLs' and use of their logo.

Bob Vawter moved to accept the YL logo, and a second was made by Bob Van Keuren.

After additional discussion, the motion to accept the YL logo passed with a vote of seven in favor and one against.

It was also noted that the board needs to review having the Delta Club logo registered and or trademarked.

Bob V.K. updated the board on the status of Field Day and the stations for Field Day.

Barry M. announced that he had both spare repeaters in his possession, and he discussed the possibility of setting a repeater up with AllStar.

Joe L. informed the board that he negotiated the cost of the charter bus for Huntsville down to \$1,751. The bus will depart from Germantown. He also discussed the change in tiered pricing: those waiting to sign up in June would pay \$65 instead of \$60. In hopes of encouraging potential new hams to attend, anyone taking the Technician Class over the summer could sign up for just \$60.

Steve F. informed the board that a t-shirt order would be organized soon, and the club could try to get the new shirts in by Field Day.

The motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 7:55 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5 at 6:30 p.m.

## **Minutes of Last Month's Club Meeting**

April 10, 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. 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. Ned Savage, KA4BLL, 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.

### **Announcements**

DARC will be assisting with March for Babies on May 5 at Shelby Farms and volunteers are needed. Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX, said to sign up or let her know if anyone is interested in volunteering.

### **Training**

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, informed the club that tonight's VE testing produced three new class licensee(s), with one in each class: technician, general and extra. All five individuals in the Technician Class passed the Technician Exam, and two went on to pass the General Exam.

### **Huntsville Bus Trip**

The Huntsville Free Fest is August 18, 2018. The chartered bus will leave from Germantown Baptist Church at 6:30 a.m. and should arrive in Huntsville by 9:30-9:45 a.m. the bus should arrive back in Germantown by 7:30 p.m. The price of the bus trip depends on the time of signup, and includes the \$10 admission fee, 2 breakfast biscuits, the bus ride, and drinks and snacks for the bus trip:

April and May - \$60

June - \$65

July - \$70

August - \$75

### **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!

**Announcements**

Pat Lane, W4OQG, announced that Armed Forces Day is scheduled for May 12, 2018. The call sign is WUG2 and will operate from Millington, TN. Everyone is invited!

David Campbell, kd4noq, reminded the club that he is uploading program videos to the DARC Facebook page.

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.

**Presentation**

Glen Popiel, KW5GP, author of ARRL's Arduino for Ham Radio, spoke to the club about the vast uses for Arduino in Amateur Radio.

**Drawings and Closing Remarks**

Several members won prizes:

Robert Horn, AI4DQ, 3 passes to Chick-fil-A; Ned Savage, KA4BLL, 3 passes to Range USA

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

## **HQ 101**

Submitted by Ham Hilliard W4GMM

**HQ 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](mailto:w4gmm@bellsouth.net).

**HQ 101** meets at 6:00 pm upstairs at the Ellendale Church of Christ

This month we will discuss Field Day do's and don't's, what to bring if you are just going to operate and what to bring if you are going to operate a station, generator safety, and antenna erection safety and grounding..

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](mailto: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 2017-2018 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 start June 28<sup>th</sup> for six Thursday nights from 6:15-9:30pm with the new question pool effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. The location is to be determined. If you know anyone interested, send an email to [wa4ovo@gmail.com](mailto:wa4ovo@gmail.com) with Subject Line: Tech Class and name, email address and cellphone number in the text.

The next General class will probably start in early November in the evenings.

The next Extra class will probably start in early January 2019 on Saturday mornings.



## CLASSES in PROGRESS

None

### CLASSES SCHEDULED:

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

Tech Class 2-18 was held from February 24<sup>th</sup> to April 7<sup>th</sup> except March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 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.



Rick WA4NVM at doorway on Tech Class 2-18 satellite contact to keep out of the downpour. Richard K4DX holding the Elk antenna. Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO



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, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>.



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 13<sup>th</sup> to February 24<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 1pm on four Saturdays, 1-5pm on Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup>, and at 2:30 on Saturday February at EMHC ambulance company training room, 4<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 VEC 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.

We had two new YLs join us on the YL Net this month. We enjoyed hearing from you and we hope you will continue to check in with us each Saturday night. Welcome Gabby KN4IID and Carrie KN4LCU.

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** — April was a busy month for the YLs. Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> we had a lovely baby shower for Jackie KG5KMW. Everyone enjoyed buying all the cute little outfits for her twin girls she is expecting very soon now. We played a few games and it is amazing how well some people can draw on paper atop their heads!

Then April 14<sup>th</sup> the YLs had a table at Free Fest. We had a beautiful table set up and held a silent auction that consisted of a beautiful spring wreath, a spring swag, a white crocheted baby afghan, a crocheted lap blanket, a purse and several other crafty items to raise money for Le Bonheur. We all had a good time and enjoyed seeing everyone that dropped by our table to participate in the auction or to just talk. Thank you to everyone that made a purchase and to all who worked hard to make our table successful.

Last but not least, we gathered on the 28<sup>th</sup> for our monthly YL luncheon. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch of jambalaya, salad, and cake. Thank you Suzy KM4FHS for making the delicious jambalaya and thank you to all who worked to make our luncheon a success and to Ervin KU4K for presenting the program on ham grams/passing messages by amateur radio. It must have been Suzy's day because she also won the door prize; a nice metal welcome sign/planter to hang outside and plant a little something in the cute little wagon attached to the sign.

YLs, this is your chance to make new friends, share ideas, ask questions, and learn something new. Not to mention all the fun and food you are missing. YLs out there and we would love to hear from you.

**MAY'S LUNCHEON WILL BE:**

**May 26, 2018**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Saturday**

**Corky's 1740 N. Germantown Parkway**

**Memphis, TN 38133**

## YL activities:



4-8-18 Baby Shower picture from left to right cut off Doris KJ4THA, Ann WB4FAA, Betsy KD4KOM, Jackie KG5DMW, Jackie's spouse Russ, Janice KX4BB, Barri WB4SWP, not pictured Gale KI4VDI, Kate KJ4KUL and taking the picture Linda KJ4CTX.



4-28-18 Luncheon photo first table left to right Ervin KU4K, Audrey KM4FHU, Suzy KM4FHS, Ken KI4AOH. 2<sup>nd</sup> table left to right Danny KJ4FXZ, Doris KJ4THA, Gale KI4VDI. Standing in the back Janice KX4BB and Betsy KD4KOM. 3<sup>rd</sup> table in the back right – left to right Barri WB4SWP, Pat W4OQG, Ann WB4FAA, Jim WI4I. Taking the picture Linda KJ4CTX.



4-28-18 Ervin – Ervin KU4K



## Amateur Hardware Update

Article and image submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

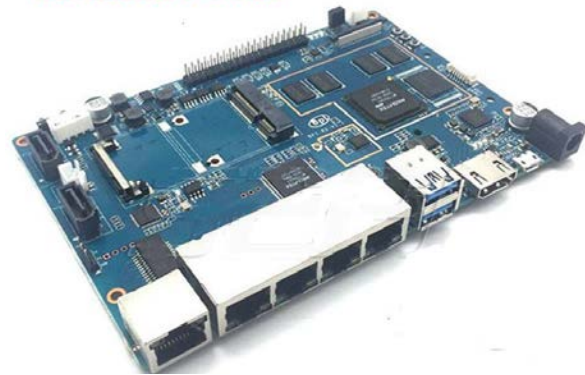
More and more amateur radio projects use small microcomputers. One of the most common is the Raspberry Pi. These come as boards with different ram, speeds and features. These have always been about \$30 to \$50 dollars.

The Chinese companies now are making a clone computer with the same features. The I/O is pin for pin compatible with the Raspberry Pi and the prices are a lot cheaper. The Chinese companies have named their computers the “Orange Pi” or the “Banana Pi”. These

  
Orange Pi One



**Banana Pi R2**



computers like the Raspberry Pi have USB inputs ports as well as an HDMI video output port. These open source computers run various Linux operating systems just like the Raspberry Pi. If you like the Raspberry Pi check out these small computers. On Ebay do a search for “Orange Pi” or “Banana Pi” to see what they have.

James Butler

KB4LJV

**Amateur Packet Update**  
Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

Many times when we build up projects we use a microprocessor. One micro board we can use is the Arduino. These come in different size boards with varying inputs, outputs, and analog ports. The ARRL sells a great starter book for the Arduino called “Arduino for Dummies”. This book will get you started by helping you install programming software on your Arduino computer. It also explains the differences in the boards, and will give you programming examples to try. The book also shows how to hook up hardware to the computer such as LEDs, motors, and servos. The book even has a section on tools needed and how to solder. This is a great book to explore how the Arduino works. Go to the ARRL bookstore for more information. The web address is <https://www.arrl.org/shop/Arduino-for-Dummies-Wiley>

James Butler

KB4LJV

**DARC May program notes:  
Dr. Eric Welch**

## **Ham Radio and Unmanned Aerial Systems**

Eric Welch received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Mississippi State University in Electrical Engineering. He is a professor and Department Chair for Electrical and Computer Engineering at Christian Brothers University. He previously served as Dean of Engineering for CBU from 2005-2014. Dr. Welch was first licensed in 1974 and has held an Advanced Class amateur radio license for over thirty years. He is an active general aviation pilot who holds FAA commercial pilot and flight instructor licenses for single engine aircraft and gliders. Dr. Welch also holds an FAA Part 107 remote pilot license for unmanned aerial systems.

# FreeFest April 14, 2018

I had to be out of town during FreeFest, but I am hearing that it was well attended in spite of the rain. I am also told that donations for LeBonheur Children's Hospital was over \$4300! Following are pictures from Len Grice and Marshall Robilio:



ARRL



Richard K4DXF



Dennis KJ4BDU and Keith N9DGK



Joe is checking the weather!



ARRL - TN section mgr. Keith N9DGK



Our YL group had it together!



YLs Ann WB4FAA, Doris KJ4THA, Gale KI4VDI, Betsy KD4KOM and Linda KJ4CTXZ



Randy WB4LHD and Danny KJ4FXZ



Joe WA4OVO and Len W4KMS



Barry W5CJ



Carl K4GPZ



ARRL David Norris K5LIZ



Harrell Davidson WD4LAR & Barry W5CJ  
Harrell calls the TN phone net on 3980 Tuesdays



Rick WA4NVM and Russ WD4JHD planning their next move!

**Main Prize winners at FreeFest 2018:**

Invicta Watch from D.Foster..... Mike Vaughan KG5FUE  
Yaesu FTM-3200 Radio from R &M Tillman.....Robert White AL4GI  
\$200 Cash from Delta Club.....Fannie WilkinsonWB4ICU  
32” Poaroid TV Friends of MARA.....Ned Savage KA4BLL  
Yaesu FT-2980 VHF 75 W Radio from Bullfrog.....Billy Freeman WL4B  
4230 MFJ Switching PS from MFJ.....Dwayne Love N5XUL  
MFJ 259C SWR Analyzer from JMR.....Dwayne Love N5XUL  
Apple iPad Pro 64 meg from Turner Construction.....Jean Parish KD4FIP  
Kenwood TM-710GA from F & F Construction.....Dwayne Love N5XUL  
2000Watt Predator Gen. from F & F Construction.....Rick Tillman WA4NVM

**Armed Forces Day**  
Saturday, May 12, 2018

**2018 ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST**  
**by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO**

Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> will be this year's 2018 Armed Forces Day Crossband Test. There are 18 military stations participating. The transmit frequencies for the 18 stations can be found at <http://www.usarmymars.org/events/armed-forces-day> in a PDF document. Two of these stations are in the Memphis area. Pat Lane W4OQG will coordinate the US Army Corps of Engineers station WUG-2 from 8am to 8pm. The location will be at the WKNO transmitter, 7192 Raleigh LaGrange Rd, north of Shelby Farms.

The second military station will be coordinated by Ham Hilliard W4GMM with Air Force MARS call sign AFM4AF. They will operate from 7am-8pm from the north side of Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington in Building N-100, adjacent to the golf course. (Directions: From Navy Rd turn north on Singleton Ave; turn right on ATTU; continue past the golf course clubhouse on ATTU Ext; turn right on Neptune Pl; turn right on Corsair Dr to dead end; continue on gravel drive. W4ODR shack is on right.)

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 at 301-9738, or Ham Hilliard at 351-3459.

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

August 18, 2018

### **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 30<sup>th</sup>, \$70 by July 31<sup>st</sup>, 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](http://www.hamfest.org).



**ARES**  
**Amateur Rescue Emergency Service**

If you are interested in joining Shelby County ARES, complete an application at [www.tnares.com](http://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

**Treasurer**

[Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX](#)

901-268-1766

**Director of Programs**

Want to volunteer? Call  
Steve Frazier!

**Public Information Officer**

[Len Grice, W4MKS](#)

901-522-6711

**Vice President**

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901-853-0510

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

## Area HamFests

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

## 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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](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
<b>Delta Club Information Net</b>	<b>146.820</b>	<b>- (107.2)</b>	<b>8:00p</b>	<b>Daily</b>
<b>YL Net</b>	<b>146.820</b>	<b>- (107.2)</b>	<b>8:45p</b>	<b>Sat</b>
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](http://www.msars.com)

### CURRENTLY STOCKING

CURRENTLY STOCKING			
Antennas	Antenna Mounts	Connectors	Coax & Cable
HT	Magnet	UHF	RG-213
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Base Station	Roof Mount	SMA	RG-58
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
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Brand Specific Antenna Tuners	Antenna Switches	Fuse Holders
Baluns	SWR/Power Meters	Remote Tuner Boxes
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**Owners/  
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**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  
At Poplar and Massey  
Memphis, TN 38119  
W - 901.766.1875  
C - 901.230.3043  
[Joe.Miller@cfafranchisee.com](mailto:Joe.Miller@cfafranchisee.com)  
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*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>**