

# SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 \* Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 \* Volume 42 \* July 2019



**Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)**

**Sparks Newsletter**

Website: <http://deltaclub.org>

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

**W4BS**

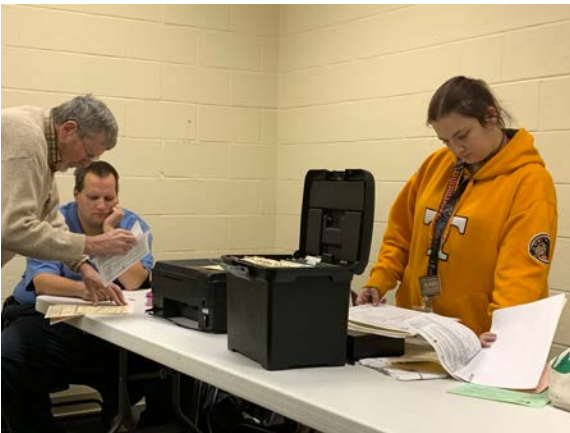
**REPEATER SYSTEM**

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 7 pm on July 9, 2019, at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 (Stage Road)).

*Program:* **Review and video of field day activities.**

**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 2019 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 at [AJ4GY@comcast.net](mailto:AJ4GY@comcast.net) or call at 901-301-6776.

New and upgraded hams from our VE testing in June are the following:

Robert Aguiard KN4USN upgrade from tech to general

Mark Ellenberger KE0WBZ new tech

Joseph McPherson KG7BIN new tech

Carol Murray KN4VEU new tech

Ann Viano KN4VES new tech

## President's Corner

Submitted by Steve Frazier, KK4VPT

Field Day 2019 was another great event. As predicted, propagation did not cooperate, but the good thing is that the number of contacts is just one part of Field Day. As in the past, during Field Day we were able to spend time with fellow hams and to learn not only from them but to learn about them. In the true spirit of Field Day we had Glenn Schlorf WB9TFS join us this year. He is a truck driver who was driving from GA to Kansas City and had time over the weekend. He was with us Saturday evening till we left on Sunday. He was a big help on several stations. This year the Delta Club YLs did a great job providing meals and they did such a good job cleaning up afterwards that the Germantown officer that checked the facility before we left said that they have never seen everything so clean after an event.

Next up is Huntsville Hamfest on Aug 17. We still have room on the bus and hope you can join us. Not only is Huntsville Hamfest a perfect opportunity to shop around for what you need to add to your ham equipment, it is another opportunity to learn from fellow hams. I do suggest you plan to visit with your fellow hams on the way down; because after a long day at Huntsville, the bus has been known to become quiet on the way back while hams "rest their eyes" while visions of transceivers, antennas and coax dance in their heads.

Remember that the net each night on the 146.82 repeater is a great way to stay updated with everything we have going on and to keep in touch with fellow hams. When you do check in on the net, please thank the one of many net control operators that devote their time to make the net possible every night. If you are on Facebook, check out our Facebook page - Delta Amateur Radio Club.

73 to all

Steve  
KK4VPT

**Treasurer's Report**  
Submitted by David Jackson KM4SEC

Please RENEW your Delta membership right away, so you won't forget about it! Download the new member or renewal form: <http://deltaclub.org/documents/application-15-3.pdf> Membership for one is \$20 or family is \$25. You can fill out the form online and email to David Jackson KM4SEC. [davidjkson@bellsouth.net](mailto:davidjkson@bellsouth.net)  
If you prefer you can print the form and bring the completed form, along with the membership fee to any meeting.

**Treasurer's Report**  
**06/30/2019**

Checking Account

06/01/2019, Beginning balance:	\$15,279.94
4-deposits	
2019 memberships:	\$55.00
2019 Huntsville bus trip:	\$1090.00
Total of deposit:	\$1,145.00
	\$16,424.94
3-checks:	
Food, Field Day/Club:	\$88.74
Equipment repair/repeater:	\$141.75
Total of checks:	(\$230.49)
06/30/2019, Ending balance	\$16,194.45

Small Business CD's

CD-0028: interest rate, 1.590%. YTD interest: \$82.17. Maturity date: 10/19/2022. Balance: \$10,405.25  
CD-8041: interest rate, 2.230%. YTD interest: \$119.25. Maturity date: 01/14/2020. Balance: \$10,784.58

Non Profit Status

All forms/reports have been filed for DARC with IRS, Tennessee Secretary of State to comply with our nonprofit/exemption status for 2018 and have received confirmation.

**DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
July 2, 2019 -- Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL

Attendees: Steve Frazier KK4VPT, Bob Van Keuren KM4SEB, Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL, David Jackson KM4SEC, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Ed Taggard K7EDT, Scott Adams KM4PMU, Barry McDonald W5CJ and Len Grice W4MKS  
Absent: Bob Vawter KW4RJ

Steve F. called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

David J. read the Treasurer's Report. In regard to Delta Club's non-profit status, all forms have been filed with the appropriate entities.

Mary Jean H. gave an update on post-W4M tasks.

Bob V. K. asked for feedback regarding Field Day and there was some discussion on ways to improve for next year. He also said that there has been lots of positive feedback about the YL's covering lunch this year and keeping the facility well-kept. Joe L. said that the park ranger even commented on how clean the Pickering Center was after the Field Day event. Bob V.K. said that the YLs were considering changing the menu up next year should they take on the food responsibility again.

Barry M. gave an update on the newly purchased antenna for the .82 repeater. The club has purchased a Sinclair SD224 series antenna to replace the old one. The antenna cost is \$1,200, shipping is \$195 and the installation cost is yet to be determined.

Joe L. said that ten people have already signed up for the Technician class and he is expecting more.

According to Joe L., 17 people have signed up for the Huntsville Hamfest bus trip. The original plan was to take a 56-passenger bus for \$1925. Given the number of reservations so far, he recommended that we switch to the 40-passenger bus for \$1746. The 40-passenger bus still offers the restroom and wi-fi. He then recommended that we extend the \$70 ticket price from July 1 to July 9. After July 9 the ticket price would increase to \$85. The board agreed.

Ed Taggard K7EDT said that Ian Lucas was interested in taking over the Program Director role when he vacates that position in August. The July program will be a Field Day video review.

Joe L. said that the health department would have the new hospital tent setup at Church Park (downtown by FedEx Forum) on July 16 for anyone wishing to check it out.

The board discussed the review of memberships per the club's bylaws.

Without objection, Steve F. adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Ellendale Church of Christ.

**Minutes of Last Month's Club Meeting**  
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL

DARC Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2019

**Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

Club President Steve Frazier KK4VPT called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone then introduced themselves by name and call sign. 52 members and three guests were present for the meeting.

**Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports**

Ham Hilliard W4GMM moved to approve the previous meeting's minutes and the Treasurer's Report as published in Sparks. Dan Wehner KN4FBJ seconded the motion. The minutes and the Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved by the club.

**VE Testing**

Bob Vawter KW4RJ said that four Technicians and one General passed testing tonight.

**YL News**

Linda Laseter KJ4CTX announced that the YLs would not hold luncheons over the next two months for the summer. Recently they tested using the .94 repeater for the YL net, but they will move back to the .82 repeater.

**Repeater Update**

Barry McDonald W5CJ said that the .82 repeater should be up and running now. He replaced the entire repeater since there have been several issues lately. The main problem seemed to be the final amplifier but there were other problems as well. He said that the antenna is about 500 feet in the air, so most of the troubleshooting has had to happen from the ground. A new antenna is on order and is expected to ship within a few weeks. When asked about replacing the coax, he said that they weren't going to do that yet since the cost could run over \$10,000 to replace it.

Steve Frazier KK4VPT said that the recent repeater issues caused several members to discuss practicing with the backup repeaters for nets more often. Periodically the nets may switch over to the 146.625 repeater to practice when the .82 goes down with issues.

**Huntsville Hamfest**

Steve Frazier KK4VPT discussed logistics for the Huntsville Hamfest bus trip on August 17, 2019. Anyone who pays to reserve his or her spot in June will pay just \$70, and anyone paying after July 9 will pay \$85. Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO will be able to accept money for the trip at Field Day.

The charter bus will leave Germantown Baptist Church at 6:30 a.m. and return later in the afternoon. The ticket includes the entry ticket, two breakfast biscuits, snacks and drinks on the bus, and the bus ride down. The bus will park at the back of the Von Braun Center by the door, so it is convenient to go back to the bus throughout the day to sit for lunch, rest your feet and store items. Sign up with Joe or David Jackson, DARC Treasurer. Checks can be made to "Delta Amateur Radio Club."

#### W4M

Steve Frazier KK4VPT thanked everyone who helped and participated in the W4M Special Event to celebrate the Memphis Bicentennial last month. The big work has been done, and now we are in the process of wrapping things up with logging and certificates. He referenced that there weren't many contacts on some frequencies; Ham Hilliard W4GMM followed up that the event fell during the middle of a 17-day stretch with no sun spots, which likely contributed to it.

#### Field Day

Steve Frazier KK4VPT announced that Field Day is June 22-23, 2019. Setup should start around 8 a.m. Saturday, and several hams will meet at Piccadilly for breakfast before that. The actual event starts at 1 p.m. Saturday and lasts through 1 p.m. Sunday. Ham Hillard W4GMM announced that he will not be hosting a field Day event at Millington this year.

#### Announcements

Steve Frazier KK4VPT announced that next Saturday is ARRL Kids Day. He encouraged anyone with a child or grandchild to assist them with getting on the air for the Saturday night Delta Club net (146.820 repeater).

There was some discussion about the W4M Memphis Bicentennial Special Event. Several members recommended that the club consider hosting the event in future years.

#### Ham 101

Ham Hilliard W4GMM said that they will not meet for Ham 101 for the next two months. September's Ham 101 will cover "What kind of antenna do I need and how can I fit it on my property?". He encouraged anyone requesting assistance with ideas to bring the dimensions of the area, and he will work on helping you find a solution. When it does continue in September, Ham 101 starts at 5:30 p.m. before the monthly Delta Club meeting upstairs above the fellowship hall. Anyone with ideas should email him at [w4gmm@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4gmm@bellsouth.net).

#### Training

Barri Munday WB4SWP said Joe's next Technician class will start July 8, from 6:15 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. each night and last for six weeks at the Germantown Police Department Training room. Anyone interested in attending the class should email Joe at [WA4OVO@gmail.com](mailto:WA4OVO@gmail.com) with the subject line "Tech class 3-19" and your name, email and phone number in the body.

### Break/Presentation

Steve Frazier KK4VPT called for a break from 7:30 p.m. to 7:43 p.m. Ed Taggard K7EDT said that he would be vacating his role soon and asked that anyone interested in serving as Program Director should let him know. He then introduced Glen Popiel KW5GP, who discussed Arduino and its many uses for the June program.

### Closing Remarks

Len Grice W4MKS moved to adjourn. With no objection, Steve Frazier KK4VPT adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m. The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ.



## 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).

Ham Hilliard W4GMM said that they will not meet for Ham 101 for the next two months. September's Ham 101 will cover "What kind of antenna do I need and how can I fit it on my property?"

## Delta Ham License Training, 2019

Submitted by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

### HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2019 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 2019 from Delta Classes*

19 Technician

2 General

6 Extra

**Note:**

**The current Technician ARRL Ham Radio License Manual Fourth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2018 for four years. This is the new question pool.**

**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.**

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

**If you know anyone interested in a class, send an email to [wa4ovo@gmail.com](mailto:wa4ovo@gmail.com) with the Subject Line for the class they want and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. If a ham, add callsign to the text.**

### **SCHEDULED CLASSES**

#### **Tech Class 3-19 – July 8 - August 12, 2019**

Tech Class 3-19 will be held on six Monday nights from July 8<sup>th</sup> thru August 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:15-9:30pm The location will be at the Germantown Police Department training room, 1930 South Germantown Road. Eleven students are registered for the class. To register for the class, send an email to [wa4ovo@gmail.com](mailto:wa4ovo@gmail.com) with the Subject Line; Tech Class and name, email address and cellphone number in the text.

### **PROPOSED CLASSES**

A General Class license class will probably start in early November.

An Extra Class license class will probably start in early January 2020.

### **COMPLETED CLASSES**

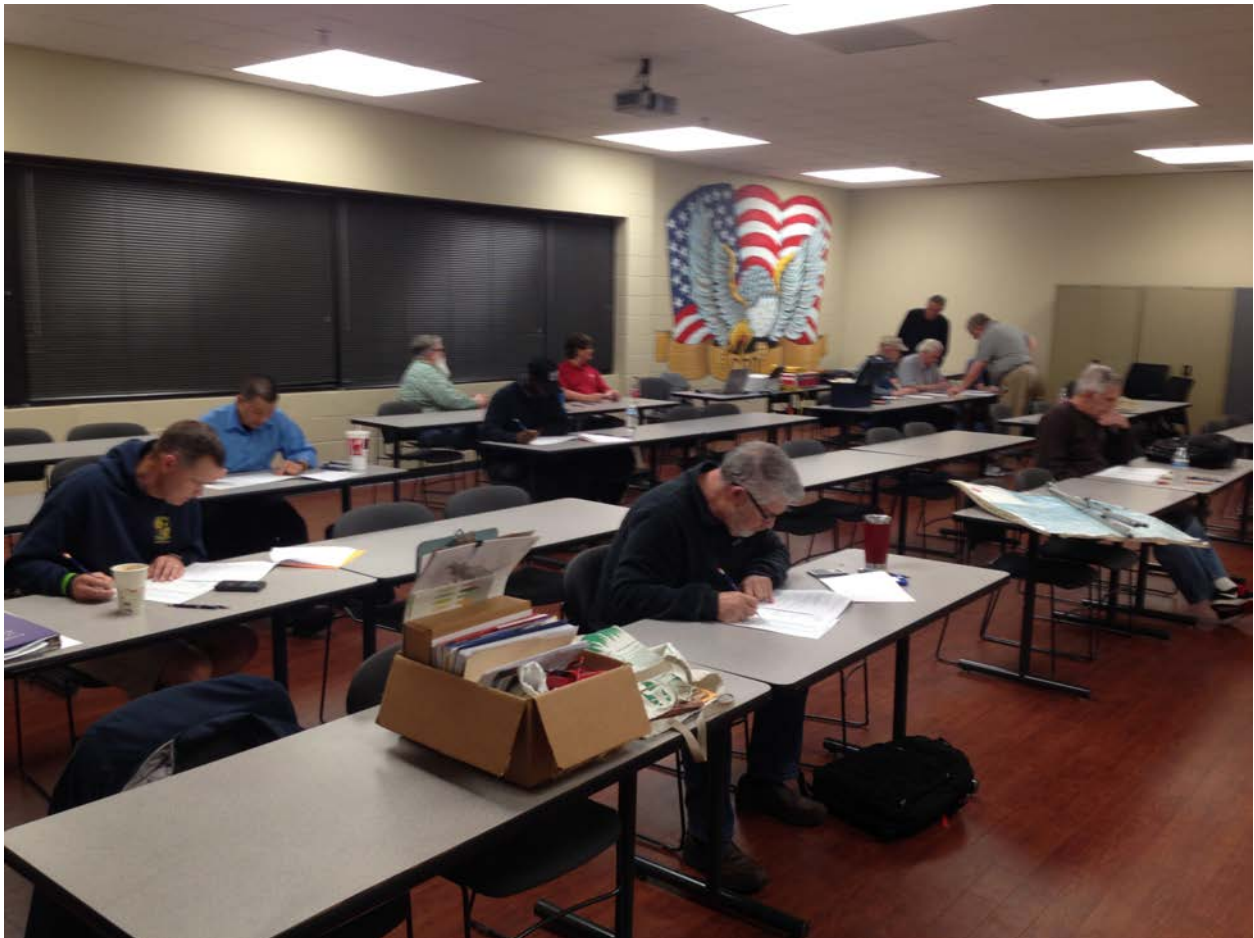
#### **Tech Class 2-19 – February 21-March 28, 2019**

Tech Class 2-19 was held on six Thursday nights from February 21 thru March 28th. The location was the Germantown Police Department training room, 1930 South Germantown Road. Sixteen students signed up for the class with thirteen attending the first class and a self-study Tech auditing the class. Eight students earned their ham radio licenses.

Congratulations to Chuck Chow KN4TMR, Al Dyer KN4TMQ, Brian Hagood KN4TME, Andrew Humphreys KN4TMG, Thomas Humphreys KN4TMF, Bryan Parker KN4TMH, Mark Parrish KN4TMO, and Bob Stroud KI5DWP who earned their Technician licenses. Chuck also earned his General Class license. Since the class Chuck has upgraded to Extra as KX4RE. Congratulations to Tom Thibeault KN4SLP who audited the class and upgraded to General. Two others will test at a later date.

Thanks to the Laurel VEC team of Bill WC9S, Barry W5CJ, David KV4QI, Len W4MKS and Joe WA4OVO for providing the FCC test session.

Demonstrations were given on March 28th. John KN4BVH previewed DMR, Fusion, and Echolink. Joe WA4OVO instructed on programming FM radios and APRS while Pat W4OQG showed off HF and long wire antenna. Rick WA4NVM and Richard K4DXF made a satellite contact.



Tech Class 2-19 taking their FCC exam.

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

### **Tech Review for CBU February 20, 2019**

A Tech Review class was held on February 20th for 11 Christian Brothers University students in the second Engineering Department upper division elective course, Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Systems. All 11 students earned their Technician license. The students were either Electrical, Mechanical or Computer Engineering majors. Dr. Eric Welch WD5FTA is the professor. He is Department Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The Laurel VE Team of Dr. Welch WD5FTA, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Bill Stevens WC9S, Barry McDonald W5CJ and Len Grice W4MKS administered the FCC test session

### **Extra Class 1-19 January 5 – February 16, 2019**

Extra Class 1-19 began on January 5<sup>th</sup> through February 16<sup>th</sup> excluding January 26<sup>th</sup> (Jackson MS Hamfest) on six Saturdays from 9am-1pm at the Memphis Police Department Northeast Precinct, Appling Farms Station, at 6850 Appling Farms Parkway. Nine students began with seven completing the class.

Congratulations to Steve Evans KM4VYA, Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Jerry Kirkscey KX4QE, Robert Murry KN4OEF, and Bob Waters KN4PDW for earning their Extra Class license at the class ARRL FCC test session. Congratulations to Jim Martin KD4FUU who upgraded at the Delta Club test session on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Delta Club VE Team of Jeff Krause AJ4GY, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Bill Stevens WC9S, and David Webb KV4QI provided the FCC test session on February 16<sup>th</sup>.



Extra Class 1-19 from l to r: Jerry KX4QE, lead instructor Joe WA4OVO, Carolyn KX4QF, Scott KM4PMU, Robert KN4OEF, and Bob KN4PDW  
Photo by David Webb KV4QI

### **General Class 4-18 November 1 – December 13, 2018**

General Class 4-18 was held from 6:15-9:30 on six Thursday nights from November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 13<sup>th</sup> excluding November 22<sup>nd</sup> at EMHC Ambulance Company training room, 6972 Appling Farms Parkway. Fourteen students began the class. Ten students finished the class with six upgrading to General Class.

Congratulations to Steve Beale KM4AEO, Carrie Blackwell KN4LCU, Bill Johnsen KM4VXW, Jim Martin KD4FUU, Robert Murry KN4OEF, and Bob Waters KN4PDW. I'm sure the other four will get their upgrade soon. Also testing during the class test session, congratulations to William Womble KI4CRC for earning his Technician license and Rick Armstrong KN4IKP and Carolyn Horne KN4QNV for upgrading to General.

The instructors were Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Pat Lane W4OQG, Len Grice W4MKS, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Perry Hayes N4PSH and John Reiners KN4BVH. The Delta Club VE team led by Jeff Krause AJ4GY provided the FCC testing session at 7pm on December 13th. Thanks also to Ham W4GMM, Stacy Krause KJ4MDA, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Bill Stevens WC9S and Tom Ungren KK4ZZZ

### **HOW TO PRINT YOUR FCC LICENSE**

1. Go to **<https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/licManager/login.jsp>**
2. Enter your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) and Password
  - a. If you do not know your FRN, go to Search box and click on License  
Click on Amateur; Enter your callsign in Callsign box;  
Your FRN is in center of page after your name  
(If you do not know your Password, click on Contact Tech Support after Forgot your Password)
3. In When My Licenses screen comes up, click on **Now** in the green line reading “Change your paper authorization preferences [here](#), or download your official electronic authorizations [now](#)”
4. In Under Download Authorizations screen, highlight your callsign in the My Authorization area at the bottom left.
5. Click on ADD to right of the highlighted callsign.
6. Highlight your callsign in Authorization to Download and then click on Download on bottom right of screen.
7. If pop-ups are blocked, click on Allow One
8. Click Open at bottom.
9. Print your License.

## USE OF CELLPHONE WHILE DRIVING

As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, it is against the law to hold a cellphone while driving. However, amateur (ham) radio is exempted per the below paragraph 1(a)3 of State of Tennessee House Bill 164. It might be wise to carry a copy of this document and a copy of your amateur radio license in case you get stopped by police and they are not aware of the exemption.

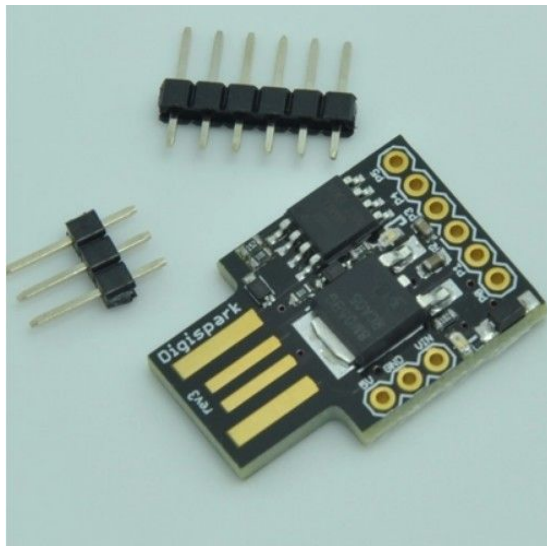
"Wireless telecommunications device" means a cellular telephone, a portable telephone, a text-messaging device, a personal digital assistant, a stand-alone computer, a global positioning system receiver, or substantially similar portable wireless device that is used to initiate or receive communication, information, or data. "Wireless telecommunications device" **does not include** a radio, citizens band radio, citizens band radio hybrid, commercial two-way radio communication device or its functional equivalent, subscription-based emergency communication device, prescribed medical device, **amateur or ham radio device**, or in-vehicle security, navigation, autonomous technology or remote diagnostics system.

[https://www.handsfreetn.com/files/pc0412.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3vZvmm5nPLyCeZg1gqUkgL0EaltPBt3sX9XSUpYpyFARjnYNuRu3fNbtU,](https://www.handsfreetn.com/files/pc0412.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3vZvmm5nPLyCeZg1gqUkgL0EaltPBt3sX9XSUpYpyFARjnYNuRu3fNbtU)

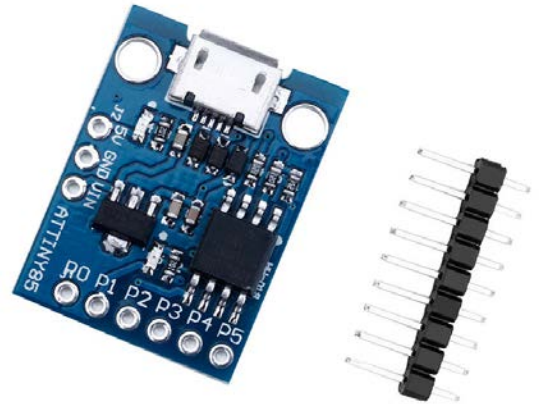
## **Amateur Hardware Update**

Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

Many amateur projects now include the Arduino computer as a controller. This computer is very popular for these projects because of the reasonable price and ease of programming. Run the programming software on your computer and plug



the Digispark Attiny85 into your USB port and you are ready to program. Different versions are made which have more inputs and output ports for various projects.



Now Digispark has made a small postage stamp sized computer to use in our projects. It is called the Digispark Attiny85. This tiny computer has 6 pins you can use for inputs or outputs and is perfect for a simple controller with small space requirements. The most amazing thing is the price for this computer. I got two of these computers for \$3.00 with free shipping. If you want to get into an Arduino style computer, check this unit out. Go to Ebay and do a search for “ Digispark Attiny85 “ to see all that is for sale. On Youtube you can also view video tutorials about this little computer.

## **Amateur Packet Update**

Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

One electronics supplier selling electronics parts and test equipment is Circuit Specialist. They have been in business since 1971 and offer a lot of electronics parts. You can buy these parts in quantities as low as one. They sell soldering irons, breadboards, power supplies, multimeters and oscilloscopes. They have a special closeout section with electronics parts with prices as low as 2 cents each. They also carry hardware for your electronics projects like front panel jacks, crimpers and solder gun holders. They have surface mount logic ICs for less than sixty cents each. To see all the parts and supplies they have, go to their website to check them out. The web address is <https://www.circuitspecialists.com/>



## **YL Information**

Submitted by Linda KJ4CTX

## **July 2019**

**YL NET – NOTICE!!!!** Hurrah! The 146.820 repeater is working well and the YL Net has moved back to the 146.820 repeater. Unfortunately, some of the YL's and OM's were unable to check-in with us the week we were on the 146.940 repeater due to using a HT or missing the tone, but this was a good test run for us.

Welcome to the YL Net Karen AG4CC. We hope you will continue to check-in on Saturday nights at 8:45 on the 146.820 repeater.

**YL LUNCHEON –** Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> found the YL's enjoying a leisurely lunch at Long Horn Steak House. Betsy KD3KOM and I shared a steak which we thoroughly enjoyed and the other YL's ordered a variety of food. Welcome back Kate KJ4KUL! We were glad you were able to join us again.

Barri WB4SWP won the door prize for June which was a nice tote containing a soup bowl, jelly and candle. We have a door prize at each luncheon. In order to give everyone attending the luncheons a chance to win we only include those in the drawing who have not won that year. So once someone wins we do not include that person in the drawing for the rest of the year and then in January each year we start over again.

**FIELD DAY –** The Delta Club YL's handled food services this year for Field Day. We prepared and served B-B-Q, hot dogs, brisket, coleslaw, cookies and brownies for lunch on Saturday and for dinner we served hamburgers (with all the trimmings), chicken breasts, chicken legs, baked beans, potato salad and cakes. For those who spent Saturday night we served sausage biscuits and chicken biscuits along with sweet rolls on Sunday morning.

We would like to thank Chef Lance and his grandson for grilling the hamburgers and chicken for us and all the YL's who helped with shopping, cooking, serving, and clean up and the OM's that helped with set up and take down. We really appreciate everyone who pitched in. We could not have managed without you.

And thank you to everyone who made a special effort to thank us and tell us how much they enjoyed the food.

**July Luncheon** – We voted to take a summer break and not have a luncheon in July or August due to vacations and other commitments. We plan to resume luncheons in September.



## FIELD DAY 2019

June 22-23

Field day 2019 was a gathering of hams helping other hams and hams working to set up equipment and antennas; hams sharing meals together, and hams helping non-hams learn how to operate an HF radio in order to talk with other hams or other non-hams over many miles. I think a one of the biggest parts of field day is the camaraderie of helping each other and learning how “the other side” sets up antennas and operates their radios. We covered 80 meters, 40 meters, 20 meters, FT8 digital, CW, Satellite, UHF/VHF and more.



Robert, Erwin, & Paul



Ray, Kandy & Steve



Bob & John discussing propagation!



Ham and Steve putting up antenna wire





YLs did GREAT with food this year!



Janet, Gail, Sylvia, Betsy and Linda



John and Barry #2



GOTA (Get On The Air) setup



Len manning the information booth



Pat and Barry #1



Steve operating 80 meters



Robert, Erwin and Bob

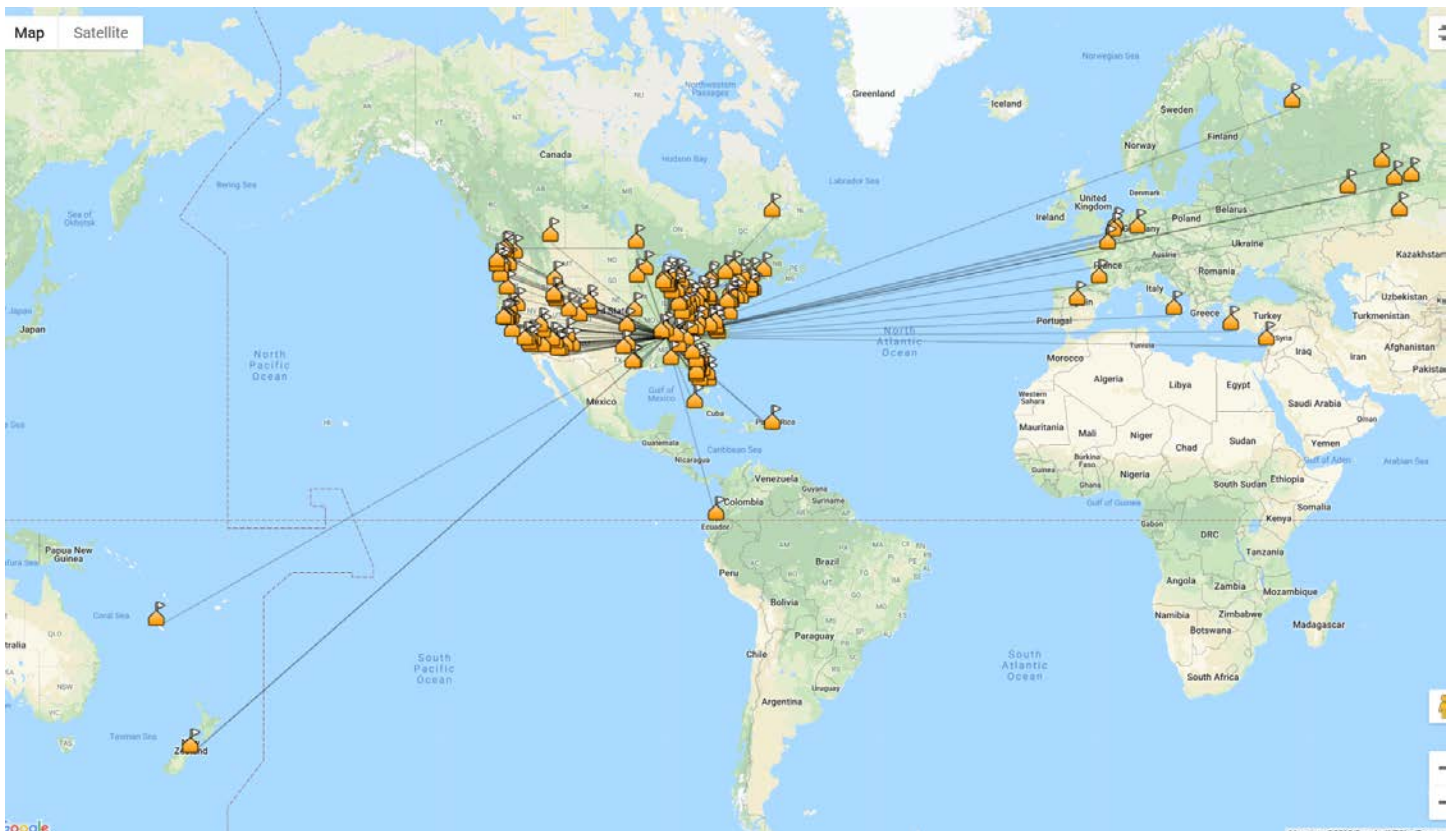
## W4M Recap

Submitted by Steve KK4VPT

For those that may be curious about how we ended up doing on the air with W4M, here are the final results.

Thanks mainly to FT8 and what looks like one good day on 20 meters, we did better than expected in spite of poor propagation and our lack of experience doing a special event. One of the lessons we learned is that we need to improve logging, so we may have missed some contact. Following is a recap of what we did log.

Total Contacts - 211  
Confirmed - 80  
Countries - 17  
SSB - 49  
FT8 - 137  
146.82 Repeater - 25



HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST BUS TRIP - AUGUST 17, 2019  
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 17, 2019. The fare is \$70 if paid by July 9<sup>th</sup> and \$85 after July 9<sup>th</sup>. A spouse or child living at the same address can accompany a full fare rider for \$50. 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 cannot 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 or at Field Day. 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).



## 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>.

### 2019 Board of Directors

#### **President**

Steve Frazier, KK4VPT  
sfrazier1@bellsouth.net  
901-218-6385

#### **Vice President**

Bob Van Keuren KM4SEB  
[rtvk@hotmail.com](mailto:rtvk@hotmail.com)  
901-853-0303

#### **Secretary**

Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL  
[kn4fbl@gmail.com](mailto:kn4fbl@gmail.com)  
901-356-1475

#### **Treasurer**

David Jackson KM4SEC  
[davidjkson@bellsouth.net](mailto:davidjkson@bellsouth.net)  
901-487-3016

#### **Director of Training**

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO  
[wa4ovo@gmail.com](mailto:wa4ovo@gmail.com)  
901-628-4318

#### **Director of Publications**

Bob Vawter, KW4RJ  
[vawter.bob@gmail.com](mailto:vawter.bob@gmail.com)  
901-438-4563

#### **Director of Programs**

Ed Taggard K7EDT  
[etaggard@gmail.com](mailto:etaggard@gmail.com)  
480-225-7327

#### **Director of Meetings & Special Events**

Scott Adams, KM4PMU  
[scottedadamsjr@hotmail.com](mailto:scottedadamsjr@hotmail.com)  
901-573-6280

#### **Repeater Trustee**

Barry McDonald W5CJ  
[W5CJ@ARRL.NET](mailto:W5CJ@ARRL.NET)  
901-853-0510

#### **Public Information Officer**

Len Grice, W4MKS  
[W4MKS@arrl.net](mailto:W4MKS@arrl.net)  
901-522-6711

#### **Immediate Past President**

Ken Laseter, KI4AOH  
[KenLaseter@gmail.com](mailto:KenLaseter@gmail.com)  
901-487-9103

**ARES**  
**Amateur Radio Emergency Service**  
**Emergency Coordinator (EC) - John Reiners KN4BVH**

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.

**Public Service Events**

If you are a coordinator for any of these events, please review the listed information. Please email corrections or additions to [vawter.bob@gmail.com](mailto:vawter.bob@gmail.com).

<b>2019 Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
<del>Jan. 20</del>	<del>Swamp Stompers 50K/25K Run</del>	<del>Ken Laseter KI4AOH</del>
<del>May 12</del>	<del>MARS contacts</del>	
<del>June 22-23</del>	<del>Field Day @ Morgan Woods Park, G'town</del>	
Sep 7-8	MS-150 Bike Ride	Darrell Sheffield KK4D
Oct 5	Bluff City Blues Bike Ride	
Dec 7.	St Jude marathon	Roger Schlichter

**HamFests in the Southeast area**

**2019**

January 25-26	Capitol City Hamfest in Jackson, MS
February 8-10	HamCation 2019 in Orlando, FL
February 16	LCARC's 2019 Winterfest in Hoxie, AR
March 1-2	BirmingHamfest 2019 in Birmingham, AL
March 9	MTARS Hamfest Tullahoma, TN
March 23	Ides of March Hamfest in Union City, TN
March 30-31	April Fool Hamfest in Corinth, MS
April 13	Memphis FreeFest in Bartlett, TN
May 17-19	Hamvention in Xenia, OH
July 27	Greater Nashville & Middle TN HamQuest in Lebanon, TN
August 17-18	Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, AL
October 18-19	Hamfest Chattanooga in Chattanooga, TN

**Tennessee Amateur Radio License Plate**  
Submitted by Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO

• **As of October 2018 all you need to renew your ham tag is to provide a copy of your FCC license with a copy of your last year's registration or a renewal notice, if you received one, and your payment.**

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>

The following link from the Tennessee Department of Revenue

<https://www.tn.gov/revenue/title-and-registration/license-plates/available-license-plates/emergency-safety.html> has the Amateur Radio auto tag information.

**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 Bullfrog Net	146.535	[simplex]	7:30p	Daily
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
Sunday Super Niner Net	927.6125	- (146.2)	8:30p	Sun

## **TENNESSEE HF NETS**

As of January 2019  
All times are Central Time

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<b>Net Name</b>	<b>Freq. MHz</b>	<b>Local Time</b>	<b>Day of Week</b>
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 (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7.180		As needed

### **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

**Used equipment for sale**

Please ONLY contact the person offering the equipment.

Zumspot with wifi, works with Fusion, DMR, D-Star et al \$90.

Bob KW4RJ 901-438-4563

If you are a Delta Club member and would like to advertise equipment you have for sale, please email Bob.

## 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

Antennas	Antenna Mounts	Connectors	Coax & Cable
HT	Magnet	UHF	RG-213
Mobile	Trunk Lip	"N"	RG-8/U Mini
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
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  
At Poplar and Massey  
Memphis, TN 38119  
W - 901.766.1875  
C - 901.230.3043  
Joe.Miller@cfafranchisee.com  
chick-fil-a.com

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