

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 45 * October 2019



Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

Sparks Newsletter

Website: <http://deltaclub.org>

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

W4BS

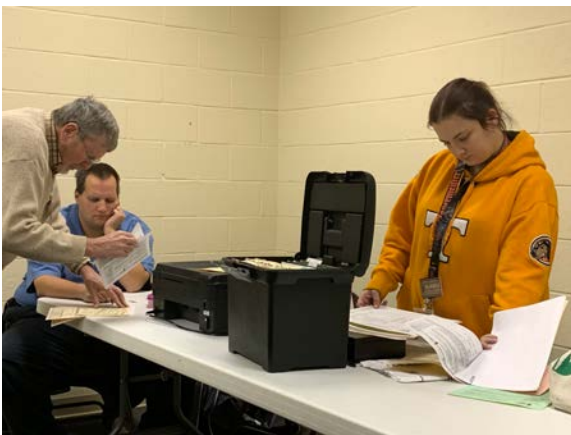
REPEATER SYSTEM

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 7 pm on October 8, 2019, at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 (Stage Road)).

Program: Swap meet; ham equipment for sale at the meeting!

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 or call at 901-301-6776.

NOTE: Jeff is looking for a VE Liaison replacement. If you are interested, please contact Steve @ sfrazier1@bellsouth.net or 901-218-6385

VE testing on 9/10/19 produced 8 new hams:

Tech: Tonya Cardoza KN4YFT, Tyrin Price KN4YFS, Orrin Cooper KN4YFR, & Norman Cathey KN4YFQ.
General: David Kraehmer KN4YFU, Tommy Sanderson KN4YFV & Robinson Mitchell KN4YFW. **Extra:** David Cardoza KM4CFO.

President's Corner

Submitted by Steve Frazier, KK4VPT

Members of the Delta Club have just completed providing communication support for the second bike event in two months. Once again this was a great opportunity to use a real life activity to test not only our equipment, but our skills. I am proud to say we passed with flying colors. More than once we faced changing situations or needs and we met the challenge. We had a mix of new hams excited to do this for the first time and of course members that added their years of experience. I saw the race director at the end of the event and he said he knows his riders are in good hands when we are there and he looks forward to having us back again next year.

Over the last few years we have had several estate sales. We have been fortunate to sell most of the items, but we are currently down to some of the odds and ends from these sales. We will have a rummage sale during the October meeting. This is a mix of items looking for a good home. Instead of a silent auction, this will be more of first come first serve for the smaller items and we will offer on the spot bidding for larger items.

The Memphis elections may have just finished, but there is still one more election next month. Fortunately all the current members of the board have offered to continue serving on the board for 2020. We need to finalize the ballot for the 2020 Board of Directors at the October meeting and will have the election at the November meeting. If you would like to add your name to the ballot, let us know at the beginning of the October meeting. There are only two basic requirements: 1) you must be a club member, and 2) you must have attended at least six club meetings in twelve months.

Don't forget to check into the net that we have every night at 8pm on the 146.82 repeater. The only night we don't have the net is the 2nd Tuesday of the month and that is when we look forward to seeing you at the monthly meeting.

73

Steve Frazier
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. davidjackson@bellsouth.net

If you prefer you can print the form and bring the completed form, along with the membership fee to any meeting.

09/30/2019

Checking Account:

08/31/2019, Beginning balance: \$13,876.43

2-deposits:

Memberships: \$70.00

Field Day food Reimb./Tri-State: \$168.30

Total of deposits: \$238.30

Balance: \$14,114.73

6-checks:

Food/club: (\$24.56)

Food/club: (\$29.05)

Food/H'ville bus: (\$114.05)

Club/canopy: (\$70.23)

Food/club: (\$23.79)

Tower maint./antenna: (\$500.00)

Total of checks: (\$761.68)

Ending balance: \$13,353.05

Club's Certificates of Deposit

CD-0028: interest rate: 1.590%. YTD. Interest: \$123.95. Maturity date: 10/19/2022. Balance: \$10,447.03

CD-8041: interest rate: 2.230%. YTD. Interest: \$179.37. Maturity date: 01/14/2020. Balance: \$10,844.70

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL

October 1, 2019, submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL

Attendees: Steve Frazier KK4VPT, Bob Van Keuren KM4SEB, Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL, David Jackson KM4SEC, Bob Vawter KW4RJ, Ian Lucas KN4OEK, Scott Adams KM4PMU and Barry McDonald W5CJ.

Absent: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO and Len Grice W4MKS

Steve F. called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

Bob V. passed out information on possible web servers to switch the Delta Club website to, since the current option will end in December. The board discussed WorldSpice, Host Monster, GoDaddy and Bravenet as options, but voted to move forward with GoDaddy as the new server.

Barry M. informed the board that the new 82 repeater should be installed later this week, hopefully on Wednesday or Thursday. He also plans to have the feed lines for the 82 repeater and 440 traced. During the installation, the repeater will be shut down for several hours. Barry said he would announce the planned shutdown on the net each night until the installation occurs.

Steve F. discussed the plan to sell leftover consignment items at the October Delta Club meeting. There are lots of items let to sell.

Bob V.K. said that he and Barry worked at the same hospital for the Shelby County decontamination exercise, and that overall it was a good exercise. He reminded the board members that the board nominations were next week, with the election to follow in November.

David J. read the Treasurer's Report. Everything is currently balanced. He discussed options for the end-of-year door prizes, such as a 2 m/70 cm Phoenix antenna, two lithium phosphate batteries, folding solar panels and tactical flashlights. Steve F. asked whether or not we wanted to opt-in to the promotion for clubs with a Yaesu DR-1X repeater to upgrade to the DR-2X for \$550. The board discussed the pros of cons of participating and decided to not go for the upgrade. Steve F. said that the 2020 budget is being considered, so anyone with ideas for special projects should bring it up to be considered in the budget.

Mary Jean H. updated the board on the status of the QSL certificates for the W4M event. All of the certificates, except FT8 contacts, have been created. Those who sent in self-addressed stamped envelopes have had the certificates sent in for printing, and the certificates will be mailed out this week. After some discussion, the board decided to print the certificates for Delta Club members as well. Those certificates will be handed out at the club meeting on October 8, 2019.

Ian L. announced the plan for the upcoming meeting programs: October – consignment sale; November – elections and door prize drawings; December – potluck. Scott A. asked everyone for feedback regarding snacks at the club meetings. Anyone who may have requests should let him know.

The board took a brief recess from 7:42 p.m. – 7:50 p.m. After the recess, the board voted to accept the Treasurer’s Report. The board discussed the review of memberships per the club’s bylaws.

Bob V.K. made a motion to adjourn. Without objection, Steve F. adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 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 September 10, 2019

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 and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reminded everyone that instead of having lots of small door prizes at each meeting, we will have larger items to give away at our November meeting. So, be sure to sign in and fill out your tickets!

Everyone then introduced themselves by name and call sign. 66 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. Len Grice W4MKS seconded the motion. The minutes and the Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved by the club.

VE Testing

Bill Stevens WC9S announced that eight individuals tested tonight. Seven passed the Technician exam, with two upgrading to General. One individual was grandfathered into a General license once he passed the Technician exam. One individual passed the Extra license exam.

Training

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO updated the club on the Huntsville Hamfest turnout. 28 rode the bus, though there were 31 paid spots. He encouraged everyone to consider riding the bus to the Hamfest next year!

Joe said that Delta Club will hold a General class on November 7, 14 and 21, and then December 5, 12 and 19 (Thursday nights). The location is TBD, but will be published in Sparks upon location confirmation. He then updated the club on the equipment sales results.

YL News

Ken Laseter KI4AOH made a few YL announcements on Linda Laseter KJ4CTX's behalf. As of Labor Day this year, the YLs celebrated the third anniversary of the YL Net! The YLs are thankful for Delta Club allowing the use of the 82 repeater for the net, as well as the OMs who

have assisted with events and activities. They are looking forward to additional years with the YL Net.

The summer break for YL luncheons has ended. The next YL luncheon will be on Saturday, September 21 at 11:30 a.m. at the Flying Saucer, located at 1400 N. Germantown Pkwy.

Bluff City Blues Bike Ride

Ken Laseter KI4AOH needs about 20 amateur radio volunteers for the Bluff City Blues 100-mile bike ride on Saturday, October 5, 2019. The riders will travel along a 100-mile course, spanning from Watkins/Hwy. 51 and looping up through Tipton County in the Garland area. The race starts at 7:30 a.m. Even if you aren't sure about helping, he encouraged everyone interested to sign up or let him know and he will send out an information packet. This year, the amateur radio operators will use two repeaters on the course. The south half of the course will utilize the Delta Club 146.82 repeater and the north half of the course will utilize the Tipton County 145.49 repeater (with a 100 PL tone). There will be two net control operators, one operating each repeater, in order to better serve the course. There will be food and beverages for the volunteers after the race. Additional details about the route and communications can be found in Sparks. Additional information about the race itself can be found at www.BCB100.com.

Announcements

Dennis Foster KJ4BDU announced that MARA will have a swap meet during their meeting on October 3 at 7 p.m. The swap meet will be in the basement of the Ellendale United Methodist Church. Pizza and dessert will be provided, first come first serve. Everyone is welcome to attend the swap meet, even if you are not a MARA member.

Steve Frazier KK4VPT said that Delta Club will likely have equipment for sale at the October 10 meeting as well.

HAM 101

Ham Hilliard W4GMM said that they will build an antenna during the October 10 session. He will likely have a topic in November that is TBD, and Ham 101 will not meet in December due to the potluck. He needs ideas for Ham 101, and those can be sent to him at W4GMM@bellsouth.net. Steve Frazier KK4VPT reminded everyone that Ham 101 is at 5:30 p.m. before the Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting upstairs in the Ellendale Church of Christ Fellowship Hall.

Break/Presentation

Steve Frazier KK4VPT called for a break from 7:25 p.m. to 7:38 p.m. Steve reminded everyone that the Board of Directors elections are coming up soon. Anyone who is interested in serving as a board member, even new Delta Club members, should see a current board member for more information.

Ian Lucas KN4OEK led this month's program about "Weak Signal QSO with FT8." Several members were on hand to provide demonstrations and answer questions about this digital mode.

Closing Remarks

Len Grice W4MKS made a motion to adjourn. With no objection, Steve Frazier KK4VPT adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

Delta Ham License Training, 2019

Submitted by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

There is no charge for classes, but the student is responsible for the purchase of the license manual and the \$15 ARRL FCC examination fee.

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 2019 from Delta Classes

30 Technician

5 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 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.

PROPOSED CLASSES

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

A Technician license class will probably start in late February 2020.

All classes will be six sessions; one per week.

SCHEDULED CLASSES

General Class 4-19 – November 7 – December 19, 2019

General Class 4-19 will be held on six Thursday nights from November 7th thru December 19th from 6:15-9:30pm The classes will meet on November 7,14, 21, December 5, 12 and 19. The location will be at the Germantown Police Department training room, 1930 South Germantown Road. If you are interested in this class, register by sending an email to wa4ovo@gmail.com with Subject Line: General Class and name, callsign, email address, and cellphone number in text.

COMPLETED CLASSES

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

Tech Class 3-19 was held on six Monday nights from July 8th thru August 12th from 6:15-9:30pm The location was at the Germantown Police Department training room, 1930 South Germantown Road. Eleven students originally registered for the class, two more became students, and two resigned. So, eleven students completed the class. There was one ham who audited the class.



Entrance at Germantown Police Department for Tech Class 3-19
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Congratulations to Rodney Adams KN4WGV, Daniel BriecK KN4WGW, Robert Broom KN4WGX, David Cary KN4WGY, Jim Dollar KN4WGZ, Joshua Foster KN4WHA, Vicky Gamber KN4WHB, Lauren MartinWHC, Matthew Massey KI5FYA, Jonathan Pesce KN4WHD, and ShawnThomas KN4WKF who earned their Technician licenses.

Congratulations also to Robert Broom and David Cary who also earned their General licenses, as well as, Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL who upgraded to General. Six more of the students tried for General but did not pass.

The instructors were Joe WA4OVO, Paul KA9VAU, Pat W4OQG, John KN4BVH, Perry N4GJ, and Len W4MKS. Barry W5CJ presented Echolink and Allstar information. John



KN4BVH demoed DMR with information on D-Star and Fusion. On Monday, August 12th there was equipment demonstrations. Joe WA4OVO and John KN4BVH provided repeater basics and a CHIRP demo. The students checked into the Delta Net. Rick WA4NVM and Richard K4DXF made a live SO-50 satellite contact while Rick KJ4NWQ informed on APRS. Pat W4OQG showed off the non-FM side of ham radio with his Kenwood TS-2000 HF SSB setup with a long wire and talked about MARS.

Tech Class 3-19 Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The Laurel VE team of Joe WA4OVO, Bill WC9S, Jelly N4HLT, David W4DWW, Karen AG4CC, Barry W5CJ, Len W4MKS and Perry N4GJ administered the 20 exams.

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 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 5th through February 16th excluding January 26th (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 9th. 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 16th.

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 1st to December 13th excluding November 22nd 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 1st, 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>

Here are the two weather service websites I spoke of in the ARES meeting.

preview.weather.gov/edd

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=5dfbf1be13b74f1097a93cd954a3c4f8>

Joe WA4OVO

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.

Ham Hilliard W4GMM **October's Ham 101** will cover building a VHF antenna.

Ham 101 meetings are upstairs above the Delta club meeting hall beginning at 5:30 pm just before the Delta club meeting.

Nancy Vickers, wife of Tom Vickers N4TV, has passed away. Nancy was a life member of Delta Amateur Radio Club.

Amateur Hardware Update
Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV



Many of us like to operate on VHF and UHF amateur bands. We also take advantage of extended receive range radios to monitor public service and fire. One of the miracle antennas that handle all these jobs is the Discone antenna. These allow monitoring of frequencies continuous from 23 to 1300 MHZ with transmitting capabilities on Ham bands of 50,144,220,450 and 1200



mhz. These antennas are small and easy to mount. The price can also be less than \$50.00. The only downside to these antennas is the lower antenna gain as a tradeoff for the broad frequency range. For many these make the perfect antenna for local repeaters and monitoring. To see all the ones available do a search on Ebay for “discone antenna” . Web address is <https://www.ebay.com/>

Amateur Packet Update
Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

Many amateurs are going to different energy backup power systems. One that is now being used is solar. Solar panels are coming down in price but we still need to control the power they produce. West Mountain Radio has developed a solar panel controller. It has the ARRL standard Anderson Power Pole connectors on the unit. The inputs are for the solar panel, D.C. power supply, and battery. The output power point connector hooks to our equipment. The controller allows the solar power to charge the battery properly and automatically draws power from the D.C. power supply, the solar panel , or the battery as needed. The West Mountain Radio EPIC Pwrgate Backup Power Switch and Charger can handle current levels up to 40 amps. If you need a solar panel controller check this unit out from West Mountain Radio. The web address is http://www.westmountainradio.com/product_info.php?products_id=epic-pwrgate

MS-150 "ROCKIN' RIDE" BIKE RIDE

September 7-8, 2019

Submitted by Joe WA4OVO

The Delta Club coordinated the communications for the 34th MS-150 Bike Ride on September

7th and 8th. The ride meandered from Landers Center in Southaven MS to Gold Strike Casino in Robinsonville, MS on Saturday and a different route back to Landers Center on Sunday. There were three different routes-a 33 mile short route, a 55 mile medium route and the 75 mile long one. The weather was clear skies and temperatures from the high 70s to the mid 90s both days- a hot dehydrating ride. Twenty four hams provided the communications.



MS-150 start line at Landers Center, Southaven, MS

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

On Saturday night there was a dinner and presentations by the MS Society. The hams who were working the SAG trucks stayed overnight at the Gold Strike Hotel and partook of the evening dinner and the Sunday morning buffet breakfast.



FedEx
Corporate
executive Rene
Bustamonte
giving a
personal
insight into his
family's battle
with Multiple
Sclerosis after
the dinner

Photo by Joe
Lowenthal
WA4OVO

Darrell KK4D coordinated the ham communications and also coordinated with law enforcement in five jurisdictions. Roger WR4R was net control Saturday from Robinsonville with help from Todd W5TOD and Michelle KF5MMR. Pat W4OQG and Barri WB4SWP were net control Sunday at Landers Center.

The SAG vehicle operators were Steve KK4VPT, Ken KI4AOH, Joe WA4OVO, Timmy N5PYQ, Steve W5VAA, and Rosalind WN2V.

The rest stop hams were John KN4BVH, Carrie KN4LCU, Tom AC5MR, David W4DWW, Lisa K4POM, Bobby KK5PAC, Bill KK4VPS, Sean KF4CFN, Tom KJ4LMH, Todd K0MTA, Jose KJ4TCJ, and John KN4LCV.

There were a few equipment malfunctions and some muscle-cramped riders who used the SAG trucks. Bikes Plus had two vans at the event to repair the malfunctions. Thank goodness there were no major injuries. Our thanks to the Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association for the use of the 146.91 repeater that provided complete repeater coverage.



Sunday Net Control at Landers Center
Barri WB4SWP & Pat W4OQG



Start of Sunday MS-150 ride



Rest Stop on Dean Road



Some of the Hams at the end at Landers Center



Rosalind, Steve, Ken & Tom

Bluff City Blues Bike Ride
October 5, 2019 – Ken KI4AOH

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their support of this activity!



Sparks Newsletter and 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

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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. 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.

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

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
Delta Club Information Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:00p	Daily
YL Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:45p	Sat
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

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 (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.

If you are a Delta Club member and would like to advertise equipment you have for sale, please email Bob. My email address is vawter.bob@gmail.com.

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

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*.



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

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)

from our website –
<http://deltaclub.org/aboutUs.html>