

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 49 * February 2020



Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

Sparks Newsletter

Website: <http://deltaclub.org>

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

W4BS

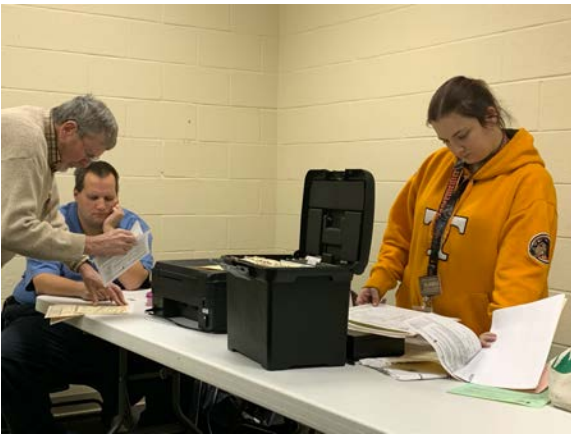
REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820 ^{-107.2}	* 147.360 ^{+107.2}
146.625 ^{-107.2}	443.200 ^{+107.2}
224.420 ^{-107.2}	443.700 ^{+107.2}
144.390 Digipeater	*Fusion

This month's meeting begins at 7:00 pm on February 11, 2020, at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 /Stage Road).

Program: Ian Lucas KNOEK, will present a program on programming the Baofeng series of handheld radios.

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.

New and upgraded hams: Edwin Lopez KO4BAU, Tech; Andrew Watson KO4BAT, Tech; Grant Cox KO4BAS, General; Pamela Sayle KN4SNL, General; Michael Sayle KN4SLD, Extra

President's Corner

Submitted by Steve Frazier, KK4VPT

You can always count on there being some kind of weather challenge for the Swamp Stomper 25k/50k and this year was no exception. This year the challenge was rain. It rained so hard you could hardly see to drive getting to the event and did not stop until about 11am. Once again the volunteers from Delta Club were up to the challenge. The leaders and runners were thankful for Delta Club's support and they look forward the having us there again next year.

This may be old news, but it is something that I just stumbled across and thought I would share. Starting last month, ARRL has launched a new bi-monthly publication called "On the Air". From the ARRL web site - "On the Air offers new and beginner-to-intermediate-level radio amateurs a fresh approach to exploring radio communication. Each issue will include advice and insights on topics from the variety of Amateur Radio interests and activities: radio technology, operating, equipment, project building, and emergency communication. The goal of this new magazine is to be a vital resource in helping new and newer radio amateurs get active and involved in radio communications." For more information, check out - ARRL to Launch New On the Air Magazine in January This is available online or can be mailed to instead of the QST magazine. This would be a good time to remind you that you can opt to get the QST magazine digitally and save \$5 on the membership fee.

I would like to remind you that if you have not renewed your membership to the Delta Amateur Radio Club for 2020 yet, you can still do this now or anytime that is best for you. If you are not sure if we have renewed your membership for 2020, please check with Mary Jean Hall and she will be happy to check your current status.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on Tuesday. And don't forget to join us every night at 8:00pm on the 146.820 repeater net. Thanks to our dedicated net control operators the nightly net is a great way to stay updated and in contact with fellow amateur radio operators in the area.

73
Steve
KK4VPT

Thanks to Ken Gregg K4DIT

Many thanks to Ken for LOTS of help with our web domain and for hosting our deltaclub.org web page over the past two decades! Ken helped us with several issues that came up with the hosting plan and with our domain name.

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: <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/58124ffd-d6ca-4502-9af3-7fa04c033729/downloads/application-15-3.pdf?ver=1574454355059>

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

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

DARC Treasurer's Report
01/31/2020

Submitted by H. David Jackson, club treasurer

Checking Account:

Beginning balance: \$15,655.53

Deposits: 3

- Matured CD (8041): \$10,965.94
- 2020 Memberships: \$705.00
- Memorial for David Campbell: \$100.00

Balance: \$27,426.47

- Past President's Jacket: (\$125.13)
- Tn. Corp. Annual Report: (\$20.46)

Ending balance: \$27,280.88

CD-0028: Interest rate: 1.590%. Maturity date: 10/19/2022. Balance: \$10,488.53

Treasurer's notes: The club's annual corporate report has been filed with the State of Tennessee.

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - February 4, 2020

Attendees: Bob Van Keuren KM4SEB, Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL, David Jackson KM4SEC, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Bob Vawter KW4RJ, Ian Lucas KN4OEK, Scott Adams KM4PMU and Barry McDonald W5CJ.

Absent: Steve Frazier KK4VPT and Len Grice W4MKS.

Bob V.K. called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

Ian L. said that the February program will cover how to program a handheld radio, which is one of the requirements in the ARES taskbook.

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

Barry M. updated the board on the status of repairing the 146.820 repeater. He also announced that a new repeater is now on the air at the 443.700 frequency with a + 5 MHZ offset and 107.2 PL tone.

David J. read the Treasurer's Report. Mary Jean H. made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Ian L. seconded it. The motion unanimously passed.

Joe L. informed the board about the Jackson Hamfest booth. He said that Dr. Welch's students will test for their Technician licenses tomorrow night. The current Extra class will test on February 15 at 10 a.m. One student has already taken and passed the exam at the Jackson Hamfest. Starting February 22, a Technician class will be offered through April 4. 16 students have already signed up to attend.

Mary Jean H. asked the board to continue to remind everyone about renewing their club membership dues. The board discussed the Plant the Seed initiative, which was mentioned in the ARRL Delta Division email newsletter.

Without objection, Bob V.K. adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2020 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 January 14, 2020

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. 55 members and two 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. Ken Laseter KI4AOH seconded the motion. The minutes and the Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved by the club.

Steve Frazier KK4VPT announced that the 2020 Proposed Budget was published in this month's Sparks newsletter. If you have a question about the budget, let a board member know. Rick Tillman WA4NVM asked about budgeting for an antenna climber. Steve said that the board voted at the January Board of Directors meeting to not renew the Certificate of Deposit that just matured. The plan is to hold that money and not roll the CD over to ensure that enough cash is available for funding the expenses to fix the 146.820 repeater.

VE Testing

Jeff Krause AJ4GY announced that the following tested/upgraded tonight: two technicians, two generals and one extra.

YL News

Pam Sayle KN4SLN announced that the YL Luncheon is Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. The luncheon will be at the Ellendale Church of Christ Fellowship Hall.

Training

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO updated the club on the status of the current Extra Class. There is a Technician Class scheduled from February 22 to April 4, with the exception of March 14. Ten students have already signed up for the class. Anyone interested in attending can email Joe at wa4ovo@gmail.com. Include your name, phone number and email address in the body, and put "Tech Class" in the subject line.

The ARES meeting on March 24 will be a Skywarn training. The training/meeting will be at 7 p.m. at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church at 6865 Poplar Pike in Memphis.

Announcements

Barry McDonald W5CJ updated the club on the status of the 82 repeater. There is an antenna ready to go at the site; he's working on finding an option to get it installed. Steve Frazier KK4VPT said that Swamp Stompers is coming up this Saturday, January 18. The 25k/50k race is set on the trails of Shelby Forest State Park. If you are interested in volunteering, let him know.

Steve Frazier KK4VPT announced that the 2019 New Ham of the Year is Carrie Blackwell KN4LCU. Congratulations, Carrie!

Following tradition, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO issued a 'past president' jacket to Ken Laseter for his years of service as the Delta Amateur Radio Club President from 2016 to 2017. He also issued one to Steve Frazier KK4VPT for serving as president from 2018 through 2020.

Free Fest

The Memphis FreeFest, hosted by the Mid-South Amateur Radio Association (MARA), is Saturday, April 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO said that Delta Club typically donates \$200 in cash each year for one of the FreeFest door prizes. This year, the board decided to go with an item that was radio-related and donate a 20 AH lithium iron phosphate battery. While this would make a great addition for someone with a go-box, it should still be an item that can be used for other purposes.

HAM 101

Ham Hilliard W4GMM said that he needs ideas for Ham 101, and those ideas can be emailed to him at W4GMM@bellsouth.net. 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 7:24 p.m. to 7:31 p.m. Ian Lucas KN4OEK introduced the speaker for tonight's presentation, Shawn Thomas KN4WKF. Shawn spoke about 3-D printing and how it can be used in amateur radio.

Closing Remarks

With no objection, Steve Frazier KK4VPT adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m. The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

2019 New Ham of the Year



Carrie Blackwell KN4LCU, was named the Delta Club 2019 New Ham of the Year.
Congratulations, Carrie!

Donation made in memory of David Campbell, KD4NOQ

A memorial was given in memory of David Campbell KD4NOQ to Delta Amateur Radio Club by Steve Rutledge N4JQQ of Memphis, TN

Alert! I received an email today from Linda Sparks in the Shelby County Clerk's office alerting me that hams will have to show their current amateur radio license to get their callsign license plate(s) renewed - either the station license or the individual wallet license. It can be a signed Reference Copy. By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Delta Ham License Training, 2020

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 2020 from Delta Classes

0 Technician

0 General

1 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.

As of late 2019, expired Amateur Radio license holders can get their license back by taking the current Technician exam and show proof of their previous license class. A previous Advanced Class licensee will only be able to get a General Class license.

PROPOSED CLASSES

All classes will be 3-1/4 to 4 hours long for six sessions; one per week on a week night 6:15pm-9:30pm or Saturday day 9am-1pm.

SCHEDULED CLASSES

Tech Class 2-20 – February 22 – April 4, 2020

Tech Class 2-20 will be held from February 22nd to April 4th on six Saturdays except March 14th from 9am to 1pm at Memphis Police Department Appling Farms Station precinct, 6850 Appling Farms Pkwy. Preregistration is required to wa4ovo@gmail.com with Subject Line: Tech Class and the students name, cellphone number and email address in the text. There are currently sixteen students registered.

CURRENT CLASSES

Extra Class 1-20 – January 4 – February 15, 2020

Extra Class 1-20 began on January 4th with six students for six Saturdays from 9am to 1pm at Memphis Police Department Neighborhood Watch training room at Appling Farms Station, 6850 Appling Farms Blvd. There was not a class on January 25th which was the Jackson MS Hamfest date. Congratulations to Bobby Stroud KK5PAC for upgrading early to Extra at the Jackson MS Capital City Hamfest.



Dean Honadle N2LAZ demonstration left hand rule for Extra Class 1-20 Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The instructors are Joe WA4OVO, Paul KA9VAU, Dean N2LAZ, Barry W5CJ, Dave AD4Q, David W4DWW and Pat W4OQG. The FCC testing will be provided on February 15th at 10am by the Delta Club ARRL VE team led by Jeff Krause AJ4GY.

Tech Review for CBU – February 5, 2020

A Tech Review class was held on February 5th for five Christian Brothers University students in the Engineering Department upper division elective course, Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Systems.

All five students earned their Technician license. Congratulations to

Dr. Welch WD5FTA is the Department Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He requires the students to earn their FCC Technician license for this course where they will fly drones and use ham radio frequencies.

The Laurel VE Team of Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Bill Stevens WC9S, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Karen Chancellor AG4CC, Jelly Thompson N4HLT, Dr. Welch WD5FTA, and Len Grice W4MKS administered the FCC test session.

COMPLETED CLASSES

Tech Review for CBU – February 5, 2020

A Tech Review class was held on February 5th for five Christian Brothers University students in the Engineering Department upper division elective course, Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Systems. Dr. Eric Welch WD5FTA requires the students to earn their FCC Technician license for this course.



CBU Tech Review Class
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

All five passed with great scores. Congratulations to Judit Aubets Macia KO4BPP, Josue Bohorquez KO4BP Hammontree KO4BPT, Oscar Mindoza KI5ICD, and Samuel Ruleman KO4BPS.

The Laurel VEC team provided the FCC exam session. The VEs were Bill Stevens WC9S, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Len Grice W4MKS, Jelly

Thompson N4HLT, Eric Welch WD5FTA, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO.

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

General Class 4-19 was held on six Thursday nights from November 7th thru December 19th from 6:15-9:30pm. The 11 students began with eight completing the class. The location was at the Germantown Police Department training room, 1930 South Germantown Road.

Congratulations to Rodney KN4WGV, Robert KN4KFL, Mike KM4MRW, Bobby KK5PAC and Robert KN4RBW who upgrade to General at the class test session. Congratulations to Russell Rutledge who earned his Technician and General licenses. Five others will test later.

The instructors were Joe WA4OVO, Barry W5CJ, Paul KA9VAU, Len W4MKS, John KN4BVH and Pat W4OQG. The Delta Club ARRL VE Team tested on December 19th. Thanks to the VE team of Jeff AJ4GY, Stacy KJ4MDA, Barry W5CJ, Tom KK4ZZZ, Warren KC7ND and Joe WA4OVO for providing the testing opportunity.



Perry Hayes N4GJ introducing the aura of digital modes.

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO



General Class 4-19 ARRL FCC Test Session

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

General for CBU - November 20, 2019

A General test session was held on November 20th for six Christian Brothers University students in the Engineering Department upper division elective course, Unmanned Aerial Systems Design. Congratulations to Matthew Donnelly KN4ZNI, Nicholas Ireland KN4ZNK and Zhaoliang Ni KN4ZNN for upgrading to General.

Tech Review for CBU - October 30, 2019

A Tech Review class was held on October 30th for eight Christian Brothers University students in the Engineering Department upper division elective course, Unmanned Aerial Systems Design. Dr. Eric Welch WD5FTA requires the students to earn their FCC

Technician and General Class licenses for this course. There are 11 students in the class with three who had earned their Tech license last February in the Intro class.

All eight students earned their Technician license and five upgraded to General.

Congratulations to Mat Donnelly KN4ZNI, John Clark KN4ZNJ, Nicholas Ireland KN4ZNK, Jonathan Looney KI5GZS, Pablo Marin KN4ZNM and Zhaoliang Ni KN4ZNN who earned their Technician licenses. Congratulations to Riggs Markham KN4ZNL and Zach Yancy KN4ZNO who earned Tech and also upgraded to General. Congratulations to Josue Becerra KN4SQK, Ian Dover KN4SQQ and Bryce Whitfield KI5DLE who upgraded to General.

Dr. Welch WD5FTA is the 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 Perry Hayes N4GJ administered the FCC test session.

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.

Congratulations to Rodney Adams KN4WGV, Daniel Brieck KN4WGW, Robert Broom KN4WGX, David Cary KN4WGY, Jim Dollar KN4WZ, Joshua Foster KN4WHA, Vicky Gamber KN4WHB, Lauren Martin KN4WHC, 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.

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.

February we will discuss "**PORTABLE POWER.**" I need a subject for March and beyond, so email me your ideas.

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

YL News

submitted by Linda 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.

Swamp Stompers pictures



Capitol City HamFest



Jim KI4I, Dennis KJ4BDU , Art WA4PSS, and Bob KW4RJ,
enjoying the culinary delights in Jackson, MS!

Delta Club Past Presidents



Steve KK4VPT, remains president throughout 2020.
Ken KI4AOH, was president 2016-2018.

Amateur Hardware Update
Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

Many times when operating in the field and on QRP rigs we select headphones to use instead of a speaker. These allow for use with QRP rig that do not have a high enough audio output. They

are also useful in high noise environments. The problem with most headphones is the wire connecting the radio to the headphones is not long enough for use without straining the cable. Luckily we can have a simple fix for this problem. Extension cables are available on eBay that you just plug in to get extended length. You can



select the length and color you want for your application. These cables are available on eBay for under 1 dollar. This is a small price to pay for a longer trouble-free headphone cable. Go to eBay and do a search for “headphone extension cable” to see all the options you can get.

Amateur Packet Update
Submitted by James Butler, KB4LJV

Most of our equipment runs on 12 volt DC power supplies. The ARRL is offering a book with information on power supplies. The book shows how they work and talks about the linear and switched mode supplies. The book even has information on building up your own power supply for your equipment. The book has information on high voltage power supplies for tube equipment including safety information. Calculations for your power supply needs are shown to make it easy to get components to build up your own power supplies. This book from the ARRL is called “Power Supplies Explained”. If you want to learn more about power supplies this is the book for you. The link to this \$25 book is <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Power-Supplies-Explained>

Silent Key

Dick Shaw NF4H, a past member of Delta Club, past away Saturday, January 18th after a long illness. His son, Richard KF5OIM, is Vice President of the Olive Branch ARC. Our condolences go out to Richard and his family.

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>.

2020 Board of Directors

President

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

Vice President

Bob Van Keuren KM4SEB
rtvk@hotmail.com
901-853-0303

Secretary

Mary Jean Hall KN4FBL
kn4fbl@gmail.com
901-356-1475

Treasurer

David Jackson KM4SEC
davidjkson@bellsouth.net
901-487-3016

Director of Training

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO
wa4ovo@gmail.com
901-628-4318

Director of Publications

Bob Vawter, KW4RJ
vawter.bob@gmail.com
901-438-4563

Director of Programs

Ian Lucas KN4OEK
KN4OEK@gmail.com
901-828-6209

Director of Meetings & Special Events

Scott Adams, KM4PMU
scottedadamsjr@hotmail.com
901-573-6280

Repeater Trustee

Barry McDonald W5CJ
W5CJ@ARRL.NET
901-853-0510

Public Information Officer

Len Grice, W4MKS
W4MKS@arrl.net
901-522-6711

Immediate Past President

Ken Laseter, KI4AOH
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. 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.

2020 Date	Event	Contact Information
Jan. 18	Swamp Stompers 50K/25K Run	Ken Laseter KI4AOH
May 12	MARS contacts	
June 27-28	Field Day @ Morgan Woods Park, G'town	
Sep 7-8	MS-150 Bike Ride	Darrell Sheffield KK4D
Oct 10	Bluff City Blues Bike Ride	Ken Laseter KI4AOH

Hamfests in the Southeast Area

2020

January 24-25	Capitol City Hamfest in Jackson, MS
February 7-9	HamCation 2019 in Orlando, FL
February 16	LCARC's 2020 Winterfest in Hoxie, AR
March 6 - 7	BirmingHamfest 2019 in Birmingham, AL
March 14	MTARS Hamfest Tullahoma, TN
March 28	Ides of March Hamfest in Union City, TN
March 28 - 29	April Fool Hamfest in Corinth, MS
April 11	Memphis FreeFest in Bartlett, TN
May 15 - 17	Hamvention in Xenia, OH
July 25	Greater Nashville & Middle TN HamQuest in Lebanon, TN
August 22 - 23	Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, AL
October 16 - 17	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/fl312601Fill-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 would like to advertise equipment you have for sale, please email Bob. My email address is vawter.bob@gmail.com.

Ray Parks

WB4ZHI

Interested mainly in getting his 95' tower taken down; willing to pay someone

Also has some ham equipment for sale.

When you contact him be sure and tell him you are with Delta club.

PARKS, RAYMOND M

2625 GALAXIE

MEMPHIS, TN 38134-4623

raymphs@bellsouth.net

Moving sale:

(a) Yaesu FT-840 HF transceiver, 10-160 meters plus general coverage

receiver. Includes Kenwood power supply. I achieved WAS on

this rig plus QSL confirmations from about 80 countries. This is

an excellent rig for new hams or a solid backup rig. Asking \$500.

(b) Yaesu FT-990 HF transceiver, 10-160 meters plus general coverage

receiver. This is an unusual rig in that it has a built-in

power supply or you can power it from a battery or other DC source.

Asking \$600.

Moving give-aways:

When my last employer closed down a major data center, they gave me more hardware than I could possibly use. I want to give away these items rather than move them:

(a) Three IBM Netfinity 5000 mini-towers with keyboard and mouse. These units are built like tanks and ran Linux in a production environment.

They typically have multiple network cards and multiple disks. You won't wear out these machines!

(b) One Vivitron monitor, 16".

Availability of all items ends Thursday, February 13.

Dan, N7QB

901-827-5049

DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS

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