

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 79 * August 2022



Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

Sparks Newsletter

Website: <http://deltaclub.org>

Facebook:

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

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

82 Repeater Down - Delta Club Information
Net on Alternate Repeater 146.625

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

We plan to meet this month **via “ZOOM” and in-person.**

This month's meeting begins at 7:00pm on August 9, 2022 at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 in Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 / Stage Road) and via ZOOM accessible with the link below.

Program: *Community Service and Outreach Opportunities* by Mary Jean Hall KY4FB

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwucu2urjopEtwXZSv3qIz8-BT0fyEdv-11/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGgrT4uHNSUsxGPRpw-A4_4LO7ziH5ej7dKpCXWFXNCSxmue8B2YrRmNdzG

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88354601388?pwd=VIINQ292VGU3Q01IZGI1TFZlXN0Y0dz09>

Meeting ID: 883 5460 1388

Passcode: 041257

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88354601388#,,,,*041257# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,88354601388#,,,,*041257# US (Chicago)

There will be FCC Testing Tuesday night.

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly ARRL Volunteer Examiner testing session prior to in-person meetings. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins by 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of identification, at least one a photo ID, and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 PM. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. Candidates MUST have an FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) BEFORE coming to the testing session. For more VE testing, or FCC FRN information, please contact:

Bob Vawter, KW4RJ, VE Liaison

Phone: 901-438-4563

Email: KW4RJ@ARRL.net

Announcements

As of Thursday, August 4th, both the 82 & 700 repeaters are off the air. The 82 was shut down Wednesday afternoon, August 3rd after the MedMERS Net experienced intermittent problems. The nightly net was switched over to the 700 repeater Wednesday night. Then Thursday afternoon when Joe WA4OVO was talking with Rick N0KYN he said Joe was full quieting and Joe had him very audible, but with a hissing background noise. On the next exchange the repeater cut off after initial key up. Then nothing. Rick WA4NVM checked on the 700 Friday morning. It seems the finals are gone-there was no power out at all. **Now the Delta nightly net is on 146.625 repeater and the Four Forty Net will be on the alternate 443.200.**

The MS-150 Bike Ride will be held on September 10th and 11th. This year it will start and end at the Landers Center in Southaven both days. Darrell Sheffield, KK4D is again coordinating the communications portion of this event. He said that he needs 20 hams each day. Six hams need to be mobile and 14 for the rest stops. There will be some reimbursement consideration for gas for the mobile units. The mobile units need to be a pickup or SUV, preferably with a bike rack. We will use the 146.91 repeater with a 107.2 tone.

If you want to volunteer, contact Darrell at arskk4d@gmail.com or 277-8122.

There will not be a YL Net in August. During this summer break, all YLs are encouraged to continue checking in to the Delta Club Information Net.

President's Corner
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KY4FB

August President's Corner
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KY4FB

Eight months ago I presented you with a challenge to complete something on your ham radio "to do" list this year. Whether it was to finish that project you've been putting off, upgrade your license, or invest in a new piece of equipment, it's a good time to stop and reflect on your progress. Did you achieve your goal? Are you working on it still? Did it fall to the back burner?

If you achieved your goal, then congratulations! I hope you share about your success (and those hard-earned lessons) with us. If you haven't completed it yet, don't worry! You still have some time! As for me, I wanted to build a better ham radio power box. I let it slip to the back burner for a few months. I felt encouraged at Field Day to finally get the ball rolling, and I have made significant progress. I hope to get the last few pieces I need at the Huntsville Hamfest this month. I'm also looking forward to the enlightening conversations to and from Huntsville on the bus.

If your goal was to get more involved this year, we have many opportunities coming up! This month's program will cover community service and outreach opportunities that are available in ham radio, especially in this area. If you have some fun pictures, videos or stories about previous events, feel free to have those ready to share. If you are new to ham radio, hopefully you'll get a better idea about some things you can do to get more hands-on experience with your ham radio.

Another way to get involved is to consider running for a position on the Delta Club Board of Directors. Amateur Radio is built on the concept of volunteering and serving on the board is no different. While there are certainly challenges and it can be time-consuming, it is one of the most rewarding things I have done. You don't need to have much experience in ham radio to serve, either – just life experience and a willingness to help! I started serving on the board within a year of getting my Technician license, and here we are now! Of course, if you have had your license for years, you should consider running, too!

We are in the process of putting together a nominating committee for the 2023 Board of Directors. EVERY position is open. That being said, many of the current board members have expressed interest/willingness to serve another year. We know that we will need to fill the positions of Secretary and Director of Programs, so if either of those positions interest you, please consider stepping up. If ANY position interests you, please consider stepping up. We all

have a lot on our plates, but we all make choices on how to prioritize our time. What is better than prioritizing giving back to Amateur Radio in a way that helps to shape our club and community?

The Delta Club Nightly Information Net has been moving around to a few different frequencies lately. We will discuss this more during the member meeting; I want to thank you all for your patience and understanding while Barry W5CJ and the repeater crew have been working diligently to figure out the issues. Those issues are definitely above my pay grade! We can focus on the negatives in a challenge, or we can focus on the positives – I choose to be optimistic about it! This is a great time to test your current equipment setup and skills. Do you need to improve something on your home station to reach the different repeaters? Do you need a new part? If you need to improve something, can you get what you need at the upcoming Huntsville Hamfest? It's a good reminder to know our backup frequencies (and the backups to them). If we can't handle these types of situations, then how do we handle the real emergencies? Don't forget that if/when the Net is on the 146.625 repeater, we can use Echolink to check in to the Net. So, if you can't reach the 625 repeater but you have an internet connection, you may be able to still check in on the Net! We will cover this more in the meeting Tuesday night.

See you Tuesday!

73,
Mary Jean KY4FB

Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Jim Martin, KD4FUU

Please renew your membership right away, so you won't forget about it! The membership application may be downloaded from our website (for both renewals *and* new members) at:

<https://deltaclub.org/membership>

Annual membership fee is \$20 per individual or \$25 per family. Completed applications and payment may be mailed to:

Delta Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 342768
Memphis, TN 38184-2768

If you prefer you can print and bring the completed form, along with the membership fee, to any in-person meeting. Please contact Jim Martin KD4FUU at **kd4fuu@gmail.com** with any questions or concerns regarding application submission and/or payment of annual dues.

LIFEGREEN CHECKING FOR BUSINESS

July 1, 2022 through July 29, 2022

SUMMARY			
Beginning Balance	\$23,565.04	Minimum Daily Balance	\$23,087
Deposits & Credits	\$179.75 +	Average Monthly Statement Balance	\$23,266
Withdrawals	\$20.95 -		
Fees	\$0.00 -		
Automatic Transfers	\$0.00 +		
Checks	\$456.44 -		
Ending Balance	\$23,267.40		

DEPOSITS & CREDITS		
07/27	Deposit - Thank You	179.75

WITHDRAWALS		
07/05	TN Sos Annual Rp 6157412286 James Martin 5146995	20.95

CHECKS		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
07/11	1566	456.44

DAILY BALANCE SUMMARY					
<u>Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>
07/05	23,544.09	07/11	23,087.65	07/27	23,267.40

SMALL BUSINESS CD *0028

Available Balance	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>	<u>YTD INTEREST</u>	<u>INTEREST EARNED NOT PAID</u>
\$10,913.59	1.590 %	\$86.18	\$20.94
View More Details			

Applications Received - July 2022

(1) New Membership(s) - Pro-Rated Dues	\$10.00
(0) New Membership(s) - Dues Waived	\$0.00
(0) New Membership(s)	\$0.00
(2) Membership Renewal(s)	\$40.00
(0) Donations Received	\$0.00
Total Dues Received	\$50.00

Other Deposits

Reimbursement - Nashoba Amateur Radio Club's portion of Field Day 2022 Food and Supplies	\$129.75
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Total Other Deposits	\$129.75
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Total Deposits	\$179.75
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Debits/Payments

State of Tennessee Annual Report Fee	\$20.95
Chk # 1566 - Field Day 2022 Food and Supplies	\$456.44

Total Payments	\$477.39
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DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Submitted by Carolyn Horne, KX4QF

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2022

Attendees: Mary Jean Hall KY4FB, John Reiners KN4BVH, Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Jim Martin KD4FUU, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Mike Harrison KM4MRW and Scott Adams KM4PMU.

Absent: Barry McDonald W5CJ and Len Grice W4MKS.

Guests: Rick Tillman WA4NVM and Bob Vawter KW4RJ.

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at 6:30 PM on a Zoom video conference call, with the President serving as chair and the Secretary being present. President Mary Jean Hall called the meeting to order.

Mary Jean Hall discussed whether to have next week's Members Meeting only via Zoom or both in-person and via Zoom. The board determined to have a hybrid meeting. The in-person meeting will be held at the Ellendale Church of Christ. The link to the Zoom meeting will be sent by email and may also be found in the SPARKS newsletter on the deltaclub.org website.

Mary Jean Hall discussed upcoming events. The program for the monthly meeting will be 'Community Service and Outreach.'

Rick Tillman gave an update on the 146.82 repeater status. He said he and Barry McDonald tested the SWR and it was 1:1, and he also tested the voltage in our backup battery, and it gave a good reading. Mary Jean Hall and Joe Lowenthal confirmed that as of the BOD meeting, we were back on the 146.82 repeater, resuming the 440-Net on Friday evenings.

Joe Lowenthal gave an update on the MS150 Bike Ride. He said they need 6 drivers, who will get a gas stipend, and 14 people to staff 5 rest stops. The 2-day course will be from the Landers Center to Tunica area, then back to the Landers Center each day.

Mary Jean Hall said she sent an email to anyone who, in the past, has volunteered to help at the Bluff City Blues ride, to gauge interest in this year's event. She also emailed Linda Laseter KJ4CTX about timing on resuming the YL Net.

Bob Vawter KW4RJ was voted in unanimously by the board as the new VE Liaison, a motion to accept his nomination having been made by Mike Harrison, seconded by Joe Lowenthal. Daniel Columbus AA4HV recently stepped down from that position. We thank Daniel for all his work and wish Bob every success in this position.

The board discussed other openings on the board. Currently the Director of Programs position is open. The board agreed that this late in the year it makes sense to leave it open until elections are held in November.

Mary Jean Hall gave an update on CPR (ASHI) classes. She has been working on this with Fred Miller KS2X. The Germantown Fire Department will provide the class. Fred asked us to pick a date in September or October for them to add to their schedule. The cost is \$10 if you need a Certification Card, and free if you do not.

Jim Martin reported on the progress of digital payment access through PayPal. He did open a PayPal account and tied it to our Regions checking account. However, he received a notice that PayPal had restricted the account. He is working on getting that restriction removed before we can tie it into our website.

Mary Jean said there will be a 3-member nominating committee set up in August for Board of Directors openings. Nominations will be in October and the election will be held in November. Most board members indicated they would like to retain their seats, but the Secretary needs to step down due to having other meetings causing scheduling conflicts. Nominations may be made for all seats on the board, and those members interested are encouraged to add their names to the list of candidates. To be elected to the board, members must have their dues paid and have attended at least 6 out of the last 12 meetings, effective this November.

Jim Martin read the Treasurer's report to the board as published in SPARKS. He asked whether it was time to roll over some money from our cash account to a CD, and the board decided to wait on that.

Carolyn Horne announced we had one new and one renewed membership application. Joe Lowenthal made a motion to accept them, Jim Martin seconded the motion and the motion passed. She also showed the board a thank you note sent to the Club by Brandy Miller KA2PGW of the Nashoba Club, thanking Mary Jean Hall for doing a wonderful job of providing food and provisions for Field Day.

Scott Adams asked if there were any snack requests for the Members' Meeting. He said the snacks will also go on the Huntsville Bus Trip. He confirmed that the church is open for our meeting on Tuesday and requested that the air conditioning be turned down if it is going to be hot. He asked if someone at the VE session would let him know if the ice machine is working. He will update the key assignment to the church from Dan Columbus to Bob Vawter, the new VE Liaison. Joe Lowenthal asked Scott if he would send him a list of any snacks to go on the bus to Huntsville.

Joe Lowenthal said 8 students finished the Tech Class which started July 7th. Testing takes place August 11th with equipment demonstrations on August 18th. He said he is planning to schedule a General Class in the Fall.

Joe Lowenthal said 27 people have paid for the trip to Huntsville but that he had not yet cashed the checks pending the final cancelation cutoff on August 5th. There is also at least 1 additional person interested in making the trip. He said the Club has reserved 2 tables at the Huntsville Hamfest.

John Reiners said he had nothing new to report. Mary Jean Hall asked if he would be interested in pursuing ARES in-person meetings at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

Mike Harrison sent a report of updates done to and updates proposed for the Club website. There was a discussion about the proposed changes. He also said he had updated MailChimp to removed emails that do not show in the DARC roster and have not been opened in 2022. He is aiming for a list of 500 or less, to allow us to send more mass mailings per month per our subscription limits. He asked board members to review the list of potential deletions before removing the emails, then he will initiate an SOP.

Mary Jean Hall reminded the board that the November 8th election will take place at the church so we will not be able to meet there. That means we will have to meet via Zoom only or find another location for an in-person meeting.

Mary Jean Hall adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM. The next regular Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 6:30 PM on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Secretary

Minutes of Last Month's Club Meeting
Submitted by Carolyn Horne, KX4QF

DARC Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2022

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club was held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 7:00 PM on a Zoom video conference call, with the President serving as chair and the Secretary being present. Club President Mary Jean Hall KY4FB called the meeting to order and then welcomed everyone to the meeting. At least 41 members and guests were present for the meeting on Zoom.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Dan Wehner KN4FBJ moved to "approve the Treasurer's Report and Minutes as published in Sparks." Len Grice W4MKS seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by the club without objection.

Announcements

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB said that we were meeting only on Zoom this evening because of heightened COVID activity, which impacted members of the board, and because Ellendale Church of Christ was having a funeral in the room where we meet.

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO gave an update on the Tech Class being held on 6 Thursdays nights from 6:15 – 9:30 PM from July 7 through August 11. Nine students were in attendance, though thirteen originally signed up.

He said he has received 15 checks for the Huntsville Bus Trip, with 14 remaining. One other person committed to pay for the trip, bringing the total to 30. Joe said the bus reservation may be canceled up to 2 weeks prior to the trip. The fare is currently \$95. If there are two coming from the same family and residence, the fare for the second family member is \$60. If you are interested, contact Joe at wa4ovo@gmail.com with subject 'Huntsville Bus Trip' and your information. Make checks payable to 'Delta Amateur Radio Club.'

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB reviewed some upcoming events in which the Club regularly participates. The Bike MS Rockin' Ride takes place September 10-11, 2022, starting from the Lander Center in Southaven, MS. There will be more info available after the coordinators have a meeting July 14th. Bluff City Blues Ride takes place October 8th, and more info will be available in the next month or two.

Mary Jean said that the board had decided to do a trial run of the ARRL Membership Commission Program with Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO's Tech Class.

Mary Jean said after Field Day participation with multiple area clubs, she would like to expand on that and do more joint events. She said she was in discussion with Fred Miller KS2X about holding joint CPR classes. Fred said it would need to be approved by the Germantown Fire Department and he is taking care of that end. The CPR class runs for about 3 hours. Mary Jean took down names of those interested from the Delta Club and will work with Fred on the details. It was agreed to schedule the class after school starts in the fall when it is cooler.

Mary Jean reminded everyone that the nightly DARC Information Net is still on the 443.70 repeater, so there is no 440 Net on Friday evenings. Also, the YL Net is on a summer pause for the rest of this month.

Barry McDonald W5CJ said he went out to the 146.82 repeater site to check on the status of repairs. He reported that it looks like they have finished doing all the work. He will go out there with Rick Tillman WA4NVM to do another test. From there they will discuss hiring climbers. There was a question-and-answer time about the repairs.

Rick Tillman WA4NVM announced that there are elections coming up on August 4th and encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB asked members to renew their memberships using the current form available on the Club website.

Discussion / Program

Mary Jean presented a recap of Field Day 2022. She thanked all the station managers and members who helped with Field Day. The tear-down happened a bit earlier than usual due to a lightning storm close to the venue.

Pat Lane W4OQG requested a status on the CW upload, which was still outstanding at the time of the meeting. Carolyn Horne KX4QF said the log on Barri Munday WB4SWP's laptop was exported to a thumb drive and imported to the laptop she used on Sunday morning. She and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO will get together to facilitate the upload to the combined Clubs' log. Mary Jean opened the floor to those who were not present on Field Day to find out why Field Day was not on their schedule. Some explained they were out of town, others cited the heat and humidity, and some wanted to attend but were committed to other activities.

The station captains gave their reports:

1. HF Digital. John Reiners KN4BVH said he had 145 FT4/FT8 contacts and had set up dual laptops in a server configuration to do automatic logging. He said his station logged extra points for non-petroleum (solar) power. Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO added that we had 1100 out of 1700 bonus points, missing the Section Manager message and the ARRL message.
2. 6 Meters / Satellite. Rick Tillman WA4NVM said that it was not a good outing for 6 meters and there were few opportunities for satellite contacts. He did log a handful of contacts. Tom Dichiara AC5MR reported that the solar flux index was only 92 on Field Day, where 100+ is considered best for HF propagation.
3. 20 Meter SSB/Voice. Fred Miller KS2X said he logged 61 contacts and a sizable number of people, some new to HF, came to the station to make contacts. It was successful from an educational standpoint. He said that rather than the G5RV antenna he used last year, he used a delta loop that was vertically polarized up in a tree. He said he had better results with the delta loop. Next year he plans to use an antenna with some gains: two 20-meter phased ground planes.
4. 15 Meters/80 Meters/40 Meters Mixed. Steve Frazier KK4VPT said he set up in the same spot as last year, which worked out well. He made a total of 128 contacts. He worked 15- and 80-meter SSB during the day on Saturday, then later at night worked 40 meter digital, where he made 76 contacts.
5. CW. Pat Lane WA4OQG reported he used a wire antenna up in a tree with an LDG auto tuner. He said it worked out well. He used a Kenwood TS2000 on 20 meters throughout the day on Saturday. He plans to use the same setup next year. Carolyn Horne KX4QF worked CW early Sunday morning with her Kenwood TS590SG and bug. She tuned up 40 meters and said the band was hopping for that time of day. She said there was a total of 82 contacts on both bands. She mentioned she had problems with her laptop and had to resort to paper logging, until Steve Frazier KK4VPT brought over a Club laptop and set it up for the station. This brought up the issue of having a backup laptop available throughout Field Day activities. John Reiners KN4BVH suggested setting up a local server next year on which to keep a central log repository. This makes it possible to have a visitors' viewing station showing the current log map.
6. GOTA. Paul Roberts KA4X took control of a Yaesu 891 at the get-on-the-air station. Joe Lowenthal took a shift at the station and said they made a total of 25 contacts, which qualified the GOTA station for a bonus. Joe said about 5 people came by who were not hams.

Mary Jean asked for a critique of the station and antenna placement and no one experienced problems or interference except Fred Miller KS2X and the GOTA station when both were on the same band.

Mary Jean reviewed the food cost breakdown then asked the members what we can do to increase participation next year. David Wilke KQ4AJM, Jason Terrell KO4DOH, and others offered some suggestions, while Fred Miller KS2X and Rick Tillman WA4NVM weighed in on past and current venues.

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB showed pictures and videos of Field Day 2022, which she will put on Facebook.

Closing Remarks

Joe Lowenthal made a motion to adjourn. Delta Club President Mary Jean Hall KY4FB adjourned the meeting at 9:18 PM.

The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 7:00 PM in-person and /or via Zoom. Check the current edition of SPARKS or the Delta Amateur Radio Club Facebook page just before the scheduled meeting time for more information on venue instructions or the Zoom link for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Secretary (2022)

Delta Ham License Training, 2022

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. The FCC implemented a \$35 application fee on April 19, 2022.

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 2022 from Delta Classes

18 Technician

2 General

7 Extra

Note:

As of April 19, 2022 there is a \$35 FCC application fee for new hams, renewals, Vanity callsigns, etc except for license upgrade, systematic callsign issue, name, address or email changes. This is in addition to the \$15 ARRL VEC FCC exam fee.

The new Technician ARRL Ham Radio License Manual is the Fifth Edition with question pool that becomes effective July 1, 2022 for four years.

The current ARRL General Class License Manual is the Ninth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2019 for four years.

The current ARRL Extra Class License Manual is the Twelfth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2020 for four years.

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 or seven sessions; one per week on a week night 6:15pm-9:30pm or Saturday day 9am-1pm.

The next General license class will probably start in early November 2022

The next Extra Class license class will probably start in early January 2023

CURRENT CLASS

Tech Class 4-22 – July 7 – August 11, 2022

A Technician license class is being held from July 7th to August 18th on six Thursday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. The first four classes were via Zoom with the fifth and sixth classes in person at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave). The FCC exam will be offered on the fifth night of class, August 11th. The sixth night will be equipment demonstrations. Nine students began the classes with seven completing the instructional period.

The instructors are Joe WA4OVO, Paul KA4X, Pat W4OQG, Steve KK4VPT, David KY4FH and John KN4BVH. The demonstrators are Rick WA4NVM, Richard K4DXF, Rick KJ4NWQ, John KN4BVH, Barry W5CJ and Joe WA4OVO.

COMPLETED CLASSES

Tech Class 2-22 – February 28 – April 4, 2022

A Technician license class began on February 28th for six Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. The first four classes were via Zoom. The class began with 15 students. Eleven students finished the four instructional classes with two students out of town. The fifth class was in-person with a review of the 421 questions and answers in the question pool as well as an opportunity to take the FCC exam. The Equipment Demonstration sixth class was given in person on April 4th.

Congratulations to Frank Barton KI5UJH (now KI5FGB), Charlie Cole KO4ZCF, Matt Coolican KO4ZCG, Bob Garrelts KI5UJI, Billy Griffin KO4ZCH, Keith Miller kO4ZCI, Bob O'Grady KO4UCJ, and Kyle Turlington KI5UJJ for earning their Technician licenses. Congratulations to Sandra West KO4ZLM for earning her Technician license on April 8th who tested with Chattanooga ARC. The two locals will test at a later date. Additional congratulations to Frank Barton KI5UJH and Billy Griffin KO4ZCH for also upgrading to General.

Thanks to the Laurel VE team of Joe WA4OVO, Jeff AJ4GY, Barry W5CJ, David KY4FH, Bob AI4GI and Rick WA4NVM for being the VEs.



Rick KJ4NWQ on APRS Demo
Photo by Joe WA4OVO



John KN4BVH on Digital Demos
Photo by Joe WA4OVO



Rick WA4NVM on F0-29 contact with Tech Class 2-22

Photos by Joe WA4OVO

The instructors were Joe WA4OVO, Paul KA9VAU, Perry N4GJ, David KY4FH, John KN4BVH, and Pat W4OQG. The Equipment Demonstrators are Rick WA4NVM, Rick KJ4NWQ, John KN4BVH and Joe WA4OVO.

CBU Tech Review Class 3-22 – February 23, 2022

A Technician license review session was held in Dr. Eric Welch (WD5FTA)’s junior level Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Vehicle class for 13 Chrisitan Brother University students on February 23rd . Congratulations to Juan KO4YBR, Juan KO4YBS, Hector KO4YBT, Jake KO4YBU, Dan KO4YBV, Joshua KO4YBW, Aldrin KO4YBX, Carlos KO4YCN, and James KE8UAR earned their Technician licenses.

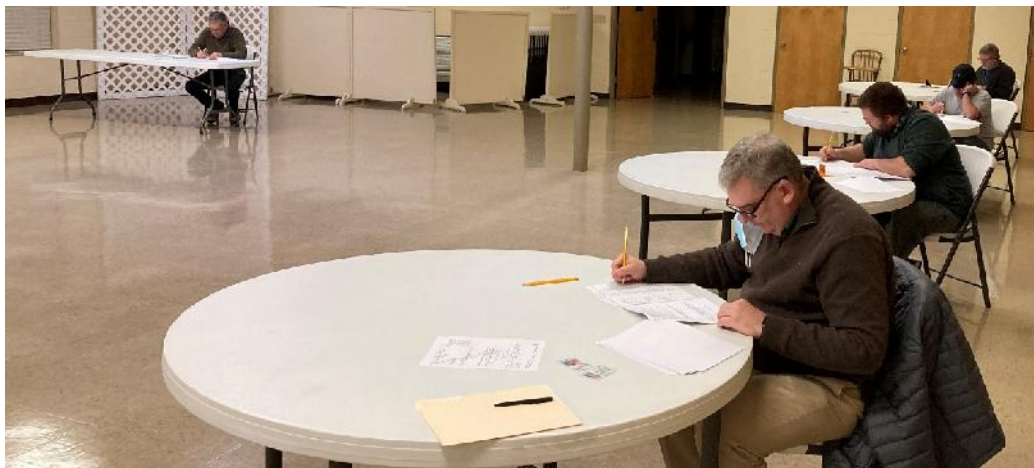
Thanks to the Laurel VEC Team of Barry W5CJ, Jelly N4HLT, David KY4FH, David AJ4KF, Eric WD5FTA and Joe WA4OVO for providing the Laurel FCC test session.

Extra Class 1-22 – January 3 – February 14, 2022

Extra Class 1-22 license class is being held via Zoom and started on Monday night, January 3, 2022 from 6:15-9:30pm. The class is for seven Monday nights until February 14th.

There are eight students in the class: Paul Broom KN4WGX, Kevin Buddle KO4UTX, Charles Byars KI5HWA, Randall Haynes KO4KKA, Kevin Kelley KO4OAO, Dylan Martin KC4DTM, Scott McDermott KO4OWE, and Jan Slezak KC1QBB. Since last report one student dropped out and one joined.

Congratulations to Kevin Buddle KY4MI, formerly KO4UTX, for testing early with a W5YI on-line testing group and upgrading on January 25th.



Extra Class 1-22 Test Session

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The instructors were Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, John Reiners KN4BVH, Dave Church AD4Q, Dean Honadle N2LAZ, Pat Lane W4OQG, Paul Roberts KA9VAU, and David Wilson KY4FH.

General Class 6-21 – November 1 – November 29, 2021

A General license class was held on five Monday nights between November 1st and November 29th from 6:15-9:30pm. The Zoom classes were on November 1,8,15,22 with in-class FCC testing on November 29th. There were 14 students in the first class; two from California and another from North Carolina. The class ended with 11 students, excluding the California students.

The test session location was at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave). Congratulations to Web Webster KC4WEB who tested early online for upgrading to General. Congratulations to Charles Byars KI5HWA, Dan Currey KO4NGZ, John Duty KK4LST, Jeff Foster KI5SEK Randall Haynes KO4KKA, and Dylan Martin KC4DTM for upgrading to General.

Thanks to the Laurel VE team of Joe WA4OVO, Perry N4GJ, Barry W5CJ, Bob AI4GI, and David KY4FH for providing the test session.

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 and Print your License.

INDIVIDUAL EMAIL ADDRESS IN QRZ
Submitted by Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO

Consider going to QRZ.COM and log in. Then enter your email address on their QRZ page so other hams can contact you vial email rather snail mail. Anyone looking for email addresses has to log in to QRZ to be able to see the ham’s email address.

Find Registered Amateur Radio Operators Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

To view licensed hams in your vicinity, go to <https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map>

Internet radio is the new shortwave Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

On Radio World Susan Ashworth interviews Peter Skiera, author, researcher and founder of the Recommended Stations list

Skiera: Internet radio is the new shortwave. You can tune stations a few miles away or from almost any part of the world without needing a shortwave radio and fiddling with an antenna. All you need is a stable Wi-Fi network and an internet radio or an app on your smartphone or computer. I live in an area with poor terrestrial radio reception, so internet radio is a godsend for me, and the sound quality is excellent.

There are so many music lovers who have no idea how much internet radio has to offer (and for free) or who are afraid of the technology. It's my mission to make the medium less intimidating and expose great — and strange — internet stations for people to enjoy. As my website's motto says: Stop Searching. Start Listening.

Read the full interview at

<https://www.radioworld.com/news-and-business/news-makers/delving-into-quirky-compelling-corners-of-the-internet-radio-universe>

73,
W4WTN

Leaving the hobby....

Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

The other day I came across a how to video on becoming a radio amateur. It's a recurring kind of publication, the kind that I've contributed to in the past.

I wondered what it would take to leave the hobby.

First of all, I'd have to let my callsign lapse. That's easy enough, but I paid for five years, so it's going to take a while. When it has finally ceased being mine, have I stopped being an amateur?

For one, my qualifications would still be in the regulator's database, likely well beyond my breathing years. I wonder if they implement the right to be forgotten?

Another thing I'd have to do is stop knowing about how antennas work in day-to-day situations. I'd have to stop noticing the location of free to air television antennas, mobile phone towers, Wi-Fi antennas throughout the community and even the network in my home.

I'd also have to say goodbye to all the friends I've made around the place. There's hundreds of people scattered around the globe who with a single word might lure me back into their world, and with that the risk of being sucked back into the community once again.

At a minimum I'd have to stop using computers, or radios, or electronics really. I'd have to stop wanting gadgets and measuring equipment, not to mention having to mothball my soldering irons and give away all my heat shrink.

I'd have to give back the space I've eked out in the house and return it to the general living space it once was. I'd also have to sell all my radio gear and antennas. I'd have to rip out the coax, fix up any holes, cancel pending orders for new antennas and donate my books and magazines to the local library.

I'd have to stop looking at electronics magazines, cut up my loyalty cards for the local electronics and hardware stores and start an online store to sell all the connectors and adaptors I've amassed over the time I've been part of the community.

I'd have to forget the phonetic alphabet that I use almost daily and start using crazy words to spell things over the phone like a normal person does.

Experimentation would be a thing of the past and would be frowned upon as a fringe activity, one only suited to madmen and amateurs, and I'd have to stop investing my time in software and projects that might one day be used in amateur radio.

One of the hardest things to give away would be my curiosity, the one thing that's innate to my wellness. I'd have to stop asking Why? and How? all the time. I'd have to plead ignorance when someone asks how coax works and what's inside a blob of goop on a random circuit board they found on the side of the road.

Then there's the other things like physics and general science. I'd have to disavow all knowledge of these activities. I'd have to stop looking at the stars and stop wondering which radio frequencies were being emitted from all over the night sky.

I'd have to become ignorant of emergency services and communication, of event management and club life. I'd have to feign interest in anything that wasn't science or technology and I'd have to keep a straight face and my mouth shut when someone extolled the virtues of an irrational belief system.

I would likely have to give up my job as an IT consultant and start on a more manual job. Perhaps I'd take up gardening, though I'm not sure how I'd do in the weather at my age.

Even if I achieved all that, and kept it up for the rest of my life, I'd still be an amateur, just one hiding from the hordes of humanity striving to live on this ball of dirt, hurtling through the heavens on a journey through the stars.

I'm not sure I could do that.

So, for better or worse, as I see it, once an amateur, always an amateur and if you're curious and believe in science and technology, I'm here to say that you're well over halfway towards being an amateur! Welcome to the club!

I'm Onno VK6FLAB

ARRL Benefits

ARRL amateur radio community. When you renew, a few of the benefits you will enjoy are:

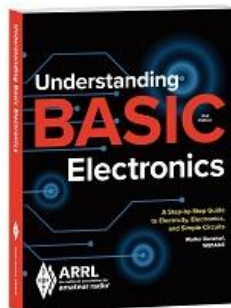
- Your choice of a print magazine. Eligible US-based ARRL members can elect to receive QST, the official membership journal of ARRL or On the Air, aimed at helping new and emerging radio communicators get active and on the air.
- Digital access to all four ARRL publications -- QST, On the Air, and now QEX, covering topics related to radio communications experimentation, and National Contest Journal (NCJ), covering radio contesting.
- Access to ARRL's Technical Information Service to assist with technical problems and help with your projects.
- Free FCC license renewal and modification service.

To secure these amazing members-only benefits and many more in the coming year, visit www.arrl.org/join/WE1 to renew or call us toll-free at: 1-888-277-5289 (US Only) , Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET. International members call (860) 594-0338.

Packet Update

By: James Butler KB4LJV

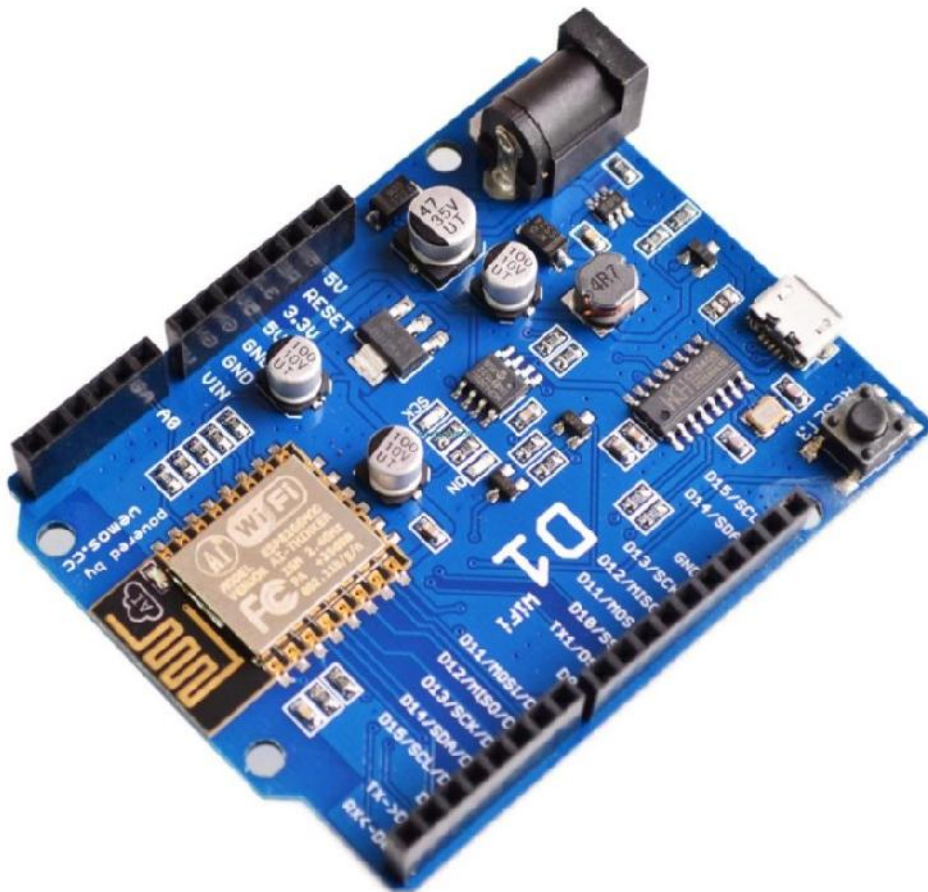
The ARRL has come out with a new technical book. This book is called “Understanding Basic Electronics”. This book gives a better view of electronics principles. The book offers information on digital and analog electronics circuits and how they work. The book teaches alternating current (AC) circuit concepts, frequency, transformers, impedance, and resonant circuits. They show you how to use a scientific calculator, schematic symbols, and how to solve circuit problems. The direct current (DC) training section includes the concepts of conductors and insulators. The book also allows you to get an understanding of resistors and capacitors and how they are used in circuits. This book has almost 400 pages which covers a lot of material. If you want to learn more <https://www.arrl.org/>



Amateur Hardware Update

By: James Butler KB4LJV

Many times amateurs use the Arduino for our ham radio projects. The Arduino Uno is a small single board computer programmed through the USB port on your computer. It is great with lots of ham radio projects written for them. One of the newest versions of the Arduino Uno has added a new feature. They have built in a WIFI transceiver on the PC board to allow you to communicate with it on the internet and WIFI networks. This feature adds a lot of power to the small computer and allows programming with lots of extra functionality with the internet connection. Of course the best deal is the price of the board. The made in China version of the board is under \$10 on Ebay. Do an Ebay search for “OTA WeMos D1 CH340 WiFi Arduino UNO R3 Development Board ESP8266 ESP-12E Kit”



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

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

**YL News
Submitted by Linda KJ4CTX**

There will not be a YL Net in August. During this summer break, all YLs are encouraged to continue checking in to the Delta Club Information Net.

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 38134-2768

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>.

2022 Board of Directors

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Repeater Trustee

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

Upcoming Events

- Huntsville Hamfest August 20th – 22nd, 2022
- Bike MS: Rockin' Ride September 10th – 11th, 2022
- Bluff City Blues Bike Ride October 8th, 2022
- DARC Member Meeting & Election Day November 8th, 2022

For more information go to <http://hamcalendar.com/>

Memphis Area VHF/UHF Nets

82 & 700 Repeaters Down - Delta Club Information Net on Alternate Repeaters 146.625
& 443.200

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
Four-Forty Net	443.700	+(107.2)	8:30p	Fri
Mid-South Bullfrog Net	146.535	[simplex]	7:30p	Daily
Elmer Net	444.175	+ (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
TN Statewide DMR Net	Digital – DMR		8:00 p	Friday

TENNESSEE HF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day of Week
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	Tue-Sun
Tennessee Alternate Phone Net	7.238		As needed
CUSEC	3.810		As needed
CUSEC	7.180		As needed

(Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)

3980 kHz – Tennessee Phone Net

Mon-Fri - 5:40 AM, 6:45 AM & **5:30 PM** (5:30 pm beginning Nov. 9 evening)

Saturday - 8:00 AM & 5:30 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM only

Holidays - 8:00 AM only

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)



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