

SPARKS

P. O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38184-2768 / VOL. 18 / DECEMBER 2006



Happy Holidays
to the

Delta Amateur Radio Club!

Visit our home on the web at: <http://www.deltacub.org>

W4BS
REPEATER
SYSTEM
146.82, 147.36,
224.42, & 443.2

DECEMBER 2006 CLUB MEETING

DATE: December 12, 2006 (2nd Tuesday - be there)
PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,
Memphis, Tn. (2 miles east of Hwy. 64-Stage Rd.)
TIME: 7:00 PM
PROGRAM: POT LUCK DINNER

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at **5:30 P.M.** and testing begins promptly at 6:00 P.M. Please remember to bring two forms of identification and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have. The ARRL FEC exam application is \$14. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 p.m. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information contact...

Joan Thorne, KN4PM, VEC
Phone: 901-737-5795
E-mail: joanthorne@bellsouth.net

Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is Friday, January 26th. All articles MUST be in to me by the deadline in order to be published in the next issue. Please forward all articles and items of interest to:

Roger Schlichter [rsss@bellsouth.net]

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well, it looks like we are closing another year and like always, it seems like the year flew by. I feel like we had a pretty good year considering some of the events of the year. We had several active members leave the area but also had some others step up and assume the duties that needed to continue. I thank all for their participation in Club events this year.

We had a good meeting last month; we elected a 2007 Board and gave away some good stuff. Ken Taylor KC5IX was the lucky Yaesu 857D Grand Prize winner.

I thank those that stepped up and were elected to the 2007 Board. I will be continuing as President, Dave Royer took the VP position, Hugh Wardlaw took the Treasurers position, Lisa agreed to stay as the Secretary, Roger Schlichter took the Dir. of Publications, Dean agreed to stay as the Dir. of Special Events and Meetings, and David Campbell will be the Dir. of

Programs. There was not a nominee at the November meeting for Dir. of Training but I have had a willing party come forward. We will have a special election in December for that position.

Remember that the December meeting will be a Pot Luck Dinner at the Church. Please come and enjoy dinner and fellowship. We will have drinks so bring your favorite dishes and some to share.

Remember the upcoming Public Service events and participate in the fun.

Please renew your membership as soon as possible as they expire at the end of December.

73, Darrell—KK4D

DARC BOARD MEETING November 7, 2006

Darrell-KK4D called the meeting to order at 7 pm. Ned-KA4BLL, Lisa-K4POM, Dave-KI4DR, Roger-K4KCU, Dean-N2LAZ and Hugh-W4BLS attended.

Darrell read the treasurer's report. He called for questions. There being none, it was approved. Lisa read the secretary's minutes. Dave motioned to accept and Ned seconded. The board then discussed the upcoming election nominations. Darrell informed the board of the pending nominations to be presented to the general membership.

Darrell then gave the board a

presentation concerning the purchase of a 1973 Argosy RV trailer to be used as a ham station by the club. He then made a motion to the board to present this presentation to the general members at the November 14 meeting. There were 6 yes and 1 no vote. The motion passed.

Darrell advised the board of the upcoming FreeFest to be held on April 14, 2007 from 9:00 am to 3:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Respectfully submitted by,

K4POM-Lisa Sheffield
DARC Secretary

DARC MEMBERSHIP MEETING November 14, 2006

Members mingled and purchased tickets for the prizes to be drawn until about 7:18 pm when KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order. There were 25 members present and 2 guests.

Darrell gave the treasurer's report and asked the members accept the secretary's report as printed.

New Business:

KE4QFW-Eddie gave information on the St. Jude Marathon to be held on December 2, 2006. He requested volunteers to sign up.

KI4I-Jim gave the members information to participate in the Bartlett Christmas parade being held on December 9. He asked for volunteers as well.

Old Business:

Darrell presented the nominating report to the members. He also gave a short report on the 147.360 repeater.

He then presented information on the trailer to be possibly purchased by the club to serve as a ham station. He made a motion to the members to purchase it for \$400. Bill-KC4SXT expressed concerns and requested an inspection of the trailer by a professional. An addendum was made from the floor to allocate money to have the trailer inspected. A motion was then made to postpone the purchase until an inspection could be made. Ned-KA4BLL seconded the motion to table the discussion.

KK4D-Darrell called for any nominations from the floor. There were none. N4GMT-Lance motioned to accept the nominations as presented. Several seconds came from the floor.

Darrell then presented the plaques to the 2006 DARC Board.

There was no VE report as there was no testing. Joe-WA4OVO gave a report on the ARRL rulings.

Adam Chomyk won the door prize. Aaron Alexander was

recruited to pull tickets for the prizes to be given away. KC5IX-Ken Taylor won the grand prize--FT-857D radio.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
K4POM-Lisa Sheffield
DARC Secretary

PROCEDURE FOR ORDERING TENNESSEE AMATEUR AUTO LICENSE PLATES

Here is the procedure for ordering Tennessee amateur auto license plates. Note that you can order a plate whether or not you are emergency, rescue squad, or ARES member, but if you are not a member, it will cost an extra \$25.

I assume the application is the Application for Tennessee Personalized License Plates embedded in the IMPORTANT-PLEASE NOTE area of the License Plates section.

I also assume that if you are an ARES member, you do not have to submit payment until you pick up your plate at the County Court Clerk's office downtown which is included in the total fee (\$106 for City of Memphis residents).

I believe the plate will be the new design of the personalized plate; not the embossed plate as shown on the website.

Submitted by Joe, WA4OVO

QsoNet Virtual Ionosphere For Amateur Radio

There is a new net on the Internet for licensed amateur. It is a simulation of 80,40,20,15, and 10 meters on the Internet. This program is free for 90 days and if you want to continue after that there is an annual fee of \$32.

The program has a transceiver and you can work hams all over the world. Since this is on the Internet any class ham license can use this. You use the program just like if you was on HF using call letters, and etc. You do have to send a picture of your license before you can download the program.

This is a new program that started in September 2006. A Canadian ham developed this program. I like this program and have been using it for about a week. The link to the site is <http://qsonet.com/>

Submitted by Wes, W3EDW

ARRL NEWSLETTER

TOOTHACHES, EXTRATERRESTRIALS TOPICS IN HAM RADIO CHATS WITH ISS CREW MEMBERS

Toothaches in space and the possibility of intelligent life on other planets were among the topics piquing the curiosity of students in Germany and Canada when they spoke via ham radio with the ISS. The Amateur Radio

on the International Space Station (ARISS) program arranged the back-to-back contacts on November 20. During what may have been the first-ever ARISS school contact in German, youngsters gathered at the Museum for Industry in Mannheim, Germany, to speak with European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR. One wanted to know what would happen if he or one of the other ISS crew members developed a toothache.

"Thank goodness, not yet," Reiter said. "Of course, in preparation for flight, we get an extensive medical examination and that includes a close look at the teeth, precisely for the purpose of making sure that [a toothache] doesn't happen. If it happens anyway, there are painkillers and medical support onboard to treat the tooth and bring relief."

The museum, home to the "Adventure Space Travel" exhibit, played host to some 200 participants, ranging from 12 to 20. Southwest Germany Radio's daily youth-oriented program "Das Ding" (The Thing) conducted the event and selected the 16 questions asked from among those listeners proposed. Since there were no ISS passes over Europe, Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, served as the ARISS ground station for the event, and Verizon Conferencing provided two-way audio to the participants. ARISS Europe Chairman Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, assisted on site.

Reiter also explained that the crew has little free time. "Leisure time is a foreign concept up here," he quipped. He described the effects of weightlessness on the muscles as "the biggest problem that we have to fight here" through vigorous exercise. He said he exercises an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon to stay fit, "and when we come back to Earth it will be easier to re-accommodate to gravity." Reiter will return to Earth this month.

A short time later, ISS Expedition 14 Commander Mike Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, fired up NA1SS to speak directly on VHF with high schoolers at Centre Hastings Secondary School in Madoc, Ontario, Canada, via ground station VE3UR. Responding to one student's question, Lopez-Alegria described commercialized space travel as "the wave of the future."

"I'm not sure that I'd call it 'routine' just yet, but I think that probably in the not-too-distant future we will start to see it develop like the airline industry did about 100 years ago or so."

Lopez-Alegria said that while he doesn't believe there's intelligent life on Mars, he's convinced it exists elsewhere. "The universe is too large for us to be the only one with intelligent life," he suggested.

The 10 high schoolers managed to fit in nearly two dozen questions before the contact concluded. "I wish you all the best," Lopez-Alegria said as he signed off. The

Ottawa ARISS team provided radio equipment for the contact and gave a presentation to the students before the QSO. Radio and newspaper reporters covered the event as an audience of 800 looked on.

ARRISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

FCC REVOKES AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE OF CONVICTED FELON

The FCC has ordered that David Edward Cox, W5OER, of Pride, Louisiana, be stripped of his Technician class Amateur Radio license. In October 2005, the FCC sent Cox an Order to Show Cause to initiate a hearing proceeding to determine if Cox, who's serving time on several felony convictions, possessed the requisite character to remain an FCC licensee or should face license revocation. The FCC says Cox failed to respond to the show-cause order. A Commission administrative law judge subsequently concluded that Cox had waived his right to a hearing, terminated the proceeding and released an Order of Revocation December 4 <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-06-2463A1.pdf>. The revocation order is effective 40 days after that date, unless Cox appeals. A few years ago, the FCC began applying its so-called "1990 Character Order," initially intended to apply to Broadcast Service licensees, to Amateur Radio licensees and

applicants.

"The Commission's character policies provide that any felony conviction is a matter predictive of licensee behavior and is directly relevant to the functioning of the Commission's regulatory mission," the FCC revocation order said. "The serious convictions described above mandate the conclusion that Mr. Cox does not possess the requisite qualifications to be or remain a Commission licensee."

An Amateur Radio licensee since 1995, Cox has a clean record in terms of obeying FCC rules and regulations, the Commission said. The revocation order recounts that a Louisiana court in January 2004 convicted Cox on two counts of simple burglary, a felony, and sentenced him to five years in prison. The judge suspended the sentence, however, and placed Cox on supervised probation instead. He was arrested on federal firearms charges in September 2004 and has been incarcerated ever since, the FCC Order said. Following a plea agreement, a US District Court judge sentenced Cox to concurrent terms of 41 months for felony firearms-related violations. The court also ordered him to pay \$3000 in restitution to a firearms dealer and shooting range.

"We find that such egregious criminal misconduct justifies a finding that Mr. Cox will obey the law only when it suits him," the FCC Order said. "Mr. Cox's record as an amateur licensee and his

assertions regarding his character and his crimes are insufficient to overcome the impact of the crimes. Thus, we find that Mr. Cox does not possess the character qualifications required by this Commission to be or remain a licensee." The FCC order noted that in September 2004, Cox had written James W. Shook of the FCC Enforcement Bureau's Investigations and Hearing Division.

In footnotes, the Commission cited several cases in which it has applied its character standards to Amateur Radio licensees. Two of the cases involved radio-related violations, while one stemmed from a felony conviction for indecent assault upon and corruption of minors and another from a felony conviction for computer fraud and lack of candor regarding that conviction in representations to the FCC.

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM QUESTION POOLS ALTERED TO AGREE WITH NEW RULES

With numerous new FCC Part 97 rules soon going into effect, the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has dropped two dozen questions from the three Amateur Radio examination question pools. The deletions will bring ham radio license exams offered starting December 15 into line with rule changes spelled out in the recent FCC "omnibus" Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 04-140. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, says ARRL

VEC-sponsored examination sessions will go forward without interruption.

"ARRL VEC will not be replacing any of our exam booklets affected by the WT 04-140 rule changes," Somma said. "We will, instead, be using stickers to substitute alternate questions. The stickers will contain valid questions to place in the exam booklets to cover up the deleted questions." The stickers will go out by December 15 to ARRL VEC volunteer examiner teams that have been formally field stocked.

The QPC cut just one question from the Technician question pool, 13 from the General pool and 10 from the Amateur Extra pool. Changes in rules governing frequency privileges and external RF power amplifier standards accounted for the lion's share of the questions cut from the General and Amateur Extra pools.

The table below includes all questions eliminated from the current question pools as a result of changes dictated by the "omnibus" R&O. In a letter earlier this month to all ARRL VEC teams, Somma pointed out that even after the deletions, "sufficient questions will remain in the applicable pools to meet the mandated '10-times' rule, so no new questions are being added to existing pools." The "10-times" rule requires question pools to include 10 times the number of questions on a given examination for that license class.

DELETED TECHNICIAN (ELEMENT 2) QUESTIONS

T2A02 Change to §97.113, Incidental music transmissions from manned spacecraft

DELETED GENERAL (ELEMENT 3) QUESTIONS

G1A02 Change to §97.301(d), General class frequency privileges
G1A03 Change to §97.301(d), General class frequency privileges
G1A06 Change to §97.301(d), General class frequency privileges
G1A10 Change to §97.301(d), General class frequency privileges
G1B05 Change to §97.113(e), Incidental music transmissions from manned spacecraft
G1C01 Change to §97.313(c), Observing 200 W limit in Novice segments
G1D01 No mention of need to be a VE*
G1F02 Change to §97.315(b)(1), External RF power amplifier standards
G1F03 Change to §97.317(a)(3), Power amplifier gain/drive requirements
G1F04 Change to §97.317(b), External RF power amplifier standards
G1F10 Change to §97.317(b), External RF power amplifier standards
G1F11 Change to §97.317(b)(2), Power amplifier gain/drive requirements
G2F02 Change in Amateur Extra class phone band on 75 meters

**DELETED AMATEUR EXTRA
(ELEMENT 4) QUESTIONS**

E1A01 Change to §97.301(b), Extra class frequency privileges
E1A02 Change to §97.301(b), Extra class frequency privileges
E1E05 Change to §97.207(d), Space station communications
E1E08 Change to §97.207(g)(1), Space station communications
E1F04 Removed to maintain consistency with VEC regulations*
E1F20 Change to §97.519(b), 10-day rule removed
E1F26 Change to §97.505, Permanent code credit even if CSCE expired
E1F27 Change to §97.505, Permanent code credit even if CSCE expired
E1F28 Change to §97.505, Permanent code credit even if CSCE expired
E1G02 Change to §97.317(a), Standards for RF power amplifiers

Somma says that while questions G1D01 and E1F04 remain largely correct, they're being removed at this time because they do not meet current standards for the degree of completeness or accuracy the QPC desires of exam questions.

**MASSACHUSETTS ARES/
RACES TEAMS MUSTER
FOLLOWING DEVASTATING
FACTORY BLAST**

Eastern Massachusetts ARES and RACES teams went on alert November 22 after an early-morning explosion destroyed a paint and ink plant in Danvers, located on Massachusetts' North Shore some 15 miles north of

Boston. The blast, felt as far away as Southern Maine, destroyed more than a dozen nearby homes and damaged upward of 100 others. Minutes after the 2:45 AM explosion at the building occupied by CAI Inc and Arnel Company, North Shore ARES members initiated an informal net on a Danvers repeater while monitoring the situation. The blast awakened North Shore ARES Emergency Coordinator Jim Palmer, KB1KQW, who lives about a mile from the plant site.

"As soon as I heard the explosion, I followed our well-established ARES protocols by getting on my local SKYWARN/ARES frequency and starting an informal net," Palmer said. "I also monitored my scanner to hear information directly from the incident area."

Palmer also notified North Shore ARES District Emergency Coordinator Eric Horwitz, KA1NCF, and Eastern Massachusetts ARES Section Emergency Coordinator Rob Macedo, KD1CY.

Macedo said, "It is very important to maintain a high state of readiness and to react and start a net, but at the same time, we do not self-deploy to any serious incident."

North Shore ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Operations Gordon Gravelese, KX1KTY, assisted with net control duties during the informal ARES

net. Also checking in was Region One RACES Radio Officer Terry Stader, KA8SCP. He informed Palmer that at that point there had been no calls for RACES assistance.

Macedo, meanwhile, got in touch with Massachusetts Bay Red Cross, which opened a shelter at Danvers High School to accommodate some 100 to 150 displaced residents. He said Red Cross had necessary communication with the shelter, but he noted that radio amateurs were ready to provide communication support for the Red Cross or other agencies.

"We continued the informal net until 6 PM and secured," Macedo told ARRL this week. "No deployments were required, but we were ready to deploy if needed. We had over 40 check-ins to the informal net and between 6 and 12 amateurs ready for deployment."

Authorities have yet to determine the cause of the explosion but have ruled out criminal activity. An Environmental Protection Agency team will begin cleaning up the chemical-laden debris.

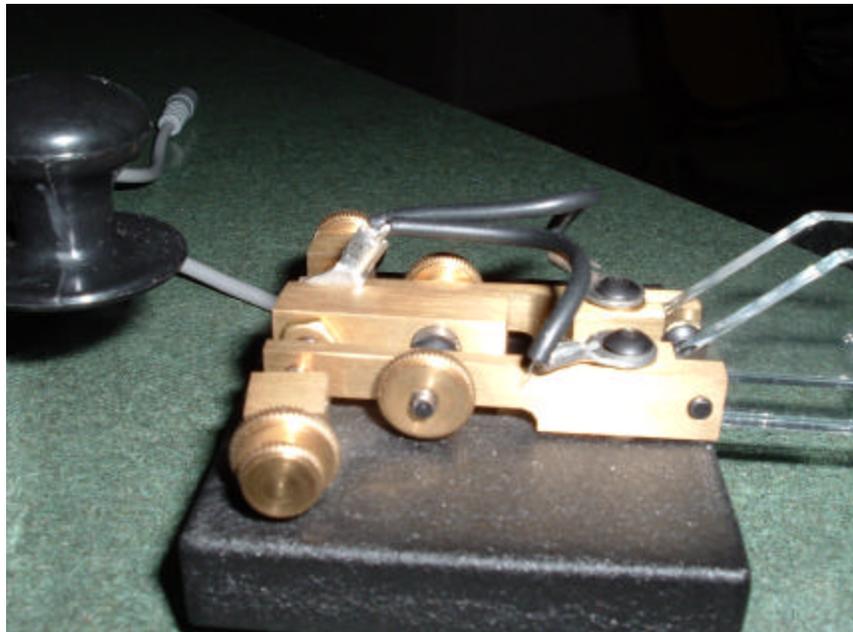
PACKET UPDATE

Many times when we want to run QRP we like to build up our own equipment. We can buy inexpensive kits from a variety of manufacturers. One company that has some really nice kits is Hendricks QRP kits. He offers a new Software defined radio for only \$60.00. This is offered in a 20 meter or 30 meter CW only radio that hooks up to your sound card on your computer. A frequency spectrum is displayed on your computer screen similar to PSK31 so you can see where the CW signals are in the passband of the radio. The better your sound card, the better the performance of the radio on receive. He also offers a small QRP transceiver that does not require a computer called the DC40. Accessory kits such as a SWR monitor are also sold in kit form. If you are thinking about a low price kit for QRP work check out Hendricks QRP. His web address is <http://www.qrpkits.com/>

James Butler, KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Many of us use a variety of Morse code keys and paddles for Morse code. One thing they all have in common is they are just switches that are opened and closed by hand motions. In order for these keys and paddles to work properly the contacts have to be clean and we must have good electrical connections to these contacts that open and close and go back to our radio or keyer circuit. Since straight keys and paddles have different designs, the electrical connections to the contacts sometimes have to travel through bearings and or pivot points to get to the contact. On some keys this seems to be good enough and actually works pretty well. On some keys though we can have intermittent connections on the key or paddle, which makes sending good code almost impossible. One fix for this problem is to actually run flexible jumper wire across the pivot points and connect to each side to make a good solid connection point which does not rely on the pivot point to conduct electricity through them. I have seen high end keys and paddles where the manufacturer has added these wires to their product for reliable operation. On our keys and paddles we can just add wires to get this reliable operation. The picture shows some Vibroplex Code Warrior Jr. Paddles that had to have the wires added for reliable Iambic operation. This is an inexpensive modification which can make all keys and paddles operate as they should.



James Butler, KB4LJV

DECEMBER

2006

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 Robert, KG4CMA	2
3 Fred, KJ2K	4 Alex, KE4GYR	5 James, WA4RW	6 Jim, KI4I	7 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	8	9 Kathleen, KC0HZU Mary, NV4Z Jeffrey, KI4AJG
10	11	12 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM Jim, K4ZFQ Frederic, AB4HS Jamie, KC5AXC	13	14 John, K3LK	15 Jimmy, KG4TKY	16 Scott, N2WMD
17 Johnathan Kagoo	18 James, N5WFF	19 Charles Eddleman	20 Richard, WB4RRT Jason, KI4BXX	21 Shannon, KI4DIX	22	23 Richard, NF5B
24 / 31 Marion, N4VTB / Don, KA4BMI	25	26 Darrell, KK4D Brenda, KE4MKK	27	28	29 James Pace Craig Morris	30 Bob, KF4NDH

JANUARY

2007

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 Tony, N4LKK	2 Marjorie Torkell	3 Jim, WD8JAO	4 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	5 Janet, KD4DWW	6
7	8	9 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM Hugh, WB4SLI	10	11	12 Kenneth, KD5LHG	13 Darrell, KI4DJB
14	15 Kathryn McLemore	16	17 John, KE4OTI	18	19	20 Evins, WB4SLJ
21	22 Tom, N4TV	23 Shelby Cty., ARES Meeting 6:45 PM	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



**C O N T E S T
CALENDAR**

Here are some of the contests and special events coming up in the next few weeks...

ARRL 10 Meter Contest -- 0000Z Dec 9-2400Z Dec 10 (see Nov *QST*, p 105, or www.arrl.org/contests).

28 MHz SWL Contest -- runs at the same time as the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. For more information: monsite.

orange.fr/28mhzswlcontest/index.jhtml.

Holiday Spirits Homebrew CW Sprint -- sponsored by the QRP ARCI, from 2000Z-2400Z Dec 17. Frequencies (MHz) -- 1.810, 3.560, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060. For more information: www.qrparci.org.

Great Colorado Snowshoe Run -- CW, sponsored by the Colorado QRP Club from 0200Z-0359Z Dec 9. Frequencies: 40 meters only. For more information: www.cqc.org/contests.

North American Meteor Scatter Contest -- any mode, sponsored by the WSJTGROUPE from 0000Z Dec 10-0700Z

Dec 18 during the Geminids meteor shower. Frequencies (MHz): 50, 144, 222, 432, via meteor scatter. For more information: www.ykc.com/wa5ufh/Rally/NAHSMS.htm.

OK DX RTTY Contest -- sponsored by the Czech Radio Club, 0000Z-2400Z Dec 16. Categories: SOAB (LP, HP >100 W), SOSB, MOAB, SWL. Frequencies: 80-10 meters according to IARU band plan. For information: www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE.HTM.

PSK31 Death Match -- PSK31 and PSK63, sponsored by the Michigan DX Association, 0000Z Dec 16-2400Z Dec 17. Frequencies: 80-6 meters -- PSK31 and PSK63 count as separate "bands." For more information: www.mdxa1.org/deathmatch.html.

Russian 160 Meter Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by *Radio* magazine, from 0000Z-0200Z Dec 16. For more information: www.radio.ru/cq/contest/rule-results/index11.shtml.

Croatian CW Contest -- sponsored by Hrvatski Radioamaterski Savez (HRS), from 1400Z Dec 16-1400Z Dec 17. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: www.hamradio.hr.

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party -- all modes, sponsored by the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, 0001Z Dec 16-2359Z Jan 1, 2007. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 1.830, 3.530, 7.030, 14.030, 21.030, 28.030; SSB -- 1.970, 3.970, 7.270, 14.270, 21.370, 28.370, plus VHF and repeaters.

DARC Christmas Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, 0830Z-1100Z Dec 26. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 3.510-3.560, 7.010-7.040; SSB -- 3.610-3.650 and 3.700-3.775, 7.040. For more information: www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcx.htm

ARRL Straight Key Night -- from 0000Z-2359Z Jan 1, 2007 (see page 98 of this issue or www.arrl.org/contests).

RAC Winter Contest -- CW/Phone, sponsored by the Radio Amateurs of Can-

**The
W4BS
Elmer
Shack**

Please feel free to contact any of our ELMERS to help you enhance your amateur skills. Anyone wishing to be added to the Elmer list please contact Ned at ka4bll@arrl.net or 363-9607.

K4TTA (Extra) Tom Richardson 386-6268
ka4tta@arrl.net (1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15)

KA4BLL (Extra) Ned Savage 363-9607
ka4bll@arrl.net (1, 5, 8, 14, MARS, ARES/RACES, net control, traffic handling, emergency service)

KB4LJV (Extra) James Butler 294-2540
jbutler@bigriver.net (2, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14)

KD4NOQ (Adv) David Campbell 388-6166
kd4noq@bellsouth.net (1,2,3,5,9,10,12,14, slow scan TV, ATV minor)

KU4AW (Extra) Ben Troughton 372-8031
bktrough@bellsouth.net (2,4, 8, 15)

N9ACQ (Extra) Bill Kuechler 368-0532
wkuechl1@midsouth.rr.com (1, 8, 13)

WA21QC (Gen) Gary Blinckmann 794-5289
garyblin@midsouth.rr.com (1, 7, 10, 14)

WA4MJM (Extra) Bill Hancock 853-7192
billwa4mjm@aol.com (1, 2, 8, emergency communications, ARES,MARS)

K4DIT (Extra) Ken Gregg 853-7384
kgregg@c-a-c.com (4, 6, 8, 11, 15)

W4GMM (Extra) Ham Hilliard 372-2337
hamh@bellsouth.net (All categories)

Codes:

1. Antennas
2. APRS
3. Contesting
4. CW Operating
5. Direction Finding (fox hunting)
6. DXing
7. Experimenting/Circuits/etc.
8. HF Phone
9. Packet
10. Repeater Operation
11. QRP
12. Satellite
13. RTTY
14. VHF
15. PSK31
16. Computer logging



ada, 0000Z-2359Z Dec 30. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 25 kHz up from the band edge (check on the half hour); Phone -- 1.850, 3.775, 7.075, 7.225, 14.175, 21.250, 28.500, 50 and 144 MHz. For information: www.rac.ca/downloads/canwin2006.pdf.

Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge -- CW, sponsored by the Boring Amateur Radio Club, 1500Z Dec 30-1500Z Dec 31. Frequencies: 160 meters. For more information: jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt.

ARRL Straight Key Night -- see page 98 of December 2006 Jan 1. *QST*.

New Years Snowball Contest -- sponsored by the Activity Group of Belarus (AGB) Jan 1. -- www.qsl.net/eu1eu/index_e.htm

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest -- sponsored by the Scandinavian Amateur Radio Teleprinter Group (SARTG) Jan 1. -- www.sartg.com/contest/nyrules.htm

AGCW Happy New Year Contest -- sponsored by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft CW Jan 1. -- www.agcw.de.

ARRL RTTY Roundup -- 1800Z Jan 6-2400Z Jan 7 (see Dec 2006 *QST*, p 99).

Kid's Day -- Phone, sponsored by the ARRL and the Boring Amateur Radio Club from 1800Z to 2400Z Jan 7 (see Dec 2006 *QST*, p 45).

DARC 10 Meter Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, from 0900Z-1059Z Jan 7. Frequencies: CW 28.000-28.200 MHz, SSB 28.300-28.700 MHz, work stations once only. For more information: www.darc.de/referate/dx/fe_dcz.htm.

EUCW 160 Meter Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Union Francaise des Telegraphistes from 2000Z-2300Z Jan 6 and 0400-0700Z Jan 7. For more information: www.uft.net/articles.php?lng=fr&pg=22.

North American QSO Party -- CW, sponsored by the National Contest Journal from 1800Z Jan 13-0600Z Jan 14. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For information: www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php.

NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint -- sponsored by the North American QRP CW Club from 0130Z-0330Z Jan 18. Frequencies (MHz): 3.560, 7.040, 14.060. For more information and the yearly contest schedule: www.arm-tek.net/~yoel.

Winter Field Day -- all modes, sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio (SPAR) from local noon Jan 13 to local noon Jan 14. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information and bonus points: www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php.

Midwinter Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Dutch YL Committee, CW from 1400Z-1800Z Jan 13, SSB from 1000Z-1400Z Jan 14. Frequencies: 80-10-meters, SSB 3.600-3.650, 7.080-7.090, 14.270-14.300, 21.270-21.300, 28.470-28.500 MHz. For more information: www.qsl.net/pi4ylc/Engels/midwinter%20contest.htm.

Hunting Lions in the Air -- CW/Phone, sponsored by the South African District 410B of the Int'l Association of Lions Clubs from 0000Z Jan 13-2400Z Jan 14. Frequencies: 80-10 meters, work stations once per band regardless of mode. For more information: www.podxs.com/html/pskfest.html.

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes -- 1900Z Jan 20-0400Z Jan 22 (see Dec 2006 *QST*, p 98).

North American QSO Party -- Phone, 1800Z Jan 20-0600Z Jan 21 (see Jan 13-14).

HA DX Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Hungarian DX Club from 1200Z Jan 2-1200Z Jan 21. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: www.mrasz.hu.

LZ Open Championship -- CW, sponsored by the LZ Open Contest Club from 0400Z-1200Z Jan 20. Frequencies: 3.5 and 7 MHz. For more information: www.linkove.com/lz-open-contest/rules/rules.htm.

International United Teenager Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by Radio-TLUM Ukraine, from 0600Z-1400Z Jan 20 for operators under 18 years of age. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For scoring and other information: www.sk3bg.se/contest/utcont.htm.

UK DX RTTY Contest -- sponsored by the Scottish-Russian ARS from 1200Z Jan 20-1200Z Jan 21. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.ukdx.scotham.net.

CQ WW 160 Meter Contest -- CW, sponsored by *CQ Magazine* from 0000Z Jan 27-2359Z Jan 28 (Phone is Feb 24-25). For more information: www.cq-amateur-radio.com/index.html.

BARTG RTTY Sprint -- sponsored by the British Amateur Radio Teletype Group from 1200Z Jan 27-1200Z Jan 28. Frequencies: 80-10-meters. For more information: www.bartg.demon.co.uk.

REF French Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Reseau des Emetteurs Francais from 0600Z Jan 27-1800Z Jan 28 (Phone is Feb 24-25). Contact French stations including Corsica, Overseas Territories and EU Council station TP2CE. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.ref-union.org/concours.

UBA Contest -- Phone, sponsored by the Royal Union of Belgian Amateur Radio from 1300Z Jan 27-1300Z Jan 28 (CW is Feb 24-25). Frequencies: 80-10 meters, according to the IARU band plan. For more information and a list of EU entities: www.uba.be.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Dec 8-Dec 10, 0100Z-0800Z, Olathe, KS. Marshall Ensor Memorial Organization Amateur Radio Club, W9UA. 72 years since using this rig in teaching high-school students. 1.904. QSL. Ensor Museum MEMO Club -- W9UA/W9BSP, 7904 W 137 Ter, Overland Park, KS 66223-1124. *Times are daily.* w9bsp-w9ua.org

Dec 8-Dec 11, 1400Z-1400Z, St Petersburg, FL. Alphalpha Repeater Group, W4A. Tierra Verde Light House Activation. 21.330 14.310 7.235 3.875. QSL. James Leder, K8CXM, 9374 Meadow Ridge Dr, Cincillati, OH 45241-1142. * \$1 with SASE n4maa.us

Dec 9-Dec 10, 1300Z-1800Z, Manitowoc, WI. MANCORAD, W9DK. 60th Anniversary special operations. 14.260 14.070 7.250 3.900. QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, 4932 S 10th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220. www.qsl.net/w9dk

Dec 9-Dec 10, 1400Z-0200Z, Nazareth-Bethlehem, PA. Christmas City and Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Clubs, WX3MAS. Annual Christmas greetings from the twin Christmas Cities. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270. Certificate. CCARC/DLARC WX3MAS, Greystone Building Gracedale Complex, RR 8, Nazareth, PA 18064. www.dlarc.org

Dec 9-Dec 10, 1700Z-2359Z, Stockton, CA. Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, W6SF. Commemorating 75 years of friendship and community service! 14.250 14.055 7.250 7.055. Certificate. Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 690271, Stockton, CA 95269. www.w6sf.org

Dec 10, 1400Z-2200Z, Brainerd, MN. Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, W0UJ. Winter Wonderland - The Brainerd Lakes Area. 28.450 21.350 14.250. QSL. Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 189, Ironton, MN 56455-0189. www.brainerdham.org

Dec 16-Dec 23, 1400Z-2300Z, Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, W8ZQ. Winter Festival of Lights from Oglebay Park. SSB general portions of 80 40 20 m. QSL. Joe McCready, WB8CTC, PO Box 192, Blaine, OH 43909. **Times are daily.**

Dec 16-Dec 25, 1400Z-0000Z, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR. Celebrating the Christmas season from Bethelhem NM. 28.270 21.270 14.270 7.270. QSL. VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. www.qsl.net/kc5our

Dec 24-Jan 8, 0501Z-0500Z, Atkinson, NH. Atkinson Amateur Radio, K1D. Kid's Day and Amateur Radio Awareness. 21.273 14.273 7.257. QSL. Peter Schipelliti, W1DAD, 7 Dearborn Ridge Rd, Atkinson, NH 03811.

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Brant Rock, MA. The American Radio Relay League, W100BO/W1F. 100 Years of Wireless by Voice. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. Special Event Station W1F, PO Box 121, Plainview, NY 11803. *Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org w1f.k2cx.us*

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Fort Wayne, IN. Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day, KC9HAJ. "Hello" 100 Years of Voice Over Radio. 21.240 14.260 7.260. QSL. Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, 6116 Graymoor Ln, Fort Wayne, IN 46835. www.armad.net

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Machrihanish, Sc. The American Radio Relay League, GB1FVT. The 100th anniversary of Fessenden's Christmas Eve Broadcast. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. Duncan McArthur, GM3TNT, Avalon, Peninver Campbeltown, Argyll, Sc PA28 6QP. *Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org groups.msn.com/fessenden*

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Newington, CT. The American Radio Relay League, W1AW. Hello Centennial Event,

representing the future of radio. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. W1AW/hello, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. *Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org www.hello-radio.org/event*

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, St Louis, MO. AOR and WinDRM Digital Voice Community, K0PFX. "Hello" Celebrating 100 Years of Voice over Radio Worldwide. 14.236 7.296 7.225. QSL. Mel Whitten, PO Box 698, Bridgeton, MO 63044. www.melwhitten.com

Jan 6-Jan 7, 1200Z-2359Z, Bethpage, NY. Ham Radio University Committee, W2V. Ham Radio University 2007 - 8th annual day of education. 21.273 14.273 7.273. QSL. Phil Lewis, N2MUN, 22 Belle Terre W, Lindenhurst, NY 11757. www.HamRadioUniversity.org

Jan 11-Jan 17, 0100Z-2359Z, St Croix, USVI. Family Radio Club, KU9UUU. 513th Anniversary of the Discovery of the US Virgin Islands. day 14.332 14.260 eve 7.235 7.046 - all 3905 Century Club Nets SSB & CW. QSL. J.M. Zacher, 39W345 Central Dr, Elgin, IL 60124.

Jan 13, 1300Z-1900Z, Phoenix, AZ. Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club, W7W. 10th Anniversary of WestFest Hamfest. 21.370 14.270 7.270. QSL. TBARC WestFest, 16772 W Bell Rd, Ste 110 - #421, Surprise, AZ 85735. www.w7tbc.org

Jan 13-Jan 14, 1500Z-1800Z, Marcell, MN. Northern Lakes Amateur Radio Club, K0GPZ. White Oak Sled Dog Classic. 14.225 14.070 7.165 7.070. QSL. NLARC, PO Box 525, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. northernlakesarc.tripod.com/nlarc.html www.whiteoakclassic.org

Jan 13-Jan 15, 1500Z-2100Z, Atlantic City, NJ. Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association, K2BR. Absecon Lighthouse (ARLHS # USA-001)150th Birthday. 21.260 18.160 14.260 7.260. QSL. SCARA, PO Box 121, Linwood, NJ 08221.

CW contacts on request. mysite.verizon.net/vzepb0rn

Jan 14-Jan 15, 1400Z-0000Z, Wall Township, NJ. Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club, N2MO. From the Amateur Radio/MARS station at the historic Diana Site, to commemorate "Project Diana," the first ever successful moon bounce experiment. Gen and Nov/Tech subbands 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m. Certificate. OMARC Inc, PO Box 267, Oakhurst, NJ 07755. *For QSL send SASE. Certificate also available, send 9X12 SASE and \$1USD; \$2USD and no SASE. www.omarc.org

Jan 15-Jan 24, 0700Z-2359Z, Denver, CO. Castle Rock Repeater Group, K1D. Elementary School Demonstration. 14.265 7.265. QSL. Johnny Lee, 21530 E Stoll Pl, Denver, CO 80249. www.crrg.org

Jan 20, 1300Z-2300Z, Spring Hill, FL. Spring Hill Amateur Radio Club, W4B. 27 Annual Brooksville Raid -- Largest Florida Civil War Reenactment. 14.260 18.130. Certificate. SHARC-BR, PO Box 6083, Spring Hill, FL 34611. www.kf4ixu.org

Jan 27, 1500Z-2200Z, Zolfo Springs, FL. The Whole Ham Family Radio Club, KI4RDM. Peace River Refuge And Ranch On The Air. 14.260. QSL. The Whole Ham Family Radio Club, c/o Cartlidge, 4288 Bell Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34231. www.geocities.com/KI4RDM/SpecialEvents.html

Jan 27-Jan 28, 2000Z-2000Z, Jefferson City, MO. Mid-MO Amateur Radio Club, W9C. 90th anniversary of the first transcontinental relay of formal message traffic by Willis Corwin, 9ABD. CW 14.035 10.113 7.035 3.535. Certificate. Kent W. Trimble, K9ZTV, 2210 Heartland Rdg, Jefferson City, MO 65109. www.mmccs.com/mmrc

Jan 27-Jan 29, 1400Z-0200Z, Wilsona Gardens, CA. BioRem Radio Amateur Club (Edwards AFB), AL7LS. 40th anniversary of the movie "Hot Rods to Hell," released January 27, 1967. 14.315 7.273 pkt 14.105 7.105. QSL. Bruce Rossi, 2127 Sierra Stone Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

Jan 31-Feb 3, 1800Z-0000Z, Menominee, MI. Marinette & Menominee Amateur Radio Club, K8D. 1st anniversary of D.A.R. Boys/Girls Club ham radio station. 21.330 14.270 7.260. Certificate. James Pearson, KS8O, W5380 County Rd 342, Wallace, MI 49883. *Times listed are daily.* w8pif.com

Feb 3, 1400Z-2100Z, Punxsutawney, PA. Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ. Commemorating Groundhog Day 2007. 14.240 7.240. Certificate. Mike Miller, N3HBH, 1097 Wishaw Rd, Reynoldsville, PA 15851. www.qsl.net/k3hwj

Feb 3, 1400Z-2100Z, South Bend, IN. Michiana Amateur Radio Club, W9AB. St. Joseph County Public Library's "Science Alive". 14.270 7.270. Certificate. Michiana Amateur Radio Club, Attn: Special Event QSL, 3220 E Jefferson Blvd, South Bend, IN 46615. community.michiana.org/marcsite

Feb 10, 1400Z-2200Z, Leavenworth, KS. Kickapoo QRP Amateur Radio Club, W0EBB. 3rd Annual "Freeze Your Keys" Winter Operating Event. 14.260 14.060 7.290 7.040. QSL. Gary Auchard, 34058 167th St, Leavenworth, KS 66048. www.pkarc.org

Feb 10, 1400Z-2300Z, Rapid City, SD. Dakota Chapter 102 QCWA, W0DAK. To commemorate the 30th anniversary as a QCWA Chapter. 28.450 14.250 7.250 3.889. Certificate. Frank Shaw, NU0F, 118 E Van Buren, Rapid City, SD 57701. www.qcwa.org/chapter102.htm

qcwa.org/chapter102.htm

Feb 12-Feb 16, 1400Z-2100Z, Ft Myers, FL. Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, W4LX. Celebrating Thomas Edison's Birthday. 28.430 21.350 14.240 7.230. Certificate. FMARC, PO Box 061183, Ft Myers, FL 33906. stellagurka@earthlink.net

Feb 17-Feb 18, 1500Z-2100Z, Alexandria, VA. Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club, K4US. Commemorate George Washington's Birthday. 28.415 14.240 7.240. Certificate. Mount Vernon ARC, PO Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307. www.mvarc.com

Feb 24, 1500Z-2300Z, Kent, OH. Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS), KD8CKP. 2nd Annual Freeze Your Acorns Off QRP Special Event. 21.345 14.245 7.245. Certificate. Al Atkins, KB8VJL, 12433 Chamberlain Rd, Aurora, OH 44202. www.portcars.org

Feb 28, 1500Z-2230Z, Baton Rouge, LA. USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. Sixty-fourth anniversary of the launching of USS *Kidd*, DD-661. SSB 14.250 to 14.320 CW 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS Kidd Museum, 305 South River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm

Mar 2-Mar 3, 2300Z-1500Z, Cheyenne, WY. ShyWy Amateur Radio Club, W7S. Read Across America Dr Seuss Night. 18.110 7.225 3.900. Certificate. Jack L. Mitchell, N7MJ, 1141 Centennial Dr, Cheyenne, WY 82001. homepage.mac.com/love_to_teach/HeadAcrossAmerica/Education51.html

TENNESSEE NETS

Net Name	Freq.	UTC	Day
Tennessee CW Net	3635	0100	T-Su
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3682	0130	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3980	1145	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1245	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1400	Sa-Su
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3980	0030	T-Su

LOCAL HAMFESTS OF INTEREST

Mississippi State Convention (Capitol City Hamfest)

Jackson ARC
 Mississippi State Fairgrounds (Trade Mart Building)
 I 55 At High St
 Jackson, MS
 2-3 Feb 2007

FreeFest

Mid-South ARA
 Bartlett Station Municipal Center
 5868 Stage Road
 Bartlett, TN
 14 Apr 2007

**Delta Amateur Radio Club
 December 2006 Treasurers Report**

Balance 11/07/2006	\$6,773.60
<u>Expense</u>	
Memphis Amateur Electronics	\$1,200.00
ETC Awards	\$229.43
U of M	\$22.94
USPS	\$72.00
Suresh Kagoo	\$63.05
Dean Honadle	\$35.00
Bellsouth	\$ 58.99
Total Expense	\$1,681.41
<u>Income</u>	
Membership Dues	\$125.00
Donations	<u>\$597.00</u>
Total Income	\$722.00
Balance 12/05/2006	\$5,814.19

SPARKS is published monthly by the Delta Amateur Radio Club and is emailed to club members and other interested parties. All information published in this newsletter is provided as a service. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the Delta Amateur Radio Club and its officers assume no liability resulting from errors or omissions. All correspondence may be mailed to:

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