DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BPPRK5

P.O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38184-2768 / VOL. 11 / NOVEMBER 2008



Visit our home on the web at: http://www.deltaclub.org

W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM 146.82, 147.36,

224.42, & 443.2

November 2008 CLUB MEETING

DATE: November 11, 2008

PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,

Memphis, Tn. (1.5 miles east of Hwy. 64-Stage Rd.)

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Elections and drawing

VE TESTING: NOTICE: There will not be any VE testing before the November meeting so that the VE Team can attend the whole club meeting.

Tom Fox, KA4LWQ, VEC

Phone: 901-357-1633 E-mail: ka4lwq@comcast.net

Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is the last day of the month prior to the meeting. 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:

KI4AJH@bellsouth.net

Presidents Corner

JOTA at ScoutBase 2008 went really well. We had many Scouts come through and they made contacts with other Scouts in England and Australia and several other places around the globe. I hope that some of you made yourselves available to some of the Girl Scout units for this event. Propagation was not great so we used my BlackBerry to get the laptop on the internet to run





EchoLink.

We have several Public Service Events scattered out throughout the year. We are compiling a list of the events and what the events entail as far as number of stations needed, durations, benefitting organizations, and descriptions of the events. When we get this finalized please take a look and see if you would like to be the liaison between the club and the event. If we could get someone to be the liaison for each event then it would make things run much more smoothly for everyone.

The next opportunities to perform Public Service are concentrated on December 6. They are the St. Jude Marathon, Saturday morning and the Bartlett Christmas Parade that afternoon and evening. We will need many people to help with both events. Please signup at the meeting and help us make these events come off smoothly. If we have enough people sign up for the Marathon then each of us will be located at a refreshment point on the course and remain there for the duration of the race. Otherwise we will be relocating during the event. The Bartlett Christmas parade is one where the units in the parade are divided equally among the volunteers. The volunteers locate the units and report any that are missing. Once the parade steps off the volunteers move with their respective units, assist the merging of the units into the parade and remain with the unit to the end of the parade. If you cannot walk the route, Jim can assign you a non-walking role with the event. We will need people at the reviewing stands and to remain at the side of some of the Chamber of Commerce people.

Please do not let your lack of experience slow you down from taking part. All of us have been first-timers and understand and appreciate the fact that this may be your first experience with this. It is good practice for tactical and strategic communications. The key is to be brief and easily understood with the transmissions. Listen for instructions from the Net Control Station and limit transmissions to those that help with the event.

I hope to hear a bunch of us assisting with both events and look forward to seeing everyone at the club meeting where some of us will round out our equipment.

P.S.

I found on the ARRL website that our score for Field Day is 3754. This effort came in at 83 out of 301 for our category. That's pretty good. If you are an ARRL member you can go to their site and see the results filtered all sorts of ways.

73, de Hugh, WB4SLI

VE Corner:

The Delta Amateur Radio Club sends congratulations to the following who have received their new license call sign:

Bisbee, Ivan N7BIZ EXTRA
Eddy, James KG4YKZ GENERAL
Gilbert, David AJ4LV EXTRA
Hasty, Aaron KJ4HGR TECHNICIAN

We are proud of you all. I would like to invite you to come to our next meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of November (11-11-2008) so that we can all congratulate you personally.

TOM FOX, KA4LWQ, ARRL VE Liaison

DARC Board Minutes of October 7, 2008

WB4SLI-Hugh, KD4NOQ-David, N2LAZ-Dean, KI4AJH-Roger and K4POM-Lisa attended the meeting which started at 7:00 pm.

N4GMT-Lance Morris had given information on an ICOM repeater to Hugh for us to go over. We discussed purchasing it and decided to present it to the members at the upcoming general meeting. Roger advised he would also put the information in the SPARKS.

We discussed several corrections and changes to improve the SPARKS.

Hugh adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: K4POM-Lisa Sheffield DARC Secretary

Net Control Operators Needed

We are in need of a net controller for Saturday nights. The net is a big part of our Delta Club activities and also serves as training for NCO s to help out in case of a disaster. Please consider serving in this excellent and enjoyable activity. You may contact me at n4gmt@comcast.net

Lance R Morris N4GMT

DARC General Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2008

WB4SLI-Hugh called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. KI4TQA-Bill read the treasurer's report. K4POM-Lisa made a motion to have the minutes accepted as printed in SPARKS after making the correction to Bob Holford's call sign. N2LAZ-Dean and Jeff Krause seconded. The members unanimously accepted.

KI4TQA-Bill gave information on the electronics class. He also advised that he will be having an Extra and General class the first part of November.

Bob Holdford gave the nominating committee report as follows:

President-Hugh Wardlaw-WB4SLI VP-Richard Webb-NF5B Secretary-Steve Smith-KI4YOP Treasurer-Bill Stevens-KI4TQA Training-Joe Lowenthal-WA4OVO Programs-Allen Anderson-KJ4BIX Meetings and Special Events-Keith Shook-AJ4FZ Publications-Roger Schlichter-KI4AJH Repeater Trustee-Darrell Sheffield-KK4D

Hugh then called for the introductions of the 45 members and guests present. He also advised that he has heard nothing else concerning Dixiefest.

Hugh then shared the information discussed at the DARC board meeting concerning the ICOM repeater and purchasing it. N2LAZ-Dean made a motion to purchase it. KC0HZU-Kathleen seconded the motion. The members present discussed purchasing it immediately. K4POM-Lisa made a motion to purchase it as long as the cost did not exceed \$2000. If it would be more, it had to be voted on--prior to purchase--by the members. N2LAZ-Dean seconded this motion. KC4SXT-Bill motioned to vote on the above motions. They were unanimously approved by all members present.

Tom Fox advised that there will be no VE testing in December.

Hugh presented information to the group of the upcoming Jamboree on the Air for the scouts being held on October 18 and 19.

KF4QFW-Eddie advised the group that he will no longer be able to be the Special Events Coordinator. He gave the group information on the St. Jude Marathon being held on December 6th. He advised it has doubled since last year and needs approximately 40 ham operators.

Tom Fox gave the VE report-2 Extra class, 1 General and 2 Techs.

KD4NOQ-David gave the presentation on RoboCars.

KC4SXT-Bill Covington won the door prize.

Respectfully submitted by: K4POM-Lisa Sheffield DARC Secretary

2009 Public Service Events

Since Eddie KF4QFW is stepping down as Public Service Events Coordinator, which was an unofficial title that he inherited several years ago we need to find a way to handle all that he has done. Oh by the way THANK YOU Eddie for all that you have done. The process is going to change a little bit. Instead of having one person coordinate all the events there is going to be one person that coordinates the coordinators for the events. What that means is that person will solicit coordinators for the events when contacted by the event organizers for us to provide communications support for the event. Historically Delta has been providing support for ten events annually which means we need ten people to step up and volunteer to be the coordinator for those events. The good news is that we already have four of the events covered. Look at the table below to see a list of events and the coordinators that have already volunteered to cover those events. If you see an event listed without a coordinator and you are interested in becoming the coordinator for that event let Roger KI4AJH@bellsouth.net know. If the weekend is listed and not the exact date it means at this time the exact date isn't know but historically it has been held on that weekend. Each of us that have volunteered to coordinate an event will certainly give it up if you had your heart set on being the coordinator for that event, Just let us know.

Date	Date Event		Website		
January 18th	Swamp Stompers	Eddie KF4QFW	http:// memphisultra.blogspot.com/2008/01/ swamp-stomper-2008.html		
March 4th weekend	City Slickers Equestrian Event		http://www.midsouthhorsereview.com/articles/2007/05/12/news/news05.txt		
?? weekend	Boy Scout Merit Badge University	Hugh WB4SLI	http://walkwas.nationalmssociety.org/site/ PageServer? pagename=WLK_WAS_homepage&gclid =CJCC-K7JxpYCFRKLxwodzDwxyQ		
April 1st weekend	MS Walk		http://www.marchforbabies.org/		
?? Weekend	March of Dimes Walk				
May 3rd weekend	Memphis in May Triathlon		http://www.mimtri.racesonline.com/		
September 2nd weekend	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell KK4D	http://biketns.nationalmssociety.org/site/ PageServer? pagename=BIKE_TNS_homepage		
October 1st weekend	Juvenille Diabetes Research Founda- tion Walk		http://walk.jdrf.org/		
December 5th	St. Jude Marathon	Roger KI4AJH	http://www.stjudemarathon.org		
1st weekend	Bartlett Christmas Parade		http://tn-bartlett.civicplus.com/index.asp? NID=629		

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2008

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

SCHEDULED CLASSES

Extra Class 1-09 – January 10- February 28, 2009

An Extra Class course will start January 10, 2009 and continue until February 28th for 7 Saturdays except for February 7th (which is Jackson, MS hamfest). Tom Fox KA4LWQ has developed the class outline from the new Extra Class question-pool that became effective July 1, 2008. He will be the primary instructor.

On the first day of class Dean Honadle N2LAZ will provide instruction on the use of the calculator and mathematics used on the Extra Class license exam.

If interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at <u>wa4ovo@yahoo.com</u> or call 683-2701 with your name, email address and phone number(s).

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

Technician-General Class 8-08 – November 3 – December 15, 2008

A combined Technician and General class started November 3rd at the Collierville Police Department Training Room with 16 students. The new students are primarily from the Collierville CERT Program with a mix of men and women. There seems to be a lot of enthusiasm even though it is somewhat overwhelming for some

This combined class will be on 7 Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm until December 15th. The first 4 weeks will follow the ARRL Technician Class DVD with additional General items that are complementary to the Technician topics. The fifth class will be a Technician Class review and FCC testing. The sixth class will be General Class material specific with a review and FCC testing on the seventh night.

We have received a 10% discount from HamTestOnline for the students. Thanks goes to Pi, K1RV, for his generosity on such a great learning tool.

David Perry AJ4KF coordinated the registration for this class in conjunction with the Collierville CERT program. Joe Lowenthal is the primary instructor. The Elmers are Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, David Perry AJ4KF, Lee Race W8ZQX, and Randy Wilder WB4LHD.

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2008 (cont.)

Basic Electronics Class 7-08 – September 27 – November 8, 2008

Basic Electronics Class 7-08 started on Saturday, September 27th at the Health Department Emergency Services Training Room on Mullins Station Road. According to the students that I have talked with, it has been very successful in meeting the objective of expanding their understanding of electronics. The one single most helpful item taught was the instruction on using the calculator and the mathematics. Thanks to Dean Honadle N2LAZ for giving his outstanding instructional talents for this class. Bill Stevens KI4TQA has been assisting.



Basic Electronics Class 7-08 Students

Photo by Bill Stevens KI4TQA

The course is a preparatory bridge between the General Class license and Extra Class course. This class is using *The ARRL Understanding Basic Electronics* book. It covers the mathematics required for Extra Class exam as well as most of the electronics.

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2008 (cont.)

FUTURE CLASSES

TECHNICIAN CLASS

If you are interested in a Technician License Class, please let me know of your interest by sending me an email at wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Technician Class." Or you can go to the Delta Club webpage www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; and then click on Technician Class to send me an email, or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

There is no charge for the class, but registration is required. Advanced study of *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual* is highly suggested as well as study of the 392 questions and answer Technical Class License question pool. Memphis Amateur, 1465 Wells Station Rd, 683-9125 is a local ham radio store that sells the manuals.

Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the sample tests, scroll down and click on Practice Tests on the left side of the QRZ home page. Another site is www.hamtestonline.com. It costs \$49.95, but it is good for 2 years for the Technician, General and Extra Class tests.

The 35-question FCC exam will be given at the end of class by a Volunteer Examiner (VE) team. There is a \$14.00 ARRL VE Exam fee.

GENERAL CLASS

If you are interested in a General License Class, please let me know of your interest by sending me an email at wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "General Class." Or you can go to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; and then click on General Class to send me an email, or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

EXTRA CLASS

Please pre-register by going to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; and then click on Extra Class to send an email to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at wa4ovo@yahoo.com or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

COMPLETED CLASSES IN 2008

To date in 2008, we have had six classes resulting in 27 Techs, 16 Generals, and 10 Extras.

COMPLETED CLASSES IN 2007

During 2007 we had 7 classes (one at the VA-Memphis Hospital) with 68 new hams and 18 Generals.

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

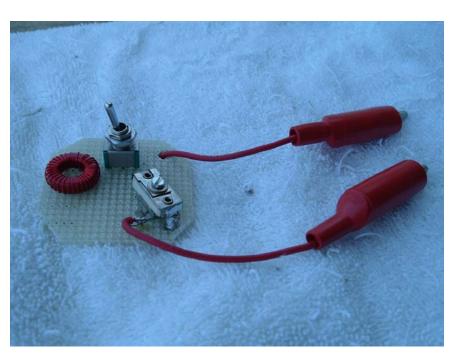
Packet radio APRS and packet systems are being used by amateurs more and more. APRS systems hook up to our 2 meter rigs and report position and telemetry information on the network. Packet systems normally allow us to transmit and receive text information keyboard to keyboard. The new tiny track 4 from Byonics is new to the amateur community and it is unique in the way it works. The unit is bought as a kit and put together or factory assembled. The unit's function is totally dependent on software loaded into it. The unit can decode 300, 1200, and 9600 baud packet. It has digital and analog inputs that can send out values for telemetry with the right software in the unit. It can also be used for DTMF decoding. Future upgrades for the software include PSK31 decoding, weather station support, and working like a standard TNC for packet work. Not bad for a \$65.00 kit. You can buy the unit for \$75.00 built up and ready to go. Software downloads for additional functions can be downloaded free from the website as they become available. Check out this nice unit on their website. It is http://www.byonics.com/tinytrak4/

James Butler KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Many of us use antenna tuners to match our antennas. The small antenna tuner I use is for end fed antennas. Tuners are composed of capacitors and inductors that are wired in to match the antenna. These are usually switch selected inductors or rotary inductors. The capacitors are variable so they can be adjusted for the best match. On auto tuners the computer switches these in for the lowest SWR. The range of the tuner to handle the mismatch and frequencies is determined be the values of the inductors and capacitors. This month I built up a kit for my QRP tuner to add tuning capability for more bands. The tuner originally only would work for 40 and 30 meters. The kit has a toroid that you wind which allows you to add it on for more inductance on the tuner. The small capacitor is adjustable and allows you to add in more capacitance. By using a switch to select either of these devices the tuner will work on 80 and 20 meters in addition to 40 and 30. The kit is easy to build and makes a great addition to allow the tuner to do more bands.

James Butler KB4LJV



TENNESSEE NETS								
Net Name	Freq.	UTC	Day					
Tennessee CW Net	3563	0100	Su-Sa					
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					
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	3810	As needed						
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7180	As n	eeded					

MedMERS moves East (submitted by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO)

The MedMERS net has changed primary frequency to the 146.73 repeater with a 107.2 tone which gives better handheld coverage. The net is on Wednesdays at 12 noon CT. The repeater is at St. Francis Hospital on Park Avenue.

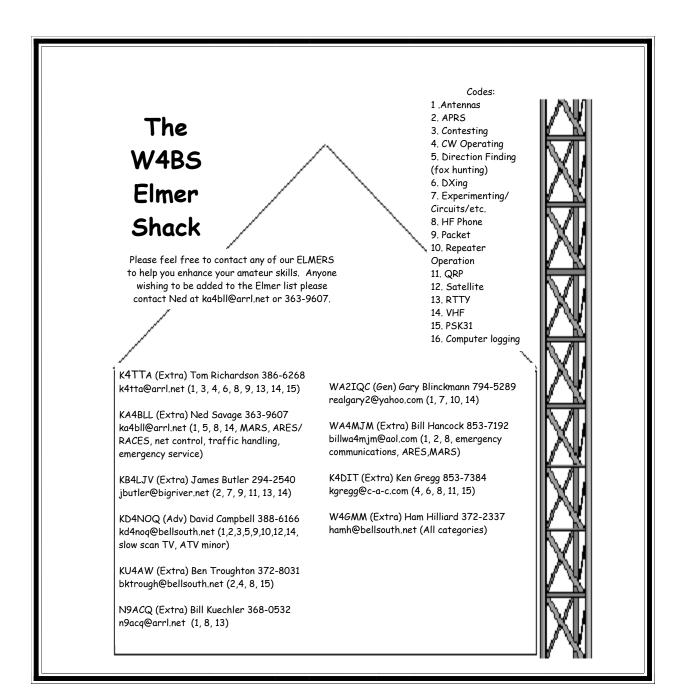
The secondary frequency is the 147.360, +600kHz, 107.2 tone on Methodist North.

Beginning Balance	October 1,2008	\$7,305.93		
	Expenses			
U of M	Phone (2months)	\$45.8		
AT&T	Phone	\$6		
		Total Expense	\$105.96	
		SubTotal \$	7,199.97	
	Income	·	·	
Membership Dues			\$15.00	
Raffle Tickets			\$199.00	
		Total Income	\$214.00	
Ending Balance	November 1,2008	 \$7,413.9		

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	$6{ t MARA}$ Club Meeting (1st Thursday)	7	8 Eddie KF4QFW
9	$10 \ $ Edward KC4ZON	11 Delta Club Meeting (2nd Tuesday)	12	13	14 Jerry KI4TKZ Stephen KI4EBV	<i>15</i>
16	17	18 Rick WA4NVM	19	20	21 James KG4YKZ	22 Jacob KD5NUH
23 Chuck W4VAC Stan AC4CQ	24	25 ARES Meeting (4th Tuesday)	26	27	28 Karen KE5MFX Melissa	29
30 Jim NI4C Kenneth N4WAH						



St. Jude Marathon (Still need volunteers)

For those of you that have volunteered to support the St. Jude Marathon on December 6th Thank you. There is still a need for more operators for this event. I would like to put two people at each aid station so that the time there can be split up which will make your day shorter. This event does not get rained out, snowed out or cancelled because it is cold. If you can work this event and have not volunteered send me an email at ki4ajh@bellsouth.net and let me know.

Thanks, Roger KI4AJH

Frequency Changes as of February 23, 2007 Here is the link for the frequency chart effective 2/23/07 in color: http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands color.pdf Here it is for the black and white version: http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/Hambands bw.pdf **Amateur Radio Bands** The national association for AMRIL AMATEUR RADIO www.arrl.org 225 Main Street, Newington, CT USA 06111-1494 Effective Date February 23, 2007 160 Meters (1.8 MHz) 30 Meters (10.1 MHz) terference to fixed services outside 50.1 6 Meters (50 MHz) e the US. -KEY E,A,G,T E,A,G 54.0 MHz 10,100 10,150 kHz 1900 2000 kHz 144.1 2 Meters (144 MHz) MCW is authorized above 50.1 MHz except for 219-220 MHz. 20 Meters (14 MHz) 14,150 80 Meters (3.5 MHz) 14,350 kHz E,A,G,T 4000 kHz 148.0 MHz A G = RTTY and data 1.25 Meters (222 MHz) = phone and image WWW 14,025 14,150 14,225 N,T (200 W) E.A.G.T = CW only N (25 Watts 219.0 220.0 = SSB phone 60 Meters (5.3 MHz) USB only 2.8 kHz 17 Meters (18 MHz) USB phone only E,A,G *Geographical and power restrictions may apply to all bands above 420 MHz. See *The ARRL Operating Manual* for information about your area. 18,068 18,110 18,168 kHz 5330.5 5346.5 5366.5 5371.5 533U.5 5346.5 539b.5. 5371.5 5403.5 RY2 General, Advanced, and Arnature Extra licenses may use the following five channels on a secondary basis with a maximum efficiency and the following five channels on a secondary basis with a half wave dipole, Only upper sideband suppressed carrier voice transmissions may be used. The frequencies are 5330.6, 5346.5, 5396.5, 5371.5 and 5403.5 kHz. The occupied bandwidth is limited to 28 kHz centered on 5332, 5348, 5388, 5373, and 5405 kHz respectively. 70 cm (420 MHz) 15 Meters (21 MHz) E,A,G,T 450.0 MHz G 33 cm (902 MHz)* N,T (200 W) E,A,G,T 21,200 902.0 928.0 MHz 12 Meters (24 MHz) 23 cm (1240 MHz)* 1300 MHz E,A,G E,A,G,T Gt WWWWWW N.T (200 W) 24,930 24,990 kHz N (5 Watts 7125 Phone and Image modes are permitted between 7075 and 3 nd 7100 kHz for FCC licensed stations in ITU Regions 1 and 3 and 7100 kHz for FCC licensed stations in ITU Regions 2 1 and 3 nd 9 FCC licensed stations in ITU Region 2 West of 30 degrees West longitude or South of 20 degrees North latitude. See Sections 97:305(c), and 97:307(c)(f), Novice and Technician licensees outside ITU Region 2 may use CW only between 7025 and 7075 kHz. See Section 97:301(c). These exemptions do not apply to stations in the continental US. 10 Meters (28 MHz) All licensees except Novices are authon the following frequencies: 2300-2310 MHz 10.0-10.5 GHz 2390-2450 MHz 24.0-24.25 GHz 3300-3500 MHz 47.0-47.2 GHz 5650-5925 MHz 76.0-91.0 GHz 29,700 kHz E,A,G 122.25-123.0 GHz 134-141 GHz 241-250 GHz All above 275 GHz N,T (200 W) 28.000

Information on News, Contests, Special Events, and Hamfests Can All Be Found At:

http://www.arrl.org/search/bigindex.html

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2009 Delta Club Membership

If you haven't already done so it is time to renew your club membership. You can go to the <u>Delta Club</u> website and print off a 2009 membership form and submit it with your cash, check, or money order.

Delta Club 146.82 Net Preamble GOOD EVENING: This is ___ _ calling this session of the DELTA CLUB'S TRAFFIC AND INFORMATION NET. This net is affiliated with the ARRL and the NTS and is organized to pass traffic in and out of the mid - south area, in addition to providing information about club events and amature related topics. This net meets nightly at 8:00 p.m. CST except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 W4BS repeater and requires a pl. tone of 107.2 Hz. All stations will refrane from transmitting without being acknowledged by net control. All licensed amateurs are encouraged to participate. Before we begin is there any station with emergency or priority traffic? (Take immediately) During this net should any station have emergency or priority traffic please use a double break followed by your call sign. Is there a NTS Liaison station on frequency? Is their any station wishing to list formal written traffic? Does any station have announcements for the net? Does any station have any questions or need any fills? We will now take checkins. Are there any stations that are mobile, on battery power, or needing to leave early, if so please come now phonetically with your suffix only and please remember to spread them out? We will now take checkins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ALPHA through HOTEL pleases come now and remember to spread them out. We now will take checkins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins INDIA through KEE-BECK please come now and remember to spread them out? We will now take checkins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ROMEO through ZULU please come now and remember to spread them out. The DELTA CLUB meets the second Tuesday of each month at the ELLENDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST 7365 HWY 70 in Bartlett at 7:00 P.M. V. E. Registration begins at 5:30 with testing starting promptly at 6:00. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information contact Tom, KA4LWQ at 357-1663. For membership information contact Lisa K4POM at 872-3367. We will now take late checkins from anywhere in the alphabet ALPHA through ZULU please come now and spread them out by waiting for the courtesy tone. Is there anything that this station or the net can do for anyone before we close? __ now closing this session of the DELTA AMATURE RAIDO CLUBS Traffic and information net and would like to thank all _____stations for checking in tonight. And would like to ask that everyone to check in tomorrow night at the same time. GOODNIGHT AND 73 THE NET IS NOW CLOSED._____CLEAR

AREA HAMFESTS OF INTEREST

EARS & Ham Station Nov 29, 2008 Evansville, IN **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:

Delta Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 342768 Memphis, TN 38184-2768

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