

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P. O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38184-2768 / VOL. 7 / JULY 2009



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

W4BS
REPEATER
SYSTEM
146.82, 147.36,
224.42, & 443.2

JULY 2009 CLUB MEETING

DATE: July 7, 2009 **NOTE: Meeting is on the first Tuesday.**

PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,
Memphis, Tn. (1.5 miles east of Hwy. 64-Stage Rd.)

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Demo of logging programs and a discussion of field day by Alan Anderson, KJ4BIX

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 VEC exam examination fee is \$15. 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...

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

Important note: THE JULY MEETING IS JULY 7. There is a scheduling conflict with the church for our regular meeting night. Please mark your calendars.

I hope that everyone had a great time and lots of on air time at Field Day. I always enjoy this event. I do want to thank John, AJ4AT, for being our liaison for the event. Those of us on the board know a little about the time and effort involved. This is a chance to explore new and different means of communicating and looking at the different setups. Maybe some of us got some ideas about how to get on the air at home.

I hope that everyone has offered input to our congressmen regarding HR 2160. If you have not, please do so. This is not our PRB-1, but it does draw attention to the fact that the local governments cannot expect us to magically get on the air in a disaster if we cannot otherwise operate.

Several members are working on the 443.200 machine to get the antenna out of the electronic hole that it has been in. A metal mansard was installed on the roof of the building that created the hole. Now we need to elevate the antenna. Thanks to Lance, N4GMT, for his donation of hard line and connectors in this effort.

Roger, KI4AJH, has been busily working with Lance, N4GMT, to get the trailer road ready and more accessible for the board members. They have been working to get a heftier rotator on the trailer's tower. Thanks, guys, for all the work that you have done.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding Field Day, please let one of the board members know about it. We need this input in order to make the 2010 Field Day better and more fun.

That's about it from me. I hope to see everyone at the meeting on July 7 and am looking forward to Alan's, KJ4BIX, program this month.

73,
De Hugh, WB4SLI

VE Liaison's Corner

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

Bradley, Dan F.	KJ4KUO	Gen
Earnheart, Ursula	KJ4MVB	Tech
Hube, Eric W.	KJ4BDN	Gen
Purse, Robert E.	KJ4MXN	Tech
Young, Amanda S.	KJ4MVA	Tech

We are proud of you. Let me take this opportunity to invite you to come to our next meeting on the 1st Tuesday of July so that we can all congratulate you personally.

Tom Fox KA4LWQ, ARRL VE Liaison.

DARC Board Minutes of June 2, 2009

Board meeting minutes were not received for July Sparks publication.

DARC General Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2009

Hugh – WB4SLI called the meeting to order at 7:05PM and asked for introductions of the attending 53 members and guest.

Daryl - KK4D gave an update on the Club repeater antennas

Ned – K4BLL gave a report on the Memphis in May Triathlon held on May 17, 2009.

Hugh – WB4SLI asked the club to accept the minutes for the meeting held in May be accepted as printed in the Sparks. Jeff – AJ4GY made the motion to accept and Rosalinda – KI4ZKW seconded. Club attendance accepted.

Roger – KI4AJH gave a review on the sale of the items donated to the club.

Bill – KI4TQA gave the club treasurers report. Richard – NF5B made a motion to accept and was seconded by Bill – KC4SXT. Club attendance accepted.

Joe – WA4OVO gave his training report and announced a new class beginning in July.

John – AJ4AT once again reminded the club that Field Day would be held at Tony's club House and that the event would be on June 27th and 28th. Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

Ham - W4GMM presented the scheduled program on the "Logging Program" to be used for field day. It was very informative and would no doubt be very useful to those logging the contacts made at the operating stations on Field Day.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2009

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

Training article was not received for July Sparks publication.

2009 Public Service Events

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 eight 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. If you volunteer to coordinate an event I will help you by sending out a mass email to the Sparks distribution list to help you get volunteers to help with the event. I will not however coordinate the event for you. When I send out the email I will be directing them to contact you directly via email or phone, whichever you want.

Date	Event	Coordinator	Website
January 18th	Swamp Stompers	Eddie KF4QFW	http://memphisultra.blogspot.com/2008/01/swamp-stomper-2008.html
March Cancelled for 2009	City Slickers Equestrian Event	Richard NF5B	http://www.midsouthhorsereview.com/articles/2007/05/12/news/news05.txt
TBA	Boy Scout Merit Badge University	Hugh WB4SLI	
April Delta not Coordinating	MS Walk		http://tns.nationalmssociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=TNS_homepage
25th	March for Babies AKA March of Dimes Walk	Bob KF4NDH	http://www.marchforbabies.org/
May 17th	Memphis in May Triathlon	Ned KA4BLL	http://www.mimtri.racesonline.com/
September 12th & 13th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell KK4D	http://biketns.nationalmssociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=BIKE_TNS_homepage
October 3rd	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk	Kathleen KC0HZU	http://walk.jdrf.org/
December 5th	St. Jude Marathon	Roger KI4AJH	http://www.stjudemarathon.org
5th	Bartlett Christmas Parade	Dennis KJ4BDU	http://tn-bartlett.civicplus.com/index.asp?NID=629

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

Sometimes we want to run portable with our QRP equipment. We may run digital modes, CW, or voice. This means that we will have to carry an antenna with use to use. Wire antennas are popular but a lot of companies are coming out with short vertical antennas for portable use. These antennas usually have a base loaded coil along with a way to mount them to tables, radios, or any convenient object. The coil is adjusted manually by adjusting the wiper on the coil by hand. After the antenna is put together the coil is adjusted for the frequency you want to operate at. These little guys come in handy when trying to set up in the field. One company that has come out with a small portable unit is Super Antennas. They have a small portable antenna model MP-1. This has a whip section along with a base coil to adjust for 40 to 6 meters. They also have an 80 meter add on coil. The price of the base antenna is \$99.00. The antenna has a clamping section that allows it to be clamped to a table or other object for support. This is a large "C" clamp and metal base it clamps to. They also sell accessories like a side plate mount for the Yaesu 817 to mount the antenna right to the case of the radio for a support. If you are looking for a small portable HF antenna for your QRP rig check out this one from Super Antennas. The web site is <http://www.superantennas.com/>

James Butler
KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Many times when we run QRP rigs we use headphones. These are nice but sometimes are uncomfortable for long times. A small speaker is needed with low power requirements for these QRP rigs. Surplus computer in the case speakers work well as they are small and low power will drive them. I took a surplus steel case and mounted one of these two inch computer speakers in it. I painted the unit to match the Heathkit line of QRP rigs. I also mounted a stereo 1/8 inch stereo connector on the end. I now have a small portable speaker when I need it. Most QRP rigs will drive this speaker so you can them without our headphones. It is great for radio testing for those that do not have internal speakers also.

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 needed	

**MedMERS moved East
(submitted by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO)**

The MedMERS net has changed primary frequency is the 146.73 repeater with a 107.2 tone which gives good handheld coverage in east Memphis. 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.

Delta Amateur Radio Club

Beginning Balance	as of June 1, 2009		\$10,931.12
		Expenses	
Memphis Amateur	2 Door Prizes		\$29.99
Roger Schlichter	Grnd. Rod & Clamp		\$15.01
AT&T	146.82 phone		\$60.07
U of M	443.200 phone		\$22.94
Roger Schlichter	Keys & Locks for trailer		\$57.37
Roger Schlichter	Floodlights for Trailer		\$60.92
Top Notch Travel	Deposit for Huntsville Trip		\$200.00
		Total Expense	\$446.30
		SubTotal	\$10,484.82
		Income	
Membership Dues			\$130.00
2 Can Holders			\$2.00
Ebay Sales of donated Estate			\$2,509.57
		Total Income	\$2,641.57
Ending Balance	as of July 1, 2009		\$13,126.39

Submitted by Bill Stevens K14TQA

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 MARA Club Meeting (1st Thursday)	3	4
5 Betsy KD4KOM	6	7 Delta Club Meeting (1st Tuesday) Amanda	8	9	10 Pat KC4SJD	11 Kay KA4AEG
12 Harry AF4RH	13	14	15 Nora W4ZOR	16	17 Richard AI4BN	18 Ray AA4UK
19 Dean N2LAZ	20 Joe WA4OVO Austen KG4GKE Marie K4GMT	21 Larry KI4YOU	22	23 Christine KG4QDN	24	25
26 Don KA4EBU Bill N4GCF	27	28 ARES Meeting (4th Tuesday)	29	30	31 James KJ4AJC	

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.

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

K4TTA (Extra) Tom Richardson 386-6268
k4tta@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)

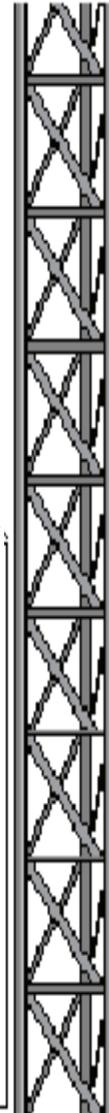
N9ACQ (Extra) Bill Kuechler 368-0532
n9acq@arrl.net (1, 8, 13)

WA2IQC (Gen) Gary Blinckmann 794-5289
realgary2@yahoo.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)

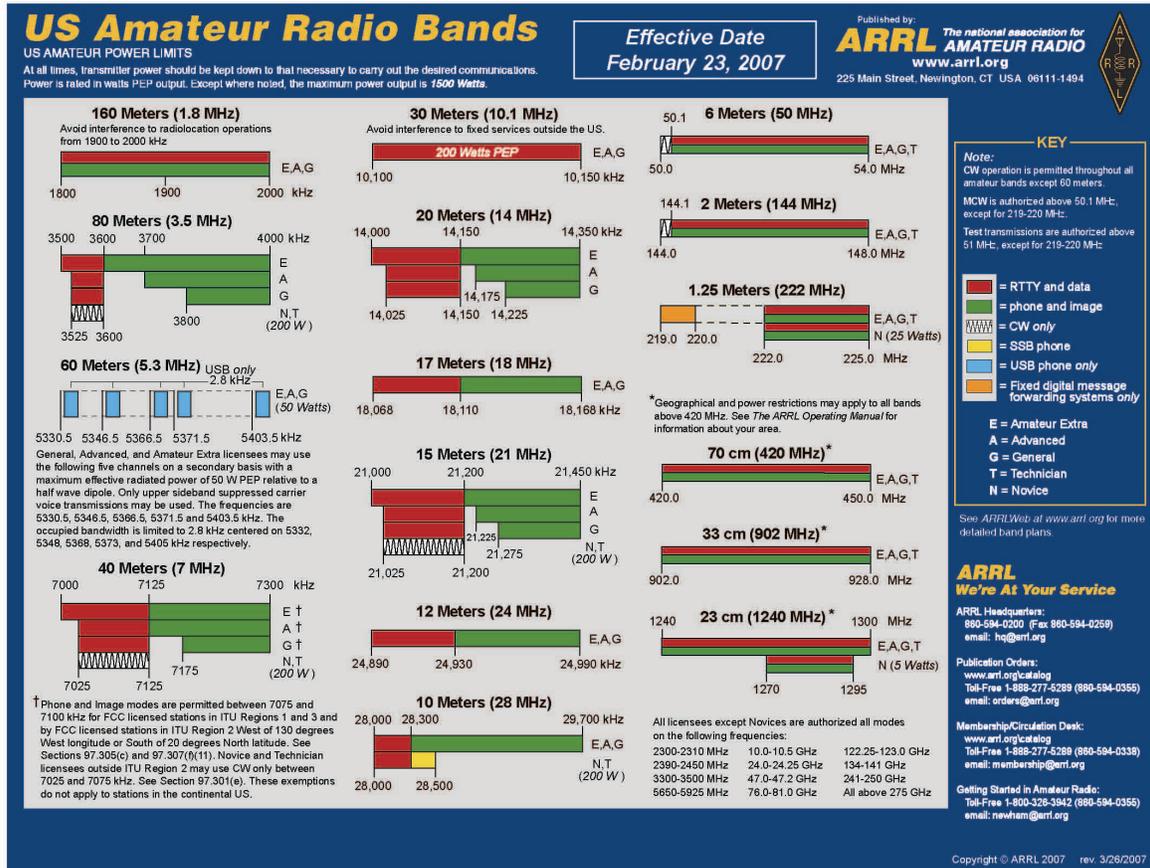
W4GMM (Extra) Ham Hilliard 372-2337
hamh@bellsouth.net (All categories)



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



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

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

2009 Delta Club Membership

If you haven't already done so it is time to renew your club membership. You can go to the [Delta Club](#) 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 amateur related topics. This net meets nightly at 8:00 p.m. CT except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 W4BS repeater and may require a pl. tone of 107.2 Hz.

All stations will refrain 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 an NTS Liaison station on frequency?

Is there any station wishing to list formal written traffic?

Does any station have announcements for the net?

(Eliminate the following sentence unless there are announcements.)

Does any station have any questions or need any fills?

We will now take check-ins. 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 check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ALPHA through HOTEL please come now and remember to spread them out.

We now will take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins INDIA through QUEBEC please come now and remember to spread them out?

We will now take check-ins 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 Fox, KA4LWQ at 357-1663 . For membership information contact Steve Smith KI4YOP at 493-8663. For training class information contact Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO at 683-2701..

We will now take late check-ins 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?

This is _____ now closing this session of the DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S 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

Zero Beaters ARC
July 19, 2009
Washington, MO

3rd Annual Mid-Summer Swapfest
July 25, 2009
Cullman, AL

Alabama Section Convention
August 15– 16, 2009
Huntsville, AL

Short Mountain Repeater Club
August 22, 2009
Gladeville, TN

Net Alternate Control Operators Needed

We are still looking for alternate net controllers. 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

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

2009 Board of Directors

President

Hugh Wardlaw, WB4SLI
901-487-3820 (hwardlaw@bellsouth.net)

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Vice President

Richard Webb
901-465-9921(elspider@bellsouth.net)

-

Secretary

Steve Smith
901-493-8663 (ki4yop@gmail.com)

-

Treasurer

Bill Stevens, KI4TQA
901-603-3448 (KI4TQA@bellsouth.net)

-

Director of Training

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO
901-683-2701 (WA4OVO@yahoo.com)

-

Director of Publications

Roger Schlichter, KI4AJH
901-386-8457 (KI4AJH@bellsouth.net)

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Director of Programs

Alan Anderson, KJ4BIX
901-581-1220 (KJ4BIX@arrl.net)

-

Director of Hospitality

Wayne Monte, KI4TLB
901-377-5132, wjmonte@comcast.net

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Repeater Trustee

Darrell Sheffield, KK4D
901-277-8122(Darrell.Sheffield@Memphistn.gov)

Field Day Photos June 27 & 28, 2009
(Photos provided by Steve Smith, KI4YOP)



Field Day Photos June 27 & 28, 2009 cont.
(Photos provided by Steve Smith, KI4YOP)



Field Day Photos June 27 & 28, 2009 cont.
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