DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BPARK 5

P.O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38184-2768 / VOL. 8 / AUGUST 2009



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

W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM

146.82, 147.36, 224.42, & 443.2

AUGUST 2009 CLUB MEETING

DATE: August 11, 2009

PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,

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

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: This month's program will be very informative and will be a chance to see how to do the

calculations required in the Extra exam presented by Dean, N2LAZ

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

Man, July just shot right on by. This month's program will be very informative and will be a chance to see how to do the calculations required in the Extra exam. Dean, N2LAZ will be the presenter. While I was at one of the ham breakfasts I found out something. Jeff and Stacie are engaged and will be getting married soon. I would like to wish them all the best and many happy years together.

There will be some things coming up this fall that we need to see if we can help out on them. We will be doing several public service events and help is always needed. Look at the list and see what time you can spare to assist with the good causes. The nominating committee will be coming up with a slate of candidates for the elections to happen soon. Please carefully consider running whether you volunteer or if asked. Most of the offices do not take a tremendous amount of time. You will have an additional board meeting each month and submit an article for the Sparks.

Please always remember that when we are in a severe weather situation to listen and not transmit unless you have information that the national Weather Service is needing. Please keep your transmissions short and, most of all, the information accurate. People within about a sixty to eighty mile radius of Memphis are listening and possibly needing to report an incident.

I hope that I see you at the meeting and look forward to all of the fun and fellowship.

73, 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:

Mastin, Elizabeth	KJ4NIN	Tech
Gutierrez, Miguel	KJ4NIM	Tech
Watson, Robert	KJ4NIL	Tech
Campbell, Sharelle	KJ4NIO	Tech
Purse Robert	KJ4MXN	Gen

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.

Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge

The club will be providing instruction on the Boy Scout radio merit badge on August 15, 2009. The plan is to have two sessions for the merit badge, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Times will run approximately from 8:00 am till noon and 1:00 pm till 5:00 pm. Those of you that will not be going to Huntsville that day are invited to assist with the merit badge class. We still could use some assistants to help the scouts throughout the lecture and hands on portions of the event. If you can't make it out to Southwest for the instruction or can't volunteer for the whole day maybe you can stand by and be a contact person during the hands-on operations from your home. If you can assist during this event send Roger KI4AJH an email at KI4AJH@bellsouth.net letting him know how you are willing to assist.

DARC Board Minutes of July 2009

There was not a board meeting held in July.

DARC General Meeting Minutes of July 7, 2009

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

Hugh ask that the minutes of the June meeting be read. Jeff – AJ4GY made a motion that the minutes be accepted as printed in Sparks and the motion was seconded by Ham - W4GMM.

Bill - KI4TQA gave the club treasurers report. Ham - W4GMM made a motion to accept and was seconded by Larry - WA4VXH. Club attendance accepted.

Roger – KI4AJH gave a report of the upgrades and repairs which were made to the club trailer. Upgrades and repairs included new light fixtures and wiring. Also, weather permitting; plans to sand blast and repaint the trailer are being made for later this year.

Joe – WA4OVO gave his training report and announced a new class beginning in July. He also reported his progress on getting Dixiefest dissolved and the funds distributed. Additionally, he reminded everyone of the Huntsville Hamfest bus trip.

John – AJ4AT gave his report on Field Day as well as some info on the ISS passes. David – KD4NOQ added information on ISS passes.

Tom – KA4LWQ gave a report on the VE testing.

Lance – N4GMT made an announcement that the club is still in need of Net Control operators. If interested, contact Lance.

Alan – KJ4BIX presented a great program on Standing Wave Ratio (SWR). The program was very informative. Thanks Alan.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Respectfully Submitted By: Steve Smith – KI4YOP

Swap Shop on the Website

Just wanted to let you know that the swap shop page on the web has been re-enabled. You can find it at http://www.deltaclub.org/swap_shop.html .If you have anything that you would like to list on the page send me an email at KI4AJH@bellsouth.net

I hope this will be helpful for those of you trying to move some gear.

73's Roger

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2009

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

Technician-General Class 3-09 – July 2 – August 27, 2009

Technician-General Class 3-09 began on Thursday, July 2nd at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Complex (across from the Penal Farm) with 18 students in attendance. Several more students joined later for a total of 24 in the class. Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO is the primary instructor. Elmer's Bill Stevens KI4TQA and Rick Tillman WA4NVM are assisting.

The first four classes covered the Technician class material using the ARRL King Technician DVD. Pat Lane W4OQG presented his extremely interesting commentary on antennas and feedlines. The fifth class was a short review due to the tornados in the area and FCC exam on July 30th.



Tech Class 3-09 at Shelby County Health Department East Complex classroom Photo by Bill Stevens KI4TQA

Nineteen of the 20 students who tested earned their Technician licenses. Congratulations to Alex Campbell KJ4NWC, Ben Campbell KJ4NWD, Trey Campbell KJ4NWE, Andy Seibert KJ4NWF, Andrea Seibert KJ4NWG, Carey Seibert KJ4NWH, Beverly Garrick KJ4NWJ, Altaf Safri KJ4NWP, Rick Pellicciotti KJ4NWQ, Paul Spring KJ4NWR, Ron Powell KJ4NWS, Susan Powell KJ4NWT, John Wilkinson KJ4NWU, Terry Mullins KJ4NWV, Jennie Gunn KF5CKZ, Ed Gunn KJ5CLA, Jennifer Mounicou KF5CLB, Sonny Mounicou KF5CLC, and Don Swindal KF5CLD. An additional congratulations to Trey Campbell and Don Swindal, who also earned their General license in the same test session. Many thanks go to Win Guin's WCARS VE team of Win Guin W2GLJ, Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO for administering the exams.

The sixth and seventh classes will cover additional General material. The eight and ninth classes will be review of the General question pool with FCC testing on the August 27th.

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2009 (cont.)

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

SCHEDULED CLASSES

Basic Electronics 5-09 September 26-November 7, 2009

The Basic Electronics class, which is a bridge between the General Class license and the Extra Class license, is to begin on September 26th for 7 Saturdays from 9am to 1pm. Dean Honadle N2LAZ is the instructor. Bill Stevens KI4TQA with assist.

The course text is the ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics*, First Edition, Seventh Printing 2006 (ISBN 0-87259-398-3), ARRL Order No. 3983. Each student will need a Casio fx-260 solar calculator. The calculator can be purchased at Wal-Mart.

If interested in this class, send an email to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO (<u>wa4ovo@yahoo.com</u>) with your name, phone number and email address to get your name on the list for this class.

Technician Class

The next Technician Class is projected to start in early November.

Extra Class

The next Extra class is projected to begin in January 2010 from 9am-1pm for 6 or 7 Saturdays.

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. We usually publish class schedules a month or two in advance. 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 question 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. Barnes & Noble also sell 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 \$59.95, 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 \$15.00 ARRL VEC FCC exam fee.

GENERAL CLASS

If you are interested in a General License Class, please let me know of your interest by sending an email to 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. The text book is *The ARRL General Class License Manual*. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2009 (cont.)

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

BASIC ELECTRONICS CLASS

The Basic Electronics Class is designed to bridge the electronics learning gap between the General and the Extra Class licenses. The class text book is ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics*. There is no exam for this class. If you are interested in the Basic Electronics Class, please let me know of your interest by sending an email at wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Basic Electronics Class" or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

EXTRA CLASS

If you are interested in an 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. The class is planned to start in January 2010.

COMPLETED CLASSES IN 2009

Technician Class 4-09 – July 27-30, 2009

Paulette Mastin KJ4NIN asked to have this class for Memphis area homeschool students. She arranged for the use of a classroom at Faith Baptist Church from 8:30am to 12:30pm on four consecutive days, July 27-30. Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO led the four youngster plus two adults who completed the Technician course.



Photo Front left to right: Ed Krone (formerly WD4SLM), Kelsie Mastin 10, Ken Deniston KJ4NWL; Rear left to right: Andrew Jones 11 KJ4WN, Jacob Jones 10 KJ4NWM, Cody Gembala 12, and Lee Roland 15 KJ4NWI.

Five of these students attended the Tech-General 3-09 review and test session on Thursday night July 30th. As a result of the homeschool students being in class and wanting to test, two of the parents also attended the test session.

Congratulations to Ken Deniston KJ4NWL, Jacob Jones KJ4NWM, Andrew Jones KJ4NWN, Scott Jones KJ4NWO, and David Mastin KJ4NWK who earned their Technician license. A double congratulations goes to Lee Roland KJ4NWI who earned his Technician and General licenses.

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

Many times we work on older equipment or build up circuits from old QST or other magazines. We are always looking for parts to use in the equipment. In the old days tubes were normally in all electronic circuits. Getting parts for these can be harder these days. Companies are online that supply some of these parts for the builder. One of these companies is Radio Daze. They have a variety of older electronics parts for sale. They sell multi-section capacitors, high voltage capacitors, polyester film capacitors, and temp stable mica capacitors. They also sell a complete selection of tubes along with replacement bases for them if needed. They even have solid state replacements for rectifier tubes. They even have replacement dials for some old radios. Radio Daze has tools for restoring radios they sell. They also have a list of publications to help in restoring older radios. They have replacement speaker grill cloth for those old radios that need to be replaced. Radio Daze even offers restoration services to rebuild old speaker cones. If you are looking for the old stuff check out Radio Daze. Their web site is http://www.radiodaze.com/

James Butler KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Many times we like to have different keys and paddles to run on our rigs. On the TEN TEC series of QRP rigs they use the RCA type plug in jack for the key. The older Heathkits also use this type of RCA connection. With newer TVs going to HDMI and S video there are lots of surplus RCA cables on the market and around the house you did not use. I found an extra set of RCA cables put them together to make the MULTIKEY. This will allow me to hook up any to straight keys or the output of any two electronic keyers or a combination of each. By soldering the cables to each other in parallel any key or keyer output can be used to key the rig. Although I made mine a 2 to 1 MULTIKEY by using more cables you can make a 3 to 1 or more as needed. This comes in handy when switching from a keyer to a straight key. I can program messages in the keyer memory for calling and use the straight key for the contact without having to flip any switches or plug and unplug from the rig. This has been easy to make and really comes in handy on the rig.

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 n	eeded	
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 July 2009 Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance	as of July 1, 2009	\$13,126.39	
	Expenses		
Ellendale Church of Christ	Donation 08&09	\$200.00	
Roger Schlichter	Trailer Parts	\$149.91	
AT&T	146.82 phone	\$60.07	
U of M	443.200 phone	\$22.94	
MARA	Field Day Food	\$265.00	
		\$697.92	
		\$12,428.47	
	Income		
Membership Dues		\$45.00	
Bus Deposits		\$2,035.00	
· 		\$2,080.00	
Ending Balance	as of August 1, 2009	\$14,508.47	

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						$I_{ exttt{Dana WI3B}}$
2	3	4	5	6	7 Aaron KI40TH	8 Heidi KC4ZOU
9	10	11 Delta Club Meeting (2nd Tuesday)	12	13 Bill KC4SXT	14	15
16 Norman KA4AEF	17 Art K4SHJ	18	19	20mara Club Meeting (3rd Thurs- day)	21 David KC5GGE	22
23 Suresh N9GSA Ben KU4AW	24 Scott K5SJ	25ares Meeting (4th Tuesday)	26	27	28	29
30 Paulette KE5MFW David KD4NOQ	31 Rex KB2WGP					

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 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)

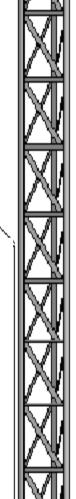
Codes:

- 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

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

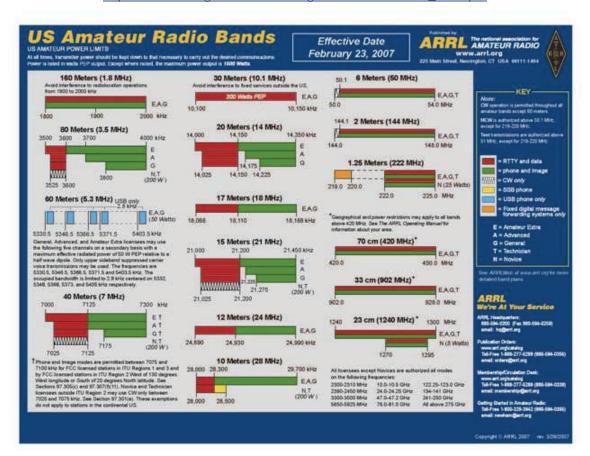
K4DIT (Extra) Ken Gregg 853-7384 kgregg@c-a-c.com (4, 6, 8, 11, 15)

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

Swap Shop On The Web

Just wanted to let you know that the swap shop page on the web has been re-enabled. You can find it at http://www.deltaclub.org/swap_shop.html . If you have anything that you would like to list on the page let me know.

I hope this will be helpful for those of you trying to move some gear.

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 their 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 pleases 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? ___ 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

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

Short Mountain Repeater Club August 22, 2009 Gladeville, TN

Gadsden Amateur Radio Club September 12, 2009 Attalla, AL

> All-Arkansas Hamfest September 19, 2009 Little Rock, AR

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

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