

Delta Amateur Radio Club

SPARKS

P.O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38134-2768 – Vol. 8 August 2010



W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820-(107.2) 147.360+(107.2)

224.420- 443.200+(107.2)

August 2010 CLUB MEETING

DATE: August 10th, 2010

PLACE: Ellendale Church of Christ
7365 HWY 70, Bartlett TN

Program: Telemetry in the New Madrid Seismic Zone
By Pat Lane W4OQG,
Electronics Technician, U of M Center for Earthquake Research and
Information;
WKNO Transmitter Engineer

VE TESTING: VE registration begins at 5:30pm with testing starting promptly at
6pm. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information
contact Tom Fox, KA4LWQ at 357-1663.

President's Corner

I was recently looking at QRZ for HAMS within 1 mile of my house, I was amazed that a new relatively new HAM lived on my street; I walk by his house all the time. I increased the distance to 2 miles and found 83 people. Just imagine what would it would be like if we could get a significant percentage of them on the air, or maybe in the Delta Club. I would like to challenge everyone to try to get a HAM in your area on the air and invite them to a Delta Club meeting. I think there are many people with licenses that have never been on the air and others that have lost interest in radio. As all of you know it is a great hobby and there is enough variety to keep anyone interested. Maybe if they could get exposed to something new or just realize that there is quite a large group of HAMS in the Memphis area. I know we have had many people pass the test in the last couple of years; we need to do our best to get them on the air and stimulate their interest in the hobby. Passing the test is the first step in this hobby. I recently had someone follow me home to ask what the antenna was on the back of my truck, I took the time to explain a screwdriver antenna and told him he should give HAM radio a try, if he was willing to follow me for a couple of miles during 5 o'clock traffic, that is enough interest to me. I think there are many people out there that started listening to shortwave radio when they were a kid, or had exposure to our hobby sometime in their lives and for many people the interest is still there, it is our job to help them find the hobby.

Hope to see everyone on the bus to Huntsville, there are a few seats left.

73 and Good DX
Alan KJ4BIX

DELTA CLUB MEETING
No meeting for the month of July

DELTA CLUB BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR July 6, 2010

Attendee's

Alan – KI4BIX
Rosalinda – KI4ZKW
Rick – WA4NVM
Joe – WA4OVO
Wayne – KI4TLB
David – KD4NOQ
Jeff – AJ4GY

Guest
John – AJ4AT

Robert – KI4YUE

Alan – KI4BIX called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and opened by asking if there was any old or new business. The meeting place for the July general meeting was discussed. The current location at the church is not going to be available and it is a possibility that the meeting would have to be cancelled.

Rosalinda – KI4ZKW and John – AJ4AT gave a summary of the 2010 Field Day.

Rick – WA4NVM gave the treasurers report which was accepted by the board.

Joe – WA4OVO gave the Training report which was accepted by the board and an update of the Bus Trip to the Huntsville Hamfest.

Jeff – AJ4GY presented a draft copy of “Sparks” news letter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

I wish to that Rosalinda – KI4ZKW for keeping the minutes of this meeting in my absence.

Respectfully submitted by Steve – KI4YOP

Treasury Report

Beginning Balance	as of July 1, 2010	\$15,587.11
Expenses		
AT&T	(phone line)	\$62.00
U of M	(phone line)	\$22.94
Field Day Expenses		\$811.44
		Total Expense \$896.38
		SubTotal \$14,690.73
Income		
Deposit for Huntsville		\$145.00
		Total Income \$145.00
Ending Balance	as of July 31, 2010	\$14,835.73

Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

BUS TRIP to 2010 HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST AUGUST 21th

DARC is sponsoring a 50-passenger bus to go to the Huntsville Hamfest on August 21, 2010. As of writing the article, there are only 8 seats left.

At this time the fare is \$60 that includes entry to the Huntsville Hamfest. There will be biscuit sandwiches, water, sodas, chips, and fruit on the bus going to Huntsville and whatever is left for the trip back.

Cash or checks will be accepted for payment. Make checks payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club. You can pay at the meeting. You can also send your check to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, 6675 Ashbridge Cove, Memphis, TN 38120. Please include your name, callsign, cell phone number, and email address. Reservations will be on a first come first paid basis.

The bus will leave Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70, Bartlett, TN at 6:00am on August 21th. A second pickup point will be at Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Avenue at Johnson Road, Germantown, TN at approximately 6:40am. The bus will leave Huntsville immediately after the 4pm door prize drawing and return to Germantown Baptist Church approximately 7:30pm and Ellendale Church of Christ at approximately 8:15pm.

Ellendale Church of Christ has asked us to park in the larger parking lot on the west side of the building to leave the east side open for church activity parking.

The pickup point at Germantown Baptist Church will be by the northwest bus portico on the back side of the church. If there is inclement weather, the bus will pull in under the portico.

Tower Work

NF5B and KC0HZU are looking for some help to remove a hex beam from a tower so that I can repair it and put it on a shorter mast, meanwhile pointing a 5 element yagi at Memphis on the tower. We need two or three bodies to get the whole assembly down, then put the vhf/uhf vertical back up once the hex beam is removed.

Catch me on 146.82 or give a buzz 901 465-9921 if you can assist.

Used Batteries

This month at the club meeting Damon, WA4HFN, will be accepting used batteries that you know longer need, or that or not usable. If you have batteries that you are wanting to get rid of, please see Damon at the club meeting this month.

Tennessee Nets

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3.980	5:40a	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3.980	6:45a	M-F
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3.980	6:30p	T-Su
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	3.810	As needed	
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7.180	As needed	

Memphis Area Nets

Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog net	146.535	7:30p	Daily
Delta Club Traffic and Information Net	146.820-(107.2)	8:00p	Daily
Secret Service Net	224.780-	8:30p	M
Elmer Net	147.030+(107.2)	9:00p	M
The Short Winded Net	146.850-	8:30p	Tu
MedMERS Net	146.730-(107.2)	12:00p	W
Six Meter Tech Net	53.01-	8:30p	W
The 440 Net	443.200+(107.2Hz)	9:00p	W
Two meter single Sideband Net	144.260 USB	8:30p	Th
ARES Training Net	146.880-(107.2)	9:00p	2 nd & 4 th Th

PACKET UPDATE

Many amateurs are looking for a way to get ham radio articles and information about our hobby. We usually subscribe to ham radio magazines to get our new articles each month. One really magazine I liked was World Radio. They had articles for shortwave listeners as well as Amateur radio articles. CQ magazine now publishes World Radio on internet each month. The magazine is available free for downloading. The downloaded files are in PDF format. You can do the whole magazine or just sections at a time. Thanks to CQ magazine for offering this service to amateurs. They also have back issues of World Radio available online for downloading. Go to the CQ magazine website and click on the World Radio link. It is nice to see more Amateur radio related content available on the internet.

James Butler
KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

I had set of computer amplified stereo speakers I wanted to run on 12VDC. As it turns out these had a wall transformer and ran on about 5 VDC. I wanted to be able to run these speakers portable on battery power or off the 12 VDC supply I used for the radio. The solution was to make an adapter to change the 12 to 5 VDC from batteries or a radio 12 VDC supply to 5 VDC to run the speakers. Luckily electronics manufacturers have offered a voltage regulator to do this for over 30 years. The common part number is LM-340 or 7805 voltage regulator. It is a self contained three terminal device. Input (12 VOLTS), output (5 VOLTS), and common ground connection. I built mine up in small case and used a heatsink to allow it to run cooler. Now I can hook up 12 volts and have 5 volts to run my amplified stereo speakers wherever I want.



James Butler
KB4LJV

2010 Public Service Events

If you have any events you would like to add, please e-mail them to aj4gy@arrl.net

In communicating with the Juvenile Diabetes research foundation I was told that a donor has provided for the use of ten handheld business band radios for this year, so they will not be needing our support. However, they have the delta club's web site information, as well as contact info for Kathleen and I, so if the radios don't work out as well as hoped, or are not available for their 2011 event they'll be getting in touch with us. Hams involved in emergency communications can now think seriously about plans for the ARRL section emergency test, which usually coincides with it.

Richard Webb
NF5B

Date	Event	Coordinator
September 11th & 12 th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell KK4D
October 2nd (1st Saturday)	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk	Kathleen KC0HZU

December 4th	St. Jude Marathon	Roger KI4AJH
4th	Bartlett Christmas Parade	Dennis KJ4BDU
TBA	Boy Scout Merit Badge	Hugh WB4SLI

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2010

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

There is no charge for classes, but the student is responsible for the purchase of the license manual and the \$15 ARRL FCC examination fee.

Licenses Earned in 2010 from Delta Classes

61 Technician
5 General
3 Extra

SCHEDULED CLASSES

Basic Electronics Class 6-10

A Basic Electronics class, which is a bridge between the General Class license and the Extra Class license, is scheduled for 6 Saturdays from 9am to 1pm starting September 25th and ending November 6th at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Complex across from the Penal Farm. There will NOT be a class on October 2nd. . The text is the recently revised *The ARRL Understanding Basic Electronics, Second Edition* (ARRL order # 0823). It has a gray cover.

If you have an interest in attending this class email Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO at wa4ovo@yahoo.com with your name, email address, and contact phone number, preferably cell to let him know.

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

None

FUTURE CLASSES

TECHNICIAN CLASS

If you are interested in the first amateur license class, Technician, please let us know of by sending an email to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Technician Class" and give name, email address, and a contact

phone number (preferably a cell number). Or you can go to the Delta Club webpage www.deltaclub.org click on Training Classes; then click on Technician Class to send 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 if you send an email informing us of your desire to be in a class.

There is no charge for the class, but registration is required. Advanced study of *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Second Edition, product #0830* (red manual with 2 pictures on front cover verses 3 pictures on older version) is strongly suggested as well as study of the 396 question and answer Technical Class License question pool. Barnes & Noble Booksellers may have this Second Edition manual. You can purchase it online from www.arrl.org/catalog or on Amazon.com. The list price is \$24.95.

The new Technician License question pool, which was approved by the NCVEC on February 1, 2010, can be seen at <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=356>. Testing for the new question pool started July 1, 2010.

Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the sample tests, click on Main Menu to the right of the Search button on the QRZ Home Page. Scroll down and click on Practice Amateur Radio Exams. Click on Start Test to enter QRZ Practice Test Center. Click on Technician 35 Questions. Click on Wait For Correct. (This feature gives you the ability to answer again to get the correct answer if you miss the first time. On each answer it will either show Wrong Answer or Correct.) Click on Begin Test. Statistics are given at the top of the screen with the number of Completed questions, the Accuracy percentage, and the Overall percentage of questions completed on the test. Be sure to study multiple QRZ tests. The first test is only the first question from each of the 35 subgroups of the question pool. The second test is only the second question from each of the 35 subgroups, and so on. It is recommended to take at least 15 of the sample tests to be able to see all 396-question pool questions.

A very good site is www.hamtestonline.com. It costs \$74.95, but it is good for 2 years for the Technician, General and Extra Class tests. There are a number of other free sample-test sites. The following are some other ham radio practice exam sites:

- www.aa9pw.com
- <http://kb0mga.net/exams>
- <http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2010/06/technician-class-practice-test-gadget.html>
- www.qrz.com
- <http://www.hamradioclass.org>

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 us know 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; then click on General Class to send me an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, or call at 901-683-2701. The textbook is *The ARRL General Class License Manual*. Lately, we have been running a combined Technician-General class. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

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 textbook is ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics*. The suggested calculator is the Casio fx-260 solar calculator, which can be purchased at Walmart for under \$10. There is no exam for this class. The class has been held in the September-November time frame.

If you are interested in the Basic Electronics Class, please let us know by sending an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to 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; then click on Extra Class to send an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number 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. Classes have been held for 6 or 7 weeks in January and February.

COMPLETED CLASSES IN 2010

Technician Class 5-10 – July 17 & July 24, 2010

Technician Class 5-10 was held on two Saturdays, July 17th and 24th, from 8am to 5pm at the American Red Cross Midsouth Chapter, 1400 Central Avenue. Nineteen students began with 14 completing the two days. Congratulations to Ted Parrish KJ4WOQ, Larry Reid KJ4WOR, Winston Cross KJ4WOS, Terry Donald KJ4WOT, Larry Hawkins KJ4WOU, Neha Tewari KJ4WOV, Ronald Warf KJ4WOW, Pam Ross KJ4WOX, Dean Eicher KJ4WOY, David Brumley KJ4WOZ, Earnestine Walk KJ4WPA, and Tod Underhill KF5IAI for earning their Technician license.



Tech Class 5-10 at the American Red Cross, Midsouth Chapter building. Photo by Bill Stevens KI4TQA

Technician Class 1-07 Continued

Congratulations to Linda Wardlaw KJ4UZW for eight hours of studies on the way to Dayton Hamvention where she earned her Technician license. This is a follow-up from Tech Class 1-07.

Technician Class 4-10 – March 20-21, 2010

Tech Class 4-10 was held on Saturday and Sunday, March 20-21 at the Shelby County Sheriff's Training Center in cooperation with Delta Company, 51st Forward Support Battalion of the Tennessee State Guard. Danny Banks KJ4FXZ arranged the class to give the non-paid volunteer members of the Tennessee Guard another communications tool.

Congratulations go to the 21 students for earning their Technician license. Congratulations again to Paul Kossik for also earning his General license.

Pictured below is Tech Class 4-10 Left to right-1st table Mike Tarkington KJ4THN, Charlie Smith KJ4THK, Jim Covington KJ4THV; 2nd table Doris Banks KJ4THA, Jane Gaschen KJ4THE, Larry Gashen KJ4THD, Sam Huggins KJ4THQ, Paul Kossik KJ4THU; 3rd table Phil Hagood KJ4THG, Kerry Beers KJ4THO, Drew Perkins KJ4THF(hidden), Lane Edmondson KJ4THT, James Coop KJ4THS, Neil Solomon KJ4THP; 4th table Tommy Porter KJ4THI, Danny Banks KJ4FXZ, Kimberlee Norwood KJ4THC, Robert Pepper KJ4THM; 5th table Jim Wilson KJ4THB; Not pictured Joseph Ruff KJ4THL, Larry Anthony KJ4THH, and Richard Threlkeld KJ4THJ



Photo: Pat Lane W4OQG informs Tech Class 4-10 on the propagation differences in 1/4 wave, 1/2 wave, and 5/8 wave 2-meter antennas.

Thanks to the WCARS VE Team of Win Guin W2GLJ, Bill Stevens KI4TQA, David Gilbert AJ4LV, Jeff Krause AJ4GY, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO for being the VEs for the exam session.

Technician Class 3-10 – February 15 –March 15, 2010

Twenty-one students attended the first session for Technician Class 3-10, which was held on 5 Monday nights at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Campus. Sixteen completed the course with all earning their Technician licenses.

Congratulations to Scott Agent KJ4TCL, Lisa Alex KJ4TCX, Danny Bishop KJ4TCH, Justin Bryan KJ4TCD, Scott Chapman KJ4SJR, Joe Ibarra KJ4TCJ, Brian Jenkins KJ4TCI, John Moriarty KJ4TCG, Howard Nelson KJ4TCC, Bruce Oliasani KJ4TCK, Calvin Oliphant KJ4SJS, Zach Pennington KJ4TCM, Stan Peppenhorst KJ4TDA, James Sterling KJ4TCE, Ray Turner KJ4TCY, and Karen Wilson KJ4TCF. Additional congratulations go to Danny Bishop, Scott Chapman, Calvin Oliphant, and Ray Turner who have also upgraded to General.



Photo: Win Guin W2GLJ giving exam instructions to Tech Class 3-10.

Thanks to the WCARS VE Team of Win Guin W2GLJ, Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO for providing the FCC test session.

Extra Class 1-10 – January 16 – February 27, 2010

Five students completed the 6 weeks for Extra Class 1-10 on Saturday mornings from 9am-1pm at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Campus. The instructors were Tom Fox KA4LWQ, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Dean Honadle N2LAZ, and Pat Lane W4OQG. The text used was *The ARRL Extra Class License Manual*.



Photo: Pat Lane W4OQG (lower right) giving the Antenna and Feedline presentation for the Extra Class 1-10. Students pictured from left to right: Mac Tidwell KJ4EHE, Jay Tomasello KJ4RCR, Danny Banks KJ4FXZ, (Ken Lasester KI4AOH on camera), and Jim Walton K4ZFQ.

Congratulations to Sonny Mounicou KF5CLC and Jim Walton K4ZZFQ for upgrading to Extra on February 27th. Jay Tomasello KJ4RCR upgraded on March 9th. Due to conflicts the other two students said they would test later at the Delta Club test sessions. The ARRL VEs were Tom Fox KA4LWQ, Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Jeff Krause AJ4GY, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO.

Technician Class 2-10 – February 3-4, 2010

Technician Class 2-10 was held for two days at Memphis International Airport for 11 students from the Transportation Security Agency (TSA). The students earned their Technician license so they can operate the TSA Memphis MARS agency station. An additional congratulation goes to Ray Phetteplace who also earned his General license. Thanks to Tom Fox KA4LWQ, Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, and Joe Lowenthal for being the ARRL VE testing team.



Tech Class 2-10 Photo left to right: 1st row Tracy Farrah, Mac McKee, Ray Phetteplace, DARC Director of Training Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO; 2nd row-Carl Gentry, Amy Leroux; 3rd row-Mark Cole, Debra Laudermilk, 4th row-David Boston, Gerald Adcock, Cleo Peete; Not shown-George Czech.

COMPLETED CLASSES IN 2009

The Delta Amateur Radio Club had a wonderful year in 2009 with 83 students receiving licenses or upgrades in the five license classes held. Eight of the 46 Technicians were young hams who can keep our great hobby going for many years to come. One of those young hams also earned his General license. Thanks go to all of the volunteers that helped to make 2009 a great year. A special thanks goes to Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, David Gilbert AJ4LV, Pat Lane W4OQG, Dean Honadle N2LAZ, Tom Fox KA4LWQ, Win Guin W2GLJ, and Dennis Foster KJ4BDU for their help with the classes.

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?

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?

(If anyone asks to make an announcement after you finish handling the ones taken here ask them to hold until after the monolog. 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 will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins INDIA through KEEBECK 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, KA4LWQ at 357-1663. For membership information contact Steve KI4YOP at 493-8663. For training information contact Joe WA4OVO at 683-2701..

Are there any additional announcements?

We will now take late check-ins from anywhere in the alphabet ALPHA through ZULU please come now and spread them out.

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

August 2010 Important Dates

Delta Club Meeting – Tuesday, the 10th
MARA Club meeting – Thursday, the 19th
Huntsville Hamfest – 21st & 22nd
ARES Meeting – Tuesday, the 24th

Area Hamfests

08/15/2010 | [St. Charles Amateur Radio Club](#)

Location: Ofallon, MO
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: St. Charles Amateur Radio
Club
Website: <http://www.wb0hsi.org>
[Learn More](#)

08/21/2010 | [Southeastern Division Convention](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Huntsville Hamfest
Association
Website: <http://www.hamfest.org>

Delta Amateur Radio Club's 2010 Board Members

President:

Alan Anderson – KJ4BIX
kj4bix@arrl.net

Vice President

Rosalinda Melena – KI4ZKW
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Secretary

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Treasurer

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