Welcome to the Delta Amateur Radio Club
Visit our home on the web at: http://www.deltaclub.org
EMAIL: darc4you@gmail.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/darcmem

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Delta Amateur Radio Club
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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/darcmem

NEXT DATE: December 8, 2015

PLACE: Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70
Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Hwy. 64 – Stage Road)

PROGRAM: 2015 Awards Presentation and Annual Potluck Dinner

Please remember that there will be no FCC testing session at the December club meeting

FCC Amateur Radio License Testing: Delta Club FCC testing sessions are held every month except December. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins by 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of identification, at least one a photo ID, and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE’s you might have. You need to know your FCC Registration Number (FRN) if one has been issued. Please be on time for registration; this is to allow our Volunteer Examiner (VE) team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. 2015 test fee is $15 (cash or check). Individuals who successfully test for their initial FCC license grant at a Delta Club test session or through a Delta Club training class will receive a complimentary individual club membership for the remainder of the current calendar year; when they also show proof of ARRL membership. For more information, please contact:

Jeff Krause, AJ4GY - VE Liaison
Phone: 901-301-6776
Email: AJ4GY@comcast.net

Congratulations to our successful FCC licensing candidates at the November club meeting test session: James Winter, KW4OP (upgrade to Extra); Debra Bell-Pullen, KM4MRZ and John McVey, Jr., KM4OIX (upgrades to General); David Hogg, KM4OWS; Robert Vawter, KM4OWT; and Michael Patton, KM4OWU – Technicians.
Well - another chapter in the life of the Delta Club is coming to a close in a few weeks. It has been my pleasure to serve you these last 2 years. I hope that I have met your expectations as president. I have served on this board with some really fine hams that want this club to continue to succeed. They have all done a fine job and have made my time as president very easy and rewarding. I think our future is very bright and I am leaving DARC in very good hands. I would like for everyone to assist the new board any way they can in the coming year.

If you were at the last meeting, you know that our reliability has increased tremendously with the addition of some new repeaters and antennas this year. I would be remiss in not thanking Bill Stevens - WC9S, for his dedicated service as our repeater trustee for these last few years.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the December meeting, which will be a potluck holiday dinner. We will present the Ham of the Year and New Ham of the Year awards at this meeting, and I think everyone will be pleased and surprised at the same time. Be sure and bring a dish and we will provide the ham and cold drinks. Oh yes bring a big appetite!

I hope to see you at the meeting and as always remember to check into the net as often as possible.

73
Joe Wray WD4GXI

Thanks to Dan Lasley, NE7JN (who will be taking over publication of SPARKS next month) this edition will be my last as Director of Communications and editor of SPARKS. You’ve no doubt noticed over the past year, mistakes have a way of creeping in despite our collective best efforts to release a “perfect” version. I very much appreciate the help I’ve received from so many of you over the past year in getting a mostly error-free newsletter out to our members and the larger community of amateur radio enthusiasts in our local area. Latest example of help comes from a new member to Delta Club – Larry May, K4QZF – who keenly noted that published info on the TN Phone Net needed to be corrected (Thanks Larry – please double check latest on page 13)! I’m fond of the quote “All of us are smarter than one of us”, and my experience this past year reinforces my belief that I don’t have to be an all-knowing operator to enjoy amateur radio. There’s lots of help available if you’re willing to ask, and willing to listen; conversely, there’s lots of help needed if you’re willing to offer your time, talent, and treasure. As readers of SPARKS and supporters of Delta Amateur Radio Club – I thank you for your patience with me over this past year and continued guidance in the future - your membership in our community matters to a great many more than you might ever imagine!

As a special treat, see the last page of this issue for an interesting example of how the past, present and future of amateur radio can come together in remarkable ways!
# TREASURER’S REPORT
Submitted by: Rick Tillman, WA4NVM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning Balance</strong></td>
<td>$9,866.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jams Enterprises LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Trading Co.</td>
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<td>BridgeComm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Patch</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Balance</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The distributed EMAIL version of the November SPARKS incorrectly reported Total DARC Assets as being $25,598.08 due to typographical error I accidentally introduced as SPARKS editor. With help from Tommy Thompson, Delta Club Web page pdf version was corrected prior to the November club meeting, and this correction page is included for those printing the newsletter for their own file retention. I apologize for the error and any confusion it caused.*

David W. Webb, kv4qi
## TREASURER’S REPORT
Submitted by: Rick Tillman, WA4NVM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>Repeater Dues</td>
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<td>Jim Sheats</td>
<td>Food for meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>A R Tillman</td>
<td>Repeater Supplies</td>
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<td>Office Depot</td>
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<td><strong>SubTotal</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>$5.00</td>
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<td>Tickets</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Balance</strong></td>
<td>as of November 30, 2015</td>
<td>$7,700.66</td>
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</table>

Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

| Certificate of Deposit #1    | Balance                              | $10,280.23|
| Certificate of Deposit #2    | Balance                              | $5,050.13  |
| Total DARC Assets            | Balance                              | $23,031.02 |

Delta Amateur Radio Club November 2015 Sparks Page 4

1. Meeting called to order by J.Wray at 7:04pm
2. Tom Raggett, KJ4LMH will bring the hams for the club pot-luck dinner next Tuesday.
3. J. Cissell confirmed that Jack Parnell, K4BSI – long time ham known for his voice-over and DJ work - will be special guest at our January 2016 meeting. February program is open, with March meeting subject planned for discussion on Field Strength Meters.
4. J. Sheats will create certificates for the 2015 Ham and New Ham of the Year awards.
5. Committee has been updated to continue work on revising the bylaws.
6. It was discussed that moving forward, only red color drawing tickets will be used to reduce potential for any possible visual discrimination in award of the prizes at the end of the year.
7. B. Stevens commented that 147.36 is back on the air-has no courtesy tone & id's in CW
8. Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC): Jim Belles and Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM): Gary Woodall want to have amateur radio operators more involved with the local weather service office at the Agricenter. They would like to have about 10 hams register/use NWS Chat room when monitoring reports of severe weather reported on 146.82.
10. Discussed – having a committee established to start looking for people to be board members in July.
11. J. Lowenthal updated his upcoming class schedule noting that WCARS Testing for training class will be held next Monday @ EMHC with 11 or 12 being tested. Also reminded that Extra Class training session needs at least six people to sign up – there are three signed up now.
12. Meeting Adjourned at approximately 8:25p
1. President Joe Wray, WD4GXI - called meeting to order with attendee introductions.

2. October meeting minutes – Ham Hilliard, W4GMM- made motion to approve the minutes as published in the SPARKS Newsletter & Bill Covington, KC4SXT - seconded. Minutes approved by member acclamation.

3. Treasurer’s report – H. Hilliard made motion to approve as published in SPARKS newsletter with corrected Total DARC Asset balance of $22,598.08 being noted. Stacy Krause, KJ4MDA- seconded. Report was approved by member acclamation.

4. Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO noted that only 2 individuals had signed up for the planned Extra Class training in January – a minimum of 6 participants is required.

5. Jeff Krause, AJ4GY - announced that 3 Techs, 2 Generals & 1 Extra had passed in November testing session.


7. Roger Schlichter, WR4R asked for additional communications volunteers for the December 5th St. Jude Marathon.

8. 2016 Election Results were tabulated/announced as follows:
   President: Ken Lasetter, KI4AOH
   Vice President: Michael Knight, KK4IOH
   Secretary: Ann-Barri Munday Green, WB4SWP
   Treasurer: Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX
   Director of Training: Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO
   Director of Publications: Dan Lasley, NE7JN
   Director of Programs: Jim Cissell, KI4I
   Director of Meetings & Special Events: Steve Frazier, KK4VPT

9. Many prizes were awarded with Pat Lane, W4OQG winning the Yaesu FT-857D Grand prize.

10. Reminder that pot-luck dinner will be held at December meeting, and that no FCC testing being held before the meeting. Club will provide meat (ham), with participants supplying other dishes/goodies.

11. Following much merriment, motion to adjourn was made and seconded by unrecorded individuals; meeting was concluded with approval and orderly departure of attendees.

   Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to All!
MFJ Enterprises has come out with a new antenna analyzer. The model MFJ-226 covers from 1 to 230 MHZ. It does frequency sweep plots, SWR, Impedance, Resistance, Reactance, Phase angle, Complex return loss, and can even generate a Smith chart. This is a very powerful analyzer with lots of features. It is handheld and has a graphics LCD display to show information. You can even save information in the unit and download to a computer. At 3.25 inches by 6.5 inches by 1-inch-thick this unit is very portable and easy to carry. The unit runs on 2 AA batteries and weighs under 10 ounces. If you are looking for a modern do it all analyzer check out the MFJ-226 from MFJ Enterprises. Their website is URL
http://www.mfjenterprises.com

Many times we like to build up kit radios for ham radio. One common kit from a few years back was the 49er. It was a 40 meter single frequency QRP morse code rig sold as a kit by NorCal. They have quit making the kit, but other companies have begun to sell similar designs. They have a PC board and all parts needed to complete the radio. You have to put it in your own case. The new kits are on Ebay and can be bought for under $15.00 which is a great price. Mine has 1.8 watts output and included all components including connectors. You can Google the 49er and get all sorts of good info on this popular QRP rig. Go on Ebay and search “49er QRP” to see the kits for sale.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licenses Earned to Date in 2015 from Delta Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 Technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Extra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLASSES SCHEDULED

If you are interested in attending, send an EMAIL to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@gmail.com with the desired class name in the subject line, along with your name, EMAIL and (cell) phone number in the text.

Tech Class 5-15 – November 9 – December 14, 2015

Tech Class 5-15 is being held on six Monday nights from 6:15-9:30 pm from November 9th through December 14th at EMHC ambulance company training room, 6972 Appling Farms Parkway. There are 11 students in the class with two Technicians auditing. The instructors are Pat Lane, W4OQG and Joe Lowenthal. The two Elmers are Tom Ernst, N4LIA and Len Grice, KM4RMY. WCARS VEC will provide the opportunity for FCC testing on December 7th.

Equipment demonstrations will be held on the sixth night. The presenters will be Michael Knight, KK4IOH on Echolink, D-STAR, Fusion and Allstar; Rick Pellicciotti, KJ4NWQ on APRS; Rick Tillman, WA4NVM on FM satellites; and Pat Lane on HF long-wire antenna, WinLink and MARS.

Tech Class 5-15 on first night during introduction to ham radio.
Pat Lane reports signal strength readings during the antenna “shoot out” to show students the effectiveness of different antennas being used on the same handheld radio. Added congratulations to Pat on being the Yaseu FT-857D Grand Prize winner from the November drawings!

Extra Class 1-16 – January 9 – February 20, 2016
This class is planned for six Saturdays from 9am to 1pm at EMHC ambulance company training room, 6972 Appling Farms Parkway if six students commit to the class by December 15th. Three students have signed up as of this writing. There will not be a class on January 30th due to the Capital City Hamfest in Jackson, MS.

General Class 2-16 – February 27 – April 9, 2016
This class is scheduled to start February 27th for six Saturdays except March 12th from 9am to 1pm at EMHC ambulance company training room, 6972 Appling Farms Parkway.

You may want to do some pre-study by going to www.KE0OG.net On the right side he has links to Technician, General and Extra Class YouTube video training.

Alternative approach: If you want to check on class availability and/or to register for a future training class, go to URL www.deltaclub.org and click on the link under Training – registration form will guide you through needed information, and EMAIL will be automatically sent.

We offer our continued thanks to EMHC ambulance company for generously providing their training room for the many ham radio classes given there.
A final reminder that the St. Jude marathon will be run downtown on the streets of Memphis on Saturday - December 5, 2015. The course has changed this year and will include a run through a piece of American history. You’ll pass the National Civil Rights Museum, Beale Street and Sun Studio and run through the St. Jude campus. If you can find the time in your schedule to support this event by providing communications, please contact Roger, WR4R at wr4r@bellsouth.net

We need to fill open Wednesday and Friday nights Net Control Operator positions for our 8:00 p.m. sessions. Positions can be assumed for half of the month or for the whole month to help distribute the work load. If you have a desire to serve the local ham community in this vital role, we can work with you to make it happen! Prior experience is great, but there’s certainly room to learn as you go through a variety of possible training options. Performing net control duty is very rewarding, improves your on-mic skills, and allows a unique opportunity to get to know a wide cross-section of club members, local, and visiting hams. Additionally, Net Controllers get together for an information-sharing group luncheon one weekend day once each quarter. Absolute fun has been known to break out during these sessions!

For more information on this exciting opportunity, please contact Net Coordinator Phil Fentress via EMAIL at p_fentress@bellsouth.net

Skywarn Recognition Day - December 5, 2016
For those not working the St. Jude Marathon, this is a ham radio activity you might want to do:

In West Tennessee, the Memphis National Weather Service office (NWS MEG) will be operating station WX4MEM for the 2015 Skywarn Recognition Day on Saturday, December 5, from 0800 to 1600 CST. Corey Chaskelson N0VQR and Gary Woodall KD5WUT will be on the air intermittently on 80m, 40m, 2m, and 70cm. Skywarn Recognition Day is an annual event to recognize the dedicated amateur radio operators for the vital public service they provide. Contact Corey at corey.chaskelson@noaa.gov for additional information.
SPARKS NEWSLETTER & DELTA CLUB INFORMATION

SPARKS is published monthly by the Delta Amateur Radio Club and emailed to club members. All information published in this newsletter is provided as a service. While every reasonable effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the Delta Amateur Radio Club nor its officers assume any liability resulting from errors or omissions. All correspondence may be mailed to:

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

Alternative EMAIL address to generically offer Board your suggestions, ask questions, voice complaints is
darc4you@gmail.com

Please note that you must provide your name and call sign if you’re requesting specific actions or personal follow-ups, and also be aware that any profane or mean-spirited comments will be unceremoniously discarded without consideration.

Delta Club Members Can Like Us/Follow Posts On Facebook!  
https://www.facebook.com/darcmem

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Joe Wray, WD4GXI  
901-246-6113  
wrayjoe@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Michael Knight, KK4IOH  
901-832-8636  
KK4IOH@arrl.net

Secretary: Barri Munday, WB4SWP  
901-756-5259  
annbarrimunday@att.net

Treasurer: Rick Tillman, WA4NVM  
901-268-7047  
wa4nvm@comcast.net

Director of Training: Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO  
901-628-4318  
WA4OVO@yahoo.com

Director of Publications: David W. Webb, KV4QI  
901-465-8315  
dwebb1518@gmail.com

Director of Programs: Jim Cissell, KI4I  
901-326-5544  
james4296@aol.com

Director of Meetings & Special Events: Jim Sheats, KK4VGL  
901-756-0031  
jdsheats@bellsouth.net

Repeater Trustee: Bill Stevens, WC9S  
WC9S@att.net

Immediate Past President: Rosalinda Melena, WN2V

Board members beginning their service in 2015 are listed in red.

In case you missed the vote meeting, we’re pleased to announce our November election results for 2016 Officers and Directors as follows:

President: Ken Laseter, KI4AOH
Vice President: Michael Knight, KK4IOH
Secretary: Ann-Barri Munday Green, WB4SWP
Treasurer: Linda Laseter, KJ4CTX
Director of Training: Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO
Director of Publications: Dan Lasley, NE7JN
Director of Programs: Jim Cissell, KI4I
Director of Meetings & Special Events: Steve Frazier, KK4VPT
FUTURE PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

If you are a coordinator for any of these events, please review the listed information. If it is incorrect or changes need to be made, please email corrections to dwebb1518@gmail.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>December 5, 2015</td>
<td>St. Jude Marathon</td>
<td>Roger Schlichter, wr4r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26.2 mile run from downtown Memphis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wr4r@bellsouth.net">wr4r@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2016</td>
<td>SwampStomper 50k/25k</td>
<td>Contact TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td>March for Babies</td>
<td>Linda Laseter, kj4ctx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 mile walk around Memphis Botanical Gardens</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindalaseter@gmail.com">lindalaseter@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March of Dimes fundraising event</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 4, 2016</td>
<td>Diabetes Tour de Cure</td>
<td>Pat Lane, w4oqg</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Start on Mud Island and ride thru Shelby Forest</td>
<td><a href="mailto:w4oqg@bellsouth.net">w4oqg@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Landers Center in Southaven to Gold Strike Casino in Tunica and back on 2nd day</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darrell.sheffield@memphistn.gov">darrell.sheffield@memphistn.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple Sclerosis fundraising event</td>
<td>(901) 277-8122</td>
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TENNESSEE HAM RADIO LICENSE PLATE

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO

The link below is for information and instructions about Tennessee ham radio call sign automobile license plates:

http://www.tn.gov/revenue/vehicle/licenseplates/emergency/emergsafety.shtml

The application is at www.tn.gov/revenue/forms/titlereg/f1312601Fill-in.pdf
It’s Time to Renew Your 2016 Annual Memberships!
Download the latest .pdf Delta Club Membership Application Form from the web at
Thanks for Your Active Support of Delta Amateur Radio Club!

MEMPHIS AREA VHF/UHF NETS
Updated Nov, 2015

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Net</th>
<th>Freq. MHz</th>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Local Time</th>
<th>Day of Week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delta Club Information Net</td>
<td>146.820</td>
<td>- (107.2)</td>
<td>8:00p</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog Net</td>
<td>146.535</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30p</td>
<td>Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secret Service Net</td>
<td>224.780</td>
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<td>8:30p</td>
<td>Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmer Net</td>
<td>145.210</td>
<td>- (107.2)</td>
<td>9:00p</td>
<td>Mon</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Short Winded Net</td>
<td>146.850</td>
<td>- (107.2)</td>
<td>8:30p</td>
<td>Tue</td>
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<tr>
<td>MedMERS Net</td>
<td>146.820</td>
<td>- (107.2)</td>
<td>12:00p</td>
<td>Wed</td>
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<tr>
<td>CERTPlus Net</td>
<td>443.200</td>
<td>+ (107.2)</td>
<td>8:30p</td>
<td>Wed</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARES Training Net</td>
<td>146.880</td>
<td>- (107.2)</td>
<td>9:00p</td>
<td>Thu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Super Sunday Niner Net</td>
<td>927.6125</td>
<td>- (146.2)</td>
<td>8:30p</td>
<td>Sun</td>
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Delta Club sponsored Nets are shown in bold/dark blue font style

TENNESSEE HF NETS
Current Dec, 2015

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<th>Freq. MHz</th>
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<td>3.563</td>
<td>7:00p</td>
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<td>Tennessee Slow CW Net</td>
<td>3.682</td>
<td>7:30p</td>
<td>Tue-Sun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee Alternate Phone Net</td>
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<td>CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)</td>
<td>3.810</td>
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<td>As needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)</td>
<td>7.180</td>
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<td>As needed</td>
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3980 kHz – TN Phone Net
Mon-Fri - 5:40 AM, 6:45 AM & 6:30 PM
Saturday - 8:00 AM & 6:30 PM
Sunday - 8:00 AM only
Holidays - 8:00 AM only
................................. (all Central Time)
DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS
See Advertisement Order Form for Instructions.

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fax 901.266.3174
SALES@MSARS.COM
WWW.MSARS.COM
*Authorized LDG Dealer

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Bulk Coax - RG-8U Mini, RG-58A/U and RG-213U

Connectors - UHF, SMA, BNC and ‘N’

Full Line of Antenna Tuners*

Patch Cables, Antenna Wire and Insulators

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Wednesday and Friday night Net Control Operator positions for our 8:00 p.m. Delta Club Information Net sessions need to be filled! For additional information, please contact Phil Fentress via EMAIL p_fentress@bellsouth.net

We offer our continued thanks to EMHC ambulance company for generously providing their training room for the many ham radio classes given there.
Delta Amateur Radio Club
Sparks Advertising Order Form

Date: __________

Name: ____________________________________________

Call Sign: __________ Phone: _____________ Email: ______________________________

TO PLACE AN ORDER

1. Mark the box below indicating the ad size you are purchasing and the months you want your ad to appear in Sparks.

2. Submit this completed order form and your camera ready ad, via email at KL7@carbheat.net
   Make check payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) at monthly Delta Club meeting, or send US Mail to club mailing address at P.O. Box 432768, Memphis, TN 38134-2768. Camera ready means that ad copy is exactly as you wish it to appear, scaled to fit within the dimensions specified below. Ads may be submitted in .gif or .jpg format, or submitted as a hard copy (we will scan and place your ad for you).

3. Your ad order and payment must be received on or before the first Tuesday of the month before you want it to appear in Sparks.

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Original 1961 Founders of Delta Amateur Radio Club

Photo and names provided by Jim Gandy, K4HPP (front row)

Bill Stevens, WC9S – Current W4BS Repeater* Trustee for Delta Club – got Delta Club neophyte David Webb, KV4QI started on researching Delta Club history and identifying open elements in 1961 founders photo from Jim Gandy. David found/reached out to Dave Meier, N4MW- joined 1966, now lives in New Kent, VA who helped ID Paul Effnor, K4UUV. David also captioned photo and helped identify Ben Keeton in back row with 1971 Call Book loaned from Jim Cissell, KI4I. Conversation extended to Jack Parnell, K4BSI - Delta Club President around 1964. Mr. Parnell will be a special guest at January, 2016 General Club Meeting, and still communicates with first club President Johnnie Spotts (then K4VIS, now W6HTY in Northridge, CA) who left Memphis to pilot private plane for Frank Sinatra.

*Current DARC repeater call designation honors Nobel Guthrie, W4BS (front row)

Can you add to the identification of two founders not already noted in the photo? Can you imagine your future role in making history as part of Delta Amateur Radio Club?