

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 73 * February 2022



Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

Sparks Newsletter

Website: <http://deltaclub.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/darcmem>

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820 ^{-107.2}	* 147.360 ^{+107.2}
146.625 ^{-107.2}	443.200 ^{+107.2}
224.420 ^{-107.2}	443.700 ^{+107.2}
144.390 Digipeater	*Fusion

We plan to meet this month **via "ZOOM" only.**

Delta Club is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Delta Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting - Feb. 8, 2022

Time: Feb 8, 2022 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/88354601388?pwd=VlNkQ292VGVuZGU3Q01IZGI1TFZlbn0yOdz09A4_4LO7ziH5ej7dKpCXWFXNCSxmue8B2YrRmNdzG

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88354601388?pwd=VlNkQ292VGVuZGU3Q01IZGI1TFZlbn0yOdz09>

Meeting ID: 883 5460 1388

Passcode: 041257

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88354601388#,,, *041257# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,88354601388#,,, *041257# US (Chicago)

Program: *"How to earn DXCC from a small lot."* By W4ALF, Christian Bravo.

There will be no FCC Testing Tuesday night.

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly ARRL Volunteer Examiner testing session prior to in-person meetings. 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. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 PM. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information, please contact:

Dan Columbus AA4HV VE Liaison

Phone: 901-208-1535

Email: aa4hv@arrl.net

Announcements

FOUR-FORTY NET

The Delta Club has a weekly net, the Four-Forty Net, which is on 443.700 with a +5 MHz offset and a PL tone of 107.2 Hz. The Four-Forty Net is every Friday at 8:30 pm after the Delta Club Information Net. Please join us to test out your 70 cm equipment and see how well we get into this W4BS repeater.

Save the Date on April 9th for Free Fest.

President's Corner

Submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KY4FB

Last week a massive winter storm moved across the United States, bringing a significant amount of frozen rain and other winter precipitation to our area. As the storm rolled through and ice accumulated, trees and power lines gave way. By Thursday night, about 140,000 homes in Shelby County were without power.

Despite the widespread power outages, many of our members found a way to check in on the nightly Delta Club Information Net. While some were lucky enough to have power, many shared that they were running their station on batteries and generators. Some checked in with a handheld or from their car. Though the means of checking in varied by station, we all found a way to check in and check on each other. I can't say I was surprised to hear so many hams checking in through alternative means. After all, "be prepared" seems to be a favorite saying for many Amateur Radio operators.

A key component of being prepared is having a plan. Plans need to be tested. With the outages and temperatures that many of us faced Thursday and over the days that followed, emergency

plans were tested to the limit and flaws were found. I found several ways to improve my plan. I assumed certain parts should work, but when they were put to the test last week, I quickly found out that they did not. At that time, it was too late for changes. Despite some issues, other areas of my plan worked as expected. Over the past few years, I have been encouraged by many of you to build and test my “radio go box,” and so I have. It proved to be a reliable source of communication when I was without power. Overall, we managed with what we had, but I have already started reviewing my plan to be better prepared for the next disaster. As the saying goes, “It’s not a matter of ‘if’, but ‘when’.”

While the “lessons” are fresh on our memories, I hope you take the time to review your emergency plan. Did you even have a plan? Were you able to check in to the Net and communicate with others? Did you have enough heat at night? Would you be prepared if this happened mid-July? Even for those who have a well-developed plan, I’m sure we all found ways we could improve and be better prepared. If you aren’t sure where to start, consider joining our local Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) group. While many of the lessons and topics discussed are radio-based, I’ve found it to be beneficial in developing the parts of my plan that proved to be reliable. After you develop your plan, get involved through volunteer opportunities or disaster drills to test out your plan and equipment. While events and drills don’t fully compare to extreme disasters, the opportunity to test your equipment and skills can prove to be invaluable and might make all the difference.

73,
Mary Jean Hall

Treasurer’s Report
Submitted by Jim Martin, KD4FUU

Please renew your membership right away, so you won’t forget about it! The membership application may be downloaded from our website (for both renewals *and* new members) at:

<https://deltaclub.org/membership>

Annual membership fee is \$20 per individual or \$25 per family. Completed applications and payment may be mailed to:

**Delta Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 342768
Memphis, TN 38184-2768**

If you prefer you can print and bring the completed form, along with the membership fee, to any in-person meeting. Please contact Jim Martin KD4FUU at **kd4fuu@gmail.com** with any questions or concerns regarding application submission and/or payment of annual dues.

LIFEGREEN CHECKING FOR BUSINESS

January 1, 2022 through January 31, 2022

SUMMARY

Beginning Balance	\$19,421.74	Minimum Daily Balance	\$19,421
Deposits & Credits	\$788.58 +	Average Monthly Statement Balance	\$19,462
Withdrawals	\$0.00 -		
Fees	\$0.00 -		
Automatic Transfers	\$0.00 +		
Checks	\$0.00 -		
Ending Balance	\$20,210.32		

DEPOSITS & CREDITS

01/25	Deposit - Thank You	80.00
01/31	Deposit - Thank You	285.00
01/31	Deposit - Thank You	423.58
	Total Deposits & Credits	\$788.58

DAILY BALANCE SUMMARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>
01/25	19,501.74	01/31	20,210.32

SMALL BUSINESS CD *0028

Available Balance	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>	<u>YTD INTEREST</u>	<u>INTEREST EARNED NOT PAID</u>
\$10,827.41	1.590 %	\$0.00	\$20.77
View More Details			

Applications Received - Jan 2022	
(0) New Membership(s) - Pro-Rated Dues	\$0.00
(3) New Membership(s) - Dues Waived	\$0.00
(22) Membership Renewal(s)	\$480.00
(2) Donations Received	\$75.00
Total Dues Received	\$555.00

Other Deposits	
Karen Chancelor Estate Sale	\$80.00
MARA - 2021 Field Day Reimbursement	\$153.58
Total Other Deposits	\$233.58

Total Deposits	\$788.58
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Debits/Payments	
	\$0.00
Total Payments	\$0.00

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Carolyn Horne, KX4QF

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for February 1,2022

Attendees: Mary Jean Hall KY4FB, John Reiners KN4BVH, Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Jim Martin KD4FUU, Mike Harrison KM4MRW, Steve Romagni W4DTA, Scott Adams KM4PMU, Barry McDonald W5CJ and Len Grice W4MKS.

Absent: None.

Guests: Steve Frazier KK4VPT.

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 6:30 PM on a Zoom video conference call, with the President

serving as chair and the Secretary being present. President Mary Jean Hall called the meeting to order.

Mary Jean Hall discussed whether to have next week's Members Meeting only via Zoom or both in-person and via Zoom. The board determined that current conditions warrant having a Zoom only meeting. The link to the meeting will be sent by email and may also be found in the SPARKS newsletter on the deltaclub.org website. Mary Jean Hall said the Zoom subscription is changing in February and she has already switched things over in preparation for that.

Carolyn Horne read a list of 3 new, 22 renewed members and 4 associated family memberships. Joe Lowenthal made a motion to accept them all, Steve Romagni seconded the motion, and all were in favor, with none opposed. Membership cards for these members are to be sent out this week.

Len Grice had nothing to report.

Scott Adams had nothing to report.

Jim Martin gave the Treasurer's report. Mary Jean Hall, Jim Martin and Steve Frazier agreed upon the time and place to meet to switch the names on the Delta Club bank accounts.

Joe Lowenthal gave an update on the Extra Class which is in progress. He has eight students, one of which is from New Hampshire. One student already tested online and passed but will still come to the test session to meet the other students. Joe has scheduled a Tech Class on six Monday nights from February 28th through April 4th. So far 10 students have signed up, and he would like more. Anyone who is interested in signing up should send an email to wa4ovo@gmail.com with the subject line 'Tech Class,' and include their name, email, and cellphone.

Joe Lowenthal discussed the Club's participation in the MARA FreeFest taking place April 9, 2022, at the Bartlett Station Municipal Center. He spoke with John Kalotai N1OLO at HamSource about buying a 20 Amp Bioenno battery for a door prize. The cost will be around \$200. John said he will talk to Bioenno about going in on another door prize together as vendors. MARA wants info for printing tickets with donor info, so Joe would encourage anyone who knows vendors to ask them to give door prizes to this worthy cause and get that info back to MARA. All proceeds go to the Methodist LeBonheur Children's Hospital. Rick Tillman WA4NVM who is the MARA President, and Joe will try to do online drawing tickets as they have in the past. Joe also booked two tables for the Delta Club. All tables are free. For more info on the MARA FreeFest see: [FreeFest \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com). For more info on the Bioenno batteries at HamSource see [Bioenno Batteries \(hamsource.com\)](http://hamsource.com).

Barry McDonald gave an update on the 146.82 repeater and Channel 30 Brunswick Tower cable repairs. He said no work has yet begun. He was out at the site with Joe Lowenthal and ran tests on the 440-band antenna located above our 146.82 antenna. The goal was to see if it could be used as a link into MTEARS, but the results were disappointing.

Steve Romagni announced that he has scheduled a live Zoom presentation for this month's Members Meeting on 'How to DXCC From a Small Lot.' The presentation will be given by Christian Bravo W4ALF.

Mike Harrison said he still needs some bios from board members. He asked us to review old information on the website so he could make updates.

John Reiners said he is working with Mary Jean Hall on increasing membership in the Club. He discussed ideas they have proposed with the board.

Mary Jean Hall has been keeping the Club's social media updated. She said there have been contacts from people interested in the Club generated by our social media accounts, which is one of her goals. She proposed that the board form a committee which would be dedicated to increasing membership. Joe Lowenthal recommended more HF involvement, and Steve Romagni said he is trying to bring in HF programs to generate more interest from existing members and draw new members.

Mary Jean Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM. The next regular Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 6:30 PM on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Secretary

Minutes of Last Month's Club Meeting
Submitted by Carolyn Horne, KX4QF

DARC Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2022

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club was held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 7:00 PM on a Zoom video conference call, with the President serving as chair and the Secretary being present. Club President Mary Jean Hall KY4FB called the meeting to order and

then welcomed everyone to the meeting. At least 41 members and guests were present for the meeting.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Ned Savage KA4BLL moved to “approve the Treasurer’s Report and Minutes as published in Sparks.” Dan Wehner KN4FBJ seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by the club without objection.

Announcements

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB introduced our new VE Liaison, Dan Columbus AA4HV, who is replacing Jeffrey Krause AJ4GY. Dan gave us a brief bio and invited anyone who wants to help to get in touch with him. We want to welcome Dan and thank Jeffery for his service in the Delta Club’s area.

Steve Frazier KK4VPT gave a status report on the Swamp Stompers event taking place Saturday, January 15th, 2022. He has all the bases covered and thanks all those who have volunteered. He is using the 146.82 repeater with the 443.700 repeater acting as a backup. He reminded everyone to keep the repeaters open during the event, from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO said he held the 2nd session of this year’s Extra Class with Dean Honadle N4LAZ teaching on Chapter 4 Radio Math. Joe said Dean made the subject very understandable. The class is on schedule and should end on February 14th. A Tech Class will start on February 28th if at least 10 people are interested. There will be 6 sessions, with the 5th session being testing, Monday nights from 6:15 to 9:30 PM. All classes are on Zoom except for the test sessions. If anyone is interested in the Tech Class, they should send an email with the subject ‘Tech Class,’ with their name, email and cell to wa4ovo@gmail.com. Joe said this is the 17th year he has been holding Ham Radio License classes. As of this year, 659 Tech’s have received their licenses in the time he has been doing classes. Bravo Joe!

Barry McDonald W5CJ gave us an update on the 146.82 repeater. He said there have been no new developments since our board meeting last week. He will keep checking for any activity on the Channel 30 repairs.

John Reiners KN4BVH said ARES will hold their first meeting of the year on January 25th via Zoom.

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB announced that the MARA FreeFest is still scheduled for Saturday April 9th at the Bartlett Municipal Center. You can keep up to date with details here: [FreeFest - MARA](#)

Online (google.com). She also announced that this Members Meeting will be uploaded to YouTube in the next day or two.

Ham Hilliard W4GMM asked about new Ham license plates. Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO said to his understanding they are still issuing the same plates, but he will find out more details. Joe said he has a link in SPARKS about how to get an application form for a Ham license plate to send into Nashville. The cost is the same as a regular tag. He said once you receive a letter from Nashville that the plate is being made, it is best to call the County Clerk's office at 150 Washington Avenue after 30 days to make sure they have it before going down there to pick it up. Ham announced there will be another MARS station in the next 30 days. He will put out info next month when he gets final approval.

Discussion / Program

Our new Director of Programs, Steve Romagni W4DTA, introduced himself with a brief bio before presenting this month's program, "Ham Radio Remote Online Testing", which he as a VE has played a role in developing.

Closing Remarks

A motion to adjourn was made by Carolyn Horne KX4QF, seconded by Dan Wehner KN4FBJ. Delta Club President Mary Jean Hall KY4FB adjourned the meeting at 7:52 PM.

The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 7:00 PM in-person and /or via Zoom. Check the current edition of SPARKS or the Delta Amateur Radio Club Facebook page just before the scheduled meeting time for more information on venue instructions or the Zoom link for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Horne KX4QF, Secretary (2022)

Delta Ham License Training, 2022

Submitted 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. The FCC will implement a \$35 application fee sometime after April 1, 2022 after 90 days' notice in the Federal Register.

If you want to take a class, send an email to Joe at wa4ovo@gmail.com with the class name; ie, Tech Class, General Class, or Extra Class, on the Subject line and name, callsign if you have one, email address, and cellphone number in the text.

Licenses Earned in 2022 from Delta Classes

0 Technician

0 General

1 Extra

Note:

Coming soon will be a \$35 FCC application fee for new hams, renewals, upgrades, Vanity callsigns, etc except for address or email changes.

The current Technician ARRL Ham Radio License Manual is the Fourth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2018 for four years.

The current ARRL General Class License Manual is the Ninth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2019 for four years.

The current ARRL Extra Class License Manual is the Twelfth Edition with question pool that became effective July 1, 2020 for four years.

As of late 2019, expired Amateur Radio license holders can get their license back by taking the current Technician exam and show proof of their previous license class. A previous Advanced Class licensee will only be able to get a General Class license.

PROPOSED CLASSES

All classes will be 3-1/4 to 4 hours long for six or seven sessions; one per week on a week night 6:15pm-9:30pm or Saturday day 9am-1pm.

The next General license class will probably start in early November 2022

The next Extra Class license class will probably start in early January 2023

PROPOSED CLASS

Technician Class 2-22 – February 28 – April 4, 2022

The next Technician license class is scheduled via Zoom and start on Monday night February 28, 2022 from 6:15-9:30pm for six Monday nights until April 4th if there are ten students registered. Currently there are seven students registered. The fifth night of class will be in-person for the FCC exam. The FCC exam will probably be given at Ellendale Church of Christ in Bartlett. If you want to register for this class, send an email with Subject line: Tech Class and name, callsign, email address and cellphone number to wa4ovo@gmail.com.

CURRENT CLASS

Extra Class 1-22 – January 3 – February 14, 2022

Extra Class 1-22 license class is being held via Zoom and started on Monday night, January 3, 2022 from 6:15-9:30pm. The class is for seven Monday nights until February 14th.

There are eight students in the class: Paul Broom KN4WGX, Kevin Buddle KO4UTX, Charles Byars KI5HWA, Randall Haynes KO4KKA, Kevin Kelley KO4OAO, Dylan Martin KC4DTM, Scott McDermott KO4OWE, and Jan Slezak KC1QBB. Since last report one student dropped out and one joined.

Congratulations to Kevin Buddle KY4MI, formerly KO4UTX, for testing early with a W5YI on-line testing group and upgrading on January 25th.

The instructors are Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, John Reiners KN4BVH, Dave Church AD4Q, Dean Honadle N2LAZ, Pat Lane W4OQG, Paul Roberts KA9VAU, and David Wilson KY4FH.

COMPLETED CLASSES

General Class 6-21 – November 1 – November 29, 2021

A General license class was held on five Monday nights between November 1st and November 29th from 6:15-9:30pm. The Zoom classes were on November 1,8,15,22 with in-class FCC testing on November 29th. There were 14 students in the first class; two from California and another from North Carolina. The class ended with 11 students, excluding the California students.

The test session location was at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave). Congratulations to Web Webster KC4WEB who tested early online for upgrading to General. Congratulations to Charles Byars KI5HWA, Dan Currey KO4NGZ, John Duty KK4LST, Jeff Foster KI5SEK Randall Haynes KO4KKA, and Dylan Martin KC4DTM for upgrading to General.

Thanks to the Laurel VE team of Joe WA4OVO, Perry N4GJ, Barry W5CJ, Bob AI4GI, and David KY4FH for providing the test session.

Tech Class 5-21 – September 20 – October 25, 2021

A Technician license class was held on six Monday nights between September 20th and October 25th from 6:15-9:30pm. There were 16 students in the first class. The classes were held on September 20, 27, October 4,11 via Zoom.

The FCC exam was offered on October 18th after a review of the question pool questions and answers. Congratulations to Randy Clements KO4UDH, Ben Fonville KO4UDI, Kristine Howell KO4UDJ, Dylan Martin KO4UDK, Gordon Stark KO4UDL, Dan Taylor KO4UDM, Jeff Blackwell KO4UDN and Jeffrey Foster KI5SEK. Extra congratulations to Kristine KO4UDJ and Ben Fonville KO4UDI for also upgrading to General. The FCC test session was at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave). Thanks to the Laurel VE team of Perry Hayes N4GJ, Steve Romagni W4DTA, Jelly Thompson N4HLT, Rick Tillman WA4NVM and Joe Lowenthal WA4NVM for providing the exam opportunity.

On October 25th there was an in-class equipment demonstration. Joe WA4OVO explained how to program radios for repeater operation, Rick WA4NVM showed Orbitron for satellite operations. He and Richard Martin K4DXF set up the satellite operations for an SO-50 pass. Rick Pellicciotti KJ4NWQ presented APRS and John Reiners KN4BVH informed the new hams about Shelby County ARES with an invite.



Class 5-21 Kristine KO4UDJ (seated) waiting to make SO-50 contact with the help of Rick WA4NVM and Richard K4DXF. Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Class 5-21 new hams learning about APRS from Rick KJ4NWQ Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Tech Class 4-21 – June 24 – August 12, 2021

A Technician license class was held on six Thursday nights between June 24th and August 12th from 6:15-9:30pm. The original seven students have dwindled to five in the class and one auditing. It became a Zoom class due to the increase of Covid with the FCC test session the only in-person class. The classes were held on June 24, July 1, 8, 22, 29 and August 12th.

The FCC exam was offered on July 29th at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave). Two students took the exam(s). Congratulations to Chris Hadley KO4SHG and Dennis Lee KO4SHH for earning their Technician licenses. Additional congratulations to Chris KO4SHG for also upgrading to General. Bill Walter N4ELF also tested and upgraded from General to Extra. Congratulations to Ross Butler KI5REG for earning his Technician license at the August 17th Delta Club test session.

The Delta Club VE Team of Jeff Krause AJ4GY, Perry Hayes N4GJ, Barry McDonald W5CJ, Bobby Stroud KD5BS and Tom Ungren KK4ZZZ were the VEs. The instructors were Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Paul Roberts KA9VAU, Perry Hayes N4GJ, David Wilson KY4FH, John Reiners KN4BVH, and Pat Lane W4OQG. The equipment demonstrators were John Reiners KN4BVH, Rick Pellicciotti KJ4NWQ, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO.

Tech Class 2-21 – February 22 – April 5, 2021

A Technician license class was held one night a week via Zoom from February 22nd thru April 5th on Monday or Thursday nights. Twenty-two students started on the 22nd with 19 finishing the training. An in-person class was held on March 29th for review and opportunity for FCC exam at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave) in Bartlett.

Sixteen students tested and all passed.

Congratulations to Wallace Bell KO4OWD, Park Dodge AI5CY, Michael Engelken KI5PDQ, Arie McClanahan KI5PDR, Scott McDermott KO4OWE, Terrell Naylor KO4OWF, Craig Owen KO4OWG, Adam Shirley KO4OWH, Don Swindoll KO4OWI, Diane Thomas KO4OWJ, Anthony Tribo KO4OQK, and Bruce Swindoll KO4OWN. Additional congratulations to Michael KI5PDQ and Scott KO4OWE for upgrading to General. An extra congratulaton to Park AI5CY for running the table to Extra Class. Congratulations also to Ina Wiehl KY4GA for running the table to Extra Class at the Atoka TARS test session on March 15th. Congratulations to Mike Murell KO4QBT for earning his Technician and General licenses at the Olive Branch ARRL test session on April 20th.



Tech Class 2-21 test session left side Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO



Tech Class 2-21 test session right side Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Also, two CBU students tested. Congratulations to Jose Bonafasi KO4OWL and Will Clayton KF0EYO.

Additionally, nine year old Jacob White KO4OWN earned his Technician license.



Photo back left to right: 9 year old Jacob KO4OWN and proud grandpa Bob AI4GI;
front left to right: VEs Perry N4GJ, Bobby KD5BS, Jeff KJ4GY

Thanks to the Laurel VEC team of Joe WA4OVO, Perry N4GJ, Jeff AJ4GY, Barry W5CJ, Bobby KD5BS, Rick WA4NVM, and Eric WD5FTA for administering the FCC test session.

The instructors were Paul KA9VAU, Perry N4GJ, Len W4MKS, John KN4BVH, Barry W5CJ, Pat W4OQG, and Joe WA4OVO. The equipment demonstrators were Rick WA4NVM and Richard K4DXF on Satellite, Rick KJ4QNWQ on APRS, John KN4BVH on Digital, and Joe WA4OVO on Repeater Basics.

CBU Tech Review Class 3-21 – February 24, 2021

A Technician license review session was held in Dr. Eric Welch (WD5FTA)'s junior level Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Vehicle class for nine Christian Brother University students on February 24th. Congratulations to Cesar Mireles KO4NFT, Allison Sorette KO4NFU, Brennan Griffin KO4NFV, Michael Longo KO4NFW, Jose Villa Hidalgo KO4NFX, Novy KO4NFY and Sean Williams KI5OEI, who earned their Technician licenses.

Thanks to the Laurel VEC Team of Barry W5CJ, Perry N4GJ, Jelly N4HLT, Rick WA4NVM, Eric WD5FTA and Joe WA4OVO for providing the FCC test session.

EXTRA Class 1-21 – January 4 – February 25, 2021

An Extra Class license class was held one night a week via Zoom from January 4th thru February 25th on Monday or Thursday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. The Zoom classes met on January 4, 14, 21, 25, February 1, 11 and tested a week late on the 25th due to snow on the 18th. The students were Carla KO4FVX, Ransom KO4FVZ, Russell KO4ASW, Jason KO4DOH, Mary Jean KN4FBL and David KN4BXI.

Congratulations to Mary Jean Hall KY4FB (formerly KN4FBL) and David Wilson KY4FH (formerly KN4BXI) who passed their Extra exam on the 25th.

The instructors were Joe WA4OVO, John KN4BVH, Dean N2LAZ, Barry W5CJ, Dave AD4Q, Paul KA9VAU and Pat W4OQG.

Thanks to the Delta Club ARRL VE Team of Jeff Krause AJ4GY, Stacy KJ4MDA, Warren KC7ND, Tom KK4ZZZ, Barry W5CJ and Joe WA4OVO for providing the FCC test session.

In addition to the Extra Class students testing, congratulations to Brian Kelly KO4KAO for upgrading to General. Also, the following earned their Technician licenses: Dan Currey KO4NGZ, Rob Currey KO4NHA, Wilson Langford KO4NHB, Ebben Raves KO4NHC, David Wolford KO4NHD, Garrett Robinson KO4NHE, and Steven Porter KO4NHF.

How to Print Your FCC License

1. Go to <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/licManager/login.jsp>
2. Enter your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) and Password
 - a. If you do not know your FRN, go to Search box and click on License
Click on Amateur; Enter your callsign in Callsign box;
Your FRN is in center of page after your name
(If you do not know your Password, click on Contact Tech Support after Forgot your Password)
3. In When My Licenses screen comes up, click on **Now** in the green line reading “Change your paper authorization preferences [here](#), or download your official electronic authorizations now”
4. In Under Download Authorizations screen, highlight your callsign in the My Authorization area at the bottom left.
5. Click on ADD to right of the highlighted callsign.
6. Highlight your callsign in Authorization to Download and then click on Download on bottom right of screen.
7. If pop-ups are blocked, click on Allow One
8. Click Open at bottom and Print your License.

INDIVIDUAL EMAIL ADDRESS IN QRZ
Submitted by Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO

Consider going to QRZ.COM and log in. Then enter your email address on their QRZ page so other hams can contact you vial email rather snail mail. Anyone looking for email addresses has to log in to QRZ to be able to see the ham’s email address.

ARRL Benefits

ARRL amateur radio community. When you renew, a few of the benefits you will enjoy are:

- Your choice of a print magazine. Eligible US-based ARRL members can elect to receive QST, the official membership journal of ARRL or On the Air, aimed at helping new and emerging radio communicators get active and on the air.
- Digital access to all four ARRL publications -- QST, On the Air, and now QEX, covering topics related to radio communications experimentation, and National Contest Journal (NCJ), covering radio contesting.
- Access to ARRL's Technical Information Service to assist with technical problems and help with your projects.
- Free FCC license renewal and modification service.

To secure these amazing members-only benefits and many more in the coming year, visit www.arrl.org/join/WE1 to renew or call us toll-free at: 1-888-277-5289 (US Only) , Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET. International members call (860) 594-0338.

Packet Update
By: James Butler KB4LJV

When we mount antennas on our vehicles we always have to find a way to mount them. In the past amateurs would just drill a hole in the body to mount the antenna. Now with thinner metal in automobiles and needing the best resell value holes are rare. Manufacturers have come up with alternatives that allow antennas to be mounted without permanent damage to the vehicle. The mount must be strong enough to support the antenna we need. Small magnetic mounts work well when the antenna is small. For larger antennas multiple magnets and larger magnets allow larger HF antennas to be mounted. Mirror mounts allow the mount to be clamped onto tubing on towing style mirrors. For smaller antennas lip mounts that clamp to the edge of the trunk or hatch are popular. On the glass mounts supplied with some antennas glue the antenna on the glass of the vehicle. One company that supplies many types of antenna mounts is MFJ Enterprises. They have a complete line of various types of automobile antenna mounts to choose from. To see all they have to offer check out their web address. It is <https://mfjenterprises.com/>



Amateur Hardware Update

By: James Butler KB4LJV

Many amateurs like to listen in on the shortwave band. Other signals below 30 MHz include shortwave radio stations from countries around the world and WWV time signals. The price of these small shortwave receivers has gone down in recent years. They typically cover AM broadcasts from 3 to 21 MHz. Some include the AM radio band from 560 to 1600 KHz. Other radios will also include the FM stereo from 88 to 108 MHz for reception of local stations. The cheapest models which cost from \$10 to \$15 have an analog dial. Newer models in this price range can also have a digital readout of the frequency to make precision tuning easy. Digital models also have memories you can set for your favorite shortwave stations. Some units have a USB port to record what you listen to on a thumb drive in MP3 format. These units are battery powered with a DC input on the side. They also have a headphone jack for private listening. The antenna is the extendable whip built into the radio. Many of these units use a modern DSP chip in the circuit for great reception. For emergency use or just casual shortwave listening these units represent a great value. You can go to Ebay and do a search for “mini shortwave radio”.



**Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Emergency Coordinator (EC) - John Reiners KN4BVH**

If you are interested in joining Shelby County ARES, complete an application at <https://www.tnares.com>. Click (do not pull down) on INFORMATION on the top right of the page. Next, go to TN ARES Membership and Appointment Application Forms and then click on ARES Membership Application: FSD-98. Complete the form and click SUBMIT at the bottom of the page. You should get an acknowledgment soon after submitting.

**YL News
Submitted by Linda KJ4CTX**

YL NET – Please join us each Saturday night at 8:45 p.m. on the 146.820 repeater for the YL Net. We enjoy hearing from you.

Sparks Newsletter and 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, neither 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

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!

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/darcmem>.

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Upcoming Events

Free Fest

April 9th, 2022

For more information go to <http://hamcalendar.com/>

Memphis Area VHF/UHF Nets

Name of Net	Freq. MHz	Offset/Tone	Local Time	Day of Week
Delta Club Information Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:00p	Daily
YL Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:45p	Sat
Four-Forty Net	443.700	+(107.2)	8:30p	Fri
Mid-South Bullfrog Net	146.535	[simplex]	7:30p	Daily
Elmer Net	444.175	+ (107.2)	9:00p	Sun
MedMERS Net	146.820	- (107.2)	12:00p	Wed
ARES Training Net	146.850	- (107.2)	9:00p	Thu
Sunday Super Niner Net	927.6125	- (146.2)	8:30p	Sun
TN Statewide DMR Net	Digital – DMR		8:00 p	Friday

TENNESSEE HF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day of Week
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	Tue-Sun
Tennessee Alternate Phone Net	7.238		As needed
CUSEC	3.810		As needed
CUSEC	7.180		As needed

(Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)

3980 kHz – Tennessee Phone Net

Mon-Fri - 5:40 AM, 6:45 AM & **5:30 PM** (5:30 pm beginning Nov. 9 evening)

Saturday - 8:00 AM & 5:30 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM only

Holidays - 8:00 AM only

DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

**P.O. Box 342768
Memphis, TN 38134-2768**

DARC Meeting: Second
Tuesday of every month
at Ellendale Church of Christ
7365 Hwy 70, Bartlett TN



W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM
146.82- 147.36+ (107.2Hz tone)
224.42- 443.20+ (107.2Hz tone)



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