

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 77 * June 2022



Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

Sparks Newsletter

Website: <http://deltaclub.org>

Facebook:

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

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

82 Repeater Down - Delta Club Information
Net on Alternate Repeater 443.700

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.

This month's meeting begins at 7:00pm on June 14, via ZOOM accessible with the link below.

Program: "Field Day Prep" by Mary Jean Hall KY4FB and "N3FJP Logging" by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

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

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwucu2urjopEtwXZSv3qIz8-BT0fyEdv-11/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGgrT4uHNSUxxGPRpw-A4_4LO7ziH5ej7dKpCXWFXNCSxmue8B2YrRmNdzG

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88354601388?pwd=VIINQ292VGU3Q01IZGI1TFZXRmN0Y0dz09>

Meeting ID: 883 5460 1388

Passcode: 041257

One tap mobile

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

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

There will **NOT** be FCC Testing Tuesday night.

Announcements

The 82 repeater is down until further notice. The 8:00pm nightly net usually held on 146.82 repeater will be held on the 443.700 repeater +5MHz offset with PL107.2 tone until further notice. The 82 repeater seemed to work correctly when keyed up with the CW and voice ID responding as usual; however, the audio is jumbled when someone tries to make a call. The 82 repeater has a 4:1 high SWR so the repeater has been turned off.

The Huntsville Hamfest is one of the 5 largest hamfests in the country. The hamfest is inside the Huntsville AL Von Braun Center.

Their website is www.hamfest.org

We need at least 10 more riders to commit to the ride and paying \$85 by June 30th.

The price includes the transportation, \$15 hamfest ticket, 2 breakfast biscuits, water, soda, cookies and crackers on the way down, during the day, and whatever is left over on the way back.

The bus backs up to the loading dock so you can bring purchases back to the bus to keep from having to carry them around all day.

You can also come back to the bus to rest your weary feet.

Are you interested?

Let me know as soon as possible with an email to WA4OVO@gmail.com with Subject: Huntsville Bus Trip and name, callsign, email address and cellphone number.

There will not be a YL Net in June and July. During this summer break, all YLs are encouraged to continue checking in to the Delta Club Information Net.

Field Day is June 25th – 26th, we will discuss preparation during the June 14th meeting.

The Delta Club Friday night 8:30pm Four-Forty Net will not be held while the 8pm Delta Club Information Net is on 443.700.

President's Corner
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KY4FB

Submitted by Mary Jean Hall KY4FB

It's hard to believe that we have already made it to June! By now, you've likely heard that we are having a Zoom-only member meeting this month. We try to support a hybrid option for those who want to meet in-person, as well as those who can't make it to the in-person meetings. Unfortunately, with Covid sneaking back into the conversation, we aren't in a spot to support both. It should work out for the best, however. We will discuss Field Day preparations for the program, and Rick Tillman WA4NVM will review the N3FJP logging software for Field Day. It should be easier to see the details of the logging software at home on a screen.

Field Day is June 25 and 26 at the Germantown Municipal Park. We will go over details during the meeting. We should have quite a few stations participating, including a Get-On-The-Air, or GOTA, station. Whether you are unlicensed, new to Amateur Radio, or a Technician who hasn't been on the air much, the GOTA station is a great place to start. You can get a feel for operating a HF radio and learn some of the on-air jargon used in contesting. If talking on the radio and seeing friends wasn't enough to draw you to Field Day, free food should be! Lunch and dinner will be provided on Saturday, and for those who pull the all-nighter or come out early on Sunday, breakfast will be provided, too.

Delta Club is sponsoring a chartered bus to the Huntsville Hamfest on August 20. We need at least 10 more people to commit to the bus trip and pay \$85 by the end of June or we will have to cancel the bus. The price includes transportation, the \$15 hamfest ticket, two breakfast biscuits, and drinks and snacks! The bus parks at the loading dock behind the building, so parking can't get any better! You also have the ability to head back to the bus to eat lunch, rest your feet, or even take a nap in between shopping and forums. Even if you don't have much available to spend at the market, the forums provide a great opportunity to learn something new. The forum list is on the website, so be sure to check it out: <https://hamfest.org>.

\$85 for a ticket sounds like a lot, and \$85 IS a lot! You certainly get your money's worth though. Every effort is made to keep the trip ticket prices as low as possible. This year, to no surprise, so many costs increased in price, from the hamfest ticket to the bus fee to the food. If you subtract the hamfest ticket and parking costs, it's hard to imagine stretching \$60 to cover gas and snacks for a 400-mile trip, especially if gas prices continue to surge towards \$5 per gallon. Even if the bus trip wasn't cheaper, you can't beat the camaraderie on the trip to and from Huntsville, and not having to drive back to Memphis after being on your feet all day. If you are on the fence about going, talk to someone who has been on the bus trip before. It's one of my favorite trips I look forward to each year, and I'm sure it could be the same for you!

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
April 30, 2022 through May 31, 2022

SUMMARY			
Beginning Balance	\$23,497.43	Minimum Daily Balance	\$23,470
Deposits & Credits	\$0.00 +	Average Monthly Statement Balance	\$23,472
Withdrawals	\$0.00 -		
Fees	\$0.00 -		
Automatic Transfers	\$0.00 +		
Checks	\$27.39 -		
Ending Balance	\$23,470.04		

CHECKS		
Date	Check No.	Amount
05/03	1565	27.39

DAILY BALANCE SUMMARY	
Date	Balance
05/03	23,470.04

SMALL BUSINESS CD *0028

Available Balance	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>	<u>YTD INTEREST</u>	<u>INTEREST EARNED NOT PAID</u>
\$10,869.94	1.590 %	\$42.53	\$37.95
View More Details			

Applications Received - May 2022

(0) New Membership(s) - Pro-Rated Dues	\$0.00
(0) New Membership(s) - Dues Waived	\$0.00
(0) New Membership(s)	\$0.00
(0) Membership Renewal(s)	\$0.00
(0) Donations Received	\$0.00
Total Dues Received	\$0.00

Other Deposits

None	\$0.00
Total Other Deposits	\$0.00

Total Deposits \$0.00

Debits/Payments

Check #1565 - Club Meeting Refreshments	\$27.39
Total Payments	\$27.39

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

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2022

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

Absent: None.

Guests: None.

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, June 7, 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. There was a brief discussion about Field Day and the program for the monthly meeting. It was agreed that the program will be on Field Day Prep and Logging. Rick Tillman WA4NVM will give a presentation on the N3FJP logging software.

Joe Lowenthal said he will be having a Tech Class starting July 7th on six Thursday nights from 6:30 to 9:30 PM via Zoom. He is aiming for 10 students.

He said only 15 have committed to pay by the end of June for the Huntsville Hamfest Bus Trip. We need 36 to break even, so the board agreed that 28 will be required to commit by the end of June or the trip will be canceled. Joe will email those who went in previous years to see if they will be going this year.

Joe said he would like to start an Elmer's Closet of equipment to loan to Technicians who have upgraded to General and need HF gear. He will start with the Yaesu 891 the Club procured from an estate sale. This unit will also be used at the GOTA station for Field Day 2022.

Jim Martin gave the Treasurer's Report, which is published in SPARKS.

Carolyn Horne read the list of one new and two renewed members, which included one family. Barry McDonald made a motion to accept them, Mike Harrison seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Barry McDonald gave an update on the 146.82 repeater. He and Rick Tillman went to the repeater site and found the SWR > 4.0, so they shut the repeater down until further notice. He and Rick made plans to revisit the site with a TDR Reflectometer to see if there has been any damage to the feedline. A Spectrum Analyzer was loaned to the Club so Barry can watch the receiver. Barry is to discuss the results at the monthly meeting.

Mary Jean Hall added that the YL Net will be taking a 2-month summer break.

Scott Adams said he will use snacks and drinks on hand for Field Day since there will not be an in-person meeting this month.

Len Grice is getting started on the publicity for Field Day 2022 being held at the Germantown Municipal Park. He said one TV station is usually present early on Sunday morning.

Mike Harrison is working on the June edition of SPARKS. He is still doing a data analysis on emails in MailChimp

John Reiners is doing Field Day Prep and had nothing new to report.

Mary Jean Hall discussed the Club's participation in Field Day 2022 June 25-26. She outlined the station line-up and participants, with Joe Lowenthal at the Information Booth and Len Grice doing publicity. She will email out a map of the station positions in the Germantown Municipal Park to members. The main station will be W4EM with W4BS being used for GOTA.

Mary Jean Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM. The next regular Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 5, 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 May 10, 2022

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club was held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the Ellendale Church of Christ and 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 45 members and guests were present for the meeting or via Zoom.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Ham Hilliard W4GMM moved to “approve the Treasurer’s Report and Minutes as published in Sparks.” Pat Lane W4OQG seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by the club without objection.

Announcements

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB asked in-person attendees to introduce themselves.

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO announced that the next training session will be a Tech Class in late June or early July. He said planning is underway for the Huntsville Hamfest Bus Trip on August 20th. Due to increased costs of fuel, Hamfest tickets and food, the price per passenger will be \$85, payable by June 30th. Mary Jean Hall KY4FB asked for a show of hands for those interested in going. She said that it is much more convenient to take the bus. If you plan to go, send an email with the subject ‘Huntsville Hamfest’ with your name and information to wa4ovo@gmail.com. Joe said you can pay on Field Day.

Dan Columbus AA4HV gave a VE update. Testing was held this evening before the meeting, with one Tech and one upgrade to General. However, there were only two VE’s, so he asked Mary Jean to be the third VE.

Ham Hilliard W4GMM reminded everyone of the Armed Forces Crossband Communications Test on Saturday. The military are transmitting on military frequencies, Hams listen there and then transmit back on designated Amateur frequencies. It is an opportunity for Hams to talk to the military. He said his team is working from the Fire Training Building at 5591 Dakar St. in

Millington. Everyone is welcome to join them there from 7 AM to 2-4 PM depending on activity on the bands. It is a good opportunity for new Hams to get HF experience. He said breakfast will be provided.

Mary Jean Hall KY4FB said Field Day 2022 will be at the Germantown Municipal Park. She discussed efforts underway on getting the email list (Mail Chimp) up to date, so everyone is getting their SPARKS newsletter link via email. She mentioned the DARC nightly Net as a good way to keep up on news and events and encouraged everyone to join in on that Net as well as the Four-Forty Net on Friday nights.

Barry McDonald W5CJ said he visited the 146.82 repeater site and Channel 30 has been switched over to the new hard line. He will keep an eye on how this affects our repeater.

Discussion / Program

It was noted that the email sent out for this month's meeting only mentioned it was on Zoom, which may be why members did not show up in person at the Ellendale Church of Christ.

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO answered questions on the Armed Forces Crossband Communications Test and referred members to the ARRL site for further information. There was a question about whether his classes are in person or on Zoom and he said it depends on what the COVID status is. They have been on Zoom. He also clarified to members that the \$35 fees are in effect for new licenses, vanity call signs and renewals, otherwise there is no admin fee.

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO introduced guest speaker and Delta Club life member Joe St. Columbia N5MIG, President of the Helena, AR club, who gave a presentation on 'Bonding, Grounding in Mobile Radios'. He has been doing HF mobile since 1988 and he put particular emphasis on the challenges of bonding in trucks.

Closing Remarks

Delta Club President Mary Jean Hall KY4FB adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, June 14, 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 implemented a \$35 application fee on April 19, 2022.

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

18 Technician

2 General

7 Extra

Note:

As of April 19, 2022 there is a \$35 FCC application fee for new hams, renewals, Vanity callsigns, etc except for license upgrade, systematic callsign issue, name, address or email changes. This is in addition to the \$15 ARRL VEC FCC exam fee.

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

Tech Class 4-22 – July 7 – August 11, 2022

A Technician license class is being planned to begin on July 7th for six Thursday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. The first four classes will be via Zoom with the fifth and sixth classes in person at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Hwy 70 (Summer Ave). The FCC exam will be offered on the fifth night of class, August 4th. The sixth night will be equipment demonstrations. **If interested, send an email to wa4ovo@gmail.com with Subject line: Tech Class and name, email address and cellphone number is text.**

CURRENT CLASS

None

COMPLETED CLASSES

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

A Technician license class began on February 28th for six Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. The first four classes were via Zoom. The class began with 15 students. Eleven students finished the four instructional classes with two students out of town. The fifth class was in-person with a review of the 421 questions and answers in the question pool as well as an opportunity to take the FCC exam. The Equipment Demonstration sixth class was given in person on April 4th.

Congratulations to Frank Barton KI5UJH (now KI5FGB), Charlie Cole KO4ZCF, Matt Coolican KO4ZCG, Bob Garrelts KI5UJI, Billy Griffin KO4ZCH, Keith Miller kO4ZCI, Bob O'Grady KO4UCJ, and Kyle Turlington KI5UJJ for earning their Technician licenses. Congratulations to Sandra West KO4ZLM for earning her Technician license on April 8th who tested with Chattanooga ARC. The two locals will test at a later date. Additional congratulations to Frank Barton KI5UJH and Billy Griffin KO4ZCH for also upgrading to General.

Thanks to the Laurel VE team of Joe WA4OVO, Jeff AJ4GY, Barry W5CJ, David KY4FH, Bob AI4GI and Rick WA4NVM for being the VEs.



Rick KJ4NWQ on APRS Demo
Photo by Joe WA4OVO



John KN4BVH on Digital Demos
Photo by Joe WA4OVO



Rick WA4NVM on F0-29 contact with Tech Class 2-22



Photos by Joe WA4OVO

The instructors were Joe WA4OVO, Paul KA9VAU, Perry N4GJ, David KY4FH, John KN4BVH, and Pat W4OQG. The Equipment Demonstrators are Rick WA4NVM, Rick KJ4NWQ, John KN4BVH and Joe WA4OVO.

CBU Tech Review Class 3-22 – February 23, 2022

A Technician license review session was held in Dr. Eric Welch (WD5FTA)'s junior level Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Vehicle class for 13 Chrisitan Brother University students on February 23rd . Congratulations to Juan KO4YBR, Juan KO4YBS, Hector KO4YBT, Jake

KO4YBU, Dan KO4YBV, Joshua KO4YBW, Aldrin KO4YBX, Carlos KO4YCN, and James KE8UAR earned their Technician licenses.

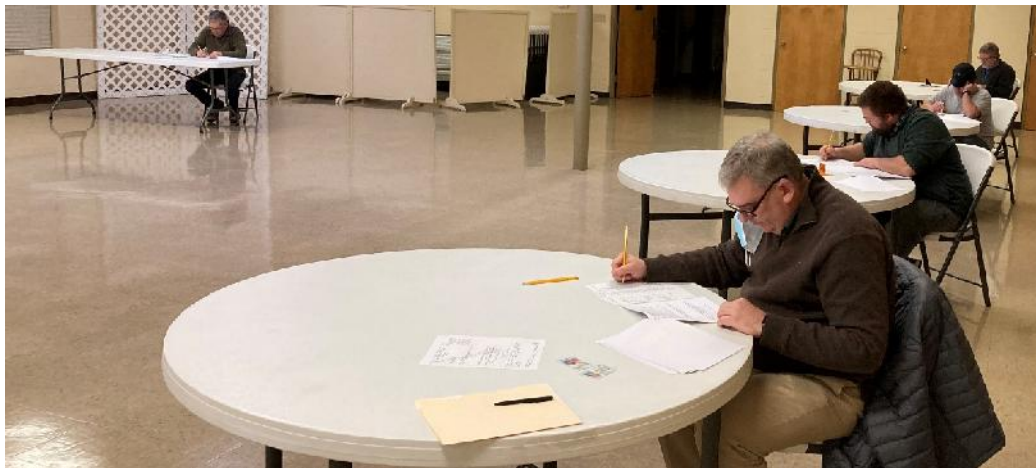
Thanks to the Laurel VEC Team of Barry W5CJ, Jelly N4HLT, David KY4FH, David AJ4KF, Eric WD5FTA and Joe WA4OVO for providing the Laurel FCC test session.

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.



Extra Class 1-22 Test Session

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

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

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 WA4OVO 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 Chrisitan 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.

Find Registered Amateur Radio Operators Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

To view licensed hams in your vicinity, go to <https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map>

Volunteer Monitor Program issues a caution to radio hams Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

The ARRL report the volunteer monitor program has cautioned against operating beyond amateur radio license privileges

The ARRL story says:

Many of the Advisory Notices sent out each month by the ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program go to stations heard operating outside the operator's license privileges.

Typical cases often involve operators holding Technician- or General-class amateur licenses being heard on a frequency or band not permitted by their license privileges. Most recent incidents have frequently entailed FT8 digital mode operation by Technician licensees on 20 and 40 meters. Technician licensees do not have any operating privileges on 20 meters, let alone digital privileges, and FT8 is a digital protocol.

Technicians (and Novices) may operate CW between 21.025 and 21.200 MHz on 15 meters, from 7.025 and 7.125 MHz on 40 meters, and from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, but they do not have any digital (data) mode privileges on these bands.

ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator **Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH**, said licensees who need a refresher course regarding their operating privileges may refer to Section 97.301 of the rules. ARRL also has a convenient chart on its website that details privileges available to all license classes, from Novice to Amateur Extra.

As monthly Volunteer Monitor reports indicate, some General-class operators have lost their way on some bands too, and Advisory Notices have gone out to those operating outside of the General-class phone subbands. For example, on 20 meters, Generals may operate phone from 14.225 to 14.350 MHz, but occasionally, General-class operators are heard outside of that subband. On 40 meters, the phone and image subband open to General licensees is 7.175 to

7.300 MHz. Of course, Technician- and General-class licensees may operate CW on any subband on which they have operating privileges, although operation within the CW subbands is preferred by band plan.

On 10 meters, Technicians have RTTY and data privileges — including FT8 — from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and SSB phone privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz, and may operate on CW over the entire 28.0000 – 28.500 MHz segment. Technicians may enjoy all operating privileges at 50 MHz and above.

The ARRL Volunteer Monitor program is a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL monitor the airwaves and report evidence that may be used to correct errant operation or to recognize exemplary on-air operation.

Source ARRL

<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/volunteer-monitor-program-cautions-against-operating-beyond-license-privileges>

ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program

<https://www.arrl.org/volunteer-monitor-program>

Ham Radio Prep releases full course for the new US
Amateur Radio Technician License exam
Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

For those looking to get their entry-level US Amateur Radio Technician License, aka ham radio license, the exam questions are updating starting on July 1st, 2022. The new questions will be valid through 2026.

Ham Radio Prep, the nation's fastest-growing amateur radio education program, has launched a completely revamped multimedia course covering all of the questions in the updated exam, making it possible for aspiring amateur radio operators to study the new questions without missing a beat.

The new course includes not only text study guides, but completely revamped video learning, games, quizzes and real-life practice tests much like one experiences when taking the official Federal Communications Commission amateur radio license exam.

Ham Radio Prep has made a massive investment in the future of ham radio with its new Technician license course and will only improve upon the popular study program already used

by more than 60,000 successful students. The course is the first and only complete video course that covers the new question pool that goes into effect July 1.

“Our new course was a collaboration with hams with decades of experience,” James Cribbs, founder and CEO of Ham Radio Prep said. “In retooling the course, we focused on effectiveness while teaching the concepts, remaining short and to the point to ensure high completion rates.”

Since its start, Ham Radio Prep has upgraded its Technician license course three times to meet the demands of its tens of thousands of students studying in the online platform. The new course is based on the new FCC question pool that is in effect from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2026.

The Technician class license is the entry-level permit issued to persons who want to get on the air as amateur radio operators. Hams with the Technician license can help provide emergency communications in their community, experiment on the air and talk with other operators both in their general region as well as around the world, depending on radio frequencies used and atmospheric conditions.

Question pools for amateur radio licenses are rewritten every four years by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, a non-profit organization that ensures the integrity of the licensing process for ham radio in the United States. New questions reflect changes in technology, rules changes and more. Ham Radio Prep submitted 25 questions to the NCVEC for use in the new question pool, and a number of those submitted are reflected in the new questions and answers.

“Ham Radio Prep drew upon the expertise of our own staff as well as our many students to draw together questions we felt were important to be included on this new round of Technician class exams,” Chuck Gysi, general manager of Ham Radio Prep, said. “Our students often have comments about the questions they encounter on their exams and we used that input to bring their experience to the NCVEC question pool committee.”

Questions submitted by Ham Radio Prep to the NCVEC included correct answers and distractors on a variety of subjects ranging from amateur radio operations, technology, emissions, FCC rules and regulations, frequency use and more.

There are more than 775,000 licensed amateur radio operators in the United States and its territories. Ham Radio Prep offers courses designed to teach people online the information they need to take the three classes of exams that grant them FCC licenses for amateur radio. The courses also teach students how to be legal and safe on the airwaves, in accordance with FCC rules and regulations.

Ham Radio Prep was established in 2017 to assist people interested in obtaining an FCC-issued amateur radio license by offering courses for the Technician, General and Amateur Extra class licenses. For more information about Ham Radio Prep, go to <http://www.HamRadioPrep.com>.

Chuck Gysi, General Manager
Ham Radio Prep
chuck@HamRadioPrep.com

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

Today many new radios operate with SDR circuitry. This simplifies the circuitry and allows for more options in operation. The ARRL has released a book for SDR radios. The book covers how SDR works and talks about the software you can use with them. This large book has over 300 pages dedicated to this subject. The book was written by Andrew Barron ZL3DW. If you are interested in SDR and how it works check out this new book from the ARRL. The web address is <https://home.arrl.org/action/Store/Product-Details/productId/114780>



Amateur Hardware Update

By: James Butler KB4LJV

If we use wire antennas we usually need a rope to hang it. Dacron rope is a strong weather resistant rope we can use. Dacron is a mix of polypropylene and polyester combined and twisted in strands to make rope. The rope is also available in different diameter sizes depending on your need. You can select the color you want to use. Orange for high visibility is offered. You can also buy the rope in different lengths. Lengths offered vary from 100 to 1000 feet. If you need to hang a wire antenna check out the Dacron rope that is for sale. Do a search on Ebay for “Dacron rope” to see all you can buy.



**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

There will not be a YL Net in June and July. During this summer break, all YLs are encouraged to continue checking in to the Delta Club Information Net.

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 38134-2768

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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Mary Jean Hall KY4FB
ky4fb@arrl.net
901-356-1475

Vice President

John Reiners KN4BVH
KN4BVH@comcast.net
901-230-3327

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Carolyn Horne KX4QF
KX4QF@arrl.net
901-737-7296

Treasurer

Jim Martin KD4FUU
KD4FUU@gmail.com
248-830-8179

Director of Training

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO
wa4ovo@gmail.com
901-628-4318

Director of Publications

Mike Harrison, KM4MRW
mheagle85@gmail.com
731-609-1948

Director of Programs

OPEN

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Scott Adams, KM4PMU
scottedadamsjr@hotmail.com
901-573-6280

Public Information Officer

Len Grice, W4MKS
W4MKS@arrl.net
901-522-6711

Immediate Past President

Steve Frazier, KK4VPT
sfrazier1@bellsouth.net
901-218-6385

Repeater Trustee

Barry McDonald W5CJ
W5CJ@ARRL.NET
901-853-0510

Upcoming Events

- Field Day June 25th - 26th, 2022
- Huntsville Hamfest August 20th – 22nd, 2022
- Bike MS: Rockin' Ride September 10th – 11th, 2022
- Bluff City Blues Bike Ride October 8th, 2022

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

Memphis Area VHF/UHF Nets

82 Repeater Down - Delta Club Information Net on Alternate Repeater 443.700

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)



Joe Miller
Owner

Chick-fil-A Paragon Place
6782 Poplar Avenue
At Poplar and Massey
Memphis, TN 38119
W - 901.766.1875
C - 901.230.3043
Joe.Miller@cfafranchisee.com
chick-fil-a.com