

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 76 * May 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” and in-person.**

This month’s meeting begins at 7:00pm on May 10, 2022 at Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70 in Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Highway 64 / Stage Road) and via ZOOM accessible with the link below.

Topic: Delta Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting – May 10, 2022

Time: May 10, 2022 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Program: *“Bonding and Grounding your Mobile”* by DARC Life Member Joe St Columbia N5MIG from Helena, AR

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

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwucu2urjopEtwXZSv3qIz8-BT0fyEdv-11/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGgrT4uHNSUsxGPRpw-A4_4LO7ziH5ej7dKpCXWFXNCSxmue8B2YrRmNdzG

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88354601388?pwd=VIINQ292VGU3Q01IZGI1TFZXN0Y0dz09>

Meeting ID: 883 5460 1388

Passcode: 041257

One tap mobile

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

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

There will be 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. Candidates MUST have a FCC FRN BEFORE coming to the testing session. For more VE testing, or FCC FRN, information, please contact:

Daniel Columbus, AA4HV, VE Liaison
Phone: 901-208-1535
Email: aa4hv@arrl.net

Announcements

Begin planning for the Huntsville Hamfest on August 20, 2022. The Delta Board is trying to plan another bus trip to the Huntsville Hamfest on Saturday, August 20th.

As you might expect, costs from the bus company has risen because of diesel fuel increases and ticket entrance fees to the Hamfast have risen by \$5 to \$15 this year. Thus, our costs for the trip have risen.

Before we commit to taking a bus, we would like to get an idea on how many are willing to pay \$85 by June 30th. That fare includes the transportation, two Denver's breakfast biscuits, water, fruit, and chips, plus the \$15 Hamfest entry fee. The bus will be backed up to the loading ramp at the Von Braun Center.

Please send Joe (WA4OVO) an email with Subject: Hamfest and name, call, email address and cellphone number in text to wa4ovo@gmail.com by May 20th if you are willing and able to pay the \$85 fare.

Field Day is June 25th – 26th, more to come....

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.

President's Corner
Submitted by Mary Jean Hall, KY4FB

Spring has sprung and we are approaching the time of the year that is popular for travel. Whether the travel is for a family vacation, a weekend getaway, or for a relaxing evening drive around town, it could be a good time to get on the air. A key factor in making sure that your mobile is safe to use is ensuring everything is properly installed, which includes properly bonding and grounding.

This month's program, "Bonding and Grounding Your Mobile," by DARC LIFE member Joe St Columbia N5MIG should be helpful to anyone looking to setup a radio in a vehicle. It could be helpful for those who already have a mobile radio installed, too.

If traveling is on your list to do this summer, I hope you plan on being back in town June 25 and 26 for ARRL Field Day. Delta Club is joining some of the other Memphis-area radio clubs in hosting a local event at the Germantown Municipal Park. There is something for everyone at Field Day, no matter if you are an elmer, new to ham radio, or are not even licensed yet! Visit www.arrl.org/fieldday for more information about the overall event, including contest rules. More information about the local event will be announced at upcoming meetings, in SPARKS and/or on the Delta Club Information Net.

We have an immediate opening for the Director of Programs position. The person who serves in this role would line up our speakers for the monthly program. This position would run through December 2022.

Let a board member know if you are interested.

I hope to see you all Tuesday!

73,
Mary Jean Hall KY4FB

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 1, 2022 through April 29, 2022

SUMMARY			
Beginning Balance	\$21,433.94	Minimum Daily Balance	\$21,433
Deposits & Credits	\$2,260.00 +	Average Monthly Statement Balance	\$22,695
Withdrawals	\$0.00 -		
Fees	\$0.00 -		
Automatic Transfers	\$0.00 +		
Checks	\$196.51 -		
Ending Balance	\$23,497.43		

DEPOSITS & CREDITS			
04/12	Deposit - Thank You		2,215.00
04/29	Deposit - Thank You		45.00
Total Deposits & Credits			\$2,260.00

CHECKS		
Date	Check No.	Amount
04/13	1564	196.51

DAILY BALANCE SUMMARY					
Date	Balance	Date	Balance	Date	Balance
04/12	23,648.94	04/13	23,452.43	04/29	23,497.43

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	\$21.33
View More Details			

Applications Received - April 2022

(0) New Membership(s) - Pro-Rated Dues	\$0.00
(0) New Membership(s) - Dues Waived	\$0.00
(0) New Membership(s)	\$0.00
(2) Membership Renewal(s)	\$45.00
(0) Donations Received	\$0.00
Total Dues Received	\$45.00

Other Deposits

Karen Chancelor Estate Sale @ FreeFest 2022	\$2,215.00
Total Other Deposits	\$2,215.00

Total Deposits **\$2,260.00**

Debits/Payments

Zoom Subscription (Reimbursement)	\$196.51
Total Payments	\$196.51

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Carolyn Horne, KX4QF

DARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for May 3, 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, May 3, 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 hybrid 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. A discussion was held about microphone protocol to produce good sound quality from the in-person venue to the Zoom participants.

Joe Lowenthal has organized the programs for this month's Members' Meeting. Joe St. Columbia N5MIG will be giving a presentation on 'Bonding/Grounding Mobiles'. He draws from his experience with Tarheel and a Dodge Ram truck, however he will go over both car and truck bonding. The board had a brief discussion on a prospective Director of Programs but does not yet have an announcement to make.

Barry McDonald gave an update on the 146.82 repeater and Channel 30 Brunswick Tower cable repairs. He said work is continuing. He has visited the site and reported that they are replacing the entire length of hard line, about 1000 ft. Joe Lowenthal provided input on the status of the repeater for the Nets, saying that it is currently giving good service. Scott Adams said that Channel 30 is providing updates on their Facebook page. They posted the times they would be off the air for repairs. Scott said after that their TV picture was much improved.

Len Grice said planning is underway for Field Day 2022. He mentioned that there is going to be a new Fire Chief for Germantown while discussing Fire Department participation.

Carolyn Horne read the list of two renewed members, which included one family. Joe Lowenthal made a motion to accept them, Len Grice seconded the motion and the motion passed.

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

Scott Adams asked if snacks are needed for the meeting. He said he needs to toss out old drinks and replace them. He said to remind members at the in-person meeting to speak directly into the microphone so all can hear, especially those on Zoom.

John Reiners said his focus has been on Field Day 2022, with an emphasis on getting new member participation.

Joe Lowenthal said that there was \$4801 in ticket sales and \$1192 concession sales for the MARA FreeFest, attended by 371 Hams. He said there is nothing going on in training right now but should have a new class in late June or early July. Nothing is yet finalized.

Joe Lowenthal discussed plans for the bus trip to the Huntsville Hamfest. He did get a quote from Cline Tours but due to the increase in diesel fuel and other costs, the tickets would be more expensive this year. Tickets for the Huntsville Hamfest are increasing from \$10 to \$15. Food and snack prices have also increased. Joe presented his findings on a spreadsheet and the board discussed the best approach to covering these additional expenses. Joe is sending a notification of the new prices and deadlines by email as well as making an announcement in SPARKS.

Mike Harrison is working on the May edition of SPARKS. He is doing a data analysis on emails in MailChimp. He sent the board a spreadsheet of emails that may be removed and others that should be added to MailChimp. This clean-up will allow for more emails to be sent per month before we surpass our allowed quota.

Mary Jean Hall reviewed upcoming events in which the Delta Club could participate. The board decided that having an ARRL Kids Day on 06/18/2022 would be too much with everything else going on near that time. There may be a more opportune time in the future.

Mary Jean Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM. The next regular Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 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 April 12, 2022

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

The regular monthly meeting of the Delta Amateur Radio Club was held on Tuesday, April 12, 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 50 members and guests were present for the meeting or via Zoom.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Bill KK4VPS moved to “approve the Treasurer’s Report and Minutes as published in Sparks.” Len W4MKS 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 gave an update on training. Nine of the eleven who finished the class had gotten their license. The next Tech class will probably start late June or early July.

Barry McDonald W5CJ said crews were still working on the Channel 30 feedline to give an update on the 146.82 repeater.

Discussion / Program

Director of Programs, Steve Romagni W4DTA, introduced guest speaker KI2D, Sebastian Delmont, from New York, who gave a presentation on ‘GridTracker’. Sebastian is one of the programmer/developers of this software.

Closing Remarks

Len Grice W4MKS made a motion to adjourn. Delta Club President Mary Jean Hall KY4FB adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

The next Delta Amateur Radio Club meeting will be Tuesday, May 9, 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 Technician license class will probably start in late June or early July.

If interested, send an email to wa4ovo@gmail.com with Subject line: Tech Class and name, email address and cellphone number is text.

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

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 Christian 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>

Dayton Hamvention is a 'Go' Submitted by Bob Vawter, KW4RJ

Dayton Hamvention 2022 is not just going to be a premier hamfest but a reunion, as organizers prepare for the first gathering at the Xenia Fairground and Expo Center in Ohio after two years of cancellations.

Hamvention's general chairman Rick Allnut WS8G said in a phone interview that committees have been meeting and volunteers are committed to making up for the time lost to pandemic cancellations.

Hamvention will be happening on Friday May 20th through Sunday May 22nd with an international reception scheduled on Thursday May 19th. Rick said the registration site is already taking bookings from vendors and inside exhibitors and individual visitors can already buy their tickets. All details are available on the hamvention.org website.

Rick said: "Tickets are all printed and ready to go."

<https://hamvention.org/>

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>

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

QRP LABS is now offering a digital mode transceiver kit. The unit is called the “QDX”. The ultra small unit is made for digital modes only. It supports WSJT-X and JS8Call. The QDX has an optional case for \$20.00. The kit cost is \$60.00. The QDX has a power hookup for 12 volts DC. The kit has an antenna connection to go to you antenna. The unit has a built in 48Kbps sound card for encoding and decoding audio. The on board transmitter will output 4 to 5 watts of power. The digital radio will work on 4 ham bands 80,40,20, and 15 meters. The board also has all filtering for the four bands for a clean signal. The QDX has a virtual Com port for CAT control of the unit. All surface mount devices are presoldered to the board when you receive it to make the kit assembly easier. A 100 page build manual is available on the site to download and look at for more information about this digital radio. It is so popular it sold out in minutes in November 2021 when released so check for availability. The web address is [QDX - Digital Transceiver \(qrp-labs.com\)](http://QDX - Digital Transceiver (qrp-labs.com))

James Butler



Amateur Hardware Update

By: James Butler KB4LJV

Many amateurs have backup generator for power during emergency operations. These generators are now available in many different styles and sizes. Generators normally run on gas, but can now be purchased to run on gas, propane or natural gas depending on the fuel source you have on hand. These dual-fuel and tri-fuel generators offer a lot of flexibility in their operation. The generator you buy should be based on your power needs during a power outage. The gas ones produce the most power, with propane and natural gas less power on the same generator. You can buy any size from 1000 watts to 12000 watts. Some generators are large so they have wheels on them to roll around. Portable generators are smaller and lightweight with a carrying handle. Many of these are also sold by local companies if you want to look at them in person. The newest style of backup power is a storage batteries instead of a motor. These are charged and offer power during an outage. See all the styles and sizes you can buy by going to Ebay and do a search for “generator”.

James Butler
KB4LJV



**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 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>.

2022 Board of Directors

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Upcoming Events

- Armed Forces Communications Exercise May 14th, 2022
- Dayton Hamvention May 20th – 22nd, 2022
- 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

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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