

Delta Amateur Radio Club

SPARKS

P.O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38134-2768 - VOL. 1 Jan 2010



W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820-(107.2) 147.360+(107.2)

224.420- 443.200+(107.2)

January 2009 CLUB MEETING

- DATE:** January 11th, 2010
- PLACE:** Ellendale Church of Christ
7365 HWY 70, Bartlett TN
- Program:** Disaster Deployment by Billy Freeman, KD4EYW
- VE TESTING:** VE registration begins at 5:30pm with testing starting promptly at 6pm. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information contact Tom Fox, KA4LWQ at 357-1663.

The President's Corner

I hope everyone had a great holiday and are off to a good start in 2010. I was reading a few articles about top 10 New Year's resolutions. Surprisingly, the list of items is fairly consistent. The top resolutions were typically: get fit, lose weight, enjoy life more (sounds like more HAM radio time for me), quit smoking, quit drinking, get out of debt, spend more time with friends and family, get organized and learn something new (hmmm, like morse code). Recent research shows that while 52% of people feel confident about achieving their goals only 12% actually achieve them. Men achieve their goal 22% more often when they engaged in goal setting, a system where small measurable goals are used (lose a pound a week, instead of saying "lose weight"), while women succeed 10% more when they made their goals public and got support from their friends. In looking at these resolutions I find myself thinking that we can apply the same concept to benefit the Delta Club and members. We have alot of new people on the board, or even the same people in new positions and need your input. Please think of one "resolution" that you think would benefit our club and bring it up in the monthly meeting or provide the feedback to myself or one of the board members. Together we can move our club forward in 2010. By the way, Hugh, you are not out of your special project. Cheers and 73.

Alan (KJ4BIX)
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DELTA CLUB MEETING MINUTES FOR December 8, 2009

Hugh – WB4SLI called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and asked for introductions of the attending 42 members and guest. Upon completion, Hugh announced that this was our annual pot luck dinner and asked the club if they were ready to eat. A motion was made to eat by Ham – W4GMM and seconded by Bill – KI4TQA.

After eating and fellowship, Hugh asked that for minutes to be read. Bill – KC4SXT made a motion that the minutes be accepted as printed in Sparks and the motion was seconded by Ham - W4GMM. Club attendance accepted.

Bill – KI4TQA gave the club treasurers report. Ham - W4GMM made a motion to accept and was seconded by Richard – NF5B. Club attendance accepted.

Joe – WA4OVO gave his training report which was accepted by the Club attendance.

Hugh – WB4SLI asked if there was any further business and passed out awards. Recipients were Roger – KI4AJH for the Ham of the year and Danny – KJ4FXZ for New Ham of the Year. Both gave of their time and efforts above and beyond to help the Club. Additionally, board members were also recognized and given awards for their service.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully Submitted By:
Steve Smith – KI4YOP

DELTA CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR December 2, 2009

Attendee's

Hugh – WB4SLI
Steve – KI4YOP
Bill – KI4TQA
Joe – WA4OVO
Wayne – KI4TLB
David – KD4NOQ
Rick – WA4NVM
Rosalinda – KI4ZKW
Alan – KI4BIX
Jeff – AJ4GY
Stacy – KJ4MDA

Hugh – WB4SLI called the meeting to order at 6:50PM and welcomed the attending new board members. He opened a discussion on the progress being made towards the dissolution of Dixie Fest. In addition, Hugh was asked if he would continue as liaison for the Delta Club in the pursuit of this. Hugh accepted.

Hugh presented a list of names to the board as candidates to choose from and vote upon for the Ham of the Year as well as New Ham of the Year. Selections were made and voted upon.

Bill – KI4TQA gave the treasurers report which was accepted by the Board. He also discussed the creation of a New Member packet which would include a CD with Club information to be given to all New Members. Bill has agreed to handle this project.

Joe – WA4OVO gave the Training report which was accepted by the board. Joe also discussed the need to revamp the Monthly news letter. After some discussion, Jeff – AJ4GY offered to look at it and see what he could do.

Steve – KI4YOP mentioned that some members had asked about a membership I.D. Card. After some discussion, Steve and Rosalinda – KI4ZKW said they would look at what it would take to do this.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted by Steve – KI4YOP

Treasury Report

Beginning Balance	as of December 1,2009	\$11,305.29
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Expenses

AT&T	\$58.35
University of Memphis	\$22.94
Memphis Amateur Honey Baked Ham	\$208.81
Door Prizes Ham for Pot Luck	

Total Expense	\$290.10
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Sub Total	\$11,015.19
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Income

Membership Dues	\$665.00
Donations	\$40.00

Total Income	\$705.00
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Ending Balance	as of January1,2010	\$11,720.19
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Submitted by Bill Stevens KI4TQA

Tennessee Nets

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3.980	5:40a	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3.980	6:45a	M-F
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3.980	6:30p	T-Su
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	3810		As needed
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7.180		As needed

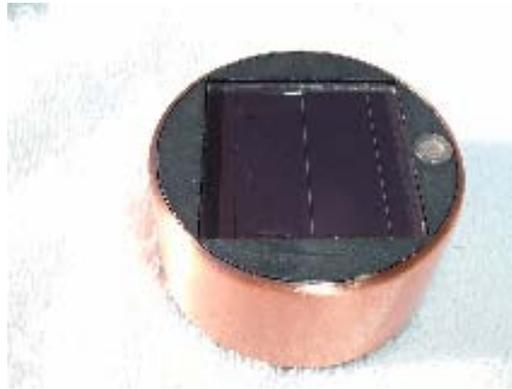
Memphis Area Nets

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

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Many hams operate electronic equipment on small batteries. We have Hts, cameras, walkman style radios and even mp3 players. Keeping batteries for the radios can be hard. Alkaline batteries are nice but have to be thrown away when they run down. Rechargeable batteries are cheaper in the long run but have to be recharged which means a charger. I recently had one of my outdoor solar powered nightlights go out. These you stick in the ground and they charge up during the day and light a small super bright led at night. Mine was not working so I looked inside. It used a standard AA NiCad in battery holder. The solar panel and charger control was in the case. On mine the LED had gone bad. I know they should last forever but this one went out. Instead of throwing it out I cleaned the unit after cutting out the bad LED and mounted some rubber material on the bottom for rubber feet. I made the bottom pop in and out without screws so I could easily get to the battery. Now I have a AA battery charger. I just put in my NiCad AA battery and set it on the windowsill and it gets charged up. I always have a fully charged NiCad when I need it. This is a nice way to recycle those outside solar lights.

James Butler
KB4LJV



PACKET UPDATE

Every ten years we need to renew our ham radio license. The expiration date is printed on the license. I received a reminder notice about my wife's and my license were about to expire. You can not renew until you are within 90 days of the license expiration date. The good news is that if you are a member of the ARRL they send you the reminder. That's how I got mine. The other good news is they show you how to renew by going online to the FCC website or they have a sheet you fill out and send to the ARRL. They will then check it and send it on to the FCC for processing. I sent the letters to the ARRL and we got our new licenses within a week. This is a nice no cost service provide by the ARRL to members. It works great and made it easy to renew for another 10 years.

James Butler
KB4LJV

2010 Public Service Events

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

Date	Event	Coordinator
January 17 th	Swamp Stompers	Eddie KF4QFW
March TBA	City Slickers Equestrian Event	Richard NF5B
TBA	March for Babies AKA March of Dimes Walk	
May 23 rd	Memphis in May Triathlon	Ned KA4BLL
September 11 th & 12 th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell KK4D
October 2 nd (1st Saturday)	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk	Kathleen KC0HZU
December 4 th	St. Jude Marathon	Roger KI4AJH
TBA	Bartlett Christmas Parade	Dennis KJ4BDU
TBA	Boy Scout Merit Badge	Hugh WB4SLI

HAM LICENSE TRAINING for 2010

By Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

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

SCHEDULED CLASSES

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

Extra Class 1-10 is scheduled to begin on January 16, 2010 from 9am-1pm for 6 Saturdays except January 30th, which is the Jackson MS hamfest. The location is the C-113 auditorium at Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Campus at 1075 Mullins Station Road. Advanced registration is required with email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@yahoo.com, or call 901-683-2701. The text will be *The ARRL Extra Class License Manual*.

Technician Class

The next Technician Class is being formulated. It should begin in February for 5 Monday nights. Advanced registration is required with email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@yahoo.com, or call 901-683-2701. See Future Classes below for more information.

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

None

FUTURE CLASSES

TECHNICIAN CLASS

If you are interested in the first amateur license class, Technician, please let us know of by sending an email to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Technician Class" and give a contact phone number (preferably a cell number). Or you can go to the Delta Club webpage www.deltaclub.org click on Training Classes; then click on Technician Class to send an email, or call at 901-683-2701. We usually publish class schedules a month or two in advance. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

There is no charge for the class, but registration is required. Advanced study of *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual* is strongly suggested as well as study of the 392 question and answer Technical Class License question pool. Barnes & Noble Booksellers sells the manual. You can purchase it online from www.arrl.org/catalog or on Amazon.com. The list price is \$24.95.

Please note that a new Technician License question pool has been submitted by the NCVET for publication. Testing for the new question pool starts July 1, 2010.

Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the sample tests, click on Main Menu to the right of the Search button on the QRZ Home Page. Scroll down and click on Practice Amateur Radio Exams. Click on Start Test to enter QRZ Practice Test Center. Click on Technician 35

Questions. Click on Wait For Correct. (This feature gives you the ability to answer again to get the correct answer if you miss the first time. On each answer it will either show Wrong Answer or Correct.) Click on Begin Test. Statistics are given at the top of the screen with the number of Completed questions, the Accuracy percentage, and the Overall percentage of questions completed on the test. Be sure to study multiple QRZ tests. The first test is only the first question from each of the 35 subgroups of the question pool. The second test is only the second question from each of the 35 subgroups, and so on. It is recommended to take at least 15 of the sample tests to be able to see all 392 question pool questions.

Another site is www.hamtestonline.com. It costs \$59.95, but it is good for 2 years for the Technician, General and Extra Class tests.

The 35-question FCC exam will be given at the end of class by a Volunteer Examiner (VE) team. There is a \$15.00 ARRL VEC FCC exam fee.

GENERAL CLASS

If you are interested in a General License Class, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "General Class." Or you can go to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; then click on General Class to send me an email, or call at 901-683-2701. The text book is *The ARRL General Class License Manual*. Lately, we have been running a combined Technician-General class. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

BASIC ELECTRONICS CLASS

The Basic Electronics Class is designed to bridge the electronics learning gap between the General and the Extra Class licenses. The class text book is ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics*. The suggested calculator is the Casio fx-260 solar calculator which can be purchased at Walmart for under \$10. There is no exam for this class. If you are interested in the Basic Electronics Class, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Basic Electronics Class" or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

EXTRA CLASS

If you are interested in an Extra Class, please pre-register by going to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; then click on Extra Class to send an email to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at wa4ovo@yahoo.com or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set. The class is planned to start January 16, 2010.

COMPLETED CLASS IN DECEMBER 2009

Technician Class 6-09

Tech Class 6-09 began on November 5th at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Complex at 1075 Mullins Station Road across from the Penal Farm. Thirteen students attended the first class.

On December 10th, Win Guin W2GLJ, Bill Stevens KI4TQA, David Gilbert AJ4LV, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO were the WCARS VEs for testing. Congratulations to Arthur Oliver KJ4RCK, Bill Peck KJ4RCL, Frank Dyer KJ4RCM, Eric Burrage KJ4RCN, Wayne Burrage KJ4RCO, Richard Garrick KJ4RCP, Tony Banks KJ4RCQ, Jay Tomasello KJ4RCR, and Bradley Wilford KJ4RCS for earning their Technician licenses. Additional congratulations to Arthur Oliver and Bill Peck who also earned their General licenses.



Photo: Tech Class 6-09 left rear to front: Elmers Bill Stevens KI4TQA and Rick Tillman WA4NVM, students Eric Burrage KJ4RCN, Wayne Burrage KJ4RCO, Tony Banks KJ4RCQ, Arthur Oliver KJ4RCK, Bill Peck KJ4RCL, Bradley Wilford KJ4RCS, Frank Dyer KJ4RCM, Vernon Mabon, Preston Garrick, Richard Garrick KJ4RCP, and Jay Tomasello KJ4RCR,

Delta Club 146.82 Net Preamble

GOOD EVENING: This is _____ calling this session of the DELTA CLUB'S TRAFFIC AND INFORMATION NET. This net is affiliated with the ARRL and the NTS and is organized to pass traffic in and out of the mid - south area, in addition to providing information about club events and amateur related topics. This net meets nightly at 8:00 p.m. CT except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 W4BS repeater and may require a pl. tone of 107.2 Hz. All stations will refrain from transmitting without being acknowledged by net control.

All licensed amateurs are encouraged to participate.

Before we begin, is there any station with emergency or priority traffic?
During this net should any station have emergency or priority traffic please use a double break followed by your call sign.

Is there an NTS Liaison station on frequency?

Is there any station wishing to list formal written traffic?

Does any station have announcements for the net?

(If anyone asks to make an announcement after you finish handling the ones taken here ask them to hold until after the monolog. Eliminate the following sentence unless there are announcements.)

Does any station have any questions or need any fills?

We will now take check-ins. Are there any stations that are mobile, on battery power, or needing to leave early, if so please come now phonetically with your suffix only and please remember to spread them out?

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ALPHA through HOTEL please come now and remember to spread them out.

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins INDIA through KEEBECK please come now and remember to spread them out.

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ROMEO through ZULU please come now and remember to spread them out.

The DELTA CLUB meets the second Tuesday of each month at the ELLENDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST 7365 HWY 70 in Bartlett at 7:00 P.M. V. E. Registration begins at 5:30 with testing starting promptly at 6:00. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information contact Tom, KA4LWQ at 357-1663. For membership information contact Steve KI4YOP at 493-8663. For training information contact Joe WA4OVO at 683-2701..

Are there any additional announcements?

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

Is there anything that this station or the net can do for anyone before we close?

This is _____ now closing this session of the DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S Traffic and information net and would like to thank all _____ stations for checking in tonight. And would like to ask that everyone to check in tomorrow night at the same time.

GOODNIGHT AND 73: THE NET IS NOW CLOSED. _____ CLEAR

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Tony's birthday N4LKK</i>	2
3	4	5 <i>David's Birthday KI4TPO</i>	6	7	8	9 <i>Hugh's Birthday WB4SLI</i>
10	11	12 <i>Delta Club Meeting 7:00pm</i>	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 <i>MARA Club Meeting 7:00pm</i>	22	23
24	25	26 <i>ARES meeting 6:30pm</i>	27	28	29	30
31						

US Amateur Radio Bands

US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS

All times, seasonal power should be set to the lowest of the following frequency of the listed communications. Power is taken in multi-band PEP values. Except where noted, the maximum power is out is 1000 Watts.

Effective Date
February 23, 2007

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KEY

Note: CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands except 80 meters.
NCW is authorized above 50 MHz, except for 70-70.7 MHz.
Red lines indicate an authorized service 51 MHz, except for 21.5-22.0 MHz.

- █ = RTTY and data
- █ = Phone and Image
- █ = CW only
- █ = SSB phone
- █ = USB phone only
- █ = Fixed digital message forwarding systems only

E = Amateur Extra
A = Advanced
G = General
T = Technician
N = Novice

See ARRL Handbook for more information on the included band plans.

ARRL
We're At Your Service

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