

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



SPARKS



P.O. Box 750482 * Memphis, Tennessee 38175-0482 * Volume 18 * January 2012



**Welcome to the
Delta Amateur Radio Club!**

Visit our home on the web at: <http://www.deltaclub.org>

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

146.820^{-107.2} 147.360^{-107.2}
224.420 443.200

NEXT CLUB MEETING

DATE: January 10, 2012 (2nd Tuesday of each month)
PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70
Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Hwy. 64 – Stage Road)

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Lessons Learned from Joplin Missouri Tornado
Presented By: Dean Eicher, KJ4WOY

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins promptly at 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of identification and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 PM. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information, please contact:

Bill Stevens, WC9S, VEC
Phone: 901-603-3448
Email: wc9s@att.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKW

No article received.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By: Rick Tillman WA4NVM

Beginning Balance	as of December 1, 2011	\$17,124.25
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Expenses

Food	Dec. Meeting	\$170.00
Donation	Ellendale C of C	\$200.00
zZounds.com	Dual VHF Mic System	\$49.95

	Total Expense	\$419.95
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SubTotal **\$16,704.30**

Income

Membership Dues	Year 2012	\$550.00
Donations		\$75.00

	Total Income	\$625.00
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Ending Balance	as of December 31, 2011	\$17,329.30
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Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2011 - Presented by: Bill Stevens WC9S, Secretary

The November board meeting was called to order by President Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKW.

- There was a general discussion about the DARC web site. No decisions were reached.
- Ham Hilliard W4GMM brought before the board that he was contacted by the Pink Palace asking if during the playing of the movie at the Imax of Tornado Alley, all the clubs would be interested in setting up a booth in the lobby about ham radio. Motion by Bill Stevens WC9S, seconded by Danny Banks KJ4FXZ that Ham represent Delta club to get more information. Passed
- It was decided to buy barbeque for the December pot luck meeting. Tom Raggett KJ4LMH volunteered to order and pick up.
- Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKW volunteered to bring drinks.

- There was a discussion about certificates to be presented. Ken Laseter KI4AOH volunteered to make all certificates.

Meeting adjourned

GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2011 - Presented by: Bill Stevens WC9S, Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of DARC was called to order by President Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKW.

Ham Hilliard W4GMM made a motion, seconded by Dean Eicher KJ4WOY to approve the minutes of the last meeting as published in Sparks. Passed

Rick Tillman WA4NVM gave the treasurer's report. Motion to approve as read by Dean Eicher KJ4WOY, seconded by Al Snyder KI4PGK. Passed

Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO reported on new classes coming up in the new year.

Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKW presented certificates of appreciation to trainers, net controls, board members, Darrell Sheffield KK4D as outgoing repeater trustee, and Bill Stevens WC9S as ham of the year. Bill Stevens WC9S presented VE patches to VE's who helped with testing during the year. The pot luck dinner was enjoyed by all.

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

By: James Butler - KB4LJV

Many times we use our HT radios for digital modes. These are useful for Packet radio during emergencies. Hooking up to an external antenna when running these modes helps out a lot on being able to get a readable signal out. Some of the newer radios come with an SMA-type connector for the antenna instead of the old style with the BNC. R&L Electronics sells the jumper to hookup to your HT so you can hookup an external antenna. It is their RG316 jumper. This one has an SMA male on one end and a UHF female connector on the other. It is 3 feet long with RG316 small coax so it will put less strain on the HT antenna connector. The part number is JT4110J3. This is an easy way to add a hookup for an external antenna. They also have other adapters available for \$11.00 to \$13.00. The internet address to see it is www.randl.com/shop/index.shtml.

THANK YOU LETTER FROM ST. JUDE

Rosalinda asked me to publish this nice thank you letter from St. Jude thanking the Delta Amateur Radio Club and those who worked the St. Jude Marathon.



December 13, 2011



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

Dear Members:

We want you to know how grateful we are for your dedicated support of the tenth St. Jude Memphis Marathon Weekend. We are delighted you chose to spend your time helping to support this hugely successful event for the kids and families of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

In an effort to effectively produce an event of this magnitude, it takes hundreds of companies and organizations as well as over 2,500 dedicated volunteers. This year's event drew over 16,000 participants in four races: marathon, half marathon, Memphis Grizzlies House 5K and the Family Race and Kids Marathon. The event raised a record breaking \$3.9 million for life-saving mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which is nearly \$1 million more than last year.

This success would not have been possible without committed volunteers like those in your ham radio club. Please thank everyone for us. On behalf of the St. Jude children and families, the ultimate beneficiaries of this successful event, please know how grateful we are for your loyal support!

We wish you and your family a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Dwight Drinkard
Event Coordinator

Erin Marlin
Event Coordinator

Please Save the Date for the 2012 St. Jude Memphis Marathon Weekend
Saturday, December 1, 2012

501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1942 | 901.578.2036 | 800.565.5112 | 901.278.6466 | marketing@stjude.org

401 THE MEMPHIS MARATHON WEEKEND

is produced in partnership with the Memphis Amateur Radio Club

www.stjudememphismarathon.org

2012 TRAINING CLASSES

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.

We begin 2012 with considerable interest in ham radio with 37 students registered for the Technician class and nine students registered for the Extra class. The Delta Amateur Radio Club had a good year in 2011 with 50 students receiving licenses, upgrades or learning basic electronics in the five classes held. Thanks go out to all of the volunteers that helped to make 2011 another great year. A special thanks goes to Bill Stevens KI4TQA, Rick Tillman WA4NVM, David Gilbert AJ4LV, Pat Lane W4OQG, Dean Honadle N2LAZ, Alan Proffitt AE5RX, Win Guin W2GLJ, Jeff Krause AJ4GY, and Dennis Foster KJ4BDU for their help with the classes.

Licenses Earned in 2011 from Delta Classes

29 Technician

15 General

6 Extra

CLASSES PLANNED

If you are interested in any of the classes, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with your name, email address, and phone number, preferable cell with subject line of the class you are interested in.

General Class 3-12 – Late February or March 2012

The next General class is in the planning stage. It will probably start in late February or March on four or five Saturdays from 9am to 1pm. If anyone is interested in this class, send an email to wa4ovo@arrl.net with you name, email address, and phone number, preferably cell, with subject title General Class 3-12.

Technician Class 2-12 – January 14th & 21st, 2012

The next Technician class, Tech Class 2-12, will be held at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Dept east complex in conjunction with the First Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard. It is on two Saturdays from 8am-5pm on January 14 & 21, 2012. This class is filling up; as of this writing, there are 37 students. If anyone is interested in this class, send an email to wa4ovo@arrl.net with you name, email address, and phone number, preferably cell, with subject title Tech Class 2-12.

Extra Class 1-12 – January 14 – February 25, 2012

The next Extra Class will be held on six Saturdays from January 14th through February 25th, except January 28th (Jackson MS hamfest). The classes will be from 9am-1pm at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Dept east complex at 1075 Mullins Station Road. Pre-registration is required. If you are interested in attending this class, send an email to wa4ovo@arrl.net with you name, email address, and phone number, preferably cell, with subject title Extra Class 1-12.

Dean Honadle N2LAZ, Alan Proffitt AE5RX, Pat Lane W4OQG, and Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO are to be the instructors.

CLASSES IN PROGRESS

None

CLASS INFORMATION

Technician Class

If you are interested in the first amateur license class, Technician, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@arrl.net with subject line "Technician Class" and give name, email address, and 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 if you send an email informing us of your desire to be in a class.

There is no charge for the class, but registration is required. Advanced study of *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual*, product #0977/ISBN 978-0-87259-097-7 (red-brick colored cover) is strongly suggested as well as study of the 396 question and answer Technical Class License question pool. Barnes & Noble Booksellers may have this manual. You can purchase it online from www.msars.com, www.arrl.org/catalog or on Amazon.com. The list price is \$29.95 (which includes a CD). The older ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Second Edition was priced at \$24.95, but did not have a CD.

The current Technician License question pool, which was approved by the NCVEC on February 1, 2010, can be seen at <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=356>. Testing for this question pool started July 1, 2010.

Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the sample tests, go to www.qrz.com. From the QRZ home page click on **RESOURCES** in the blue band on the top right. Then click on 2010 Technician Exam Practice Test. When you start answering the questions, it will show you if you answered correctly or not with **CORRECT!** or **SORRY BUT THAT ANSWER IS NOT CORRECT**. Statistics are kept below the test question at **This Quiz** with the number of questions answered correctly and the percentage correct. Also shown is the number of questions answered correctly from the 396 questions of the question pool. It keeps track of your correct answers on subsequent tests. Below the **This Quiz** line is **Questions In This Test**, that is a list of the 35 question numbers of the current test. If answered correctly, the question number radio button turns green. If answered incorrectly, it turns red.

There are a number of other free sample-test sites. The following are some other ham radio practice exam sites:

- www.aa9pw.com
- <http://kb0mga.net/exams>
- <http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2010/06/technician-class-practice-test-gadget.html>
- www.qrz.com
- <http://www.hamradioclass.org>

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@arrl.net with subject line "General Class." Or you can go to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Delta Amateur Radio Club

Training Classes; then click on General Class to send me an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, or call at 901-683-2701. A new question pool became effective July 1, 2011. The new textbook is *The ARRL General Class License Manual, Seventh Edition, item #8119, ISBN 978-0-87259-811-9*. This edition with its question pool is valid through June 30, 2015. 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 textbook is ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics, Second Edition*. The suggested calculator is the Casio fx-260 solar calculator, which can be purchased at Wal-Mart for about \$10. There is no exam for this class. The class has been held in the September-November time frame.

If you are interested in the Basic Electronics Class, please let us know by sending an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to wa4ovo@arrl.net 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 with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at wa4ovo@arrl.net or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set. Classes have been held on Saturdays for 6 or 7 weeks in January and February.

COMPLETED CLASSES

Basic Electronics Class 5-11 – September 24-October 29, 2011

Technician Class 4-11– July 11-August 15, 2011

Technician Class 3-10 Revisited

Technician Class 3-11 – April 17, 2011

Technician-General Class 2-11 – March 26, 2011

General Class 5-08 Revisited

Extra Class 1-10 Revisited

Technician Class 5-10 Revisited

Extra Class 1-11 - February 19, 2011

Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge – January 22, 2011



SPARKS NEWSLETTER & DELTA CLUB INFORMATION

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

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

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

Rosalinda Melena – KI4ZKW
901-921-4474
ki4zkw@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Richard Martin – K4DXF
901-372-3722
k4dxf@att.net

Secretary:

Tom Raggett – KJ4LMH
traggett@bellsouth.net

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901-268-7047
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wa4ovo@yahoo.com

Director of Publications:

Kenneth Laseter – KI4AOH
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Director of Programs:

David Campbell – KD4NOQ
901-388-6166
kd4noq@arrl.net

Director of Meetings & Special Events:

David Gilbert – AJ4LV
aj4lv@hotmail.com

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS --- 2012

I STILL NEED UPDATED 2012 DATES FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS PRINTED IN RED. IF THE DATES SHOWN ARE NOT CORRECT PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO ME AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. THANKS!

If you are a coordinator for any of these events, please review the listed information. If it is incorrect or changes need to be made, please provide me with the correct information. Please email corrections to me at kmlaseter@laseterinc.com.

DATE	EVENT	COORDINATOR	CONTACT INFO.
January 2012			
15 th	Swamp Stompers. WE NEED YOUR HELP! (Danny needs volunteers for the Swamp Stompers event. If you can volunteer or have questions, don't hesitate to email him.)	Danny- KJ4FXZ	kj4fxz@arrl.net
February 2012			
11 th	Boy Scout Merit Badge University.	Hugh – WB4SLI	hwardlaw@bellsouth.net
March 2011			
4th weekend	City Slickers Equestrian Event	Richard – NF5B	(No Contact Information)
April 2011			
28 th	March for Babies (March of Dimes).	Bob – KF4NDH	kf4ndh@bellsouth.net
30th	Tour de Cure	Denise – KJ5DG	kj5dg.denise@gmail.com
May 2012			
19 nd	Memphis in May Triathlon.	Ned - KA4BLL	ka4bll@arrl.net
September 2011			
10th & 11th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell - KK4D	kk4d@xipline.com
December 2011			
8 th	St. Jude Marathon	Roger – WR4R	wr4r@bellsouth.net
8 th	Bartlett Christmas Parade	Dennis – KJ4BDU	dcvv3714@aol.com
<hr/>			
TBA	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk	Kathleen - KC0HZU	(No Contact Information)

MEMPHIS AREA VHF/UHF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
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
The 440 Net	443.200+(107.2)	9:00p	W
Collierville CERT Net	444.125+(107.2)	7:00p	W
Two Meter Single Sideband Net	144.260 USB	8:30p	Th
ARES Training Net	146.880-(107.2)	9:00p	Th

TENNESSEE HF 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)	3.810	As needed	
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7.180	As needed	

DELTA CLUB 146.82 NET PREAMBLE (Rev. 2)

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 **requires** 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 P.M. with testing starting promptly at 6:00 P.M. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information contact Bill, WC9S at 603-3448. For membership information contact Bill, WC9S at 603-3448. 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

DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS

See Advertisement Order Form for Instructions.

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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5579 Federal Avenue
Memphis, TN 38118-7918

Ned Savage

35 YEARS of EXPERIENCE

ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM



Delta Amateur Radio Club Sparks Advertising Order Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

TO PLACE AN ORDER

1. Mark the box below indicating the ad size you are purchasing and the three (3) months you want your ad to appear in Sparks.
2. Submit this completed order form, your camera ready ad, and your check payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) to Kenneth Laseter KI4AOH via mail at 684 Oasis Cove, Cordova, TN 38018 or give it to him at the monthly Delta Club meeting. Camera ready means that the ad you submit is exactly as you want it to appear in your ad and fits within the dimensions specified below. Ads may be submitted in gif or jpg format or submitted as a hard copy and we will scan and place your ad for you.
3. Your ad order must be received on or before the first Tuesday of the **month before** you want it to appear in Sparks.

SPARKS ADVERTISING

FULL PAGE \$50.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 8 ½" h <input type="checkbox"/>			HALF PAGE \$25.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 4" h <input type="checkbox"/>			¼ PAGE \$15.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 4" h <input type="checkbox"/>			BUSINESS CARD \$10.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 2" h <input type="checkbox"/>		
Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Apr 2012	May 2012	Jun 2012	Jul 2012	Aug 2012	Sept 2012	Oct 2012	Nov 2012	Dec 2012