

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P.O. Box 342768 * Memphis, Tennessee 38134-2768 * Volume 21 * January 2015



Welcome to the Delta Amateur Radio Club

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

EMAIL: darc4you@gmail.com

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

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

146.625^{-107.2} 146.820^{-107.2}

147.360^{-107.2} 224.420

443.200^{+107.2}

NEXT CLUB MEETING (2nd Tuesday of each month)

DATE/TIME: January 13, 2015 – 7:00 PM

PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70
Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Hwy. 64 – Stage Road)

PROGRAM: Jim Cissell - KI4I – Ham Shack

FCC AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VE) FCC testing sessions. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins not later than 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of personal identification (including at least one (1) photo ID); original and two (2) copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have; along with a pen and #2 pencils with erasers. Non-programmable calculators may be used but are not provided.

Please be on time for registration, as you **will not** be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 PM. This allows our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more information, please contact:

Jeff Krause, AJ4GY, VE Liaison

Phone: 901-301-6776

Email: aj4gy@comcast.net

There was no ARRL test session conducted before the club's December pot-luck event.

DARC wishes to again thank Bill Stevens, WC9S, for his long and exemplary service as an ARRL VE Liaison in the Memphis radio community, and to welcome Jeff Krause, AJ4GY into this important role!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Joe Wray, WD4GXI

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I know a number of people have been looking for me the last few weeks. I was out of touch with the world in south Florida the Bahamas and Jamaica. I am trying to catch up on contacting everyone right now. I wish everyone a prosperous and wonderful year and hope you all make some great contacts this year.

I want to take a moment and apologize to Denise KJ5DG. I failed to recognize her at the December meeting for her contributions to the DARC. As you may or may not know Denise is responsible for creating the YL net on Sundays and also has been the one calling the net. She was also net control for the St. Jude Marathon and involved in other club-associated events. Sorry about the oversight Denise. Thanks for your contributions.

Please make welcome to the new people on the board for DARC. They are listed below for the 2015 Board of DIRECTORS in red.

Remember to check in the net on 146.82 at 2000 hrs. (8:00pm) each night. Now that am back in town I will be checking into the net as much as possible. I hope to see everyone at the January meeting.

73

Joe Wray WD4GXI

Publishing Notes

By: David Webb – KV4QI

If you've experienced problems getting an EMAIL copy of the SPARKS newsletter; moved your EMAIL to a new account; upgraded your call sign; want to change how you've seen your preferred name being listed on club documents, or have any other communications related issues, please send me the details, and I'll do my best to get the changes coordinated on club rosters and mailing lists.

You're also most welcome to come to the regular club meeting and get any necessary changes made using our latest "FtoF" technology. (that's face to face – all that's old is new again)!

Thanks for your patience as we make best efforts to get club news and info to you efficiently, effectively, and dependably!

dwebb1518@gmail.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By: Rick Tillman, WA4NVM

Beginning Balance	as of December 1, 2014	\$10,053.66
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Expenses

AR Tillman	Repeater Cables	\$65.45
Ellendale C of C	Donations	\$200.00
Tom Raggett	Hams for Dec. meeting	\$59.61
Ken Laseter	Dec. Awards	\$51.75
AR Tillman	New Projector	\$355.05

Total Expense	\$731.86
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SubTotal **\$9,321.80**

Income

Membership Dues	Year 2015	\$335.00
Tickets	Nov. Drawing	\$60.00
Donations		\$30.00

Total Income	\$425.00
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Ending Balance	as of December 31, 2014	\$9,746.80
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Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

Certificate of Deposit #1	Balance	\$10,188.10
Certificate of Deposit #2	Balance	\$5,025.00
Total DARC Assets	Balance	\$24,959.90

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2014 - Presented by: Tom Raggett KJ4LMH

Present: Ken Laseter, Joe Lowenthal, Rick Tillman, Linda Laseter, Michael Knight, Barri Munday, Tom Raggett, Joe Wray, Jim Cissel, David Webb, Jim Sheats

1. The new Facebook account is Facebook.com/DARCMEM
2. December Pot Luck—Tom Raggett will purchase and cook 2 spiral hams for the dinner. Richard Martin will get paper products, tea, cokes, etc. for the dinner.
3. Treasurer's Report—Rick Tillman presented the Treasurer's report. Tom Raggett made motion to approve, Michael Knight seconded. Report approved.
4. Jackets—Joe Lowenthal presented a jacket for use as a president's jacket. Michael Knight made motion to allocate \$500 to get the Presidents jackets. Bill Stevens seconded. Motion passed. If there is need to go above \$500, then it must have DARC board approval.
5. Training—There will be an Extra class January 10-February 21. There will be a General class February 28-April 11.
6. DARC visual aid projector—Board is evaluating projectors up to \$500 dollars and also looking at a sound system to complement the projector.
7. New Repeater—Bill Stevens reported that the new 145.625 repeater will be operational December 3, 2014.
8. Adjourn—Tom Raggett made motion to adjourn, Joe Lowenthal seconded. Meeting adjourned.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2015 - Presented by: Barri Munday, KD4SWP

Present: Joe Wray, David Campbell, Joe Lowenthal, Barri Munday, Michael Knight, Bill Stevens, Jim Cissell, Jim Sheats, David Webb

1. 2015 paid dues will be noted by color coding on meeting sign-in sheets.
2. 2015 membership applications will be on club web site PDF that can be filled out & printed.
3. Future options to update/maintain the DARC website were discussed.
4. D.Webb will "own" member mailing list and will make info available to Board Members.
5. Treasurer report approved.
6. Discussed repeater status and update strategy and projected 2015 budget needed for repeater maintenance. J.Wray/R.Tillman to update 2015 budget and forward for Jan SPARKS inclusion.
7. M.Knight will pursue re-activation of a club "Elmer" program.
8. Germantown having organizational meeting for a possible club. B. Stevens endorsed by Board to act as spokesperson offering possible options for DARC assistance.
9. Suggested that DARC again partner with other area Ham clubs for 2015 Field Day.
10. J. Lowenthal updated info on Extra class Jan 10-Feb 21 & General class in February – possibly on Monday nights.
11. J.Cissel brought in club acquired projector to be used in future club meetings.
12. Web site, Facebook page, and generic club EMAIL login credentials need to be passed to new Board members – J.Wray action item.
13. J.Lowenthal made motion to adjourn, D.Webb seconded. Meeting adjourned.

GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2014 - Presented by: Tom Raggett KJ4LMH

1. Introduction—President Joe Wray welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.
2. Treasurer's report—Ham Hilliard made motion to approve treasurer's report as reported in SPARKS. Ken Laseter seconded. Report approved.
3. Minutes—Ham Hilliard made motion to approve minutes as reported in SPARKS. Rosalinda Melena seconded. Minutes approved.
4. Training—The Extra class scheduled to start January 10 has 6 people enrolled. There is a General class scheduled for January 28-April 11, testing will be at FreeFest.
5. VE Testing—Bill Stevens thanked everyone who had helped with testing the past year. Jeff Krause will be the new VE/Liaison.
6. Repeaters—The 146.625 repeater is operational in Germantown. The 146.82 noise issues will need to be addressed. Bill Stevens reported that a new antenna may need to be purchased. Bill will make a recommendation after further study.
7. Appreciation Awards—Ray Turner-Net Control Manager. Dennis Foster, Aubrey Alexander, Danny Banks, Mike McLoughlin, Bill Fentress, Art Barnett, Lisa Alex, and Aaron Alexander were given Appreciation Awards for Net Control Operators.
8. New Ham of the Year—Steve Frazier
9. Ham of the Year—David Campbell
10. Pot Luck Dinner—Enjoyed by all
11. Meeting adjourned

2014 St. Jude Marathon Recap

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The 2014 St. Jude Marathon was a great success!!! The weather turned out to be almost perfect for the runners - temperatures in the 40s. The earlier forecast had been for temps in the 50s, which would have been too warm. Thanks to Roger Schlichter WR4R who coordinated the hams' involvement in the marathon. Darrell Sheffield KK4D and Denise Ganucheau KJ5DG were net control on the repeaters. Thanks to the Tri-State Repeater Association for the use of the 145.45 repeater and Midsouth Amateur Radio Association for the use of the 444.175 repeater. There were 62 hams from all of the clubs in Memphis and mid-south area helping with communications. There were 2656 marathon runners who finished and 6619 for the half marathon. Thank you for your support of St. Jude Children's Hospital Memphis Marathon. The weekend events (a family fun run, 5K, half marathon, marathon relay, as well as, the full marathon) raised about \$8 million for the hospital.

Congratulations To David Campbell KD4NOQ – DARC Ham of the Year!

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The 2014 Delta Club Ham of the Year is David Campbell KD4NOQ. David has provided many Delta Club programs in the last decade. He is always willing to help a ham with problems. He uses direction finding techniques on trouble stations to help solve repeater problems. David coordinates foxhunts with N5XUL. He is a net control operator on the Delta Club 146.82 nightly Information Net and calls the Saturday night SSB Net. He maintains the Gold Strike packet repeater and helps people with D-STAR.



David Campbell KD4NOQ receiving 2014 Ham of the Year from President Joe Wray WB4GX1

Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Congratulations To Logan KM4DPN

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

Congratulations to Logan Guleff KM4DPN for winning the national MasterChef Junior competition. The finals aired on Tuesday night December 16th on Fox TV. There were 20,000 youngsters age 8 to 13 who auditioned. From the 20,000, 16 were selected to be on the program for the 7 episodes of season 2.



<http://www.memphismagazine.com/Blogs/Memphis-Stew/December-2014/Logan-Guleff-Wins-MasterChef-Junior-Competition-on-Fox/>

Photo from Memphis Magazine

For winning, Logan received \$100,000, a trophy and a refrigerator. You can see The Season2 Finale episode of MasterChef Jr when Logan won at <http://www.hulu.com/masterchef-junior>

Eleven-year old Logan earned his Technician license in Delta Club's Tech Class 4-14 that was held from July 14th to August 18th in 2014.



Logan Guleff KM4DPN in blue shirt during the first class of Tech Class 4-14
Photo by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

Submitted by: James Butler - KB4LJV

When operating Morse code we want to tune the same offset frequency each time we make contact with another station. We do this normally by listening to the tone of the incoming signal and adjusting our receive frequency about 600 to 800 HZ from the carrier frequency. This makes us spot on for them to easily copy us with QRP rigs that do not have a RIT circuit to vary their received frequency without having to change their transmit frequency. I have seen circuits you can build that let you know when you are close to the optimum frequency. One new board that is being produced is a cheap frequency spectrum pc board. It is a board which has rows and columns of LEDs that light up based on amplitude of the audio signal and the frequency. These have come out at a great price. The cheapest is the 8 by 8 led matrix that I bought. You can pay more to get more LEDs on the board. You can also select the LED color. I picked the blue ones. The board has jacks for the audio input from you rig and an output jack to send the signal to your headphones or speaker amp. It runs on a standard USB 5 volt power supply. I hooked mine up to my Kenwood signal generator to see what the frequency response was on the board. The analyzer covers from about 600 HZ to 8000 Hz. It works great for tuning in those CW signals. It is available on EBay for under \$8.00. Do a search for "spectrum analyzer led" to find them for sale. The website is <http://www.ebay.com/>



AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Submitted by: James Butler - KB4LJV

There are times we would like to restore and run older Ham radio equipment. Some of these have vacuum tubes that may need to be replaced. One resource we have here in Memphis is called Tubedepot. These guys have lots of older vacuum tubes at good prices. They have a section just for Amateur radio tubes. They also have a power and preamp tube section along with tube audio amp kits as well as books on vacuum tubes. The cost for a 6146B like my Kenwood uses is about \$25.00. They also have 811As and 6L6GC tubes in stock. If you are running older tube gear and need tubes check them out at Tubedepot. Their web address is <https://www.tubedepot.com/>

HAM LICENSE TRAINING 2015

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.

Licenses Earned to Date in 2015 from Delta Classes

0 Technician

0 General

0 Extra

CLASSES CURRENTLY PLANNED

Extra Class 1-15

An Extra class is being conducted beginning January 10th over the following 6 Saturdays from 9am-1pm. If you are interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with **Extra Class** in the subject line and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. See the Future Classes Extra Class below for the text to be used.

General Class 2-15

A General class is being planned for starting late February or early March either on Saturday mornings from 9am-1pm or Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm. If you are interested, send an email to Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@arrl.net with **General Class** in the subject line and name, email address and cellphone number in the text. Specify your preference of one of the two days stated above. See the Future Classes General Class below for the text to be used.

FUTURE CLASSES - 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 **Tech Class** and give your 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 901-628-4318. 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 Third Edition (effective July 1, 2014)*, [ARRL Order #0222, ISBN 978-1-62595-015-0](#), is strongly suggested, as well as study of the 426 question and answer Technical Class License question pool.

You can purchase it online from www.msars.com, <http://www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-Ham-Radio-License-Manual-3rd-Edition/> on Amazon.com or possibly Barnes & Noble booksellers.

The new Technician question pool which became effective July 1, 2014 can be seen at <http://ncvec.org/page.php?id=362>. The question pool is in the blue section in the back of the license manual. Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the current 2014-2018 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 2014 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 426 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 on the internet. Here are some of the ham radio practice exam sites:

- www.hamstudy.org
- www.aa9pw.com
- <http://kb0mga.net/exams>
- www.qrz.com
- <http://www.hamradioclass.org>

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

FUTURE CLASSES - 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 Training Classes; then click on General Class to send me an email with your name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, or call at 901-628-4318. The current question pool became effective July 1, 2011 and valid through June 30, 2015. The text is *The ARRL General Class License Manual, Seventh Edition* with sample test CD, [ARRL product #8119, ISBN 978-0-87259-811-9](#). You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set if you have sent an email.

BASIC ELECTRONICS – Internet Training Only

Basic Electronics is geared toward bridging the gap between the General and Extra Class licenses. Alan Proffitt, AE5RX, has created a Google website for basic electronics for the Delta Club with useful links. Click on <https://sites.google.com/site/darcelectronics/my-forms> and then click on syllabus.docx at the bottom of the list. One site inside this Google site is the US Navy Electricity and Electronics Testing Site (NEETS). There are 24 modules with excellent information. If you want to go directly to it, go to <http://jacquesricher.com/NEETS/>. Alan will assist anyone who would like additional help or refer them to another Elmer (please contact alan.proffitt@comcast.net).

FUTURE CLASSES - 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 your name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at wa4ovo@arrl.net or call at 901-628-4318. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set. Classes are usually held on Saturdays from 9am-1pm for 6 or 7 weeks in January and February. The text is The ARRL Extra Class License Manual 10th Edition, ARRL Order #5170, ISBN 978-0-87259-517-0.

<p><i>Licenses Earned in 2014 from Delta Classes</i></p> <p>25 Technician 12 General 6 Extra</p>

TENNESSEE HAM RADIO LICENSE PLATE

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

The link below is for information and instructions about Tennessee ham radio callsign automobile license plates :

<http://www.tn.gov/revenue/vehicle/licenseplates/emergency/emergsaftey.shtml>

The application is at www.tn.gov/revenue/forms/titlereg/f1312601Fill-in.pdf

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

Alternative EMAIL address to generically offer Board your suggestions, ask questions, voice complaints is darc4you@gmail.com

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.

You Can Like Us/Follow Posts On Facebook!

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

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

Joe Wray WD4GXI
901-246-6113
wrayjoe@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Michael Knight KK4IOH
901-832-8636
kk4ioh@arrl.net

Secretary:

Barri Munday – WB4SWP
901-756-5259
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Treasurer:

Rick Tillman – WA4NVM
901-268-7047
wa4nvm@comcast.net

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Joe Lowenthal – WA4OVO
901-628-4318
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Director of Publications:

David W. Webb – KV4QI
901-465-8315
dwebb1518@gmail.com

Director of Programs:

Jim Cissell – KI4I
901-326-5544
james4296@aol.com

Director of Meetings & Special Events:

Jim Sheats – KK4VGL
901-756-0031
jdsheats@bellsouth.net

New board members beginning their service in 2015 are listed in red.

Delta Amateur Radio Club 2015 Officer & Board of Director Bios

Joe Wray, WD4GXI – President

Joe is serving his second year as President. He earned his Novice and Technician licenses in 1977. Joe needed to test for 13 wpm code speed to move up. At that time, to test locally, you had to wait for the FCC Field Engineer to come to town (which was only quarterly) so he drove to Little Rock and got his General and Advanced licenses. He is a member of ARRL, AMSAT, MARA, and of course Delta Club. He enjoys satellites, VHF/UHF DX, and HF, mostly on 40 and 10 meters. Joe is one of several Delta Club members who go to Mt. Nebo Arkansas for the VHF/UHF Contest in September. He was one of the original control operators for the Tri-State repeaters. Joe has associate degrees in Electronic Engineering and Electronics Technology. He is retired from IBM. You can contact Joe via email at wrayjoe@yahoo.com

Michael Knight, KK4IOH - Vice President

Michael is serving his second term as Vice President. He received the 2013 Delta Club Ham of the Year award. He helps with many area repeaters. Michael operates an EchoLink node on the 145.450 repeater downtown. He is active in several area groups and holds board positions with the Memphis Digital Amateur Club, Tri-State Repeater Association and HamWAN Memphis Metro. Michael says he had always had the bug. As a youngster he carried a transistor radio around and as a teen he was an avid DX'er of FM & OTA TV. He was lucky to have been able to occasionally watch the engineer of WROX AM work on the station's equipment. Michael was hired at an FM station at age 15 and continued working in radio for several stations and ending this career as Operations Manager for WVIM FM a decade later. There were maybe five hams in his hometown of Clarksdale, MS so he got a late start into ham radio. Fast forward to the Spring of 2012. Michael was eating a Gyro on the patio of a restaurant and met a ham. The conversation led him to studying and taking the Tech test. Michael went to FreeFest that April and got his license. He doesn't know the ham's name or call sign, but sure wishes he did. You can contact Michael by email at kk4ioh@arrl.net

Barri Munday, WB4SWP – Secretary

Barri is serving her first year as secretary for the Delta Club. She earned her Technician license in 2012. Her father Joe Munday was a ham and she was able to get his old call. Barri upgraded to General in 2014. She is also a member of ARRL, MARA, and ARES. Barri is an instructor for the Germantown CERT team along with Bill Stevens WC9S who got her interested in becoming a ham. She received a BA in psychology from University of Tennessee at Martin in 1978. You can contact Barri via email at annbarrimunday@att.net

Rick Tillman, WA4NVM - Treasurer

Rick is serving as Treasurer for his sixth term. He is an Advanced Class license holder. Rick was first licensed as a Conditional Technician in 1976. He is a life member of both ARRL and AMSAT. Rick received the Delta Club Ham of the Year award in 2012. He enjoys working the satellites with over 14,000 contacts and 1170 grids worked. Rick has VUCC and WAS on satellites and 6 meters. He has worked the September VHF/UHF Contest for many years from Mt. Nebo, AR. Rick has assisted the Director of Training as an Elmer and facilitator for many of the classes given in the last five years. He is an FCC VE for both ARRL and WCARS. Rick is also on the board of the Tri-State Repeater Association. He works on many of the repeaters including the Delta Club's five repeaters. You can hear him mostly on 220 or 6 meters. Rick is active in ARES and is the lead ham volunteer at Baptist Hospital Memphis. He is married to Marilyn N4MGT. You can contact Rick via email at wa4nvm@comcast.net

Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO - Director of Training

Joe received the ARRL Herb S. Brier 2012 Instructor of the Year award. He has been Director of Training for eight years. Joe has been instrumental in 371 hams earning their Technician license. He is also the Delta Division Assistant Director for the Memphis area. Joe has been licensed and a Delta Club member since 1976 after receiving his Conditional Technician license. He upgraded to General in 2000. Joe earned his Extra Class license in 2002. He received the Delta Club Ham of the Year award in 2007. Joe was ARRL's primary organizer for the ARRL 2005 Toy Drive warehouse for Katrina refugee children. He is an ARRL and WCARS VE for FCC testing and ARRL Emergency Communications volunteer examiner. Joe actively participates in public service events, and in ARES as Shelby County ARES Assistant EC for Hospital-Ham Radio Coordination. He is also a Medical Reserve Corps volunteer for the Shelby County Health Department. In 2010 he got interested in amateur satellite communications using a handheld radio and Elk antenna. Joe was Shelby County Emergency Coordinator in 1983 and the ham radio coordinator for Memphis area National Weather Service Skywarn Net from 1976 to 1982. He is married to Beverly Rauch, W4BBJ. You can contact Joe via email at wa4ovo@gmail.com

David Webb, KV4QI - Director of Publications

David is serving his first term as Director of Publications. He holds an Extra Class license. David is a Volunteer Examiner (VE) with ARRL and WCARS. He is active as an ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ARECC) On Line Mentor, Field Instructor (FI), and Field Examiner (FE). David volunteers with the Fayette County Emergency Management Agency, supporting Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) activities. He is a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Instructor, and partners in training activities with the CERTPlus training organization. David is a Tennessee State Certified Handgun instructor, and is a Benefactor Life member of the National Rifle Association where he holds Pistol Instructor and Chief Range Safety Officer credentials. David is retired following 40 years at FedEx Express in diverse professional and management positions. David was formerly a Certified Practitioner with the American Production and Inventory Control Society and is recognized as a Project Management Professional (PMP) with the Project Management Institute. David is a U.S. Army veteran. You may contact David via email at dwebb1518@gmail.com

Jim Cissell, KI4I - Director of Programs

This is Jim's first year as Director of Programs. He earned his Novice ticket, WN4UFF in 1975 by attending the MARA classes held at CBU. Jim had the Novice ticket for about eight months and became a CW enthusiast. So, he went from Novice to General 1976 since the Technician license excluded the HF CW privileges. (It was a strange rule that was later corrected to allow upgrading hams the privileges of lower class licenses.) He started having fun with it...eventually going mobile CW. His wife, Ann, WB4FAA, gave him her blessing to get rid of Jim's old tube-type novice transmitters and Drake R-4 receiver and bought a then new Kenwood TS-520 transceiver. Jim even used it for voice. He held an Advanced Class license for two years and went for Extra Class in 1978 when it seemed that "everyone was doing it." The KI4I call arrived in January of '79. Jim was president of the Mid-South VHF Association and Raleigh Amateur Radio Club for a couple terms each. He is a graduate of the Bailey Technical School for auto and diesel mechanics, which is located in St. Louis. He then enlisted for a five-year tour in the Navy Seabees where he got his first exposure to ham radio at the MARS stations. Jim was medevaced from Gitmo, Cuba to Millington, TN to recover from a broken foot as a result of a car accident on his second liberty trip to Jamaica. That's his war story. He eventually used his G.I. benefits to get his AAS in electronic technology from State Tech Memphis, where the good teachers finally made ohms law understandable. Most of his working career was spent keeping equipment going for the Morale Welfare and Recreation Department at Navy Memphis. Since retiring from civil service in 2003 Jim has had more time to keep regular schedules with his ham friends around the country. He is usually on 40 meters in the morning. You can contact Jim via email at james4296@aol.com

Jim Sheats, KK4VGL – Director of Meetings and Special Events

This is Jim's first year on the Board of Directors. He earned his Technician/General license during the Delta Club ARRL VE test session in November 2013. Jim is an ARRL member. He is also CERT trained. Jim has been working in electronics and information technology for 40 years. He works for FedEx Express Global Planning and Engineering. You can contact Jim via email at jdsheats@bellsouth.net

HAM FESTS OF LOCAL INTEREST

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	LINK
January 2015 23rd & 24th	Capital City Hamfest	Jackson, MS	http://hamfest.msham.org/
March 2015 7th & 8th	Birmingham Hamfest	Birmingham, AL	http://birminghamfest.org/
28th	Ides of March Hamfest	Union City, TN	http://www.reelfootarc.com/
April 2015 11th	Memphis FreeFest	Bartlett, TN	http://hamcalendar.com/current-data/Memphis%20Freefest%202015.pdf
May 2015 15th Thru 17th	Hamvention	Dayton, OH	http://www.hamvention.org/
August 2015 15th & 16th	Huntsville Hamfest	Huntsville, AL	http://www.hamfest.org/

MEMPHIS AREA VHF/UHF NETS

Name of Net	Freq. MHz	Tone	Local Time	Day of Week
Delta Club Information Net	146.820	- (107.2)	8:00p	Daily
YL (Young Ladies) Net	146.820	- (107.2)	7:00p	Sun
ARES Training Net	146.880	- (107.2)	9:00p	Thu
MedMERS Net	146.820	- (107.2)	12:00p	Wed
Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog Net	146.535		7:30p	Daily
The Short Winded Net	146.850	- (107.2)	8:30p	Tue
Six Meter Tech Net	53.01		8:30p	Wed
TAC 2 Net	224.420		8:30p	Thu
Secret Service Net	224.780		8:30p	Mon
The 440 Net	443.200	+ (107.2)	9:00p	Wed
CERTPlus Net	443.200	+ (107.2)	8:30p	Wed
Elmer Net	444.175	+ (107.2)	9:00p	Mon
Super Sunday Niner Net	927.6125	- (146.2)	8:30p	Sun

Delta Club sponsored Nets are shown in bold/dark blue font style

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 Early Morn Phone Net	3.980	5:40a	Mon-Fri
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3.980	6:45a	Mon-Fri
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3.980	6:30p	Tue-Sun
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 (1/1/15)

Good evening, this is [first name and callsign] calling this session of the DELTA CLUB's Information Net. This net meets nightly at 8:00 pm central time except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 W4BS repeater and requires a PL tone of 107.2 Hz. This net provides an opportunity to present information about club events and amateur related topics. This Net also provides new amateur stations training, and allows all amateurs a regularly scheduled session for testing their radios and communicating with the amateur radio community. In the event of severe weather this repeater is available for the National Weather Service Skywarn for the Memphis area.

All licensed amateurs are encouraged to participate. All stations are requested to refrain from transmitting without being acknowledged by net control. Stations not providing their callsign or suffix will not be acknowledged.

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.

Does any station have announcements for the net? (Does any station have any questions or need any fills?)

This is [first name and callsign] with the Delta Club's Information Net.

We will now take Early Check-Ins. Are there any stations that need to leave early? If so please come now, phonetically, with your suffix only, and please remember to spread them out by waiting for the courtesy tone. (Ask for additions or corrections only once)

We will now take check-ins phonetically, by suffix only if your suffix begins A – H, Alpha through Hotel. Please come now and remember to spread them out. (Ask for additions or corrections only once if you have a short list)
This is [first name and callsign] with the Delta Club's Information Net.

We will now take check-ins phonetically, by suffix only if your suffix begins I – Q, India through Keebeck. Please come now and remember to spread them out. (Ask for additions or corrections only once if you have a short list)

We will now take check-ins phonetically, by suffix only, if your suffix begins R – Z, Romeo through Zulu. Please come now and remember to spread them out. (Ask for additions or corrections only once if you have a short list)

This is [first name and callsign] with the Delta Club's Information Net.

1. The Delta Club meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 HWY 70 in Bartlett at 7:00pm.
2. VE registration begins at 5:30pm, with testing starting by 6:00pm. A copy of your license and CSCE is required.
3. For VE information contact Jeff, AJ4GY at 301-6776 or by email at aj4gy@comcast.net
4. For membership information contact Barri, WB4SWP at 756-5259 or by EMAIL at annbarrimunday@att.net
5. For training information contact Joe WA4OVO at 628-4318 or by EMAIL at WA4OVO@arrl.net
6. Local area code is niner – zero – one.

Are there any additional announcements? (does any station have any questions or need any fills?)

We will now take late check-ins from any anywhere in the alphabet, A- Z, Alpha through Zulu. Please come now, phonetically, with your suffix only, and please remember to spread them out. (ask for additions or corrections)

CLOSE

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

This is [first name and callsign] now closing this session of the Delta Club's Information Net. I would like to thank all _____ stations for checking in tonight, and would like to ask that everyone check in tomorrow night at the same time. Goodnight and 73, the net is now closed. This is [first name and callsign] 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)

This ad space is available

This ad space is available

This ad space is available

This ad space is available

This ad space is available

**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			HALF PAGE \$25.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 4" h			¼ PAGE \$15.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 4" h			BUSINESS CARD \$10.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 2" h		
Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	Jun 2015	July 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015



DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 342768, TN 38134-2768
2015 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Call sign _____ License Exp. Date ____/____/____ New Member ____ Renewal ____

License Class (Check One) _____ NOV _____ TECH _____ TECH + _____ GEN _____ ADV _____ EXTRA

Last Name _____ First Name _____ ARRL Member ____ Yes ____ No

Address _____ Birthday-Month ____ Day ____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____ + _____

Area Code _____ Home Phone _____ Email _____

This membership current through December 2015

This membership current through December 2015

Club dues:	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (\$20.00)*	\$ _____
	FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ADD (\$5.00)	\$ _____
	DONATION	\$ _____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

* Individual dues will be **pro-rated** quarterly for **new members only** (NOT RENEWALS), as follows: January to March – 100% (\$20.00), April to June – 75% (\$15.00), July to September – 50% (\$10.00), October to December – 25% (\$5.00).

Family membership is five dollars in addition to the individual membership fee, which includes any immediate licensed or unlicensed family members living in your home who desire to be Delta Club members.

Please provide family member information below **ONLY** if you are applying for a family membership.

Name (First, Middle, Last)	Call sign (if licensed)	Lic. Class	Lic. Exp. Date	Birthdate: (Mo/Day)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

CLUB USE ONLY, PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

_____ CASH _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT _____ RECEIVED BY: _____

PROCESSED BY SECRETARY _____ DATE _____

PROCESSED BY TREASURER _____ DATE _____

PROCESSED BY DISTRIBUTION _____ DATE _____