

# DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# SPARKS

P. O. BOX 750482 MEMPHIS, TN 38175-0482 / VOL. 18 / MARCH 2006



Welcome  
to the

**Delta Amateur Radio Club!**

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

**W4BS**  
**REPEATER**  
**SYSTEM**

146.82, 147.36,  
224.42, & 443.2

## MARCH 2006 CLUB MEETING

**DATE:** March 14, 2006 (2nd Tuesday - be there )  
**PLACE:** Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,  
Memphis, Tn. ( 2 miles east of Hwy. 64-Stage Rd. )  
**TIME:** 7:00 PM  
**PROGRAM:** When All Else Fails, There Is Ham Radio, Barbara Abrams  
KE4BUU

**VE TESTING:** Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 P.M. and testing begins promptly at 6:00 P.M. Please remember to bring two forms of identification and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have. The ARRL FEC exam application is \$14. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 p.m. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information contact...

Joan Thorne, KN4PM, VEC  
Phone: 901-737-5795  
E-mail: [joanthorne@bellsouth.net](mailto:joanthorne@bellsouth.net)

**Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is Friday, March 31th. All articles MUST be in to me by the deadline in order to be published in the next issue. Please forward all articles and items of interest to:**

[paulsonrj@bellsouth.net](mailto:paulsonrj@bellsouth.net)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Its time to write again, seems like the time is flying. Thanks to all that came out for the February meeting and especially Ray and Jim for the soldering program. Hope there were no major burns during the filming...

We decided that we would try an Avon Fundraiser that Tommy and Melinda offered information on. The Club stands to make a good profit without putting out anything up front. The fundraiser will work well but to have it work for us we all need to participate. If we all just purchase what we might have anyway and have those we know do the same it will be a success.

I also asked all there if there were anybody that might have a small travel trailer or know of anybody with one that they are not using, to let me know. I would like to redo the interior of a trailer as a Club project and make mobile operating station for the Club to be used and special events and other events.

For those that did not know Henry Leggett WD4Q is now the Delta Division Director- congrats Henry. Henry also advised of the QST coverage of the Toy Drive Check out the March Issue. Many thanks to all involved.

We have a number of special events coming up so get the HT's out and charged. Tommy has both the MS Walk and March of Dimes in April and Dave has Field Day planning started.

All those old Scouts get with Jim, KG4YKZ and help with the class he has scheduled March 25th.

Remember to renew your membership and to contact all the members you know and say hello. If you know any of the older members that have not been seen for a while give them a shout.

See y'all at the meeting.  
73, Darrell KK4D

### **DARC BOARD MEETING February 7, 2006**

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. He called for the officers reports. The treasurer's report was not ready at the time of this meeting. KA4BLL-Ned motioned to accept the minutes as printed. KU4AW-Ben seconded.

#### **Old Business:**

KK4D-Darrell requested for all the board members to make sure their memberships are current.

#### **New Business:**

The board voted on and accepted 5 new memberships.

KD4TJO-Tommy presented information on having an Avon fund raiser for the club. The board approved presenting it to the general membership. He also requested we think about when we are going to have a garage sale.

KU4AW-Ben presented the board with upcoming programs for the next few meetings.

KK4D-Darrell presented the board with the revised budget proposal. The board unanimously voted to accept the DARC 2006 budget and present it to the general membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
KI4DIL-Lisa Sheffield  
DARC Secretary

### **DARC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING February 14, 2006**

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with the introduction of the membership. He then called for the officers reports. N2LAZ-Dean motioned to accept them as printed in SPARKS. The membership voted to accept as printed.

There was no unfinished business.

#### **New Business:**

KK4D-Darrell presented the 2006 budget to the membership. There were no questions. N2LAZ-Dean motioned to accept and several members from the floor seconded to accept.

KK4D-Darrell presented the membership with information on the March 4 Radio Expo at Memphis Amateur Electronics. All ticket sales go to St. Jude.

KK4D encouraged the membership present to keep in contact with members not present. He then presented a club "project". He requested suggestions from the members for some type of mobile command center to use during club events.

KU4AW-Ben gave information on working with the city of Bartlett to set up an emergency communication system. He asked for members to start thinking about volunteering.

KD4TJO-Tommy presented the membership with fund raising ideas. We will be having a garage sale sometime in the future. He also presented information on having an Avon fund raiser for the club. KK4D-Darrell made a motion to accept the Avon fund raiser. Nina Stone seconded the motion and the general members voted to accept it.

Henry Leggett presented Joe Lowenthal, Nina Stone, Pat Lane, Tommy and Melinda Thompson

with plaques from the ARRL board for their service in the toy drive.

After a 10 minute break, AA4UK-Ray and KI4I-Jim gave a wonderful presentation on soldering.

W3EDW-Wes won the door prize.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
KI4DIL-Lisa Sheffield  
DARC Secretary

### THIS MONTH'S MARCH PRESENTATION

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS,  
THERE IS HAM RADIO

Katrina was a prime example.

Though nothing that devastating has happened in our community, it still raises a valid concern: Just how many of our local 'hams' are prepared to send formalized messages in major emergency situations?

Sending formalized messages in the correct format is crucial, especially during emergencies. If you listened to the Hurricane Net during Katrina, you heard the Net Control say repeatedly, "Put your message in ARRL form!" Think about how much time could be lost sifting through muddled messages?

The ARRL Form is called a Radiogram, and it is actually very simple to use. It's just a matter of *staying familiar* with it, so in times

of need, it comes easily - like riding a bicycle.

To find information about the Radiogram and its parts, go to: <http://www.7290trafficnet.org/training.htm#links>

To practice sending a message, bring it to our ARES Net on 146.88 which is on every Thursday night at 9 p.m. All messages will be delivered.

To help learn how a message is sent you may listen in on Regional NTS Nets.

Fifth Region Net  
3.65, 7.052, Daily. 7:30 PM CT

Fifth Region Net  
7.28, M, T, W, Th, F, S, Sun  
10:30 AM and 1:30 PM CT

Fifth Region Net  
3.65, 7.052 Dy 9:30 PM CT

Fifth Region Net  
7.28 Dy 3:30 PM CT

It is our responsibility as the last line of communication to not only be available, but to also be proficient.

"For want of a letter, a word was lost. For want of a word the message was lost. For want of a message a life was lost." \*

Preparing today, could save a life tomorrow.

73,  
Barbara Abrams, KE4BUU  
Emergency Coordinator

Amateur Radio Emergency Service  
Shelby County Tennessee  
ke4buu@arrl.net

### IT'S PUBLIC SERVICE TIME

Once again, it's that time of year for our regular public service events to start up. This year we have had a new request and a schedule change to start things off.

It looks like March 25 will be a busy day for Delta Club members. We already have the Boy Scout Merit Badge College that needs the help of some of our best Elmers and their equipment. Just this past week a gentleman contacted me with a request for help with a new event. This one's a little different and for those that aren't good instructors, could be a fun day, especially if the weather is nice. On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Shelby Farms/Plough Park will be the location for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual City Slicker's Endurance Ride. This is an equestrian event (can we say horses?) that it sort of like the Memphis Hightailer's Century Ride in that there are different lengths courses that the riders can take. The longest course is 50 miles...but it's all within the park boundaries. More information on the ride is available on the club web site public service page. Please check it out and volunteer if you aren't already helping with the Boy Scout project. It starts early and goes all day but they provide breakfast, lunch, water during the day and an

open invitation to a dinner that evening, complete with entertainment. They estimate needing approximately 4-5 volunteers for this event.

With a schedule and location change this year, the Memphis version of the MS Walk will be held on April 22, also at Plough Park. The date was changed to get a warmer climate than previous years (we almost froze last year) and the location change from downtown on the river to Plough Park should make it easier for people to get there in the mornings. Some volunteers will man 3 or 4 checkpoints and others will be driving golf carts to deliver volunteers and supplies before the walk starts and pick up worn out walkers afterwards. This event will probably require 8-10 volunteers.

And right on the heels of the MS Walk is the March of Dimes Walk America, also at Plough Park on the very next weekend, April 29. This should be a carbon copy of the last few MOD Walks that we have done as they have been at Plough Park for about three years now after moving from the Fairgrounds area. This event also will require approximately 8-10 volunteers.... maybe a few more. I'll have more info on this after the next committee meeting.

All of the events will have current, updated info on the public service page of the Delta Club web site ([www.deltaclub.org](http://www.deltaclub.org)) as it becomes available. There are also email links on the page to make it easy to

volunteer. These groups count on our communications skill to help their events run smoothly. Let's be there for them as always.

73, Tommy, KD4TJO

### FUND RAISER

At the February general membership meeting, the club members in attendance approved the Board's recommendation for us to hold an Avon Fundraiser. Yea, I know...all you guys out there are saying AVON???...I can't sell Avon! Oh yes you can and it will be easy. This could be a very nice fundraiser for the club but it's going to take more than just a handful of members to make it work. Melinda will have all the materials necessary for you to pick up at the March meeting so please be sure to be there. She will go over how it will work and some of the items you will be selling. We won't be selling makeup or stuff like that but there are a lot of other products that all members of a family can use. We will have a special group of those types of products to sell. All of the guys have wives, girlfriends, significant others, regular friends, family members such as aunts, grandmothers, nieces, etc. that if you just tell them what you're doing, they would be glad to help out and get some great merchandise. Unlike other fundraisers where you buy a very small tin of popcorn for \$15 or some wrapping paper that you won't remember where it is when the holiday's come around, the

Avon products you will sell are full size, regular items that they sell everyday. They are also items that you can really use.

Fundraising is a big part in helping us provide services for the club and also plays a part in how much money we can spend for the November prizes. So, get out and come to the meeting to pick up your fundraising information and put on your salesman's hat.

Thanks in advance for your help on this project.

73, Tommy, KD4TJO

### ARRL NEWSLETTER

#### ARRL HAM AID "GEAR READY TO GO" AWAITS NEXT DISASTER

When another disaster on the scale of Hurricane Katrina comes along, the League will be able to deploy "ham gear ready to go," thanks to manufacturers' donations of Amateur Radio gear, ARRL members' generous monetary contributions and a federal grant. The ARRL Ham Aid-sponsored "Go Kits" now being assembled at League Headquarters are the third leg of a program that's already reimbursed certain out-of-pocket expenses for ham radio hurricane zone volunteers and helped restore Amateur Radio backbone infrastructure along the US Gulf Coast.

"To me, this is a first step in ramping up ARRL's ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field before the next big disaster hits," says ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. "It won't replace or supplant anything that's already on the ground and working well, but it will strengthen it and add flexibility to Amateur Radio's overall response capabilities." The equipment and cash donations, coupled with a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), will mean Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) field volunteers will never go without in terms of equipment. Hobart says \$25,000 in Ham Aid funds have been set aside for the Go Kits.

The Go Kits will enable the League to loan out needed equipment on a moment's notice. Emergency Communications Specialist Harry Aberly, AB1ER, spends his days at ARRL Headquarters securely stowing various equipment complements in rugged, waterproof Pelican 1650 containers.

"The idea is that this makes it easy to ship," explains Aberly, "and since they're less than 50 pounds apiece, they'll be able to go by air if necessary." Flooding won't be an issue. "You can throw them in the water, and they'll float," he adds.

So far, Aberly says, there's an HF Kit, a VHF/UHF Kit, a Handheld Transceiver Kit and a Support Kit--seven of each, and more on the way. He and other League staffers consulted with volunteers who'd

been in the field during Hurricane Katrina to find out what gear served them best or what they wished they'd had but didn't.

The HF Kit contains a 100-W HF transceiver, a microphone and a power supply. The VHF/UHF Kit includes a dualband mobile transceiver, power supply, headset, 10 handheld transceivers and a supply of alkaline batteries. In the Handheld Transceiver Kit are eight dualband handheld transceivers and antennas plus a stock of extra batteries. The Support Kit includes a length of BuryFlex 213 coaxial cable, rope, 15-foot jumper cables with battery clamps at one end and an Anderson Powerpole on the other. The kit includes various fittings and adapters to connect to the power distribution unit and to make RF feed line connections. All kits contain any necessary manuals. Packed in a separate container, appropriate antennas and antenna accessories will accompany a given kit.

More than two dozen members of the Amateur Radio industry and individual radio amateurs contributed equipment last year for use in the Hurricane Katrina relief effort <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/09/09/105/>>.

Citing Amateur Radio's favorable treatment in recent US House Subcommittee and White House reports on the Hurricane Katrina response (see below), Hobart said it's imperative to sustain and enhance ham radio's emergency communication capabilities for the

future. "Disasters happen to be one place Amateur Radio can shine," she pointed out. "We need to maintain a high level of readiness to do those things that are second nature to ARES members but that the public is just coming to recognize."

Making the Go Kits available to ARES teams, Hobart says, will help to cement Amateur Radio's position as a community resource. "We want to be able to ensure that we have the personnel and the equipment," she said. "With a disaster of this magnitude we need to be ready."

ARRL continues to solicit Ham Aid donations to help maintain and sustain the League's ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field. League members can contribute to Ham Aid via the secure ARRL Development Office donation Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/basic/>>. Simply click "Ham Aid" and complete the on-line form.

#### AMATEUR RADIO GETS FAVORABLE MENTIONS IN FEDERAL KATRINA REPORTS

Ham radio received positive mentions in post-Katrina reports from the US House of Representatives and the White House. References to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the HF digital e-mail system Winlink 2000 appear in "A Failure of Initiative"--the final

report of the Select Bipartisan Committee to investigate the preparation for and response to Hurricane Katrina (see <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/02/17/2/>>).

"Like all levels of government," noted the 364-page report released February 15, "the National Communication System (NCS) "was not able to address all aspects of the damage to the communications infrastructure of the Gulf States."

MARS was cited for its role as part of the Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program (SHARES), a federal emergency communication system. The report says that "within days" of Katrina's landfall, NCS called upon more than 430 SHARES stations across the US to, among other things, assist first responders conducting search-and-rescue missions by relaying information to government agencies, by relaying logistical and operational information among FEMA EOCs in Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana, and by handling health-and-welfare messages between volunteer agencies in Georgia and the American Red Cross national headquarters.

"Additionally, the NCS coordinated the frequencies used by the nearly 1000 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers across the nation who served in the Katrina stricken area providing communications for government agencies, the Red Cross and The

Salvation Army," the report continued. "Emergency communications were conducted not only by voice, but also by high-speed data transmissions using state-of-the art digital communications software known as Winlink."

The report further noted, "In Mississippi, FEMA dispatched Amateur Radio operators to hospitals, evacuation centers, and county EOCs to send emergency messaging 24 hours per day. Cited were comments by Bay St Louis Mayor Eddie Favre that Amateur Radio volunteers "were especially helpful in maintaining situational awareness and relaying Red Cross messages to and from the Hancock County EOC."

According to the report, radio amateurs at airports in Texas and Louisiana "tracked evacuees and notified families of their whereabouts," while the Red Cross "deployed Amateur Radio volunteers at its 250 shelters and feeding stations, principally in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida."

The Salvation Army, the report pointed out, operates its own system of Amateur Radio volunteers known as SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network). "During the Hurricane Katrina response and recovery effort, SATERN joined forces with the SHARES program and received over 48,000 requests for emergency communications assistance utilizing federal frequencies made available via the SHARES program," the report

noted.

"A Failure of Initiative" asserted that the loss of power and the failure at various levels of government "to adequately prepare for the ensuing and inevitable loss of communications" hindered the hurricane response "by compromising situational awareness and command and control operations."

"Despite the devastation left by Katrina, this needn't have been the case," the report stressed.

"Catastrophic disasters may have some unpredictable consequences, but losing power and the dependent communications systems after a hurricane should not be one of them."

The White House report, "The Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned" <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/reports/katrina-lessons-learned.pdf>> released February 22 also cast Amateur Radio in a favorable light-in its Appendix B, "What Went Right."

"Amateur Radio Operators from both the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the American Radio Relay League monitored distress calls and rerouted emergency requests for assistance throughout the US until messages were received by emergency response personnel," the report said. "A distress call made from a cell phone on a rooftop in New Orleans to Baton Rouge was

relayed, via ham radio, from Louisiana to Oregon, then Utah, and finally back to emergency personnel in Louisiana, who rescued the 15 stranded victims."

The report also points out that Amateur Radio volunteers were on duty at the National Hurricane Center, the Hurricane Watch Net, Waterway Net, SKYWARN and the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN).

The report's Appendix B cites specific reports in the general news media about Amateur Radio activities following Hurricane Katrina and points to several news stories that appeared on the ARRL Web site.

**INJURED MINER RANDY  
MCCLOY, KC8VKZ,  
TALKING, JOKING**

Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ--the lone survivor of the January 2 Sago Mine disaster in Upshur County, West Virginia--is continuing to recover. Speaking on The Early Show on CBS TV March 2, McCloy's wife Anna told co-anchor Hannah Storm that her husband is talking again and even telling jokes.

"He'll listen to jokes and understand," Anna McCloy told Storm. "He'll talk to me and the kids--just regular conversation."

She also said McCloy has told her he remembers "bits and pieces" of the mining disaster that left 12 of his co-workers dead of carbon monoxide poisoning. McCloy, 26,

who's been in a rehabilitation facility since January 26, also answers questions appropriately, recognizes his family and can "move quite well," Anna McCloy said. She has remained at her husband's side since his rescue.

McCloy eats with assistance and has expressed distaste for institutional cuisine, instead preferring the restaurant and fast food fare his wife supplies.

Anna McCloy says she's "not quite sure" if her husband realizes he was the only survivor of the mine mishap. "I don't question him about it. When he wants to talk about it, I listen to him, but I don't push him, and I don't question him," she said.

One of Randal McCloy's physicians, Dr Julian Bailes, told Storm that McCloy has "improved beyond our expectations" during rehabilitation. "I think we see his old personality coming back."

Well-wishers have been sending cards and QSLs to McCloy at PO Box 223, Philippi, WV 26435. A fund has been set up to accept donations for McCloy's benefit: The Randal McCloy Jr Fund, c/o Clear Mountain Bank, 1889 Earl Core Rd, Morgantown, WV 26505.

**SPACE QSOs A HIT  
IN DC, JAPAN**

Sixteen youngsters attending the Discover Engineering Family Day event February 18 in Washington, DC, had the rare opportunity of

talking to International Space Station Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, via ham radio.

Operating from the space station's NA1SS a few days later, McArthur also answered a series of questions from pupils at Itaki Elementary School in Japan. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program arranged both events. During the Engineering Day contact, one participant wanted to know if the Expedition 12 crew had "learned anything really cool" during its science experiments.

"One of the biggest experiments is just the crew members on board, just the human beings on board, so we learn how our bodies change in space," McArthur said, noting that ISS research centers on finding out what's needed for a journey to Mars. On other fronts, he's growing crystals in space, while crewmate Valeri Tokarev is growing seeds.

As for the really cool stuff: "I think the coolest thing I've learned is that living in space is a very pleasant, very nice thing to do," McArthur added.

For the Discover Engineering Family Day contact, Verizon donated a two-way teleconferencing link between the Sacred Hearts Academy WH6PN Earth station operated by Dick Flagg, AH6NM, in Honolulu, and the National Building Museum in Washington. Children and questions for the contact were solicited via the museum's Web

site.

McArthur told the Engineering Day participants that it's possible to get headaches in space, especially when the carbon dioxide level gets too high. Crew members sometimes sneeze, too, he said, and the result in microgravity can illustrate Newton's Third Law.

"I think a good sneeze really feels good, and it feels really good in space!" McArthur enthused. "Of course, if you're not holding yourself securely when you sneeze, y'know, just that kind of violent motion can send you spinning off in a strange direction."

The contact got some publicity in the Washington Post and on local TV stations. Some 7000 people turned out for Discover Engineering Family Day, and an AMSAT team supported an ARISS booth during the event.

On February 20, youngsters at the Itaki Elementary School Fathers' Club took part in a direct VHF contact between NA1SS and 8J4I in Japan. McArthur told them that he became an astronaut because he's an aerospace engineer and a pilot, "and being an astronaut seemed to be the most interesting way of doing both things." He said his current stint as commander of ISS Expedition 12 marked his fourth--and by far his longest--trip into space.

"To me, space represents the ultimate challenge for mankind, to show that we can grow and

eventually leave our home planet," McArthur told another young questioner.

Asked which star was the most beautiful, McArthur replied, "our sun." But, he went on to say, he thinks all the stars in the sky are beautiful. "They are no bigger for us than they are for you," he explained, "but we do not have clouds or dust in the air to look through, so they are very clear."

At the 8J4I controls was Kei Fujimura, JJ4RJE. In all, 13 students participated in the event, and McArthur answered 19 of their questions before the ISS went over the horizon and signal was lost. The event attracted media coverage from TV and newspapers. An audience of about 100 people was on hand for the occasion.

McArthur has completed 29 ARISS school contacts during his five months in space--far more than any previous ISS crew member. ARISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> is an international educational outreach, with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

**PRESIDENT HARRISON  
NAMES ARRL NATIONAL  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has appointed 13 individuals to serve on the ARRL National Emergency Response Planning Committee. The League's Board of Directors resolved to

establish the panel during its annual meeting in January "to appropriately prepare for future large-scale disasters." The committee will develop a comprehensive recommendation for ARRL responses to regional, national and international disasters. "This group reflects a nationwide assembly of individuals with direct field experience in all aspects of emergency communications at various levels with disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, floods and terrorist activity to name a few," Harrison said. "There were many excellent recommendations for this committee, which is quite encouraging in itself and speaks highly of Amateur Radio's productive involvement in emergency communications."

ARRL First Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, will chair the ad hoc committee. Appointed to serve on the committee were:

Delta Division Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, (Programs and Services Committee liaison); Pacific Division Vice Director Andy Oppel, N6AJO; Atlantic Division Vice Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM; Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt, W4OZK; Western Washington Section Manager Ed Bruette, N7NVP; South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator Jerry Reimer, KK5CA; Southern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Jeff Beals, WA4AW; NYC-Long Island Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D;



Mississippi Section District  
Emergency Coordinator Karl  
Bullock, WA5TMC; Colorado Net  
Manager/State Government Liaison  
Gene McGahey, AL7GQ; IARU  
Region II Emergency Coordinator  
Rick Palm, K1CE, (IARU liaison)  
and ARRL Field and Educational  
Services Manager Dave Patton,  
NN1N (ARRL staff liaison).

Harrison said the committee will begin its work immediately under Craigie's direction. Among other things, the National Emergency Response Planning Committee will thoroughly evaluate the responses and actions of ARRL and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) during Hurricane Katrina as well as lessons learned.

The Board's resolution establishing the committee noted that the emergency communications resources and organization needed for national and international disasters "are markedly different" from what's required at the regional and local levels. Given the unprecedented scope and devastation of the 2005 hurricane season in general and of Hurricane Katrina in particular, ARRL Headquarters was placed into a leadership coordination role through national-level requests for help from served agencies such as the American Red Cross.

The ARRL Board will consider the committee's recommendations at its 2007 annual meeting next January.

### FCC NONCOMMITTAL ON "MORSE CODE" PROCEEDING ACTION

Just when the FCC will act on the "Morse code" proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, remains hazy. The Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) last July proposing to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes. The Amateur Radio community has filed more than 3800 comments on the proceeding, and additional comments continue to show up, even though the formal comment deadline was last October 31 (with reply comments by November 14). The next--and most-anticipated--step for the Commission is to formally adopt any revisions to its rules and conclude the proceeding with a Report and Order (R&O) that spells out the changes and specifies their effective date.

"There really is no news," an FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer told ARRL this week on background. "We certainly hope to release WT Docket 05-235 sometime this year, but we're not making any predictions at this time. We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

Beyond eliminating the Morse requirement, the FCC declined proposing any other suggested changes to the Amateur Service.

The proceeding began with 18 petitions for rule making--many just calling for the elimination of the Morse requirement but some asking for more far-reaching changes in the Amateur Service rules. The various petitions attracted a total of some 6200 comments. The FCC subsequently consolidated the petitions--including one from the ARRL asking the FCC to establish a new entry-level license class and to retain the Morse requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants--into a single proceeding designated WT 05-235.

The FCC has not proposed extending HF privileges to current Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code examination. In its NPRM&O the FCC suggested that in a no-Morse-requirement regime, "codeless Techs" could gain HF access by taking the Element 3 General class written examination.

Any FCC decision to eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for HF access would have \*no\* impact on either the current HF CW-only subbands or on the CW privileges of Amateur Radio licensees.

Before it releases an R&O on the Morse code proceeding, however, the WTB wants to wrap up action in another Amateur Radio-related docket--the "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140, released April 15, 2004. A dozen petitions

for rulemaking, some dating back to 2001, were consolidated in the Omnibus proceeding.

In that NPRM, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice refarming plan aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus subbands and expanding portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter phone bands. The FCC also agreed with an ARRL proposal to extend privileges in the current General CW-only HF subbands to present Novice and Tech Plus licensees (or Technicians with Element 1 credit). WT 04-140 further proposed to essentially do away with FCC rules prohibiting the manufacture and marketing to Amateur Radio operators of amplifiers capable of operation on 12 and 10 meters.

#### "HELLO" CAMPAIGN TO PUT FRIENDLY, INVITING FACE ON AMATEUR RADIO

A new ARRL public relations campaign set to launch this April will cast Amateur Radio in the light of the 21st century and focus on its universal appeal, even in today's already technology-rich society. At the same time, the "Hello" campaign will note the 100th anniversary of what many historians consider the first voice radio broadcast in 1906 by Reginald Fessenden.

"It is quite simply the largest PR campaign that ham radio has ever attempted," says ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. Built around the

word "Hello," the coordinated campaign will set "a positive, upbeat tone that highlights the international capabilities of Amateur Radio," he explained.

One aim of the "Hello" campaign will be to reframe Amateur Radio within a contemporary context. "ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was correct in stating that the Main Street of today is not the same as the Main Street of yesteryear," Pitts went on to say. "To reach out today, the very first requirement is that Amateur Radio operators be perceived as friendly and trustworthy. That's a true public relations goal and the prime focus of the campaign."

Pitts says it's not helpful to lament the time in decades past when Amateur Radio grew pretty much on its own, without too much effort on the part of clubs and individuals. "Only our combined, effective action will do that today," Pitts says. "This campaign will give hams the tools they need to reach out in their communities to non-hams and influence their perception of Amateur Radio."

The national "Hello" campaign can bring curious people into contact with ham radio groups, but it will be up to local radio amateurs to make them truly welcome, Pitts maintains.

The "Hello" campaign is designed to gain momentum as the year progresses. Components will include the release of public service announcements for use by

radio and TV broadcasters and a video for meetings, presentations and even broadcast. Other highlights will include a "Hello" campaign Web site and special operating events. The high point of the "Hello" campaign will come in December on the centennial of Fessenden's first radio broadcast.

History recalls that the Canadian-born and educated Fessenden, using an early alternator, transmitted the first audio radio broadcast from his laboratory in Brant Rock, Massachusetts. Radio operators aboard ships at sea--tipped off in advance to be listening for something special--were astounded to hear Fessenden's broadcast that included the scientist and inventor playing "O Holy Night" on the violin and reading a Bible passage.

The campaign will show that despite the Internet and other technologies, the possibility of being able to talk with everyday people around the world and sometimes in exotic locales--coupled with the surprise, art and uncertainty of DXing--remains a major attraction for Amateur Radio. The "Hello" campaign also will take advantage of likely FCC action this year to drop the Morse code requirement at least for General class applicants.

"We all say we want to make a change for the better for Amateur Radio and get others interested," Pitts said. "This is the time, this is the chance. Stay tuned! More to come!"

### PACKET UPDATE .....

Many times we want to hookup and modify our radios for digital modes. We also want to modify to improve the operation of our radios. There are many places to get this type of information off the internet. One really good site to get manuals for radios to get hookup information is <http://www.marcucci.it/english/download/> which has an amazing number of Icom service manuals for different radios which can be downloaded free. They are in PDF format. The site is located in Italy. Yes the manuals are in English. Another good site which has mod information on TNCs is <http://www.mods.dk/index>. Mods.dk site has fixes for several types of TNC problems and covers more than one brand. They have a separate section just for Kantronics TNCs. These guys also have radio manuals available for download. I can usually find a free manual download for radios I have bought by looking on the internet. This is a whole lot cheaper than buying one from the factory or used.

James Butler, KB4LJV

### AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE .....

Many times when running QRP we want to know how much current a radio uses. We may want to size a battery pack to last for a contest period or just be trying to modify the radio to use the least amount of power possible for portable or emergency work. This month's project is the QRP AMP METER. The Meter uses a 100 milliamp Radio Shack panel meter. I made a shunt out of resistors mounted across the meter leads. The final resistance on mine turned out to be about .25 OHMS. I set this for about .5 amps at full scale. This allows me to easily see small changes in current from the radio by hooking up the radio and transmitting. Since I know the voltage I am running and the current used and power out with a wattmeter, I can calculate the efficiency of the transmitter amplifier. From the picture you can see I made a custom faceplate for it. This is easy to do computers now. I took the original faceplate and scanned it into the computer. I then used the PC PAINT program to change the scale on the drawing and print a new faceplate. This project was easy to make and comes in handy for monitoring those low current levels.

James Butler, KB4LJV



# MARCH

2006

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>MARA Club Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>  Madeleine, KI4AJI	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Mike, KF4JBZ	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Jerry, K1HV Francis, WA4ZYN
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>Delta Club Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Edgar, W4KIB James, KG4YZV	<b>18</b>  Art, KS4TZ Joan, KN4PM
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Henry, WD4Q Jean, KD4FIP	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Ned, KA4BLL	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Shelby Cty.,</b> <b>ARES Meeting</b> <b>6:45 PM</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

# APRIL

2006

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Dan, N4QLK	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Jane Tallant	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>MARA Club Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Roosevelt, K4MPQ	<b>11</b> <b>Delta Club Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Thomas, KG4EOV David, KI4FCU	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> James, KB4LJV	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Bill, KB4SQV	<b>21</b> Neal, W4EKD	<b>22</b> John, KG4OLG
<b>23</b>  <b>29</b> Jacob Miller	<b>24</b>  <b>30</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Shelby Cty.,</b> <b>ARES Meeting</b> <b>6:45 PM</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Pat Walton	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>



## CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are some of the contests and special events coming up in the next few weeks...

**Spartan Sprint -- CW**, sponsored by the Adventure Radio Society from 0200Z - 0400Z Mar 7 (Monday evening in the US - times will change during Daylight Saving Time; see Web site). Held first Monday of every month. Frequencies (MHz): 3.560, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060

(QRP calling frequencies). For more information: [www.ARSqrp.com](http://www.ARSqrp.com).

**RSGB Commonwealth Contest -- CW**, sponsored by the RSGB from 1000Z Mar 11-1000Z Mar 12. Open to British Commonwealth stations only, work stations once per band outside your own call area. HQ stations may be worked by everyone and count as a separate call area. Frequencies: lower 30 kHz of 80- 10 meters. For more information: [www.rsgbhfcc.org](http://www.rsgbhfcc.org).

**EU EME Contest--CW/SSB**, 0000Z March 11 - 2400Z March 12 - 432 MHz, 5.7 GHz & up. (see p 99, Feb QST or [www.dubus.org](http://www.dubus.org))

**Wisconsin QSO Party -- Phone/CW**, sponsored by the West Allis RAC from 1800Z Mar 12-0100Z Mar 13. Frequencies (MHz): CW 3.550, 3.705, 7.050, 14.050 and 21-440, Phone 3.890, 7.230, 14.290, 21.350, 28.400, 50-440, no repeater QSOs. For more information: [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org).

**Oklahoma QSO Party--Phone/CW/Digital**, sponsored by the Oklahoma DX Association (OKDXA) from 1400Z Mar 11-0200Z Mar 12 and 1400Z-2000Z Mar 12. Frequencies (MHz): SSB -- 3.860, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360; CW -- 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.045, 28.045. For more information: [www.okdxa.org](http://www.okdxa.org).

**Idaho QSO Party -- CW/Phone/Digital**, sponsored by the Voice of Idaho (VOI) Amateur Radio Club, from 1300Z Mar 11-0100Z Mar 12 and 1300Z Mar 12 to 0100Z Mar 13. Frequencies (MHz): CW - - 35 kHz above band edge, Phone -- 7.260, 14.260, 21.335, 28.470 MHz, plus 50, 144, 440 MHz. For more information: [www.voiceofidaho.org](http://www.voiceofidaho.org).

**North American RTTY Sprint**, sponsored by *NCJ* from 0000Z-0400Z Mar 12. Frequencies 80-20 meters. North American stations work everyone; others work NA stations only. For more information: [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com).

**EA PSK31 Contest**, sponsored by the Unión de Radioaficionados Españoles (URE), from 1600Z Mar 11-1600Z Mar 12. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: [www.ure.es/hf/concursos/eapsk31/baseseapsk31ingles.pdf](http://www.ure.es/hf/concursos/eapsk31/baseseapsk31ingles.pdf).

**AGCW QRP Contest -- CW**, sponsored by the DL Activity Group CW (AGCW-DL) from 1400Z-2000Z Mar 11. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: [www.agcw.org](http://www.agcw.org).

**Russian DX Contest -- CW/SSB**, from 1200Z Mar 18-1200Z Mar 19. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: [www.rdx.org](http://www.rdx.org).

**Virginia QSO Party -- Phone/CW/Digital**, sponsored by the Sterling Park ARC from 1800Z Mar 18-0200Z Mar 20.

## The W4BS Elmer Shack

Please feel free to contact any of our ELMERS to help you enhance your amateur skills. Anyone wishing to be added to the Elmer list please contact Ned at [ka4bll@arrl.net](mailto:ka4bll@arrl.net) or 363-9607.

K4TTA (Extra) Tom Richardson 386-6268  
[k4tta@arrl.net](mailto:k4tta@arrl.net) (1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15)

KA4BLL (Extra) Ned Savage 363-9607  
[ka4bll@arrl.net](mailto:ka4bll@arrl.net) (1, 5, 8, 14, MARS, ARES/RACES, net control, traffic handling, emergency service)

KB4LJV (Extra) James Butler 294-2540  
[jbutler@bigriver.net](mailto:jbutler@bigriver.net) (2, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14)

KD4NOQ (Adv) David Campbell 388-6166  
[kd4noq@bellsouth.net](mailto:kd4noq@bellsouth.net) (1,2,3,5,9,10,12,14, slow scan TV, ATV minor)

KU4AW (Extra) Ben Troughton 372-8031  
[bktrough@bellsouth.net](mailto:bktrough@bellsouth.net) (2, 4, 8, 15)

N9ACQ (Extra) Bill Kuechler 368-0532  
[wkuechl1@midsouth.rr.com](mailto:wkuechl1@midsouth.rr.com) (1, 8, 13)

WA2IQC (Gen) Gary Blinckmann 794-5289  
[garyblin@midsouth.rr.com](mailto:garyblin@midsouth.rr.com) (1, 7, 10, 14)

WA4MJM (Extra) Bill Hancock 853-7192  
[billwa4mjm@aol.com](mailto:billwa4mjm@aol.com) (1, 2, 8, emergency communications, ARES,MARS)

K4DIT (Extra) Ken Gregg 853-7384  
[kgregg@c-a-c.com](mailto:kgregg@c-a-c.com) (4, 6, 8, 11, 15)

W4GMM (Extra) Ham Hilliard 372-2337  
[hamh@bellsouth.net](mailto:hamh@bellsouth.net) (All categories)

### Codes:

1. Antennas
2. APRS
3. Contesting
4. CW Operating
5. Direction Finding (fox hunting)
6. DXing
7. Experimenting/Circuits/etc.
8. HF Phone
9. Packet
10. Repeater Operation
11. QRP
12. Satellite
13. RTTY
14. VHF
15. PSK31
16. Computer logging



Frequencies (MHz): CW 1.805 and 50 kHz above band edge, Phone 1.845, 3.860, 7.260, 14.270, 21.370, 28.370, Novice/Tech 28.370, VHF/UHF 50.130, 144.200, 146.58, 223.50, 446.00, Digital on common frequencies. No repeater or crossmode QSOs. For more information: [www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/QSOParty.htm](http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/QSOParty.htm).

**10-10 Mobile Contest** -- any mode, sponsored by 10-10 International from 0000Z-2359Z Mar 18. Frequencies: 10 meters only. For more information: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

**CLARA and Family HF Contest** -- Phone/CW -- sponsored by the Canadian Ladies ARA, from 1700Z Mar 18-1700Z Mar 19. Frequencies (MHz): CW 14.033, 21.033, 7.033, 3.688, Phone 28.300, 21.225, 14.120 14.285, 7.033, 7.200, 3.750, 3.900, work CLARA and YL stations once per band/mode. Crossmode contacts count as phone for both stations. For more information: [www.clara.comm.sfu.ca/](http://www.clara.comm.sfu.ca/).

**9KCC Contest** -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the 9K Contest Club (Kuwait) from 1200Z-1600Z Mar 19. Frequencies: 15 meters only, work stations only once. For more information: [www.qsl.net/9kcc/9KCCRule.htm](http://www.qsl.net/9kcc/9KCCRule.htm).

**BARTG Spring RTTY Contest** -- sponsored by the British Amateur Radio Teledata Group from 0200Z Mar 18-0200Z Mar 20. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: [www.bartg.demon.co.uk](http://www.bartg.demon.co.uk).

**CQ WW WPX Contest** -- SSB, sponsored by *CQ Magazine* from 0000Z Mar 25-2400Z Mar 26 (CW is May 27-28). Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: [www.cqwp.com](http://www.cqwp.com).

**Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint** -- CW/PSK31, sponsored by New Jersey QRP Club, 0000Z-0400Z Mar 27. Frequencies: QRP CW and PSK31 frequencies on 80-10 meters, CW and PSK31 are considered separate bands. For more in-

formation: [www.njqr.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html](http://www.njqr.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html).

**Missouri QSO Party** -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society of St Louis (BEARS) from 1800Z Apr 1-0500Z Apr 2 and 1800Z-2400Z Apr 2. Frequencies: CW -- 40 kHz from band edge and 1810 kHz; Phone -- 1850, 3980, 7280, 14280, 21380, 28310 kHz, work MO stations once per band and mode. For more information: [www.qsl.net/w0ma](http://www.qsl.net/w0ma).

**Montana QSO Party** -- Phone/CW/Digital -- sponsored by the Flathead Valley Amateur Radio Club from 2300Z Apr 8 through 2300Z Apr 9. Frequencies: 160 meters-70 cm, no categories, repeaters and IRLP are permitted. For more information: [k7ncr@arri.net](mailto:k7ncr@arri.net).

**Low Power Spring Sprint** -- CW, sponsored by N4AF from 0000Z to 0359Z Apr 1. All rules same as North American Sprint ([www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)) except power categories are LP and QRP. For more information: [pvrc.org/lpsprint\\_2006/rules.htm](http://pvrc.org/lpsprint_2006/rules.htm).

**50<sup>th</sup> Annual QCWA Spring QSO Party** -- CW/Digital/SSB, sponsored by the Quarter Century Wireless Association from 1800Z Apr 1-1800Z Apr 2. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 1.810, 3.540, 7.035, 14.040, 21.050, 28.050; Phone -- 1.845, 3.890, 7.244, 14.262, 21.365, 28.325 plus all VHF/UHF bands, no crossband or repeater QSOs. For more information: [www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm](http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm).

**EA RTTY Contest**, sponsored by the Unión de Radioaficionados Españoles (URE.) from 1600Z Apr 1-1600Z Apr 2. Frequencies: 80-10 meters, according to IARU band plan. For more information: [www.rttycontesting.com/rules/earttyrules2006.pdf](http://www.rttycontesting.com/rules/earttyrules2006.pdf).

**SP DX Contest** -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the PZK Polish Amateur Radio Union and the SP DX Club from 1500Z Apr 1-1500Z Apr 2. Frequencies: 160-10 meters, according to the IARU Region I band plan,

no crossmode QSOs. For more information: [www.contest.spdxc.org.pl/en/index.php](http://www.contest.spdxc.org.pl/en/index.php).

**Kids Roundup** -- Phone, sponsored by the Anne Arundel Radio Club, Jr (AARC, Jr), from 1400Z Apr 1-2200Z Apr 2. Frequencies: 80 meters-70 cm. See Web site for categories and QSO point rules. For more information: [www.ki3ds.org](http://www.ki3ds.org).

**DX YL to North American YL Contest** -- CW, sponsored by YLRL from 1400Z Apr 4-0200Z Apr 6, work 24 hours max. (Phone -- Apr 11-13) Frequencies: all HF bands. For more information: [www.ylrl.org](http://www.ylrl.org).

**QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party** -- CW, sponsored by the QRP ARCI, from 1200Z Apr 8-2400Z Apr 9. (Same rules as Fall QSO Party; see Oct 2005 *QST*, p 86 or [www.qrparci.org](http://www.qrparci.org))

**EU Spring Sprints** -- CW, Apr 8 -- managed by G4BUO (SSB, Apr 15 -- managed by 9A6XX) from 1600Z-1959Z. Frequencies (MHz): SSB -- 3.730, 7.050, 14.250; CW -- 3.550, 7.025, 14.040. For more information or contest software: [www.eusprint.com](http://www.eusprint.com).

**Japan International DX Contest (JIDX)** -- CW -- sponsored by *Five-Nine Magazine* from 0700Z Apr 8-1300Z Apr 9. (Phone -- Nov 11-12) Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: [jidx.org](http://jidx.org).

**Georgia QSO Party** -- CW/SSB, sponsored by SECC and SEDXC from 1800Z Apr 8-0359Z Apr 9 and 1400Z-2359Z Apr 9. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: [gqp.contesting.com](http://gqp.contesting.com).

**Yuri Gagarin DX Contest** -- CW, sponsored by "Patriot" from 2100Z Apr 8-2100Z Apr 9. Frequencies: 160-10 meters and Amateur Satellites. For more information: [www.srr.su/contest/GC/gc2006re.htm](http://www.srr.su/contest/GC/gc2006re.htm).

SPECIAL EVENTS

**Mar 11, 1700Z-2100Z**, Newport News, VA. Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service, W4CAR. Commemorating the 144<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Ironclads. 28.362 21.362 7.262 7.070. Certificate. W4CAR, PO Box 6867, Chesapeake, VA 23323. [www.qsl.net/cars/](http://www.qsl.net/cars/).

**Mar 15-Apr 15, 0000Z-2400Z**, Watseka, IL. Iroquois County Amateur Radio Club, W9RWX. 30<sup>th</sup> year of the Glenn Raymond School Science Club. 14.275 14.070 14.230 7.050. QSL. Troy Simpson, 101 W Mulberry St, Watseka, IL 60970. [www.icarc.com](http://www.icarc.com). (Operation depends on school schedule.)

**Mar 18, 1500Z-2200Z**, Macon, GA. Macon Amateur Radio Club, W4BKM. 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. 145.370 14.240 10.110 7.055. Certificate. Macon ARC, PO Box 4862, Macon, GA 31208. [www.qsl.net/w4bkm](http://www.qsl.net/w4bkm)

**Mar 25, 1300Z-1700Z**, Brampton, ON Canada. Peel and Mississauga Amateur Radio Club, VE3XR. Ham-Ex Annual Hamfest. 14.265 7.215. QSL. Jeff Richardson, 36 Crawley Dr, Brampton, ON L6T 2S1, Canada. [www.peelarc.org](http://www.peelarc.org) or [www.marc.on.ca](http://www.marc.on.ca). (Note: US postage cannot be used in Canada.)

**Mar 25, 1200Z-2400Z**, Fort Worth, TX. Tarrant County RACES, N5W. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NWS and Amateur Radio partnership. 14.265 7.240. QSL. Ed McGinley, W5ETM, PO Box 6251, Fort Worth, TX 76115. [www.tarranttraces.org/n5w.htm](http://www.tarranttraces.org/n5w.htm)

**Mar 25-Mar 26, 1300Z-2200Z**, Moss, Norway and Virginia Beach, VA. Mossegruppen av NRRL and Virginia Beach Amateur Radio Club, Inc, LA5M and W4UG. 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Norwegian Lady. Norway: 28.363 21.192 18.164 18.145 14.278 14.070 7.040 (7.121 morning); US: 14.278 14.040 7.280 7.040. Certificate. Norway: Haakon Andreassen, LA1YKA, PO Box 88, N-1501 Moss, Norway. US: VBARC, PO

Box 62003, Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

**Apr 1-Apr 2, 1300Z-2300Z**, Moscow, PA. Northeast Pennsylvania Special Event Club, KV3T. Three Mile Island Incident observed. 21.240 14.240 14.045 7.240. QSL. David M. Samsell, W3LOW, 923 Clearview Rd, Moscow, PA 18444. [kv3t.tripod.com/](http://kv3t.tripod.com/).

**Apr 7-Apr 8, 1800Z-2400Z**, Tulsa, OK. Tulsa Health Department Amateur Radio Club, K5THD. Celebrating "World Health Day 2006." 21.365 18.155 14.265 7.265 SSTV and PSK31. Certificate. Dave Cox, Tulsa Health Department ARC, 5051 S 129<sup>th</sup> E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74134. [www.tulsa-health.org/k5thd](http://www.tulsa-health.org/k5thd).

**Apr 7-Apr 9, 1300Z-2100Z**, Venice, FL. Tamiami Amateur Radio Club, K4S. Annual Venice Sharks Tooth Festival. 21.313 18.153 14.272 7.233. QSL. Jack Sproat, W4JS, 1419 E Manasota Beach Rd, Englewood, FL 34223. [tamiamiarc.tripod.com](http://tamiamiarc.tripod.com).

**Apr 8, 1400Z-2200Z**, Hawthorne, NJ. Bergen Amateur Radio Association, K2BAR. Earth Day Celebration. 28.350 21.300 14.300 possible APRS IRLP. Certificate. Fred Buchner, 202 Tenth Ave, Hawthorne, NJ 07506. [www.bara.org](http://www.bara.org).

**Apr 8-Apr 9, 0000Z-2359Z**, Mesquite, TX. HAM Association of Mesquite, WJ5J. 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Mesquite Rodeo. 18.129 14.235 7.229 3.929. QSL or Certificate. HAM Association of Mesquite, PO Box 851835, Mesquite, TX 75185. [www.mesquiteham.org](http://www.mesquiteham.org).

**Apr 8-Apr 9, 0000Z-2359Z**, San Angelo, TX. AB5BG. 64<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the infamous Bataan Death March. 10 15 20 40 m. Certificate. Don Goff, AB5BG, 1210 Ardmore, San Angelo, TX 76905.

**Apr 9-Apr 15, 1330Z-2100Z**, Indian Orchard, MA. *Titanic* Historical Society, W1MGY. 94<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Titanic* voyage. 14.260 14.033 7.260 7.033. QSL. *Titanic* Historical Society QSL, PO Box 51053, 208 Main St, Indian Orchard, MA 01151-0053. [www.hcra.org/titanic.htm](http://www.hcra.org/titanic.htm).

**Apr 9-Apr 15, 1700Z-2400Z**, Cape - Canaveral, FL. Titusville and North Brevard Amateur Radio Clubs, N4S. 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Anniversary of America's First Space Shuttle Launch, from Kennedy Space Center. 21.350 18.150 14.250 7.250. Certificate. Carl Zelich, AA4MI, 1720 Old River Tr, Chuluota, FL 32766-8603. [www.northbrevardradioclub.org](http://www.northbrevardradioclub.org).

**Apr 14-Apr 15, 1400Z-2000Z**, Lynden, WA. Mt Baker Amateur Radio Club, K7SKW. Whatcom County Youth Fair. 14.242 14.071. QSL. Rodger Alexander, KK7LK, 3404 Illinois Ln, Bellingham, WA 98226. [www.qsl.net/k7skw](http://www.qsl.net/k7skw).

**Apr 16-Apr 30, 0000Z-2359Z**, Elmhurst, IL. York Radio Club, W9Y. York Radio Club's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. 14.250 7.260 7.040 3.925 442.875 147.42. Certificate or QSL. Gehl Entwistle, KB9DVC, 370 N West Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126. [www.yorkradioclub.com](http://www.yorkradioclub.com).

**Apr 21-Apr 22, 1400Z-2400Z**, Rock Island, IL. Green River and Quad City Historical Radio Societies, W9RI. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi River railroad bridge. 21.350 14.250 7.250 7.050. Certificate. W9RI, 2519 29<sup>th</sup> Ave, Rock Island, IL 61201. [www.forret.org/grvars/](http://www.forret.org/grvars/).

**Apr 21-Apr 22, 1700Z-0200Z**, Rupert, ID. Snake River Chapter of the Idaho Society of Radio, W7R. Rupert Idaho Centennial Celebration. 147.00 449.20 7.185 SO-51. QSL. Mike Johnson, WA7NRP, SRCISRA, PO Box 833, Burley, ID 83318. <http://srcisra.info/>.

**Apr 22, 1400Z-0200Z**, Deadwood, TX. Panola County Amateur Radio Club, N5OW. Republic of Texas International Boundary Marker. 14.265 3.915 7.246. Certificate. PCARC, 380 CR 1241, Gary, TX 75643.



**TENNESSEE NETS**

<b>Net Name</b>	<b>Freq.</b>	<b>UTC</b>	<b>Day</b>
Tennessee CW Net	3635	0100	T-Su
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3682	0130	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3980	1145	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1245	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1400	Sa-Su
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3980	0030	T-Su

**LOCAL HAMFESTS OF INTEREST**

**Middle Tennessee ARS**  
 Tullahoma Business Incubator  
 410 Wilson Avenue  
 Tullahoma, TN  
 March 18, 2006

**Arkansas State Convention  
 (Hanging Judge Hamfest)**  
 Fort Smith Area Amateur Radio Club  
 Columbus Acres  
 10203 Columbus Acres Road  
 Fort Smith, AR  
 April 1, 2006

**Delta Amateur Radio Club  
 February 2006 Treasurers Report**

<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$6,399.36</b>
<b><u>Expense</u></b>	
P.O. Box Rental	\$40.00
U of M Phone Bill	\$45.88
Bell South Phone Bill	\$58.38
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$144.26</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
2006 Membership Dues	\$332.50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$332.50</b>
<b>Balance 03/06/2006</b>	<b>\$6,587.60</b>

**SPARKS** is published monthly by the Delta Amateur Radio Club and is emailed to club members and other interested parties. All information published in this newsletter is provided as a service. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the Delta Amateur Radio Club and its officers assume no liability resulting from errors or omissions. All correspondence may be mailed to:

**Delta Amateur Radio Club  
 P.O. Box 750482  
 Memphis, TN 38175-0482**

**2006 Board of Directors**

***President***

Darrell Sheffield, KK4D  
 901-277-3367 (Lt4FandD@aol.com)

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***Vice President***

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