

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

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

MAY 2006 CLUB MEETING

DATE: May 9, 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:

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

Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is Wednesday, May 31st. 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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Another month has passed and it seems like I am farther behind than before, hope we are not all in that situation.

I would like to thank all of those that assisted in the MS and MD walks which is a major part of our club being a Public Service club. There are several other events upcoming, like the Memphis in May Triathlon on the 21st. I hope to see our members out in force for these events.

I would also like to thank Rob for the presentation at the April meeting.

There is still a need for a suitable trailer for a Club Operating Station. I would like to find someone that may be interested in donating a small travel trailer to be refurbished or one for a nominal price that we could consider.

The Dayton Hamvention is also here again and runs from May 19th

to 21st. If you are planning a trip there have fun and be safe.

The annual Field Day event is fast approaching and I am looking forward to it. June 24th and 25th we will be setting up at Freeman Park in Bartlett as usual and Dave KI4DR will be glad to have all of our support.

There have been several items of business mentioned to me both at the meeting and by phone from our active members and I am looking into all of them. I hope to be able to address the concerns about these items at the upcoming meeting.

Until next month 73,
Darrell KK4D

**DARC BOARD MEETING
April 4, 2006**

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm requesting the officer's reports. KD4TJO-Tommy, KE4DXN-Melinda, K4POM-Lisa, KU4AW-Ben and N2LAZ-Dean attended.

Copies of the secretary and treasurer's reports had been given to the members present. K4POM-Lisa motioned to accept these reports. N2LAZ-Dean seconded the motion.

KD4TJO-Tommy gave current information on the MS Walk at Shelby Farms held on April 22, 2006 and the Walk America for March of Dimes held on April 29, 2006.

KU4AW-Ben advised the board that N2WMD-Scott Vanzandt would have the Anti terrorism seminar for April's program.

New Business:

KU4AW-Benn advised the board that the City of Bartlett would like to meet with the Delta Club for help with emergency communication plans.

KK4D-Darrell adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
K4POM-Lisa Sheffield
DARC Secretary

**DARC GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
April 11, 2006**

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with the introduction of the membership.

There were 38 members present. He then called for any objections or corrections to the Treasurer's and Secretary's reports as printed in SPARKS. The membership unanimously accepted them as printed.

KD4TJO-Tommy presented the members with information on upcoming community service projects. He asked for volunteers for the MS Walk on April 22 and Walk America on April 29.

KD4TJO-Tommy gave his report on the repeaters. KA4BLL-Ned

asked if the 146.82 repeater had been repaired. Several members reported they had been having problems with it. KD4TJO-Tommy advised he would look into the problem and see if he could see what the problem is.

KK4D-Darrell gave a quick update on field day then called for a ten minute break. K4POM-Lisa handed out the Highway Watch certificates N2WMD-Scott brought to the members who took the class during the break.

New Business:

KU4AW-Ben advised the general membership that the City of Bartlett was interested in meeting with the Delta Club to get information on working with us in the event of a disaster. He advised that KK4D-Darrell and KD4TJO-Tommy would be meeting with the Mayor and would update the members as to what the city is interested in.

KN4PM-Joan reported that we had a 100% passing rate for the 8 testers.

Rob Hooper gave a presentation on different types of terrorist threats we may have to face sometime and how to watch for them.

KI4NDR-Jeff Kloek won the door prize. KK4D-Darrell adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
K4POM-Lisa Sheffield
DARC Secretary

ARRL NEWSLETTER

RADIO AMATEURS BUSY AS DEADLY STORMS AGAIN HIT MIDWEST

Amateur Radio volunteers in northwestern Tennessee and elsewhere were active April 2 when a string of tornadoes struck the Midwest and South. The severe weather left more than two dozen people dead and many injured, most of them in Tennessee. ARRL Tennessee Section Emergency Coordinator Jimmy Floyd, NQ4U, reports SKYWARN volunteers relayed reports to the National Weather Service Office in Memphis as the twisters approached.

"Several hams were active in the Dyersburg-Newbern area Sunday night passing local traffic for the area folks needing to let relatives know that they were okay," Floyd told ARRL. "According to local hams, most of the communication infrastructure was intact after the storms."

Authorities in Dyer County, where 15 people died, say some houses were totally destroyed by the storms, and large trees across highways hampered access by emergency crews. Severe damage reports emerged from Gibson County where some 1200 houses and other structures--including the police station--were said to have been damaged. The NWS said it had received preliminary reports of more than 60 tornadoes April 2. Tennessee state police were continuing to search for additional

storm victims and warning those "without legitimate business" to keep out of the affected areas and let first responders and law enforcement personnel do their jobs.

In Illinois, Lawrence County Emergency Coordinator Gary Auerswald, WB9UDJ, found himself in the middle of "a horrendous storm" while returning home with his family from Indiana.

"Trees were coming down, and people were getting blown off the road," he told ARRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator Pat Ryan, KC6VVT. "All electricity in the area went out." Fallen power lines prevented Auerswald from taking his usual route along Illinois Route 1. "We traveled by back roads and oil field roads and made it home," he said.

Downed trees and power lines and other property damage greeted his arrival. "A lightning burst gave me a clue to what else was missing: My antenna farm," he said. Auerswald said that until he can "piece something together," he's off the air. He was providing power to his home from a generator.

Ryan reports the Illinois ARES HF Section Net on 75 meters secured early because of high atmospheric noise levels. The ARES Net on the Starved Rock Radio Club W9MKS repeater in Lenore yielded to an ongoing weather-spotter net activated earlier by Jim Morris, N9PLM, who served as net control. "Weather Net members monitored

for storm activity and, at one point, the LaSalle County EOC was activated," Ryan said. One person died in Illinois.

Other states affected by the tornadoes and high winds included Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio. Kentucky Section Emergency Coordinator Ron Dodson, KA4MAP, reported "plenty of nets up and running" the evening of April 2. Dodson says the storms decreased in severity by the time they reached his state. "Trees, power and phones lines went down," he said, "but there were no major structural incidents or injuries."

The April 2 tornadoes came less than a month after a huge string of tornados swept through the nation's midsection on another Sunday, killing 10 people in Missouri and Indiana and causing damage in several other states, including Illinois, Kansas and Arkansas.

SEVERE WEATHER RAVAGES TENNESSEE, HAMS HEED THE CALL TO HELP

On Friday, April 7, Western Tennessee was ravaged by tornadoes, and once again, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers were called on to help provide emergency communication. According to Tennessee Section Emergency Coordinator Jimmy Floyd, NQ4U, more than 70 counties experienced the heavy thunderstorms and tornadoes that swept the western part of the

Volunteer State. In all, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued more than 130 weather watches and warnings and reported at least 26 tornadoes. Nearly two dozen counties suffered property damage and loss of life. Twelve people died, and more than 160 others were injured as a result of the severe weather.

By 1 PM local time, the Middle Tennessee Emergency Amateur Radio Society (MTEARS) repeater system carried numerous reports of severe weather and damage to many areas of the state. According to Floyd, the MTEARS UHF system spans most of Tennessee, with Nashville as its hub. Both the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) monitor the system. Local television stations monitor ARES and SKYWARN traffic, as well, he said.

The first tornado watches began in the early afternoon, and by 4:15 PM local time, the Tennessee Section ARES was placed on Alert condition "Charlie." Within 20 minutes, the entire state activated, and hams were monitoring HF and local repeaters, remaining on the air to assist in any way until almost midnight.

During the storms, the NWS in Old Hickory lost power as well as telephone service. NOAA Weather Radio and radar also were unavailable for a time. Amateur Radio volunteers stepped up to the plate, and--thanks to their

emergency/disaster training--were able to relay needed information.

Wilson County Emergency Coordinator Pete Navarra, K4IWX, works for the county's emergency management agency. He said that because of information relayed via Amateur Radio, his county was able to dispatch three ambulances, two rescue trucks, one fire engine and a host of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) search-and-rescue responders and their mobile command post to hard-hit Sumner County.

Amateur Radio also helped to dramatically decrease emergency personnel response times, Navarra said. "It was interesting to hear several calls from the Metro Nashville Office of Emergency Management, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency and other local agencies trying to communicate," he recounted. "Conventional methods of communication did not work--even cell phone service in Wilson County had gone out. Amateur Radio is needed and it works!"

Floyd agreed. "This has been a big test of the ARES system in Tennessee, but rest assured, we will be ready to go when needed."

THREE RADIO AMATEURS ON NEXT ISS CREW

NASA astronauts Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin,

RZ3FT, have been named as the 14th crew of the International Space Station. Expedition 14 is scheduled to begin this fall. Lopez-Alegria will serve as Expedition 14 commander and as NASA ISS science officer for the six-month mission.

Lopez-Alegria and Tyurin--who was on the ISS Expedition 3 crew--are now training to launch aboard a Russian Soyuz spacecraft in September. Williams' arrival on the ISS depends on NASA's shuttle fleet being back in operation. She's scheduled to travel to the ISS via shuttle--her first space flight--and join Expedition 14 in progress.

If all goes according to current plans, Williams will replace European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR, whose duty tour is scheduled to bridge part of expeditions 13 and 14--the first time that's happened in the history of the ISS. Unclear at this point is whether Reiter will return on the shuttle or aboard a Soyuz, so there could be some additional crew overlap.

Plans call for Reiter to go into space when the shuttle returns to flight this summer, and he'll join Expedition 13's Pavel Vinogradov, RV3BS, and Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ, whose mission just began.

Vinogradov and Williams this week began unloading supplies from a Progress cargo craft that docked April 26. An older Progress

is being loaded with trash and readied for undocking in mid-June to burn up in the Earth's atmosphere. Williams completed his first Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contact May 1.

FCC WRC-03 AMATEUR RULE CHANGES NOW IN EFFECT

Several FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio rule revisions to implement changes agreed to at the international level during World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) now are in effect. The FCC Order, released in January, affects 97.111, Authorized transmissions; 97.113, Prohibited transmissions; 97.115, Third party communications, and 97.117, International communications. The Federal Register published the changes May 3.

"These amendments will ensure that the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules conform to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference, and will further the Commission's ongoing efforts to streamline its Amateur Service Rules," the FCC Order said. "The overall effect of this action is to update the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules in the Code of Federal Regulations to conform to now-effective international agreements."

The FCC Order revises:

* 97.111(a)(1) to permit "transmissions necessary to

exchange messages with other stations in the Amateur Service, except those in any country whose administration has notified the ITU that it objects to such communications. The FCC will issue public notices of current arrangements for international communications." The old language permitted communication among amateur stations in different countries "except those in any country whose administration has given notice that it objects to such communications." The FCC said the change does not prejudice its proposal to amend 97.111(a)(2) to clarify that amateur stations may, at all times and on all authorized channels, transmit communications necessary to meet essential needs and to facilitate relief actions.

* 97.115(a)(2) to facilitate the transmission of international communications on behalf of third parties in emergency or disaster-relief situations, whether or not a third-party agreement is in place between the US and the countries involved. The revision now permits communication with any non-US station "when transmitting emergency or disaster relief communications" as well as with any non-US station "whose administration has made arrangements with the United States to allow amateur stations to be used for transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties." The revised rule further provides that no station may transmit third-party traffic other than emergency or disaster relief communications to a station

in a country lacking a third-party arrangement. Still excepted from the prohibition is any third party eligible to be the control operator of an amateur station.

97.113(a)(4) to prohibit amateur stations exchanging messages with amateur stations in other countries from making transmissions that are encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning, except for control signals exchanged between Earth command stations and space stations in the Amateur-Satellite service, something Part 97 already provides for. The old rule referred to the use of "codes and ciphers." The same rule also already prohibits transmitting music, communications intended to facilitate a criminal act, obscene or indecent words or language and false or deceptive messages, signals or identification.

* 97.117 to state that amateur stations may transmit communications incidental to the purposes of the Amateur Service and to remarks of a personal character.

The FCC also revised 97.3 and 97.309 to update the definition of International Morse code and of various digital codes in the amateur rules to reflect changes in the international Radio Regulations.

HOUSE COMMITTEE OKAYS TELECOMS BILL WITH BPL- INTERFERENCE STUDY AMENDMENT

The US House Energy and Commerce Committee's version of the Communications Opportunity, Promotion and Enhancement (COPE) Act of 2006 includes an amendment requiring the FCC to study the interference potential of BPL systems. The panel voted April 26 to send the much-talked-about "telecoms rewrite" bill to the full House for its consideration. "Outstanding news!" was the reaction of ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

"This is a major victory for the ARRL," he exulted, noting that the amendment "received significant opposition" from utility companies. Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), proposed the amendment, and, with the support of Committee Chairman Joe Barton (R-TX), the committee agreed by voice vote to include it in the bill. "This puts the House Energy and Commerce Committee on record as having concerns about BPL interference," Sumner said.

A year ago, Ross sponsored House Resolution 230 (H Res 230), which calls on the FCC to "reconsider and revise rules governing broadband over power line systems" based on a comprehensive evaluation of their interference potential to public safety and other licensed radio services.

"Hundreds of ARRL members who

wrote their congressional representatives in support of Rep Ross's H Res 230 helped to achieve this week's success with the COPE Act amendment," Sumner observed.

A statement released by Ross's office notes that his amendment, which received unanimous committee support, "would guarantee that valuable public safety communications and Amateur Radio operators are not subject to interference." One of two radio amateurs in the US House, Ross said infrastructure-free Amateur Radio, "often overlooked in favor of flashier means of communication," can maintain communication in disasters that bring more vulnerable technology to its knees. Ham radio operators "are often the only means of communication attainable in a devastated area," Ross said.

"I believe it is imperative that the interference potential of BPL is thoroughly examined and comprehensively evaluated to ensure that deployment of BPL, which I do support, does not cause radio interference for Amateur Radio operators and first responders who serve our communities," Ross added.

SUPPLY AND DEMAND: VU4AN ANDAMANS OPERATIONS CREATE A CLAMOR

For several days last month, the tiny Andaman Islands became the DX mouse that roared--well, sort of. Just how loudly depended on your position on the globe and fickle propagation. A first-of-its-kind event, "Hamfest - (VU4) India - 2006," made rare VU4 (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) widely available worldwide April 18-25. With activities centered in Port Blair on South Andaman Island, more than 100 VU4AN stations made a joyful noise on several modes and bands. Despite the current ebb in the sunspot cycle, many US radio amateurs were able to take advantage.

"They weren't rock-crushingly loud, but they seemed to be making a lot of QSOs in North America," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ--one of the lucky ones. Sumner said he worked VU4 on CW and SSB and noted that some of the stations were spotted quite a lot on RTTY.

Sumner expressed pleasure that one of his QSOs was with Bharathi Prasad, operating as VU4AN/VU2RBI. She led the December 2004 VU4 DXpedition that turned into a disaster-communication operation after being cut short by the devastating South Asia earthquake and tsunami. As a result, Prasad and her team won the 2005 ARRL International

Humanitarian Award, and she was named Dayton Hamvention's Radio Amateur of the Year.

Telecommunication authorities in India authorized the issuance of short-term licenses to some 40 Indian nationals and 70 foreigners. While VU4AN signals were dicey or non-existent in some North American locations, many stations in the US and elsewhere were able to add this rare one to their DXCC total--some on more than one band.

According to The DX Magazine's 2005 survey of DXers, Andaman and Nicobar Islands was the 10th most-wanted DXCC entity. This month's massive operation--sponsored by the National Institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR)--may have put a dent in the demand. The NIAR offered certificates for stations working more than four VU4AN stations as well as awards for working the most VU4AN stations in several categories.

In addition to operating, several participants delivered presentations at the NIAR gathering that stressed the positive aspects of Amateur Radio operating as well as various technical topics. The intention was to promote ham radio and to invite more-friendly governmental regulation.

"This VU4-Andaman Islands project took some eight months from start to finish and involved many hours and financial support by members of NIAR," commented QST "Hows DX?" and The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny,

W3UR, after returning from the Andamans where he operated as VU4AN/VU3OHA. "Heavy-duty negotiations between NIAR and the many different government branches took place for this activity to happen." McClenny also reported that there are now two newly licensed hams in Port Blair, Andaman.

Unless otherwise announced for individual stations, VU4AN QSLs go to Jose Jacob, VU2JOS, National Institute of Amateur Radio, 6-3-1092/93, Raj Bhavan Rd, Somajiguda, Hyderabad 500082 INDIA.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
APPROVES BPL
REGULATIONS

Saying that broadband over power line (BPL) will bring Internet access to "underserved communities," the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has adopted regulatory guidelines for electric utilities and companies that wish to develop BPL projects in that state. While the Commission's BPL guidelines include a requirement to maintain the safety and reliability of the electric distribution system, the state agency has no jurisdiction over radio frequency interference, which received no mention in the PUC's news release. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, WIRFI, points out that the utility industry still must meet another tier of federal regulations that govern permitted BPL signal levels and

interference issues.

"Although this action addresses how BPL operators will be responsible to state regulators, it does not address any of the technical problems with BPL in any way," Hare observed. "Utilities will still have to carefully choose BPL vendors with a proven track record of preventing interference complaints."

The CPUC said it wants to foster BPL deployment to solve the "last mile" problem of broadband delivery and to increase consumer choice in broadband providers. "BPL has the potential to bring broadband Internet services to communities who do not have broadband service available today from the telephone companies or cable companies," said CPUC President Michael R. Peevey.

One commissioner suggested that BPL faces an uphill battle. "This is a nascent technology with technological, market, and financial hurdles before it," commented CPUC member John Bohn. "By removing unnecessary regulations from its path, we free BPL entrepreneurs to invest and take the risks they want, while protecting ratepayers from any downside."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said that while the League's concern is with BPL interference and not with BPL's viability in the broadband marketplace, "it's odd to see the California PUC echoing the pro-BPL rhetoric that was coming

out of the FCC two years ago and that is so demonstrably wrong today." Sumner points out that BPL has been around for years now, and "after all the hype," the most-recent FCC statistics show no more than about 4000 BPL lines in service across the US.

The California PUC would better serve its citizens by focusing on more capable broadband technologies, such as fiber and wireless, that do not have the potential to disrupt radio communication," Sumner concluded.

The policy the CPUC adopted April 27 stemmed from a draft developed by CPUC member Rachelle Chong, a former FCC commissioner.

EUROPEAN HAMS HEAR SIGNALS FROM THE EDGE OF SPACE

Hams in Germany and Portugal reportedly have received signals from the US Voyager 1 spacecraft <<http://voyager.jpl.nasa.gov/>> in March and April. On March 31, AMSAT-DL (Germany) radio amateurs at the Institute for Environmental and Future Research (IUZ) at Bochum Observatory used a 20-meter radio telescope dish to detect Voyager 1's 8.4 GHz signal.

Using Doppler shift and sky positioning, the German team received the signal from a distance of 8.82 billion miles (14.7 billion km)--nearly 100 times the distance from the sun to Earth. This is the first recorded reception of signals

from Voyager 1 by radio amateurs.

Members of the AMSAT-DL/IUZ team included Freddy de Guchteneire, ON6UG, James Miller, G3RUH, Hartmut Paesler, DL1YDD, and Achim Vollhardt, DH2VA/HB9DUN. Assisting were Theo Elsner, DJ5YM of IUZ, and Roger Ludwig of Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), as well as the Deep Space Network (DSN) tracking station in Madrid, Spain.

Luis Cupido, CT1DMK, in Portugal reported April 15 that he spent "two nights without sleep" to hear Voyager I at his QTH using a 5.6-meter dish. To detect the signal, Cupido says he had to acquire and integrate spectrograms over an extended period.

"I did several acquisition periods of 15 minutes (900 s), the minimum I would expect to see something," he said on his Web site <<http://w3ref.cfn.ist.utl.pt/cupido/dsn.html>>, noting that any longer time period would be incompatible with his Doppler-shift correction scheme. "The receiver is operated at fixed frequency, and the Doppler variation was corrected by skewing successive spectrograms in software while accumulating [images]."

He based positive identification of Voyager 1's signal on the fact that signal is "only visible for the right skew amount that corresponds to the Doppler variation as predicted by the relative velocity calculation."

Voyager 1 was launched in September 1977 to conduct close-up studies of Jupiter and Saturn, Saturn's rings and the larger moons of the two planets. Designed to last only five years, the probe is expected to send back astronomical information to NASA and JPL until at least 2020. Voyager 1 will study ultraviolet sources among the stars, and its fields and particles instruments will continue to search for the boundary between the sun's influence and interstellar space.

NON-DELIVERABLE CARD
REMAINS IN "QSL LIMBO"
FOR 50 YEARS

George Hitz, W1DA, of Sudbury, Massachusetts, can finally account for one of his QSL cards--one he sent in 1956. While a newly licensed teenager living in DeLand, Florida, Hitz, then KN4DPI, fired up his Johnson Viking Adventurer transmitter and made contact with Dave, KN6MSI, on 40 meters. Like a good operator, Hitz sent off a QSL card, addressed only to "Amateur Radio--KN6NMI, Chief Op Dave, Address Unknown, Riverdale, Calif." This turned out to be David Leaven, later W16J, who became a Silent Key in 2003.

"I was 14, and like me, Dave was a new ham, and he wasn't in the call book," Hitz told ARRL. "I hoped there would be someone at the Riverdale post office that would know who Dave was, and it would get to him." But Hitz made one mistake: he addressed the card to

Riverdale instead of to Dave's actual QTH, Riverside. That simple error left the card sitting in QSL limbo from 1956 until now.

"In 1956, I was just a Novice operator with a primitive station and even more primitive operating skills," Hitz explained. "Back then, with my radio built from a kit and my BC-348 World War II Army Air Corps surplus receiver and a 60-foot long wire antenna that was 15 feet high, California, was like a whole other country. And I needed that California QSL!"

Hitz had put a return address on his card, but for reasons perhaps best known to the US Postal Service, it finally was returned to his former Florida address in early April. It turned up in the mailbox of Mack McCormick, a nonham now living in Hitz's childhood home.

"The card apparently has been in the 'Twilight Zone' for 50 years," McCormick said. "It's not wrinkled or anything."

McCormick offered to return the card to Hitz, but Hitz declined. "What would I do with it?" he said. "I understand the guy who found it is going to frame it and place it on his coffee table!"

The story of the long-lost QSL card received worldwide attention. "The press has run wild with this," Hitz said. "I heard this story has been in newspapers in India, Iceland, Ireland--all over the world, over 100 countries! It's almost like I could have DXCC from all the

countries that have reported it."

ARMY, AIR FORCE
MARS ANNOUNCE
LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Past Army MARS Eastern Area Director Kathy Harrison has been appointed to take the reins of the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) program. She succeeds Bob Sutton, N7UZY, who is recuperating from an illness. Lt Col Gregory Harris had been named in January to fill in during Sutton's absence; now it appears that Sutton will not be returning.

"While I will be getting up to speed on the MARS program over the next few weeks, I am hitting the ground running," Harrison said in an announcement to the MARS community. "I have been working with LTC Harris on MARS issues for the past few weeks and have not forgotten everything I learned during my tenure as eastern area director."

Harrison said MARS faces "many new challenges" over the next year in meeting its mission on a reduced budget, but she said she believes the organization is up to the task. Harrison inherits the AAA9A MARS call sign. Her appointment was effective March 21. Army MARS is headquartered at Ft Huachuca in Arizona.

Sutton retired from federal service April 3. His long career as a US Air Force communicator and his subsequent employment as a

Department of the Army civilian employee spanned 46 years. Sutton was chief of Army MARS for 16 years. He says he plans to remain active in the program.

Meanwhile, Air Force Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) Chief Ray Collins, AGA3C, announced his retirement from federal service effective March 31 and said he'd be stepping down as chief of Air Force MARS. According to Collins's announcement, the chief's position will remain vacant for a while.

In the interim, Collins said, regional MARS directors will take over issuing and signing MARS licenses for new and renewing members as well as many other duties. The Air Force MARS office is located at the Headquarters of the Air Force Communications Agency (AFCA), Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

PACKET UPDATE

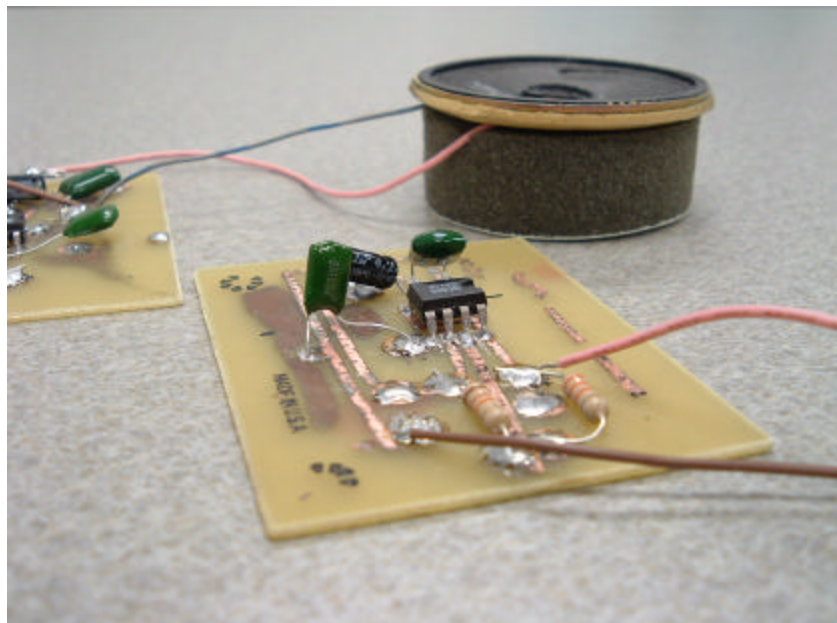
Some of the new digital modes we are using are PSK31 and PSK63. These modes have the advantage of very narrow bandwidth and are used for keyboard to keyboard communication. Programs we use to transmit and receive with usually have a spectrum display to let us watch the band. We can see all the signals on the screen. The bandwidth of these received signals can also be seen. Sometimes we see signal which are really too wide. The problem we have is unless we get a signal report it is hard to set the level to our microphone jacks just right to get the perfect signal. We cannot monitor our own signal. KK7UQ has come out with and IMD (Intermodulation Distortion Meter) to let us look at our signal and adjust it properly. The stand alone unit has a digital readout and lets use see our IMD when we transmit. This is a nice unit that can keep your signal looking perfect to other stations for a solid copy. For more information on the IMD meter check out the website. It is WWW.KK7UQ.HFRADIO.ORG

James Butler, KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

The oldest digital mode we have is Morse Code. Even with the code requirements from the FCC going down we still see a lot of Amateurs who want to learn the code. Today we have interactive computer programs to learn code with along with stand alone code trainers. The old way was to have a Code Practice Oscillator and a key just practice sending. Of course you had a tone or buzzer to listen to what you sent and get used to the pattern of the letters. Code practice oscillators are still alive and well. You can buy used units sold over the years used on EBAY and at hamfests. AMECO still makes new kits and assembled units if you want these. You can also homebrew up a circuit for a code practice oscillator. Most of these use the LM-555 timer chip, which cost under 1 dollar. Add a few capacitors, resistors, speaker, battery, and a key and you are ready to go. Just get on the internet and type code practice oscillator to get a copy of the circuit diagram to build you own unit. In the picture are a couple of home-made code practice circuit boards we built up in one of my electronics classes.

James Butler, KB4LJV



MAY

2006

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2	3 Mary, AC4GF	4 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	5	6 Roger, KF4QFZ Jennifer Douglas
7	8	9 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM	10	11	12	13
14	15 Dan, N9PNA Wesley, W3EDW	16 Andy, K4ZLC	17	18	19 Katherine Savage	20
21	22 Sheila Miller	23 Shelby Cty., ARES Meeting 6:45 PM Keith Burnam Kelly Burnam	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Tommy, KD4TJO	31 Billy, KD4FTS			

JUNE

2006

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM Charlotte, KD4SDH	2 Chris Sowell	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Rebecca, KC4MTN Boyd, N4SSF	13 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM	14	15	16 Kathy, KE4UU Melissa, W5MDV	17
18	19 Pam Jennings	20	21	22	23	24
25 Dick, K3ORS	26	27 Shelby Cty., ARES 6:45 PM Zachary, KG4WKA Steve, NX3W Harry, KI5UK	28	29	30 Marc, KB5ZMU Susan Pace	



CONTEST CALENDAR

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

MARAC County Hunters Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club from 0000Z May 6-2400Z May 7. Frequencies (MHz): 3.575, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050, work fixed stations once/band and mobiles once for each county and band. For more information: www.marac.org.

Microwave Spring Sprint, 0600-1300 local, May 6 (see www.ETDXA.org/vhf.htm).

Indiana QSO Party -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Hoosier DX and Contest Club from 1600Z May 6-0400Z May 7. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 1.805 and 40 kHz above the band edge on 80-10 meters, SSB -- 1.845, 3.850, 7.230, 14.250, 21.300, 28.450, try 160 at 0200Z, no cross-band QSOs. For more information: www.hdxcc.org/inqp.

ARI International DX Contest -- CW/SSB/Digital, sponsored by ARI from 2000Z May 6-1959Z May 7. Frequencies: CW/SSB -- 160- 10 meters; Digital -- 80-

10 meters, change bands or mode no more than once per 10 min. For more information: www.qsl.net/contest_ari.

New England QSO Party -- CW/Phone, 2000Z May 6-0500Z May 7 and 1300Z - 2400Z May 7. New England is ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, and RI. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 3.540, 7.035, 14.040, 21.040, 28.040; SSB -- 3.875, 7.280, 14.280, 21.380, 28.380; no crossmode or crossband QSOs, all CW QSOs in CW band segments. For more information: www.neqp.org.

7th Area QSO Party -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Central Oregon DX Club from 1300Z May 6-0700Z May 7. Frequencies (MHz): 80- 10 meters, CW -- 40 kHz above band edge, SSB -- 3.855, 7.255, 14.255, 21.355 and 28.455; no repeater QSOs. For more information: www.7qp.org.

IPA Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the International Police Association US Section from 1400Z-2000Z May 6 (CW), 1400Z-2000Z May 7 (SSB), each mode is considered a separate contest. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.iparc.org or jenkinstd@aol.com.

EU EME Contest -- any mode -- sponsored by DUBUS and REF, 0000Z May 6-2400Z May 7. Frequencies: 1.2 GHz (see Feb *QST* p 99 or www.dubus.org).

Radio Club of America QSO Party -- SSB, from 1700Z May 6-0700Z May 7. Exchange: RST, QTH, name, equipment used. RCA members sign their calls / RCA. Band changes throughout the day, for more information: www.radio-club-of-america.org.

Armed Forces Amateur/Military Crossband Communications Test -- the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual military/Amateur Radio communications tests in celebration of the 55th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). The test is conducted one week earlier than Armed Forces Day (May 21) to avoid conflicting with the Dayton Hamvention. For complete information, in-

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 or 363-9607.

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

K4TTA (Extra) Tom Richardson 386-6268 ka4tta@arrl.net (1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15)

KA4BLL (Extra) Ned Savage 363-9607 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 (2, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14)

KD4NOQ (Adv) David Campbell 388-6166 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 (2, 4, 8, 15)

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

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

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

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

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



cluding call signs and frequency lists:
www.netcom.army.mil/mars/news/

Mid-Atlantic QSO Party -- SSB/FM/CW, sponsored by the Independent Mid-Atlantic QSO Party Committee from 1200Z May 13-2400Z May 15. Mid-Atlantic states include DE, MD-DC, NJ, NY, PA, VA and WV. Frequencies: 160-10 meters, 50 kHz from bottom of band segment for operating mode, 50, 144, 222 and 432 MHz. For more information: www.maqp.info.

CQ-M International DX Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Krenkel Central Radio Club from 1200Z May 13-1200Z May 14. Frequencies: 160 -- 10 meters including satellites, which count as a separate band; remain on a band for at least 10 min. For more information: www.cq-m.andys.ru.

FISTS Spring Sprint -- CW, sponsored by the FISTS CW Club from 1700Z-2100Z May 13 (see Feb *QST*, p 99, or www.fists.org/sprints.html).

Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest, sponsored by COMO and ARI from 1200Z May 13-1200Z May 14. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.contestvolta.com.

50 MHz Spring Sprint, sponsored by the Eastern Tennessee DX Association from 2300Z May 13-0300Z May 14 (see www.etsdx.org/vhf.htm).

40th Annual Baltic Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Lithuanian Radio Sports Federation from 2100Z May 20-0200Z May 21. Frequencies (MHz): CW 3.510-3.600, SSB 3.600-3.650 and 3.700-3.750. For more information: www.lrsf.lt/bcontest.

All America Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Juiz de Fora CW Group from 1500Z May 20 - 2359Z May 21. Frequencies: 80 - 10 meters. For more information: www.powerline.com.br/cwjf.

EU PSK DX Contest -- sponsored by the Scottish-Russian Amateur Radio Society

from 1200Z May 20-1200Z May 21. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.srars.org.

His Majesty King of Spain Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Union de Radioaficionados Españoles (URE) from 1800Z May 20-1800Z May 21 (SSB is Jun 24-25). Frequencies: 160-10 meters using IARU Region 1 band plan. Categories: SOAB, SOSB, and MS. For more information, send e-mail to ure@ure.es.

US Counties QSO Party -- SSB, sponsored by The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club from 0000Z May 20-2400Z May 21. Frequencies (MHz): 3.880, 7.240, 14.275, 21.340, 28.340. Work fixed stations once/band and mobiles once for each county and band. For more information: www.stpaulisland.net/countycontest.html.

All America Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Juiz de Fora CW Group from 1500Z May 20 - 2359Z May 21. Frequencies: 80 - 10 meters. For more information: www.powerline.com.br/cwjf.

CQ WW WPX Contest -- CW, sponsored by *CQ Magazine* from 0000Z May 27-2400Z May 28 (see Mar *QST*, p 98, or www.cqwpw.com).

QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint -- CW, sponsored by the QRP ARC International from 2000-2400 local May 28. For rules, see Dec 2005 *QST*, p 86, or www.qrparci.org/contest.htm.

MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint -- sponsored by the MI QRP Club from 2300Z May 28-0300Z May 29 (see Jan *QST*, p 101, or www.qsl.net/miqrclub).

QRP TAC Sprint Contest -- CW, sponsored by EPA QRP Club, from 1800-2359Z Jun 3. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.n3epa.org.

SEANET Contest -- CW/SSB/Digital, sponsored by the SEANET Convention, 1200Z Jun 3-1200Z Jun 4. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 160 m, 3.525, 7.025, 14.025, 21.025, 28.025, SSB -- 7.090,

14.320, 21.320, 28.320. For more information and list of SEANET countries: www.qsl.net/seanet2006/contest.htm

IARU Region 1 Field Day -- CW, sponsored by IARU Societies, from 1500Z Jun 3-1459Z Jun 4 (SSB -- Sep 2-3). Frequencies: 160-10 meters. See IARU Region 1 society Web sites for more information.

Look Around In the Field Contest -- CW and SSB, managed by NJ2OM from 1600Z Jun 3-2200Z Jun 3. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: mysite.verizon.net/vze7v384/nj2om/index.html.

ANARTS WW RTTY / Digital Contest -- sponsored by Australian National Amateur Radio Teleprinter Society (ANARTS), from 0000Z Jun 10-2400Z Jun 11. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.users.bigpond.com/ctdavies.

Asia-Pacific Sprint -- SSB, from 1100Z-1300Z Jun 10. Frequencies: 20 and 15 meters only (see Feb *QST*, p 99, or <http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt>).

ARRL June VHF QSO Party -- 1800Z Jun 10-0300Z Jun 12 (see May *QST*, p 104).

Portugal Day Contest -- SSB, sponsored by Rede dos Emissores Portugueses (REP), 0000Z-2400Z Jun 11. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: www.rep.pt/concursos.htm

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest -- sponsored by Grupo Argentino de Radiotelegrafia (GACW), from 1500Z Jun 10-1500Z Jun 11. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: <http://gacw.no-ip.org>.

SPECIAL EVENTS

May 4-May 5, 1500Z-1900Z, Smyrna, TN. Sam Davis Memorial CW Club, N4SDM. "Days on the Farm" illustrating a working farm of mid 1800s. 14.058 7.058. QSL. Sam Davis Memorial CW Club, PO Box 54, 215 Camelot Ct, Smyrna, TN

37167.

May 5, 1500Z-2000Z, West Mifflin, PA. Belle Vernon High School Amateur Radio Club, KB3BKW. Amusement Park Physics & Communications Day. 14.260. Certificate. Belle Vernon HS Amateur Radio Club, c/o T. Thompson, 425 Crest Ave, Belle Vernon, PA 15012.

May 6, 1400Z-1900Z, Byesville, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, Inc, W8VP. 5th anniversary from Buckeye Central Scenic RxR Train. 14.260 14.250 7.245 7.235. QSL. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. www.w8vp.org.

May 6, 1500Z-2300Z, Conway, AR. Faulkner County Amateur Radio Club, W5AUU. Toad Suck Daze 25th Anniversary Special Event Station. 21.350 14.260 7.260 146.520. Certificate. Faulkner County ARC, PO Box 324, Conway, AR 72033. www.w5auu.org.

May 6, 0300Z-1200Z, Abilene, TX. Armadillo Intertie, AI5TX. National Radio System of Texas picnic. 21.200 14.230 14.050 7.250. QSL. Bill Lawless, W5WRL, 4000 Crestridge, Midland, TX 79707. www.armadillo.org.

May 6, 1500Z-2300Z, Cookeville, TN. Upper Cumberland Amateur Radio Association, W4W. Cookeville Railroad Rendezvous Street Festival. 14.260 7.260 3.860. QSL. Dennis M. Barrett, 1035 East 6th St, Cookeville, TN 38501. www.ucara.org.

May 7, 1530Z-2230Z, Fort Knox, KY. Owensboro Amateur Radio Club, W2P. VE Day, General George Patton, 3rd Army and 8th Armored Division. 14.248 14.048 7.248 7.048. QSL. Schley Cox, W4AMW, 1860 Antler Ave, Owensboro, KY 42303-1873. www.k4hy.net.

May 12-May 16, 0000Z-0000Z, North Wildwood, NJ. North Wildwood OEM, N2W. North Wildwood NJ Centennial Celebration. 147.400 14.240 7.100 3.850. QSL. William Farr, 311 E 8th Ave, N

Wildwood, NJ 08260. www.northwildwood.com/events/sung.html.

May 13, 1600Z-2100Z, Cumberland, MD. Mountain Amateur Radio Club, W3YMW. C&O Canal Re-watering Celebration (Western Terminus). 18.125 14.270 7.270 3.925 SSB 14.070 7.070 PSK31 Echolink 146.88. Certificate. Mountain Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 234, Cumberland, MD 21501-0234. www.hamtalk.org/co_canal.htm

May 13, 1400Z-1900Z, Waterville, ME. Waterville Area Wireless Association, W1WA. Ft Halifax, Winslow, ME 250th anniversary -- oldest block house in USA. 21.350 14.300 7.240 PSK 14.070. QSL. Waterville Area Wireless Association, 5 Matheson Ave, Winslow, ME 04901. www.qsl.net/wa1w

May 13, 1400Z-2000Z, Williamsburg, VA. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club, K4RC. Promoting Jamestown Island 1607 -- 399th year. 21.350 18.150 14.250 7.261. Certificate. Russell Chandler, KU4FP, 132 Druid Dr, - Williamsburg, VA 23185. *Certificate for working all three special event stations from K4RC including Colonial Williamsburg and Yorktown Battlefield.* www.qsl.net/waarc.

May 13, 1400Z-2200Z, Roanoke, VA. Roanoke Valley Radio Club, W4CA. Mill Mountain Star. 14.260 7.260. QSL. Ray Crampton, 1670 Catawba Rd, Troutville, VA 24175. www.cuppnnet.com/rvarc.

May 13-May 14, 0000Z-2400Z, Fairmont, WV. Mountaineer Amateur Radio Association, W8SP. Commemorating the first official observance of Mother's Day at the International Mother's Day Shrine in Grafton, WV. Gen SSB, CW 15 20 40 80 m, Nov SSB 10 m. Certificate. Charles T. McClain, K8UQY, Rte 4 Box 161, Grafton, WV 26354.

May 13-May 14, 0100Z-2300Z, Death Valley, CA. Wizard DX and Amateur Radio Club, WI6ZRD. How low can you go? First anniversary of the Wizard DX

Club. 7.250 3.860 2.155 1.872. Certificate. Shannon Mossman, PO Box 2904, Victorville, CA 92393.

May 13-May 14, 1600Z-1600Z, Waverly, OH. W8W. Tour of Scioto River Valley. 7.225 7.045 3.850 3.545. QSL. Henry R. Greeb, N8XX, 5727 11 Mile Rd NE, Rockford, MI 49341.

May 13-May 20, 0000Z-0000Z, Anaheim, CA. Anaheim Police Amateur Radio Club, W6APD. National Police Week 2006. 28.450 21.350 18.150 14.253. QSL. Mark McMullen, KM6HB, PO Box 27271, Santa Ana, CA 92799. www.qsl.net/w6apd.

May 19-May 22, 0400Z-0400Z, St Croix, US Virgin Islands. The 3 Steves, KP2/N2IFA KP2/KB2ENF KP2/KF2TI. 3 Steves Special Event Station on St Croix. Gen portions 10- 160 m. QSL. via bureau or direct to: Steve Adell, KF2TI, 606 E Vail Rd, Landing, NJ 07850-1218. *Work all 3 Steves and receive a coveted WAS (Worked All Steves) Certificate.* <http://3stevesandkurt.dynu.com>.

May 20, 1300Z-1800Z, Baltimore, MD. Carroll County Contesters, K3P. Triple Crown Special Event -- Preakness. 21.365 14.265 7.265 3.865. Certificate. Carroll Country Contesters, c/o John F. King, PO Box 64, Hampstead, MD 21074. www.wy3p.net Special certificate for all three Triple Crown events.

May 20, 1400Z-1800Z, Caldwell, NJ. West Essex Amateur Radio Club, W2EF. Operating from the Grover Cleveland Birthplace. 146.58 21.340 14.240 7.240. Certificate. West Essex ARC, PO Box 54, Essex Fells, NJ 07021. www.wearc.org.

May 20, 1600Z-2300Z, Wheaton, IL. Dupage Amateur Radio Club, W9DUP. To commemorate Armed Forces Day. 28.400 14.290 7.250 145.25/144.65. Certificate. Jef Fox, KC9GBX, Dupage Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 71, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. www.w9dup.org.

May 20, Baltimore, MD. Carroll County Contesters, K3P. Triple Crown Special Event — Preakness. 21.365 14.265 7.265 3.865. Certificate. Carroll County Contesters, c/o John F. King, PO Box 64, Hampstead, MD 21074. www.wy3p.net Special certificate for all three Triple Crown events.

May 20-May 21, 1400Z-2000Z, Farmingdale, NY. Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club, W2GSB/APM. Armed Forces Day Special Event at the American Airpower Museum. 28.320 21.380 14.260 7.235. QSL. W2GSB/APM, PO Box 356, West Babylon, NY 11704. www.gsbarc.org.

May 20-May 21, 1600Z-0000Z, Pasadena, CA. Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club, W6VIO. JPL Annual Open House. 21.445 14.345 7.295. QSL. JPL ARC, PO Box 820, La Canada, CA 91012. <http://jplarc.ampr.org>.

May 20-May 21, 1600Z-0400Z, McMinnville, OR. McMinnville Amateur Radio Club, W7RXJ. 25th Anniversary of the McMinnville Amateur Radio Club. 21.350 19.810 14.250 7.281. QSL. Debbie Boggs, KE7DMI, McMinnville Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 891, McMinnville, OR 97128. www.marcwireless.org.

May 25-May 29, 1500Z-0300Z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, W9IMS. 90th running of the Indianapolis 500. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC, PO Box 18495, Indianapolis, IN 46218. www.qrz.com/w9ims.

May 27, 1200Z-2100Z, Chestertown, MD. Kent Amateur Radio Society, K3ARS. 1774 Re-enactment of the dumping tea in the Chester river on May 23, 1774. 28.340 14.240 7.240. Certificate. K3ARS, PO Box 921, Chestertown, MD 21620. www.k3ars.org.

[k3ars.org](http://www.k3ars.org).

May 27-May 28, 1900Z-0200Z, Delta Junction, AK. Arctic Amateur Radio Club, K7F. Delta Junction Friendly Frontier Days. 21.300 14.250 7.240 3.920. Certificate. Wayne W. Santos, PO Box 31013, Ft Greely, AK 99731. www.kl7kc.com.

May 27-May 28, 1930Z-0100Z, Fort Wayne, IN. Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day, KC9HAJ. Military Appreciation Event on the air. 14.330 7.230 Echo-link IRLP. Certificate. Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, 6116 Graymoor Ln, Fort Wayne, IN 46835. www.armad.net.

May 27-May 29, 1300Z-0100Z, Albion, IN. 21 Repeater Group, W9N. Chain-O-Lakes State Park Watch Fire Military Memorial. 21.250 14.250 7.250 3.985. QSL. Timothy S. Ryman, 618 Circle Dr, Albion, IN 46701.

May 28, 1400Z-2000Z, Croton, NY. Peekskill/Cortlandt Amateur Radio Association, W2F. 2006 opening of Muscoot Farms to public. 28.365 21.265 14.265 7.265. Certificate. PCARA, PO Box 146, Crompond, NY 10517. www.pcara.org.

May 29, 1200Z-2000Z, Belleville, MI. Yankee Air Force Museum, W8YAF. Osberving Memorial Day at the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport. 7.270. QSL. Frank A. Nagy, N8BIB, 24315 Waltz Rd, New Boston, MI 48164-9167.

May 29, 1200Z-2400Z, Nutley, NJ. Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Association, N2UL. CQ Memorial Day; God bless our fallen heroes. 28.420 12.260. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716. <http://rdgulara.org>.

May 29, 1400Z-2130Z, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge Amateur

Radio Club, W5KID. Memorial Day. CW 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040 SSB 14.250 to 24.320. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS *Kidd* Museum, 305 South River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm.

Jun 1-Jul 3, 1500Z-0300Z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, W9IMS. United States Grand Prix. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC, PO Box 18495, Indianapolis, IN 46218. www.qrz.com/w9ims.

Jun 2-Jun 3, 1400Z-2200Z, Newington, CT. United States Power Squadrons Amateur Radio Net, W1AW. National Safe Boating Week. 21.390 14.290 7.290 3.990. QSL. W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. www.USPS.org.

Jun 3, 1400Z-2000Z, Tylertown, MS. Southwest Mississippi ARC, W5WQ. Celebration of dairy industry in Walthall County. 14.270 7.270. QSL. Southwest Mississippi ARC, 1545 Friendship Ln NW, Brookhaven, MS 39601. <http://lcsd.k12.ms.us/users/community.smarc>.

Jun 3, 1400Z-2100Z, Badin, NC. Montgomery Amateur Radio Society, NC4MC. The Loss of the "Badin Bomber" on June 8, 1944. 28.450 21.350 14.250 7.255. Certificate. Montgomery Amateur Radio Society, NC4MC, c/o Katana Luther, 3224 Panther Mountain Rd, Asheboro, NC 27205. <http://members.carolina.net/ki4dh>.

Jun 3, 1600Z-2200Z, Saginaw, MI. Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association, K8DAC. Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the SVARA Club. 146.58 14.250 14.050 7.250. Certificate. SVARA, PO Box 1783, Saginaw, MI 48605. www.k8dac.com.

Jun 3, 1800Z-2100Z, Olathe, KS. Johnson County ARES, KSØJC. Honoring Marshall and Loreta Ensor code teachers. 14.250 10.115. Certificate. Dan Reed, 29545 W 152nd Ter, Gardner, KS 66030. www.colossus.org/ares.

Jun 3, 0900Z-1700Z, West Orange, NJ. Nutley Amateur Radio Society, W2GLQ. Thomas Edisons House, The Glenmont Estates. General Portions of the bands, 28.245 21.245 14.245 7.245. QSL. Nutley ARS, 169 Chestnut St, Nutley, NJ 07110.

Jun 3-Jun 4, 0001Z-2359Z, Camden, NJ. Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station, NJ2BB. Museum Ships Radio Event. 21.330 18.150 14.270 7.250. Certificate. Margaret Burgess, KB2BRR, 150 Schooner Ave, Barnegat, NJ 08005. www.nj2bb.org. *Special certificate for working 15 ships.*

Jun 3-Jun 4, 1400Z-2200Z, Manitowoc, WI. USS *Cobia* Radio Club/ManCoRad Radio Club, N9BQV. WW II Submarine USS *Cobia* AGSS-245 on the air. 14.243 7.243. QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt, 4932 S 10th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220. www.qsl.net/w9dk.

Jun 3-Jun 4, 1600Z-0400Z, Chelsea, MI. Chelsea Amateur Radio Club, WD8IEL. Chelsea Amateur Radio Club Swap Special Event. 28.450 14.280 7.250. Certificate. Ron Donovan, 430 S East St, Chelsea, MI 48118. *Electronic QSL available, see www.wd8iel.org.*

Jun 3-Jun 10, 1300Z-2200Z, Baltimore, MD. Historic Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club, W2W. Use of electronics/radios during D-Day Invasion of Europe. 14.266 7.266. Certificate and/or QSL. Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1693 MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. www.hemarc.org.

Jun 3-Jun 17, 0400Z-0359Z, Atkinson, MA. Atkinson Amateur Radio Club, K1D. Celebrating Kid's Day and Amateur Radio Awareness. 21.370 14.270. QSL. Peter Schipeliti, 7 Dearborn Ridge Rd, Atkinson, NH 03811.

Jun 9-Jun 11, 1800Z-0200Z, Worthington, MN. Worthington Okabena Windsurfers, WØW. Annual Windsurfing Regatta and Unvarnished Music Festival. 21.375 14.275 7.275 3.875. QSL. Randy Shirbroun, NDØC, 1745 N Douglas Ave, Worthington, MN 56187. www.wgtn.net/wow/index.htm.

Jun 9-Jun 11, 1800Z-1800Z, Estes Park, CO. HAMCON Colorado, W1AW/0. ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention. 21.320 14.245 7.255 3.875. QSL. W1AW/0, ARRL HQ Operators Club, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. www.hamconcolorado.org

Jun 10, 0930Z-1800Z, County of Wiltshire, England. Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club, GB6BTS. Introducing children to amateur radio at Broad Town School Fete. 80 40 20 2 m and 70 cm. via bureau or direct to GB6BTS, c/o Gareth Drinkwater, 82 David Murray John Tower, Swindon, England SN1 1LI. www.qrz.com/GB6BTS.

Jun 10, 1300Z-2200Z, Elmont, NY. Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club, K2B. Triple Crown Special Event -- Belmont Stakes. 21.365 14.265 7.265 3.865. Certificate. LI-MARC, PO Box 392, Levittown, NY 11756. www.limarc.org. *Special certificate for all three Triple Crown events.*

Jun 10-Jun 11, 1700Z-2300Z, Fond du Lac, WI. Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club Inc, W9EBV. Fiftieth anniversary of FdL Radio Club. 14.275 7.250. QSL. Dave Witt, WD9W, 1160 S Park Ave, Fond du Lac, WI 54935. www.fdlhams.org.

Jun 10 and Jun 11, 1400Z-2000Z daily, Niagara Falls, ON Canada. Niagara Peninsula ARC, VE3VM. Friendly Foes Above the Falls Air Show. 14.270 7.265 7.065 14.025 7.025. QSL. Dave Digweed, VE3FOI, 2575 Rosedene Rd, St Anns, ON LOR 1Y0, Canada. www.nparc.on.ca

Jun 10-Jun 25, 0001Z-2359Z, Haddonfield, NJ. South Jersey Radio Association, K2A. 90th Anniversary of the South Jersey Radio Association. 145.290 144.465 28.405 7.168. QSL. South Jersey Radio Association, QSL Mgr W2YRW, Post Office Box 1026, Haddonfield, NJ 08033. www.sjra.org.

Jun 10-Jun 17, 1700Z-2300Z, Fayetteville, AR. Amateur Radio Club of the Arkansas Northwest, W5A. Commemorating 170th anniversary of Arkansas statehood. 25.450 21.240 14.250 7.250 3.975. QSL. Don Banta, K5DB, 3407 Diana St, Springdale, AR 72764. www.arkansas.us.

Jun 16-Jun 18, 1600Z-1600Z, Conisbrough, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, UK. CASHOTA, GB8CC. Castles and Stately Homes on the Air, from Conisbrough Castle. 17 20 40 80 m, HF VHF UHF and fast scan TV. Certificate. John Williams, G8LGC, 24 Hilltop Gardens, Denaby Main, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN12 4SB, UK. www.cashota.org.

Jun 17, 1500Z-2100Z, Vandalia, IL. National Trail and Old Capitol Amateur Radio Clubs, K9UXZ. Bicentennial year of the Historic National Road. 10 15 m 14.240 7.240. Certificate. K9UXZ, Box 931, Effingham, IL 62401.

TENNESSEE NETS

Net Name	Freq.	UTC	Day
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

BRARC "Junk in the Shade" Hamfest 2006

Highland Park Observatory
13800 Highland Road
Baton Rouge, LA
May 6, 2006

Johnson County Amateur Radio Swapfest

Johnson County ARC
National Guard Armory
1923 South Shady Street
Mountain City, TN
May 13, 2006

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

Balance	\$6,856.28
<u>Expense</u>	
U of M Phone Bill	\$22.94
Bell South Phone Bill	\$58.43
Avon Fund Raiser Supplies	\$182.93
Total Expense	\$264.30
<u>Income</u>	
2006 Membership Dues	\$242.50
Avon Fund Raiser Sales (\$72.62 profit)	\$255.55
Total Income	\$498.05
Balance 05/02/2006	\$7,090.03

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:

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-

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