DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P.O. BOX 342768 MEMPHIS, TN 38184-2768 / VOL. 18 / NOVEMBER 2006



Welcome to the Delta Amateur Radio Club!

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

W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM 146.82, 147.36, 224.42, & 443.2

NOVEMBER 2006 CLUB MEETING

DATE: November 11, 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: Board Elections and Prizes

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 Friday, December 29th. 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

The year is quickly closing; we have had a number of good programs and activities this year. It is time to elect a new board and we need volunteers for the positions on the board. If you are interested in serving a position, please let the nominating committee or a Board member know. We have several positions that are open and have no nominations for at this time. The election is set for the November meeting.

We also have several upcoming Public Service events and need all the help available. If you are interested in those events contact Eddie Trammel or Jim Cissell or me for information.

I have been looking for someone with a small travel trailer to donate to the club to use as a command post/operating station during Special Events, Field Day and in the event of an emergency. I have not had any interested donors however I have located one for a

nominal price. I will be talking to the board about it and the membership at the November meeting.

I hope to see all at the meeting November 14th.

73, Darrell—KK4D

DARC BOARD MEETING October 3, 2006

KK4D-Darrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were five board members in attendance. KK4D-Darrell, K4POM-Lisa, Ned-KA4BLL, Ben-KU4AW, and Roger-K4KCU.

The board discussed options for the October general meeting. We unanimously decided to have KK4D-Darrell present his identity theft presentation.

KK4D-Darrell gave the treasurer's report.

The board discussed the upcoming nominations.

New Business:

The board unanimously approved WA5LPW-Richard Price as a new member.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

K4POM-Lisa Sheffield DARC Secretary

DARC MEMBERSHIP MEETING October 10, 2006

Darrell, KK4D called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and Introductions were done for those in attendance.

The secretary's report was read and accepted; Joe Lowenthal seconded the motion.

Darrell read the Treasurers report and asked if there were questions or comments. The Treasurers report was accepted without any objection.

Eddie Trammell gave a public service event report on the MS-150 and the Juvenile Diabetes walk and upcoming events.

Darrell advised that there was not a complete slate of Officers as of this time and asked that the presentation of nominations be postponed 30 days to the November meeting. Bill Covington, KC4SXT questioned if the nominations had to be published in the Sparks 30 days prior to the election. Darrell went over the ByLaws and it was determined that it was not required. A motion to postpone nomination announcement until the November meeting was made and seconded.

Darrell asked members to assist Hugh Wardlaw WB4SLI on the upcoming Scout Base and to contact Hugh if interested. Bill and Ned gave the VE report.

Jim, KI4I gave information on the upcoming Bartlett Christmas Parade Dec. 9. 2006 advising that he needed volunteers.

Joe Lowenthal won the drawing.

Darrell gave an Identity Theft power point presentation and took questions.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

K4POM-Lisa Sheffield DARC Secretary

ELECTION OF 2007 BOARD

The candidates are as follows:

President

Darrell Sheffield - KK4D

Vice PresidentDave Royer, KI4DR

Treasurer

Hugh Wardlaw WB4SLI

Secretary

Lisa Sheffield, KI4DIL

Director of Publications

Roger Schlincter, KI4AJH

Director of Programs

Vacant

Director of Meetings and Special Events Dean Honadle, N2LAZ

ARRL EMCOMM COURSE TESTING At Delta Club Testing Session

Rich Garrett, AI4BN and Bill Covington, KC4SXT will be available to administer the tests for the ARRL Emergency Communications Level I. Level II. and Level III courses on September 12th at the Delta Club testing session location. These are like the tests that were given at the recent ARES meeting. Registration is at 5:30pm with testing starting about 6pm. There is a \$10 charge per test (make check payable to ARRL). Please let Rich Garrett know in advance which test(s) you want to take so he can have enough tests available. He can be reach via email at ai4bn@dsg.us or at home at 901-683-6371. The testing location is at Ellendale Church of Christ, 2nd Floor of rear building, 7635 Higway 70 (prox 1-1/4 miles east of Stage Rd in Bartlett.

PRIZES GALOR!!!!

This November membership will include the annual prize drawings. For those who would like to increase their chances of walking out with an armful of goodies, plenty of extra tickets will be available for purchase.

Drawing prizes will include antennas, clocks, books, and a few odds and ends. Major prizes include a Yaesu VX150 HT, a Yaesu FT1802 2M mobile, and a Yaesu 857D with YSK857 Separation kit as the Grand Prize.

ARRL NEWSLETTER

LOADED FOR BEAR: FCC ISSUES WARNINGS FOR UNLICENSED USE OF HAM BANDS

Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth has warned seven Michigan residents that unlicensed use of Amateur Radio transmitting equipment on 2 meters to facilitate their bear hunting activities is illegal and may result in substantial fines. Warning notices went out October 19.

"While many hunters use Citizens Band radio or Family Radio Service equipment, the use of Amateur Radio equipment requires a license," Hollingsworth advised. He also sent an Advisory Notice to the Michigan Bear Hunters Association, suggesting the association post it on its Web site.

In a similar situation, the Commission attempted to enlist the aid of Quest Air Soaring Center in Groveland, Florida, in spreading the word that glider pilots using the facility also need to avoid unlicensed operation on 2 meters. Hollingsworth said unlicensed use of airborne radio equipment not only violates federal law but causes widespread interference to licensed stations. He suggested the soaring center post the Advisory Notice on its Web site as well.

The FCC also warned yet another trucking firm of apparent unlicensed operation on 10 meters

by two of its drivers this past summer. Hollingsworth wrote Sysco Corporation of Houston, Texas, October 10, citing reports that the transmissions were spotted August 11 and 18 on 28.115 MHz while the drivers were on the road in Michigan.

In all instances of alleged unlicensed operation, Hollingsworth pointed out that violators face fines of up to \$10,000 and possible imprisonment as well as seizure of any transmitting equipment they may have been using illegally.

In other recent actions, the FCC alerted two radio amateurs that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) has referred their Amateur Radio license renewal applications to the Enforcement Bureau for review. Hollingsworth notified each licensee to expect a Hearing Designation Order from the Commission.

Hollingsworth told David O. Castle, WA9KJI, of Evansville, Indiana, October 11 that the WTB referral was the result of "longstanding complaints against the operation of your station" involving interference on HF and 2 meters. In another case, Hollingsworth wrote William F. Crowell, W6WBJ (ex-N6AYJ), of Diamond Springs, California, that his license renewal application has been designated for hearing after a review of "numerous complaints filed against the operation of your station" alleging deliberate

interference.

Hearings are held in Washington, DC, before an administrative law judge, and the applicants will have the burden of proof in showing they're still qualified to be Amateur Radio licensees. Over the past several years, the FCC has asked both licensees to respond to allegations of deliberate interference on the amateur bands.

LEAGUE SEEKS FCC'S WRC-07 SUPPORT FOR 150-KHZ 60-METER AMATEUR ALLOCATION

The ARRL wants the FCC to throw its support behind a Draft Proposal seeking to have World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07) delegates consider a worldwide, secondary Amateur Radio allocation from 5260 kHz to 5410 kHz. The ARRL included the request in comments http://www. arrl.org/announce/regulatory/ WRC07/WRC-07-Comments-10-27-06.pdf> it filed October 27 in IB Docket 04-286, "Recommendations approved by the Advisory Committee for the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference." WRC-07 Agenda Item 1.13 will review allocations to all services between 4 and 10 MHz. The League told the FCC that a contiguous band of frequencies in the range of 5 MHz is an important goal of the amateur community -domestically and internationally.

There are times when the propagation at 5 MHz bridges a significant gap between the

Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) when the MUF is below 7 MHz, but the Lowest Usable Frequency (LUF) is above the next lower Amateur Radio allocation at around 3.8 MHz," the League said, citing the Draft Proposal. "For reliable communications, an Amateur allocation in the vicinity of 5 MHz is the solution."

Originating with ARRL, the Draft Proposal from Informal Working Group 4 (IWG-4) follows up on disaster relief-related changes to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations made at WRC-03.

"The amateur services provide emergency communications on a local, national and international basis as an adjunct to normal communications, and in many cases provide the first information about disasters and serve as the only communications link when communications infrastructures are destroyed," the IWG-4 Draft Proposal background information notes.

Several countries -- including the US, Canada, Finland, Iceland, Norway and the UK -- already have permitted Amateur Radio operation on spectrum between 5250 and 5450 kHz, the ARRL said, citing the Draft Proposal. "It notes that there is a successful history of amateur secondary use of bands in which incumbent primary users are present," the ARRL said, mentioning 30 meters as one example. The ARRL said the five 60-meter channels have

been in regular use by US radio amateurs since 2003 "without any instances of interference reported by primary users."

The League took issue with remarks contained in the ITU Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) draft report with respect to Agenda Item 1.13 that suggest otherwise. Among "disadvantages," the Draft CPM Report asserts, an allocation such as the League suggests "would increase congestion and potential interference to fixed and mobile services at 5 MHz." It argues that compatibility between amateur and fixed service systems in the vicinity of 5 MHz "has not been shown" and a decision to create an Amateur Service allocation there "could seriously affect reliable 24 hours [sic] communication capabilities of the fixed and mobile services." The Draft CPM Report also takes note of the advantages to the Amateur Service of such an allocation.

The proposed allocation is "well within the scope of existing resolutions from WRC-03," the League said. It reiterated that amateur use of the five current 60-meter channels "has not resulted in any apparent compromise in the use of the band" on the part of primary Fixed and Mobile services. "To the contrary, that use has demonstrated compatibility with primary users over a reasonable period of time," the ARRL said.

The ARRL's request in its IB Docket 04-286 comments is

unrelated to the League's October 10 Petition for Rule Making (PRM) http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/5MHz/5-MHz-Improvement-Petition-09-2006. pdf>, in which the ARRL asked the FCC to expand operating privileges on 60 meters and to swap one existing channel for a new one.

While the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has indicated it's okay with the ARRL's October 10 petition request, it also said it could not support a request for a 50 kHz-wide domestic secondary allocation. The NTIA oversees spectrum allocated to federal government users, which includes the present 60 meter allocation.

Both the FCC and the NTIA provide input toward positions the US delegation ultimately will take on various WRC-07 issues. Should WRC-07 delegates eventually consider and agree to the international allocation at 5 MHz that ARRL proposes, it still would be up to the FCC -- in conjunction with the NTIA -- whether to authorize such a band for US radio amateurs.

DUELING DXPEDITIONS? TWO GROUPS SET TO DESCEND ON RARE LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS

The second most-wanted DXCC entity, Lakshadweep Islands (VU7) may host two separate DXpeditions during December. A team sponsored by the Amateur Radio

Society of India (ARSI) -- the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society for India -- will operate as VU7LD http:// arsi.info/vu7/index.html>. A second group, under the auspices of the National Institute for Amateur Radio (NIAR), has announced plans to operate as VU7RG http://www.vu7.in/, in honor of the late Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG. While the two DXpeditions would have multiple stations on the air simultaneously on various HF bands and modes for at least the first part of December, the Web sites for the respective DXpeditions do not mention the other's planned operation. The Daily DX and QST "How's DX?" Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, has cautioned that the two highly competitive organizations carefully coordinate their on-air activities to avoid chaos.

"It is possible that up to six or more stations between the two teams may operate at the same time on the same band and mode." McClenny pointed out in the October 26 edition of The Daily DX http://www.dailydx.com/>. He said both teams are aware of concerns within the DX community and on the part of potential DXpedition sponsors regarding the possibility for confusion caused by overlapping operating frequencies that could decrease the efficiency of the operations as well as opportunities to get into the VU7LD and VU7RG logs.

"With this in mind, it will be important for some kind of frequency management (ie, to assign strict frequency slots for all modes and bands to all operation sites of both groups)," McClenny advised. "This will ensure wellregulated and trouble free operations." He says members of the two groups need to work out an agreement before their DXpeditions begin. The NIAR says all of its VU7RG sites "will work closely together to avoid multiple stations in the air using overlapping frequencies."

ARSI's VU7LD DXpedition will run from December 1 until December 30, while NIAR's VU7RG DXpedition is set for December 1 until December 10. A three-day hamfest and conference will kick off the NIAR DXpedition. Earlier NIAR announcements had set the event for the January 15-25, 2007, time frame, but ARSI's announcement that it would mount its own VU7 DXpedition reportedly drove NIAR to reschedule.

Questions remain as to whether the Indian government has authorized NIAR's VU7RG DXpedition, but event organizers called these "rumors," and assured that the VU7 licenses "are getting processed in a regular way." Earlier this year, the NIAR organized and sponsored a successful DXpedition and hamfest-conference in the Andaman Islands (VU4).

Fifty or more hams from India and elsewhere -- including a number of well-known DXers -- are said to have signed on to fill the VU7RG operating positions. Approximately two dozen radio amateurs from India will handle VU7LD operations on CW, SSB and digital modes.

Part of the Laccadive Islands, Lakshadweep -- the smallest union territory of India -- is located in the Arabian Sea some 200 to 300 km off the southwestern coast of India. The territory marks its 50th anniversary this year. The VU7LD team will operate from Kavaratti Island, while the VU7RG DXpedition will take place from sites on Agatti, Bangaram and Kadmat islands.

ARISS "CONTINGENCY NETWORK" IMPRESSES NASA

When Russian flight controllers encountered difficulties during a recent International Space Station cargo rocket docking, NASA called on a special -- although littleknown -- Amateur Radio team to stand by if needed. Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Ops Team "ISS Ham Contingency Network" volunteers around the world immediately swung into action. Within 15 minutes of receiving the call from Johnson Space Center, Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, reported the ISS Ham Contingency Network was ready to provide any necessary communication support.

The ARISS teamwork was very effective," ARISS Secretary-Treasurer Rosalie White, K1STO said. "Its members learned a great deal, and they impressed NASA with how quickly the system was brought up."

During the October 26 Progress docking, NASA says, Russian flight controllers were unable to confirm whether an automated antenna on the rocket had retracted as commanded. If still extended, the antenna could have interfered with the final latching of the supply ship to the ISS. To avoid disturbing the softly docked cargo ship and to aid the crew with docking maneuvers, the ISS orientation was allowed to drift freely.

During free-drift mode, however, the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS) -- which handles communication between the crew and Mission Control in Houston -- can be lost. That's because the station's solar arrays may not directly face the sun, causing a drop in onboard power.

Awakened at 2 AM, ARISS
Australian team member Tony
Hutchison, VK5ZAI, put out a
blind call on VHF to the ISS crew,
although no answer was needed at
that point. Others available to
cover later passes included Gerald
Klatzko, ZS6BTD, in South
Africa; Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, at
ON4ISS in Belgium; Dick Flagg,
AH6NM, and Nancy Rocheleau,
WH6PN, at Sacred Hearts
Academy in Honolulu; and Frank
Bauer, KA3HDO, and Mark

Steiner, K3MS, at the Goddard Space Flight Center's WA3NAN. Each of these Earth stations has a track record of being able to sustain reliable communication with the ISS.

The call-up marked the first time that NASA had asked for such Amateur Radio assistance since the initial crew came aboard the ISS in November 2000. Ransom says that by remaining available to ensure solid communication while Mission Control staff dealt with the docking issue, the ISS Ham Contingency Network provided Mission Control with an additional layer of security.

Once the antenna retraction problem was resolved, the contingency network stood down, but NASA's request and the ensuing ham radio activity did serve as a valuable drill, ARISS said.

NASA says Expedition 14 Commander Mike Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and flight engineers Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, and Thomas Reiter, DF4TR, opened the hatch to the supply ship October 27 to unload supplies.

PACKET UPDATE

Many times we want to go mobile with our digital setups. That means running batteries. Running Packet with an HT and a portable antenna can work well when we are close to a station we can digipeat through. Our Handie Talkies can also be used for emergency communications. The main thing we have to have is power to run them. Most manufacturers have gone to lithium ion batteries packs for more operating time between recharges. Older rigs had Nickel Cadmium (NICAD) or Nickel Metal Hydride (NI-MH) packs. After market manufacturers also came out with larger battery packs that could greatly extend operating time. One of these is Batteries America. They offer pack for older radios going way back to the old Icom 2AT series and the Kenwood 2500 as well as new radios. They offer packs for lots of different radios with different capacities. If you want to get a pack to increase operating time or just replace a bad pack on your HT check out the folks at Batteries America. Their web address is www. batteriesamerica.com. They will also send you a free catalog just for asking.

James Butler, KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Amateurs who run QRP many times like to build up their own equipment either from scratch or from a kit. One of the few kit makers still around is Ramsey Electronics. They have several kits for the radio amateur. They have line of QRP transmitters and a matching line of receivers. The two I have are receivers for the 80 meter and 40 meter ham bands. These are all mode direct conversion receivers that will receive AM, SSB, and CW. The kit includes the PC board along with all the parts needed for the project except case and knobs which you can buy separately. The receivers work pretty well and have about a 1 microvolt sensitivity level. They are not as good as commercial rigs but you can hear strong signals easily. The receiver kit cost about \$ 40.00 and covers

one band. They are a good weekend project to practice soldering and kit building. Mated up with their QRP transmitter for the same band you can link them together for transceiver operation. You can also use it with a QRP transceiver of your on design. They run on a 9 volt battery and have hookup for a stereo headphone and antenna jack. Check out their web site. It is http://www.ramseyelectronics.com/

James Butler, KB4LJV

NOVEMBER

2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	3 Mitchell Moore	4
5	6	7	8 Eddie, KF4QFW	9 Roger, K4KCU	10 Russell, KI4HTD	11
12 Gwendolyn Hyatt	13	Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM Stephen, KI4EBV	15 Tony, K4PWW	16	17	18
19	20	21 James, KG4YKZ	22 Jacob, KD5NUH	23 Stan, AC4CQ Chuck, W4VAC Bruce, KG4FUI	24 Lee, WC4W	25
26	27	28 Shelby Cty., ARES 6:45 PM	29	30 Kenneth, N4WAH Jim, NI4C Lauren, KF4LZM		

DECEMBER

2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Joyce Hughes	5 James, WA4RW	6 Jim, KI4I	7 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	8	9 J.T., KI4AJG Mary, NV4Z
10	11	Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM Jim, K4ZFQ	13	John, K3LK Sylvia, KE4WOT	15 Jimmy, KG4TKY	16
17	18 James, N5WFF	19	20 Mark, WB4RRT Jason, KI4BXX	21 Patsy Lane	22	23
24 / 31 Marion, N4VTB / Don, KA4BMI	25	26 Darrell, KK4D Brenda, KE4MKK	27	28	29 James Pace	30 Bob, KF4NDH



CONTEST CALENDAR

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

10-10 International CW/Digital Contest -- 0001Z Oct 28-2359 Z Oct 29. Logs due Nov 13. (See Aug QST, p 88 or www. ten-ten.org.)

ARRL November Sweepstakes -- CW, from 2100Z Nov 4-0300Z Nov 6. (Phone from 2100Z Nov 18 to 0300Z Nov 20; see Oct QST, p 103, or www.arrl.org/ contests.)

North American Collegiate ARC Championship -- CW (Phone, Nov 18-20). This is a competition based on Sweepstakes results between club stations at institutions of higher education beyond the high school level. Clubs enter Sweepstakes in any of the valid entry categories. Separate champions will be determined for CW, Phone and combined scores. For more information: www.collegiatechampionship.org.

Kentucky QSO Party -- CW/Phone, sponsored by the Western KY DX Association from 1400Z Nov 11-0600Z Nov 12.

Codes:

5. Direction Finding

7. Experimenting/

1.Antennas

3. Contesting 4. CW Operating

(fox hunting)

6. DXing

2. APRS

Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 1.815 and 60 kHz above band edge; SSB -- 1.840, 3.985, 7.285, 14.285, 21.385, 28.585. For more information: k4txj@arrl.net.

ARRL EME Contest -- from 0000Z Nov 11-2400Z Nov 12. Frequencies: 50-1296 MHz (see Aug *QST*, p 95, or **www.arrl.** org/contests).

Japan International DX Contest --Phone, from 0700Z Nov 11-1300Z Nov 12 (see Apr *QST*, p 100, or **jidx.org**/ jidxrule-e.html).

Worked All Europe DX Contest (WAEDC) -- RTTY, from 0000Z Nov 11-2359Z Nov 12. Same rules as WAEDC Phone and CW, except everyone works everyone. QTC can only be exchanged between continents (see Aug QST, p 88, or www.waedc.de).

OK/OM DX Contest -- CW, sponsored by the Czech Radio Club (CRC) from 1200Z Nov 11-1200Z Nov 12. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: okomdx.radioamater.cz.

CQ WE (Western Electric) -- CW/ Phone/ Digital, from 1900Z Nov 11-0500Z Nov 13. Frequencies: 160 meters-70 centimeters (no repeater contacts). Contact as many hams as possible who currently work for, did work for, or are retired from any part of the pre-divestiture "Bell System" or any company created from it. For more information: cqwe. cboh.org.

ARRL November Sweepstakes -- Phone (see Nov 4-5).

North American Collegiate ARC Championship -- Phone (see Nov 4-5).

LZ DX Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs from 1200Z Nov 18-1200Z Nov 19. Frequencies: 80-10 meters with 10-minute mode change rule. For more information: www.qsl.net/lz1fw/contest.

RSGB 1.8MHz Contest -- CW, from 2100 Nov 18-0100Z Nov 19 (see Feb QST, p 99). For more information: www. rsgbhfcc.org.

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.

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

KA4BLL (Extra) Ned Savage 363-9607 ka4bIl@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 kd4nog@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)

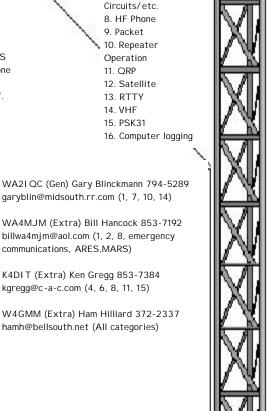
N9ACQ (Extra) Bill Kuechler 368-0532 wkuechl1@midsouth.rr.com (1, 8, 13)

WA2I QC (Gen) Gary Blinckmann 794-5289

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)



CQ WW DX Contest -- CW, from 0000Z OK DX RTTY Contest -- sponsored by Nov 25-2400Z Nov 26 (see Oct *QST*, p 102 or **cqww.com**).

ARRL 160 Meter Contest -- CW, from 2200Z Dec 1-1600Z Dec 3 (see Nov *QST*, p 105, or www.arrl.org/contests).

New Mexico QSO Party -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the ARRL New Mexico Section, from 0000Z-2359Z Dec 3. Frequencies: 160-10 meters.

TARA RTTY Mêlée -- sponsored by the Troy Amateur Radio Assn, from 0000Z-2400Z Dec 2. For more information: www.n2tv.org/seasons/ tara_melee_rules.html.

TOPS Activity Contest -- CW, sponsored by TOPS, from 1800Z Dec 2-1800Z Dec 3. Frequencies: 80 meters. For more information: members.chello.at/oe1tkw.

ARRL 10 Meter Contest -- 0000Z Dec 9-2400Z Dec 10 (see Nov *QST*, p 105, or www.arrl.org/contests).

28 MHz SWL Contest -- runs at the same Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO time as the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. For more information: monsite.orange. fr/28mhzswlcontest/index.jhtml.

Holiday Spirits Homebrew CW Sprint -- sponsored by the QRP ARCI, from 2000Z-2400Z Dec 17. Frequencies (MHz) -- 1.810, 3.560, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060. For more information: www.qrparci.org.

Great Colorado Snowshoe Run -- CW, sponsored by the Colorado QRP Club from 0200Z-0359Z Dec 9. Frequencies: 40 meters only. For more information: www.cqc.org/contests.

North American Meteor Scatter Contest -- any mode, sponsored by the WSJTGROUP from 0000Z Dec 10-0700Z Dec 18 during the Geminids meteor shower. Frequencies (MHz): 50, 144, 222, 432, via meteor scatter. For more information: www.ykc.com/wa5ufh/Rally/ NAHSMS.htm.

the Czech Radio Club, 0000Z-2400Z Dec 16. Categories: SOAB (LP, HP > 100 W), SOSB, MOAB, SWL. Frequencies: 80-10 meters according to IARU band plan. For information: www.crk.cz/ENG/ DXCONTE.HTM.

PSK31 Death Match -- PSK31 and PSK63, sponsored by the Michigan DX Association, 0000Z Dec 16-2400Z Dec 17. Frequencies: 80-6 meters -- PSK31 and PSK63 count as separate "bands." For more information: www.mdxa1.org/ deathmatch.html

Russian 160 Meter Contest -- CW/SSB. sponsored by Radio magazine, from 0000Z-0200Z Dec 16. For more information: www.radio.ru/cg/contest/ruleresults/index11.shtml.

Croatian CW Contest -- sponsored by Hrvatski Radioameterski Savez (HRS), from 1400Z Dec 16-1400Z Dec 17. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: www.hamradio.hr.

Party -- all modes, sponsored by the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, 0001Z Dec 16-2359Z Jan 1, 2007. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 1.830, 3.530, 7.030, 14.030, 21.030, 28.030; SSB --1.970, 3.970, 7.270, 14.270, 21.370, 28.370, plus VHF and repeaters.

DARC Christmas Contest -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, 0830Z-1100Z Dec 26. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 3.510-3.560, 7.010-7.040; SSB -- 3.610-3.650 and 3.700-3.775, 7.040. For more information: www. K5VC, 107 W Park Dr, Brownsville, TX darc.de/referate/dx/fedcx.htm

ARRL Straight Key Night -- from 0000Z-2359Z Jan 1, 2007 (see page 98 of this issue or www.arrl.org/contests).

RAC Winter Contest -- CW/Phone, sponsored by the Radio Amateurs of Canada, 0000Z-2359Z Dec 30. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 25 kHz up from the band edge (check on the half hour); Phone --1.850, 3.775, 7.075, 7.225, 14.175,

21.250, 28.500, 50 and 144 MHz. For information: www.rac.ca/downloads/ canwin2006.pdf.

Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge -- CW, sponsored by the Boring Amateur Radio Club, 1500Z Dec 30-1500Z Dec 31. Frequencies: 160 meters. For more information: jzap.com/k7rat/ stew.rules.txt.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nov 9-Nov 12, 1600Z-2000Z, Arlington Heights, IL. Armored Force Amateur Radio Net, KA9NLX. Veteran's Day SE honoring all veterans. 14.325 7.283 7.035 3.985. Certificate. John Paskevicz, 1423 North Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

November 10-13, 1300-2100Z, Hampton, VA. US Army Amateur Radio Society, W4V. Veterans' Day observance from Fort Monroe, VA. 14.248 7.248 SSB. Certificate and special QSL card. US Army Amateur Radio Society, 244 Beauregard Heights, Hampton, VA 23669. www. usaars.com

Nov 11, 1200Z-2400Z, Nutley, NJ. Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Association, N2UL. CQ Veterans Day, Labor remembers our heroes. 28.420 14.260. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716. **rdgulara.org**.

Nov 11, 1300Z-1900Z, Brownsville, TX. Charro Amateur Radio Club, W5CRC. Return of the Snow Bird to South Texas. 28.335 21.335 14.335. QSL. Bob Austin, 78520. www.qsl.net/w5crc.

Nov 11, 1430Z-2039Z, Grand Rapids, MI. Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance, W8USA. Veteran's Day. 14.250 7.250 14.070 7.040. QSL. W8USA, PO Box 670, Comstock Park, MI 49321. www. w8usa.org.

Nov 11, 1500Z-2230Z, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. Veteran's 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.

Nov 11, 1500Z-2200Z, Waterloo, IA. Five Sullivan Brothers Amateur Radio Club, WØFSB. Veterans' Day and the 64th Anniversary of the loss of the Five Sullivans. 50.140 21.240 14.240 7.240. Certificate and QSL. Five Sullivan Brothers Amateur Radio Club, 4015 Independence Ave, Waterloo, IA 50703.

Nov 17-Nov 19, 1400Z-2200Z, Calhoun, GA. Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society, K4C. Celebrating the 10th anniversary as a club. 14.270 7.270 14.060 7.040. Certificate. Felton Floyd, 1054 Mountain Loop Rd NW, Sugar Valley, GA 30746. www.qsl.net/k4woc.

Nov 18, 1400Z-2000Z, Guthrie, OK. Edmond Amateur Radio Society, K5EOK. Oklahoma Statehood Day from original State Capitol Building. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. Certificate. EARS, PO Box 48, Edmond, OK 73083. www.k5eok. org.

Nov 18, 1400Z-2359Z, Smithsburg, MD. Cheese Hollow ARS, W3HAM. 10th anniversary of W3HAM as a club call. 14.270 7.230 7.061 3.920. Certificate. CHARS, 22613 Stevenson Rd, Smithsburg, MD 21783. www.w3cwc.org.

Nov 24, 1400Z-2000Z, Provincetown, MA. Steamship Portland Amateur Radio Association, W1P. 108th anniversary of sinking of SS Portland off Cape Cod. 144.565 18.130 14.260 7.260. QSL. Henry Brown, K1WCC, 19 Sao Paulo Dr, E Falmouth, MA 02536. 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate Nick Yokanovich, HEMARC, PO Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203 www.hemarc.us

Nov 24, 1400Z-2000Z, Watkinsville, GA. Oconee County Amateur Radio Society, W4EEE. Watkinsville Bi-Centennial Historic Eagle Tavern. 14.265 7.265 3.986 147.000. Certificate. Mike Lamb, 1050 Jacob Dr, Watkinsville, GA 30677.

Nov 25-Nov 26, 1400Z-2000Z, Plymouth, MA. Whitman Amateur Radio Club, WA1NPO. The first Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth Massachusetts. 18.140 14.280 7.250 3.890. Certificate. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382. www.wa1npo.org

Nov 25-Nov 26, 1500Z-2000Z, The Villages, FL. The Villages Amateur Radio Club, K4VRC. Eleventh anniversary of the club, from Sumter Landing Square. 14.300 7.250 3.940 146.925. Certificate. Ed Crowell, 1570 St James Cir, The Villages, FL 32162. *Event is daily*. www.synh.com/tvarc

Nov 25-Nov 27, 0000Z-0000Z, All USA Call Area. 10-10 International Club Station, W6OI. Celebrating 44 years and 75,000 members. 28.340 to 28.400 PSK 28.120. Certificate. Jack Moore, K5CC, 371 Ridge Creek Ln, Bulverde, TX 78163. www.10-10.org

Dec 1-Dec 3, 2100Z-0500Z, Offutt AFB, NE. Youth Amateur Radio Club, WB0CAP. Civil Air Patrol 65th anniversary. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. WB0CAP Youth Amateur Radio Club, cooffutt Composite Sq, Civil Air Patrol, P.O. Box 13402, Offutt AFB, NE 68113. www.qsl.net/wb0cap Party. 14.

Dec 1-Dec 10, 1500Z-2000Z, Baltimore, MD. Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club, W3HEM. The Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate. Nick Yokanovich, HEMARC, PO Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. www.hemarc.us

Dec 2, 0000Z-2359Z, Grand Junction, CO. Mesa County, NOW. Skywarn Recognition Day. 21.260 14.260 7.260. QSL. NOAA National Weather Service, Attn Jim Pringle, 792 Eagle Dr, Grand Junction, CO 81506. www.wcarc.ws/status.htm

Dec 2, 0000Z-2359Z, Lubbock, TX. South Plains Storm Spotting Team, WX5LBB. Skywarn Recognition Day. 14.255 7.250. QSL. Bruce Haynie, 2579

South Loop 289, Ste 100, Lubbock, TX 79423. www.spsst.org

Dec 2, 1400Z-2300Z, Ardmore, OK. Southern Oklahoma Amateur Radio Emergency Services, W5BLW. Ardmore Oklahoma Christmas Parade and after event. 14.325. Certificate. SOARES, 1006 Northwest Blvd, Ardmore, OK 73401. www.soaresss.org

Dec 2, 1400Z-2300Z, Birmingham, AL. Birmingham Amateur Radio Club, W4CUE. Celebrating 80 years of service to the Amateur Radio community (1926-2006). 14.280 7.275 146.88. QSL. Birmingham ARC, PO Box 603, Birmingham, AL 35201. www.w4cue.com

Dec 2, 1600Z-2200Z, Green Valley, AZ. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club, N7GV. Titan Missile Museum annual *Launch 4 Life* Day. 14.242 7.228. Certificate. Gene Schouweiler, 214 N Crocodile Rock Dr, Green Valley, AZ 85614. www.gvarc.us

Dec 2-Dec 3, 0000Z-2359Z, Albuquerque, NM. New Mexico QSO Party, N5M. Commemorating the New Mexico QSO Party. 14.250 14.050 7.250 7.050. Certificate. Kevin Carr, 5319 Ridge Rock Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114-4130.

Dec 7, 1500Z-2230Z, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. Pearl Harbor 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 Rough, LA 70802. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm

Dec 8-Dec 10, 0100Z-0800Z, Olathe, KS. Marshall Ensor Memorial Organization Amateur Radio Club, W9UA. 72 years since using this rig in teaching high-school students. 1.904. QSL. Ensor Museum MEMO Club -- W9UA/W9BSP, 7904 W 137 Ter, Overland Park, KS 66223-1124. *Times are daily*. w9bsp-w9ua.org

Dec 8-Dec 11, 1400Z-1400Z, St Petersburg, FL. Alphalpha Repeater Group,

W4A. Tierra Verde Light House Activation. 21.330 14.310 7.235 3.875. QSL. James Leder, K8CXM, 9374 Meadow Ridge Dr, Cincillati, OH 45241-1142. *\$1 with SASE n4maa.

Dec 9-Dec 10, 1300Z-1800Z, Manitowoc, WI. MANCORAD, W9DK. 60th Anniversary special operations. 14.260 14.070 7.250 3.900. QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, 4932 S 10th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220. www.qsl.net/w9dk

Dec 9-Dec 10, 1400Z-0200Z, Nazareth-Bethlehem, PA. Christmas City and Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Clubs, WX3MAS. Annual Christmas greetings from the twin Christmas Cities. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270. Certificate. CCARC/ DLARC WX3MAS, Greystone Building Gracedale Complex, RR 8, Nazareth, PA 18064. www.dlarc.org stations are invited to join in; con-

Dec 9-Dec 10, 1700Z-2359Z, Stockton, CA. Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, W6SF. Commemorating 75 years of friendship and community service! 14.250 14.055 7.250 7.055. Certificate. Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 690271, Stockton, CA 95269. www. w6sf.org

Dec 10, 1400Z-2200Z, Brainerd, MN. Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, W0UJ. Winter Wonderland -The Brainerd Lakes Area. 28.450 21.350 14.250. QSL. Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 189, Ironton, MN 56455-0189. www. brainerdham.org

Dec 16-Dec 23, 1400Z-2300Z,

Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, W8ZQ. Winter Festival of Lights from Oglebay Park. SSB general portions of 80 40 20 m. QSL. Joe McCready, WB8CTC, PO Box 192, Blaine, OH 43909. Times are daily.

Dec 16-Dec 25, 1400Z-0000Z, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR. Celebrating the Christmas season from Bethelehem NM. 28.270 21.270 14.270 7.270. QSL. VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. www.qsl.net/kc5our

Dec 24-Jan 8, 0501Z-0500Z, Atkinson, NH. Atkinson Amateur Radio, K1D. Kid's Day and Amateur Radio Awareness. 21.273 14.273 7.257. QSL. Peter Schipelliti, W1DAD, 7 Dearborn Ridge Rd, Atkinson, NH 03811.

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Brant Rock, MA. The American Radio Relay League, W100BO/W1F. 100 Years of Wireless by Voice. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. Special Event Station W1F, PO Box 121, Plainview, NY 11803. Other tact hello@arrl.org w1f.k2cx.us

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Fort Wayne, IN. Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day, KC9HAJ. "Hello" 100 Years of Voice Over Radio. 21.240 14.260 7.260. QSL. Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, 6116 Graymoor Ln, Fort Wayne, IN 46835. www.armad.net

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Machrihanish, Sc. The American Radio Relay League, GB1FVT. The 100th anniversary of Fessenden's Christmas Eve Broadcast. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. Duncan McArthur, GM3TNT, Avalon, Peninver Campbeltown, Argyll, Sc PA28 6QP. Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl. org groups.msn.com/fessenden

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Ne wington, CT. The American Radio Relay League, W1AW. Hello Centennial Event, representing the future of radio. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/ IRLP. QSL. W1AW/hello, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org www.hello-radio. org/event

Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, St Louis, MO. AOR and WinDRM Digital Voice Community, K0PFX. "Hello" Celebrating 100 Years of Voice over Radio Worldwide. 14.236 7.296 7.225. QSL. Mel Whitten, PO Box 698, Bridgeton, MO 63044. www.melwhitten.com

Jan 6-Jan 7, 1200Z-2359Z, Bethpage, NY. Ham Radio University Committee, W2V. Ham Radio University 2007 - 8th annual day of education. 21.273 14.273 7.273. QSL. Phil Lewis, N2MUN, 22 Belle Terre W, Lindenhurst, NY 11757. www. HamRadioUniversity.org

Jan 11-Jan 17, 0100Z-2359Z, St Croix, USVI. Family Radio Club, KU9UUU. 513th Anniversary of the Discovery of the US Virgin Islands. day 14.332 14.260 eve 7.235 7.046 all 3905 Century Club Nets SSB & CW. QSL. J.M. Zacher, 39W345 Central Dr, Elgin, IL 60124.

Jan 13, 1300Z-1900Z, Phoenix, AZ. Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club, W7W. 10th Anniversary of WestFest Hamfest. 21.370 14.270 7.270. QSL. TBARC WestFest, 16772 W Bell Rd, Ste 110 - #421, Surprise, AZ 85735. www.w7tbc.org

Jan 13-Jan 14, 1500Z-1800Z. Marcell, MN. Northern Lakes Amateur Radio Club, K0GPZ. White Oak Sled Dog Classic. 14.225 14.070 7.165 7.070. QSL. NLARC, PO Box 525, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. northernlakesarc.tripod.com/nlarc. html www.whiteoakclassic.org

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

EARS & The Ham Station Evansville Hamfest

Electronic Applications Radio Service Vanderburgh Co. 4-H Center Auditorium 202 E Boonville New Harmony Rd Evansville, IN 25 Nov 2006

Mississippi State Convention (Capitol City Hamfest)

Jackson ARC

Mississippi State Fairgrounds (Trade Mart Building) I 55 At High St Jackson, MS 2-3 Feb 2007

Delta Amateur Radio Club November 2006 Treasurers Report

Balance 10/03/2006	\$6,880.52
Expense Bellsouth U of M	\$119.99 \$22.94
Bellsouth	\$ 58.99
Total Expense	\$201.92
<u>Income</u> Membership Dues	\$95.00
Total Income	\$95.00
Balance 11/07/2006	\$6,773.60

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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