

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P.O. Box 750482 * Memphis, Tennessee 38175-0482 * Volume 17 * June 2011



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

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

W4BS

REPEATER SYSTEM

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

NEXT CLUB MEETING

DATE: June 14, 2011 (2nd Tuesday of each month)
PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70
Memphis, TN (1 ½ miles north of Hwy. 64 – Stage Road)

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Field Day Logging Software Review
Presented by: Ham Hilliard, W4GMM

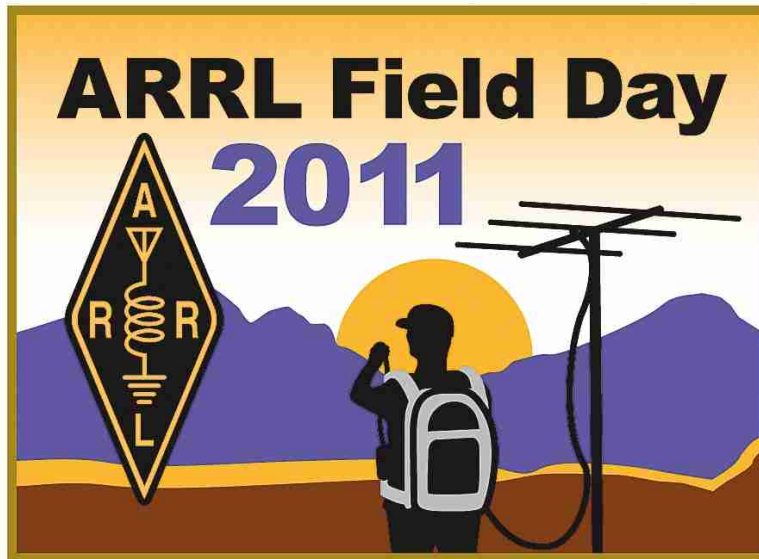
VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 PM and testing begins promptly at 6:00 PM. Please remember to bring two (2) forms of identification and copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's you might have. Please be on time for registration, as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

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

FIELD DAY GROWING

On June 13th at the BMA meeting, Mayor Joyner of Collierville, TN will read a proclamation of **"Amateur Radio Week"** which culminates in the Amateur Radio Field Day at H. W. Cox Park on June 25 & 26th. All amateurs are encouraged to attend. The meeting starts promptly at 6:00 PM. For additional information click on The Town of Collierville Link.

<http://www.collierville.com/>



June 25 & 26

**Collierville's
H.W. Cox
Park
Pavilion**

**Free
Demonstrations
Public Welcome!**

10 am Saturday thru 1 pm Sunday

Using only emergency power supplies, ham radio operators will demonstrate a variety of communications tools. Visit volunteers in action talking with the International Space Station.

Tri-State Repeater Association, Delta Amateur Radio Club, MARA, Red Cross, Collierville Police Mobile Unit, Collierville CERT.

"Amateur Radio Week"

WWW.ARRL.ORG/FIELD DAY

HUNTSVILLE BUS TRIP (August 20th)

Submitted By: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO

DARC is sponsoring a 50-passenger bus to go to the Huntsville Hamfest on August 20, 2011. There is a graduated scale fare for the bus trip. The fare is \$60 if paid by June 26, 2011. The fare is \$65 if paid by July 20, 2011. The fare is \$70 if paid after July 20th. There will be biscuit sandwiches, water, sodas, chips, and fruit on the bus going to Huntsville and whatever is left for the trip back.

Cash or checks will be accepted for payment. Make checks payable to Delta Amateur Radio Club. You can pay at a meeting. You can also send your check to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, 6675 Ashbridge Cove, Memphis, TN 38120. Please include your name, callsign, cell phone number, and email address. Reservations will be on a first come first paid basis.

The bus will leave Ellendale Church of Christ, 7365 Highway 70, Bartlett, TN at 6:00am on August 20th. A second pickup point will be at Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Avenue at Johnson Road, Germantown, TN at approximately 6:40am. The bus will leave Huntsville immediately after the 4pm door prize drawing and return to Germantown Baptist Church approximately 7:30pm and Ellendale Church of Christ at approximately 8:15pm.

Ellendale Church of Christ has asked us to park in the larger parking lot on the west side of the building to leave the east side open for church activity parking.

There is a new pickup point at Germantown Baptist Church. It will be on the east side of the church (toward Collierville) near the gym (called the ROC) in the back.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By: Rick Tillman WA4NVM

Beginning Balance	as of May 1, 2011	\$14,826.30
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Expenses

U of M	(phone line)	\$22.94
Trailer Repairs		\$434.28
Prizes	Monthly Drawings	\$202.78

Total Expense	\$660.00
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SubTotal **\$14,166.30**

Income

Membership Dues		\$212.50
Nov. Ticket Sales		\$25.00
Patch Sales - 1 @ \$5 each		\$5.00
Donation		\$40.00
Estate Sale		\$143.00
Huntsville Bus Trip		\$60.00

Total Income	\$485.50
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Ending Balance	as of May 31, 2011	\$14,651.80
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Submitted by Rick Tillman WA4NVM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 3, 2011 - Presented by: Bill Stevens WC9S, Secretary

The DARC board meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKW.

- There was a discussion about field day. Delta will commit for 1 radio, the antenna trailer with the tri-band antenna, and 2 banners. It was also agreed that Randy Wilder WB4LHD, President of Tri-State Repeater Association can give about a 15 minute presentation on Field Day to the membership.
- Steve Smith KI4YOP gave an update on the antenna trailer repairs. He reported that the trailer will be ready for field day but that we need to set up the trailer before field day to make sure that everything works.
- The program will be on D Star.
- There was a discussion on the inventory list that was sent to us by Marsh Insurance Agency. There is a lot of equipment listed that can not be found.
- There was a discussion about the fact that many of our newer hams do not understand what the procedures are when the 146.82 repeater is switched over to Skywarn. It was suggested that a future program on Skywarn be set up. It was also suggested that the information about Skywarn be put in Sparks and a new sheet on Skywarn be put together to add to the new ham packet. It was also suggested that we talk to the people doing the net control at the Weather Service about the procedures used there.
- The final item to be discussed was the proposals submitted to the board for changes to the bylaws. They will be submitted to the membership at the upcoming meeting.

Meeting adjourned

GENERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2011 - Presented by: Bill Stevens WC9S, Secretary

The May meeting of the DARC was called to order by President Rosalinda Melena KI4ZKQ at 7:00 P.M.

- The Treasurer's report was read by Rick Tillman WA4NVM. Motion to accept treasurer's report as read by Bill Covington KC4SXT and seconded by Stew Romain KF4WC. Passed
- Bill Stevens WC9S gave the VE report with 6 people passing technician and 1 person advancing to general.
- It was announced that Bella N4ILG and Stew Romain KF4WC were donating some radio gear to the club that they no longer used. Thanks Bella and Stew. The equipment was immediately put on sale as a fundraiser. What is left will be offered next month.
- Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO gave his training report.
- Randy Wilder WB4LHD gave a short presentation about the upcoming field day and answered any questions.
- Roger Schlichter WR4R brought up an amendment to the April minutes. Motion to accept the April minutes as amended by Ham Hilliard W4GMM and seconded by Larry McMillin WA4VXH.
- Bylaw changes that were presented to the board were brought up for discussion.
- It was brought up that the Webmaster position should be a board position or should at least be appointed with a term limit.

- Motion by Bill Covington KC4SXT that the board should appoint the Delta club Webmaster and an alternate. Motion seconded by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO. Passed
- Roger Schlichter WR4R made a motion that “written notice” be added where “notice” was proposed in article II. Motion seconded by Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO. Passed
- Roger Schlichter WR4R proposed the following for Article IV Section 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive and receipt all monies paid to the club; keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended; and shall pay no bills **except regular reoccurring expenses and those authorized by the current budget. All other expenditures other than the ones stated must be approved by a vote of the general membership prior to making the expenditure.**
- Motion to accept the change by Bill Covington KC4SXT and seconded by Ken Laseter KI4AOH. Passed.
- Bill Stevens WC9S stated that the full bylaws with the new changes would be sent to all members via email within 7 days.
- The program on D-Star was presented by Cliff Gurlen NS4B and Rick Pinelli KA4BSM.

Meeting adjourned

AMATEUR PACKET UPDATE

By: James Butler – KB4LJV

Amateurs radio operators work with formulas and electricity as part of our hobby. Trying to find what size wire you need for a 10-amp radio or the conversion of metric units to English can mean looking through reference material. The ARRL has started to carry a new book called the Pocket REF. This book has been around a while as I have had mine for years. It is a pocket-sized guide full of all those tables, formulas, drawing, lists, and charts for those in any field. This book is small enough to fit in your pocket but still has a tremendous amount of information in it. It has electrical formulas, coil winding data, antenna length formulas, LCR formulas and others. These can be easily found by looking in the index for the page number. Mine has nearly 500 pages of information. If you are looking for a portable reference book check out the new one from the ARRL. The book is ARRL number 1148 and is about \$13.00. Their website is www.arrl.org

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

By: James Butler – KB4LJV

Many times when running QRP we build up small transmitters and receivers to run. These may be built on small boards and normally used for experimenting. This month’s project is the QRP FUSE interface, which offers several additional features for the QRP builder. The switch selector allows you to route the DC power through the box and select a 1-amp fuse, a 2-amp fuse, or a 5-amp circuit breaker for circuit protection. The unit also has an off position which allows you to turn power off and on to the project as needed. The backside of the unit has inputs for power, power output, two fuse holders with the 1 and 2 amp fuses and the reset for the 5-amp circuit breaker. I also included an LED on the output side of the unit to



insure power was going to the QRP project. This makes sure it is turned on, a fuse is not blown, and the power supply used to power the project is working properly. The unit works great and is perfect for my Pixie and Rockmite QRP rigs to protect them in case of a circuit problem or short circuit. I built this one up in another one of those surplus boxes and painted it to match my other homemade equipment.

2011 TRAINING CLASSES

Submitted by: Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO, Director of Training

There is no charge for classes, but the student is responsible for the purchase of the license manual and the \$15 ARRL FCC examination fee.

Licenses Earned in 2011 from Delta Classes

13 Technician

12 General

6 Extra

CLASSES PLANNED

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

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

The next Technician class is scheduled for six Monday nights from 6:15-9:30pm starting July 11th and running through August 15th at the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department East Complex at 1075 Mullins Station Road across from the Penal Farm. Registration is required. Send an email to Joe Lowenthal WA4OVO at wa4ovo@yahoo.com with your name, email address and cell phone number. Jo will then email you materials for the class.

CLASS INFORMATION

Technician Class

If you are interested in the first amateur license class, Technician, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Technician Class" and give name, email address, and a contact phone number (preferably a cell number). Or you can go to the Delta Club webpage www.deltaclub.org click on Training Classes; then click on Technician Class to send an email, or call at 901-683-2701. We usually publish class schedules a month or two in advance. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set if you send an email informing us of your desire to be in a class.

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

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

Practice tests are highly recommended. The www.qrz.com website is free. To access the sample tests, click on Main Menu to the right of the Search button on the QRZ Home Page. Scroll down and click on Practice Amateur Radio Exams. Click on Start Test to enter QRZ Practice Test Center. Click on Technician 35 Questions. Click on Wait For Correct. (This feature gives you the ability to answer again to get the correct answer if you miss the first time. On each answer it will either show Wrong Answer or Correct.) Click on Begin Test. Statistics are given at the top of the screen with the number of Completed questions, the Accuracy percentage, and the Overall percentage of questions completed on the test. Be sure to study multiple QRZ tests. The first test is only the first question from each of the 35 subgroups of the question pool. The second test is only the second question from each of the 35 subgroups, and so on. It is recommended to take at least 15 of the sample tests to be able to see all 396-question pool questions.

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

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

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

General Class

If you are interested in a General License Class, please let us know by sending an email to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "General Class." Or you can go to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; then click on General Class to send me an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number, or call at 901-683-2701. The textbook is *The ARRL General Class License Manual, Sixth Edition*. This edition with its question pool is valid through June 30, 2011. Lately, we have been running a combined Technician-General class. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

Basic Electronics Class

The Basic Electronics Class is designed to bridge the electronics-learning gap between the General and the Extra Class licenses. The class textbook is ARRL's *Understanding Basic Electronics, Second Edition*. The suggested calculator is the Casio fx-260 solar calculator, which can be purchased at Wal-Mart for about \$10. There is no exam for this class. The class has been held in the September-November time frame.

If you are interested in the Basic Electronics Class, please let us know by sending an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to wa4ovo@yahoo.com with subject line "Basic Electronics Class" or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set.

Extra Class

If you are interested in an Extra Class, please pre-register by going to the Delta Club web page www.deltaclub.org; click on Training Classes; then click on Extra Class to send an email with name, email address and contact phone, preferably cell number to Joe Lowenthal, WA4OVO, at wa4ovo@yahoo.com or call at 901-683-2701. You will be notified by email or phone when the class is set. Classes have been held on Saturdays for 6 or 7 weeks in January and February.

COMPLETED CLASSES

Technician Class 3-11 – April 17, 2011

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

General Class 5-08 Revisited

Extra Class 1-10 Revisited

Technician Class 5-10 Revisited

Extra Class 1-11 - February 19, 2011

Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge – January 22, 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

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

DATE	EVENT	COORDINATOR	CONTACT INFO.
January 16 th	Swamp Stompers	Danny– KJ4FXZ	kj4fxz@arrl.net
March 4 th weekend	City Slickers Equestrian Event	Richard – NF5B	(No Contact Information)
April 30 th	Tour de Cure	Denise – KJ5DG	kj5dg.denise@gmail.com
30 th	March for Babies (March of Dimes)	Bob – KF4NDH	kf4ndh@bellsouth.net
May 22 nd	Memphis in May Triathlon	Ned - KA4BLL	ka4bll@arrl.net
September 10 th & 11 th	MS 150 Bike Ride	Darrell - KK4D	kk4d@xipline.com
December 3 rd	St. Jude Marathon	Roger – WR4R	ki4ajh@bellsouth.net
3 rd	Bartlett Christmas Parade	Dennis – KJ4BDU	dcvv3714@aol.com
TBA	Boy Scout Merit Badge University	Hugh – WB4SLI	hwardlaw@bellsouth.net
TBA	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk	Kathleen - KC0HZU	(No Contact Information)

MEMPHIS AREA VHF/UHF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog net	146.535	7:30p	Daily
Delta Club Traffic and Information Net	146.820-(107.2)	8:00p	Daily
Secret Service Net	224.780-	8:30p	M
Elmer Net	147.030+(107.2)	9:00p	M
The Short Winded Net	146.850-	8:30p	Tu
MedMERS Net	146.730-(107.2)	12:00p	W
Six Meter Tech Net	53.01-	8:30p	W
The 440 Net	443.200+(107.2Hz)	9:00p	W
Two meter single Sideband Net	144.260 USB	8:30p	Th
ARES Training Net	146.880-(107.2)	9:00p	2 nd & 4 th Th

TENNESSEE HF NETS

Net Name	Freq. MHz	Local Time	Day
Tennessee CW Net	3.563	7:00p	Daily
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3.682	7:30p	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3.980	5:40a	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3.980	6:45a	M-F
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3.980	6:30p	T-Su
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	3.810	As needed	
CUSEC (Center for United States Earthquake Consortium)	7.180	As needed	

SPARKS NEWSLETTER & DELTA CLUB INFORMATION

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

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

2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

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901-921-4474
ki4zkw@gmail.com

Vice-President:

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901-372-3722
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wa4nvm@comcast.net

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Director of Programs:

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kd4noq@arrl.net

Director of Meetings & Special Events:

Danny Banks – KJ4FXZ
901-861-3229
kj4fxz@arrl.net

W4BS Repeater Trustee:

Darrell Sheffield – KK4D
901-872-3367
Darrell.Sheffield@xipline.com

DELTA CLUB 146.82 NET PREAMBLE (Rev. 2)

GOOD EVENING: This is _____ calling this session of the DELTA CLUB'S TRAFFIC AND INFORMATION NET. This net is affiliated with the ARRL and the NTS and is organized to pass traffic in and out of the mid - south area, in addition to providing information about club events and amateur related topics. This net meets nightly at 8:00 p.m. CT except the second Tuesday of the month on the 146.82 W4BS repeater and **requires** a pl. tone of 107.2 Hz. All stations will refrain from transmitting without being acknowledged by net control.

All licensed amateurs are encouraged to participate.

Before we begin, is there any station with emergency or priority traffic?

During this net should any station have emergency or priority traffic please use a double break followed by your call sign.

Is there an NTS Liaison station on frequency?

Is there any station wishing to list formal written traffic?

Does any station have announcements for the net?

(If anyone asks to make an announcement after you finish handling the ones taken here ask them to hold until after the monolog. Eliminate the following sentence unless there are announcements.)

Does any station have any questions or need any fills?

We will now take check-ins. Are there any stations that are mobile, on battery power, or needing to leave early, if so please come now phonetically with your suffix only and please remember to spread them out?

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ALPHA through HOTEL please come now and remember to spread them out.

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins INDIA through KEEBECK please come now and remember to spread them out.

We will now take check-ins phonetically by suffix only if your suffix begins ROMEO through ZULU please come now and remember to spread them out.

The DELTA CLUB meets the second Tuesday of each month at the ELLENDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST 7365 HWY 70 in Bartlett at 7:00 P.M. V. E. Registration begins at 5:30 P.M. with testing starting promptly at 6:00 P.M. A copy of your license and CSCE is required. For V. E. Information contact Bill, WC9S at 603-3448. For membership information contact Bill, WC9S at 603-3448. For training information contact Joe WA4OVO at 683-2701.

Are there any additional announcements?

We will now take late check-ins from anywhere in the alphabet ALPHA through ZULU please come now and spread them out.

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

This is _____ now closing this session of the DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S Traffic and information net and would like to thank all _____ stations for checking in tonight. And would like to ask that everyone to check in tomorrow night at the same time.

GOODNIGHT AND 73: THE NET IS NOW CLOSED. _____ CLEAR

DELTA CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS

See Advertisement Order Form for Instructions.

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 342768
Memphis, TN 38134-2768

DARC Meeting: Second
Tuesday of every month
at Ellendale Church of Christ
7365 Hwy 70, Bartlett TN



W4BS REPEATER SYSTEM
146.82- 147.36+ (107.2Hz tone)
224.42- 443.20+ (107.2Hz tone)

Savage
Tile
Company

Installers of
commercial & residential
ceramic, quarry, marble & slate tiles
(901) 363-9607 or Fax (901)365-1992
5579 Federal Avenue
Memphis, TN 38118-7918

Ned Savage

35 YEARS of EXPERIENCE

ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM



Delta Amateur Radio Club Sparks Advertising Order Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

TO PLACE AN ORDER

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

SPARKS ADVERTISING

FULL PAGE \$50.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 8 ½" h <input type="checkbox"/>			HALF PAGE \$25.00 for 3 Months 7" w X 4" h <input type="checkbox"/>			¼ PAGE \$15.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 4" h <input type="checkbox"/>			BUSINESS CARD \$10.00 for 3 Months 3 ½" w X 2" h <input type="checkbox"/>		
Apr. 2011	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	Aug. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Feb. 2012	Mar. 2012