

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P.O. BOX 750482 MEMPHIS, TN 38175-0482 / VOL. 17 / NOVEMBER 2005



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 2005 CLUB MEETING

DATE: November 8, 2005 (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: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND
ANNUAL PRIZE DRAWINGS (better buy more tickets)

Grand Prize — Yaesu FT-8900 (10m, 6m, 2m, and 440)
Other Prizes include: a VX-150 2m handi-talkie, a DJ-135
2m mobile, 2 switching 30 amp power supplies (Alinco),
several mobile antennas, clocks, speakers, a frequency
counter (1mhz-3ghz), a G5RV, and repeater directories.

VE TESTING: Please note that there is no VE testing during the November
meeting. Please address your VE testing questions to:

Joan Thorne, KN4PM, VEC
Phone: 901-737-5795
E-mail: joanthorne@bellsouth.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

To all of the Delta Amateur Radio
Club Members:

The November Meeting is approaching and the chance to voice and direct the club's future for the coming year by stepping forward and accepting a nomination to a leadership post for the next year. All positions are still open, as there are NO "OPPOSED" races and one position still open. We have no one running for the Director of Programs. Granted, the post can be a challenging one, but some members have said that they will be happy to do a program or two. So, whoever accepts this position will not be without help.

A REMINDER, YOU CAN
NOMINATE FROM THE FLOOR
AT THE TIME OF THE
ELECTIONS.

You ALSO CAN Nominate
yourself. It is not done often, but
by the rules that we try to follow

Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is Friday, December 2nd. 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

this practice is acceptable.

Remember to try and help or at least participate in the ARRL TOY DRIVE that going on now. Also, before our December Meeting, the Annual Memphis Marathon will be held. Get with Tommy, KD4TJO, for a work spot on this event. He said he is going to need about 35 people.

In addition, be thinking about the December Meeting. Should we do something special such as holding an "Eating Meeting." Should we hold it somewhere other than the regular meeting location or just hold it at the regular site and bring pot luck? It is my feeling that there are so many parties being held during this time frame that it is really not totally desirable to have an elaborate dinner.

Ned Savage, KA4BLL

**DARC BOARD MEETING
October 4, 2005**

KA4BLL-Ned Savage called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

KA4BLL-Ned Savage, KK4D-Darrell Sheffield, KI4DIL-Lisa Sheffield, KD4TJO-Tommy Thompson, and KG4VAW-Bill Torkell were present.

New Business:

The board discussed who would be on the nominating committee. KA4BLL-Ned Savage, KD5IEI-Ed Norris, and KG4VAW-Bill Torkell were agreed upon and given a list

of active members to contact.

Old Business:

The board looked at the QSL cards submitted for approval. KD4TJO-Tommy made a motion to accept several as a set for an assortment for the club. KK4D-Darrell seconded the motion and the board unanimously accepted it.

KG4VAW-Bill gave the treasurer's report. He advised that he had had a CPA balance the books at no cost to the club. The records balance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
KI4DIL-Lisa Sheffield
DARC Secretary

**DARC GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
October 11, 2005**

KA4BLL-Ned Savage called the meeting to order at 7:08 with introductions of the membership. There were 27 members present and 6 guests.

KI4DIL-Lisa Sheffield requested the secretary's report be accepted as published in SPARKS.

KF4NDH-Bob Holdford made a motion to accept the request and N2LAZ-Dean Honadle seconded the motion. The general membership unanimously agreed.

KI4DIL-Lisa presented the

treasurer's report to the membership. She offered a copy of the audit to the membership for review.

Old Business:

KF4NDH-Bob gave a report on his participation in the MS150. He read a letter he had received from a fellow HAM who is suffering with MS, encouraging the membership to get involved in helping out with organizations they are interested in.

KK4D-Darrell presented the board's recommendation that we accept a set of QSL cards submitted to the board as the club QSL cards. They were displayed on the secretary's table for the membership to view. After a 10 minute break, the general membership voted and unanimously accepted the set of QSL cards which were submitted by AA4UK-Ray Miller.

New Business:

KA4BLL-Ned Savage presented the 2006 nominating committee and presented the nominees and their possible position on the 2006 DARC Board. He then called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

KD4TJO-Tommy presented information on the 2006 ARRL toy drive for the children of hurricane victims. He asked for volunteers to man the warehouse where the toys will be stored until distributed. He also asked for the members to start bringing in new, unwrapped toys to

the November meeting. Tommy then turned over the meeting to WD4Q-Henry Leggette who is the Vice Director of the ARRL Delta Division. He gave the group information on his involvement in ARRL and what they were hoping to accomplish with the toy drive. He gave the following address to send toys to:

1775 Moriah Woods Blvd, Suite 12
Memphis, TN 38117-7125

KN4PM-Joan Thorne gave her report on the evening's VE testing. W4OQG-Pat Lane gave information on an upcoming MARS event. For information, contact NYSMARS@aol.com .

KD4TJO-Tommy Thompson won the door prize. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by KI4DIL-
Lisa Sheffield, DARC Secretary

VE CORNER

Always a surprise. That is my motto! When you least expect it they all come! The October meeting had people take elements.

Congratulations to:

Keith Atkins - KI4MCL—Tech
David Perkins - KI4MCK - Tech
Glen Smail - KI4MCJ - Tech
Joseph Thorman - KE5GEC - Tech
Daniel Valle - KI4MCI - Tech
Kevin White - KI4MCH - Tech
Charles Wooten - KI4MCG - Tech
Dona Wooten - KI4MCF - Tech

big thanks to the following VE's: Rick KE4NTI, Richard AI4BN, Ned KA4BLL, Dick K3ORS, Jim KI4I, Bill KC4SXT, and Francis WA4ZYN. Without these Extra Class VE's we would not have a team supporting our community. Thank you all.

See You at the election meeting
November, NO TESTING
BEFORE THE NOVEMBER
MEETING!.

Joan KN4PM

FROM THE ARRL NEWSLETTER

**FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO
VOLUNTEERS ANSWER THE
CALL**

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteers from all three Florida ARRL sections answered the call this week to provide communication support in the wake of Hurricane Wilma. Millions of residents in South Florida remained without power at week's end, and relief agencies were continuing efforts to meet basic needs of affected residents. Ham radio volunteers turned out in force to assist them, although the need for additional Amateur Radio support waned--perhaps only momentarily--toward week's end.

"Things seem to be winding down," ARRL Southern Florida Section Emergency

Communications Coordinator Jeff Beals, WA4AW, said October 28. "We've put a temporary hold on new operators to assist the affected counties in the Southern Florida Section." As of week's end, Beals said, some 60 Amateur Radio volunteers from Florida plus a few from outside the state were deployed in hurricane-affected counties.

Beals has been coordinating the deployment of Amateur Radio volunteers in his section with assistance from ARRL West Central Florida SEC Neil Lauritsen, W4NHL, and ARRL Northern Florida SEC Joe Bushel, W2DWR. Since Wilma raked the Florida peninsula, Amateur Radio volunteers have been providing vital tactical communications for the Red Cross and its shelters, special care facilities, county emergency operations centers (EOCs), state logistical staging areas (LSAs), and points of distribution (PODs) for food, ice and water, Beals said

At week's end Beals was visiting EOCs in Broward and Palm Beach counties to determine their present and future needs for Amateur Radio communication support. He said things could pick up again next week. "I believe the situation is as good as it can be at the moment," Beals explained October 28, "but we believe there may be additional needs next week and the week after, as well as to replace people who have been working long hours at their posts."

Earlier in the week in Palm Beach County, ARRL Emergency Coordinator Dave Messinger, N4QPM, reported Amateur Radio volunteers were staffing three Red Cross shelters, a special care unit, the Red Cross Chapter house, the LSA at the county fairgrounds and the county EOC. Staging areas for volunteers in Southern Florida are in the Palm Beach and W Palm Beach and Broward County EOCs.

Beals said the Amateur Radio link between the Broward EOC and the Palm Beach Fairgrounds distribution point has proven invaluable as a primary communication channel because of problems with satellite telephones.

The Wellington RACES team spearheaded by RACES Radio Officer Larry Lazar, KS4NB, was handling local health-and-welfare traffic. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) on 14.265 MHz also was taking Hurricane Wilma health-and-welfare traffic. HF traffic nets have been running smoothly throughout the activation.

Northern Florida State Government Liaison Ted Zateslo, W1XO, reported generators in high demand this week as widespread power outages hampered relief efforts. Southern Florida SM Sherri Brower, W4STB, still without electricity, was told it could be up to two weeks before power is restored in her area, Zateslo said. Brower does have telephone service, however.

Beals said that he and Brower "wish to express our appreciation to all the amateurs who have answered the call for assistance to our section."

"HAM AID" ELIGIBILITY EXPANDED TO RITA, WILMA VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the ARRL's "Ham Aid" program has been expanded. In addition to Hurricane Katrina Amateur Radio volunteers, Ham Aid now will cover those who are serving or have served in the wake of hurricanes Rita and Wilma. CNCS provided ARRL with \$170,000 in grant extensions to support Ham Aid. The fund offers limited reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses to ham radio volunteers who are providing or have provided emergency communication support in communities devastated by hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

"To date, there is adequate funding to support the hundreds of hams who traveled to the Southeast since late August," said ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. She points out that the same reimbursement procedures already in place for Hurricane Katrina Amateur Radio volunteers will apply to hurricane Rita and Wilma volunteers <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms/cncs/>>.

In an effort to distribute funding to as many ham radio volunteers as possible, Hobart says expense reimbursements at present are limited to \$25 per day for a maximum of four days, or a total reimbursement per radio amateur of \$100. Amateur Radio volunteers are eligible for one expense reimbursement per hurricane event. For now, the program only covers per-diem reimbursements between September 1 and December 31, 2005. The period may be extended, however, based on availability of funds.

Hobart says she wants to allay fears of Amateur Radio volunteers who believe accepting the money is contrary to FCC Part 97 rules. §97.113 prohibits

"Communications for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided in these rules." Hobart says Ham Aid reimbursements are not for providing "communications" but to help with such costs as travel, meals, lodging and other necessities.

"These out-of-pocket expenses can be a hardship for some Amateur Radio volunteers," Hobart said, noting that some hurricane volunteers have come from the ranks of the unemployed or seniors on fixed incomes. "If we can help one ham to serve where badly needed, that's what this grant is intended to do." She encouraged all who served in the field in the aftermath of Katrina, Rita or Wilma to put in for the reimbursement

nonetheless--if for no other reason than to honor those who have volunteered before them throughout ham radio's history.

"These volunteers should consider applying anyway and then donate the reimbursement to their club or to another emergency communication-related project," she said. "I'd like to see this money support ARES and our emergency response capabilities in the field." Hobart says the CNCS grant is a tangible expression of the value that the federal government puts on Amateur Radio as an emergency communication asset.

"I hope people take advantage of the helping hand CNCS has extended,"

Hobart says. "Let's put this funding to work as CNCS intended." Hobart says the League will accept reimbursement request applications on a first-come, first served basis for as long as funds are available. Reimbursement checks will be mailed to the address the radio amateur provides on the form.

The CNCS grant is an extension of the ARRL's three-year Homeland Security training grant, which has provided certification in emergency communication protocols to nearly 5500 Amateur Radio volunteers over the past three years. This grant extension does not cover additional ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications training program reimbursements, however.

Cash donations from individuals are also being accepted by the ARRL to support hams in the field assisting with hurricane relief and recovery efforts. To make a donation go to the ARRL general donation form and select "Ham Aid" (this is a secure site) <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/basic/>>.

NEW ISS COMMANDER
DELIGHTS JAPANESE
YOUNGSTERS
VIA HAM RADIO

Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, the new commander of the International Space Station, delighted youngsters at Tomioka Elementary School in Urayasu City, Japan, October 24 by answering 14 of their questions via ham radio. The direct VHF contact between 8J1UTE at the school and NA1SS in space was arranged via the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Answering one interesting question, McArthur told the youngsters that mold, while rare on the ISS, comes in for some scrutiny when it does show up.

"If we do find mold, then we take pictures of it to send to the ground," McArthur said. "We send samples to the ground for analysis, and then we clean it off." He said the crew tries to keep everything extremely clean, wipes surfaces with a disinfectant cloth at least once a week, and is very careful to clean up any moisture that forms on panels or surfaces.

Responding to a question about the first thing he wants to do when he gets back to Earth next spring, McArthur said he wants to "smell nature."

"Our atmosphere here is very clean, but it doesn't have the things that smell . . . that you really enjoy, such as trees, flowers, grass and those things," McArthur replied. "And then I'm very excited to see my family again."

The Tomioka Elementary School QSO was the first ARISS school group contact of McArthur's six-month duty tour, which began early this month. McArthur said he's found it "very, very comfortable" to be weightless aboard the ISS. Once he got used to it, he said, it was a "very pleasant place to be." McArthur's also said that he and his crewmate, Russian cosmonaut and flight engineer Valery Tokarev, enjoy looking at Earth from the ISS in their spare time.

An audience of some 650 parents, faculty members and other visitors was on hand for the contact, along with reporters from two TV stations and 10 newspapers. Control operator for the ARISS event was Noriyasu Itho, JE1OWA, and Satoshi Yasuda, 7M3TJZ/AD6GZ, served as the mentor for the ARISS contact.

ARISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

VANITY PROCESSING COULD BE ON HIATUS UNTIL LATE DECEMBER

Thanks to Hurricane Wilma, the FCC likely will not be processing any vanity call sign applications until late December. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) halted vanity processing on or about September 23 after realizing that filing and regulatory deadline extensions for licensees in certain states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita could affect the vanity program. This week, the FCC announced an additional extension--until December 22--for licensees adversely affected by Hurricane Wilma. Because all three extensions apply to Amateur Radio's two-year "grace period," they could have an impact on vanity call sign processing. A WTB spokesperson said that the Wilma deadline extension probably would have the same effect on vanity processing as the previous two.

"It looks like it's going to be the same thing carried forward," Tracy Simmons told ARRL. He said amateur licensees can continue to file vanity call sign applications, but these will not be acted upon until the WTB resumes vanity processing. Then, all pending vanity call sign applications will be processed in the order they were received. Simmons indicated that the WTB would revise its Universal Licensing System (ULS) Web page "alert" telling applicants that vanity processing has been suspended "until further notice" to reflect the latest deadline extension.

In a public notice issued October 25, the WTB made clear that the Hurricane Wilma deadline extension only applies to "affected licensees and applicants in Florida and the Gulf of Mexico." For Part 97 licensees, the extension applies primarily to license modification and renewal application deadlines. According to this week's public notice, the WTB will require affected applicants to attach a "Hurricane Relief Certification" with any filings taking advantage of the extended deadlines.

"WTB will rely on certifications by licensees and applicants at the time they submit their filings as proof that relief is due and the filings are timely," the FCC said.

The FCC halted vanity processing to avoid such potential problems as re-issuing the call sign of an affected individual in one of the designated states whose license has expired but remains within the two-year grace period for renewal.

Under Part 97, Amateur Radio licensees have two years from the date of license expiration to renew their tickets without having to retest or risk losing their call signs to a vanity applicant. WTB has temporarily disabled the "auto-termination" feature of the ULS so that it will not automatically cancel any licenses not renewed by the end of the grace period.

On September 1, the FCC extended until October 31 all filing and regulatory deadlines falling

between August 29 and October 30 for licensees in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana affected by Hurricane Katrina. On September 24, it extended until November 21 all filing and regulatory deadlines falling between September 20 and November 20 for licensees in Louisiana and Texas affected by Hurricane Rita.

The FCC has not announced when vanity processing will resume, but at this point it appears unlikely that the date will be any sooner than December 23. It typically takes approximately three weeks for the FCC to process a vanity call sign application. In August, the FCC raised the vanity application fee to \$21.90.

The October 25 public notice is available on the FCC's Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-05-2778A1.pdf>.

ARRL 2005 HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE KICKING INTO GEAR

Toys already have begun showing up in Memphis, Tennessee, in response to the ARRL 2005 Holiday Toy Drive appeal. The League has partnered with The Salvation Army for this year's effort to brighten the holiday season for children in the coastal areas of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana left homeless or displaced in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"As The Salvation Army continues to provide assistance to the victims of the largest natural disaster in modern US history, we are excited to partner with the ARRL in providing toys for children affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita this holiday season," said Mark Jones, The Salvation Army's public relations director.

Because it still has the facilities to manage a large toy drive, The Salvation Army will handle the distribution end of the program. Its facility in Jackson, Mississippi, will coordinate distribution throughout the Gulf Coast region.

Country music artist Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, is the Holiday Toy Drive's national chairperson.

The collection point for the toys is in Memphis, Tennessee, where the League has secured a warehouse facility. Between now and December 10, the ARRL is encouraging ham radio operators throughout the US to purchase new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1 through 4 and send them with a QSL card to ARRL Toy Drive/The Salvation Army, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125.

Volunteers in Memphis will sort and stock the toys, and in early December, the toys will be transported to The Salvation Army facilities in hurricane areas that need help the most at that time.

Amateur Radio volunteers turned out in force to support

communication for relief and recovery operations in the Gulf Coast. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, WIAGP, says the Amateur Radio community is once again in a position to make a difference.

"Thousands of families are without a place to live and will be homeless over the coming holiday season," he said. "For a child living out of a tent or car, FEMA trailer or someone else's home, the 2005 holiday season will be anything but jolly. But hams from all across the country are coming to their rescue again through the ARRL Holiday Toy Drive."

Cash donations from ARRL members also are welcome. League members may send checks to ARRL Holiday Toy Drive, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

"Knowing that someone 'out there' remembers you is a start for these children," Pitts said.

More information about the ARRL 2005 Holiday Toy Drive is available on the League's Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/pio/>>.

FCC ORDERS LICENSE REVOCATION HEARING FOR CONVICTED FELON

The FCC has issued an Order to Show Cause that initiates a hearing proceeding to determine if an Amateur Radio licensee now serving time on a felony conviction is qualified to remain an FCC licensee or should face license

revocation. The Order, released September 29, involves the case of David Edward Cox, W5OER, of Pride, Louisiana. Over the past several years, the FCC has been applying its so-called "1990 Character Order," initially intended to apply to Broadcast Service licensees, to Amateur Radio licensees and applicants. The FCC said Cox's multiple felony convictions "raise serious questions" about his character qualifications, and it's designated the matter for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

"David Edward Cox is hereby ordered to show cause why his authorization for Amateur Radio Advanced class license W5OER should not be revoked," the FCC said in its Order. FCC licensing records indicate, however, that Cox holds a Technician class license.

An applicant's character is among factors it considers during its review to determine whether an applicant "has the requisite qualifications to operate the station for which authority is sought," the FCC said in its Order. The FCC said felony convictions "raise potential questions regarding an amateur licensee's qualifications."

First convicted in January 2004 for simple burglary, a felony, Cox was sentenced to five years in prison, but the judge suspended the sentence and put him on supervised probation for five years, the FCC said. Cox was arrested again in September 2004, the FCC

(continued on page 14)

PACKET UPDATE

When running digital modes on HF one problem we can have is matching our equipment up to the antenna we run. A tuner is a must to match up when we go off frequency from the antenna design. When we build our own antennas, matchers also come in handy. MFJ has come out with a new type of tuner made for Balanced line antennas. The unit is an efficient T-network which will allow for a wide range of matching from 80 to 6 meters. The unit is rated for 300 watts SSB and 150 watts CW. The unit tunes 600 ohm open wire lines, 450/300 ohm ladder lines, and 300/72 twin lead lines. The MFJ-974H also has gear driven capacitors for tuning to make it nice and easy to tune. It also has a dual needle SWR/WATTMETER right on the front. Remember balanced lines are very low loss. This tuner is perfect for doublet, horizontal loop, vertical loop, quad, and double extended zepp antenna fed with ladder line. If you are looking for a good balanced line tuner, check this one out. The MFJ website is www.mfjenterprises.com.

James Butler, KB4LJV

AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

This month's project is an accessory I built up for my QRP station. It is called the AUDIO CENTER. The unit is built in a printer switcher box and painted in Heathkit colors to match my other homemade equipment. The AUDIO CENTER has inputs on the back for audio coming from a QRP rig. It allows me to switch to two sets of headphones or to speaker. I built in the speaker as some QRP rigs do not come with one. The front also has a meter mounted that will show the audio level and act sort of like a poor man's S meter. I also added a capacitor that can be placed in the audio chain to help remove high frequency hiss and make listening easier for long periods of time. The adjustment knob on the front allows me to adjust the meter movement to the volume level I am using. The unit works well and makes audio hookups to the QRP rigs easier.

James Butler, KB4LJV



November

2005

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM Mitchell Moore	4	5
6	7	8 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM Eddie, KF4QFW	9 Roger, K4KCU	10 Russell, KI4HTD	11	12 Gwendolyn Hyatt
13	14 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	29 Shelby Cty., ARES Meeting 6:45 PM	30 Kenneth, N4WAH Jim, NI4C Lauren, KF4LZM			

December

2005

<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	2	3
4 Joyce Hughes	5 James, WA4RW	6 Jim, KI4I	7	8	9 J.T., KI4AJG NV4Z, Mary	10
11	12 Jim, K4ZFQ	13 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM	14 John, K3LK Sylvia, KE4WOT	15 Jimmy, KG4TKY	16	17
18 James, N5WFF	19	20 Mark, WB4RRT Jason, KI4BXX	21 Patsy Lane	22	23	24 Marion, N4VTB
25	26 Darrell, KK4D Brenda, KE4MKK	27 Shelby Cty., ARES Meeting 6:45 PM	28	29 James Pace	30 Bob, KF4NDH	31 Don, KA4BMI



CONTEST CALENDAR

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

ARRL November Sweepstakes--CW, from 2100Z Nov 5-0300Z Nov 7. (Phone from 2100Z Nov 19 to 0300Z Nov 21; see Oct *QST*, p 105)

North American Collegiate ARC Championship-CW (Phone, Nov 19-

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.

High Speed Club CW Contest, sponsored by the Radio Telegraphy High Speed Club (HSC) from 0900Z-1100Z and 1500Z-1700Z Nov 6. Frequencies: 80-10 meters, 10-30 kHz above band edge. For more information: www.dl3bzz.de

IPA Contest--Phone/CW, sponsored by The International Police Association Radio Club. CW from 0600Z-1000Z and 1400Z-1800Z Nov 5, Phone from 0600Z-1000Z and 1400Z-1800Z Nov 6. Frequencies: 80-10 meters with 15-minute band change rule. For more information: www.ipa-rc.de.

Ukrainian DX Contest--CW/SSB/RTTY, sponsored by the Ukrainian Amateur Radio League and the Ukrainian Contest Club from 1200Z Nov 5-1200Z Nov 6. Frequencies: 160-10 meters, with 10-minute band change rule. For more information: www.ucc.zp.ua.

DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"--RTTY/AMTOR/FACTOR/PSK31/Clover, sponsored by Deutscher Amateur Radio Club from 1100Z-1700Z Nov 6. Frequencies (MHz): 28.050-28.150, work stations once per mode. For more information: www.darc.de/referate/dx/cqdlcont/fgdcc.htm.

Radio Club of America QSO Party, SSB/AM, from 1700Z Nov 5-0500Z Nov 6. See Web site for frequency schedule. For more information: www.radio-club-of-america.org or rlraide@adelphia.net.

ARRL EME Contest, from 0000Z Nov 12-2400Z Nov 13. Frequencies: 50-1296 MHz (see August *QST*, p. 85).

Japan International DX Contest--Phone, from 0700Z Nov 12-1300Z Nov 13 (see April *QST*, p 99, or <http://jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html>).

Worked All Europe DX Contest (WAEDC)--RTTY, from 0000Z Nov 12-2359Z Nov 13. Same rules as WAEDC Phone and CW, except everyone works everyone. QTC can only be exchanged between continents (see August *QST*, p 94, or www.waedc.de).

OK/OM DX Contest--CW, sponsored by the Czech Radio Club (CRC) from 1200Z Nov 12-1200Z Nov 13. Frequencies: 160-10-meters. For more information: <http://okomdx.radioamater.cz>.

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
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@mem.quik.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
billwa4mj@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)

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



CQ WE (Western Electric)--CW/Phone/Digital, from 1900Z Nov 12-0500Z Nov 14. Frequencies: 160-70 cm (no repeater contacts). For more information: <http://cqwe.cboh.org>.

LZ DX Contest--CW/SSB, sponsored by the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs from 1200Z Nov 19-1200Z Nov 20. 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 19-0100Z Nov 20 (see Feb *QST*, p 102). For more information: www.rsgbhfcc.org.

CQ World Wide DX Contest--CW, from 0000Z Nov 26 to 2400Z Nov 27 (see Oct *QST*, p 101 or <http://cqww.com>).

ARRL 160 Meter Contest--CW, from 2200Z Dec 2-1600Z Dec 4. (See Nov *QST* p 105)

Top Band Sprint--CW/SSB, sponsored by QRP ARCI, from 0000Z--0600Z Dec 1. Frequencies: 160-meters only. For more information: www.qrparci.org.

TARA RTTY M el ee--sponsored by the Troy Amateur Radio Assn, from 0000Z-2400Z Dec 3. For more information: www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_melee_rules.html.

Holiday Spirits Homebrew CW Sprint--sponsored by the QRP ARCI, from 2000Z-2400Z Dec 4. Frequencies (MHz)--1.810, 3.560, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060 kHz. For more information: www.qrparci.org.

ARRL 10 Meter Contest--0000Z Dec 10-2400Z Dec 11. (See Nov *QST*, p 105, or www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/10-meters.html.)

Great Colorado Snowshoe Run--CW, sponsored by the Colorado QRP Club from 0200Z--0359Z Dec 10. Frequencies: 40 meters only. For more information: www.cqc.org/contests/snow2005.htm

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

OK DX RTTY Contest--sponsored by the Czech Radio Club, 0000Z-2400Z Dec 17. For information: www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE.HTM.

Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge--CW, sponsored by the Boring Amateur Radio Club, 1500Z Dec 17-1500Z Dec 18. For more information: <http://jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt>.

PSK31 Death Match--PSK31 and PSK63, sponsored by the Michigan DX Association, 0000Z Dec 17-2400Z Dec 18. 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 2100Z-2300Z Dec 16 in two 1-hour segments. For more information: www.radio.ru/cq/contest/rule-results/index11.shtml.

Croatian CW Contest--sponsored by Hrvatski Radioameterski Savez (HRS), from 1400Z Dec 17-1400Z Dec 18. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: www.qsl.net/etc.

RAC Winter Contest--CW/Phone, sponsored by the Radio Amateurs of Canada, 0000Z-2359Z Dec 17. 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/canwin2004.pdf.

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party--all modes, sponsored by the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, 0001Z Dec 17, 2005-2359Z Jan 1, 2006. 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. For more information: <http://arlhs.com>

DARC Christmas Contest--CW/SSB, sponsored by the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, 0830Z--1100Z Dec 25. 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.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcx.htm.

ARRL Straight Key Night--from 0000Z-2359Z Jan 1, 2006. (See page 89 of this issue.)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Through Feb 28, 2006, Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. The Rotary Club of Midrand, ZS100RI. HF/VHF/UHF. QSL. Via QSL manager Craig Bergstedt, ZS6CKB, Halfway House, Midrand, Gauteng 1685, South Africa.

Nov 3-Nov 6, 0000Z-2400Z, Whitefish Point, MI. Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society, N8F. Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald. 14.260 21.360 7.260 3.860. Certificate. Richard A. Barker, W8VS, 264 N East St, Brighton, MI 48116. www.qsl.net/w8njh.

Nov 4-Nov 7, 2000Z-0400Z, Split Rock Lighthouse (near Two Harbors), MN. Stillwater Amateur Radio Association, W0JH. 21.360 14.260 7.260 3.860. Certificate. Shel Mann, N0DRX, 1618 W Pine St, Stillwater, MN 55082. www.radioham.org.

Nov 4-Nov 8, Knokke-Heist, Belgium. UBA Section ONZ, OO4CLM. Canadian Liberation March/Canadian Week. SSB and CW 80 40 20 17 15 10 2 m bands. OO4CLM Special Event, Postbox 1006, B-8300 Konokke-Heist, Belgium. www.on4clm.be.

Nov 5, 1500Z-2000Z, Rocky Point, NY. Radio Central Amateur Radio Club, W2RC. 75th Anniversary of RCA Transatlantic Wireless Transmission. 14.260 14.050 7.260 7.030. Certificate. Radio Central ARC, PO Box 396, Centereach, NY 11720. www.rcarc.org.

Nov 5-Nov 6, 1300Z-2300Z, Moscow, PA. Northeast Pennsylvania Special Event Club, KV3T. 85th anniversary of pioneer broadcast radio station, KDKA. 21.240 14.240 14.045 7.240. QSL. David Samsell, W3LOW, 923 Clearview Rd, Moscow, PA 18444. <http://kv3t.tripod.com>.

Nov 10-Nov 13, 1500Z-2000Z, Arlington Heights, IL. Armored Force Amateur Radio Net, KA9NLX. To honor the memory and efforts of military veterans. 18.095 14.325 7.283 7.030; conditions permitting 28.640 21.375 7.298. Certificate. John Paskevicz, 1423 North Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

Nov 11, 0400Z-2300Z, Nutley, NJ. Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Association, N2UL. CQ Veterans Day. 28.420 14.260 7.260 449.975. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

Nov 11, 1300Z-1900Z, Butler, PA. Butler County Amateur Radio Association, W3UDX. Celebrating Veterans Day from the Butler VA Hospital grounds. 14.280 7.250. QSL. BCARA, PO Box 1787, Butler, PA 16003. <http://qsl.net/w3udx>.

Nov 11, 1330Z-1930Z, Grand Rapids, MI. Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance, W8USA. Veterans Day from the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. 14.250 14.040 7.250 7.040. QSL. MARA, PO Box 670, Comstock Park, MI 49321-0670. www.w8usa.org.

Nov 11, 1500Z-2330Z, Baton Rouge, LA. USS *Kidd* ARC/Baton Rouge ARC, W5KID. Veteran's Day. General class bands, 14.250 to 14.320; CW QRP subbands 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS *Kidd* Museum, 305 S River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm.

Nov 11-Nov 12, 2200Z-2200Z, Philadelphia, PA. Warminster Amateur Radio Club, K3DN. Union League of Philadelphia. 14.300 7.250 3.800. Certificate. Tony Simek, N3YNH, Warminster Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 113, Warminster, PA 18974. www.k3dn.org.

Nov 11-Nov 12, 1400Z-2100Z, Topeka, KS. SCSWARC and KVARC, N0G. Veterans Day. 28.450 21.350 14.250 7.200. Certificate. Steve Hamilton, 2503 SW Carlson Rd, Topeka, KS 66614.

Nov 11-Nov 14, 2300Z-0600Z, San Antonio, TX. San Antonio Radio Club, W5SC. Coral-Gold II--San Antonio Radio Club's 86th birthday party. 21.360 14.260 7.260 3.860. QSL. Steve Cerwin, WA5FRF, 1619 CR 270, Mico, TX 78056. www.w5sc.org.

Nov 12, 1400Z-2200Z, Roseland, NJ. Roseland Amateur Radio Club, K2GQ. 60th anniversary of the Ro-

sland ARC. 146.52 21.345 14.260 7.245. Certificate. Harvey Moskowitz, W2YWC, 7 Burlington Rd, Livingston, NJ 07039. www.qsl.net/k2gq.

Nov 12, 1400Z-2000Z, South Padre Island, TX. CHARRO Amateur Radio Club, W5CRC. "Return of the Snowbirds" to South Texas. 28.330 14.330 21.330. Certificate. Bob Austin, W5CRC, 107 W Park Dr, Brownsville, TX 78521. www.qsl.net/w5crc.

Nov 12-Nov 14, 1700Z-0200Z, West Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association, W2ZQ. 75th anniversary of the DVRA. 14.275 7.275 3.975. QSL. DVRA, PO Box 7024, West Trenton, NJ 08628. www.w2zq.com.

Nov 13, 1500Z-2200Z, Waterloo, IA. Five Sullivan Brothers Amateur Radio Club, W0FSB. Anniversary of the Loss of USS *Juneau* and the 5 Brothers. 21.240 14.240 7.240. Certificate. Five Sullivan Brothers ARC, 4015 Independence Ave, Waterloo, IA 50703.

Nov 19, 1500Z-2100Z, Guthrie, OK. Edmond Amateur Radio Society, K5EOK. Oklahoma Statehood Day in original State Capital Building. 21.375 14.275 7.275 3.875. Certificate. Edmond Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 48, Edmond, OK 73083. www.k5eok.org.

Nov 20-Nov 26, 1600Z-0400Z, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Murgas ARC, K3YTL. Centennial of Rev Joseph Murgas wireless overland transmission. 21.375 14.275 7.275 3.875. May request certificate or QSL. Murgas ARC, PO Box 1094, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702. www.qsl.net/k3ytl.

Nov 25, 1400Z-2200Z, Provincetown, MA. National Park Service, W1P. 107th anniversary of the loss of the Steamship *Portland*. 14.260 14.050 7.260 7.050. QSL. Marconi

Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC, Cape Cod National Seashore, 99 Marconi Site Rd, Wellfleet, MA 02667. www.nps.gov/caco/heritage/Portland.pdf.

Nov 26-Nov 27, 0000Z-2400Z, All Call Areas, USA. Ten-Ten International, W6OI. Celebrating 43 years and 75000 members. 28.340 28.400 CW and PSK. QSL. Jack Moore, K5CC, 371 Ridge Creek La, Bu l-verde, TX 78163. www.10-10.org. (Certificate for all call areas.)

Nov 26-Nov 27, 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 26-Nov 27, 1400Z-1900Z daily, The Villages, FL. The Villages Amateur Radio Club, K4VRC. The 10th anniversary of the Villages Radio Club. 147.000 14.275 7.250 3.940. Certificate. Ed Crowell, 1570 St James Cir, The Villages, FL 32162.

Dec 2-Dec 4, 0000Z-2400Z, Sacramento, CA. National Weather Service, Sacramento, W6S. Skywarn Recognition Day. 146.910. QSL. National Weather Service Office, 3310 El Camino Ave, Ste 228, Sacramento, CA 95821.

Dec 3, 0000Z-2400Z, Chicago, IL. National Weather Service, W9S. Skywarn Recognition Day. 20 40 80 m CW SSB PSK31 APRS echolink. QSL. William Wilson, 333 W University Dr, Romeoville, IL 60446.

Dec 3-Dec 4, 1400Z-2200Z, Baltimore, MD. Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club, W2W. Pearl Harbor Attack Anniversary--The use of Electronics. 21.242 14.242 7.242 3.925. Certificate and QSL. HEMARC, PO Box 1693 MS

4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. www.qsl.net/w3hem/.

Dec 7, 1500Z-2330Z, Baton Rouge, LA. USS *Kidd* ARC/Baton Rouge ARC, W5KID. Pearl Harbor Day. General class bands, 14.250 to 14.320; CW QRP subbands 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS *Kidd* Museum, 305 S River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm.

Dec 9-Dec 17, 1400Z-0100Z daily, Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, W8ZQ. Winter Festival Of Lights at Oglebay Park. General phone bands. QSL. Joe McCready, WB8CTC, PO Box 192, Blaine, OH 43909.

Dec 10, 0001Z-2359Z, Warrensburg, MO. Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club Inc, W0AU. 15 year anniversary of Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club. 28.370 21.378 14.270 7.250. QSL. Dennis Gedeon, KB0NHV, 1811 Hillside Ct, Oak Grove, MO 64075. www.WAARCI.org.

Dec 10, 1200Z-2400Z, Rutland, VT. Green Mountain Wireless Society, W1GMW. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the club's founding. 14.240 7.240 7.050 3.840. QSL. Green Mountain Wireless Society, PO Box 84, Rutland, VT 05701. www.gmws.net.

Dec 10-Dec 11, 1400Z-0200Z, Nazareth, PA. Christmas City Amateur Radio Club, WX3MAS. Christmas Greetings from Nazareth and Bethlehem PA. 21.365 14.265 7.270 3.970. Certificate. Christmas City ARC WX3MAS, Graystone Building, Gracedale Complex, RR8, Nazareth, PA 18064. www.dlarc.org.

Dec 17, 1200Z-2200Z, Winston-Salem, NC. Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, W4NC. 75th birthday of The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club. 21.320

14.270 7.250. QSL. Ed Swiderski, KU4BP, 2105 D Fiddlers Ct, Winston Salem, NC 27107. home.triad.rr.com/ku4bp/main.html.

Dec 17-Dec 25, 1300Z-2359Z, Bethlehem, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR. Celebrating the Christmas season from Bethlehem, New Mexico. 28.273 21.273 14.273 7.273. QSL. VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. www.qsl.net/kc5our/.

(continued on page 7)

continued in its recitation, and, earlier this year, following a plea agreement, a US District Court judge sentenced him to concurrent terms of 41 months for felony violations of various firearms provisions.

If it goes forward, the hearing would attempt to determine the effect of Cox's felony convictions on his qualifications to be and remain an FCC licensee and, in the light of evidence, whether Cox is qualified to remain a Commission licensee and whether his Amateur Radio license should be revoked.

The FCC sent copies of the show cause Order to his home address as well as to Catahoula Correctional Center in Harrisonburg, Louisiana. Cox has 30 days from the Order's release to file written notice that he will appear for the hearing and present evidence. The FCC Enforcement Bureau would bear the burden of proof in the proceeding.

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

AREA HAMFESTS OF INTEREST

Twin City Ham Club
 Monroe Area Hamfest
 6620 Frontage Road
 Monroe, LA
 November 12, 2005

Minden Amateur Radio Association
 MARA Christmas Hamfest
 520 Broadway Street
 Minden, LA
 December 17, 2005

Delta Amateur Radio Club

October 2005 Treasurers Report

Balance 09/30/2005	\$6,320.33
<u>Expense</u>	
Bellsouth	58.38
U of M	22.94
Total Expense	\$81.32
<u>Income</u>	
Ticket Sales	75.00
Annual Dues	60.00
Total Income	\$135.00
Balance 10/31/2005	\$6,374.01

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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