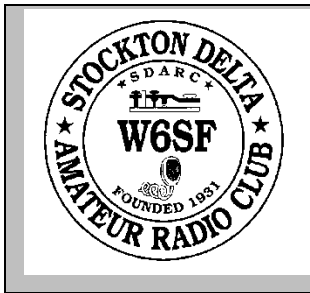


Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



W6SF FLYSHEET



ARRL MEMBER

P.O. BOX 690271 STOCKTON, CA 95269-0271

September 2012



PRESIDENT'S QST

QST QST QST - Welcome to the September edition of the Flysheet. In a few short months it will be time for club elections (November), Christmas Party (December) and then a new Annual General Meeting in January. Now is the time to think about serving your club on the 2013 Board of Directors.

In our last board meeting, we appointed Bryan, KJ6RGE as club Membership Chairman. Bryan will be taking on the responsibility of growing the club membership and reaching out to other clubs to support our meetings and events. Speaking of growing membership, I'd like to "officially" welcome three new members to the club as of August. I hope everyone got an opportunity to meet 'LT' – KJ6YVF, Tobin – KJ6YVH and Aaron – KJ6YVG at the meeting and I hope to see them and other new licensees in September. Welcome one and all.

The August HamCram passed eight new hams- all should have their licenses by the September meeting.

Contesting season is just around the corner. Time now to plan and "gear-up" for on the air activities. We began preparation last month with Shirl's great presentation on "why contest", CQP and a call for supporting our local contesting club in October. At our September meeting, we'll talk about plans to get on-the-air for CQP and I'll be sharing some videos from ARRL on good operating practices. California QSO party, November Sweepstakes, and other contests are right around the corner.

Our next meeting is just 12 days away. Let's get started.

73,

John, NZ6Q



SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE SEPTEMBER 13TH , 7:30pm



BEAR CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH 11171 LOWER SACRAMENT RD

QST QST QST ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS. The September meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday, September 13th , 2012, beginning at 7:30PM.

The meeting will open with a review of club business to date. I will be presenting some videos on operating and getting on the air and we will be discussing club plans to support CQP2012.

Afterwards, be sure to put in a few bucks for the after meeting raffle and take home a little bit of ham radio treasure. A unique collection of items will be available to compliment any station. Don't miss out on your chance to win some great prizes.

Doors open at 7:15 PM for meet and greet. Club business begins at 7:30PM. New hams and anyone interested in Amateur Radio are encouraged to attend. Invite a Friend!

Directions to the meeting: From North or South on I5 - Travel on I5 to 8 Mile Rd and go east on 8 Mile Rd to Lower Sacramento Rd. Turn north onto Lower Sacramento Rd and the church is about 1000 ft north of the intersection on the left.

From North or South on 99 – Travel on 99 to 8 Mile Rd and go west on 8 Mile Rd to Lower Sacramento Rd. Turn north onto Lower Sacramento Rd and the church is about 1000 ft north of the intersection on the left.

Parking: Ample parking is available; we meet all the way in the back of the church complex in one of the classrooms.

Get Ready to ShakeOut.

October 18, 2012 Register Now at www.shakeout.org

The Great
California
**Shake
Out**



The Tevis Cup

100-Miles-One-Day Trail Ride

Western States Trail Foundation

N6LHL WORKS THE TEVIS CUP RIDE

On Saturday August 4 and 5, Dave N6LHL volunteered his time to support the annual Tevis Cup Horse ride from Lake Tahoe to Auburn. Each rider who completes the 100 mile course from Tahoe to Auburn within the 24 hour limit and whose mount is judged "fit to continue" is awarded the coveted silver Completion Award Buckle. The Tevis Cup trophy is awarded to the person who completes the 100-Mile One-Day course in the shortest amount of time and whose horse is in sound condition and "fit to continue."

The entire 100 mile course is staffed by ham radio operators at 26 stations to provide communications in the event of an emergency and to provide information about the ride's progress to Net Control at Auburn. About 206 riders started out at Robie Park near Squaw Valley, and only 99 finished.

Dave was assigned to the Lower Quarry rest stop and vet check, south of Auburn, from 7:30pm Saturday until 5:30am Sunday morning. Using battery power, courtesy of Charlie WB6NVB, and setting up along with John KJ6JHH from Newcastle, the two operators took turns reporting rider numbers to Net Control, and reporting on riders whose horses were lame and had to be pulled from the ride.

The officers who were responsible for running the ride frequently wanted updates on the status of riders who had left the last vet check but had not yet arrived at Lower Quarry. All in all it was a busy 10 hours punctuated by brilliant lightning and short rain storms.

Dave reports that events such as this are a demonstration of ham radio's ability to serve the public interest and to practice our skills in operating under adverse conditions away from power mains.



Net Control is divided into Ride Management, Radio Operations, and Web Cast Management.



The above picture is of the Web Cast Management computers. All web cast rider information come into the webcast four different ways and these computers monitor and verify this data for accuracy. Web Cast data input comes from: 1) Winlink 2000 operators in the field and is received via email at NCS' Webcast operator. 2) Laptop Operators (DSL Internet Connection) in the field do direct webcast input and Net Control verifies the data. 3) Radio Operator's doing direct laptop, iPhone or iPad input via Cell Card with external antenna systems attached. (Not your normal internet connection.) 4) A normal Field Radio (Ham) Operator relays rider information to a Net Control Radio Operator.



It's 3am and a tired John KJ6JHH is working the radio reporting to Net Control.

CONTESTING, CAL QSP PARTY AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL DX CLUB AUGUST MEETING REPORT

The August meeting was highlighted by a great presentation from Shirl, AA6K. Probably one of our club's most seasoned veterans of HF operating including chasing DX and contesting, Shirl presented a very informative look at radiosport, or contesting and how it helps develop better radio operators. We learned that a big reason to contest is to be more proficient in emergencies and to be better prepared "when all else fails"

Shirl's presentation focused on the upcoming California QSO Party (October 6 – 7, 2012) www.cqp.org and how each of us can get on the air, become better HF operators and help out our neighbors, the Mother DX/Contest Club - <http://mldxcc.org/index.html> - in their fight to retain the "top spot" in the CQP Club competition.



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Afterwards, some exciting raffle prizes were won and great fellowship was had by all. See you on September 13th!

**California
QSO Party**

ADMIT ONE

Here's Your Ticket To
The Most Popular
State QSO Party On
The Planet!

October 6-7, 2012
1400 UTC Oct 6 to 2200 UTC Oct 7



Grab a CA QSO or County
For That New Certificate!

LoTW Triple Play
USA Counties Award
Worked All States
Worked All California Counties

Great Prizes & Awards!
Complete Rules & Info:
www.cqp.org

Northern California Contest Club

NCCC

Excellence in Amateur Radio Contesting



August 25th Transmitter Hunt / BBQ

Our 2nd annual Transmitter Hunt & BBQ was held at Oak Park in Stockton on August 25th. The day was picture perfect for an outdoor activity and I was glad that there weren't more families out taking advantage of the weather at the park. Oak Park provides a lot of space. Eric, W6INP and I were on site early scoping out different sides of the park ultimately deciding that his spot on the east side was better than my spot on the north. Paul, N6KZW arrived shortly after with one of the key ingredients to a successful day – the food!

Thank you also Paul for shopping with me on Friday and making this event a success – this could not have happened without you.



Mike Sacula, K6MDS arrived and set up the various equipment needed for his demonstration. Mike gave an excellent program which help the attention of everyone from age 5 to 50 + (well, I'm pretty sure there were a few 50+ members of the club there). Mike covered the basics of RDF (Radio Direction Finding), including the importance of attenuation and both vertical & horizontal signal patterns can be used to minimize reflections and "false hits" on the fox. Once everyone was prepared, we set out on our quest. There were several teams of two and some individual efforts. Mike had very cleverly hidden the fox and

we discovered that not only the buildings, but the large oak trees proved to be effective reflectors confusing almost everyone.

Once the hidden transmitter was discovered by everyone it was time to relax, ask questions and enjoy great food prepared by our “club GrillMaster” Dave, N6DCH. Thank you Dave! He did a great service preparing the delicious hamburgers, and making sure there was enough for everyone. Dave also brought out his great portable grill. Lunch was hamburgers, chips, and a fantastic potato salad prepared fresh by Paul’s son on Friday night.

A lively discussion about antenna’s and antenna ordinances followed questions about the day’s topic. A text message from Brian, KJ6RGE telling me how excited his boys were telling their mother about the transmitter hunt confirmed it for me – It was a wonderful ham radio day!



A LOOK AT LOCAL REPEATERS (PART 2 – UHF)



Here are some updates on local UHF repeaters in San Joaquin County.

442.250 + PL 107.2 W6SF, Stockton – The UHF repeater has been running well. This repeater is linked to the club’s 147.165 (PL107.2 +) repeater. What that means is that when you are using the UHF repeater, it is being retransmitted on the VHF repeater. You can be on UHF and other club members can be on VHF and carry on a QSO. The UHF repeater has good mobile coverage in Stockton and northward toward Sacramento. Try using it to check into the Monday night net.

444.250 + PL 114.8 WB6ASU, Lodi – This repeater is linked to WB6ASU's VHF repeater 147.090 (PL 114,8 +). The UHF repeater here "hears really well". For EMCOMM work, try using the UHF input on 449.250 PL 114.8 and listen on 147.090. This greatly improves HT coverage. PAVE PAWS radar compliance has reduced the repeater output to very low.

444.325 + PL 94.8 K6KJQ, Stockton – Club member Glen's (K6KJQ) has put a lot of hard work in this repeater. Located on top of the tower at the Stockton Police station downtown, this repeater has very good HT coverage in Stockton – especially downtown. Mobile coverage extends beyond Tracy to the west, Modesto to the south, the foothills to the east and beyond Lodi to the north. This is a great sounding repeater around town and the county.

440.225 + PL 136.5 WD6EJF, Modesto – Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association (SARA) club repeater on Mt. Oso. Like many of the Mt. Oso repeaters, Pave Paws restrictions have forced the repeater to transmit with less than 10 watts. This repeater is on the air with less than one watt which severely limits its range.

444.125 + PL 156.7 K6SCA, Angels Camp – Club member Steve, K6SCA's repeater near Angels Camp has very good coverage into North Stockton. I used to listen to this repeater walking around my neighborhood. Linked with other repeaters in the foothills, the repeater can provide coverage throughout the valley and the mountains. Try it out.

441.325 + PL 100.0 W6CX, Mt. Diablo – The Mount Diablo ARC operates this repeater on Mt. Diablo, linking it to their 220Mhz repeater and 147.060 2-meter repeater during morning commute hours. Even after having its power reduced by 50dB at the request of Pave Paws and the US Air Force, it still offers very good coverage both in the valley and the east bay. Check out their website at <http://www.mdarc.org/>

443.525 + PL 107.2 K6JSI, Mt. Oso – The "WINSYSTEM" (Western Intertie Network System) repeater network is one of the most comprehensive system of repeaters in amateur radio. Linking repeaters over several western states, Texas and Hawaii through hard line, link radios, and the internet, it's interesting and fun to work someone say in San Diego from your car on your 440Mhz HT or mobile. IRLP links these repeaters occasionally to hams as far away as England and Australia. Pave Paws power reductions have made hearing this repeater system from your HT pretty difficult, but when mobile, or with a fixed base station it comes in relatively clear. Enjoy the nightly "Insomniac Net" starting at 11:00PM. <http://www.winsystem.org/>

443.825 + PL 107.2 N5FDL, Mt. Oso -- A former K6SCA repeater now operated by David, N5FDL, this machine puts out less than two watts, yet has remarkable coverage (Lodi on a talkie?). If you have a clear view to Oso, you may hit it with a talkie as has been done from many places in testing. If your view is obstructed, a mobile radio may be required. This open repeater hears really well, so it sounds good even if it doesn't peg your S-meter. Will eventually be linked to 146.895 - PL 114.8.

441.875 + PL 114.8 Test Pair -- The Tracy club has a portable repeater on this "test pair" that can be used on a temporary basis for events and emergencies. It is now part of the County EMCOMM Frequency Plan. If you need this repeater, contact N5FDL.

Many people believe that PAVE PAWS radar interference requirements "killed" 440 MHz. repeaters in Northern California. Indeed, many either cut their power way down or disappeared altogether. In the last year, however, 440 has returned to life as we've learned to adapt and overcome the difficulties PAVE PAWS compliance presents.

440 may never again have the wide coverage repeaters it once did, but low-level machines, linked systems and optimized high-level boxes are helping the band become more busy.



Kingdon Drag Races Sept 7 – 9, 2012 Sign up & Volunteer

The Kingdon Airport was originally used as a test & training field for pilots during World War 2. After the war, it saw very little use until, in the mid fifties, a Stockton Police Officer converted its use into what was then known as the “Kingdon Drag Strip”. The philosophy was to get kids who were engaging in illegal street racing off the streets, and provide them with a safer and legal alternative. For the next two decades the drag strip became very well known throughout the racing community and hosted many big name competitors from all over the state.

This once a year event for *charity* is September 7th, 8th, and 9th. Proceeds from the event will benefit the benefit the Welcome Home Heroes Foundation & the San Joaquin County Sheriff’s Air Patrol. This will be the 7^h annual event.

We had quite a few hams volunteer last year and we have been asked to help out again. We will be watching the race and looking for those with too much to drink. I am happy to say everything went wonderful last year. The spectators and participants were very well behaved. The shifts are expected to be 4 hours long. But many of us have enjoyed the entire weekend. The exhilaration of seeing and hearing those incredible cars is an exciting experience. We will use both business band radios and amateur radio at the event... Free Hot Dogs, Drinks & fun

www.kingdondrags.net

Let Paul, N6KZW know ASAP if you would like to help. What hours you would be available over the three days of the event.

Email Paul, N6KZW at n6kzw@sbcglobal.net to sign up and volunteer.





AUGUST 25TH HAMCRAM NETS 8 NEW HAMS, 1 UPGRADE

David, N5FDL reports that Saturday's HamCram at Dameron Hospital resulted in licensing of 8 new hams, and one upgrade to General. Glen, K6KJQ's, continues to promote the hobby as two of the new licensee's are friends of his. They were 'required' to call Glen on the air as soon as the scores were announced to share the good news!



Sign-up your friends for the next HamCram on October 21st at
<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4016643890/eorg>



FCC Releases Congressionally Mandated Study on Amateur Radio

On August 20 -- in response to a Spring 2012 Congressional directive -- the Federal Communications Commission released its findings on the Uses and Capabilities of Amateur Radio Service Communications in Emergencies and Disaster Relief: Report to Congress Pursuant to Section 6414 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.

This report contains the FCC's "review of the importance of emergency Amateur Radio Service communications relating to disasters, severe weather and other threats to lives and property in the United States; and recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio operators in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts; and recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in the planning and furtherance of initiatives of the federal government." It also required "that the study identify impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications and provide recommendations regarding the removal of such impediments."

"There are many positive things included in the FCC report to Congress," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "We are pleased that the Commission highlighted the existing Amateur Radio infrastructure to provide disaster and time-critical communications. They also recognized the flexibility of the Amateur Service in working with federal, state, local and tribal emergency service agencies to supplement existing communications. The affirmation of the value that Amateur Radio brings to the communities across the country is underscored by the suggestion that 'DHS work with state, local, and tribal authorities so they may develop disaster area access or credentialing policies for trained amateur operators, including a means for documenting their qualifications...'"

While the FCC did hold Amateur Radio in a positive light in its discussion of emergency Amateur Radio Service communications, the FCC report was not as favorable in the portion of the study that addressed impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications. In the comments provided to the FCC as they prepared the study, the ARRL -- as well as numerous individuals -- cited the proliferation of specific land-use restrictions, such as deed restrictions and homeowners associations covenants, that prohibit the erection of even modest Amateur Radio antennas.

The ARRL cited that such restrictions now apply to tens of millions of homes and condominiums. In communities across every state, these restrictions make finding suitable living arrangements that would also allow amateurs to participate effectively in providing support communications nearly impossible to find. The FCC disagreed with that assessment stating "...our review of the record does not indicate that amateur operators are unable to find homes that are not subject to such restrictions. Therefore, at this time, we do not see a compelling reason for the Commission to revisit its previous determinations that preemption should not be expanded to CCRs."

When considering any current rules that serve as impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications, the report did agree with the ARRL 's position, stating that "Commission rules that may be an impediment to enhanced Amateur Service emergency communications can, as the ARRL notes, be considered through the Commission 's rulemaking process. Consequently, we do not believe that Congressional action is necessary to address any of these issues."

In the report, the FCC recommended that "DHS consult with the public safety, emergency management and Amateur Radio emergency communications associations and groups to identify training opportunities that will support better utilization of Amateur Radio operators for emergency communications, and to solicit views on how Amateur Radio capabilities could be further incorporated into response plans or initiatives. We also recommend that OEC include these recommendations in the NECP."

Henderson noted that it is significant "that the FCC recommends efforts be continued by DHS to facilitate the training and utilization of Amateur Radio across the emergency and disaster response spectrum -- from the public sector through to the various groups and organizations which provide support communications via the Amateur Service, including ARES, RACES, MARS or locally organized support groups. When served agencies and amateur groups plan and train cooperatively, it only enhances our abilities to serve our communities and the public."

With the delivery of the FCC 's report to Congress, the ARRL will determine its next step in its efforts to find relief for amateurs who live under unduly restrictive private land-use regulations. "Our review of the FCC report shows that there is a lot to be done if amateurs living in deed-restricted properties are to receive even the limited relief they enjoy under the Commission 's PRB-1 ruling or the limited relief given to deed-restricted properties given by the FCC 's OTARD ruling," Henderson said. "This means continuing ARRL 's efforts on Capitol Hill and continuing to seek a Congressional directive to the Commission to extend those limited preemptions to include prohibition of effective Amateur Radio antennas and support structure that are imposed by private land use restrictions. The FCC report to Congress is not the final action in this fight. It merely lays the groundwork for the next steps to be taken by the ARRL," he concluded.

Read the complete FCC report on the web at

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0820/DA-12-1342A1.pdf.



January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

CQ MAGAZINE ANNOUNCES PRE-SALES OF 2013-2014 CALENDAR THRU SEPTEMBER 7TH

Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI has done it again! Larry travelled across the nation and captured fifteen spectacular images. This year's calendar includes some of the biggest, most photogenic Amateur Radio shacks, antennas, personalities and scenes in the country.

CQ is holding the calendar price at \$10.95 (plus shipping*) again this year . . . but . . . if you take advantage of this special offer and order by September 7th . . . you'll pay only \$11.95 including the \$3.00 shipping charge! You'll save \$2 and be among the first to receive your calendar!

As always, the CQ Amateur Radio Operators Calendar includes dates of importance to Ham Radio operators, such as major contests and other operating events, meteor showers, phases of the moon and other astronomical information, plus all the usual dates of importance and popular holidays found in most calendars.

Be sure to place your order by September 7th and take advantage of this special offer - only \$8.95 plus shipping! (\$11.95 shipped in the USA) Calendars will ship no later than October 1st. Click on link below to view shipping and handling charges and order your calendar today!

[Click here to order today and SAVE \\$2.00](#) on each calendar you order!





A HAM'S CALENDAR

September 7-9 – 7th Annual Return to Kingdon Drag Racing – Kingdon Air Park, DeVries Rd. See announcement in this issue and contact Paul, N6KZW to volunteer

September 8 – 10 – ARRL September VHF Contest - For amateurs in the US and Canada to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Check out the rules at <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf> .

September 13th – Monthly membership meeting of the Stockton-Delta ARC, Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton, CA – 7:30PM ***Special program on good operating procedures as we approach the Contesting season.*** Club raffle follows the regular meeting.

October 6 – 7 – California QSO Party – This is the 46th running of the CQP. This is your chance to get on HF and be the DX station. Check out the rules at <http://www.cqp.org> . Remember to support the Mother-Lode DX Association by becoming a member and rolling your points up to their club. Check out <http://www.mldxcc.org/index.html> for more info.

October 13 – 15th – Pacificon and ARRL Convention 2013, Santa Clara Marriott – There are still tickets available. Friday Antenna Seminar, early (really early) Saturday morning swap meet, much much more! Check out <http://www.pacificon.org> for all the information and registration. SEE YOU THERE

October 18th – The Great California “Shake-Out” Earthquake Exercise 10:18 AM – Last year, we participated with an “on-the-air” check-in of members. We had great participation and are planning again to be part of this emergency drill. More Info at <http://www.shakeout.org/california/>

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Do you have any suggestions, comments or concerns? We want to hear from you. Do you have an idea that we, as a club can all benefit from? Let us hear about it. Do you have any topic for discussion that YOU could and would contribute to the club? We want to hear from YOU! To submit articles for the monthly newsletter, email the editor at n6lhl@softcom.net

W6SF CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS: Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at **7:30pm, at the Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Road, just north of Eight Mile Road.** Members, guests, and people having an interest in Amateur Radio are invited to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 13th at 7:30PM.**

WEEKLY NET: Held each Monday evening at 8pm on **147.165+ PL 107.2 Hz** Members and visitors are invited to check in. There is also an unofficial get together on Thursday evenings (except meeting nights) at 7:30pm on **28.457.** Amateurs with the proper license are encouraged to participate.

CLUB REPEATERS: Located in the Sierra at 2500 feet, the club repeater covers the southern Sacramento and Northern San Joaquin Valleys. The call sign is W6SF, and can be heard on **147.165+Mhz** with a PL tone of 107.2 Hz. From the same site, the club also operates a 440MHZ repeater at **442.250 +** with a PL of 107.2 Hz.

CLUB SIMPLEX FX: 147.51 MHz.

CLUB WEBSITE: <http://www.w6sf.org>

2012 CLUB OFFICERS:

President:	NZ6Q , John Litz	john@litz.com
Vice President:	WB6NVB , Charlie Johnson	wb6nvb@arri.net
Treasurer:	KD6CPA , Peter Hine	selkied@earthlink.net
Secretary:	W6INP , Eric Chapa	perrla1@aol.com
Member At Large:	N6KZW , Paul Engelman	n6kzw@sbcglobal.net
Trustee:	AA6K , Shirl Rose	rosesl@prodigy.net
Repeater Trustee:	KD6FVA , John Kester	jbkester@att.net
Membership Chairman:	KJ6RGE , Bryan Moulton	b.moulton@sbcglobal.net
Newsletter Editor:	open	

CLUB DUES: are \$20.00 per year for a single membership & \$30 per year for a family membership - payable to Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club at the address on the masthead. You can also pay your dues using paypal. Contact John, NZ6Q for details. We thank you for your continued support!