

# Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



ARRL MEMBER

P.O. BOX 690271

STOCKTON, CA

95269-0271

July, 2013

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## JUNE MEETING NOTES

President Charlie WB6NVB opened the meeting with introductions all around. The group reviewed the club's efforts at the Avenue of the Vines half marathon event on May 19, and also the Museum Ships weekend on June 1 & 2. The club and friends operated off the USS Lucid and made 1056 contacts on 40 and 20 meters. Charlie and Peter KD6CPA discussed Peter's handling of an emergency in Death Valley while operating from the Lucid. (See below.)

An update to the by-laws is currently in the hands of the Board. John NZ6Q advised all present that he is in need of 2 more operators to support the San Joaquin Bike Fest on Saturday, June 15. Dave N6LHL discussed the annual weed wacking event also scheduled for Saturday, June 15. Interest was shown in using new repeaters for the weekly club net. Shirly AA6K stated that the club's liability policy holder is raising the rate, but we should check with the ARRL because they are cutting their rate. Treasurer Peter KD6CPA reviewed the upcoming bills owed by the club, such as the cost of the lawn trimmers and a port-a-potty for Field Day. Charlie opened discussions on Field Day June 22 & 23. He is interested in trying band pass filters which would allow us to have 2 operators on different bands on the same tribander. He suggested people show up at 9am on Saturday with chairs, gloves, spare coax, water and their own snacks. It is reported that our member, Tobin Clark, is recuperating from a heart attack, and the club will send her a get well card. Charlie adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

## NET CONTROL OPERATORS

A list of net control operators for the next months from those that indicated an interest in doing this function is:

<b>July 1</b>	<b>Bob KJ6SVX</b>
<b>July 8</b>	<b>Charlie WB6NVB</b>
<b>July 15</b>	<b>Eric W6INP</b>
<b>July 22</b>	<b>Paul N6KZW</b>
<b>July 29</b>	<b>Dave N6LHL</b>

If you have an interest in improving your traffic handling skills and moderating the Monday night net, please contact me at [n6lhl@softcom.net](mailto:n6lhl@softcom.net). The script to follow is right on the website, and all you need is a pencil and paper to write down names and calls of the members who participate. The more people who participate, the easier it is on every one.

## MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND!

On Friday, May 30, and Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2, about 15 hams boarded the USS Lucid to participate in the Museum Ship Weekend. The USS Lucid is an all wood minesweeper, 172 feet long, that was commissioned in 1955 in New Orleans to sweep up magnetic mines during the Cold War. The navy decommissioned it in 1976 and sold it to private owners. Several veterans have started to restore it to its former glory. It is now tied up in the Port of Stockton off Monte Diablo Avenue near the Rod & Gun club.

Operating Friday thru Sunday, 1056 contacts were made with other hams and other Museum Ships on 40 and 20 meters. The 40 meter radio was set up in the restored Petty Officers quarters, and ran 100 watts into a dipole at about 20 plus feet above the water. The 20 meter radio was set up on the port side of the ship and it also ran 100 watts, but into a 3 element Yagi at about 40 feet atop the ship's superstructure.

Despite a CBE or coronal burst event Friday, which provided operators with a lot of hash to fight through, contacts were continually made Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Mother nature also warmed it up into the 90's, keeping everyone sweating over the radios and logging computers. Many thanks to the following for their participation and dedication in making this event one of the best of the year: Paul **N6KZW**, Peter **KD6CPA**, Dave **N6SWX**, Gary **WA6KCP**, Bob **K6YN**, Dave **N6DCH**, Guy **N6MSU**, John **NZ6Q**, Robert **N6GTO**, Bob **KJ6SVX**, Glen **K6KJQ**, Tom **N6TMA**, Ed **N6XMA**, Ishmael **KJ6LVY** and Dave **N6LHL**.



Peter **KD6CPA** and Gary **WA6KCP** working 40 meters.



Robert **N6GTO** and John **NZ6Q** operating the 20 meter station.



Guy N6MSU at the 40 meter station



Tom N6TMA at the 40 meter station



Dave N6SWX at the 20 meter station



Dave N6LHL at the 40 meter station

(Photos by Glen K6KJQ)



The USS Lucid undergoing restoration at the Port of Stockton.  
The 20 meter beam is on top of the superstructure.

## EMERGENCY TRAFFIC HANDLED BY KD6CPA

After we got back from dinner at the sailing club Saturday evening June 1, I was operating the 40m station for the Museum Ships Weekend, when I got a comeback to my CQ from a mobile station in Death Valley, who asked if we could handle some emergency traffic. I said we would do what we could, and asked the frequency be cleared for the emergency traffic. The guy said he had observed a motorcyclist crash in a descent of Lippincott grade in DV, and it looked like the biker was pretty shook up, although he was able to get back on the bike to try to head back to his campsite. The ham asked that we call Inyo County Sheriff and report it, as there was no

cell coverage in the area. He gave me a Lat/Long, but it was pretty general (whole degrees and minutes only), as he was reading from a map, not a GPS. We got the phone number for Inyo County Sheriff from Paul N6KZW's iPhone, and called. That phone was only manned M-F 9-5, after hours call 911+. Doing that of course got us Stockton 911, but they were able to give us another after hours number for the Inyo Sheriff, so we were able to report it. We stood by the frequency for about 40 minutes in case there was more traffic from the DV ham. There was no more traffic.

I was impressed with the other hams. When I asked for a clear freq for emergency traffic, the freq went from a moderate amount of QRM to absolutely silent, and stayed that way.

I was afraid it might be a hoax, so when I got home Sunday I googled Lippincott Grade+, and found that a highly technical off-road trail with that name that does exist in the hills around DV. I also checked the ham on QRZ, and his page said he lives in Shingle Springs and enjoys wilderness camping and off-roading. I emailed him to ask if he had any more info. Eventually I heard back that the National Park Service had contacted the man and found him to be OK.  
Deõ Peter KD6CPA

## WEED WACKERS ATTACK!



Peter **KD6CPA**, Joe **KK6CXV**, Dave **N6LHL**, Glen **K6KJQ**, John **KD6FVA**, Charlie **WB6NVB**, Steve **K6SCA** and Sue **K6SZQ**. Kneeling is Eileen **KJ6VVQ**. (Photo by Nino **AB6MJ**)

On Saturday, June 15, a party of 6 members convoyed for the 1 hour and 20 minute drive up to the W6SF repeater site on Red Mule Ridge above Fiddletown for the annual weed wacking+ necessary to keep down the fire danger to the site. Once there, we were joined by Steve **K6SCA** and Sue **K6SZQ**, Nino **AB6MJ** and his daughter Eileen **KJ6VVQ**, and Joe **KK6CXV**. Seizing our gas powered weed trimmers we plunged into the knee high undergrowth and commenced its elimination. In about 2 ½ hours Steve pronounced the job as acceptable+, and invited us all to a luncheon of pulled port, and chicken, sandwiches, with salads, iced tea, and

chocolate and cheesecake desserts prepared by Sue **K6SZQ**. Seldom are the working people so well rewarded. Many thanks to those who worked so hard to keep W6SF safe.

## WB6NVB MEETS APRS DEVELOPER AT SON'S GRADUATION.



Charlie **WB6NVB**, with Bob Bruninga WB4APR, and Chas KG6ZWZ.

In May, club President, Charlie **WB6NVB**, traveled back east to see his son, Chas KG6ZWZ, graduate as an Ensign from the US Naval academy in Annapolis, MD. In doing so, he was able to meet Bob Bruninga WB4APR who is well known to hams who work with the APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System). Mr. Bruninga is the guiding light in APRS development. He describes APRS as a digital information channel for ham radio. Behind him is his latest project, a hybrid car, with solar panels attached to improve performance.

### A HAM'S CALENDAR

July 1 thru 6 -13 Colonies event . [www.colonies.info](http://www.colonies.info).

July 11 . Monthly **membership meeting** of the Stockton Delta ARC at Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Road, just north of Eight Mile Road.

July 20 - **VE Testing** at Fire Station #14 on McNabb Street off Thornton Road at 10am. Contact Mike Zane at [N6ZW @ Comcast.net](mailto:N6ZW@Comcast.net) at least 3 days prior to test day. No walk ins!

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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](mailto: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, July 11, 2013**

**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 operates a 440MHZ repeater at **442.250 +** with a PL of 107.2 Hz. Locally, the club also operates a **444.575+** repeater with a PL of 107.2 from East Main Street.

**CLUB SIMPLEX FX:** 147.51 MHz.

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

### 2013 CLUB OFFICERS:

President:	<b>WB6NVB</b> , Charlie Johnson	wb6nvb@arrl.net
Vice President:	<b>N6KZW</b> , Paul Engelman	n6kzw@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer:	<b>KD6CPA</b> , Peter Hine	selkied@earthlink.net
Secretary:	<b>W6INP</b> , Eric Chapa	perrla1@aol.com
Call Sign Trustee	<b>AA6K</b> , Shirl Rose	rosesl@prodigy.net
Repeater Trustee:	<b>KD6FVA</b> , John Kester	jbkester@att.net
Member At Large:	<b>K6KJQ</b> , Glen Pitts	kjq45@att.net
Membership Chairman	<b>KJ6RGE</b> , Bryan Moulton	b.moulton@sbcglobal.net
Newsletter Editor	<b>N6LHL</b> , Dave Hardwick	n6lhl@softcom.net

**CLUB DUES:** Individual dues are \$20, family dues are \$30, payable to Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club at the address on the masthead. We thank you for your continued support!

Politicians are people who, when they see light at the end of the tunnel, go out and buy some more tunnel.

~John Quinton~

