

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



ARRL MEMBER

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

February 2012

FEBRUARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

QST QST QST Welcome everyone! I hope the unseasonably warm weather and lack of January rain has allowed everyone to get out and get into some antenna projects early this year. I've been making a few changes here at NZ6Q: adding more radials to my vertical, and preparing to put a new rotor under the 3-element beam to replace the one that is failing. The new 2-watt Baofeng 2meter/440 portable radio finally arrived and along with it a brief education in why at least reading the instructions and maybe the yahoo users group on new equipment is a good thing when programming for the first time. In April, Dick K6SUU from the Stanislaus Club will be presenting a short demonstration on these Chinese "immigrant" portables and power supplies.

The board looked at the 2012 calendar of events in our last meeting and WOW is it full. There is so much to do this year. We want your ideas and input. Together we are making the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio club the premier Amateur radio home in the central valley. We need you're your help in planning these events – Field Day, Museum Ships, Cal QSO Party, Sweepstakes, Bike Rides, Walk-a-thons and 10K runs, Public Information events and New Ham Testing and Training events – there are plenty of opportunities this year. Members new and old are needed to learn, teach, operate, elmer, and enjoy these activities, events and have a whole lot of fun this year.

In January's business meeting, the treasurer presented his report and the board's recommendation to raise our annual dues from \$15 to \$20 for a single membership and from \$20 to \$30 for a family membership. The members present voted to accept the recommendation and increased the dues. The Board is committed and I hope everyone else is as well, to increasing our membership for the current 72 members to 100 members by the end of the year. You can help by forwarding a copy of The Flysheet to a non-member ham friend and extending an invite personally to join the club and attend a meeting. What a great opportunity we have to do just that at our E911 Center Tour in February.

73 de John, NZ6Q President..

FEBRUARAY MEETING NOTICE

FEBRUARY 9TH, 7:00pm

NOTE TIME CHANGE AND LOCATION CHANGE

22 E WEBER AVE, STOCKTON E911 CENTER

QST QST QST ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS. The February meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday February 9th beginning at 7:00PM. This is a change from our normal meeting time. We will be meeting at the Stockton Police E911 Center, located at 22 E Weber Ave, Stockton. This is at the corner of Weber and Center on Downtown Stockton.



Directions: From North or South on I5 - Travel on I5 into Stockton to the downtown/crosstown freeway exit. Take the crosstown freeway to El Dorado St exit. Turn left onto El Dorado St, going under the crosstown freeway (only way you can turn) and north on El Dorado St to Weber Ave. The building occupies the entire block on Weber Ave between El Dorado and Center streets.

From North or South on 99 – Travel on 99 into Stockton to the crosstown free exit. Take the crosstown freeway to the El Dorado St exit. Turn right onto El Dorado St and proceed north to Weber Ave.

Parking: The Howard Johnson’s motel on the corner of Weber & Center St has offered the club the use of their parking lot for the meeting. The Puerto Vallarte Restaurant is right next door (pre-meeting dinner?). As you come up to the Weber on El Dorado, turn left, turn left again at Center St and the Howard Johnson & Puerto Vallarte are on your right. There is also street parking available on El Dorado Street just before and just after Weber Ave; on Weber west of Center Street and the Financial Center Parking lot is behind the E911 Center Building.

PLEASE BE READY TO GO INTO THE BUILDING AT 7PM ON THE CENTER STREET SIDE

NEW CLUB WEBSITE

The new club website at www.w6sf.org soon. Thanks to Glen, **K6KJQ** and Paul **N6KZW**, for taking on the project. Look for more information, links to other area clubs and the ARRL. We hope to take a lot of your suggestions for the website and make them real over the next few months.

POSTAGE RATE INCREASE

Postage rates for domestic and international mail went up effective January 22, 2012. The cost of a first-class letter went from 44-cents to 45-cents. International rates increased to 85-cents for Canada and Mexico and \$1.05 for Europe, South America and Asia.

PEDDLING PATHWAYS TO INDEPENDENCE FEBRUARY 25TH 7:30AM

On Saturday, February 25th our first operating opportunity of the year will be here. The Stockton Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be holding their annual bike ride "Peddling Pathways to Independence". For the last 3 years, the Stockton-Delta ARC has provided radio communications between rest stops, the start/finish line and SAG wagons. This year we will need operators at Linden, Sheldon Road, Farmington, Milton, and also up to 5 sag wagons. We are looking for a minimum of 15 – 20 volunteers. We are also looking to incorporate APRS in the SAG wagons to allow net control to track and dispatch the nearest crew to any reported incidents. Last year we had 14 volunteers, and we will probably need the same number this year. The foothill terrain is problematic for 5 watt handie-talkies and a radio producing 10 watts or more with a good antenna, (5/8 wave or better) is encouraged.

This is a great event for a great cause and I hope you will make the time now to attend. Please contact John, **NZ6Q** at john@litz.com. The ride starts at 8:30AM and we will be meeting in Linden about 7:30AM for final assignments and deployment. A sign-up sheet will be available at the January and February club meetings. You can check out more information on the event and the Stockton Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired at:

<http://www.communitycenterfortheblind.org/PedalingPaths.php> .



WEEKLY NET CONTROL OPERATORS NEEDED

W6SF weekly Monday night net is looking for Net Control Operators. The format is simple and printed on the website at www.w6sf.org. We are looking for members to take the helm and run the net. If you've never run a net before, give the Monday night net a shot. You're among friends and it's a great learning experience.

The new website will soon feature an on-line sign-up and page listing net control operators each week. Until then, please sign up by sending an email with the date(s) you would like to run the net.

Each Monday Night starting at 8:00PM

Feb 6thJohn, NZ6Q
Feb 13th
Feb 20th
Feb 27th
Mar 5th
Mar 12th
Mar 19th
Mar 26th
Apr 2nd
Apr 9th
Apr 16th
Apr 23rd
Apr 30th

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF W1AW ON FEBRUARY 12TH

Join W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, on a virtual tour of [W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station](#), the Amateur Radio station at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. Carcia will lead this tour via a live webcast on Sunday, February 12 at 5 PM EST (2200 UTC). Anyone with an Internet connection will be able to watch the tour [here](#).

"We want viewers of this live Internet tour to feel as if they are actually at W1AW," Carcia explained. "If you came to W1AW in person, you would see the same things that we are going to show on the virtual tour: The three operating stations, the W1AW workshop, the transmitter racks that we use to send out our bulletins and use for the code practice transmission, the control console and [Old Betsy](#), Hiram Percy Maxim's personal spark gap transmitter."



Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, of the [New Day Group](#), will follow Carcia as he leads viewers through the station. ARRL Staff members, including Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, and Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, as well as local television weatherman [Geoff Fox, K1GF](#), will also be on hand at W1AW during the tour.

"Hams around the world know of W1AW, and thousands have made contacts with this impressive station -- but most hams never get to see it," Pitts said. "Thanks to Al Petrunti's group, we hope that folks enjoy seeing what's at the other end of the signals. As in all live broadcasts, you never know just what might happen. We invite you to join us." Pitts is producing the live web tour.



A HAM'S CALENDAR

February 9, 2012 – Monthly membership meeting of the Stockton-Delta ARC. Includes tour of the NEW Stockton PD E911 Center. Please note that the tour will begin at 7:00 PM. Please be on-time as the Stuart Eberhart Building is a secure building after hours. Members may want to consider car-pooling as parking downtown may be limited. A short business meeting will follow the tour. The E911 Center is located at 22 E Weber Ave at Center St in downtown Stockton.

February 13th – 17th, 2012 – February School Club Round-up. There are two School Club Roundups each year. Each 5-day event runs Monday through Friday from 1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday. You may operate no more than 6 hours in every 24-hour period, and a maximum of 24 hours in the event. This a great event and an opportunity to work clubs from Elementary School age through prestigious Universities.

<http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

February 18-19, 2012 – ARRL International DX Contest CW

February 25, 2012 – Linden Bike Ride on behalf of the Stockton Center for the Blind and Visually impaired. **RADIO OPERATORS ARE NEEDED! Send John, NZ6Q an email john@litz.com to volunteer**

March 3-4, 2012 – ARRL International DX Contest Phone

March 8, 2012 – Monthly membership meeting of the Stockton-Delta ARC, Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton, CA – 7:30PM

April 12, 2012 – Monthly Membership meeting 7:30PM

April 21, 2012 – Stockton LDS Church Preparedness Fair, 800 Brookside Rd, Stockton, CA 9AM to 12:30PM - Portable operating event and educational opportunity.

May 6, 2012 – Delta Century Bike Ride

May 10, 2012 – Monthly membership meeting of the Stockton-Delta ARC, Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton, CA – 7:30PM

May 12, 2012 - Northern California's second Gold Country Swap Meet and Roast, 5476 Highway 12, Burson, CA - Sponsored by W6OZI, W6RXK and K6GLH. "The most fun boat anchor swap meet west of the Mississippi." No cost to sellers or buyers, \$3.00 donation for a delicious chicken-in-a-barrel lunch served after the swap. Other features include on-site wine and olive oil tasting and a DJ playing old-time music.

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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, January 12, 2012.**

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@arrl.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:	open	
Newsletter Editor:	open	

CLUB DUES: are payable to Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club at the address on the masthead. We thank you for your continued support!