

# Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB  
WWW.W6SF.ORG

January 2014

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year everyone!

Your new president has been a busy boy. New job (couple months is still new to me). Right now it is New Year's Day and I just finished installing oak hard wood flooring in my family room, added new light fixtures, electrical plugs, paint and all that goes with such a project. Not much ham radio. I am planning to spend the gift certificate I won at the Christmas dinner on one of the Wouxun dual banders. Wish me luck with that. My Yaesu FT7800 has lasted me over ten years. It has hiccupped but still I am using it in my mobile.

What is ahead for this year? Below is a list Dave, N6LHL put together. it is a sample of the activities coming up. I suggest you get out your new calendar and sit down with your significant other and plan the year to come. Even if you can play radio in only a few events and commune with your fellow radio heads, planning now ensures you can join in. There are many more activities to be announced via our newsletter here. Some of the Central California events involving friends and neighbors at the other amateur radio clubs in our county have not yet made the list.

A survey went out last year as to what you, the members want and expect from this club. I and the board will do all we can to put together the activities we all want to participate in.

Most important is everyone (that means you) taking a step forward this year - if only for one activity. Grab the mic and be net control. Whether for a bike race, walk-a-thon, fun run or the Monday night net. Help plan Field Day this year, or help gather the equipment needed for the repeater site weed whacking trip.

This first meeting in January's has a very significant agenda for us. Last year, Peter KD6CPA took on the project to rewrite our bylaws and go through the arduous task of making this club a 501C3 entity with the IRS. That means, as a nonprofit organization, people who donate to the club can take a tax write-off. So now we can dream about things like a permanent club house, or many linked repeaters with voting receivers. Hey! We already have that. Thanks to John, KD6FVA and Steve, K6SCA and our newest W6SF system setup by Glen, K6KJQ. On a serious note, think about the legacy you could leave. Your equipment donated to the club would save your spouse the heart ache of dealing with your toys and the potential of not getting all they could. The tax advantages of donating your equipment could be helpful.

I can't help but mention the tumultuous personality conflicts that have affected us as a group. But we as a whole, The Stockton Delta Amateur Radio Club, have survived. We have a great repeater, and we as a group contribute to our community and ourselves. The future looks good. I am looking forward to seeing *\*all\** of you at the club meetings and events this year.

73, Paul N6KZW

# JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING NOTICE JANUARY 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**QST QST QST** All members and their guests are encouraged to attend the January meeting on Thursday, January 9th, 2014. The meeting will be held at Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, just north of 8 mile rd in North Stockton. The meeting will begin at 7:30PM. This is our annual general meeting where we will vote on and set the 2014 dues; schedule, discuss and make committee recommendations for the year and review the calendar for the upcoming year. We will also be voting on the new by-laws which will establish the club as a 501C3 charity. This is very important as this will allow for your dues (next year) and other contributions to the club (equipment, etc) to qualify as a deduction on your federal income tax. Plan attending and invite a non-member ham to join you and become a member.

How much more fun would our club be if each of us set a goal to bring in one new member, or re-activate an old member between now and Field Day?

## DECEMBER MEETING/CHRISTMAS DINNER NOTES

Congratulations TO ALL OUR RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS AT THE Annual Christmas dinner in December. A Special Congratulations to new President, Paul, N6KZW and Dan, KI6FTT, who walked away with the grand prizes of \$100 Ham Radio Outlet gift certificates. Dan also contributed several bottles of wine to the raffle which were a big hit throughout the evening. This just goes to show that good deeds are rewarded.

Charlie, WB6NVB, out-going President and incoming Vice President, gave a fine summary of the accomplishments of the club in 2013. Dinner was served by Carrow's restaurant and was very good. The staff did a very good job of keeping food and drink flowing in the full dining room of 34 who attended.

I would have loved to share a bunch of photographs with everyone, but we were all having such a good time that NO ONE thought to grab their camera. Maybe we need to appoint a club historian?



**ARRL Centennial**

**ARRL Centennial QSO Party**  
**A Year-Long On-The-Air Operating Event!**

- **Accumulate Points**
- **Win Awards**
- **Contact New Stations**
- **Make New Friends!**

▶  **Begins January 1, 2014**

The graphic features the ARRL logo (a diamond shape with 'A', 'R', 'R', 'L' and a lightning bolt) and the text 'ARRL 100 YEARS' next to a radio tower against a blue, starry background.

Be sure to check out the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. There are several Special awards for this year-long event. You can even earn a special W1AW Worked-All-States (WAS) award.

Check out the details at <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party>

# MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL OPERATOR'S SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Many thanks for those who are volunteering to be our Monday night net controllers for January and February. The club holds a weekly net every Monday night beginning at 8:00PM on the W6SF 147.165Mhz VHF and 444.250Mhz UHF repeaters. Repeater information is listed at the end of the newsletter.

If you have a conflict, please contact Dave, N6LHL as soon as possible in order to secure a replacement.

January 6 John NZ6Q  
January 13 Guy W6MSU  
January 20 Paul N6KZW  
January 27 Charlie WB6NVB  
February 3 Eric W6INP  
February 10 Dave N6LHL  
February 17 John NZ6Q  
February 24 Guy W6MSU

## W6SF ON 444.575MHZ UHF

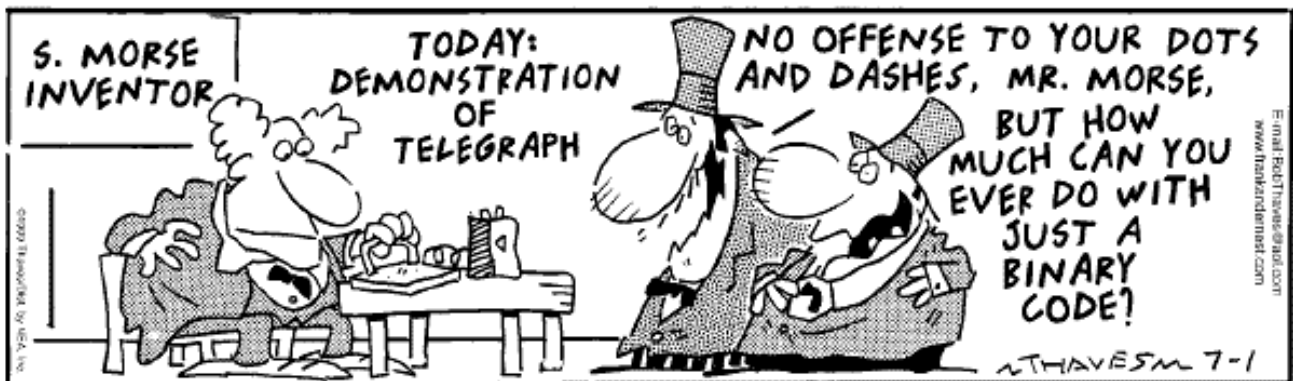
There's a fairly new W6SF repeater on the air! Have you tried out the new UHF repeater in Stockton, yet?

Located on top of the tower in downtown Stockton, I encourage you to get on the air on the UHF repeater when you are in the Stockton-Lodi-Manteca area and give it a try! Several of us are listening and using the repeater which was set-up last year with help of Glen, K6KJQ and Knox, K6NOX.

So program it in your radios and get on the air!

444.575Mhz + PL 107.2

The repeater works pretty well so far. The club recently voted to purchase crystals to add two additional voting receivers to expand hand-held coverage into Lodi and south of Stockton.



# PEDDLING PATHWAYS TO INDEPENDENCE

## FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> 7:30AM

On Saturday, February 22<sup>ND</sup>, the Stockton Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be holding their annual bike ride "Peddling Pathways to Independence". This annual event is held to raise money to support its activities for its San Joaquin County clients.

For the last 5 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 will also incorporate APRS in the SAG wagons to allow net control to track and dispatch the nearest crew to any reported incidents.

The foothill terrain around Linden, Farmington, Milton & Jenny Lind can be problematic for 5 watt HTs. A good mobile radio producing 10 watts or more with a good antenna, (5/8 wave or better) is encouraged. If you are going to use an HT, I encourage you to order one of the many "Hershey Kiss" mag-mount antennas available on e-bay for under \$20. Pretty much any SMA or BNC connector is available to match your HT and while confining you to within a few feet of your car (or other improvised ground plane), they do make a difference.

This is a great event for a great cause and I hope you will plan now and put the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February on your calendar to attend. A sign-up sheet will be available at the January and February club meetings. Last year's 340 riders, and 52 sponsors raised over \$16,000 to continue vital programs for the blind and visually impaired here in San Joaquin County. 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>.

For those of you wanting to get your "crab feed" in this year, the Community Center for the Blind also sponsors a pretty good one. This will be on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 6PM at the Waterloo Gun & Bocce Club, 4343 N Ashley La, Stockton. You can get tickets by following the link to their website.

<http://www.communitycenterfortheblind.org/crabfeed/>





# MLDXCC MEETING IN STOCKTON JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> K9W WAKE ATOLL PRESENTATION



The Mother Lode DX / Contest Club is proud to have John Miller, K6MM, present an overview of the recent Commemorative DXpedition to Wake Atoll at our January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting to be held at The Old Spagetti Factory, March Lane at I-5 in Stockton. Lunch meeting starts at 11:30AM, presentation to follow.



John was first licensed as WV2BQJ in 1958 while living in Syracuse, NY. In 1976, John's career took him to Silicon Valley, where he reconnected with amateur radio in the late 90s. In addition to his own website, he has created websites for a number of amateur radio organizations:

<http://www.qrz.com/db/K6MM>

For the last decade, John has focused heavily on DXing, contesting, and recruiting new operators into the hobby. His current DXCC total stands at 327 confirmed. He holds 8BDXCC, working on completing 160M for the 9th band. His article entitled "*The No Excuses 160M Vertical*" won the cover plaque award for the June 2009 issue of QST.

He was an operator in the [PJ7E DXpedition](#) to Sint Maarten, as they celebrated their special day of independence on 10-10-10.

John is a member of ARRL, INDEXA, MLDXCC, and PAARA. He is Past-President of the Northern California Contest Club, a Director of the Northern California DX Club, a founding member of the CW Operators' Club, a member of the editorial staff of the National Contest Journal, and a Director of the Northern California DX Foundation. He is also the co-chair for the 2013 International DX Convention in Visalia, CA.

This is a great opportunity not only to hear and learn about an exciting DX-pedition, but also to fellowship with members of the MLDXCC and other clubs who will be in attendance.



## A LIST OF CLUB EVENTS WE USUALLY WORK

The following list is provided to help members plan for opportunities to come out and support the club. Some dates are tentative and subject to change.

February 22	Peddling Paths to Independence Bike Ride,	Linden /Farmington	CCBVI
May 4	Delta Century Bike Ride	Lodi/Delta Islands	Stkn Bike Club
May 17	March for Babies 2014	Downtown Stockton	March of Dimes
May 18	Avenue through the Vines – Half Marathon	Lodi	Food Bank / KP
TBD	Repeater site maintenance	Fiddletown	W6SF
June 6 – 8	Museum Ships Weekend	USS Lucid	N6MSO
June 14	San Joaquin Bike Fest	UOP / Stockton	Food Bank
June 28 – 29	Field Day 2014	Stockton	W6SF / ARRL
Oct 4 – 5	California QSO Party	Stockton	MLDXCC / W6SF
Nov 1 – 3	ARRL November Sweepstakes - CW	Stockton	W6SF / ARRL
Nov 15 – 17	ARRL November Sweepstakes – Phone	Stockton	W6SF / ARRL
Nov 27	Run Against Hunger	Downtown Stockton	Food Bank
Dec 11	W6SF Christmas Dinner / Celebration	Location TBA	W6SF



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## KIDS DAY 2014 SUNDAY JAN 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2014

Twice a year, the ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grandkids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public! Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.

Kids Day always runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC (10:00 AM to 4:00PM PST). Operate as much or as little as you like. The suggested exchange is your name, age, location and favorite color. This should be appropriate depending on the age of the child in your shack or on the air. Be sure to work the same station again if an operator has changed. To draw attention, call "CQ Kids Day."

This is a really fun event even if you don't have a kid in your shack. Get on the air and promote Amateur Radio to a whole new generation. Remember, "Kids say the darndest things!" <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>





## A HAM'S CALENDAR

**January 5, 2014 – Kids Day.** Get on the air and introduce Amateur Radio to a young person. Invite that son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, great grand baby into your shack. Or even that neighbor kid that's always asking about your antennas.  
<http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>

**January 9, 2014 -** Monthly Membership meeting of the Stockton-Delta ARC. Meeting called to order at 19:30 hours. Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, north of 8 Mile Rd, Stockton, CA. This is the Annual General Membership meeting. Dues will be voted upon by the members, the new bylaws will be voted on by the members.

**January 18-20, 2014 – ARRL VHF QSO Party. Exercise those bands from 50Mhz and up!**  
<http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>

**February 13, 2012 – Monthly membership meeting of the Stockton-Delta ARC.** Meeting called to order at 19:30 hours. Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, north of 8 Mile Rd, Stockton, CA. Program TBA. The Linden Bike Ride plan will be discussed.

**February 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – February School Club Round-up.** There are two School Club Round-ups 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 22, 2014 – Peddling Paths to Independence Bike Ride.** Linden, CA on behalf of the Stockton Center for the Blind and Visually impaired. **RADIO OPERATORS ARE NEEDED!**

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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 [john@litz.com](mailto:john@litz.com) .**



## 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 9, 2014.

**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.

The club also operates a low-level UHF repeater located in downtown Stockton **444.575MHz +** with a PL 107.2 Hz. Coverage includes the Stockton area as well as parts of Lodi, Manteca, Tracy and Ripon.

**CLUB SIMPLEX FX: 147.51 MHz.**

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

### 2014 CLUB OFFICERS:

President:	<b>N6KZW</b> , Paul Engelman	n6kzw@comcast.net
Vice President:	<b>WB6NVB</b> , Charlie Johnson	wb6nvb@arrl.net
Treasurer:	<b>N6LHL</b> , David Hardwick	n6lhl@softcom.net
Secretary:	<b>W6INP</b> , Eric Chapa	<a href="mailto:perrla1@aol.com">perrla1@aol.com</a>
Member At Large:	<b>NZ6Q</b> , John Litz	john@litz.com
Trustee:	<b>AA6K</b> , Shirl Rose	rosesl@prodigy.net
Repeater Trustee:	<b>KD6FVA</b> , John Kester	jbkester@att.net
Membership Chairman:	<b>open</b>	
Newsletter Editor:	<b>NZ6Q</b> , John Litz	john@litz.com

**CLUB DUES:** are payable to Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, P.O. BOX 690271, STOCKTON, CA 95269-0271

We thank you for your continued support!

