

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



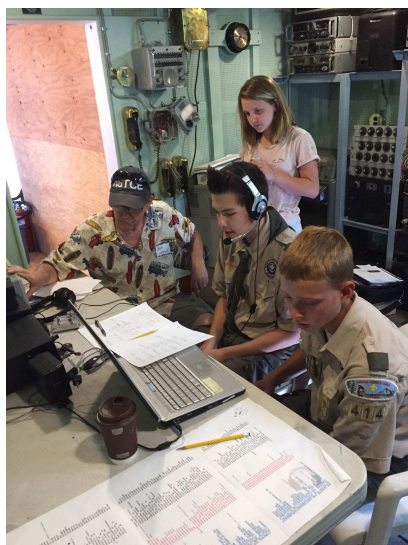
AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

WWW.W6SF.ORG

October 2017

Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Ham Radio... Making Friends Worldwide!



**OCTOBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH
7:30 PM
BEAR CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH**

QST QST QST ALL Members and Guests are encouraged to attend the August meeting on Thursday, October 12th at 7:30 PM

The meeting will be held at the **Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, north of 8 Mile Rd in North Stockton.**

After the business meeting, we will be calling upon the membership for nominations for the 2018 Board of Directors. Following the nomination of officers, there will be a training program to be announced.

A 50/50 raffle will be held at the end of the meeting with tickets for \$1.00. Winners will "split" the pot with the club. Members needing transportation assistance to or from the meeting should contact Paul **N6KZW** or John **NZ6Q** or a club officer. We will arrange assistance for you.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are a Hobby We are a National Resource We are Life Savers Part 2

I'm following the national news coverage of the disaster in Puerto Rico and several stories about the deployment of Amateur Radio Operators after the devastation. The most intriguing story so far has been the "call up" of ham operators by the Red Cross to the CEO of the ARRL for 50 volunteers to be sent to Puerto Rico. In last month's President's message, I related the story of helping out with an Emergency Preparedness Fair sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and the questions we got. Questions like:

Q: "What do you guys do anyway?" A: "We save lives" Q: "HUH?" A: "Besides talk to people all over the world, we train, we prepare, we experiment and we stand ready in a disaster to assist – not just with radios, but with a pool of resourceful minded professionals (who are Amateurs)"

FROM THE PUERTO RICO STORY: Oscar Resto, one of dozens of hams -- shorthand for "amateur" -- operators across Puerto Rico, Resto had been authorized by the Federal Communications Commission [to use radios, computers, satellites or the Internet to assist and support public safety during emergencies](#). Ham operators share information by voice, Morse code and other methods on a wide range of frequencies above the AM broadcast band... Less than 48 hours after the American Radio Relay League's emergency manager fielded the Red Cross' call, 350 ham operators had offered to help, said Tom Gallagher, the group's CEO. Fifty of them prepared this week to embark upon a three-week deployment to Puerto Rico. They include retired executives and public safety officers, and hail from Washington to Texas to New Hampshire, he said... *"They have the skills, the motivation and the sense of responsibility."*

Q: Do you need all of that stuff still today" A: "No, modern ham equipment has gotten much better, smaller and cheaper"

FROM THE PUERTO RICO STORY: Volunteers will be outfitted with self-sustaining kits and communication kits provided by radio manufacturers and dealer partners so they can be agile and won't burden those they're trying to help. With these kits they will be deployed by the Red Cross to set-up and assist in shelters and disaster centers on parts of the island where resources are the most limited...



Q: "Why would I need a ham radio in an emergency? Who would I be able to talk to?" A: "Most communication networks rely heavily on the internet, power grid and other resources which can easily be overrun in an emergency – or fail completely."

FROM THE PUERTO RICO STORY: A full week after Hurricane Maria battered their homes, ham operators were providing damage reports to FEMA and the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Ham operators were still running radio operations for the police and the local power company, whose own wireless communications systems, which rely in part on computers and power sources that were knocked out by the storm.

For instance, ham operators riding with police were using their radios to transmit calls to other ham operators hunkered down at the command centers with commanders, who in turn respond with orders.

Puerto Rico is proving again what we've have known for decades - Ham radio may be the only link you have. And not just for your friends, neighbors, but for the entire community.



So, the next time somebody asks you why you're a ham operator, let them know a little about what we do!

Set a goal to learn something new - from Morse Code to DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) to FT-8 Data Communications. Do you know how to connect with the ISS on packet? If you have an HF "Go-Kit", could you connect it on WinLink and transmit an email over HF packet?

What makes this hobby interesting and fun, today, even more so, makes Amateur Radio a Natural Resource. It's

not just our radios they want, it's the whole package of communications and thinking person.

I'm proud to live in the day that the Red Cross called the President of the ARRL for help. "Ham Radio Saves Lives". Its true more today than ever before. So like I said last month, "come to the next club meeting. Learn something new and sit shoulder to shoulder with a fellow life saver"

73...

John, NZ6Q



California QSO Party

1600 UTC Saturday October 7th – 2200 UTC Sunday October 8th

The California QSO Party (CQP) is held every year on the first weekend of October. The first CQP took place in 1966. Since 1974, the Northern California Contest Club ([NCCC](#)) has sponsored CQP. CQP has traditionally opened the annual contest season by providing an opportunity for contesters to prepare for the ARRL November Sweepstakes since the format is similar.

Stations outside of California, worldwide, work stations in California only. The 58 counties of CA are the [multipliers](#). California stations work all stations in or out of CA. The 50 US states and 8 Canadian areas are the multipliers. Stations outside of Canada and the US add to one's QSO total but do not count as multipliers. See the full set of [CQP Rules](#) for more details.

California QSO Party



The Stockton-Delta ARC will again participate in the annual Cal QSO Party at Charlie **WB6NVB**'s vineyard on DeVreis Road across from Kingdon Airport. We will again be trying to contact all 50 states, all Canadian provinces and above all, all 58 California counties.

Charlie already has some of the materials on site, but as I see it we will need the following:

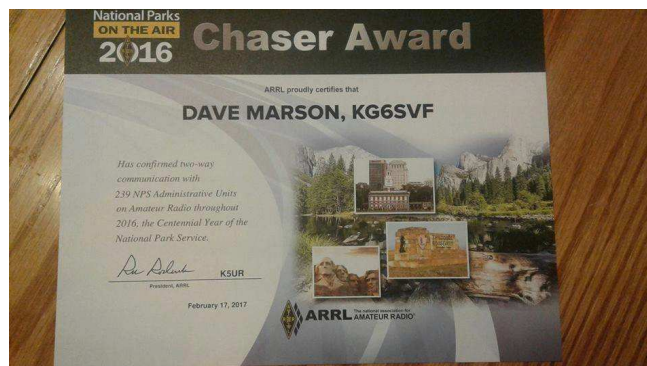
2 HF Radios	AC Extension Cords
2 Power Supplies	2 Clocks
2 Headphones/adaptor jacks	SWR Analyzer
2 Computers & software	Desk Lights

But most of all we need OPERATORS! And people to log our contacts on computers and/or longhand. If you will contribute to the needed materials and/or will operate and/or log, please contact me, so we can get an idea of how many will show. I need to know when you are available to operate or log. If you will work the set up Saturday morning beginning at 8am, or the tear down on Sunday afternoon, I recommend you bring work gloves, a hat, and sun screen.

The contest starts at 9:00am Saturday, and closes at 3pm on Sunday.

Dave N6LHL, n6lh2@gmail.com 477-8866

California QSO Party



Congrats Dave! Did you get yours?



MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL OPERATOR'S SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2017

The club holds a weekly net every Monday night beginning at 8:00PM on the **W6SF** Repeaters on 147.165Mhz VHF and 444.250Mhz UHF. Club Repeater information is listed at the end of the newsletter.

If you would like to learn how to be a Net Control Operator, contact one of the club Officers! We will happily mentor you during a Monday night net. This is a great opportunity to improve your operating skill in a "minimal" pressure environment. The Schedule and Net Control Script are available on the club website at....

<http://www.w6sf.org/netcontrolscript.html>

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

September 4	Dave N6LHL	September 11	Guy W6MSU
September 18	Mike K6AAN	September 25	Paul N6KZW
October 2	Bob N6TCE	October 9	Scott K6SCT
October 16	John NZ6Q	October 23	Charlie WB6NVB
October 30	Eric W6INP	November 6	Dave N6LHL

OCTOBER 20TH – 22ND 2017 SAN RAMON MARRIOTT HOTEL



BATTLE WITH VHF GODS

On Saturday, September 9, the ARRL's September VHF Contest was held, so John K6YK and Dave N6LHL loaded up the pickup with radios, batteries, antennas, coax, turkey sandwiches and Pepsi's and headed for the mountains to do battle with the gods of VHF propagation. From 7000 feet on Highway 88 antennas with coax were set up, radios were plugged into batteries, and the 11am start was awaited.



There was actually time to sit back and admire the cute little puffy white clouds forming to the east.

The antenna support was a 16 foot steel pole with a 2 meter vertical on top, and in descending order was a 432 Mhz beam, a 2 meter beam, a 220 Mhz beam, and at the bottom a 440 Mhz vertically polarized beam. A separate 10 foot pole held up the 6meter beam.

A HT with a rubber duckie was tried on 900 Mhz.

Power came from a 17 amp motorcycle battery and a 40 amp wheelchair battery. Both performed remarkably well. On 2 meter SSB we ran 24 watts, on 2 meter FM we ran 10 watts, on 432 SSB we ran 28 watts and on 6 meters we ran 20 watts. You don't need a whole lot of power to be competitive.

We had 3 visitors, 2 were hikers, and Brent KM6IKB stopped by to see what was going on.

Radio-wise, conditions were good and we were able to make 61 contacts on all bands using all antennas in 3 hours. However, those cute little puffy white clouds turned dark and started rumbling. Those clouds told us that a hilltop with 2 aluminum and steel poles sticking up is not a good place to be in a storm. As the rain pattered down and lightning crackled, the antennas and supports were quickly back in the pickup and the hilltop was returned to mother nature. Despite the shortened day, both agreed that this was rewarding and they would be looking forward to June 2018 for the next VHF contest.



SEPTEMBER 16TH ELMER UNIVERSITY REPORT

On Saturday, September 16TH, we held our last Elmer University session of the year. The session included presentations on repeater fundamentals, EmComm, VHF and HF operating.



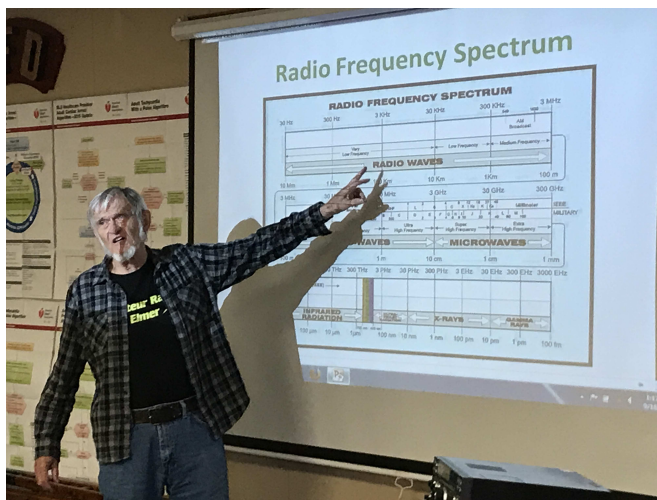
Mark, W6SXA gave a great presentation on antenna fundamentals and using an antenna analyzer. He demonstrated several antenna designs and used his analyzer to show SWR as well as other characteristics.

Bob N6TCE gave a presentation on Anderson Power Poles, how to properly connect them and their background as the 'defacto' standard for power connections in EmComm work – especially in a Go Box.

John NZ6Q filled in for the recovering Mike Sacula K6MDS and covered topics about repeaters, EmComm and programming your radios using Chirp.

Bob K6DGQ gave a great presentation on HF operating and the Radio Frequency spectrum.

Brent KM6IKB surprised Mike K6AAN by presenting him with the Elmer award from the ARRL. This was a great moment and a special acknowledgement of Mike's countless hours volunteering and mentoring new hams in the area. Great job Mike!



Mike K6AAN Elmer Award



Good Size Class



To Post your items for sale in the newsletter and on the website, please email the editor by the 20th of the month with a picture of the item(s), brief description of your item, asking price and contact information. The Stockton-Delta

**SWAG
STORE**

Amateur Radio club makes no warrantee on items posted for sale or trade in the newsletter or website. The editor reserves the exclusive right to post or not post an item and all items must be CLEARLY related to amateur radio.

Paul N6KZW saw this item for sale on eBay. I don't think you could make this for the price offered. Anyone designing a go box take a look. Click on the description to go to the item on Amazon \$24.99



[Nagoya GPK-01 \(21" Radials\) NMO Ground Plane Kit for Base or Field Use, SO-239 Connector, Mounts to 2" Pole, Mast, Pipe](#)



**OCTOBER HAM CRAM
STOCKTON FIRE STATION #2
110 W SONORA ST, STOCKTON**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 14, 2017
DOORS OPEN 8:00 AM**

“Get Your License in a Saturday” is the perfect solution to getting your ham radio license in today’s busy world. No tedious preliminary home study. No long, boring once-a-week classes. You attend for just one day, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM,

and you’re done.

Thousands of men and women, aged 16 to 90, have succeeded in getting their Amateur Radio license this way. HamCram is not a class. It is guided study — six 45-minute reading sessions with 10-minute breaks and a 50-minute break for lunch. The FCC exam is given at the end of the day.

The FCC exam session at 3 PM is open to the public. We administer all levels of amateur radio exams: Technician, General, and Extra class. You do not need to attend the HamCram just to take an exam. If you’ve paid to attend the HamCram, the exam is included.

Sign up for the next HamCram clicking the link [here](#).



A HAM'S CALENDAR

October 7th – 8th, 2017 – California QSO Party 1600Z – 2200Z – Get in on a the greatest State QSO Part of them all. See Rules and Register your county operation at: <http://www.cqp.org>

October 12th, 2017 – SDARC October Club Meeting - 1930 PDT Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton. Nominations for 2018 Board of Directors will be opened. Program TBD. <http://www.w6sf.org>

October 14th, 2017 – HamCram – 0830 PDT Fire Station #2, 110 W Sonora St, Stockton. Get details in this newsletter and at <http://www.w6sf.org/hamcram.html>

October 16th – 20th , 2017 – ARRL School Club Round-Up Fall Term – Get on the air and work school club stations from Elementary Schools to Universities <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

October 20th – 22nd, 2017 – Pacificon 2017 San Ramon Valley Marriott Hotel, San Ramon – Get details and register for classes at <http://www.pacificon.org>

October 27th – 29th , 2017 – CQWW SSB – Get on the air for the biggest contest in the world <http://www.cqww.com/>

State QSO Parties in October:

State/Province	Start Date ▾	End Date	Sponsor Website	Notes
California	10/07/2017	10/08/2017	California QSO Party	
Pennsylvania	10/14/2017	10/15/2017	Nittany Amateur Radio Club	
Arizona	10/14/2017	10/15/2017	ARRL Arizona Section & Catalina Radio Club	
New York	10/21/2017	10/22/2017	Rochester DX Association	
South Dakota	10/21/2017	10/22/2017	South Dakota QSO Party	
Illinois	10/22/2017	10/23/2017	Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club	



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

W6SF CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS: Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month **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 October 12th, 2017 STARTING AT 7:30 PM at the Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd in Stockton.** Members and guests are welcome.

WEEKLY NETS: Held each Monday evening at 1900hrs is the **W6SF Digital Net** hosted by Paul **N6KZW**. Then at 2000hrs the regular club net starts. Both are on **147.165+ PL 107.2 Hz and 442.250 + PL 107.2** Members and visitors are invited to check in. There is also an unofficial get together on Thursday evenings (except meeting night) at 7:30pm on **28.457MHz**. 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 UHF repeater located in downtown Stockton **444.575MHz +** with a PL 107.2Hz. 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>

2017 CLUB OFFICERS & LEADERSHIP:

President:	NZ6Q , John Litz	john@litz.com
Vice President:	N6KZW , Paul Engelman	n6kzw@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer:	KC6RRR , Paul Croci	kc6rrr@yahoo.com
Secretary:	W6INP , Eric Chapa	perrla1@aol.com
Member At Large:	N6TCE , Bob Officer	n6tce@arrl.net
Call Sign Trustee:	WB6NVB , Charlie Johnson	wb6nvb@arrl.net
Repeater Trustee:	K6SCA , Steve Allred	k6sca@arrl.net
Membership Chairman	N6ACL , Annie Lewis-Dopkus	annettel@westwayfeed.com
Event Chairman	N6XMA , Ed Stevens	n6xma@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	NZ6Q , John Litz	john@litz.com

CLUB DUES:

\$20 SINGLE and \$30 FAMILY (REDUCED TO \$10 AND \$15 THRU DECEMBER)
Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, P.O. BOX 690271, STOCKTON, CA 95269-0271

We thank you for your continued support!