

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

WWW.W6SF.ORG

May 2020

Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



**MAY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT
THURSDAY, MAY 14TH
Meeting starts at 7:00 PM**

WORKING AMATEUR SATELLITES

**VIRTUAL MEETING
USING ZOOM**

VIDEO CONFERENCING

**DO NOT GO TO THE SAILING CLUB MEETING ROOM...
THERE WILL BE NO ONE THERE**

QST QST QST... The May meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday, May 14th starting at 19:00 hours. The meeting will be VIRTUAL – ON-LINE using Zoom Video Conferencing as our platform. I have copied the invitation here, but you can join via the webmail link that will be on the W6SF website. Following the business meeting – we will have our speaker, Fred K6FVC as he shares with us his journey into Satellite Communication from his shack in Manteca! Fred has a great story to tell on how he got started in HamSats and how you can do it too...



Tell your friends about this exciting meeting and plan on attending!

Topic: W6SF SDARC MEETING FOR MAY 2020 - AMATEUR SATELLITES
Time: May 14, 2020 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/94280716499>

Meeting ID: 942 8071 6499
One tap mobile
+16699009128,,94280716499# US (San Jose)



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

- **Bob, N6TCE**

Wow!

We held a successful meeting using streaming media. Google Meets worked well for most of us. Thank you Vince, KM6IRY, for the presentation on DMR and how to make a basic code plug.

I believe the goal for us in the next two weeks is to try to work out the problems some members had using the streaming media and set them right. Full membership's ability to participate is an important goal.

For those interested, I will plan a few sessions where we can test out Zoom. Our next virtual club meeting will be held using Zoom. I'm looking forward to seeing Fred K6FVC's presentation on Amateur Satellites.

This past Saturday, I attended a meeting of the MLDXCC via Zoom. That is the same platform which the MLDXCC used and it worked well. That was a well-attended meeting with a report of more than 30 people in attendance. A great presentation on Tower Safety was given by Jim, K1IR. For those that don't know, Jim is in Massachusetts. Wow. Great take away on tower planning and safety. The Presentation was recorded and hopefully it will be placed on a web site for others to see it.

The last physical meeting The Club had a distance presentation made on the subject of "Radio for the Rest of Us". Many members have suggested the setting up a Zoom Live Stream for members which have stopped attending meeting because they no longer drive at night. This is being planned for future meetings.



Additionally, Streaming Media opens up a large number of excellent presentations which we might be able to be arrange for our future meetings.

Indeed “Our future looks bright! We're going to have to wear shades”.

Saturday April 19th, John NZ6Q, Peter K6PH, Annie N6ACL and I held an Amateur Examination Session. We have an idea how we can safely test applicants, manage paperwork and maintain social distancing. This is not a cram session, but test only. We tested three applicants. All three applicants passed with excellent scores.

Daily my email is filled with VEs trying to figure out safe methods of giving examinations. Several different VE groups with the consent of their VEC have done small Distant Examination much like the Alaskan VEC/VEs do. The consensus is they are risky, difficult and slow. And a one applicant at a time affair. I find it refreshing that as we, Amateur Radio Operators, are well versed in finding solutions for our problems and making-do with what we have, rather than sitting around and complaining about the situation.

Field Day 2020 plans are still tentative right now. This is something we can plan on and only need to wait for the port-a-potty order deadline day as the final cut off day for a decision. It really is still too early with all the “reopening” happening across the country to decide on Field Day.

Thank you to John NZ6Q for putting together the Field Day order. If you missed out, there is still time to order your T-Shirt, mug, cooler or pin directly from the ARRL.

Remember, one of the best things the ARRL does for all is they provide a Free Certificate of a 1st contact. How many of us remember our 1st contact? I will because my 1st Contact took the time to complete the form and a week or so later I had a great piece of paper to hang on the wall.

The URL is : <http://www.arrl.org/first-contact>

For the last few years, we have given license examinations to about 200 people a year. Not all of them are in this area. We all should work together to retain these new Hams in our hobby. I have found if we can engage them in some way it can help keep them involved.

I hope everyone knows by now about the ARRL magazines. The ARRL has decided to allow members to download and read QEX and National Contest Journal for no additional charges.

Announcement: <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-may-june-digital-issues-of-qex-and-ncj-are-now-available>

In the past, **Both** magazines, QEX and the National Contest Journal were extra charge magazines.

QEX is dedicated to Radio Experimental Technology usually a higher degree of technical content than QST would contain.

The National Contest Journal is a specialized publication in all things radio sport.

Everyone stay safe, wash your hands, Don't touch your face. I'll see you all on the Zoom Meeting, May 14th, 2020

Bob, N6TCE
President – SDARC

DON'T MISS THE FIRST VIRTUAL HAMFEST SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, 2020 – ALL DAY



Several of Ham Radio's most well know "You Tubers" teaming up for an all-day Virtual HamFest to help us all get back a little bit of what we will be missing with Dayton HamFest being cancelled in 2020. Click on the YouTube link and check out this announcement!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDSwpQfMETO>



QSL CARDS ARE BEING PROCESSED

<https://m0urx.com/oqrs/logsearch.php>

2020 MUSEUM SHIP WEEKEND EVENT JUE 5TH – 7TH CANCELLED

The NJ2BB team that coordinates MSW has decided to cancel Museum Ships Weekend this year since a growing number of the Museums are closed and may continue to be closed to access by the time of the event.

Please check back in early 2021 for updates.





MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL OPERATOR'S SCHEDULE

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.

May 4	Bob N6TCE
May 11	Charlie WB6NVB
May 18	John NZ6Q
May 25	Eric W6INP
June 1	Dave N6LHL
June 8	Mike K6AAN
June 15	Paul N6KZW
June 22	Bob N6TCE
June 29	Charlie WB6NVB

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Hamvention Weekend Livestream

YouTube Livestream Dates and Hours:

Friday, May 15 From 10 AM - 12 PM

Saturday, May 16th From 10 AM - 12 PM

Sunday, May 17th From 1 PM - 3 PM

US/CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

PS WE'LL ALSO HAVE GIVEAWAYS DURING THE LIVESTREAM, SO NOW IS YOUR BEST CHANCE TO WIN A BRAND NEW RADIO!



MULTI-COUNTY SIMPLEX NET SATURDAY MAY 2ND AT 10:30 HOURS

SDARC club members and other operators from San Joaquin county participated in the STAN ARES (Stanislaus Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Multi-County Simplex Net on Saturday May 2nd – starting on the SARA Club repeater and then moving to a simplex frequency.

Lucian Thomas, San Joaquin Valley Assistant EC and Stanislaus County Assistant EC gave the following report:

I would like to thank all of you and your various ARES and Club groups for your participation in this ARES drill. It was really great to hear all of the stations that took the time to check into all of the nets. This particular exercise was to give us a picture of stations that could connect on simplex without a relay. As expected Calaveras, Tuolumne, and Mariposa Counties had really great coverage into the valley. If we did have a major malfunction of our repeater systems they would be key in helping to pass traffic over multiple counties.

A big thank you to Derrill W7LTM as he assisted me in coordinating the net and he also made a log of all the stations that checked into the SARA Club WD6EJF repeater (145.90 - pl136.5). Wide area repeaters would also be helpful in connecting multiple counties during a time of emergency. Another excellent wide area repeater is the TARC Club W6BXN repeater (147.030 + pl100). This repeater has excellent coverage in our area and reaches down into Kern County. It is used for the Sunday evening SJV ARES all section net starting at 1930 hours. All are welcome to check in.

There were numerous positive comments, and everyone is in agreement that this was a useful drill and it was great to see how many stations checked in and could hear each other. Due to the success of this drill we will have to look at setting up some more multi-county drills. Especially since we are under travel and meeting restrictions.

From my Stanislaus perspective our direct simplex connection to the Stockton area stations was not very good. We would have to look at relays for sure in this instance. We were better with Merced area stations, but not much. Our next simplex net drill would have to look at working with relays.

Another observation is that we should limit the coordination repeater to net coordination during the exercise. We may want to capture the type of antenna used and transmission power as this could help in the after-drill analysis. We should look into setting up an ARES connect check in KIOSK and someone with administration rights could register stations that had not preregistered.

Another exercise that we could look at could be an SJV 40 meter NVIS check in net.

For the ARES connect members that did not preregister for the exercise I did enter them into ARES connect so their participation was documented.

If you have any other suggestions or comments please let me know.

Thanks again,

Lucian Thomas KF6NPG
 Assistant SJV SEC and Assistant EC Stanislaus ARES
kf6npg@aol.com

Thanks to the following club members and others in San Joaquin County who invested the time into testing their stations capabilities. Thanks to Mark W6SXA and Paul N6KZW who assisted in the coordination.

N6KZW	Paul	Stockton	K6MDS	Mike	Stockton
WB6BET	Jim	Rio Vista	K6FVC	Fred	Manteca
WA6D	Dave	Valley Springs	WA6TZY	Mike	Arnold
N7BKV	Brian	Groveland	W6LDB	Larry	? Tulare?
N6LAW		Twain Harte (relay)	AE6SE	Steve	Stockton
KG7OR	Ron	Lodi	W6YNO	Brent	Valley Springs
K6KJQ	Glenn	Stockton	WA6HNA	Greg	Groveland (relay)
K6DGQ	Bob	Galt	WB6TOU	Dave	Lodi
N6LHL	Dave	Stockton	K6TVT	Randy	Stockton
W6SXA	Mark	Stockton	KM6HDY	Dustin	Stockton
W6CPR	Cecil	Stockton	KN6ERF	Brad	Twain Harte
NZ6Q	John	from Salida	N6ACL	Annie	from Salida





W6SF APRIL MEETING REPORT THURSDAY APRIL 9TH 19:00 HOURS

The April meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1900 hours by President Bob N6TCE. The meeting was held virtually using Google Meets. VP Mark W6SXA gave a brief report on the July 4th parade, stating that the United Veteran's Council had not been meeting so the status of the parade this year is unknown. John NZ6Q gave a brief update on Field Day and explained an idea that would create a special class for club stations working together through remote stations. This "V" class has some interest with the current COVID-19 pandemic and no decision yet on whether government restrictions on group meetings would be restricted by the June 27th event. John also reported that the 15 new licenses from the April 4th Test Only session had been issued by the FCC today. Two new hams were on the Virtual Meeting. Al KN6IOK who received his license Saturday and Jacob KN6IHX who had completed a virtual testing session to upgrade to General Class.

Having no further items to discuss and no new business, the business meeting was adjourned and the training session began.

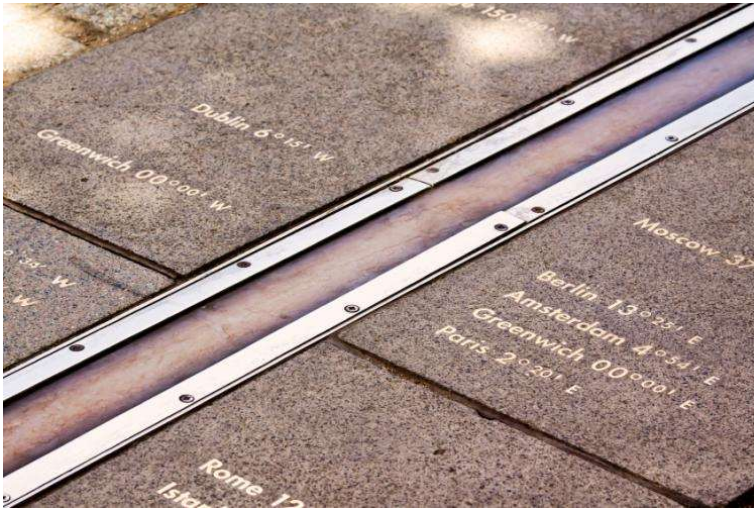
Vince KM6IRY had a great overview of DMR, discussing programming hints, differences between DMR offerings from different organizations and great tips on how to get started. There were lots of questions and great information exchanged. Dan WL7COO, SJV SEC promoted DMR as a tool for Emergency work and ARES.

The meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours. The next scheduled meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club is Thursday, May 14th with Amateur Satellites as the scheduled topic.

Depending on the decisions of state and local health authorities, the BoD will decide if the meeting will be virtual or back at the Stockton Sailing Club.

73, Annie N6ACL, Secretary





GMT-UTC-Zulu. What's the difference?

By Bill Danforth, AE6J

GMT, UTC and WWV Where to begin?

First off, let me see your hands if you know that GMT, Greenwich Mean Time and UTC, Universal Coordinated Time, are the same?

Well, you're wrong. They are not.

GMT, Greenwich Mean Time, was primarily developed as a means for accurate navigation, first marine navigation and then aerial navigation. Knowing precise time would allow navigators to know their location longitudinally. GMT is based on the mean time of when the sun is at its highest peak above longitude 0, at the Greenwich Observatory. The mean time is the average throughout the year, as throughout the year, it can be off by up to 19 minutes.

UTC, Universal Coordinated Time, this is the time by which the worlds clocks are synced. It is considered interchangeable with GMT, but GMT is not precisely defined by the scientific community. UTC is based on International Atomic Time with leap seconds added at irregular intervals to compensate for the slowing of the Earth's rotation. Leap seconds are added to keep UTC with nine tenths of a second of GMT. While GMT has been around since the mid 1800's, UTC wasn't initiated until the start of 1961, getting its official name in 1967.

Time zones around the world are expressed using positive or negative offsets from UTC, as in the list of time zones by UTC offset. UTC is also the time standard used in aviation, e.g., for flight plans and air traffic control clearances. Weather forecasts and maps all use UTC to avoid confusion about time zones and daylight-saving time. The International Space Station also uses UTC as a time standard. Amateur radio operators often schedule their radio contacts in UTC, because transmissions on some frequencies can be picked up by many time zones. UTC is used in many internet and World Wide Web standards.

The Network Time Protocol, designed to synchronize the clocks of computers over the internet, encodes times using the UTC system. UTC is also known as Zulu time. WWV - WWV is the call sign for the US NIST, National Institute of Standards and Technology, HF ("shortwave") radio station near Fort Collins, Colorado. The station transmits official US Government frequency and time signals on 2.5Meg, 5Meg, 10Meg, 15Meg and 20Meg. These frequencies and time signals are controlled by atomic clocks. The NIST also operates a similar station, WWVH in Hawaii. The WWV stations are among a few radio stations west of the Mississippi with the call sign beginning with a W. This comes from its early days in DC and Maryland.

WWV is the oldest continuously operating radio station in the US. It first went on the air in Washington DC in May of 1920, a few months before KDKA in Pennsylvania. It first began broadcasting Friday evening concerts on 600 Kilohertz and it could be heard about 25 miles away. In December of 1920, it began transmitting on 750 kilohertz, allowing it to be heard almost 200 miles away. It also began sending Morse Code news reports from the department of agriculture until April of 1921. Late in 1922, WWV's purpose shifted to broadcasting standard frequency signals. These signals were desperately needed by other radio stations to help them stay on their own frequencies.

WWV's most well-known feature, the announcement of time, was added first in code in October of 1945 and then voice on January 1st of 1950. The original voice time transmissions were at 5-minute intervals, changing to the current every minute in July of 1971. WWV moved a few times, was almost shut down in 1926, almost burned down in 1940, and was finally moved to its current location on December 1st, 1966. This enabled the WWV to better reach all of the US, instead of being able to be heard primarily in the Eastern portions of the US.

In April of 1967 it made the move to GMT from the local time (first Eastern then Mountain). Just to show you again the difference between GMT and UTC, the WWV switched to UTC from GMT. Some records say this occurred in December of 1968, others say it happened officially in 1974.

FIELD DAY SWAG FOR 2020

While its too late to place your order with the club order, you can still get cool Field Day shirts and swag directly from the ARRL. Just cruise on over to <http://www.arrl.org/field-day> for information about Field Day June 27th & 28th and links to the ARRL store to place your order.



2020 CLUB MEETING DATES & PROPOSED TRAININGS

January 9	Annual General Meeting, W1SRD Dulcie Island
February 13.....	Meeting – E911 Center Tour
March 12.....	Meeting – Radio for the Rest of Us Presentation
April 9	Meeting – DMR Basics – Vince KM6IRY (VIRTUAL)
May 14.....	Meeting – Amateur Satellites – Fred K6FVC (tentative)
June 11	Meeting - Field Day Final Prep
July 9	Meeting – TBA
August 13.....	Meeting - T-Hunt/BBQ Potluck – Location TBA
September 10.....	Meeting – TBA
September 26	Club Breakfast Meeting – 9:30 – Location TBA
October 8.....	Meeting - Nominations for Officers 2021
November 12	Meeting - Elections
December 10	Christmas Dinner / Year End Celebration
December 31.....	Cosmic Bowling & Straight Key Night

HamCrams for 2020 – 7:45 AM Fire Station #2

February 8th April 4th **August 8th** October 10th December 12th

Ham-U Training Day – 8:00 AM Fire Station #2

September 12th (moved from previously announced date of March 14th & May 16th)

Club Events 2020

February 22 nd – Pedaling Paths Ride	Devinci's Deli, Linden, CA
March 21 st – STEAMFEST 2020	Lincoln High School – CANCELLED
March 22 nd – Ride/Walk 4 Art	Valley Springs – CANCELLED
April 25 th – Stockton Sailing Club Event	Stockton Sailing Club – CANCELLED
April – May – Weed-Whacking on the hill	Fiddletown Repeater Site - TBD
May 3 rd – Delta Century Ride	Jessie's Grove Winery - CANCELLED
Jun 5 – 7 – Museum Ships Weekend	USS Lucid, Stockton, CA - CANCELLED
June 20 – Kids Day	Stockton Libraries – CANCELLED
June 27 – 28 – ARRL Field Day	Club Field day Site, Stockton, CA
July 4 – 4 th of July Parade	Downtown Stockton
September 26 – Club Breakfast Meeting	Location TBD
September 26 - Miracle Mile Car Show Event	Miracle Mile
October 3 - 4 – California QSO Party	Club Field Day Site, Stockton, CA
October 16 – 18 – Pacificon 2020	San Ramon Marriott ARRL Convention
November 1 – Giro D' Vino Ride	Woodbridge Winery, Acampo, CA
November 14 – 15 ARRL Sweepstakes Phone	Club Field Day Site, Stockton, CA
November 26 – Run Against Hunger	Waterfront – Downtown, Stockton, CA
December 11 – 13 – ARRL 10M Contest	Club Field Day Site, Stockton, CA



A HAM'S CALENDAR

May 14th, 2020 – SDARC May Meeting - 1900 hours, VIRTUAL MEETING USING ZOOM – Amateur Satellites – Working the Birds in Space K6FVC – All members are encouraged to attend. Follow the instructions on the W6SF.ORG website or in the newsletter for logon info.

May 16th, 2020 – VE TEST SESSION – 1000 hours, Stockton Sailing Club, 4980 Buckley Cove, Stockton. LIMITED SEATING – BY INVITATION ONLY, To sign up go to the HamCram sign-up page or email John NZ6Q at nz6q@arrl.net

May 30th – 31st, 2020 – CQ WPX CW Contest - 0000Z 5/30 – 2359Z 5/31 – starts 1700 hours local time on Friday May 29th - The WPX Contest is based on an award offered by CQ Magazine for working all prefixes. Held on the last weekend of March (SSB) and May (CW), the contest draws thousands of entries from around the world.

June 11th, 2020 – SDARC June Meeting - 1900 hours, Stockton Sailing Club, 4980 Buckley Cove, off W March Lane – Field Day Planning Meeting - Watch for details if this meeting is shifted to virtual... All members are encouraged to attend. Come check out our new home <http://www.w6sf.org>

June 13th- 15th, 2020 – ARRL June VHF Contest - 1800Z on Saturday thru 0259Z on Monday (8:00 PM local time on Sunday) - For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) 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. <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

June 20th, 2020 – ARRL Kids Day Event - 1800Z – 2359Z on Saturday. Open up your shack or get on the air and work Kids Day operators around the country. <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>

June 27th – 28th, 2020 – ARRL Field Day - Join us at the DeVries Rd Field Day site for this annual operating / emergency preparedness event. More information as it becomes available by the June 11th club meeting.

STATE QSO PARTIES – Set a Goal to get WAS in 2020

Arkansas	05/09/2020	05/10/2020	Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest
Kentucky	06/06/2020	06/07/2020	Paducah Amateur Radio Association
West Virginia	06/20/2020	06/21/2020	West Virginia State Amateur Radio Council

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.
To submit articles for the monthly newsletter, email N6ACL annettel@westwayfeed.com

W6SF CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS: Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the **Stockton Sailing Club, 4980 Brookside Cove, Stockton, CA – off March Lane west of Interstate 5**. Members, guests, and people having an interest in Amateur Radio are invited to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 14th, 2020. This meeting will be held on-line using Zoom.** Members and guests are welcome – login info in this newsletter.

WEEKLY NETS: Held each Monday evening at 1900hrs is the **W6SF New Ham/Tech Net** hosted by Paul **N6KZW and Others**. Then at 2000hrs the regular club net starts. **147.165+ PL 107.2 Hz and 442.250 + PL 107.2 are the regular repeaters for these Nets.** Members and visitors are invited to check in. There is also an unofficial get together on Thursday evenings (except meeting night) at 8:00pm **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>

2020 CLUB OFFICERS & LEADERSHIP:

President:	N6TCE , Bob Officer	n6tce@arrl.net
Vice President:	W6SXA , Mark Cloud	w6sxa@arrl.net
Treasurer:	K6PH , Peter Hine	selkied@earthlink.net
Secretary:	N6ACL , Annie Lewis-Dopkus	annettel@westwayfeed.com
Member At Large:	NZ6Q , John Litz	john@litz.com
Call Sign Trustee:	WB6NVB , Charlie Johnson	wb6nvb@arrl.net
Repeater Trustee:	NC6R , Steve Allred	nc6r@arrl.net
Membership Chairman	N6ACL , Annie Lewis-Dopkus	annettel@westwayfeed.com
Event Chairman	OPEN	
Newsletter Editor	NZ6Q , John Litz	nz6q@arrl.net

CLUB DUES:

\$20 SINGLE and \$30 FAMILY

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, P.O. BOX 690271, STOCKTON, CA 95269-0271

We thank you for your continued support!