

# Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



## W6SF FLYSHEET



ARRL MEMBER

P.O. BOX 690271

STOCKTON, CA

95269-0271

January 2013

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### PRESIDENT'S QST

**QST QST QST** - The editor regrets to inform you the reader that he did not notify the incoming President of the deadline date for a QST. The President's QST will begin in the February issue.



### PAUL, N6KZW OFFERING HAM RADIO ITEMS FOR SALE ON EBAY

Paul, N6KZW would like to inform you that he has a number of items for sale on ebay that are ham radio related. Please check out his listings and make a bid!

Go to <http://www.ebay.com> and search for his listings under the member name "N6Paul"

John, NZ6Q has started listing items for Rod, W6YGZ on QRZ.COM and eventually some will also be listed on ebay. Please look for several items listed especially a very nice selection of vintage keys and keyers.



## DECEMBER MEETING ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER 2012



**Marie Callender's**  
Restaurant & Bakery

The Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club 2012 Christmas Dinner and end-of-the year raffle was held at Marie Callender's on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The dinner was well attended by over 40 club members and their guests and even some last minute challenges could not dampen the festive mood or the Christmas Spirit of Amateur Radio that was enjoyed by all.

The Dinner menu included generous helpings served by a delightful Marie Callender's staff. Diner's enjoyed a selection of either Country Fried Steak, Fresh Roasted Turkey or Braised & Slow Roasted Pot Roast. The Pot Roast, must have been the clear favorite as we managed to eat all the restaurant had prepared. Bob, K6DGQ and John, NZ6Q both shared a moment of panic as we thought we were not going to get our food. Just then, the staff appeared with two more plates and all was in order. *(editor's note: I won't ever forget my pot roast, will you Bob? HIHI)*

The dinner's highlight had to be dessert which was absolutely delicious and served typical Marie Callender's style – delicious!

After dinner, outgoing President John, NZ6Q passed the President's Gavel and its ceremonial box to President Elect Charlie, WB6NVB officially beginning Charlie's term as club president.



*Bob, K6DGQ & Spouse smile for the Camera*



*Ed, N6XMA entertaining Dean, KJ6EML*



*No Pictures Please, Steve K6SCA*



*Dan, KI6FTT and his "Better Half" XYL*

While dinner was winding down and dessert was being prepared, outgoing President John, NZ6Q took the time to thank the membership for their support and hard work during the past two years. Highlighting a number of club accomplishments from increased community service opportunities and contest participation to enhancements to the club repeater system, he praised the countless hours donated by the members of the club. Recently, the club has taken on the project of developing a UHF repeater in Stockton with Handi-Talkie coverage in Stockton and surrounding communities. He acknowledged the hard work of Glen, K6KJQ, Knox, K6NOX, Steve, K6SCA and Eric, W6INP getting the repeater up and running. Also highlighted was the club's support of HamCram's in Stockton and the realization of over 30 new technician licensed hams because of that effort.

The evening's festivities continued on to the raffle. A fantastic assortment of raffle prizes ranging from tool sets and commemorative QSL cards were up for the offering.



The hard work of Bob, KJ6SVX's wife was demonstrated and appreciated in her handmade CW themed quilt which turned out to be a most coveted raffle prize.

The quilt was won by Dennis, W6UT who immediately surrendered the coveted prize to his XYL.



Bill, WA6DQA scored this year's \$350 Ham Radio Outlet Shopping Spree. And finally, Shirl AA6K, won the raffle for the vintage CW key donated by Charlie, WB6NVB.



*Shirl, AA6K with LT, KJ6YVF & Tobin, KJ6YVH*



*Brothers Chris & Brian, KJ6RGD & KJ6RJE*



*Dave, N6SWX Peter, KD6CPA & Bob, K6YN*



*Mike, W6MRM & Bill, KJ6JAB*

A Big thank you to everyone that showed up and participated. I thought the dinner was a big success even though there were a few challenges with the restaurant.

I also want to especially thank Dave Hill, N6DCH & his XYL who did a tremendous job with the set-up and ALL of the decorations at the tables. Dave, I can't thank you enough. You and your wife made it a warm and festive room – well done, well done.





## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 MEETING**

**QST QST QST ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS.** The Annual General Meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:30PM.

The meeting will open with a review of club business by the newly elected Board of Directors. The dues schedule for 2013 will be decided by the membership present. Afterwards, be sure to put in a few bucks for the after meeting raffle and take home a little bit of ham radio treasure. A unique collection of items will be available to compliment any station. Don't miss out on your chance to win some great prizes.

Doors open at 7:15 PM for meet and greet. Club business begins at 7:30PM. New hams and anyone interested in Amateur Radio are encouraged to attend. Invite a Friend!

Directions to the meeting:

From Stockton – You can now take Lower Sacramento Rd as the new underpass is open between Hammer Lane and Eight Mile Rd. Check it out!

From North or South on I5 - Travel on I5 to 8 Mile Rd and go east on 8 Mile Rd to Lower Sacramento Rd. Turn north onto Lower Sacramento Rd and the church is about 1000 ft north of the intersection on the left.

From North or South on 99 – Travel on 99 to 8 Mile Rd and go west on 8 Mile Rd to Lower Sacramento Rd. Turn north onto Lower Sacramento Rd and the church is about 1000 ft north of the intersection on the left.

Parking: Ample parking is available; we meet all the way in the back of the church complex in one of the classrooms.

**A SPECIAL RAFFLE for a brand new Baofeng UV-5RB 2M/440 transceiver will follow the meeting. Raffle tickets for this item will be only \$5.00 each. Thanks to Ed, N6XMA for his generous donation to the club to make this possible.**

**Don't miss the meeting, or you might miss out on taking this home!**





## ENHANCEMENTS CONTINUE ON NEW REPEATER

**444.575 PL 107.2 + 5Mhz**

Big news on the new UHF repeater is that the first of the new voting receivers is on the air in East Stockton. This new receiver should expand coverage into Linden, Escalon, & Manteca while improving HT “shadows” in Stockton.

The voting receiver hardware has been donated to the club by Knox, K6NOX. The new receiver is located on Knox’s tower in east of Hwy 99 in Southeast Stockton. Knox is also donating the space in his communication center for the club repeater and allowing the club use of his data network to interconnect the repeater with the voting receiver(s).

Initial testing has been impressive but the work continues on the system. Voting receivers are planned for sites on the north side and west side of Stockton. Your support and help in using the system and talking on the repeater from wherever you are is very welcome!

Thank you again to Glen, K6KJQ & Knox, K6NOX for your hard work and leadership in making this happen!



Check out the updates on the club website at <http://www.w6sf.org> !!



**FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> HAM-CRAM**  
**0800 – 1600 HOURS**  
**DAMERON HOSPITAL ANNEX**  
**Lincoln & Acacia Streets, Stockton**  
**(Across Lincoln St from Dameron Hospital)**

If you are not a volunteer examiner, but would like to help out with a HamCram Exam session, you can easily sign-up on the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/volunteer-examiners> . **We NEED MORE VEs.**

Tell your friends... No tedious preliminary home study. No long, once-a-week classes. You attend for just one day, 8:15 AM to 4:00 PM, and you're done. Thousands of men and women, ages 16 to 90, have quickly succeeded in the past ten years. Just in time to get your license or upgrade before spring Contest Season starts!

HAMCRAM was developed by John Portune, W6NBC, in 1995 to improve the percentage of people passing the amateur radio license exam. This is not a class. It is guided study: Six 45-minute periods spent reading sections of the FCC question pool, with hourly breaks and lunch.

This is the most efficient way to maximize attention span against study fatigue. In other words, we tell you how to study, keep you doing it in an organized way, and then give the test as soon as you are finished. Short term memory is the "secret" of the high success rate.

All exam questions will be selected (according to a computerized formula) from the question pool you study during the session.

This is the biggest reason why 90% are easily able to recognize the correct answers immediately after reading the question pool thoroughly, leading to a high pass ratio on the exam. The only real requirement is a strong desire to get your ham license.

We have found that the very young (less than 14) and those with learning disabilities will not do as well as other persons using this method. Because this system allows the individual to study at their own pace, it requires the individual be self-motivated. We'd be happy to discuss this further with you.

No technical knowledge is required and we encourage students between the ages of 16 and 60 not to study in advance. No Morse code is required!

Note that the FCC requires us to collect either your Social Security Number or a Federal Registration Number with your license application.





## **December HamCram results In 11 new Technician Class Licenses**

We enjoyed our most productive HamCram to date. Our December 15<sup>th</sup> HamCram, held at Dameron Hospital in the Annex, passed 11 new Technician licensees, 4 General upgrades, and 2 Extra upgrades. Prospective Ham Radio Operators came from as far away as Santa Cruz to take the exam. Thanks to Bob, K6DGQ who helped out tremendously with the VE duties.

New licensees that were granted on the last day of 2012 include:

Roger Markowitz, Stockton	KK6BNO	Travis Smith, Modesto	KK6BNP
William Boyer, Modesto	KK6BNQ	Kurtis Boyer, Modesto	KK6BNR
Mary Montgomery, Stockton	KK6BNS	Jonathon Barby, Pleasanton	KK6BNT
Clifford Maas, Watsonville	KK6BNU	Brian Weckiewicz, Modesto	KK6BNV
Luis Gomez, San Jose	KK6BNW	Theresa Brown, Watsonville	KK6BNX

At the time of the newsletter's writing, these were the only ones posted on the FCC's website. I expect the rest of the new licenses will be issued on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Club Member Chris Moulton, KJ6RGD passed his General Class test to upgrade from Tech to General. Congratulations Chris!! Chris is in the market for an inexpensive rig to help him get on HF. Anyone care to spare an HF radio??

The next HamCram is on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Encourage your friends and neighbors to get their license! Do you need to upgrade? Register today for the test – you've got 6 weeks to study to get your General or Extra Class Ticket!

Register today at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4854986395/eorg#>

You can see the complete HamCram 2013 schedule at <http://cev.eventbrite.com>

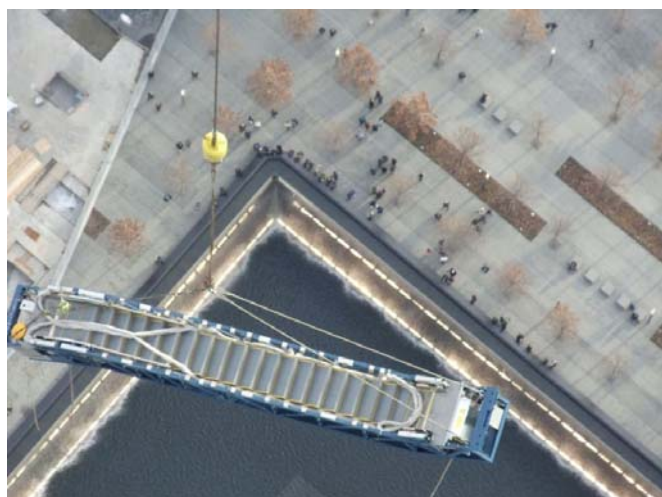




**WOW!  
WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO PUT AN  
ESCALATOR ON TOP OF THE NEW  
WORLD TRADE CENTER?  
CHECK OUT THESE PICTURES**

On December 12, 2012, ThyssenKrupp Elevator team members hoisted an escalator using a rooftop crane to the 101st floor of the One World Trade Center. This is one of 11 escalators and 74 elevators being installed on the project which will include the fastest elevators in the western hemisphere.

At the time of its completion in 2013, One World Trade Center will be the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere and the third-tallest building in the world by pinnacle height, with its spire reaching a symbolic 1,776 feet in reference to the year of American independence. 1 WTC has been the tallest building in New York City since April 30, 2012. Let's hope there will be a ham repeater there again!



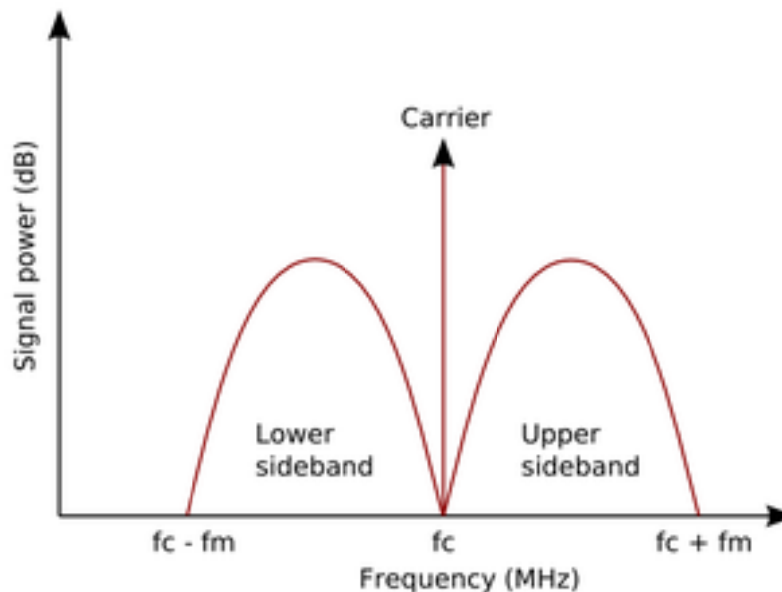
*Many thanks to Dan, KB6UNC for providing the article and these pictures!*

## A brief review of Upper Side-Band (USB) and Lower Side-Band (LSB) Why is LSB primarily used below 10Mhz?

I have often heard new hams ask why Upper Side-Band (USB) is used on 20M and above and Lower Side-Band (LSB) is used on 40M and lower frequencies. That's a great question. Let's talk a little about what the two side bands are before we get into the why.

In radio communications, a **sideband** is a band of frequencies higher than or lower than the carrier frequency. They contain power as a result of the modulation process. The sidebands consist of all the components of the modulated signal except the carrier.

AM (Amplitude Modulation) of a carrier normally results in two mirror-image sidebands. The signal components above the carrier frequency constitute the **upper sideband (USB)**, and those below the carrier frequency constitute the **lower sideband (LSB)**. In conventional AM transmission, the carrier and both sidebands are present.



Transmission in which only one sideband is transmitted is called single-sideband transmission or SSB. SSB is the predominant voice mode on shortwave radio other than shortwave broadcasting (which is AM). In SSB, the carrier is suppressed, significantly reducing the electrical power (by up to 12 dB) without affecting the information in the sideband. This makes for more efficient use of transmitter power and RF bandwidth, but a beat frequency oscillator must be used at the receiver to reconstitute the carrier.

Another way to look at an SSB receiver is as an RF-to-audio frequency transposer; in USB mode, the dial frequency is subtracted from each radio frequency component to produce a corresponding audio component, while in LSB mode each incoming radio frequency component is subtracted from the dial frequency. Since the sidebands are mirror images, which sideband is used is a matter of convention.

So, why is it in amateur radio, LSB is traditionally used below 10 MHz and USB is used above 10 MHz?

Well, you have to go back about 50 – 60 years to find the answer.

Back in the late 1940s and early 1950s, a great number of SSB generator circuits used 9 MHz (mainly “filter” designs) because if you used a 5 MHz VFO frequency to “mix” with the signal, you could get both the 75 meter and the 20 meter bands. There were a lot of military surplus BC457, BC458 and ARC-5 transmitters around that would work very well as a 5 MHz VFO. However, due to the “mixing” scheme, lower sideband was produced when operating on 75 meters and upper sideband was produced when operating on 20 meters.

When the “other” bands (160 through 10 meters) were added by the heterodyne method (this involved doubling the frequencies with a heterodyne oscillator), it was “easier” to produce the LSB signals on 160, 80, and 40 meters while it was also “easier” to produce the USB signals on 20, 15, and 10 meters. The Central Electronics 10A, 10B, and 20A commercial amateur SSB transmitters are a very good example of this era in technology.



As more advanced transmitters came into vogue, the ability to have both sidebands available on any band came into being. However, the “convention” was already in place and amateurs have generally used lower sideband below 10 MHz and upper sideband above 10 MHz. Of course, the 30 meter band (10Mhz) only allows CW operation. There is nothing in the regulations that forbids using the “opposite” sideband. In fact, there are transmitters that actually operate DSB (double side band) that can be received in either the LSB or USB positions on the receiver but cannot be received in the AM position (the old WRL DSB-100 transmitter is an example of this type of transmitter). But, since the vast majority of amateurs do follow the “convention”, you will be very hard pressed to make a random contact on the “wrong” sideband.

And, if you want to try out your AM position on your radio, look for AM operators around 3840Khz on the 75 Meter band or listen some nights between 7200 and 7300 Khz on the 40 Meter band for AM broadcast stations from around the world.



***Mark your Calendar for the 2013 “Ride for the Blind” on Saturday February 23<sup>rd</sup>***





## A HAM'S CALENDAR

**January 5-6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – RTTY Round-Up** – <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup> - Amateurs worldwide contact and exchange QSO information with each other using digital modes (Baudot RTTY, ASCII, AMTOR, PSK31, and Packet—attended operation only).

**January 6<sup>th</sup> – Kids Day** <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day> - an on-air event to encourage young people (licensed or not) to have fun with Amateur Radio. It is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own.

**January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 7:30PM – W6SF Annual General Meeting** – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton, CA. The annual general meeting will set the dues for the coming year and vote on the new constitution and bylaws. Don't forget the Raffle after the meeting!

**January 19 – 21<sup>st</sup> – ARRL January VHF Contest** – 1900UTC Saturday to 0359UTC Monday. All bands 6 Meters and up. Check out the ARRL contest announcement at <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf> for contest rules and information. Good Luck!

**February 11 – 15<sup>th</sup> – School Club Round-up** - <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup-scr> - SCR is a great way to get young operators on the air. Very often a new operator will be intimidated by the fear of not knowing what to say to the stranger on the other side of the radio. The exchange information helps to overcome this fear in a low pressure contest format.

**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 7:30PM – W6SF Club Meeting** – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton, CA.

**February 16 – 17<sup>th</sup> – ARRL International DX Competition CW** - <http://www.arrl.org/arrr-dx> - US & Canadian stations work as many DX Stations as possible on HF & DX stations work as many US & Canadian stations.

**February 16<sup>th</sup> – HAMCRAM** – Dameron Hospital Annex, Acacia & Lincoln Street, Stockton 0800- 1600

**February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 – Linden Bike Ride for the Blind Center** – The 2013 Peddling Path's to Independence Bike Ride through the foothills near Linden. Details to follow, but plan on a great lunch catered by Davinci's Deli at the end! Mmmmmmm, I can almost taste the ravioli!

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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, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

**WEEKLY NET:** Held each Monday evening at 8pm on **147.165Mhz + 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 **28.457Mhz.** Amateurs 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 **147.165Mhz +** with a PL tone of 107.2 Hz. From the same site, the club also operates a 440MHZ repeater at **442.250Mhz +** with a PL of 107.2 Hz. These repeaters are normally linked

Located in downtown Stockton, W6SF operates a low-level UHF repeater on **444.575MHz +** with a PL of 107.2 Hz. This repeater provides for excellent portable coverage in the city of Stockton.

**CLUB SIMPLEX FX: 147.51 MHz.**

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

### 2013 CLUB OFFICERS:

President:	<b>WB6NVB</b> , Charlie Johnson	<a href="mailto:wb6nvb@arri.net">wb6nvb@arri.net</a>
Vice President:	<b>N6KZW</b> , Paul Engelman	<a href="mailto:n6kzw@sbcglobal.net">n6kzw@sbcglobal.net</a>
Treasurer:	<b>KD6CPA</b> , Peter Hine	<a href="mailto:selkied@earthlink.net">selkied@earthlink.net</a>
Secretary:	<b>W6INP</b> , Eric Chapa	<a href="mailto:perrla1@aol.com">perrla1@aol.com</a>
Member At Large:	<b>K6KJQ</b> , Glen Pitts	<a href="mailto:kjq45@att.net">kjq45@att.net</a>
Trustee:	<b>AA6K</b> , Shirl Rose	<a href="mailto:rosesl@prodigy.net">rosesl@prodigy.net</a>
Repeater Trustee:	<b>KD6FVA</b> , John Kester	<a href="mailto:jbkester@att.net">jbkester@att.net</a>
Repeater Trustee (444.575)	<b>K6KJQ</b> , Glen Pitts	<a href="mailto:kjq45@att.net">kjq45@att.net</a>
Membership Chairman	<b>KJ6RGE</b> , Bryan Moulton	<a href="mailto:b.moulton@sbcglobal.net">b.moulton@sbcglobal.net</a>
Newsletter Editor	<b>open</b>	

**CLUB DUES:** are \$20.00 per year for a single membership & \$30 per year for a family membership - payable to Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club at the address on the masthead. We thank you for your continued support!