

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

WWW.W6SF.ORG

February 2018

Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

It's that time of the year when all members of the club look forward to dipping into what is left of the Christmas fund and write that check to the radio club. Again, as in the past, the club has bills to pay – site and shack rental at the repeater site in Fiddletown, insurance, PO Box, Website costs (when's the last time you checked into www.w6sf.com?), NARCC dues and church donation – to name some of the larger ones.

At our Annual General Meeting in January, we voted to continue the present level of dues for this year. \$20 for a single membership, and \$30 for a family membership, when the family lives under the same roof. We have a PayPal account, and you may go to the club website, click on the PayPal icon, and pay at that point with your credit or debit card. You can also send a check for dues to:

**Stockton-Delta A.R.C.
P.O. Box 690271
Stockton, CA 95269-0271**



ARRL MEMBERSHIP

The ARRL is our lobbying group and my membership is what keeps them active. Since 1914 and Hiram Percy Maxim, the American Radio Relay League has been serving radio enthusiasts in the United States and around the world. This is the greatest hobby on earth where we can dig deep into transistors or tubes, wires or resistors, but in the end the goal is communications with other humans whether across town or around the world. There are only two hobbies in the world that require licensing and testing prior to starting. Can you name them?



Be sure to let our secretary, Eric W6INP know about your ARRL membership status. As an ARRL affiliated club, we are required to report annually on the number of club members who are also ARRL members.

Mark, W6SXA

(Editor's note: ARRL Membership is just \$49.00 per year with discounts for 2 and 3 year terms. Life Membership is \$1225.00 and can be paid in installments over a 2 year period. www.arrl.org)

JANUARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT JANUARY 11TH 7:30 PM



The Annual General Meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Vice-President Mark W6SXA. After a general roll call and introductions, Joni Bauer from the Community Center for the Blind took the floor to discuss the Pedaling Paths to Independence Bike Ride to be held around Linden on February 24th. Joni gave a great history of the event and garnered 25 sign-ups for posts at the event. President John NZ6Q arrived during her presentation.

The treasurer's report was first order of business. The membership approved the Board's recommendation to set the dues schedule for 2017 at \$20.00 for Individual Membership and \$30.00 for Family Membership. The Board also announced the continued appointment of Charlie WB6NVB as the Call Sign Trustee, Ed **N6XMA** as Event Chairman and Annie **N6ACL** as the club membership chairperson.

The annual calendar was distributed to club members at the meeting with dates and times for various club meetings, events, contests and public service opportunities throughout 2018.

On new business, Bob **K6DGQ** and Ron **KG7OR** gave great reports on the Kid's Day operation from the Galt Public Library and shared an article from the Lodi News Sentinel on the event. Several youngsters got on the air and several club members as well as Lodi Club Members were on hand to talk with them on the WB6ASU and W6SF repeaters.



John **NZ6Q** reported on a meeting in December with ARRL Director Bob Vallio **W6RRG**. In the meeting there was discussions on how to improve Amateur Radio in general and specific opportunities that the ARRL could take as well as the Pacific Division. There was also discussion of a



censure that occurred against Southwest Division Director Dick Norton **N6AA** after comments he made at last year's Visalia DX Convention. John submitted a letter to the membership he was forwarding to the ARRL leadership speaking out against the censure and other actions the ARRL Board will consider at their January meeting. There was a motion and 2nd with unanimous approval to send the letter to the ARRL Board before the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM and several members came forward to pay their dues. Dues are now payable for 2018 and can be paid on the club website through paypal by clicking [here](#).

If you are need of transportation to and from an upcoming meeting, please contact Paul, **N6KZW** or John, **NZ6Q** and we will arrange transportation assistance for you.

FEBRUARY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

FEBRUARY 8TH 7:30 PM

BEAR CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH

The February 2018 meeting will be held at the Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, in North Stockton. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM. After a short business meeting agenda, Jim **WB6BET** will present a history of the Phonetic Alphabet and Emilia **KI6YYT** will share YL Activation of the USS Hornet. The meeting will conclude with a raffle of items supplied by the members.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -

Weather the storm...

The last several weeks, if you're an active ARRL member and radio amateur, you know there have been storm clouds rolling over our great hobby. I won't go into detail so much as to what all that is – you can catch up to most by reading the ARRL website, CQ Magazine's editorials or reading the myARRL voice Facebook page. Having spent several years living in the south, I've seen storm clouds that make you want to run for cover and others that look bad but never deliver much in the way of damage. But you always watch – just in case.



That is where I am today with the storm clouds brewing over the ARRL. While a few of the clouds look dark and dangerous, most in my humble opinion are storms that we can weather safely and even become stronger for the experience. As I said in this column last month, I believe the best is yet to come – that's true for us as a club and for the ARRL. What's in store for 2018? I'm not sure – our future as club is looking bright and I think that the recent transparency demands and delivery at the ARRL is a blue patch in the dark sky and I'm looking for a red sky tonight. Twenty people so far have signed up to take the February HamCram – I'm excited to see the membership renewals coming in through the website fast and furious

The club is alive and growing because all of us contribute – all of promote to our ham and non-ham friends and neighbors – What are your ideas? Your board members want and need to hear them!

I'm very excited to see everyone on the 8th. It's going to be a great meeting and I expect a packed house. Come early – get a good seat.

73...

John, NZ6Q





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.

February 5
February 19

Bob N6TCE
John NZ6Q

February 12
February 26

Scott K6SCT
Charlie WB6NVB

March 5
March 19

Eric W6INP
Ron KG6OR

March 12
March 26

Dave N6LHL
Mike K6AAN



FEBRUARY HAM CRAM STOCKTON FIRE STATION #2 110 W SONORA ST, STOCKTON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10TH, 2018 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](#).

**ARRL KIDS DAY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6TH
PICTURES FROM THE
K6DGQ EVENT AT THE GALT PUBLIC LIBRARY**





Thanks to Dan & Ron for their pictures from this cool event.

CLUB MEMBERS ATTEND MLDXCC MEETING IN VALLEY SPRINGS

Several members also attended the MLDXCC m Valley Springs on January 27th. The meeting focused on recent awards for the club, November Sweepstakes, CQP and club membership. John Lee **K6YK** was honored with an award.

Lunch was served before the meeting. Grilled chicken and Tri-tip along with salad and pasta from Devinci's Deli. MLDXCC Club President Dennis **NJ6G** went over the accomplishments and goal for 2017 and 2018. Your President John **NZ6Q** got up and spoke on the topic of a grass roots petition to the FCC to change privileges for Technician Class Licenses to include digital modes in the 80M, 40M and 15 M Technician sub-bands where currently the only mode allowed is CW. This generated a lot of positive discussion and a lot of questions, but overall the MLDXCC Club was in favor of sending a petition to the FCC for the rule-making.



Club Members enjoying Lunch



John Lee K6YK honored for his achievements

Pedaling Paths to Independence Bike Ride

Saturday, February 24th 0700 – 1500



The Community Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be sponsoring its annual Pedaling Paths to Independence Century Bicycle Ride in Linden on Saturday February 24th. The ride is an annual fund raiser to support activities for its San Joaquin County clients. Last year's ride saw nearly 400 participants and raised over \$25,000 for the Community Center. This year the turn-out is expected to be larger.

For the last 9 years, the Stockton-Delta ARC has provided radio communications between rest stops, the start/finish line and sag wagons. This year we will support more APRS enabled operators in SAG wagons with a full display at the start finish line. We will also be supporting a change in the route taking the course off busy Hwy 26 and on to a private road between Milton Rd and Shelton Rd. Last year we had a lot of volunteers, and this year will be one of our biggest operating events.

This year we will again be advertising to the riders in concert with the Stockton Bicycle Club our "Central Dispatch" phone number. Each rider will be given this number to call directly to the Net Control Station in the event of an emergency or break down. Using APRS in each of the SAG Wagons, Net Control will be able to track the locations of SAGs and 'dispatch' the closest SAG Wagon to the reported break-down or other incident.

Riders and Volunteers enjoy a tremendous lunch hosted by DeVinci's Deli. Net Control will be set up just outside of the restaurant.

Event Chairman, Ed **N6XMA** should have a "first draft" of the assignments at the February 8th club meeting and a final version along with ICS-102 will be emailed to everyone before the event. You can email Ed at n6xma@comcast.net.

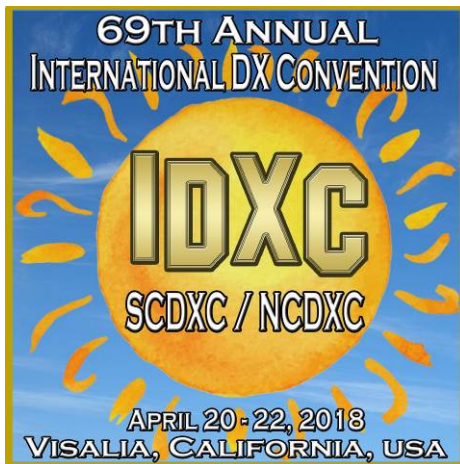
Bike rides like this one for the Community Center give us an opportunity to demonstrate the capability of ham radio to others, and teach us how to handle radio traffic of varying priority while in the field.

Community Center for the Blind
& Visually Impaired



STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
FEBRUARY 8, 2018 MEETING
7:30 PM
AGENDA

- Introductions, Vice-President Mark W6SXA
 - Financial Report, Treasurer Paul, KC6RRR
 - a. Dues reminder
 - Standing Committee Reports, John NZ6Q
 - a. Membership – Annie N6ACL
 - b. Event / Training – Ed N6XMA
 - i. Conflict with Lodi Event – Apr 28th
 - New Business
 - a. 4th of July Parade Event
 - Training & Betterment –
 - Jim WB6BET – History of Phonetics
 - Emilia KI6YYT – YL Activation of the USS Hornet
- =
- Adjournment / Raffle



The 69th Annual International DX Convention sponsored by the Southern California DX Club and held at the [Visalia Convention Center](#).

The International DX Convention is the world's foremost DX convention. If you are a DXer or interested in any aspect of ham radio you need to be at Visalia. Top DX operators from around the world will be there. Meet the big guns from the US, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania. Meet the people on the other side of the mic or key. Shake hands with the person you have had that sked with for the past 10 years. Renew friendships.

Don't forget your YL! We have planned another great [Saturday Tour](#). Bring the kids, there is even a prize for the youngest ham at the convention.

HERE IS A COPY OF THE LETTER WE SENT TO THE ARRL LEADERSHIP...

As approved by a majority vote of our membership.

January 11, 2018

To: Bob Vallio W6RGG, Pacific Division Director
The ARRL Board of Directors
Tom Gallagher NY2RF, ARRL CEO



Founded in 1931, the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club is an affiliated club with over 75 members throughout California, Nevada and Utah. The majority of our members are ARRL Members including several of whom are ARRL life members. Our members are active community volunteers, experimenters in new technologies, contesters, DX chasers and most important, mentors to new hams in the area. In the last 12 months our sponsored classes and test sessions have licensed or upgraded 199 Amateur Radio Operators in the region.

We wish to express our support for Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton and voice our position on matters coming before the board at your upcoming January 2018 Board of Directors meeting. While Southwest Division Director Dick Norton does not represent the area encompassed by our club, opposition to his censure is not based on geography. We would support any other Director treated as unfairly. The only disrepute brought to the ARRL was not through his actions or words that day in Visalia, but by his censure. We respectfully request that the Board rescind the censure and issue a public apology to Director Norton.

To other matters coming before the ARRL Board of Directors on January 19th, our members strongly urge you to:

- * Reject any proposal to allow non-elected board members or executive officers voting powers.
- * Reject any provision that allows expulsion of any ARRL member "for cause".
- * Reject any proposal revoking the current right of a licensed spouse of a Silent-Key Life Member to continue the life membership. As life membership is a substantial cost it should be viewed as a gift from the ARRL to a ham family. What a terrible example of 'corporate greed' to thrust upon a grieving spouse – especially when you consider (and you should consider) this hobby is founded on principals of community, charity and international goodwill.
- * Reject any provision that reduces Members' ability to support, elect or recall their Director or Vice-Director.

This request includes (but is not limited to):

1. Any proposal allowing the Board to disqualify incumbents or candidates for Director without full disclosure and without the division membership a voice in the final decision.

2. Any proposal that would replace the promotion of Vice-Director to Director mid-term with a Board appointed designee.

3. Any proposal that allows for censure, removal or other discipline of a Director for openly discussing the content of Board Meetings with his or her constituents.

First and foremost the ARRL is a membership organization, not a for-profit Fortune 1000 corporation. As such, the ARRL Board of Directors must demand of Executive Leadership that openness and accessibility to the membership not be infringed. We see Amateur Radio in a time of unprecedented growth and opportunity. New technologies offer greater opportunity to communicate globally as well as develop lifesaving communication infrastructures which are independent of public resources here at home.

We need our ARRL leaders to be focused on the issues that will make a difference for the future success of our hobby through the growth of the membership and not corporate profit. Now is a great opportunity to bring new members, new ideas and technologies to life for the betterment of Amateur Radio. There is much work to be done and we need you in Newington working as hard on this as we are in the field. We, the members of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club urge you, our elected board members, to proceed with caution and reject any proposal that even hints at eroding the fundamental purpose of Amateur Radio as defined in Part 97.1 of the FCC rules. Specifically: 1) enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, 2) advancement of the radio art; 3) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts; and 4) continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club
John Litz NZ6Q - President
Mark Cloud W6SXA - Vice-President
Dr. Eric Chappa - Secretary
Paul Croci KC6RRR - Treasurer
Dr. Charles Johnson WB6NVB - Call-Sign Trustee
Robert Officer N6TCE - Member-at-Large



ELMER UNIVERSITY IS SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH, 2018



A HAM'S CALENDAR

February 8th, 2018 – SDARC W6SF February Meeting - 1930 hours Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton – All members are encouraged to attend. Our program will be on the history of the phonetic alphabet and YL Activation of the USS Hornet. Member donated items raffle follows. <http://www.w6sf.org>

February 10th, 2018 – HamCram – 0800 Fire Station #2, 110 W Sonora St, Stockton. Get details in this newsletter and at <http://www.w6sf.org/hamcram.html>

February 12th – 16th, 2018 – ARRL School Club Round-up – Get on the air working school clubs from around the country – all ages elementary school to Universities. <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

February 16th – 18th, 2017 – ARRL International DX Contest CW (starts 0000UTC on Saturday Feb 17th which is 4:00PM Friday PST) – More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

February 24th, 2018 – Pedaling Paths to Independence Bike Ride Event – Support the Blind Center Fund Raiser – Practice your portable operating skill - <http://www.pedalingpaths.org>

February 24th – 25th, 2017 – South Carolina & North Carolina QSO Parties

March 3th – 5th, 2017 – ARRL International DX Contest SSB (starts 0000UTC on Saturday March 4th which is 4:00PM Friday March 3rd PST) – More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

March 10th, 2017 – W6SF CLUB MEETING – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, North of 8 Mile Rd – 19:30 Hours Regular Meeting, Training Program on DMR – Don't miss it.

March 17th, 2018 – Elmer University – 0800 Fire Station #2, 110 W Sonora St, Stockton. Get details at <http://www.w6sf.org/hamcram.html>

March 25th – 26th, 2017 – CQWW WPX Contest SSB (starts 0000UTC on Saturday March 25th which is 4:00PM Friday PST) – The biggest contest on HF, every station can work each other and your prefix counts as a multiplier. Info: <http://www.cqwp.com>

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?

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, January 11th, 2018 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:	W6SXA , Mark Cloud	w6sxa@arrl.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
Webmaster	W6SXA , Mark Cloud	w6sxa@arrl.net

CLUB DUES:

\$20 SINGLE and \$30 FAMILY (REDUCED TO \$10 AND \$15 JULY THRU DECEMBER)

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

We thank you for your continued support!