

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

WWW.W6SF.ORG

July 2018

Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Radio is the most intimate and socially personal medium in the world.

Harry von Zell... radio personality, announcer, actor



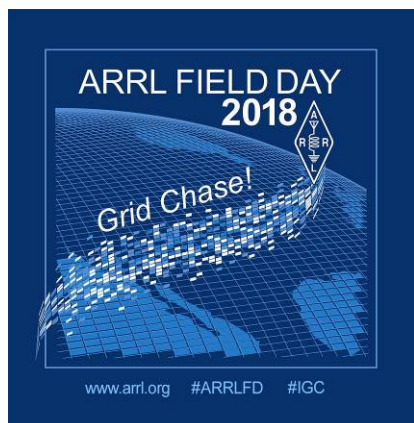
President's QST: The Chase is On!

Wow! What a great weekend Field Day was. It was so much fun to be on the air like that and to play with new antenna designs and new modes. Thank you to Erin **KM6LDD** who showed up “just to help” and ended up putting in a full day Saturday on FD8. I’m sorry we didn’t have a better antenna up for you earlier. Next year! There was so much opportunity to work stations during Field Day on every band. We worked stations on every band from 80M to 440Mhz – Had we prepared more, planned our

space more carefully we could have worked a lot more – especially since 15M, 10M and 6M all had openings. Next year! A big thank you to all who helped set up Field Day and who helped participate in a great day of operating! Have you got on FT8 on HF yet? There was a fair amount of FT8 activity on Field Day. Next year I’m sure there will be much more.

So now The Chase is on! Check out the International Grid Square Chase challenge on the ARRL website. <http://www.arrl.org/international-grid-chase-2018> Just about every station you work would be a unique grid square multiplier. As the contest season of fall and winter is coming soon, now you’ll see more operators interested in grid squares and exactly where you are at in the world. And you can still work the world with 100watts and a simple vertical antenna.

We've got lots coming up locally too. There is the CommOp support for the 4th of July Parade on July 4th, club meeting on July 12th. In August we are planning a transmitter hunt / Pot luck on the 9th and the next HamCram is on August 11th.



The weather is good and if you're thinking about getting new antennas put up, getting a new rig or station, well let's get together as members and help each other out.

Let's get on the air more and enjoy The Chase!

73!

John, NZ6Q



JULY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT THURSDAY JULY 12TH 7:30 PM AMBLERS CLUB IN STOCKTON

The July 2018 meeting will be held at The Amblers Club, 2000 Amblers Lane, off Country Club Blvd west of Interstate 5 in North Stockton. There will be a "meet-n-greet" before the regular meeting starting at 7:00 PM. No host Beer and Wine bar is available before the meeting and coffee with treats will be served during the meeting and afterwards.

The meeting will start at 7:30 PM. After a short business meeting agenda, there will be reports on the club's Field Day and a training program. The speaker is to be determined. The meeting will conclude with a raffle.



JUNE MEETING REPORT

JUNE 14TH 7:30 PM

The June meeting was held at the Ambler's Club. There was a meet-n-greet starting at 19:00 to allow members to socialize. Bob **KM6ONS** is a member and this allows us to enjoy some of the benefits of membership at the Ambler's Club. The meeting started at 7:30 PM with President John **NZ6Q** asking for members and guests to introduce themselves by name and callsign.

Treasurer Report: Paul **KC6RRR** was unable to attend, John NZ6Q reported on a few expense the club incurred on behalf of Museum Ships Weekend. The club still needed to reimburse Paul N6KZW for drinks to keep operators hydrated; John NZ6Q for rental of the tables and chairs for the dinner and Steve from Chuck's on Pacific for the dinner.

Event Committee: Kids Day: Ed **N6XMA** reported on Kids Day coming on June 16th at the Margaret Troke Library in Stockton and the Galt Library in Galt. All of the paperwork necessary for the city of Stockton had been completed and a couple of extra operators would be welcome.

4th of July: Mark **W6SXA** reported on the 4th of July Parade in downtown Stockton and shared the route map they had been provided at the last planning meeting. A sign-up sheet was passed around to the members.

Field Day: John NZ6Q reported that while the club had an offer of using the Moose Lodge site for 2018 Field Day there was just not enough time to put together a good Field Day there this year. Charlie WB6NVB offered to make his site available to the club again this year. The club voted to move Field Day to Charlie's site and to pay for a porta-potty and drinks and snacks (up to \$75).

Mike **K6MDS** gave a great presentation on a mini HF transceiver he has been using for QRP work.

The meeting concluded at 8:45PM.





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.

July 2	Charlie WB6NVB	August 6	Paul N6KZW
July 9	Eric W6INP	August 13	Bob N6TCE
July 16	Dave N6LHL	August 20	Scott K6SCT
July 23	Ron KG7OR	August 27	John NZ6Q
July 30	Mike K6AAN		
Sept. 3	Charlie WB6NVB		
Sept. 10	Eric W6INP		
Sept. 17	Dave N6LHL		
Sept. 24	Ron KG7OR		

Thanks to Dan N6ZDH for the great pictures each month!





**STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
JULY 12TH , 2018 MEETING
7:30 PM
AGENDA**

- Introductions, John NZ6Q
- Financial Report, Treasurer Paul, KC6RRR
- Standing Committee Reports, Mark W6SXA
 - a. Membership – Annie N6ACL
 - b. Field Day Report
 - c. 4th of July Parade report
- Training
 - a. Speaker TBA
- Adjournment / Raffle

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JUNE 9TH VHF CONTEST N6LHL AND K6YK REPORT!

Once again John K6YK and Dave N6LHL assaulted the VHF - UHF frequencies seeking contacts for the June 9 and 10 VHF contest. Using an unobstructed high point near Carson Pass at 7000 feet, they arrived about an hour early this year.

Casting a wary eye at the 100% cloud cover and strong breeze from the west they began setting up.

First up was the 17 foot pole with a 2 meter Ringo Ranger vertical on top, then in descending order was a 2 meter 4-element beam, a 222mhz 4-element beam, then a 432mhz 7-element beam, and a 3-element 440mhz beam at about 9 feet. Quite a load for a skinny steel pole!

6 Meters was worked with K6YK's ancient folding 5 element beam, which was put on the top of a 15 foot high pole and held down in the now freshening breeze with rope and a stack of rocks at the base.



It took about an hour to set up, so by 11am we were off and running, listing contacts as fast as exchanges could be made and a written log sheet filled in. Three hours later, after subtracting 9 dupes, a total of 112 contacts had been made on all frequencies.

Other operators taking to the mountain tops, also commented on the high winds with amazing gusts and plunging temperatures. And so it was near Carson Pass!

Despite threatening clouds, the team did not get rained on this year. After a few hours, we were getting mostly dupes, so we decided to break camp and head back home for a milkshake in Pine Grove and a 2 hour drive home.



They are looking forward to the September VHF Contest when better weather is guaranteed.

KIDS DAY 2018 #2

JUNE 16TH

MARGARET TROKE PUBLIC LIBRARY – STOCKTON

GALT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth.



Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people 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.

This June 16th, Bob **K6DGQ**, Ron **KG7OR** and others took Kids Day out to the Galt Public Library, while Ed **N6XMA**, Mark **W6SXA**, Gayle **KK6RAO** and John **NZ6Q** took Kids Day to the Stockton Margaret Troke Public Library. Plans to have Kids Day at the Cesar Chavez were shelved until next January because of issues with the city. We set up just outside the front doors of the library with 2 2M/440 radios, FT-990 radio, and antennas for working the parachute mobile operation that same day. Gayle did a great job getting kids to play with Morse Code and get interested in the microphone.

We did get a few kids at the Stockton Library as well as several interested adults. Even one adult stopped by because he was picking up a copy of Gordon West's Technician Study Guide that the Library had ordered for him. The library is already committed to seeing Kids Day again next January at both libraries.



W6SF

2018 FIELD DAY REPORT



"I think everyone had a great time." That was one of the many statements that summarized the club's "come together" effort on Field Day 2018. First, we planned for several weeks on the Beach Club site, only to have the board cancel us last minute. Second we had a great offer from the Moose Lodge to use their site, only to realize that the logistics of working around a pack of RVs might be trouble. Finally, at the June club meeting we voted to move to our trusted DeVries Rd site owned by Charlie WB6NVB. Thank you Charlie.

Club members gathered at 7:00 AM on Saturday morning June 23rd to start setting up radios, logging computers and antennas. We had planned on running 4 stations. First order of business was setting up the 2-element 40 Meter Inverted Vee beam, quickly dubbed "the monster". The antenna fit nicely in the space between the operating position and the roadway. Two portable masts were quickly erected by teams of club members and the 40/80M Inverted Vee "driven element" was put in place and tested, quickly

followed by the 40 Meter "director" giving the antenna an ENE orientation as far as signal direction.

Other antennas included Duztyn's 6 Meter Moxon Beam, Portable Vertical for FT-8, Tri-band Yagi for 20M – 10M and an end-fed "Zepp" longwire for all bands – but especially 80M at night.

Everything went together pretty quickly and logging computers with wifi links to the station log started working just before the 11:00 AM (18:00 Z) start. We were on quickly on 40M and 20M with Fred K6IJ giving us a quick start in the log book on 20M CW. Between Fred K6IJ and John NZ6Q we would keep CW 'Alive and Well' throughout the weekend.

Erin **KM6LDD** got us on FT-8 with her digital station. She did manage several QSOs on 20M and 15M but next year we will have to devote a Full Time – all band effort here.

Duztynn **KM6HDY** along with John **NZ6Q** started making contacts on 6M and 2M as soon as antennas were up for those bands.

Big thanks to Eric **W6INP** and Paul **N6KZW** who showed up to set up Saturday morning even though they had family commitments for the rest of the weekend. Paul left for Italy right after we were in full swing!





Everyone who wanted to get on the radio got on. There were lots of support operators, logging, handling logistics and just relaxing and enjoying Field Day together. Erin KM6LDD got a good taste of a pile-up when she started working 20M SSB.

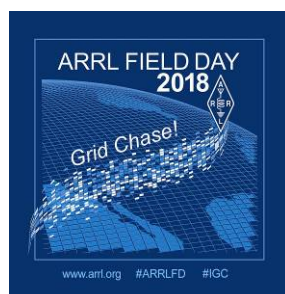
Dave N6LHL took care of making sure there were plenty of snacks and a great porta-potty was delivered Friday morning. Their club stocked several coolers with water, sodas and other beverages throughout the weekend. Thanks to Duztynn KM6HDY who found a new donut shop on his way to help and kept out energy up with two big boxes of amazing donuts! Dave N6DCH's wife went him with a plate full of some delicious cake/brownie/cookie thing she made – you could not eat just one!



Dinner Saturday night was pizza hosted by Charlie WB6NVB and his wife who made the delivery run. It was actually perfectly made by Dante's Pizza. The nice thing about pizza is that it's delicious, it's easy, and you can grab a bite or two and keep on operating into the night.

Dan W6PAT and John NZ6Q worked the "night shift" making QSOs up to midnight when we were just too tired to log any longer.

Sunday morning saw the operating teams of John NZ6Q and Annie N6ACL and Gayle KK6RAO and Cecil KK6QXQ hard at work by 8:00 AM making contacts all the way up to quitting time at 11:00 AM. A break in the weather Sunday morning made antenna take-down and clean up a little better than putting up antennas on Saturday – when the heat was fast approaching the 100-F mark.





Lessons learned?

Now that we are bigger than two transmitters, we should set up a radio and have an operator on every HF band + 6M + 2M. – making ours a 7A club operation.. If we add an FT-8 station, that would take us to 8 A. This should be our goal for 2018

Go wired for our logging computers. We had a simple wifi network connecting the logging computers and it occasionally lost connections with the log book server. A wired network would eliminate this and put one less radio in the mix.

If we are going to be a big club operation, then we need to plan more like a big club. We should have shifts, an operating schedule based upon positions and interests. We should routinely check CW and work as much there as other bands if we can.

If possible, work the entire 24 hours. There was still good activity on 80M and 40M when Dan and I shut down Saturday night.

We will be discussing Field Day at the July club meeting. I'm sure others that were there can give everyone great feedback on what worked and what we could improve upon for next year. Other club members visited Field Days at Lodi, Manteca and Modesto so hopefully we get to hear how other clubs did things differently from which we could get other new ideas.



Field Day 2019 starts at 11:00 AM on Saturday June 22nd. Will you be ready?





AUGUST HAM CRAM STOCKTON FIRE STATION #2 110 W SONORA ST, STOCKTON SATURDAY AUGUST 11TH 2018

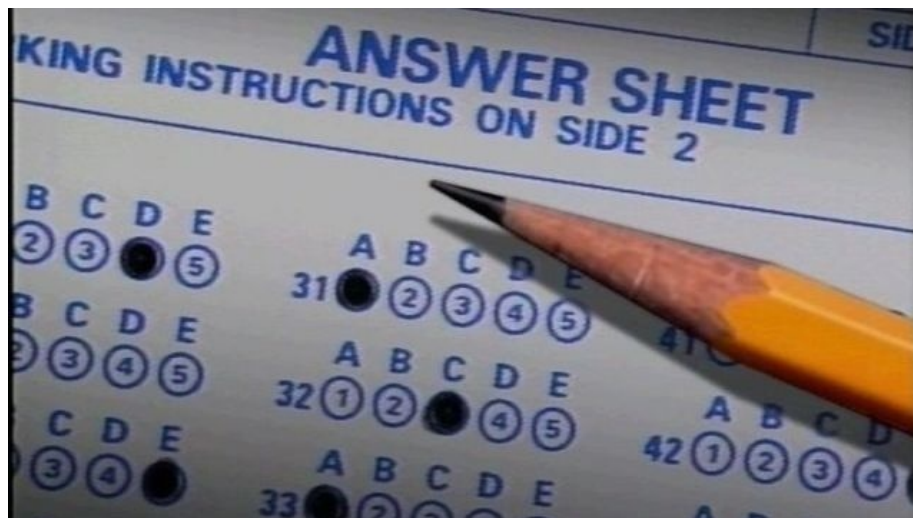
DOORS OPEN 8:00 AM

“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](#).



CONGRATS TO MIKE K6AAN FOR THIS SPECIAL AWARD

5/16/2018

Dear Mr. Dugger,

THANK YOU so much for allowing me to borrow your key. My oral report on Samuel Morse was great. And I got a great grade and I am going on to 5th grade now.

It was fun because I got to tap out the kids names in my class and gave them a copy of morse code. My teacher said that the students learned



more from my report, because, they got to see and hear the key.

Thank You, also, for bringing it to us so quickly, in time for my presentation.

Johnathon Golding

Thank You
So much.
Eva Golding
N6EVA





A HAM'S CALENDAR

July 1 - 7, 2018 – 13 Colonies Special Event Week - (July 1, 2017-1300 UTC to July 7, 2017-0400 UTC) See the 13 colonies event website at <http://www.13colonies.net> for more details

July 14-15, 2018 – IARU HF World Championships – **See Rules at:** <http://www.arrrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

July 12, 2018 – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting – 19:30 hours - The Amblers Club, 3000 Amblers La, Stockton – Program TBD – Meet n Greet no host starting at 7:15PM

July 21 - 22, 2018 – North American QSO Party – RTTY, 1800Z to 0559Z – **See Rules at:** <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

Aug 4 - 5, 2018 – North American QSO Party - CW, 1800Z to 0559Z – **See Rules at:** <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

August 9, 2018 – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting – The Ambler Club, 3000 Amblers La, off Country Club Blvd west of Interstate 5 - Meeting Starts at 7:30 PM – Program TBD – A prize raffle will follow the regular meeting.

August 11, 2018 – Stockton Ham Cram – 0800 – Ham Cram will be held at Fire Station #2, 110 W Sonora St, Stockton at the Division of Training Classroom. Register for new tests or upgrades here: <http://www.w6sf.org/hamcram.html>

August 18TH – 19TH, 2018 – North American QSO Party SSB – Easy and fun contest for the first timer – exchange is just name and state <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

August 25TH – 26TH – Hawaii, Kansas and Ohio QSO Parties – Easy and fun contests and great for working counties in different states for awards.

September 13th, 2018 – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting – STARTING AT 6:30 PM with Pot Luck Dinner and BBQ – Location TBD Program Radio Direction Finding and Transmitter Hunt by Mike **K6MDS**. Club raffle after the meeting.

September 8th – 16th, 2018 – Route 66 On The Air – A weeklong event highlighting “The mother road” and Amateur Radio. More Info: <http://w6jbt.org/>

October 6th – 7th, 2018 – California QSO Party – The greatest state QSO party of the year. More Info: <http://www.cqp.org>

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 Amblers Club, 2000 Amblers Lane, Stockton, CA – off Country Club Blvd 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, July 12th, 2018 starting at 7:30PM.** Members and guests are welcome. There is a no host meet-n-greet starting at 7:15 in the Amblers Club.

WEEKLY NETS: Held each Monday evening at 1900hrs is the **W6SF Digital/Tech Net** hosted by Paul **N6KZW**. 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>

2017 CLUB OFFICERS & LEADERSHIP:

President:	NZ6Q , John Litz	john@litz.com
Vice President:	W6SXA , Mark Cloud	w6sxa@arri.net
Treasurer:	KC6RRR , Paul Croci	kc6rrr@yahoo.com
Secretary:	W6INP , Eric Chapa	perrla1@aol.com
Member At Large:	N6TCE , Bob Officer	n6tce@arri.net
Call Sign Trustee:	WB6NVB , Charlie Johnson	wb6nvb@arri.net
Repeater Trustee:	K6SCA , Steve Allred	k6sca@arri.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@arri.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!