

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

WWW.W6SF.ORG

June 2020

Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club

JUNE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH Meeting starts at 7:00 PM



FIELD DAY PREP

**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 June meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday, June 11th 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 be discussing our preparations for Field Day, and how individual members can contribute from home or as a group. Field Day 2020 will be unique in a lot of ways.



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



Topic: W6SF SDARC MEETING FOR JUNE 2020 – FIELD DAY PREPARATION
Time: June 11, 2020 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82147337924>

Meeting ID: 821 4733 7924

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82147337924# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,82147337924# US (Tacoma)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

- Bob, N6TCE



Here we are another month into the year 2020.

We are nearly halfway through the year. This year will be remembered as the year we survive the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic. I can remember my grandmother telling me how bad the 1918 Flu pandemic was in St Louis. It was nearly a nonevent, compared to Philadelphia and the rest of the country.

It is a story about the cities and the different outcomes from their decisions and actions. It is a tale to make one cautious. NatGeo has an interesting take and is worth reading. It is said those that fail history are doomed to repeat it.

I hope everyone is safe and healthy. Stay safe, Stay careful. It isn't over.

Let us take a brief pause as we are nearly halfway through my term as President. I had a plan for the club. Many of my plans have been shunted to the side for the time being. This could not have been foreseen. In my mind my utmost goal has been everyone's safety.

I find one of the happier aspects of the social distancing and the Shelter in Place order is the use of Video Conferencing to hold meetings. This is new technology for most of us. We are learning and using this latest technology. I have been exploring some of what we can do. Private Chats/Rooms can be set up for a degree of privacy. We will try it at our next meeting. We should have a new presentation.

Field Day 2020 planning will take place at an upcoming board meeting. We have a one-time rule change.

The logging software has already incorporated the rule change. Make sure you update to the latest version. It is hard to guess what the state of Shelter in Place orders are going to be when we get to the end of the month. Like most hams, we are planning for both the best and the worst?

As many of you have heard we are doing Examinations for Amateur Licenses. We have been successful in placing strict social distancing guidelines to protect everyone. Testing is by appointment only and assigned time slots are made to keep people safe. We are doing two of these sessions between now and Field Day.

A word of warning: All the General Class license holders which have been studying to get their Extra Class tickets, we are swiftly approaching the end of the question pool cycle. The old Extra Question Pool expires June 30, 2020. I looked at the newer pool of questions. Yes, it is harder, because it contains more questions on Digital Modes. At the same time, it is a smaller pool of questions. If you looked at the pool's syllabus, you would see more math, antenna and technology based questions on each examination.

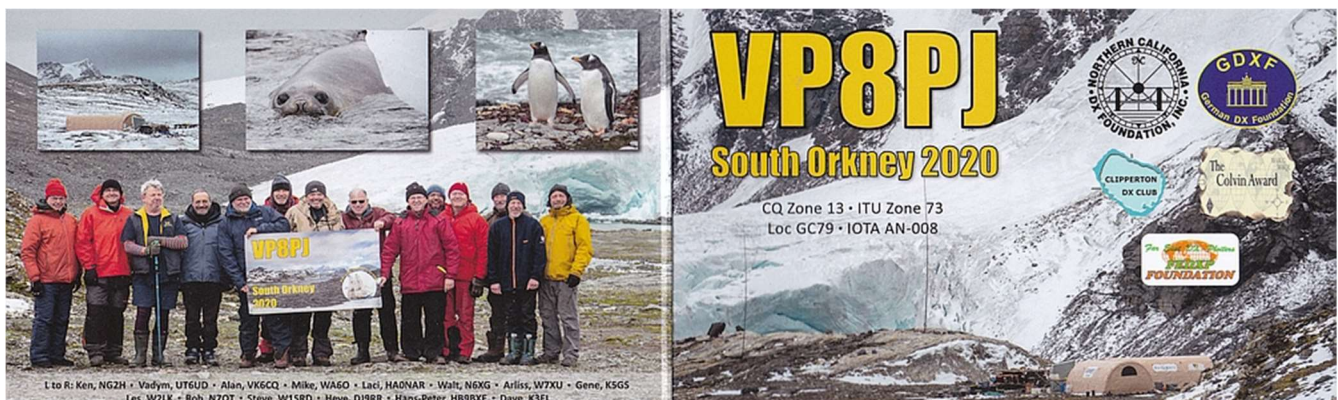
When Museums ships weekend was canceled, my VE Team helped organized a test session for June 6th, 2020. That test session filled in a matter of days. We have a second session organized for June 20th, and it is filling quickly. I am trying to organize 3rd testing session before the end of June. That test session, if there is demand and we can get the venue, will be reserved for only upgrades from General to Extra. It too will be by appointment only. Remember, we have limited seating under current social distancing guidelines.

Summer 6-meter openings have started. Several times I have seen 10 and 12 meter openings as well. All Techs have 6 and 10 Meter privileges. A 10 meter or 6 meter antenna is easy to build and doesn't need to be very high to be effective. 100 Watts and wire actually works. Come on and join the fun. Pick up a used radio like I did. My 1st Radio was a circa 1985 ICOM 735. I still have it, but it needed some rehab work. New capacitors in the VFO to clean up a slight drift and clean up of contacts on a sliding potentiometer could restore this radio to good condition. It covers 160-6 Meters. (these repairs are all covered in DIY You-Tube Videos). Ask around several members have good used radios for sale.

VP8PJ, the South Orkney Dxpedition QSL cards are out and they look sharp.

73,

Bob N6TCE
President SDARC



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.

June 1	Dave N6LHL
June 8	Mike K6AAN
June 15	Paul N6KZW
June 22	Bob N6TCE
June 29	Charlie WB6NVB

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MULTI-COUNTY 40-METER NVIS NET SATURDAY JUNE 6TH AT 10:30 HOURS

SDARC club members and other operators from San Joaquin county are invited to participate in the San Joaquin Valley Section 40-Meter NVIS Net on Saturday, June 6th starting at 11:00 AM. Lucian, KF6NPG Assistant SJV Section Emergency Coordinator writes:

Basically, we would take check in's from from a NCS and Relay station in the north and then turn it over to a NCS and relay station in the South. I will do our NCS from the Stanislaus County EOC and Derrill W7LTM will be the relay station from his home in Mariposa County.

The purpose would be to see how many stations can check in.

We would ask for call, name, location, antenna and power information.

I would ask that the NCS and relay stations send me their check in logs and I would make sure the information is shared with everyone. An ARES connect event to track ARES member participation will be created for this event.

This net will involve the entire SJV, from San Joaquin County to Kern County. There will be 4 NCS stations (Stanislaus County, Mariposa County, Tulare County and Mono County). Please try to check in with as many of the NCS as you can. Not every NCS will hear every calling station (hopefully you will be heard by at least one NCS). HF can be fickle, and we will have to see how the propagation is on the day of the net.

The purpose of the exercise is to see how many stations can be heard throughout the SJV and to test our HF abilities and NVIS antennas.

Also, if anyone wishes to practice their Winlink skills, I ask that you fill out an ICS214 in the Winlink forms section and send it to me via Winlink. In the "To" box in Winlink just use my call sign kf6npg.

If you have not already completed your registration for the SJV 40 meter net in ARES connect I encourage you to do so. This will help us to track our member participation.



W6SF MAY MEETING REPORT THURSDAY MAY 14TH 19:00 HOURS

The May 2020 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 Zoom Conferencing. VP

Mark W6SXA gave a brief report on the July 4th parade, stating that the United Veteran's Council had been meeting and it appeared the parade was in jeopardy of being cancelled but no final decision had been made. SJV Section Manager John NZ6Q gave a brief update on Field Day and stated that there was lots of discussion about Field Day changes, but no changes had been announced or approved at the ARRL.

Fred K6FVC then delivered a great training session on how to get started in Amateur Satellites. He showed the group how he got interested and started and how his station had evolved from just a couple of HTs and an antenna to a dedicated base radio antenna system with computer aided tracking of "the birds". There were lots of questions and great information exchanged. Fred delivered a fantastic training.

The meeting was adjourned at 2040 hours. There were 36 members and guests in attendance. The next scheduled meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club is Thursday, June 11th with Field Day Planning Session 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



Six Meters Recently Running Hot

reprinted from the June 4 ARRL Letter...

In recent days, 6 meters has been living up to its nickname -- "the magic band." On May 30 at around 1200 UTC, Rich Zwirko, K1HTV, in Virginia, worked Nicolas Sinieokoff, TT8SN, in Chad, who answered his CQ on FT8. After the quick exchange, K1HTV alerted several local 6-meter DXers, who were also able to snag the rare contact. TT8SN was able to work into the US mid-Atlantic and Arkansas as well as West Virginia on FT8 before switching to CW at about 1300 UTC and then alternating between the two modes over the next hour. Yves Collet, 6W1TA, in Senegal also showed up on the band, and K1HTV and other stations were able to put him in the log as well.



"So the 6-meter E-skip season has begun," Zwirko remarked. "Who knows what kind of magic the band will serve up?"

What's being called a historic opening on 6 meters occurred on May 31, when David Schaller, W7FN, in the Pacific Northwest saw the band open at about 1430 UTC and stay open for a couple of hours.

W7FN worked 12 DXCC entities on FT8 (on 50.323 MHz); other stations had similar success. Schaller said longtime 6-meter DXers from his area reported never having experienced a 6-meter opening to

Europe like the one on May 30.

On May 28, Bill Steffey, NY9H, just south of Pittsburgh in western Pennsylvania, reported working three European stations on FT8 at around 2200 UTC. "Six [meters] has been great this week," Steve Fetter, WA8UEG, in eastern Pennsylvania, observed after working stations in the Caribbean and in Europe.

From Greenland, Bo Christensen, OX3LX, has been showing up on 6 meters on FT8 between 2230 and 0000 UTC. He's been reported working into the mid-Atlantic stations with a good signal. Mark Murray, W2OR, in Florida, took advantage of an opening to Japan on the evening of May 22. Two Florida stations each worked 20 or more Japanese stations, and one was said to have had 40 stations in Japan. W2OR said it was "an incredible number for an opening that did not last." On the previous evening, a similar opening occurred from Wisconsin and other parts of the upper midwest.

Jim Reisert, AD1C, reported that stations in Wisconsin and Minnesota were able to work Hawaii on 6 meters starting around 2300 UTC on May 24, using FT8. John Sweeney, K9EL, in Illinois, worked three Hawaiian stations from 2240 - 2250 UTC. He called it "the best 6-meter opening to Hawaii from W9 that I have seen."

Kev Hewitt, ZB2GI, in Gibraltar, made his first 6-meter contact of the season, working K1TOL, in Maine. ZB2GI said the band sounded dead, except for K1TOL's signal. Read [more](#). -- *Compiled from reports in [The Daily DX](#)*

HamExam in Isolation May 16th Test Session Results

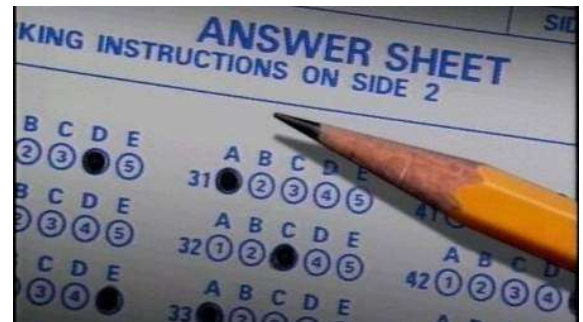
Responding to the increasing demand from people wanting to get their Technician Class License or upgrade, we added a Test Only session at the Stockton Sailing Club.



May 16th was supposed to be the day for Ham-U but the city has continued to keep the Fire Stations off limits to the public. Thanks again to the Stockton Sailing Club for hosting this opportunity and others coming up over the summer months for people to get their Amateur Radio License.

In all, 7 new technicians passed their test. There were 3 General upgrades and 1 Extra Class upgrade. When you here these hams on the air, be sure to congratulated them and – if they are new, welcome them to the hobby and the club!

WB6TOU	David E Voit	Extra Class
KN6HTD	Jose Melendres	General
KN6IOS	Jeffrey A Molloy	General
KN6HNS	Gregory J Larsen	General
KN6IWE	Edward N Litfin	Tech
KN6IWF	Gudrun Kemalyan	Tech
KN6IWG	Carla Concepcion	Tech
KN6IWH	Carlo S Fernandez	Tech
KN6IWI	David R Angeles	Tech
KN6IWJ	John E Lagier	Tech
KN6IWK	Justin J Joyner	Tech



Remember to welcome our new hams when you hear them on the air. If you are fortunate enough to be their first contact, please take a moment to acknowledge it by completing the “First Contact Award” information on the ARRL website at:

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

Next HamExam sessions are June 6th and June 20th.



FIELD DAY SWAG FOR 2020

While it's 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.



FIELD DAY 2020 PLANNING SESSION NOTES:

Discussion about set-up day and lay out of operations for the day

If you're doing FD from home how you can contribute

Logging programs

Logistics for using the FD Site on DeVries Rd



REPEATER USAGE DO'S & DON'T'S

W6SF 147.165MHz / 442.250 MHz

1. During times of peak use, please keep transmissions short on all repeaters and pause long enough between them to allow emergency traffic to break in.
2. Please be courteous in your use of the repeaters. Keep conversations to a length that will allow others to enjoy the machines too. Do not break into a QSO unless you are certain you will be welcomed and you have something to add to the conversation.
3. Please use common sense and good taste during QSOs. Do not use profanity or make suggestive or off-color remarks or jokes. Likewise, conversations of a very trivial, personal, critical, or negative nature are inappropriate. Remember that many individuals—including non-hams—may be listening, so please do your part to leave a good impression of the Amateur Radio Service and SDARC with our audience.
4. Please keep testing on repeater frequencies to a minimum. DO NOT “kerchunk” the repeater to see if it is on the air. If you do, you must identify your station. It is not OK to transmit without identifying.
5. If you hear a new callsign on the repeater it might be a new ham. Meet them on the air like you would a new person at a club meeting. Listen and offer assistance and answer questions. Invite them to the Monday night and Thursday night nets.
6. Visitors are welcome on the W6SF repeaters. Please assist any visiting amateur who requests help.
7. The repeaters have timeout circuits that automatically shut the transmitters down in the event there is a steady carrier on the input frequency for longer than 2 minutes. To reset this timer, wait to hear the “courtesy tone” (a beep) before replying to the other person’s traffic. You don’t have to let the repeater transmitter drop off completely.
8. Please identify clearly at the beginning and end of each conversation, as well as every 10 minutes during the conversation if it exceeds 10 minutes in length. If breaks between exchanges exceed a minute in length, please treat the next transmission as the beginning of a new conversation (ie, identify). These guidelines differ somewhat from FCC identification requirements but work well for our large number of users.



Please read the following Repeater Tips from the ARRL. They offer other suggestions for proper and courteous repeater operation.

DOs

- Do keep all transmissions short. Emergencies don't wait for monologues to be finished. If you want to hear your own voice, what you want is a tape recorder, not an FM rig.
- Do think before you transmit. If you can't think of anything worth saying, don't say anything.
- Do be courteous. A repeater is like a telephone party line and requires the same kind of cooperation in its use.
- Do pause a couple of seconds between exchanges. Someone with a high priority need for the repeater may want to break in.
- Do use simplex whenever possible. Leave the repeaters available for those who need them.
- Do support your local repeater club. Maintaining a good machine is an expensive and time-consuming undertaking, and you should do your share



DON'Ts

- Don't monopolize a repeater. The best repeater users are the ones who do a lot of listening, and little transmitting.
- Don't forget that what you say over a repeater can be heard over thousands of square miles — by anyone with an inexpensive scanner or public service band monitor. These people are potential hams; if they like what they hear on the air, they will want to get licenses and join us. Don't leave them with a bad impression of our hobby by making thoughtless or off-color remarks.
- Don't break into a contact unless you have something to add and you're sure you'll be welcomed. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person.
- Don't try to prove what a great operator you are by criticizing the operating techniques of others on the air. Instead, set an example that others will be proud to follow.
- Don't forget that amateur radio is allocated frequencies because it is a service, not just a hobby. Don't neglect the public service aspects of VHF/UHF FM communication, such as accident reporting, emergency preparedness, etc.

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 – Hot Air Balloon Project
August 13.....	Meeting - T-Hunt/BBQ Potluck – Location TBA
September 10.....	Meeting – Solar Power – Fred K6FVC
September 26	Club Breakfast Meeting – 9:30 – Location TBA
October 8.....	Meeting - Nominations for Officers 2021 – Program TBD
November 12	Meeting – Elections – Program TBD
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 – CANCELLED
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

AMATEUR RADIO

A HAM'S CALENDAR

June 6th, 2020 – 40 Meter NVIS SJV Section on the air Test - All members are encouraged to participate in this section-wide 40-Meter Net. If you do not have an HF radio, seek out a club member and ask to join them.

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 20th, 2020 – Ham Exam Test Session – 9:00 AM Stockton Sailing Club – NO WALK-INS must pre-register

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.

July 9th, 2020 – SDARC July Meeting - 1900 hours, Stockton Sailing Club, 4980 Buckley Cove, off W March Lane – Program TBD - Watch for details if this meeting is shifted to virtual... All members are encouraged to attend, and we should be back in our meeting space by then.

July 11th – 12th, 2020 – IARU International HF World Championship - 1200Z on Saturday thru 1159Z on Sunday (24 hours) Join Amateurs around the world on HF SSB and CW working each other and IARU Headquarters stations.

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

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
Maryland-DC	08/08/2020	08/09/2020	Anne Arundel 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.
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, June 11th at 1900 hours. 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!