

# Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

[WWW.W6SF.ORG](http://WWW.W6SF.ORG)

FEBRUARY 2015

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Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club

***OUR 84<sup>TH</sup> YEAR!***

***"I have been fascinated with that unpaid group of volunteers with those ham radios... a wireless system that seldom if ever can be totally disrupted by a disaster...ham radio operators are the heart, soul and the life blood of that system."***

***\_ Hon. Willie Brown, Mayor of San Francisco***



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** **W6COB, Chuck**

Well, the ice has been broken, so to speak, with the first meeting of the New Year in the books.

There was lots of good discussion from several members, both old and new, on growing the clubs participation in community events as well as mentoring new hams.

This is the direction I was hoping to steer the club toward. Thank you all for sharing your ideas.

The future is looking good for this club!

I'll catch you all on the air!

73,

Chuck, W6COB

# FEBRUARY MEETING NOTICE

## STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> , 2015

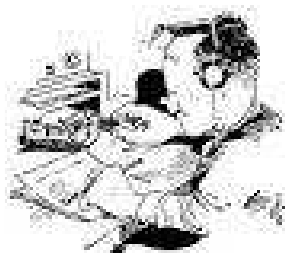
**QST QST QST** All members and their guests are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The meeting will be held at Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton beginning at 19:30PST.

This meeting we will be planning for the February 28<sup>th</sup> [Pedaling Paths to Independence Bike Ride](#) benefitting the Community Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired. Last year this event raised more than \$40,000 for the Blind Center and this year promises to be bigger.

John, NZ6Q will give a demonstration on APRS, how to get active on about \$100 invested and how APRS and Google Voice is changing the way we support events like this and others. You want to see this.

Club membership dues for 2015 are now payable. Treasurer Dave N6LHL will be on hand to accept cash, check or money order. Click [HERE](#) if you would like to pay your dues on-line through the club website.

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



## MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL OPERATOR'S SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2015

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. This is a great opportunity to improve your operating skill in a “minimal” pressure environment. Contact Dave **N6LHL** and sign up now for February, March or April. The Net Control Script is 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.

December 29 <sup>th</sup>	Eric, <b>W6INP</b>	February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Charlie, <b>WB6NVB</b>
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Dave, <b>N6LHL</b>	February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Eric, <b>W6INP</b>
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	John, <b>NZ6Q</b>	February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Dave, <b>N6LHL</b>
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Guy, <b>W6MSU</b>	February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	John, <b>NZ6Q</b>
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Paul, <b>N6KZW</b>	March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Guy, <b>W6MSU</b>

# STOCKTON-DELTA ARC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> 2015

Chuck **W6COB** gavelled the meeting to order at 7:35PM. He welcomed those members in attendance and spoke for a few minutes on his plans for the upcoming year and how the Board envisions continued growth and success of the club.

Joni Bauer from the Community Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired was in attendance. She thanked the club for their support of the Pedaling Paths for Independence Bike Ride for the last several years and asked the club to support this year's ride on February 28<sup>th</sup> 2015. Several members related their good experiences with the event and started they looked forward to doing it again this year. A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to officially recognize this as a "club sponsored event". The motion carried unanimously.

There was some discussion on the "Legal re-organization" of the club and if the full non-profit status of the club. Unfortunately, Peter **KD6CPA** was not in attendance so a definite answer could not be given. Hopefully Peter will be at the February meeting to provide an update.

Dave **N6LHL** gave the treasurers report. A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to pay invoices to pay for the management of the club website to Network Solutions for 2015. After some discussion, the motion carried unanimously. Shirl **AA6K** submitted receipts for the Christmas Party Raffle Prizes for reimbursement. Dave **N6LHL** reported that John **NZ6Q** had already been reimbursed. No motion was needed as these items had been approved in the November 2014 meeting.

The subject of dues for 2015 was presented by Dave **N6LHL**. Dave reported that last year's expenses (2014) and income were relatively even and he anticipated the same this year. A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to set the 2015 Dues as follows:

<b>Single Membership</b> .....	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Family Membership</b> .....	<b>\$30.00</b>

The membership discussed the upcoming year and calendar of events to be published on the Club Website. Some ideas included continued support for the Delta Century Bike Ride, Turkey "Trot", Museum Ships Weekend, Field Day and CQP. The idea of hosting "Ham Radio in the Park" by setting up a portable HF station with a buddi-pole antenna from Eric **W6INP** and table and chairs from Ed **N6XMA** was discussed. Dates and locations to be determined.

John **NZ6Q** spoke on Hamcram License Classes that will continue to be offered this year at Dameron Hospital. He encouraged members with a General License or Higher to become ARRL Volunteer Examiners and explained how to get your VE Certification. ([Link to the ARRL VE page HERE](#)). He also discussed a project to "Elmer" newly licensed hams and invite them onto the repeater and into the club by helping them "break into" the hobby with a mentoring class after their hamcram.

Dan **KI6FTT** reminded members that the club test sessions are also available on a regular basis at Fire Station 14 in Stockton.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM



## **Pedaling Paths to Independence Bike Ride** **Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> 0700 – 1500** **Volunteers Needed**

... Dave N6LHL

As it has done for several years now, on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, the Community Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be sponsoring its annual Pedaling Paths to Independence Century Bicycle Ride. 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 \$40,000 for the Community Center. This year the turn-out is expected to be larger.

For the last 6 years, the Stockton-Delta ARC has provided radio communications between rest stops, the start/finish line and sag wagons. This year we will need operators at Rest Stops in Linden, Farmington, and Milton. We anticipate supporting as many as 5 SAG (Service and Gear) wagons with communications and vehicle location utilizing APRS. Last year we had a lot of volunteers, and we will need more this year.

This year we are working with the Stockton Bicycle Club incorporating a central "dispatch" phone number each rider will be given to call directly to the Net Control Station in the event of an emergency or break down. In the past we have successfully experimented with putting a small APRS transmitter in the sag wagons, allowing net control to track the locations of sags. This year we hope to enhance that system with this "direct to dispatch" phone number.

Participants can look forward to DeVinci's providing us with a delicious pasta and salad lunch at their Linden restaurant.

Now is the time to volunteer. Contact John **NZ6Q** by email [john@litz.com](mailto:john@litz.com). and reserve your spot today.

We are looking to fill the following positions:

Net Control Operators: 3

SAG Wagon Operators: 5 (please let us know if you have a portable APRS radio or unit)

Rest Stop Operators: 6

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 operating away from the comfort of our home stations.

# DUES AND ATTENDANCE

## \$ 2015 DUES PAYABLE! \$

Gue\$\$ What? It's that time of year again! Time to dig deep into the ol' purse or pocket and get your due\$ out to keep the Radio Club humming again for another year.

By popular acclaim, this year's due\$ will **not** be raised! This mean\$ we voted to keep them at \$20 for an individual, and \$30 for a family. So, the best thing to do is to \$how up at the February 12 membership meeting with a nice crisp \$20 bill in hand, or your check payable to the "Stockton-Delta ARC" will gladly be accepted. In the event of an earthquake or tornado that keeps you from attending the meeting, you may \$end your check to:

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

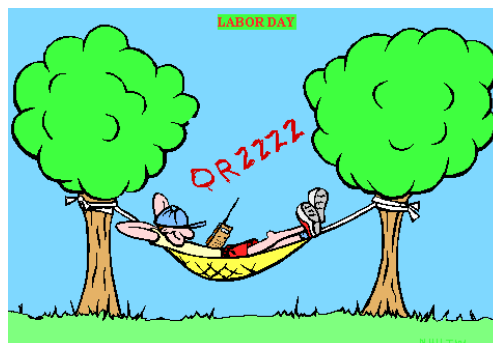
If you have a PayPal account, you can go to the club website ([w6sf.org](http://w6sf.org)), click on the PayPal icon, fill out their information and send your dues to the club. Click here to go to the website.



OK, you may ask, why pay dues?? Because we have bills to pay!! We have a repeater site to maintain, we have a PO box to pay for, we have a repeater that needs electricity and repair parts, insurance, and a few odds and ends to buy. Also, while not required, paying your dues shows your dedication to the club's mission and helps the club provide opportunities for new hams, new technologies and new frontiers to be explored. I am pleased to note that more than half of last year's members paid their dues by January 15th.

Your attention to the club needs are appreciated.

....de Dave **N6LHL**, Treasurer





## **2015 CLUB EVENT CALENDAR**

Two of the great opportunities we have as amateur radio operators are the privilege of using a great deal of radio spectrum for the betterment of our hobby and the privilege to give back to the community. Here is a list of the events we have on our calendar for the coming year. You might want to print this page and give it to your YL or OM so they know where you will be on these dates.

**Saturday, Feb. 28 Linden Bike Ride - Community Center for the Blind**

**April TBD Weed whacking at the repeater site in Fiddletown**

**April TBD Ham Radio in the Park / Transmitter Hunt & BBQ**

**Saturday, May 2 March for Babies, Stockton**

**Sunday, May 3 Delta Century Bike Ride, Lodi**

**Sunday, May 17 Avenue of the Vines Half Marathon, Lodi**

**Saturday & Sunday, June 6 & 7 Museum Ships Weekend, USS Lucid**

**Saturday & Sunday, June 27 & 28 Field Day**

**July TBD Ham Radio in the Park #2**

**September TBD Bike Fest at University of the Pacific**

**September TBD Ham Radio in the Park #3**

**Saturday & Sunday, October 3 & 4 California QSO Party**

**Saturday & Sunday, November 21 & 22, November Sweepstakes - Phone**

**Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving Run Against Hunger, Stockton**

**Thursday, December 10 Club Christmas Dinner**



## Tracy HamCram Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> New Hams

Tracy Hospital was the site of January's HamCram. Participants came as far away as Fresno, but at least four of the newly licensed were from the San Joaquin County area and four were from Modesto.

Fifteen attendees passed the Technician license exam and are awaiting their new call signs. There were five successful upgrades to General as well for a 100% pass ratio.

Our next HamCram is tentatively scheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup> in Stockton at Dameron Hospital. We are waiting for final confirmation from the hospital on as classroom space.

At the January Meeting, John **NZ6Q** talked about the importance of becoming a VE (General Class or Higher Licensees) and helping out with VE Testing and HamCrams. We need more members becoming Elmers to new hams. It is the fastest way to get new hams on the air, keep them on the air and get them involved in the club.

On the same day as the February HamCram, February 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be having an Elmering Course in the next conference room. Our goal is to invite new hams (from the last three or 6 months of HamCrams) and give them a short lesson on their radio, how to buy their first radio, repeater etiquette, HF radio, etc. I hope to get a few volunteers at the next club meeting to help out.



## FCC "Paperless" Amateur Radio License Policy Goes into Effect on February 17

Starting on February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)), although the FCC has routinely continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. That process will stop.

In mid-December, the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had [proposed](#) in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives. Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees will also be able to print out an official authorization -- as well as an unofficial "reference copy" -- from the ULS License Manager.

"We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said. According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including the cost of staff resources.

In [comments](#) filed November 5, the ARRL had strongly recommended that the FCC "give serious consideration to continuing a default provision for sending an initial paper license document to new licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, along with detailed, simple instructions for how to make the elections set forth in the notice relative to future modified or renewed licenses."

Under the new procedures, a new license applicant who already has an FRN and provides a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official ULS-generated electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants lacking an FCC Registration Number will receive in the mail an FRN and a temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES), but will no longer automatically receive a license document; they must request one by changing their "Paper Authorization Preference" in the ULS License Manager.

The FCC rejected as "outside the scope of this proceeding" an ARRL argument that Section 97.23 of the Amateur Service rules be amended to replace "licensee mailing address" with other alternatives, including e-mail, for use in Commission correspondence. The rule, which requires that any licensee mailing address be in an area where the licensee has US Postal Service access, has precluded FCC issuance of location-specific call signs in such areas as Navassa Island (KP1) and some Pacific islands.







## School Club Round-up February 9<sup>th</sup> – February 13<sup>th</sup>

Now it's your turn to be an on-the-air or in-the-shack Elmer!

The School Club Roundup is a great opportunity to help students and other new hams successfully make contacts. Starting on February 9th, they'll probably be on mostly after school but listen for the teams any time!

**Objective:** To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate. Sponsored by the ARRL, its Hudson Division Education Task Force and the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs.

Award certificates will be issued for US and DX stations, club and non-club. One of the best parts of School Club Roundup is showing off your team members and station. Other participants will enjoy hearing about how you did and reading the story of your contest. You can upload photos and text via the [ARRL Soapbox](#) web page.

## Remember your Sweetheart on Valentine's Day



## A HAM'S CALENDAR

**Feb 1, 0000Z to Feb 1, 0359Z.- SSB Sprint--Phone**, from Bands (MHz): 3.5-14. Exchange: Both call signs, serial, name, and S/P/C. Logs due: 7 days. [Rules](#)

**Feb 8, 0000Z to Feb 8, 0359Z - North American Sprint--CW**, from Bands (MHz): 3.5-14. Exchange: Both call signs, serial, name, and S/P/C. Logs due: 7 days. [Rules](#)

**February 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – ARRL School Club Round-up** - To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate. [Rules](#)

**February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting** – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton. Meeting Starts at 7:30PM - Discussion on the Feb 28<sup>th</sup> Bike Ride and APRS Demonstration

**February 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 – ARRL DX Contest CW** - To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

**February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – HAMCRAM – Dameron Hospital 0800 – 1600** – Get on the air with Amateur Radio with just one-day of study. Elmering session from 12:00 to 14:00 in the adjacent classroom. <http://www.hamcram.org>

**February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – Ham Radio Exam, Fire Station #14, Stockton - 1000** – no walk-ins. You must pre-register at [http://www.arrl.org/exam\\_sessions/stockton-ca-95209-4158-86](http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/stockton-ca-95209-4158-86)

**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – 0630 – 1500 Pedaling Paths to Independence Bike Ride** – Start / Finish is at Devinci's Deli on Front St in Linden. Please see the call for volunteers in this issue of the Flysheet.

**March 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – ARRL DX Contest Phone** - To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations. <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting** – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton. Meeting Starts at 7:30PM

.....  
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](mailto:john@litz.com)



## 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, February 12<sup>th</sup>**.

**WEEKLY NETS:** Held each Monday evening at 2000hrs 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 28.457**. 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>

### 2015 CLUB OFFICERS & LEADERSHIP:

President:	<b>W6COB</b> , Chuck O'Banion	<a href="mailto:ncrmc@pacbell.net">ncrmc@pacbell.net</a>
Vice President:	<b>WB6NVB</b> , Charlie Johnson	<a href="mailto:wb6nvb@arrl.net">wb6nvb@arrl.net</a>
Treasurer:	<b>N6LHL</b> , David Hardwick	<a href="mailto:n6lhl@softcom.net">n6lhl@softcom.net</a>
Secretary:	<b>W6INP</b> , Eric Chapa	<a href="mailto:perrla1@aol.com">perrla1@aol.com</a>
Member At Large:	<b>N6KZW</b> , Paul Engleman	<a href="mailto:n6kzw@sbcglobal.net">n6kzw@sbcglobal.net</a>
Call Sign 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>
Membership Chairman	<b>open</b>	
Newsletter Editor	<b>NZ6Q</b> , John Litz	<a href="mailto:john@litz.com">john@litz.com</a>

#### 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!**