

# Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

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

MARCH 2016

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**Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – KI6FTT**

It is with a sadness that I must resign as club president of the Stockton Delta Amateur Radio Club. I have met with some personal issues that have required me to relocate to Modesto. With the relocation and personal issues involved, I have to manage my personal affairs first and I feel I cannot be effective as the club president any longer.

I am sure the Club will be able to find a suitable replacement. Please accept my apologies for stepping down just as we were getting the year started. I want to thank the Club for their support in electing me as their President and ask for your understanding as I step aside and allow new leadership to step in.



Best Regards,

Daniel Nelson  
KI6FTT



## **FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING REPORT STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice President Guy **W6MSU**. Joanie from the Community Center for the Blind was present and the upcoming PPIB ride was discussed for Saturday February 20<sup>th</sup>. The ride is being held a week earlier this year so as not to conflict with a Bike Show in Sacramento on the 27<sup>th</sup>. John **NZ6Q** will be coordinating volunteers and a sign-up sheet was distributed throughout the meeting.

Dave **N6LHL** gave the Treasurers report. Our current balance in the bank is \$5,749.00 with \$526 in the repeater fund. Dave also reminded club members that dues are now due and payable for 2016. Club members can pay their dues through the club website as well as by cash or by check. 2016 dues are \$20.00 Single and \$30.00 Family.

The April 9<sup>th</sup> Swap Meet was discussed. Paul **N6KZW** and John **NZ6Q** reported on the layout of the parking area at the Comcast Building on Tam O Shanter Dr in North Stockton. The Swap Meet would start at 7:00 AM through about noon. The Ham Cram will also be held and start at 8:00 AM. Walk-in testing for new licenses and upgrades would be available throughout the Swap Meet with final testing at 3:00 PM with the HamCram class.

Discussion on the bike ride and the swap meet precluded the allowable time for a presentation on APRS which will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. There was no raffle tonight.

## **MARCH MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup> 2016 7:30 PM**

**QST QST QST ALL Members and Guests** are encouraged to attend the March meeting on Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The meeting will be held at the Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd just north of Eight Mile Rd in North Stockton beginning at 7:30 PM.

Dan **KI6FTT** has had to step down as President. A new President for 2016 and his or her appointment or election will be on the agenda.

We will be finalizing plans for the April 9<sup>th</sup> Swap Meet at the Comcast Building in Stockton. A raffle is usually held at the end of the meeting (time permitting) with several interesting items to win.

Members needing transportation assistance to or from the meeting should contact Paul **N6KZW** or John **NZ6Q** or a club officer. We will arrange assistance for you.



## STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

It's that time of the year when all members of the club look forward to getting your tax refund and now is a great time to donate a little bit of that windfall to your radio club. Again, as in the past, the club has bills to pay – site and shack rental up near Fiddletown, insurance, PO Box, Website costs (when's the last time you checked into [www.w6sf.com](http://www.w6sf.com) ), NARCC dues and church donation – to name some of the larger ones.

At our January 14 membership meeting, 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.

Please get your 2016 dues into the club treasurer as soon as possible. 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:

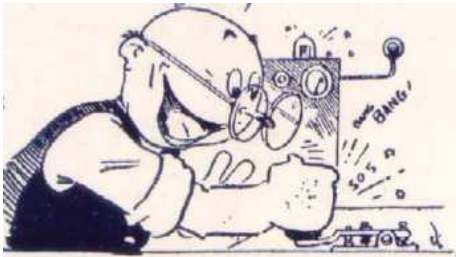
Stockton-Delta A.R.C.  
P.O. Box 690271  
Stockton, CA 95269-0271



## MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL OPERATOR'S SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

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.

*We need more Net Control Operators! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dave N6LHL. This is a great opportunity to improve your operating skill in a "minimal" pressure environment. 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.

March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Eric, <b>W6INP</b>	April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Scott, <b>KK6VYP</b>
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Dave, <b>N6LHL</b>	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	Charlie, <b>WB6NVB</b>
March 21 <sup>st</sup>	Guy, <b>W6MSU</b>	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	Eric, <b>W6INP</b>
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Paul, <b>N6KZW</b>	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Dave, <b>N6LHL</b>



### MARCH FOR BABIES EVENT – SATURDAY APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>

The March of Dimes March for Babies is coming April 23<sup>rd</sup> on the Pacific Ave Miracle Mile. Over a million people in 900 communities participate in March for Babies raising millions of dollars each year.

The Stockton-Delta ARC provides communications support to improve safety along the route and relay logistics back to the Event organizers. Club Members wanting to volunteer can sign-up on the Event Volunteer web page ( [www.w6sf.org](http://www.w6sf.org) ). More information in next month's newsletter.





**FIRST ANNUAL STOCKTON-DELTA ARC SWAP MEET  
SATURDAY APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 AM TO 1:00 PM  
COMCAST BUILDING – STOCKTON  
6505 TAM O SHANTER DR**

**Swap Meet – Test Session – HamCram – Fun**

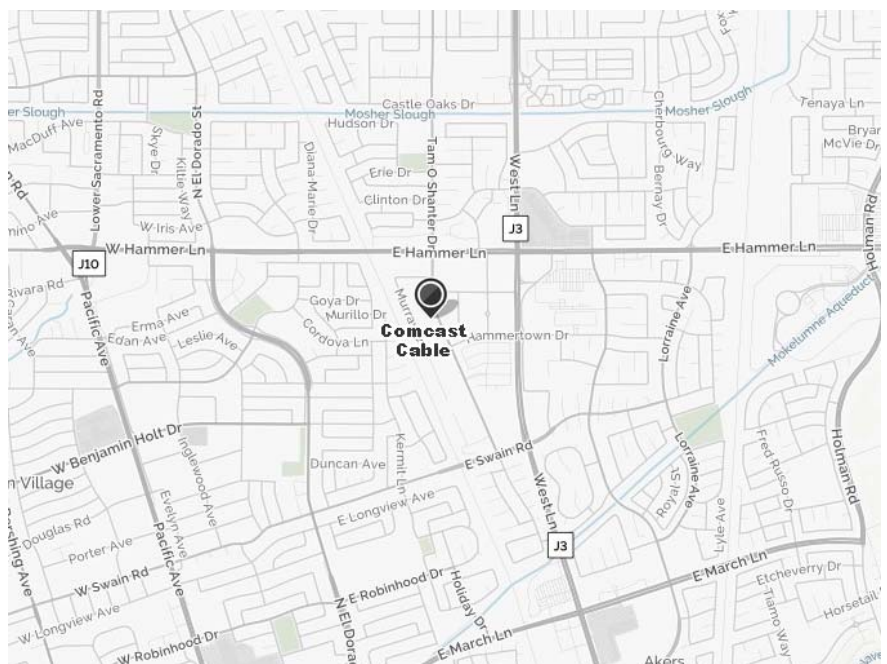
Open to all Northern California hams with lots or a little electronic toys to sell. The Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club sponsored flea markets many years ago. It is now time to renew that tradition. This flea market is to be held in the parking lot of the Comcast Corporate offices in Stockton Ca. This event will be in tandem with the Stockton/Ham Cram starting at 8:00AM. Walk-in testing for new licenses and upgrades will be available throughout the day with final testing at 3:00 PM for the Ham Cram class.

Seller's spaces will only be a \$5.00 donation. Spaces are a single parking space wide and sellers that arrive early enough can park in a space and "tailgate" their items. Please sign-up in advance at [www.w6sf.org](http://www.w6sf.org) so we can plan enough spaces for sellers. You do not need to pay for your space until you arrive at the event. The parking area will be available for sellers beginning at 6:00 AM

Club members can donate equipment now for sale at the club table.

During the swap meet, WALK-IN test sessions for new licenses or upgrades will be available. The WALK-IN test session is \$15.00 cash for the test. Please bring exact change. A single payment covers your testing for that day. Hot coffee, drinks, snacks and donuts will be available for purchase supporting local youth.

Start gathering your items now!



## **DIRECTIONS:**

From Hwy 99, take Hammer Lane Exit west toward Stockton. Tam O' Shanter Dr is the next traffic light west of West Lane approximately 1.5 miles from the Freeway. Turn left onto Tam O' Shanter and the building will be about ½ mile south of Hammer Lane on the right.

From I 5, take Hammer Lane Exit, go east approximately 4 miles to Tam O' Shanter Dr. Tam O' Shanter will be your first traffic light after the railroad under-crossing. Turn right onto Tam O' Shanter and the building will be about ½ mile south of Hammer Lane on the right

## **PARKING:**

Sellers can park in their designated sales place and 'tailgate' or set up a table behind their vehicle. Sellers can also set up and then park their vehicle in designated parking areas.

Buyers can park their vehicles along the south edge of the parking lot or across the street at the parking lot for the old Tele-Tech building. PLEASE LOCK YOUR VEHICLE as the club cannot be responsible for items left in your vehicle. Please use caution when crossing Tam O' Shanter to the event.

NO STREET PARKING ON TAM O'SHANTER. Vehicles parked on the street will be subject to ticketing by Stockton PD and towed.

## **LOGISTICS:**

There will be available AC power for testing of equipment at the Stockton-Delta ARC table. As with any swap, all sales are as-is and the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club is not responsible for any purchases.

Coffee, Drinks, Donuts, Snacks will be available for purchase sponsored by a local youth organization – not the radio club.

The Comcast Building access will be restricted to those wishing to participate in the walk-in test session or taking the HamCram. Please be mindful of others who may be studying or taking a test.

Remember, this is a working office and all participants are expected to conduct themselves with the utmost respect and courtesy toward Comcast, its employees and the space which has been GENEROUSLY DONATED FOR OUR USE.

All sellers are expected to clean up their space at the end of the event and remove ALL unsold items. NO DUMPING ALLOWED.



This event is with cooperation with the  
San Joaquin Valley Amateur Radio Clubs  
USS Lucid Radio Group

Community Center for the Blind  
& Visually Impaired



## 2016 PEDALING PATHS TO INDEPENDENCE BIKE RIDE SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>

Perfect Day. That's what greeted bicycle ride enthusiasts as well as a full team of radio operators for the 8<sup>th</sup> running of the PPIB Bike Ride benefiting the Community Center for the Blind in Stockton.

Early morning was cool with no wind and even a bit of fog hugging the foothills east of Linden. We started set-up at 7 AM next to DeVinci's Deli in downtown Linden. Net control used Dave **N6LHL**'s 2-Meter Vertical and push-up pole on the Lodi Club repeater 147.090 MHz.



Paul **N6KZW** works on Net Control



Mike **KK6YCR** at NCS – John **NZ6Q** on APRS

This year's ride had record attendance both pre-sale and same-day sign ups. Soon after set-up, the streets in Linden were flooded with people and bicycles all getting ready for a great day and a great ride through the foothills. Same day sign-ups quickly exceeded the available registration forms.

Mike **KK6YCR** was outstanding as Net Control, his calm demeanor helped keep everyone on the net focused and relaxed throughout the day. Early trouble with the Net Control station were resolved with the help of Paul **N6KZW** and quick reference guides.

Early in the ride, it was brought to our attention that a truck was illegally parked and was in danger of being towed. Mike **KK6YCR** put the word out to all of the SAG wagons and the rest stops. The task however proved impossible to find the one rider out of nearly 400 spread out on 60+ miles of road. The vehicle was towed. Later in the afternoon, the owner came by net control, made arrangements with the towing company, and friends to recover his truck from Escalon.



John **NZ6Q** kept track of both ham operator equipped and 100% ham SAG vehicles with APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System). This proved to be a very valuable tool again. We also set-up the SAG number for riders to call into Net Control directly. About mid-way through the ride we received a call from a couple of riders who had gotten off-course on Hwy 26 and had been startled by several large trucks hauling debris from the Butte Fire. The lady riders called into the SAG 'Hotline' for assistance. Using APRS to determine the position of the SAG wagons, Net Control dispatched SAG 5 to the scene. Scott **KK6VYP** and his driver Nate arrived a short 9 minutes after the call was placed.



Scott **KK6VYP** – Shiril **AA6K** – Charlie **WB6NVB** at Sheldon Rd



Gayle **KK6RAO** & Cecil **KK6QXQ** in front of Milton

Throughout the day, we used the APRS to reposition and back-fill SAG units around the 65-mile course as others called in with mechanical breakdowns and rider fatigue requests.

Early in the ride, it was reported that riders were missing the Milton Rest Stop about mid-way through the course. This stop traditionally had been at the Masonic Lodge located right along Milton Rd in Milton. Sadly, this historic landmark was destroyed by fire a few weeks before the ride. As an alternate, the Masons offered the use of the Milton cemetery property off the main road about 100 yards. A beautiful spot which was enjoyed by all who made the turn. Amateur Radio again came to the rescue with Eric **W6INP** posting stand-by on Milton Rd to direct riders to the new rest stop. Randy **K6TVT** was dispatched to the site with a sign from Joni to establish a more permanent notice.

A steady stream of communications filled the air throughout the day with reports on riders, logistics between rest stops kept the Net Control Operators busy.

DeVinci's Deli served a tremendous lunch, well received by everyone.

Joni went on to express her sincere thanks for the job well done by all – not just our group, but a total of 61 volunteers who came together to make the event a success.

*“Words cannot begin to express my appreciation for your support. We still have to pay a few bills, but my best guesstimate is WE raised about \$22,000.00 to provide programs and services to people who are blind or visually impaired. Thank you.*

*On behalf of Community Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired clients, staff, and board of directors, I thank you.*

*Keep the wind at your back and the rubber side on the ground” .... Joni*





**APRIL HAM CRAM  
STOCKTON-DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
COMCAST BUILDING – STOCKTON  
6505 TAM O'SHANTER DRIVE  
SATURDAY APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> 2016  
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, 8:00 AM to 4:00 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 50-minute reading sessions with 10-minute breaks and a 30-minute break for lunch. The FCC exam is given at the end of the day.

**Testing-Only Also Available**

The FCC exam session will be WALK-IN at the Swap meet starting at 8:30 AM. We administer all levels of amateur radio exams: Technician, General, and Extra class. One need not attend the HamCram just to take an exam. The cost for the exam-only is the officially-prescribed fee of \$15.00. If you’ve paid to attend the HamCram, the exam fee is included.

Sign up for the next HamCram of Licensing by clicking the link [here](#).



Portable Dipole from N6TCE



John NZ6Q at Net Control 2016 PPIB Ride



**HamTestOnline™**  
*Online courses for the ham radio exams.*



## A HAM'S CALENDAR

**March 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – ARRL International DX Contest Phone (starts 0000UTC on Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> which is 4:00PM Friday PST) – More Info: <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 N Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton. Meeting Starts at 7:30PM – Program TBA. Club Raffle after the meeting.

**March 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – On the Air – Idaho QSO Party, Oklahoma QSO Party, Wisconsin QSO Party

**March 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – CQ WW WPX Contest – Phone, <http://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>

**April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – Stockton-Delta ARC Swap Meet – Comcast Parking Lot, 6505 Tam O Shanter Dr, Stockton – 7:00 AM to NOON – Walk-in Test Session, HamCram, Vendor space \$5 per table - MORE DETAILS AT THE MARCH MEETING

**April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – Stockton-Delta ARC Club Meeting – Bear Creek Community Church, 11171 Lower Sacramento Rd, Stockton. Meeting Starts at 7:30 PM – Program TBA. Club raffle after the meeting.

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016** – March of Dimes March For Babies Walk-a-Thon – 8:00 AM on Pacific Ave Miracle Mile

**May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** – Stockton Bicycle Club Delta Century Bike Ride – 7:00 AM Start/Finish at Jessie's Grove Vineyard on Turner Rd in Lodi. More Details at the April 14<sup>th</sup> club meeting.

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



## 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 **March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM.**

**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>

### 2016 CLUB OFFICERS & LEADERSHIP:

President:	<b>KI6FTT</b> , Dan Nelson	<a href="mailto:ki6ftt@yahoo.com">ki6ftt@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President:	<b>W6MSU</b> , Guy Mallory	<a href="mailto:w6msu@arrl.net">w6msu@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>W6COB</b> , Chuck O'Banion	<a href="mailto:nrcmc@pacbell.net">nrcmc@pacbell.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!**