

Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

WWW.W6SF.ORG

MARCH 2024

Welcome to the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club

SAINT PATRICK'S AWARD AMATEUR RADIO GOING GREEN ON THE AIR



WHEN /

1200 UTC March 16 to 1200 UTC March 18

ABOUT THE EVENT /

Many people worldwide, annually celebrate St Patrick's Day by going green. St Patrick's Day is a celebration of a legendary Irish saint and a national holiday that is about fun and celebration. We encourage you to get on the air with friends and family through this fun event, to show and enjoy all the benefits of amateur radio.



**MONTHLY CLUB MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT
MARCH 14TH 7:00 PM
STOCKTON SAILING CLUB
4980 BUCKLEY COVE, STOCKTON**

QST QST QST... The March meeting of the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club will be held at the Stockton Sailing Club Auditorium, 4980 Buckley Cove Rd in Stockton. The Sailing Club is located at the west end of March Lane, west of Interstate 5 on the left-hand side of the road just before you enter Buckley Cove Park.

We will hear reports on Pedaling Paths Bike Ride.

The meeting training program will be on Tactical Nets by Mark W6SXA

Grab your spouse, significant other or just that friend that wants to “see what the ham radio club is all about” and join us for next club meeting. Coffee and refreshments are provided.

If you have challenges attending the meeting in person, you can join the meeting on Zoom.

Topic: W6SF CLUB MEETING ON ZOOM - MARCH

Time: Mar 14, 2024 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8715741939?pwd=alRiTFhydFNtMIBQZXAwOUd2YTN1UT09&omn=87021549871>

Meeting ID: 871 574 1939

Passcode: 147165

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,8715741939#,,,,*147165# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,8715741939#,,,,*147165# US



JOIN US!

Get the most out of your Amateur Radio experience by being a member of our club.

- Find a Mentor
- Enjoy the camaraderie!
- Participate in Events

“Ask us about Ham Radio”

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH 7:00 PM



The meeting was started at 7 pm by President Charlie Johnson. All the officers were present. There were 20 members in attendance. One new member, Bob Hafferty, joined us and there was one member on Zoom. Introductions were made and then we moved on to old business.

Old Business:

- The need for additional members was mentioned again as was the need for current members to pay their dues.
- John NZ6Q spoke about the problems with the current web host and will work on it next week.

Financial Report:

- Treasurer Joyce Marciel gave the monthly report.

New Business:

- Bob N6TCE stated that we came in #3 last year from #20 the year before at the QSO party and that Colin Meeks came in first in his class.
- Issues and needs for Pedaling Paths was discussed and open positions filled. There are 91 entrants currently and \$5,320 received for the event.
- It was reported that the Busy Bee event may not happen.
- The STEAM event will have 5 stations. People are needed for setup at 8 am and again at tear down at 2 pm. Volunteers are welcomed and should notify John NZ6Q.
- There will be a special presentation for the ham cram and exam on April 6 as a new way to present the training.
- Dave N6DCH will check to see if the USS Lucid will be available for museum ships weekend at the end of May.
- Members were asked what they would like to have for presentations. A number of ideas were tossed out and presenters will be looked for.

Presentation:

- John NZ6Q gave a presentation on communicating in an event such as Pedaling Paths coming up in a few weeks.
- John also spoke briefly about the changes and additions at the ARRL.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm and the next scheduled meeting is set for March 14th at 7 pm at the Stockton Sailing Club.





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

- Charlie, WB6NVB

This year in Amateur Radio should be a very good year! The current sunspot cycle is predicted to have its maximum this year and to be very active for the next two years. I encourage anyone with a yearning for HF to get an HF station and put up an antenna for the HF bands. Simple wire antennas or vertical antennas will do better with the increased sunspots and getting a taste of the DX conditions may encourage you to get a better wire, vertical or beam antenna up.

If you have a Technician class license, you may consider upgrading by studying at a Ham Cram, Ham-U and/or with a license manual from the ARRL or other sources and have more bands with HF privileges to work with. This year may be the year you to learn or improve your Morse code ability to help work more stations. Check with other hams to get help with your station, antenna, license, or Morse code. Running new modes (for you) would also be a way to take advantage of the HF band conditions. There are plenty of members of our club who would be glad to be your Elmer.

Our club has several upcoming events that we support with radio communications. We need volunteers. This is a great way to exercise our abilities to work in a public service capacity—just what Amateur Radio was set up to do! The Pedaling Paths Bike

Ride to support the Community Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be on the 24th of February. We still need volunteer Ham radio operators to man checkpoints and SAG vehicles—you can sign up on the W6SF Web site on the Event Sign-Up sheet.

At the January 2024 club meeting, our annual budget was approved. We need all members to pay dues and encourage or recruit other non-member hams to join—this is needed to improve our financial situation, help man club activities, and increase the friendship/fellowship at our club activities. Talk it up with your ham buddies who are not members of our club.

The club also needs to identify and locate club owned equipment as a logistics effort so that the club can plan to use it in our activities. Please check your ham shacks for club equipment and bring the information to one of our club meetings. If you need help doing this, I'm sure we will be able to find someone to assist you in this endeavor.

This past Thursday evening's 10-meter net was well attended—10 hams checked in—a high compared to 2023 attendance!

Continue to check-in to the weekly 2m/70cm club net at 8:00p.m. on Mondays.

Looking forward to a great year for the Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Organization!



VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE



**Steve,
KN6ZJJ**

February has come to an end, and we are full speed ahead into March. First, I want to congratulate the following new Hams:

- Alexander Heigher KO6DIG
- Matthew Cranny KO6DHJ
(New Club Member)
- Gary Hall KO6DHX
- Rick Fairbanks KO6DHW
(New Club Member)
- Laura Richards KK7RDP
- Jonathan Richards KO6DGY
- John Rush KO6DGH
- Sharla Rush KO6DHH
- Merle Michaelis KO6DHI
(New Club Member)
- Sara Radcliffe KJ6FKJ
(Upgraded to General)

In addition to attending the February Ham Cram, the above people passed their test and are licensed to be on the air!

Join me in welcoming the new club members; Matthew KO6DHJ, Rick KO6DHW, and Merle KO6DHI.

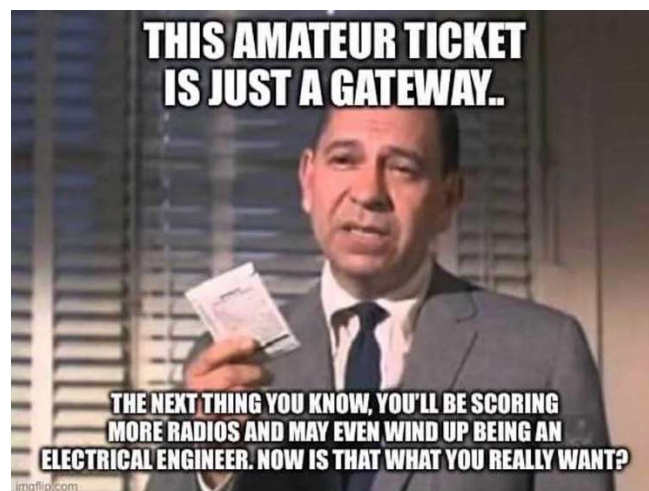
Next, Pedaling Paths was a huge success! Big thanks go to Joyce K6QBQ, Mark W6SXA, John NZ6Q, Annie N6ACL and Joni KM6WVX for the countless hours of planning, coordinating, revising, shopping and implementing this event. There were positive comments from cyclists and the Stockton Delta ARC/Pedaling Paths event was even featured on KCRA Channel 3 news in Sacramento. Bob N6TCE and Ron KG7OR coordinated a pre-event TAC-COM practice event just after the SJCARES meeting.

Additional thanks to all the volunteers, SAG drivers, rovers, net control and food service. New Hams were able to ride along and get on the air in a real community service event. Due to everyone's involvement and participation this was a success.

March 23rd is the STEAM event and April 27 is the 2nd annual Stan-Joaquin Swap Meet & BBQ. This spring is full of great events for the club, and I look forward to seeing everyone participate!

73

Steve – KN6ZJJ



As a reminder from the January meeting the club needs 12 new members for the annual membership dues to remain the same for 2025. If everyone commits to inviting at least one new ham, experienced ham or someone interested in amateur radio to an event or meeting I'm confident we'll gain new members and meet our goal.



Last, as a reminder, if you have not already paid your 2024 membership dues, please take a moment and get that done. You can do it on the web site, in the mail or bring a check to the club meeting. Treasurer Joyce K6QBQ will make sure you are credited for your dues. Thanks! 😊



net control duties. It's not very difficult to run a net and will help to share the load.

Check www.w6sf.org for the current list of net control stations.



Hamz & Eggz W6SF WEEKLY BREAKFAST MEETING THURSDAY'S AT 9:00 AM

MONDAY NIGHT NET

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>

Additional volunteers are always welcome for

Members AND GUESTS gather weekly to enjoy Hamz & Eggz at the Omelet House, 3455 Cherokee Rd off Hwy 99 in East Stockton. Club members start gathering around 8:30 so come early if you want a good seat!

Check in on the W6SF repeater Thursday morning to find who is coming out and make sure you ask someone to save you a seat! Everyone is invited to attend; you don't need a license. Bring an interest to discuss all things Amateur Radio and a hearty appetite and you'll have a good time.

Refills are free!



ARRL the national association for
amateur radio®



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY ARES (SJCARES)

**MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY
NIGHTS STARTING AT 7:30 PM 147.090
WB6ASU REPEATER**

ARES Notes

As always anyone interested in ARES, contact me or visit:

[Join San Joaquin ARES](#)

HamCram is coming up on April 6th at Fire Station 2 in Downtown Stockton. This will be our first study session using KB6NU's "No Nonsense Technician License One-Day Course". We are hoping for a lot of interest from STEAMFestto fill the classroom. Share the word about ham radio to your family and friends – especially those who say they can't just sit and study the question pool for hours.



APRIL HAMCRAM VE TEST SESSION SATURDAY APRIL 6TH STOCKTON FIRE STATION #2 110 W SONORA ST STOCKTON



Our next Amateur Radio license study session will be in Stockton at Stockton Fire Station #2, 110 W Sonora St in downtown Stockton. The study session is held in the Bret Lawes Classroom in the back of the Fire Station Complex. Enter the gate on Commerce St and drive straight back toward the portable classrooms.

Doors Open at 7:45 AM. HamCram Study Session 8AM – 2:45 PM and TEST ONLY SESSION at 3:00PM

This session will be a one-day Technician License Course using the KB6NU No-Nonsense Study Guide. You can download your copy [here](#). This is a one-day Tech license course and not a "traditional" HamCram of studying just the questions all day long.

Whether you are attending the study session or test only for your license, please pre-register at www.w6sf.org/hamcram.html . Call John NZ6Q at 209-687-0774 for more info.

WORLD OF STEAM

MARCH 23, 2024
10AM-2 PM

LUSD WORLD OF STEAM SATURDAY MARCH 23rd 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The club has been invited again to be a participant in the World of STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art and Math) on Saturday March 23rd at Lincoln High School. The event runs from 10:00 AM to 2:00PM

We will be setting up starting at 8:00 AM. The club will offer interactive displays of Morse Code, by Bob K6DGQ and anyone with straight key or paddles and code practice oscillators would be welcome to bring them for kids to try their Morse Code skills.

We will be on the air with HF/VHF/UHF as well. We will be demonstrating WINLink email, packet, EMCOMM, HF Radio on FT-8. We will also have a demo set-up for SDR radio.

We want to demonstrate Echolink and DMR and show how kids can connect with like minded kids in a safe Amateur Radio environment around the world.

Dave WB6TOU is working on a balloon launch, and we've asked Monte Diablo Amateur Radio Club if they can join us again and bring their ATV truck set up and demonstrate Amateur Digital Television.

The students from Laguna Creek High School ARC have also been asked to join us as ambassadors of "cool students" using radio.

We will need lots of volunteers as operators and as facilitators answering questions for the kids that attend. We are expecting at least 3000 students and their families to attend this event!

The Saturday April 6th HamCram Study Session will be done in the "No Nonsense One-Day Technician License" style as this proved very successful for the Laguna Creek High School Students to pass their Technician Licenses. Since the study session is just two weeks from STEAM, we want to be getting as many folks there as possible excited about passing their Amateur Radio License.



THE FIRST HAM SWAP OF THE YEAR IS COMING!



8TH ANNUAL **LOOMIS** **HAMFEST**



Join the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club for HAMFEST 2024!

Get your gear, grab your wallet, and get ready for a super swap.
We'll have coffee and donuts, awesome prizes,
Elmer tours, a test table, presentations, and so much more.

SAVE THE DATE: March 16th, 2024

More information can be found @ hamfest.w6ek.org

Sellers need to bring their own tables, chairs, pop-ups, generators (no shore power available)
No equipment will be provided.

SELLERS \$10
Setup at 0600

**FREE ADMISSION
AND PARKING**

TALK IN FREQUENCY
146.535

When

Saturday, March 16, 2024
0700 to 1100 Hours

PRIZES COMING SOON

Where

Historic Loomis Train Depot
5775 Horseshoe Bar Rd, Loomis

PAST SUPPORTERS



Special thanks to:
Brian Gohl (AI6US)
Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)
Aaron Bond (W1ATB)
for your donations.





15th ANNUAL PEDALING PATHS BIKE RIDE IS "IN THE HISTORY BOOKS" WHAT A GREAT EVENT!

Pedaling Paths is more than just something we help out with. Your Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club is the hosting sponsor of this event. Saturday's weather was some of the best I've experienced in the 15 years of the ride.

Huge compliment came from riders. The Pedaling Path Committee club members who worked really hard getting the event ready really scored a win! We had almost 200 riders this year!



Thanks especially to Annie N6ACL, Joyce K6QBQ, Mark W6SXA and Joni KN6WVX who have been the driving force for the ride this year.

Now that the ride is over but the smile is still bright, we will be working on how much did we raise to support activities for The Community Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (www.ccvbi.org) There were lots of ride day sign-ups we have to factor into the totals. Cost of providing meals, hydration and snacks along the route have to be finalized as well.

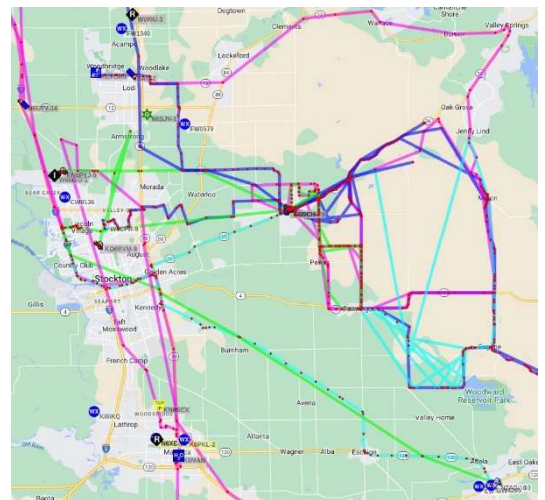
We used our “Central Dispatch” phone number of 209-227-0724 (227- 0SAG) Each rider will be given this number to call directly to the Net Control Station in the event of an emergency or breakdown. Using APRS in each of the SAG Wagons, Net Control will be able to track the locations of SAGs and ‘dispatch’ the closest SAG Wagon to the reported break-down or other incident. We had several call-ins. Thankfully, all but 2 were mechanical breakdowns and injuries on the ride were very minor.

After the ride, riders and volunteers can share a delicious meal provided by DeVinci’s Deli in Linden and served by students from Linden High School (along with Shane K5SML)

A great time was had by all! Even Joni KN6WVX checked in from on her bike as "Rover One" proving again that "everything cool happens with radio". Thanks to Merle KO6DHI for the great pictures!



More pictures will be posted under “Pedaling Paths” at www.w6sf.org





North American SSB Sprint Contest

Next SSB Sprint Contest:
Mar 24, 2024 0000-0359 UTC

What is a Sprint Contest?

The North American Sprints (usually just called "Sprints") are short, intense competitions which challenge the best operators, while allowing others to sharpen their skills. Lasting only four hours and using only the 80, 40 and 20-meter bands, these contests demand that participants be on their toes at all times.

The Sprints' unique QSY requirements eliminate the usual approach in many contests of dominant stations sitting on one frequency and running others. These are contests of constant motion.

Although there is only one entry category (single op), participants can combine separate single op scores into a team score. Register your team [here](#).

If you are new to the SSB Sprint, please have a look at our [Tips & Tricks page](#). Still have questions? Feel free to [ask us for help](#) — we are glad to assist and we look forward to working you in the [next](#) SSB Sprint!

- Exchange:** To have a valid exchange, you must send all of the following information: The other station's call sign, your call sign, your sequential serial number (start with 1, give next station 2, next is 3, etc.), your name and your location (US State, Canadian Province/Territory or Country. Note: DC is separate from MD.)
For example:
— K4XS KA9FOX 154 Scott Wisconsin (note this indicates this is KA9FOX's 154th contact)
— KA9FOX 122 Bill Florida K4XS (note this indicates this is K4XS's 122nd contact)
While the rules do not stipulate the exact order of the information transmitted, our [Tips and Tricks](#) page provides tips on the best order to use, depending on whether you are calling a station, or the one being called.
NOTE: Stations outside of North America should give "DX" as their location. Stations working non-NA stations should log "DX" as the QTH/Location.

2024 CLUB MEETING DATES & SCHEDULED TRAININGS

January 11	Annual General Meeting, Pedaling Paths, Training TBA
February 8.....	Meeting – Pedaling Paths
March 14.....	Meeting – TBA
April 11	Meeting – TBA
May 9.....	Meeting – Museum Ships Weekend
June 13	Meeting - Field Day Final Prep
July 11	Meeting – TBA
August 8.....	Meeting – (1800 hours) RDF – Fox Hunting & Club BBQ
September 12.....	Meeting – CQP Prep
October 10.....	Meeting - Nominations for Officers 2023 – Shake Out
November 14.....	Meeting – Elections – TBD
December 12	Christmas Dinner / Year End Celebration (1800 hours)
December 31.....	Straight Key Night

HamCrams for 2024 – 7:45 AM - Stockton Fire Station #2 or LDS Church Ham La in Lodi

February 10th April 6th August 10th October 12th December 14th

Ham-U Training Day – 8:30 AM Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints Lodi, CA

September 28th

Club Events 2024

January 6 TH – Kids Day	On the Air Event
January 27 th - Winter Field Day	On the Air Event
February 12 th – 16 th – School Club Roundup	On the Air Event
February 24 th – Pedaling Paths Bike Ride	Linden and surrounding areas
March 2 nd - LDS Church Preparedness	Stockton LDS Church near UOP
March 2 nd – 3 rd ARRL DX Contest Phone	On the Air Event
March 23 rd – STEAMFEST 2024	LIVE EVENT – Lincoln High School
April 21 st – Rookie Round-up, SSB	On the Air Event
April 27 th - STAN-Joaquin Event	Northgate Park – Manteca w/SARA and other clubs
April – May – Weed-Whacking on the hill	Fiddletown Repeater Site – Exact Date TBD
May 4 th – Delta Century Ride	Jessie’s Grove Winery
May 18 th - Linden Cherry Festival	Parade Assist & Demonstration Booth
Jun 1 st – 2 nd – Museum Ships Weekend	USS Lucid, Stockton, CA
June 8 th – 10 th ARRL VHF Contest	On the Air Event
June 15 th – Kids Day	Stockton, Lodi, Galt Library Demonstrations
June 22 nd – 23 rd – ARRL Field Day	Site TBD, Stockton, CA
July 4 th – 4 th of July Parade	Downtown Stockton
September 28 th – Ham-U	Location TBD
October 5 th – 6 th – California QSO Party	On the Air Event
October 6 th – 12 th NFPW Event	On the Air Event W6SFD as N6F
October 12 th – Walk to End Alzheimer’s	Swenson Park, Stockton
October 14 th – 18 th – School Club Roundup	On the Air Event
October 17 th – Great Shake-Out Earthquake	On the Air
October 18 th – 20 th – Pacificon 2024	San Ramon Marriott Hotel
November 16 th – 17 th ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	On the Air Event
November 28 th – Run Against Hunger	Waterfront – Downtown Stockton
December 13 th – 15 th – ARRL 10M Contest	On the Air Event

**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, March 14th at 19:00 hours – Stockton Sailing Club, 4980 Buckley Cove, Stockton...** Members and guests are welcome.

WEEKLY NETS: The club meets weekly on Monday nights starting at 2000hrs on the W6SF repeater. **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.**

San Joaquin ARES Net: Tuesday evenings 1930hrs on **147.090+ PL 114.8 Hz**

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>

2024 CLUB OFFICERS & LEADERSHIP:

President:	WB6NVB , Charle Johnson	Club Officers can be reached at sdarc@w6sf.org or
Vice President:	KN6ZJJ , Steve Cranny	
Treasurer:	K6QBQ , Joyce Marciel	board@w6sf.org
Secretary:	KN6IOK , Al Hill	
Member At Large:	W6SXA , Mark Cloud	membership@w6sf.org
Call Sign Trustee:	WB6NVB , Charlie Johnson	
Repeater Trustee:	NC6R , Steve Allred	
Membership Chairperson	OPEN	
Event Chairperson	OPEN	
Newsletter Editor	NZ6Q , John Litz	

CLUB DUES:

\$25 SINGLE and \$30 FAMILY

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

We thank you for your continued support!