



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

July 2010

VP's Message

Greetings Everyone

First I would like to thank everyone who has participated in the public service events this year. You all help promote amateur radio and show the general public what we do. I would like to encourage everyone to volunteer whenever possible. This years Field Day was a time to learn and to get experience on building antennas, setting up stations, and making contacts. There was fun, frustration, and friends aplenty. I want to thank everyone who came and hope that next year we can build on what we learned and do better. I would also like to invite everyone to go to the OC Fair this year and support the radio booth as well as the other Fair participants. The FRC will be manning the booth on Friday, July 23. Thank you all for your support of this club.

Albert KI6WRU

Reminder

FRC day at the Orange County Fair is Friday, July 23. Contact Larry McDavid if you would like to help at the booth

July Meeting

Over the past several months the local N6ME 2-meter repeater has experienced a great deal of interference. It took some high-level expertise to identify and resolve the problem. During our July meeting **Tom Gaccione WB2LRH** will explain how he and his "team" identified and resolved the problem.

Meeting Location: Fullerton Senior Center
340 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton;
across the street from the Library (that you won't recognize because of the fence around construction areas).

Meeting date: Wednesday, July 21, 2010
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM sharp

For the hungry ones, we will hold a pre-meeting dinner – buy your own – at Coco's restaurant on N. Harbor Blvd. at 5:30 PM.

Visitors are welcome at the meeting.

Fullerton Radio Club
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Show –and–Tell

Bring something of interest to the meeting to show and share your story. Something old, new, or just of interest to hams.

Web site: www.FullertonRadioClub.com

June FRC T-Hunt

You might think that summer months are prime time for transmitter hunting, but actually, the participation usually goes down then. Many T-hunters are out of town or have other conflicting activities. Participation goes up again in the fall and winter. Only two hunters came out for the FRC mobile T-hunt in June. Bob Miller and Cathy Livoni, N6ZHZ and KD6CYG pulled a close-in surprise on the hunters by placing a very low powered transmitter in a tree at the end of Helen Drive, which is just east of the spillway of Brea Dam.

<u>Team</u>	<u>Odo</u>
<u>Calls</u>	<u>Miles</u>
N6AIN/WA6PYE	5.8
KI6LYZ/son/nephew	10.1

Come out and try transmitter hunting for yourself on August 21. The starting point is the hilltop at the north end of Acacia Avenue. Things get underway at 8 PM.

73,

Joe Moell K0OV

Club Member Injured

FRC member Robert Zeigler KF6EVX was seriously injured in a hit-and-run auto accident on Wednesday (7/14/10) evening. Robert was crossing a street near his home at about 10:00 PM when he was struck, thrown about 30 feet and seriously injured. Details of his injuries are unknown at this time, but he has several fractures and will probably be hospitalized for an extended period. Please keep Robert in your thoughts and prayers.

WOW !

I think I've got the gist of what Field Day is all about now. You take it easy all year and store up energy that you then exhaust in one 24 hr radio induced orgy. At some point late in the evening you swear you'll never subject yourself to so much insanity again and then you head home with your whole vehicle full of gear, take a shower and fall into bed. Twelve hours later you fall out of bed and begin the road to full recovery (mental & physical) which takes the better part of the year leading up to the next FD.

Then you do it all again.

Seriously, we did it. We made 652 contacts and some bonus points and five of us even stayed up all night. Our point total will not be posted in the hall of fame but we never set out to do that. What we did set out to do was to accomplish as much training as possible and we achieved that objective. We had the "Old Hands", the "Novices", and the "Newbies" spread out all over the cabin and the porch making everything from mistakes to contacts and learning how it's done by getting their hands on the hardware and turning the crank. Otis wins the longest distance contact by working a station in Japan on 40 meters. Jim Carmody made the most contacts and taught some newer hams the ropes while he was at it. Being from TEXAS he's good with the ropes. Dennis might have given Jim a run for his money if he had not been saddled with the odious task of trying to teach yours truly how get around the radio range without stepping in it every time I hit the PTT key. As it was we have Dennis to thank for setting up and teaching many of the clinics that have been going on for months and also for getting us back up on 6 meters after

a long hiatus. Atta- boys to Dennis. Gene gets an atta-boy for securing the cabin for our use again this year. Robby pulled together a back-up computer plan after the primary machines were non-starters.

We are either finishing the first of a five-year plan or the third of a seven-year plan and any way you count it we are making progress. The way it looks so far is that by the end of our re-training and re-tooling project 70 % of our core team members will be new to the team. Were we perfect? Not by a long shot. However, we were better than last year and the one before. If we can continue to recruit and train new members of the FD Team we should see year-to-year growth in our skill levels for some years to come. Somewhere during that process we will find out just what the Fullerton Radio Club wants it's FD Team to be.

My hope is that over the next several years we can enhance the overall competence of the team and have a lot of fun doing it. For this to happen individual skill levels must increase and that's a good thing no matter what you choose to do in Ham Radio. Our plan to continue to hold clinics year round will help immensely. Dennis has offered to open up his shack for various contests throughout the year. All of these things will just keep us getting better and better. Who knows, maybe in a few years we'll have people asking if they can come out and play with our team on Field Day.

Bill Preston KZ3G

Field Day Chair

June TAG Meeting

In attendance: Dennis Kidder, Bill Preston, Tom Fiske, Albert Solomon and club member Richard Belansky.

Topics:

Remote Base operations
MF and HF AM Nets
VHF Contest
Monitored the Wednesday night AMI net

Tom is a neighbor of Dave Corsiglia (WA6TWF) of the Super System. Dave was telling him about Remote Base operations which Tom was unfamiliar with. So, we discussed what it was, how they operate and are used. Dave is in a deed-restricted area so a remote base offers an ideal situation where you can build a station in a good location and operate it remotely from the comfort of your home. Bill asked if this was something that the club could do. We talked about the costs involved in building and maintaining a system like this. Typically this would be a annual membership fee that would be used to defer costs -- site lease/rental, power, telephone, equipment.

With W6DQ new TX discussion went to AM activity on ham radio. It turns out that there is a lot! There are nightly regional nets on AM and some monthly national nets. Later in the evening we went out to the W6DQ ham shack and listened to the AM International West Coast net on 75 M.

We discussed the upcoming VHF contest. In particular start times. The contest starts at 11 AM Saturday. That's all that matters. It's going to be like an open house so folks can come by when they wish. I will put something out on the reflector.

In the course of listening to the AM net, I flipped onto 6 meters demonstrating how beacons are used. Lo and behold there were several beacons showing up and this was at nearly 9 PM. We proceeded to make contact with two Washington stations on six with good signal reports. We hope that the conditions will continue through the weekend for the contest. 6 meters should be good!

As a final close, we talked about the upcoming antenna clinic #3. This will be NEXT Saturday at Hillcrest Park at 8 AM same location as before.

That's it for now.
73,
-Dennis W6DQ

Fullerton CA DM13av

Board Meeting Minutes

VP Albert Solomon KI6WRU called the July meeting to order at 7:30 PM on July 7. Those present included Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB7CMO, Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD, Board members Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE, Bill Preston KZ3G, Larry McDavid W6FUB, Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, and club member Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU.

Minutes of the June Board meeting were reviewed and accepted as printed in Smoke Signals.

Treasurer's report: Savings; \$1,690.26: Checking; 1,767.65. \$300 has been paid for our liability insurance (1 year) and a \$200 check will be written tonight to cover our participation in HamCon 2011.

Membership: New members Jerry VanderZyl KF4YE, Helen Solomon KJ6IEN, Dr. Martin Carr KJ6ILM and John Carr KJ6ILL bring the membership to 56.

Old Business: Larry W6FUB reports that a new list of area ham organizations will be available at the OC Fair booth. The list will be printed with map and location number.

New Business: A HamCon 2011 preparatory meeting will be held on Sunday, July 10 at the Maritime Museum in San Pedro. Chairpersons are Bev and Jim Pittman. FRC will be involved with the on-foot T-Hunt as conducted by Joe Moell K0OV.

Antennas In The Park will be held on Saturday October 9 at Tri-City Park. Details to follow.

A review of our Field Day activities will be conducted at the July TAG meeting.

The July meeting speaker will be Tom Gaccione WB2LRH, who will describe the interference problem encountered on N6ME repeater, and his team's means for resolving the problem.

The Board will be considering a change to our Net day, and possibly use of another repeater in attempt to achieve greater participation.

The meeting was closed at 8:39 PM

Paul Broden K6MHD, Secretary

Field Day Photos



Albert KI6WRU is launching antennas,
not shooting squirrels



VHF with Robert KG6WTQ, Dennis W6DQ and
Otis KD6AXR



New members Dr. Martin Carr KJ6ILM, son John
KJ6ILL and Albert KI6WRU on 80 meters



Helen KJ6 IEN and Robert KG6WTQ on 2 meters



Jim Carmody NN5O member from Texas
and Robby Preston KI6KYX on 40 meters



Albert with a logger map of states worked

FRC Regular Club Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month
Fullerton Senior Center
340 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Fullerton, CA

Next Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Dinner before the meeting at about 5:30 PM at:
Coco's Restaurant, 1011 N. Harbor Blvd.

Meeting time: 7:00 PM

**Orange County Council of Amateur Radio
Organizations (OCCARO)**

www.occaro.org

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FRC Board Meeting

Open to all members

Marie Callender's Restaurant
126 Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia
First Wednesday of each month

Next Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

QSO and dinner; 7:00 PM

Meeting: 7:30 PM

FRC Tuesday Net

8:00 PM – 147.975 (-) PL 114.8

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Sat. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION

Fullerton Radio Club
PO Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836

(Please Print)

Name #1 _____

Call: _____

Class: _____

Name #2 _____

Call: _____

Class: _____

Name #3 _____

Call: _____

Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone #1: _____

Email #1: _____

Phone #2: _____

Email #2: _____

ARRL Member Yes No

Special Amateur Radio Interests: _____

Dues are \$20 per member, or \$25 per family. Students (full time) \$10
Bring your application and dues payment to the next meeting or mail to the above address.