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# Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

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December 2005

## QTC From Your Outgoing President

As we use up 2005, looking forward, we can see the dawn of 2006 just over the horizon. Our last 2005 program, Fullerton Radio Club joins with Anaheim Amateur Radio Association (AARA) in sharing holiday cheer with friends and fellows at our annual December banquet on Friday evening, Dec. 16th.

Please note an **important** reminder from Gene Thorpe. **Dinner at Marie Callendar's is scheduled to be served promptly at 7:00 P.M.** By arriving around 6:30 P.M. we can exchange holiday greetings all round while gathering with friends moving to be seated. Then dinner time, with genial conversation and sharing. Next, 2006 officers will be introduced. Then for celebration, there will be a number of gift like surprises given. Also be sure to greet our DX member Paul Leib KH6HME from Pahoehoe, HI, as is expected to greet us with his official holiday ALOHA to all. See y'all there.

### 2006 Missions Ahead

First, my sincere thanks to all who have enthusiastically given their support in 2005 and for being so willing and active. We all need to recognize the great contribution of our board of directors, the backbone of FRC who mostly have agreed to continue in 2006.

A high priority for our 2006 agenda is to mount a concerted effort to contact and encourage more of Fullerton's present 713 licensed amateurs to join with us in enjoying and promoting our unique hobby. The Board is working to achieve that target.

A new opportunity to encourage interested volunteers for the new Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs to become licensed Radio Amateurs. Fullerton's new Fire Chief is strongly promoting CERT. We all have a vested interest in assuring that during emergency conditions enough support from ham radio will be available with the high level of emergency training preparedness needed.

We want programs that are both interesting, are educational and address the wide range of interests of our members. This is my main target as your VP. While I have already identified a number candidate programs, your input and suggestions for future programs are needed to help us in this effort. I want also to get programs that can lead to more activity in Ham radio. We can use programs that do more than simply entertain or draw attendance.

We're continuing your weekly FRC net, using the WD6DPY repeater on 147.975, (PL 114.8). Join in. Tell about your projects, contacts or any interests.

Also, a number of current members are active on ten meters but have yet to get 2 meter capability. Is there interest in an FRC 10 meter net run for members on HF? Interested members please tell to board members or me and suggest times and frequencies of interest.

There were great activities in 2005 so in 2006 we'll continue to push to better use of ham radio's great interesting technical learning opportunity and communications privilege. We extend to all our families wishes for happy, safe and prosperous holidays.

There are surprise year-end on-air gifts. This winter's solar activity has opened typically closed HF bands offering numerous daytime DX openings. An example, Saturday eve, East Java, Indonesia was easily worked on 15 meters from Fullerton using 100 watts and yielding a report of 5-5. Experience the waves.

A final item, our former FRC simplex frequency "Channel X" on 147.495 was lost, by a Tasma band plan change on April 5, 2005. It removes the frequency from simplex for use as a repeater frequency. See the Tasma web site < <http://www.tasma.org/> > to download the .pdf file.

### QRU DE W6ZJE, 73

Bill Kohlenberger,  
V.P. For Programs, 2005/06

**Fullerton Radio Club**  
**P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836**

**President**

Karen Goodman, KG6USN  
Phone: (562) 693-5404  
E-mail: president@fullertonradioclub.org

**Vice President**

Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE  
Phone: (714) 525-2109  
e-mail: cw4w6zje@pacbell.net

**Secretary**

Gary Miller, KA6GPC  
Phone: (714) 529-2893  
E-mail: KA6GPC@aol.com

**Treasurer**

Phil Goodman, WA6HOO  
Phone: (562) 693-5404  
E-mail: philgood@sandwalking.com

**Public Service**

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO  
Phone: (714) 680-4258  
E-mail: kb6cmo@ARRL.net

**HDSCS**

April Moell, WA6OPS  
Phone: (714) 879-6895  
Emergency Coordinator, HDSCS  
E-mail: emcom4hosp@aol.com  
www.hdscs.org

**T-Hunt**

Joe Moell, K0OV  
http://www.homingin.com  
E-mail: homingin@aol.com

**Membership**

Phil Goodman, WA6HOO  
Phone: (562) 693-5404

**OCCARO Representative**

Larry McDavid, W6FUB

**Trustee & VE Testing**

Bob Reitzel, KD6DA  
Phone: (562) 691-1514  
E-mail: rreitzel@earthlink.net  
Packet: KD6DA@WB6YHM-2

**Directors**

Cheryl Thorpe, KE6TZU  
(Immediate Past President)

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO  
Phone: (714) 680-4258

Tom Curlee, WB6UZZ  
Phone: (714) 871-0337

Paul Broden, K6MHD  
Phone: (714) 871-9478

**Newsletter Editor**

Paul Broden, K6MHD  
Phone: (714) 871-9478  
E-mail: pbroden@sbcglobal.net

**And now, from the incoming President**

Before I go too far into this article I'd like to add one more name to the "thank you" list that Bill noted on the first page. We all need to thank Bill Kohlenberger himself, for extending himself beyond the role of VP, for which he was elected. As most of you know, Bill has filled what is perhaps the most difficult job in the club: that of finding speakers and other presenters for the club meetings. Bill has done the job with sincere interest and fervor, and has filled in the blanks by his own presentations, when needed. Then he filled the role as acting President as Karen Goodman had other demanding responsibilities. Thanks again, Bill, for a job well done.

As we go forth into this next year one of the biggest challenges we will have is reaching the over 700 hams in Fullerton, plus those in surrounding communities, with the right kind of information that will spark their interest in joining FRC activities. Surveys of many types of organizations, from professional societies to community service groups and churches, show that there is a general downward trend in memberships. Perhaps one cause is the plethora of options that are available for us all. But, in my opinion, that doesn't explain it completely. We all made the effort and took time to study and pass the coveted amateur license exam, thus showing interest in the subject of ham radio. Why then, are so few hams active in clubs and on the air? We don't have an answer, but will be trying to find ways to reach at least some of them for interest in Fullerton Radio Club.

One of first challenges is reaching club members, as well as the remaining ham community, with this newsletter. As you know, in the past we've sent it by snail-mail; but printing and postage are costly, eating up more than 50% of your annual dues. So we went to posting "Smoke" on the web site for members and non-members alike to retrieve as an attempt to be economical while expanding the newsletter availability. But this doesn't seem to be the best way either. As many of you have pointed out, you need a reminder to pull it off the web (snail-mail provided its own reminder). So, what is the answer? We will be trying an e-mail format, but need to work around potential difficulties that may be encountered by "spam blockers" that aren't very selective in what they block. As your new President and newsletter editor, this will be one of my personal challenges for the year. I'll be working with the other board members to find the best way to ensure your receipt of Smoke Signals, while trying to use the same or similar mode as a means for reaching the ham community. It may take a few weeks; so be patient with us. Please give us your comments and suggestions on other ways to reach the world of hams around us.

Thanks, and we wish you all a happy and blessed holiday season.

73 for now

Paul Broden  
K6MHD

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**FUTURE EVENT**

It's never too soon to start planning! FRC has selected Wednesday, July 26, 2006 as our day to man the HAM booth at Orange County Fair. We will be looking for volunteers. Put it on your calendar.

## Board Minutes December 7, 2005

Meeting began at 7:48 P.M. at Marie Callender's in Placentia. Members present for Fullerton Radio Club board meeting - Vice President Bill Kohlenberger, Secretary Gary Miller, Board Members Cheryl Thorpe, Gene Thorpe, Tom Curlee, Paul Broden, OCCARO Representative Larry McDavid, Treasurer for 2006 Manuel Borjes.

Club Checking Account: Phil's name will be removed and Manuel's added to the Checking Account this week.

Speakers/ Topics for next year: Suggestions for speakers and topics are still needed for next years meetings. Let a board member hear any ideas that would be of interest to you and the membership.

Bylaws Committee: Will meet probably after the holidays.

December Meeting: The menu for Friday, December 16 is on the club web site. The Anaheim Radio Association will be joining us again this year. Reservations and payment need to be given to Gene, kb6cmo as soon as possible.

Bill has sorted by city, all the hams in Fullerton and near by cities. Bulk mail or non-profit mailing are being discussed as a way to increase our membership.

Membership: The FRC board voted to increase the annual dues to \$20.00. The last dues increase was over 15 years ago.

Orange County Fair: FRC will work the fair one Wednesday next year.

Meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Gary Miller, ka6gpc  
Secretary Fullerton Radio Club

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### HAM RADIO CLASS

Bob Pestolesi/Irvine RACES asked me to forward the info below to all RACES groups in Orange County again. They are still looking for more people to sign up for a Ham Radio course. The City of Irvine will be offering a Ham Radio licensing course on Feb 25-26. The course will be taught by Gordon West and open to anyone interested in volunteering with local City/County RACES groups for a materials only fee of \$50. Please Contact Gordon West (714 549-5000) directly, to register all non-Irvine residents. Gordon will coordinate pre-home study material to the participants not from Irvine.

Thanks

Bob, KE6GYD  
IDEC (Irvine RACES)

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### MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2005 OCCARO MEETING

The October 11, 2005 meeting of the Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations was called to order by Dino Darling K6RIX at 7:33 PM. After introductions, attendance was recorded as follows:

|                  |        |                             |              |
|------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Howard Brown     | KG6GI  | SOARA, 220 SMA, TASMA       | 949-246-1195 |
| HB Corcoran      | W5BYG  | CLARA                       | 714-557-6230 |
| Gordon West      | WB6NOA | MESAC                       | 714-549-5000 |
| Suzy West        | N6GLF  | MESAC                       | 714-549-5000 |
| Kristin Dankert  | K6PEQ  | OCARC                       | 714-544-9846 |
| Susan Roatch     | KF6VBO | Visitor                     | 714-563-2795 |
| Cheryl Day       | KI6AFL | Visitor                     | 714-563-2795 |
| Dino Darling     | K6RIX  | WARA                        | 562-652-7285 |
| Austin Miller    | KF6RVK | Red Cross                   | 714-533-7737 |
| Tom Mackay       | W6WC   | Red Cross, MARS Navy/Marine | 714-775-4993 |
| Armando Encalada | KG6UJJ | Red Cross                   | 714-270-1030 |
| Russ Gowin       | N6QZV  | WCARA, FV RACES             | 714-848-4501 |
| Larry McDavid    | W6FUB  | AARA, FRC                   | 714-630-5672 |

OCCARO Secretary, Ray Hutchinson AE6H, was absent; Larry McDavid W6FUB agreed to record Minutes.

1. Minutes from the August 9, 2005 OCCARO meeting were read and approved as corrected.

2. It was asked why OCCARO wants to incorporate. Howard Brown explained the primary benefits are member protection and access to free checking after achieving "not-for-profit" status.
3. The following reports were given:
  - Dino Darling K6RIX reported the OCCARO website was updated 10/11/05 at 6:00 PM. Dino asked for a volunteer to take over this responsibility and to contact him. Dino requested a list of website enhancements desired; suggested were links to local clubs, Anderson PowerPole info and OC Fair info. Dino gave assurance these enhancements would be completed by the next OCCARO meeting. Everyone was reminded to use the OCCARO.org web address.
  - Howard Brown reported a rough draft of incorporation papers was ready and it was agreed that the WARA club address would be used for the filing so that OCCARO would not have to rent a PO Box. Howard said the papers would be filed next quarter.
  - Howard Brown reported the OCCARO treasury at \$729.41. The 2005 OC Fair costs included \$234 for booth space and miscellaneous, \$125 for printing and \$210 by John Blair for lumber and other miscellaneous for a total of \$569. OCCARO received \$145 donations from local clubs to support the Fair; the out-of-treasury expense was \$424.
  - Every club representative indicated his club would have a Christmas dinner.
  - MESAC women had a very successful Tea Party at a member's home.
  - OCARC will have an auction the following week; see their website for details.
  - Gordon West reported the 2 m SSB Sprint contest will be held the following Monday and that the microwave conference will be 10/27-10/30/2005 at the Sheraton Hotel in Cerritos; there will a tour of the Goldstone facility on 10/27.
  - The WIN System was used to support the Bay-to-Bay MS 150 event, a 150 mile bicycle run.
  - Dino Darling K6RIX reported the first organization meeting for the 2007 Southwest Division ARRL Convention will be held in January, 2006; the convention will be managed by HamCon, Inc. from the LA Area.
  - Dino also reported that the September, 2005 AARL convention in riverside had few vendors present; the reason vendors gave was that the event was too costly for the small return from Riverside hams.
4. Dino Darling called for nominations for the 2006 OCCARO Board with the following result:
  - Chairperson           Kristin Dankert K6PEQ
  - Vice Chairman       Dino Darling K6RIX
  - Treasurer             Howard Brown KG6GI
  - Secretary             TBD (no volunteer)

The nominations were seconded and election to office was accepted by voice acclamation.

5. Dino introduced Kristin Dankert K6PEQ to discuss the 2006 OC Fair. Kristin said she would lead the organization of the Fair ham radio booth with the assistance of John Blair KE6TTX. John asked to be relieved of the major responsibility for 2006 but he will obtain the booth from the Fair organization and provide additional help. Kristin then provided a pass-out program on her plan for the ham radio booth and said more details would follow.
6. Susan Roatch KF6VBO and Cheryl Day KI6AFL introduced themselves and provided a business card announcing themselves as "Public Service Event Coordinators." Corky Corcoran W5BYG said Susan and Cheryl could provide some of the services previously provided by Jane Avnet; their services would be unofficial, not part of any ARRL organization but might be supported through ARES.
 

Susan and Cheryl want to join OCCARO. As individuals, they are not OCCARO members. It was pointed out that the OCCARO Bylaws allow only representatives from recognized local clubs and specified others such as the Red Cross. Some discussion followed but no clear resolution resulted; the organization/benefit/support for the offered service was not clear. This matter was left unresolved.
7. The next OCCARO meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at 7:30 PM in the Anaheim Utility Department Training Room.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Minutes prepared by Larry McDavid W6FUB.  
 LMc November 26, 2005  
 Rev. B

**FRC PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

Our January program is on the DARPA Autonomous Vehicle Competition that promotes research on how vehicles can be robot controlled to somewhat intelligently navigate over a various paths that are challenging to human drivers. Marty La Roque, N6NTH now an actively retired worked traveler, spent many professional years in the inertial navigation business and maintains membership in the Institute of Navigation. Marty is also active in Orange County RACES supporting with ATV and voice comm. from his white comm. van. He participated in the recent DARPA Competition and has agreed to share with us results and what he learned.

Find out how APRS was involved by coming to the January meeting and you can bring interested friends. See you there.

And here's February's Program

Our February guest speaker will be Quent Cassen, W6RI. Quent spent most of his career in integrated circuit design and wireless engineering at Rockwell/Conexant. From a ham's viewpoint, he will give us insight into the evolution of the cell phone from early analog systems to the new third generation networks. He has been licensed since 1952 and is currently employed part time at the University of California, Irvine, at the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology. Most of us have cell phones. Now is the time to find out how soon they will become obsolete!

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**FULLERTON RADIO CLUB  
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION  
P.O. BOX 545, FULLERTON, CA 92836**

[Please Print]

Name #1; \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name #2; \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$20 per member, or \$25 per family, Student (Full-time) \$10.00

Bring your dues payment to the next meeting or mail to the above PO Box.

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**December Club Meeting**

Marie Callender's Restaurant  
126 Yorba Linda Blvd.  
Placentia  
QSO Time: 6:30 PM  
Dinner: 7:00 PM – Sharp

**Friday December 16, 2005**

VE Sessions

For Information Contact

**Bob Reitzel, KD6DA**

(562) 691-1514

Or check the Fullerton Radio Club

Web Site:

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org>

Next VE Exam: **Feb.11, 2006**

***Please call one week in advance to  
reserve a place***

**Monthly Board Meeting**

Open to all Members  
Marie Callender's Restaurant  
126 Yorba Linda Blvd.  
Placentia

**Next Board Meeting: January 4, 2006**

Talk and Dinner: 7:00 PM

Meeting: 7:30 PM

**WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION**



**Janet Margelli**  
Manager  
KL7MF

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

<http://qsl.net.occaro/>

**Fullerton Radio Club Web Sites**

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org>  
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/KC6YHM>

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Fullerton Radio Club  
PO Box 545  
Fullerton, CA 92836

First Class Mail

