



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

January 2007

Question, 2007 FRC Programs, Where Should They Take Us?

2007 begins with a great new opportunity abundance. We in the Fullerton Radio Club have many more choices for ways to enjoy this hobby. There's still DXing, digital modes, CW operating, playing with antennas, Satellites Com., 10-10 activities, project building, and much more.

So what FRC program topics do you think about that will help fulfill our range of interests? Don't forget what recent FCC changes and conditions we amateurs can look forward to in 2007.

For New license candidates and licensees: You no longer will suffer the fearsome specter of being tested for CW ability. You also will join us old dudes by enjoying the new abundance of expanded band privileges. You can also look forward to better HF band local and DX conditions being promised by a new Solar activity cycle, #24. Right now just in it's early stages but is predicted to be "30% to 50% more intense than #23 was.

For "Mature" licensees: We can now "swim" in the bigger pool of expanded HF bandwidths granted by phone band expansions made effective on Dec. 15, 06. Since CW is now likely to fade away, newer digital modulation modes might fill those narrower, squeezed down, bandwidth segments. With common Tech and Tech-plus operating privileges, reduced activity on VHF, UHF and SHF that noticeably dropped overall even more in 2006 might begin to increase. Exceptions like the Win-System and others using IRLP did stir lots of activity.

But wait, what happens without a future CW proficiency? Future distress calls using CW may still need to be made on ham frequencies. Will anyone be there to copy them?

Those in distress need to be well prepared for emergencies by having installed reliably functional, and of course modern, digital or analog phone technology. It's clear, more primitive CW and even "non-digital" analog methods will continue to be less supported. Even changes to rid the airwaves of old style analog TV is scheduled, by FCC order, to phase out by 2009. AM & FM broadcast radio may soon follow as totally digital. Your antique crystal set won't get AM any more.

With such changing prospects, how best can the ham community, us, play radio in this kind of future? Just think, at recent FCC commercial band auctions, band values \$1 Bil'n per 10 MHz, makes the value of a single amateur 2.5 kHz audio spectrum space equal to \$250,000. We occupy highly coveted bandwidths. Further, the lack of congressional legislation to protect amateur spectrum against loss, shows clearly we need to shield our hobby by assuring we can provide to the country emergency services and disaster responsiveness.

Congressional testimony after Hurricane Katrina plainly did reveal how valuable to survivors the free support role by a ready ham radio community was and continues to be needed.

Fullerton Radio Club's ongoing public events support like, Feb's. Tennis Competition, "CSUF Donate Life" 10K Walk, Baker2Vegas, Antennas In the Park (AIP), Field Day, and Airport Open House are examples that show our desire to be a prepared team of capable hams ready to give service. Unique HDSCS on-call services given to local hospitals without any return, adds value to communities when internal phone outages occur by offsetting their impact at local health care centers .

2006's new CERT program, announced in September "Smoke Signals", trained over 50 local volunteers in public disaster preparedness. Note that four already licensed hams were among the trainees.

Next, an important question, are we, FRC members interested in and willing to start amateur license training and mentoring to new CERT volunteers, thus making amateur bands better used, while serving our community.

Let us all give help in developing this. I plan to continue to push for and promote this as a most valuable new 2007 FRC program activity.

73 Bill K., W6ZJE
FRC V.P. for Programs

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

President

Larry McDavid, W6FUB
Phone: (714) 630-5672
E-mail: Lmcdavid@Lmceng.com

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 & Membership

Manuel Borges; AE6SG
Phone: (714) 871-4947
E-mail: ae6sg@yahoo.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

OCCARO Representative

Larry McDavid, W6FUB
Phone: (714) 630-5672
E-mail: Lmcdavid@Lmceng.com

Trustee & VE Testing

Bob Reitzel, KD6DA
Phone: (562) 691-1514
E-mail: breitzel@juno.com
Packet: KD6DA@WB6YHM-2

Directors

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

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

Newsletter Editor

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

NO-Code has Happened

Hi gang.

FCC did it! No code becomes effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. Should be a February happening.

Bob.

QST – QST – QST

ATTENTION: ALL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

Please save the following Dates: February 3, 4, 10 and 11, 2007 for the 2007 Fullerton Jr. Tennis Tournament. Approx. 1,500 players and 12 different sites. Please E-mail /or Call me if you are available to work this event, very soon.

Gene Thorpe KB6CMO; KB6CMO@ARRL.net 714-680-4258

Thanks, GT

January Program

A Whole New Sun?".

Past models for solar behavior, historically came from what can be seen by eye near the earth's surface. Sun spots, the mysterious and eerie solar Corona, visible only during total eclipse plus the dark lines (fraunhoffer lines) in the solar spectrum were about the only tools we could use in trying to understand how the sun works and what to expect to deliver our life giving energy. We could work DX better with high sunspot numbers but strength differences between these 11-year cycles couldn't be explained

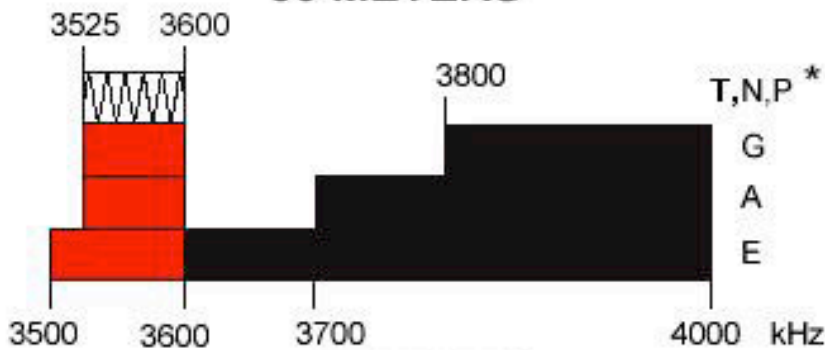
By 2006, with new space imaging systems designed to see elements as hydrogen, Calcium, and Iron, otherwise invisible by their unique very short wavelengths, solar behavior us beginning to make sense. Bill Kohlenberger will show how this new view has led a team at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, in Boulder CO, to forecast how big the next couple of solar cycles should be. Is it good news for DX or not? How will global warming change?

Join us on Wednesday Jan 17, 2007 to hear and see what we can expect and how today we think we know why.

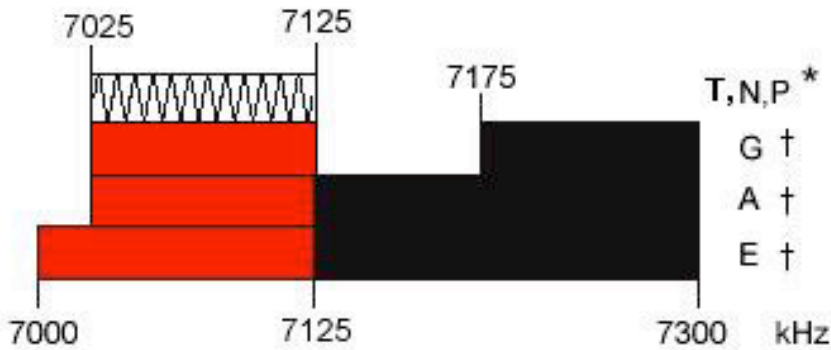
Fullerton Senior Center
340 W. Commonwealth Ave.
QSO 7:00 PM – Meeting 7:30 PM

New 12/15/2006 FCC Privileges Including Tech Plus & Tech Bands

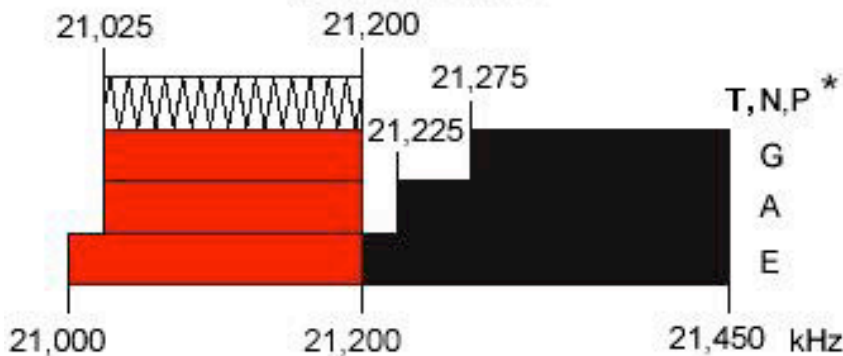
80 METERS



40 METERS



15 METERS



10 METERS



KEY

- = CW, RTTY and data
- = CW, RTTY, data, MCW, test, phone and image
- = CW, phone and image
- = CW and SSB phone
- = CW, RTTY, data, phone, and image
- = CW only
- = USB Phone only

E = AMATEUR EXTRA
A = ADVANCED
G = GENERAL
P = TECHNICIAN PLUS
T = TECHNICIAN
N = NOVICE

} Same Privileges Now

Partial Data Form
"Hambands 3 color.pdf"
 See Original For Full Data, Go To
<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>



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Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting: February 7, 2007

Talk and Dinner: 7:00 PM
Meeting: 7:30 PM

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

www.occaro.org

Fullerton Radio Club Web Sites

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org>

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: **February 10, 2007**

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

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Janet Margelli
Manager
KL7MF

933 N. Euclid Street
Anaheim, CA 92801
714-533-7373, 1-800-854-6046
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P.O. BOX 545, FULLERTON, CA 92836**

[Please Print]

Name #1; _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____ ARRL Member Yes No

Name #2; _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____ ARRL Member Yes No

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.