



# Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

January 2009

## President's Column

Happy New Year! With the new year comes new presidents. Let me update you on your "local" 2009 FRC President. I am Robert Doidge KI6KYW, and am pleased to serve as your president for 2009. I am a relatively new ham, of nearly two years, but certainly not new to radio communication. I earned my radio waves as a kid, running parade communications for the City of Laguna Beach's annual Patriot's Day Parade. We used CB radios (all that we could afford) and installed three locations within the very hilly city. The parade starter, using a 5-watt mobile and a 15' antenna, could not talk to city hall. I learned the art of relay communications and how best to place antennas.

From there, I spent some time in the Laguna PD dispatch and working with the Fire Department as a ride-along Fire Explorer. We even were allowed to use the city radios!

Flash-forward to today: I am a CERT team leader (District 2) for the City of Fullerton Fire Department, and am working on helping my son find time for radio communications. He is a Webelos scout and I anticipate the day when he will earn his Radio badge.

Thank you in advance for your confidence and support. Thank you also to Larry for his fine presidential leadership for the past two years!

73's,  
Robert

**QST QST QST  
ATTENTION: ALL AMATEUR RADIO  
OPERATORS**

**URGENT**

Fullerton Jr. Tennis Tournament is coming soon. The dates for this year's event are Saturdays and Sundays Jan. 31st, Feb. 1st, 7th, 8th, and Monday February 9th, 2009. We will be manning 10 sites and approx. 1,800 players covering North Orange County. We need 44 or so Amateur Radio Operators for this event. Please check your calendar and sign up now. Call or E-mail KB6CMO at 714-680-4258 or [KB6CMO@ARRL.NET](mailto:KB6CMO@ARRL.NET)

[ED. Gene has only a few operators committed at this time and desperately needs your help.]

## JANUARY CLUB MEETING

The January meeting of Fullerton Radio Club will again feature Frank Czopek who will be providing an additional program on GPS technology. Frank presented a very interesting program at our October 2008 meeting regarding the early history of the GPS system. Frank will return this month to give us Part 2 of to explain how we got to the multi-national GPS system in use and growing even today.

**Wednesday, January 21, 2009  
Fullerton Senior Center  
340 W. Commonwealth  
QSO at 7:00PM; Meeting at 7:30PM**

Public is welcome

**Fullerton Radio Club**  
P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836-0545

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**Show-and-Tell**

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

**TwinPeaks 50/50 Trail Race**

Hello,  
I'm hoping some of you can help or spread the word about the assistance we need.

I am putting on a 50Km, 50M, and 100K trail race on Feb 28th, 2009. We need about 8-10 Radio operators to provide communications between our aid stations and track our runners. The safety of our runners is of paramount concern to me and we can't fully provide that safety with them help of people like yourselves!

If you can help that would be great. I'd also appreciate if you could pass this on to your club members.

I can be reached at 949-842-8452.

Thank you very much!  
Jessica Deline, Race Director  
http://www.twinpeaks5050.com

**Public Service Events in 2009**

Fullerton Jr. Tennis Tournament  
Jan.31, Feb.1, 7, 8, 9, 2009  
\*\*\*Contact Gene Thorpe KB6CMO for more info.  
[KB6CMO@ARRL.NET](mailto:KB6CMO@ARRL.NET)  
714-680-4258

TwinPeaks50/50 Trail Race  
Feb. 28, 2009  
Contact: Jessica Deline  
[jessica@dirtyfeet.us](mailto:jessica@dirtyfeet.us)  
1-949-842-8452

Baker 2 Vegas "Law Enforcement" Relay Race, March 14/15, 2009  
Contact: Joy Matlack KD6FJV  
[RBVCom1@b2v.org](mailto:RBVCom1@b2v.org).

DonateLIFE 5K/1k FUN Run-Walk  
CSUF April 25, 2009  
\*\*\*Contact Gene Thorpe KB6CMO

L.A. Marathon; Monday May 25, 2009  
Contact: Greg Powell KD6AIS  
[kd6ais@pacbell.net](mailto:kd6ais@pacbell.net)

La Palma Run 4 Fun & Fitness;  
July 4th, 2009  
La Palma Days Parade; Saturday  
Nov. ?,2009  
\*\*\*Contact Gene Thorpe KB6CMO  
More info later in the year.

**CLUB EVENTS:**

Technician License Class;  
Saturdays, January 24 – March 28

Fullerton RailRoad Days;  
May 2 - 3

ARRL Field Day;  
June 27 -28

Antennas In The Park;  
Date to be determined.

**FRC Mobile Transmitter Hunt**  
December 20, 2008

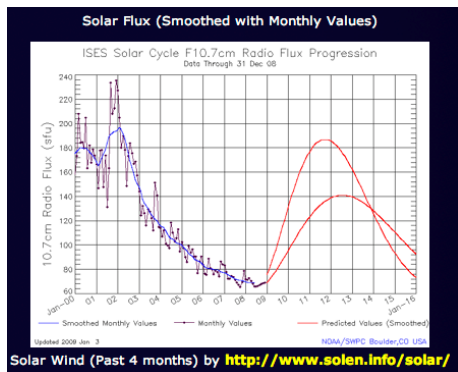
Dave Balgie N6MJN was hider for the December FRC mobile transmitter hunt. He parked his truck along Cameron Avenue in West Covina, just north of the South Hills Country Club. Trying for a signal bounce from Mount Baldy, he aimed his 4-element horizontally polarized quad to the northeast, away from the starting point, with five watts transmitter power. The turnout was good this time, and most teams found it in about an hour and a quarter.

**Results:**

Team Calls	Odometer Mileage
N6UZS	19.2
KF6GQ/KA6TAS	21.0
N6ZHZ/KF6BXB	22.6
WB6JPI	28.7
N6AIN/WA6PYE	53.8
K0OV	Unofficial

The next hunt will be Saturday evening, January 17, starting at 8 PM from the intersection of Skyline (AKA North Ladera Vista) and Acacia in Fullerton.

73,  
Joe Moell K0OV



**Here is a teaser from Bill W6ZJE**

Where Is Sunspot cycle #24?  
Keep UR Eye On  
...<http://www.solarcycle24.com/>  
...

**FRC Board Meeting Minutes**

January 7, 2009  
Club President Robert Doidge KI6KYW called the Board meeting to order at 7:42 PM. Meeting attendees also included: V.P. Bill Preston KZ3G, Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD, Board Members Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, Alex Valdez K9BLK, and club members Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU and Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report indicates that we have \$1,657.48 in the checking account, and \$1,686.75 in savings. A charge has just been received from the bank for \$45 for payment of the safe deposit box.

Membership report shows that to date we have only received 17 membership renewals for 2009. At the end of last year we had 59 members. A membership renewal form is attached to this issue of Smoke Signals. Please fill out completely and return it with dues at the next meeting or send by mail.

Old Business: Plans for conducting the annual Antennas In The Park (ANTS) event are on hold due to numerous other activities planned for the same time period. The WARA club continues to have interest in participation with the event. Other potential dates will be identified for consideration.

Program Plans: The January meeting will again feature Frank Czopek who will be providing an additional program on GPS technology. Meeting speaker for February is pending. The March meeting will again feature the DonateLIFE organ donor program

New Business:  
Hillcrest Park has again been selected for our field day site. Set up activities and mode of operation has not been decided. We will need to identify a chairman for the event for coordination of activities, people, equipment, etc.

Gene KB6CMO made a motion that the club support OCCARO with \$20 dues, and the OC Fair activities with

\$50. The motion was passed unanimously.

Public information write-ups will be prepared by the club secretary related to RR days, Field Day and ANTS for release to what ever media will accept it.

A new club banner will be ordered with correct designation as Fullerton Radio Club.

The club will present another Technician license class, beginning first session will be Saturday, January 24. (See additional information elsewhere in Smoke Signals).

FRC YAHOO groups has 36 members as of 1/6/09. We are searching for methods to get more members to join.

The Board will review the club member information survey process to determine if there is value to re-run it this year.

Bill Kohlenberger received a corrected copy of his lifetime member award certificate.

We will be soliciting someone to provide snacks at the regular club meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Paul Broden K6MHD  
Secretary

## HDSCS Lets Kids Talk to Santa North Pole Network's 32nd Year

On Friday, December 19, seven members of the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System responded to Children's Hospital of Orange County to set up a link to the North Pole station so that patients and family members could have a direct, personal contact with Santa Claus. Despite strong winds at the North Pole, radio propagation was excellent and signals held up well for the North Pole Network event that lasted over six hours. At least eighty "I Talked To Santa on Amateur Radio" buttons were given to patients, siblings, parents and some medical staff members. They earned the buttons by talking to Santa on the radio. Every year, these buttons are received and worn with pride.

Santa has great elves who do a superb job of collecting advance information on the patients and their families. As patients and their families speak with Santa on the radio from his workshop, there is no doubt that they are talking with the real one. After all, when it's Santa that introduces the patient to the communicator, knows about family members, and confirms that the elves are working on the *Wii* that had been requested before by e-mail, how could one not believe?

Via these contacts, the Big Guy got advance notice about what he might find as his sleigh flew into Orange County on Christmas Eve. Chocolate chip cookies topped the list, but some patients declared that oatmeal and sugar cookies, and maybe even pizza might be waiting. For St. Nick, the best part

was the many patients who wanted to tell him, "I love you, Santa!"

let us know how important Santa's words were to their children and to them. The personal touch meant a great deal to parents.



**WOW! Santa really knows me!**  
Photo at CHOC during the recent North Pole Network

This was the 32nd year for North Pole Network at CHOC and it was just as special as the first. Our medical background and our regular disaster communications service to the hospitals have given CHOC staff members confidence in us. That makes it possible for us to take Santa's voice to the sickest patients. We went in and out of isolation rooms (gowning, gloving and scrubbing as needed) and went from bed to bed in Intensive Care units. That is what Santa wants most -- to talk with the patients who are most likely to be confined to the hospital through Christmas Day and to those whose medical conditions limit their ability to enjoy the holidays. The reactions of family members

The technical crew included Ken Simpson W6KOS, Alex Valdez K9BLK and Woody Woodward NJ6W. Joe Moell K0OV was Technical Coordinator. The communicator team members were Paul Broden K6MHD and Dave West KI6EPI. Lead Communicator and overall North Pole Network Coordinator is April Moell WA6OPS.

More about the North Pole Network is at [www.hdscs.org](http://www.hdscs.org). Click on NORTH POLE to see photos from this year and all the way back to the beginning in 1976.



### Next On-foot T-Hunt – Feb. 7

The next southern California on-foot transmitter hunting session will be Saturday, February 7, 2009 at Bonelli Regional Park. A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment are not required. Experts will be on hand to teach the basic techniques of on-foot radio direction-finding (RDF).

For beginners, there will be entry-level two-meter fox transmitters set by Joe Moell K0OV. For advanced radio-orientees, there will be an international-rules ARDF course set by Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. An optional 80-meter fox transmitter will also be on the air.

Before the hunt, Marvin will host a session of antenna and attenuator building for those who have a two-meter hand-held radio or scanner, but don't have any equipment for radio direction finding with it. If you register with Marvin ahead of time, he will have kits for measuring-tape yagis and active attenuators. There will also be tools and soldering stations. If you're not an electronic technician, don't worry because there will be experts to help you. We want you to succeed! Send e-mail to Marvin ([marvin@west.net](mailto:marvin@west.net)) to pre-register and get more information about equipment. If you already have equipment and just want to hunt, you don't need to pre-register.

The building session starts a 9 AM. Please be prompt. The main 5-fox hunt begins about 10:30 AM. Hunters may start the advanced course at any time until 1 PM. Courses close at 3 PM. There are

picnic tables and BBQ grills nearby, so you can bring your lunch or cook up something if you wish.

The beginner course and the 80-meter transmitter hunt will be free of charge. The advanced ARDF training will use electronic registration/scoring ("e-punch") so a \$5 per entry (individual or group) donation is requested to defray the cost of the full-color orienteering map and e-punch equipment.

Trails are primitive in some areas of the park, so wear sturdy shoes. All ages are welcome, but young children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

In case of rainy or very wet conditions, the event may be postponed. If bad weather threatens, check the Homing In Web site ([www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com)) or call on 146.97 MHz simplex before you set out to make sure that the event is a "go."

Bonelli Regional Park is near Raging Waters, Brackett Field, and Puddingstone Reservoir. From the 57/210 freeways, take the Via Verde exit and go east through the entrance to the park. There is a per-vehicle entry fee. Go approximately 1/4 mile beyond the entrance and turn left into the parking lot for the bike rental stand. Look for the orange-and-white orienteering flag directing you to the starting area. A map of the area is at [www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com).

If you have them, bring a handi-talkie, receiver, or scanner covering the two-meter band for each person who will

be going ARDFing. If you have directional antennas, attenuators, or other on-foot RDF equipment, be sure to bring it too. Make sure all batteries are fresh. For those with no radio gear, some extra ARDF receiver/antenna sets may be available. Also be sure to bring anything you'll need while going after those radio foxes, such as munchies, bottled water and sunscreen. For map plotting, bring your own compass, protractor and pencil.

Talk-in will be on 146.970 MHz simplex (no repeater offset).

73, Joe Moell K0OV



Antenna work at a recent ARDF function.

# **-:Want A Radio Amateur License?:-** **FCC Ham Radio License, Free Class Course**

From  
Members of **Fullerton Radio Club Inc.** (Org. 1950), Fullerton **RACES & CERT**

A series of classes targeted at preparing anyone wanting to pass the Radio Amateur Technician-class License Examination are **starting**:-

**Saturday JAN. 24, 2009, at 1:30 PM.**

Course sessions introduce topics and offer information using the **primary ARRL study guide, "Ham Radio License Manual, level 1, Technician"**. Manuals are available from "Ham Radio Outlet", 933 N. Euclid St., Anaheim 92801. A few copies of the manual will be available at the opening session. Be aware that you will value your own copy for reference and study during and after the course.

Fullerton Radio Club volunteer team of licensed Amateurs, include retired teachers, professor and engineers who guide you through an interesting and enriched License training program.

Class meetings will each run two hours. Presentations cover radio basics, operating procedures, and regulations while enriching personal ham radio experiences with hints helpful for successfully passing your FCC Technician Class License Exam are offered.

Class location, **CedarHill Mobile Home Park** Clubhouse, 2851 Rolling Hills Drive, Fullerton, CA. Parking is free for those attending. Locations are on Rolling Hills Drive, along CedarHill Drive or in front of the Clubhouse.

Please note: Morse code testing is no longer a requirement for any class of Amateur Radio License.  
Radiotelegraph Code lessons will not be offered in this course.

## **Proposed course schedule:**

<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Day, Time &amp; Date</u>	<u>Manual Sections To Study</u>
#1 & 2	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Jan. 24, 2009,	Start With The Front Of The Manual
<b>Xtra Demo. Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Jan. 31, 2009,</b>		<b>Ham Radio Aids Local Youth Tennis</b>
#3 & 4	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Feb. 07, 2009,	02-01 Thru 02-03, & 02-04 Thru 02-14
#5 & 6	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Feb. 14, 2009,	To Be Announced at class
#7 & 8	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Feb. 21, 2009,	To Be Announced at class
#9 & 10	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Feb. 28, 2008,	To Be Announced at class
#11 & 12	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Mar. 07, 2008,	To Be Announced at class
#13 & 14	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Mar. 14, 2008,	To Be Announced at class
#15 & 16	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Mar. 21, 2008,	To Be Announced at class
#17 & 18	Sat., 1:30: to 3:30 P.M. Mar. 28, 2008,	Course review & practice exams

## Information Contacts:

Instruction Team- C. W Kohlenberger, (714) 525-2109, Gary Miller, (714) 529-2893,  
Bill Preston (714) 393-8004, Dr. M. Shapiro, (714) 278-3884, Gene Thorpe, (714) 680-4258  
CedarHill - Bill or Pat Cossey, (714) 577-0971

C. W. K. W6ZJE, January 09, 2009

### FRC Monthly Board Meeting

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

### Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2009  
Talk and Dinner: 7:00 PM  
Meeting: 7:30 PM

### FRC Regular Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month  
Fullerton Senior Center  
340 West Commonwealth Ave.  
QSO 7:00 PM – Meeting 7:30 PM

### Next Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 2009  
Dinner 6:00 PM at Carrow's, Harbor at Brea

### Fullerton Radio Club Web Site

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.com>

### FRC Tuesday Net

Remember the FRC Tuesday evening net  
meets at 8:00 PM on 147.975 (-) PL 114.8  
Join us!

### Hidden Transmitter Hunt

FRC operates a 2-meter mobile T-Hunt every  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. We meet at the corner of Acacia  
Avenue and Skyline Drive at 8:00 PM sharp  
for deployment on the hunt. You are invited.  
There is no need to be a licensed ham to  
participate.

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

<http://www.occaro.org>

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



# HAM RADIO OUTLET

**Janet Margelli**  
Manager  
KL7MF

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION P.O. BOX 545, FULLERTON, CA 92836-0545

[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.**