



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

January 2015

Notes from the Board

It's a new year, and Fullerton Radio Club will be making some adjustments to our operation. What we will be trying includes a revised method for identifying club meeting topics and other activities that will be of interest to members and prospective members. But what we need first is to know what the membership wants from the Club, and how the members are willing to support it.

Throughout our history it has been the responsibility of the Club Vice President to select a topic for presentation at Club meeting by finding someone with a subject of interest and willingness to make the presentation to the club. This has worked OK, but with great difficulty and stress placed on the VP for finding the presenters. That's why it has been so difficult to fill the office of Vice President at time of elections. Our intent this year is to place the responsibility for identifying meeting topics and presenters with the membership. We have a sign-up sheet for you to select one month where you will take responsibility for the meeting presentation. You can make arrangements with someone that has a subject you think will be of interest to the club. Maybe you have something in your own repertoire of interest or knowledge. Maybe it's someone you know or work with. But anyway, you choose one month, then its over for you for many months. After all, we only have eleven months for this each year, holiday meeting excluded, so the responsibility for you will not be frequent. So Far, for this year we already have three months with tentative plans. What ideas can you come up with? Bill Preston has agreed to serve as VP, but his role will be limited to coordination of the activities. He'll work with you to see that the topic gets on the calendar, and remind you when it's your month. Put on your thinking cap now to identify a good topic, and sign up at the next meeting.

We all need to be thankful for efforts made by past Vice Presidents. Without them and their efforts we wouldn't have had the meeting we had.

Along these same lines, your Board would like to hear from you regarding other activities for the Club. Our

highlighted activity each year has been Antennas In The Park, which brings out most participation due to the much-awaited T-Hunt; thanks to Joe Moell KOOV and others. But what else would you like? Should we reactivate Field Day as a FRC activity or join with another club for the weekend event? In what other events or activities would you like to see involved? If you have ideas please contact any of the officers or board members. We will also welcome articles for publication in Smoke Signals. Remember, this is your club and your input is needed to keep it active. If we don't identify a planned meeting for the month we will turn it into a "show-and-tell" event where one or more member will share items of historic, technical or just general interest.

Future Meeting Idea

The Club is tentatively targeting the March 18 meeting for conductance of a swap-meet format meeting. At this time we are setting the March meeting pending some investigation into multiple details that require clarification. We still have a few items left from Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE estate, and numerous of us can probably identify a bunch of unused items that have been "warehoused" in the garage that might well better serve in someone else's hamshack. We will focus on Ham-related items; radios, parts, tools, test equipment, etc. Other clubs may be invited as plans develop. Start gathering your "stuff" now.

FRC Regular Club Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month
Chapman Activity Center
2515 San Carlos Dr.
Fullerton, CA

Next Regular Meeting
Wednesday,
January 21, 2015

Dinner before the meeting at 5:00 PM at:
Coco's Restaurant, 1011 N. Harbor Blvd.

Meeting time: 7:00 PM
Visitors are welcome

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

President

Albert Solomon, AG6OF
Phone: (714) 348-7938
E-mail: billpreston@roadrunner.com

Vice President

Bill Preston, KZ3G
Phone: (714) 393-8004
E-mail: billpreston@roadrunner.com

Secretary

Linda Endsley, KJ6IHB
Phone: (714) 992-4645
E-mail: lindiend@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer, Public Service, Membership

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

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 Representatives

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ

License Trustee

Albert Solomon, AG6OF
Phone: (714) 348-9097
E-mail: albertsolomon18@yahoo.com

Directors

Larry McDavid, W6FUB
Phone: (714) 630-5672

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ
Phone: (714) 657-2862

Mike LeFevre WD6AQH
Phone: (714) 674-7687

Richard Belansky, KG6UDD
Phone: (714) 970-6385

Director & Newsletter Editor

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

**Show –and–Tell
(for any club meeting)**

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.org

The January 2014 Board meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Albert Solomon AG6OF. Other members present were: Vice President Bill Preston KZ3G, Treasurer, Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Linda Endsley, KJ6IHB, Directors Paul Broden K6MHD, and Larry McDavid W6FUB, Richard Belansky KG6UDD, Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, Mike LeFevre WD6AQH and member Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU.

Minutes from the December Board meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Checking Account, \$2,682.74. Bill for safety deposit box was paid; Savings Account, \$3,073.44.

Membership renewals are being received. About 10 renewals received.

Old Business:

The Christmas dinner went well.

The tennis tournament will be January 30 and February 1. No info received as of yet.

Ham Shack – no info as of yet.

New Business:

Discussed having a swap meeting at one of the meetings – March 18 – was selected.

HamCon will be September 11, 12, and 13 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) in Torrance. T-Hunt with Joe will be available.

Testing teams are available.

Speaker at the January general meeting will be Walter Clark. The topic will be on XBee Programming, Wiring and Use.

Fullerton Railroad Days -- It was discussed and decided not to participate in this year.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 4.

The meeting was closed at 8:13 PM

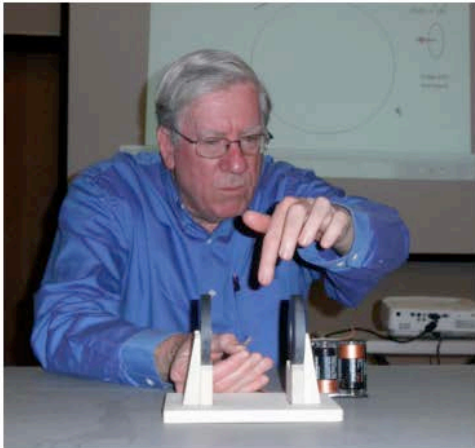
Submitted by Linda Endsley, KJ6IHB

January Club Meeting Presentation

By: Walter Clark

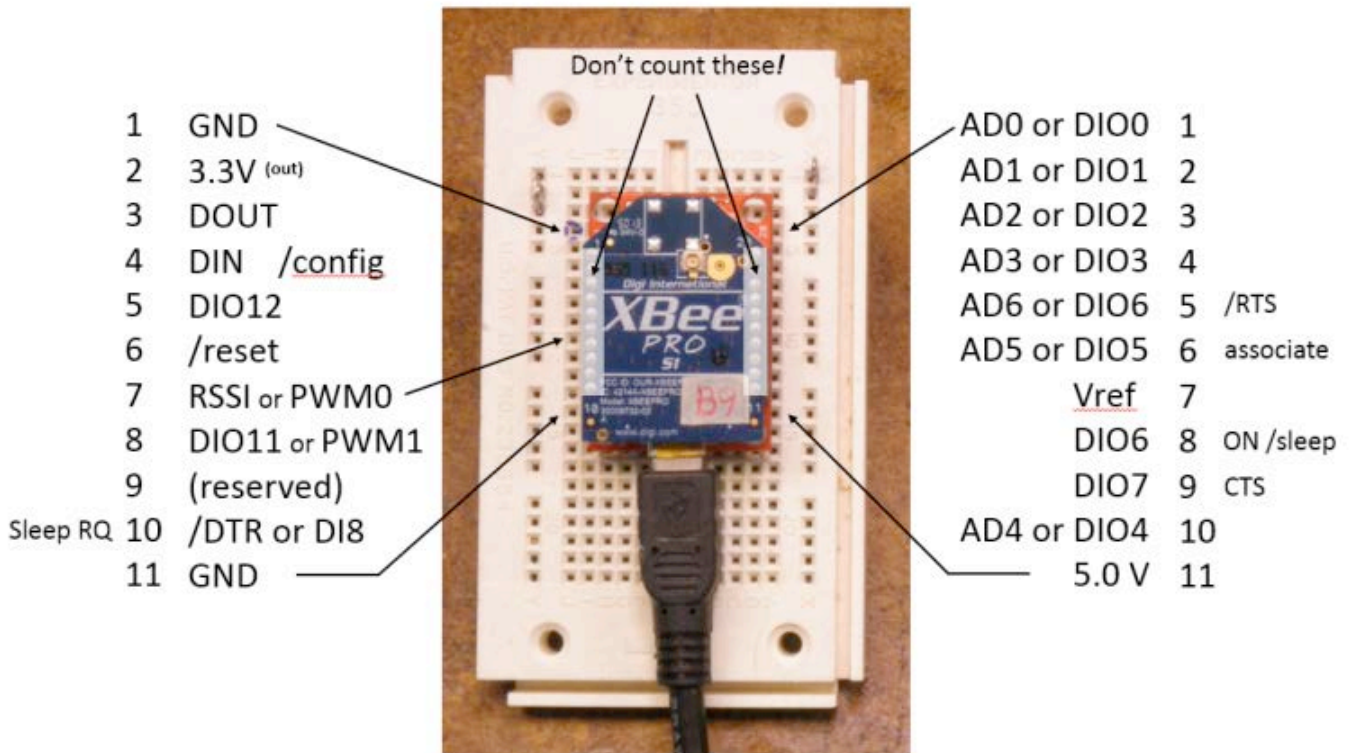
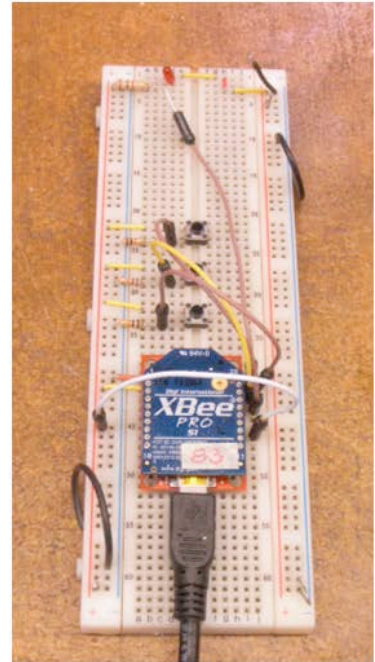
XBee Communications Modules

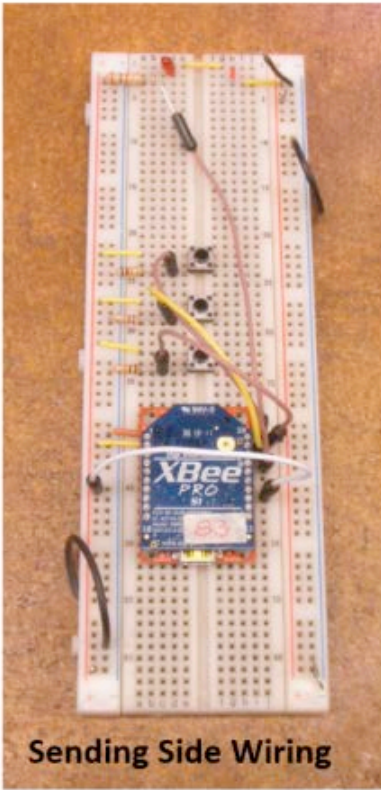
These \$40 modules are used in pairs to be a radio link version of a USB cable. They use the same secure protocol that your router and other WiFi products use, but are able to be integrated into electronic projects built by tinkerers.



Of most interest to the Maker Community is that they can be interfaced with as few as 3 wires to a microcontroller to add, two-way communications to another microcontroller up to a mile away. This talk, however, won't involve an Arduino. It has to do with: **The Wiring, Configuring and Use of Two XBees Without Microcomputer.**

Switches and photo detector will be on one board, and several feet away, LEDs and a meter on the other.

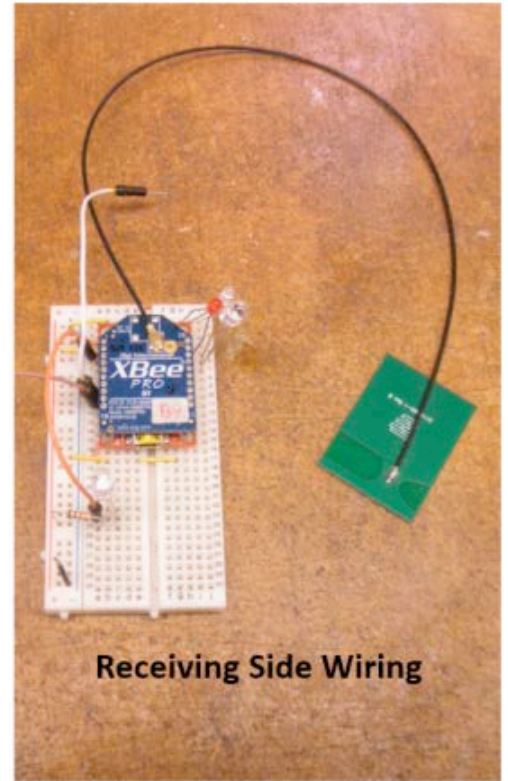




Sending Side Wiring

without microcontroller

line passing



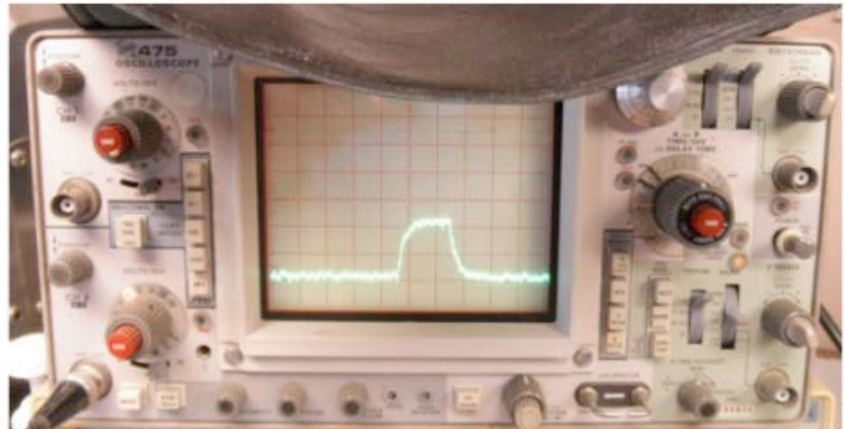
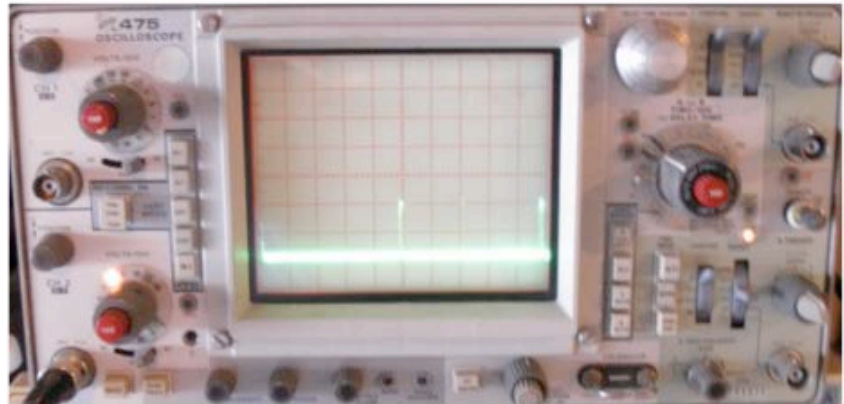
Receiving Side Wiring

RF Output

RF pulses at 40 per second whether the input data is continuous or itself pulsed.

One pulse expanded below . . .

Not captured here are the many dozen pulses representing ones and zeros.



Public Service Event

Coming Up Very Soon is this year's 2015 "Fullerton Jr. Tennis Tournament." Dates are January 31, 2015 and February 1, 7, & 8, 2015. Number of Sites....10 or more; Number of Amateur Radio Operators Needed...35 or more.

So, please check your calendar and let me know if you can help me out, by working this PS event. Please send me an email with your name, email address, cell phone #, and date/days that you can work to: KB6CMO@juno.com. Thanks, Gene Thorpe

Holiday Meeting Raffle Prizes

For those who missed the Club Holiday dinner meeting, Larry McDavid W6FUB won the Wouxun 2M/440 dual-band HT, and Dale Petes KI6ANS XYL won the 2M Alinco transceiver.

Yuma Hamfest

Here's reminder about the Yuma Hamfest, coming up in just five weeks. Join Gordon West and exhibitors like Elecraft and FlexRadio at the event on February 20-21.

Now in our eleventh year and one of the largest hamfests in the ARRL's Southwestern Division, the Yuma Hamfest is one of the few multi-day convention-style hamfests held in Arizona. We feature commercial exhibitors and vendors, tailgating, grand prizes worth nearly \$14,500, on-site RV camping, free parking, seminars held in parallel tracks in two separate buildings, \$5.00 amateur license testing, DXCC card checking, an antenna clinic & transmitter hunt, our famous "Buzzard BBQ" dinner, a near-space balloon launch, great hourly door prizes worth over \$1000, a hospitality area, the "Country Store" consignment sales area, and much more.

Admission is only \$5, tailgating spots are \$10 for the weekend, and we offer a food concession run by a professional chef. Our now-famous "Buzzard BBQ" dinner is only \$10. We are giving away both a Google Nexus 7 and a Kindle Fire HDX tablet as admission prizes to two people just for attending. You should mark the third weekend of February on your calendar and plan on attending the Yuma Hamfest.

Please check our website at www.yumahamfest.org for more information. If you have questions, contact us at info@yumahamfest.org or by phone at 928-305-1034.

See the attached Yuma Hamfest Flyer

Roger Hunt, K7MEX
Director, Yuma Hamfest

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION

Fullerton Radio Club
PO Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836

(Please Print)

Name #1 _____ Call: _____ Class: _____
Name #2 _____ 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.

2015 Arizona Section Convention

Yuma Hamfest

Yuma, Arizona

Feb. 20 & 21, 2015

Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona



www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information

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| Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon | Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm | Hamfest Dinner & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm |
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**Vendors & Exhibitors
Consignment Sales
License Testing
Hourly Door Prizes
On-site RV Camping
Hamfest Dinner
ARRL Speaker
Transmitter Hunt
\$5.00 Admission**

**Tailgating (Swap Meet)
Full Seminar Schedule
DXCC Card Checking
Incredible Grand Prizes
Emergency Preparedness
Admission Prize
Hospitality Area
Near Space Balloon Launch
Antenna Clinic**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (-) PL 88.5 Hz

Email Contact: info@yumahamfest.org



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.



Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization