



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

July 2007

PREZ SPEAKS

I've sometimes told my friends "back east" (we understand that means east of Las Vegas, right?) that Los Angeles does not have weather. While that might be true compared to some locations, I'm now assured that we do have weather. In fact, our weather sets some national records for activity. If this seems counterintuitive to you, then you must attend our next regular meeting and hear Mike McLaughlin KJ6EQ tell us about SKYWARN. This promises to be very interesting so do come!

Field Day happened and those who came had a good time. We even made some contacts! And, we were successful in operating only QRP and only on battery power, really proving the capability for emergency communications. We had an impressive array of antennas—both long wire and beam—set up near the top of the hill in Hillcrest Park. And, the Isaac Walton Cabin proved very convenient for amenities. Let's congratulate Manual Borges AE6SG on his success in organizing this event and especially for all the antenna work.

I saw some pictures of this year's Orange County Amateur Radio Club Field Day site recently. I've never seen so many Field Day antennas up in the air—including a portable (really, it was on wheels) 100 foot un-guyed tower! They think they are close to breaking the all-time points record for their class. But, that's a whole 'nother kind of Field Day.

Before our next meeting, we are invited to attend the Park Adventure on Saturday, July 14 with David Corsiglia and the Super System folks; Joe Moell will have more hidden transmitters to find there also. There will be lots of food again as well; David asks that you bring a pot luck dish but he will be cooking burgers, hot dogs and chicken. For this event, the food will cost you \$2 if you bring a food dish and \$5 if you do not. See the map for the location within this large park bounded by Imperial Highway, Bastanchury Road, State College Boulevard and Associated Road in Fullerton. All entry is east from State College Boulevard just south of Imperial Highway. It's a lovely site with lots of shade. Bring a chair!

On Wednesday, July 25, FRC members will staff the ham radio booth at the Orange County Fair in Costa Mesa. The theme this year is "CowAbunga! The Year of Herefords,

Surfers and Sand." Operating this booth is always great fun, especially teaching the kids to send their names in Morse Code. The booth will be all set up with lots of new radios and outside antennas so you just come and have fun with the crowd in the Orange County Building. Our booth often wins the top prize for this key pavilion and we're hoping for a good show again this year. We'll start taking volunteer reservations at our June meeting; we like to have three members in the booth in at least three shifts during the full day we are responsible for the booth. I'll have free tickets at the July meeting.

I enjoy the Show-and-Tell each month and hope you do, too! I'll have a thing or two again this month but I don't want to be the only one showing and telling so find something of interest and bring it or plan to talk briefly about some interesting thing you've done. Remember, this is not a big presentation, just stand up and show what you've brought; if practical, pass it around the room for folks to enjoy.

Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, our never-tiring public service coordinator, has lots of activities in need of our support. Gene just can't do it alone, so please support Gene with your volunteered help.

Remember our dinner at the Carrow's Restaurant on Harbor Boulevard near Brea Boulevard about 6:00 PM before each club meeting. And, remember to bring a Show-and-Tell item for the meeting!

Larry W6FUB

July FRC Meeting

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Fullerton Senior Center

340 W. Commonwealth Ave.

QSO 7:00 PM; Meeting 7:30 PM

Speaker Topic:

Skywarn

See page 3 for additional details

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Board Minutes July 5, 2007

Meeting began at 7:32 P.M. at Marie Callender's in Placentia. Members present for Fullerton Radio Club board meeting: President Larry McDavid, Vice President Bill Kohlenberger, Secretary Gary Miller, Smoke Signals Editor Paul Broden, Board Member/Public Service Gene Thorpe, and Member Cheryl Thorpe

Treasurer Report: Manuel reported by phone that the club still has \$144.73 in checking and \$1680.78 in savings.

Speaker / Topic for July: Mike McLaughlin, KJ6EQ / SKYWARN.... Possible future topics; D-Star, Donate Life, Mobile Antenna Systems

Technician License Class: Classes are continuing to take place weekly at CSUF on Saturdays in McCarthy Hall, Room 606. The students will be able to try taking the Tech. test on July 14 if they feel they're ready. Correction to last month's minutes; The class will go on for 9 weeks not 18.

Web Site: The site has June's Smoke Signals.

Field Day: Gene gave Manuel all the paper logs. He will sort and submit the results to the ARRL. All had a good time running QRP.

O. C. Fair: We still need more volunteers to man the booth July 25 in the evening. There needs to be at least 3 in attendance at all times.

ARRL Convention: FRC is responsible for the booth that will sign up both T-hunts. The foot hunt will probably be at Fort McArthur Park. We need people to man the booth during the events. Gene will check to see if our insurance liability covers the event. Hopefully the FRC and Hospital Group will have their booths next to each other to aid each other. Gene reported that the mobile hunt is being taken care of by others.

Events to keep in mind:

- T- Hunt The Super System will be having a T-hunt and barbecue similar to our Antennas in the Park at Craig Park in Fullerton this July 14. All members are encouraged to attend
- Orange County Fair, July 25 is our day to man the OCCARO booth at the fair.
- ARRL Southwestern Convention in Torrance Sept 7-9.
- Club Installation Dinner; Friday, December 14.
- RR days; First weekend in May, 2008

Meeting ended at 8:21 p.m.

Gary Miller, ka6gpc
Secretary Fullerton Radio Club



Huntington Beach Pier, 2/21/2005

Skywarn Presentation

Thanks to Prez. Larry's remarks, you have already been alerted to the July meeting "Skywarn" presentation by Mike KJ6EQ. However, just in case any of you are unfamiliar with Mike's important roll with those in the Skywarn program please check out the informational web site and take a tour at;

< <http://www.ocskywarn.org/> >.

We all can remember fire seasons, flood seasons, high winds and how our Orange County area is particularly vulnerable to weather. Mike's presentation is sure to contain surprises about Orange County Weather statistics (See the HB pier Picture) and he may even shed light on our summer heat and soon expected "monsoon" season.

Clearly, FRC membership all lives in the Orange operational area of Southwest Skywarn which is in the San Diego **National Weather Service (NWS)** forecast area. The area includes San Diego, Western Riverside and Southwestern San Bernardino Counties with Orange County.

As Orange County Skywarn Coordinator, Mike will help us better understand how improvements in seasonal area weather forecasting can be significantly aided by contributions of help from our Ham radio community and how this supports the NWS. This will be of such general interest that you will want to even invite interested family members to join you in learning more about our help to the NWS. **You don't want to miss this significant program.**

73

Bill Kohlenberger
FRC Programs VP

FRC T-Hunt Report

For the FRC mobile T-hunt on June 16, April and I put a very low power transmitter along the northbound 4th Street offramp of the 55 freeway in Tustin, with a 4-element beam pointing toward the starting point. It was accessible from a parking area of Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital. We hoped that some might get confused by which side of the freeway we were on, and maybe wouldn't get much signal off the rear as they approached. Dave N6MJN was first to arrive in 15 minutes, but he had started unofficially in the Orange area. The others arrived soon afterward.

T-Hunt Results:

Calls	Miles
N6ZHZ	14.6
N6AIN/WA6PYE	16.6
N6MJN	Unofficial

73,
Joe Moell 00V

OC Fair Event

Will you be at the Orange County fair this year? Amateur Radio has a booth in the Orange County Building (building 16) to promote our hobby to the public. FRC is responsible for staffing the booth on Wednesday, July 25. If you will be at the fair stop by and see what's up. There will be ATV, HF digital, the usual HF/VHF/UHF, and Morse code practice for the kids. If you are not helping with the booth staffing, the question is – why not? You are missing a fun event.

VP's Report

This July's Vice Presidential report is about two important recent events, one a beginning investment for the future the other a remembrance and thanks for past loyal support.

On Saturday 07/07/07, five recent graduates from Fullerton's CERT training, continued on to finish an 18 hour ARRL designed course for Technician Level ham Licenses. Two more active attendees from Scouting also, moving on past the Radio Merit Badge, joined our FRC & Fullerton Races jointly sponsored classes.

A just-in-time VE session, next week, 7/14/07, may yield 7 new, very interested and enthusiastic hams here in Fullerton. They're also interested in RACES and supporting CERT EM-COM. That's refreshing as our Fullerton city CERT program also needs fresh Communications help from those also

eager to experience the excitement of all phases of ham radio. They aren't saying "been there, done that", which is a refreshing perspective.

Thanks to loyal support from class presenters, Gene, **KB6CMO**, Dr. Mark, **K6OGD**, and yours truly, **W6ZJE** we were aided with in-class help from FRC Sect'y. Gary. **KA6GPC**, Bob, **N6OPR** and Manuel **AE6SG**. These future hams were given exposure to a rich variety of ham radio experience opportunities. They are surely welcome to join in to FRC activities too. As they add their fresh support, for sure, we know ham radio's future will be made richer and Fullerton safer.

Next, remember Dick Hall, **W6WRH**, earlier, **WB6KFJ**? He was that enthusiastic white haired guy from Brea. Incidentally, Jim Boyd, **K6MYN's** (also now SK) was Dick's cousin, and also grew up with him in Fullerton.

A prime organizing mover for Brea RACES back ten years ago, Dick invariably got on the air mainly for public service events support. Several weeks ago, after 6 remissions during a persistent long-term personal Cancer war, the cancer prevailed but stubborn "never-Give-Up" Dick really won. Dick's key is certainly silent now, but his active, productive and exemplary life plowed deeply, for 79 years. I was privileged to know and valued Dick for almost 69 of those years.

Richard, or Dick, as I knew him by, was always intent on supporting our national and local defense efforts. Dick & I were close friends in fifth grade at Fullerton's Ford elementary school through Fullerton Union High School in 1944, during WWII. In FUHS, Dick served as an enthusiastic morale booster and well loved as the FUHS cheer leader and mascot at sports events, "Willy-Ugh". Here's Dick's "Cool" High School senior picture.



Richard William Hall, W6WRH
Silent Key

Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting: August 1, 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: **August 11, 2007**

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

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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.