



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

October 2007

PREZ SPEAKS

Recently I have heard Richard Norton, our ARRL Southwest Division Director, speak about ARRL activities at several other club meetings. I have been impressed with the breath of those activities and the senior management effort required. We hoped to have Dick present at our meeting this month but he already has an expedition scheduled; we hope to have Dick another time. Instead, we'll enjoy several shorter presentations by Ron Chase AC6MV on his new HF mobile installation and trip to Utah and by Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE on local RACES fundamentals. We'll avoid a lot of technical depth and just have some fun as these two long-time members share with us.

The ARRL Southwest Division Convention in Torrance last month was fun and successful. FRC volunteers manned a club booth and we coordinated both mobile and on-foot T-Hunts. We had a strong club showing at the convention with five of our members giving Tech Talks. I was surprised at the number of new vendors displaying and even found several new items so interesting they came home with me! The Marriott in Torrance proved to be convenient and offered good convention support. We are fortunate to have local clubs support these yearly conventions; Dick Norton explained that many ARRL Divisions have conventions only every two years and some have no conventions at all! We need to thank all the clubs that helped organize the convention and members and visitors who attended.

We are an ARRL Affiliated Club. But, I wonder how many of us understand how large an organization ARRL really is! In fact, ARRL is a \$13.6 million a year business with a significant staff and hundreds of volunteers filling important positions. Management of any activity this extensive is serious business and takes serious people. While there are many volunteer and elected positions, it is the elected Directors who really manage this business and establish the framework within which the other officials operate. The Directors must function just like the directors of any large corporation and it is really important that they have the skills and experience to operate commensurate with this responsibility. Very recently there has been controversy in the pending election of our SW Division Director.

The ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee disqualified one candidate as a result of the content and claims of an email that was distributed; he appealed the disqualification and the ARRL has not yet announced its decision as I write this column. Each of us needs to be informed of candidates' qualifications and demonstrated actions, and to vote wisely for this very important ARRL office.

School is in session and most vacations are over. I hope this leads to more time available to support our club activities. We have just two more club meetings before our Christmas Dinner meeting on Friday, December 14. Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE has done a great job getting interesting programs for us this year but he (and his dear wife, Barbara) must have relief from this work next year; in short, someone needs to step up and serve as program chairman! It's time to select officers for our club for next year. We have many new members and welcome everyone to participate in running our club. Think about how you can help your club and contact one of the board members about serving next year.

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

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October Club Meeting

The October meeting will be held at the regular location – Fullerton Senior Center, 340 W. Commonwealth Ave, at 7:30 PM on Wednesday October 17. Subjects of the meeting speakers will be divided between Ron Chase AC6MV who will present a colorful showing of his mobile/portable 40 meter station operating from Utah. The second portion of the meeting will entail an update by Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE on the status of Fullerton RACES and the current challenges members have in keeping this amateur radio civic function active.

NEW MEMBERS

Fullerton Radio Club is now up to 47 paid members. *But we have identified an additional 21 who are on the role for two or more years that have not continued active membership by payment of yearly dues.* What can we do to stir up your interest in club activities so we can continue to share in the future of the club? Where are you?

Please note that of the 47 members eleven are new to the club. Here's a list of the new members.

Robert Doige KI6KYW	J. Norman Dickhoff KI6HLB
Robert Farrow N6OPR	Tom Gaccione WB2LRH
Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ	Dick Palmer WB6JDH
William Phinizy K6WHP	Bill Preston AF6ED
Robby Preston KI6KYX	Mark Shapiro K6OGD
Alex Valdez K9BLK	

WELCOME to all new members.

CLUB ELECTIONS

We will be electing officers for the next year during the November meeting, followed by installation at the December holiday dinner meeting. By-laws require nominations at the October meeting, with acceptance only if seconded from the floor. The nominating committee will submit the following names as candidates for the specified offices and board member(s). Additional nominations will be called for from the floor during the October club meeting. All nominations are subject to approval of the candidate.

Proposed candidates

President	Larry McDavid K6FUB
Vice President	Open
Secretary	Gary Miller KA6GPC
Treasurer	Open

Board of Directors	(<u>minimum</u> of one member at large)
	Tom Curlee WB6UZZ
	Gene Thorpe KB6CMO

Additional nominations may be made prior to the election at the November club meeting. Action decisions (voting) requires at least 20% of paid members must vote for the decision to be official.

Results of September Hamcon On-foot T-Hunt

Our last on-foot transmitter hunt took place on Sunday afternoon, September 9, just after the ARRL Southwestern Division convention (Hamcon-07). It was open to anyone, but only registered convention-goers were eligible for the Hamcon prizes.

Fullerton Radio Club (FRC), one of the Hamcon sponsoring organizations, organized this hunt at Angel's Gate Park in San Pedro. Cloudless skies and cool breezes from the ocean made for perfect weather. FRC previously put on Hamcon hunts here in 1995, 1999 and 2003. This time, only the southern half of this 130-acre park was available, but the hunt was still challenging.

The goal was to have something for hiders at every skill level. I put out 17 transmitters. Some were in traditional ammunition boxes, but others were the size of a small box of matches. Competitors were given up to 90 minutes to find as many as they could. Six of the transmitters were within the concrete-walled Fort MacArthur Military Museum, where displays of WWI and WWII memorabilia are viewed by the public every weekend. Five of the outside transmitters were on one frequency, transmitting in sequence as an international-rules ARDF course.

Medal winner Jay Thompson W6JAY took two antennas out on the course. It must have helped because he made quick work of the ARDF-timed foxes. Then he bagged six more to end up with a total of eleven. Jay was the only individual competitor. All the rest were in teams of two, including Dennis Schwendtner WB6OBB, an experienced blind transmitter hunter who paired up with Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. Some were experiencing on-foot foxhunting for the first time. Everyone found at least two foxes. Here are the results:

Name and call	Foxes	Time
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Jay Thompson W6JAY	11	1:19:38
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Dennis Schwendtner WB6OBB	6	1:21:29
with Marvin Johnston KE6HTS		

Tom Gaccione WB2LRH	5	1:23:18
with Robbie Preston		

Dick Palmer WB6JDH	4	1:27:36
with Norm Dickhoff KI6HLB		

Brent Scheneman K6ROV	2	1:23:15
with Jerry Scheneman K6MRB		

Ginger Clark KG6TAU	2	1:24:12
with Bill Harper WA6ESC		

Thanks to FRC president Larry McDavid W6FUB for supporting this activity and to all the FRC members who put on this hunt, including (in alphabetical order) Tom Curlee WB6UZZ, Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE, April Moell WA6OPS, Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU and Gene Thorpe KB6CMO. They went to endless Hamcon meetings, gathered prizes, staffed the sign-up and prize tables, surveyed the site and helped me with the transmitters.

We're grateful for the site support and nice prizes provided by the Hamcon organization, led by Co-Chairs Jim and Bev Pitman, WA6MZV and WA6TIU. We also appreciate the courtesies of the Ft. MacArthur Military Museum staff members, who allowed us to use their facility for this event.

Photos are at <www.homingin.com>.

Watch for the announcement of the next event.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

HOLIDAY MEETING

We know it's early to start thinking about December holidays – but reality is that we need to plan ahead. So, at the end of this newsletter you will find the traditional menu for our December holiday / officer installation dinner meeting. The dinner cost is up a bit, like everything else in life, but the price includes room rental, dinner, tax and tip. Select your dinner and dessert choice, fill out the order form, and turn it in at either the October or November club meetings, or mail it to the indicated address **no later than December 1**. Guests are welcome!

ELMER NEEDED!

Club member Arnold Unger KB6KPH is in need of assistance with set-up of his ten-meter rig and antenna. Challenges related to the physical requirements required to put up the antenna are in greatest need of assistance. Arnold has a Kenwood TS440S, and knowledge of this rig would be helpful to anyone who can serve as an Elmer for his project. Call Arnold at (714) 526-7969 if you can help.

DX CHALLENGE

JIM CARMODY NN5O, former Fullerton Radio Club member now living in Texas, will be operating as **EI2VNO** from **County Kerry, Ireland** during the last weekend of October. Jim has indicated that he will send a prize to any Fullerton Radio Club contact with him during his Ireland operation. Jim will be operating mostly on 15 meters, so listen for the CQWWSSB activities on October 27 & 28. Remember that Ireland is 8 hours ahead of us in time, so it may be best to set your clock to UCT.

Next on-foot transmitter hunt 11/10 at Bonelli Park

The next southern California on-foot transmitter hunt will take place on Saturday, November 10, 2007 at Bonelli Regional Park. As usual, this event will have something for everyone, beginner and expert alike. A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment are not required. Experts will be on hand to teach you the basic techniques of on-foot radio direction-finding (RDF).

If you are a beginner, 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.

Expect to see some of the medal winners from the 2007 USA/IARU-R2 ARDF Championships that took place near South Lake Tahoe in mid-September. Some of them are training for the 2008 World Championships in South Korea.

Transmitter hunting begins at 10 AM. You may start at any time up 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 for that course 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.

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, so consider carpooling. 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 site. A map to the site is at: www.homingin.com.

If you have them, bring a hand-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 will 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 on 146.970 MHz simplex.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

FRC Transmitter Hunt Report

April and I were at the USA ARDF Championships near South Lake Tahoe when the September FRC mobile transmitter hunt took place. Deryl Crawford N6AIN and Steve Wallis WA6PYE were the hiders, putting their foxbox at the end of May Court in Rowland Heights. This is south of Pathfinder Road between Nogales Street and the 57 freeway. The hills blocked the signal from a direct path to the starting point.

Results:

Team	Odo
<u>Calls</u>	<u>Miles</u>
N6MJN	9.7
KC6TNJ/WA6TQQ	10.7
KF6GQ 1	6.0

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

Hamcon 2007



Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU and John Kemper W6JN at Hamcon-07. John – previous call W6SCO – was president of FRC from about 1958 thru 1961, and was pleased to see that the club remains active

FRC Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

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

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 Exams: **October 13, 2007**

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

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, October 17, 2007

Dinner 6:00 PM at Carrow's, Harbor at Brea
prior to the meeting

Fullerton Radio Club Web Site

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org>

FRC Tuesday Net

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

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

<http://www.occaro.org>

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION

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[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.



Fullerton Radio Club Welcomes Members and Guests to our Holiday Dinner

Friday, December 14, 2007. QSO time starts at 6:30
Dinner will be served promptly at 7:00 PM

[At Marie Callender's Restaurant – Kraemer at Yorba Linda Boulevard, Placentia]

Menu: **Select from one entrée, plus dessert.**

No. 1: Salad Bar and Soup

Crisp greens, fresh fruit, garden vegetables and an array of special salad, plus all the necessary garnishes to complete our masterpiece. Visit the salad bar as often as you like. Served with toasted garlic bread or our famous golden cornbread.

No. 2: Chicken Broccoli Fettuccini

Fettuccini and spinach tortellini, with slices of grilled chicken breast and fresh broccoli in a creamy sauce. Served with a crisp green salad and toasted garlic bread.

No. 3: Chicken Pot Pie of the Day

Tender chunks of chicken with seasonings and vegetables. Served with a crisp green salad.

No. 4: Marie's Home-style Meatloaf

Meatloaf topped with a tasty old-fashioned gravy. Served with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables.

No. 5: Oven Roasted Turkey Dinner

Hand carved slices of fresh roasted turkey with our special apple-walnut dressing. Topped with gibley gravy and served with cranberry sauce.

Salmon: Prepared in your choice of one of two styles. Both served with fresh vegetables and rice.

No. 6: Cajon

Lightly coated with New Orleans style spicy seasonings.

No. 7: Garlic Lemon Pepper

Grilled with fresh garlic, herbs, and seasonings.

For dessert, make your choice from the following pie selection.

- **Lemon** – Slightly tart and slightly sweet, this pie is topped with light and airy meringue.
- **Apple** – Fresh apples slightly spiced with cinnamon.
- **Pumpkin** – Pumpkin, spice, and everything nice have made this an American favorite.

Served with your choice of coffee, tea or soft drink.

ALL FOR THE LOW PRICE OF \$22.00. Tip and tax included.
 Cash-and-carry bar available.

Please return this form with your payment to the Fullerton Radio Club meeting on October 17 or November 21, or mail **no later than December 1** to: **Fullerton Radio Club. P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836**

Make checks payable to: **Fullerton Radio Club**

Qty.	Menu Item & Number	Dessert
	X \$22.00 =	
	For server only:	
	Table #	

I'll be attending but not eating:

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Phone: _____