



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

October 2009

President's Message

With a bit of rain, it feels as if the fall season is upon us. Yet again, temperatures in the 90's will remind us that summer has not yet finished for this year.

Speaking of finishing the year, our 2009 club year is quickly drawing to a close and it is time to think about officers for next year. Volunteers make this organization go and we are very fortunate to have opportunities for YOU to serve! We have established the required Nomination Committee, but the committee members need to hear from you. Remember, this is YOUR club. It is great to enjoy club activities, but giving back makes the club go. So, think about serving as an officer for 2010 and make your intention known to Tom Gaccione WB2LRH or Dick Palmer WB6JDH.

By time you read this newsletter, the 2009 Great Shakeout will have come and gone. Fullerton RACES, Fullerton CERT, and Fullerton Fire participated in the earthquake drill at Beechwood Elementary School in Fullerton. A debrief summary of the event will be shared at the October meeting.



52nd On the Air
Sur les Ondes
JAMBOREE On the
13th Sur Internet
17-18 October / Octobre, 2009

October 17-18, 2009 is JOTA! "Jamboree on the Air" (or "JOTA") is an annual scouting and amateur radio event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Thousands of amateur radio stations around the world participate. If the conditions are right, it is common to contact a hundred scouting countries during the weekend. In the United States Cub Scout Dens and Boy Scout Patrols visit a local amateur's ham shack during JOTA. Many districts and councils hold events that coincide with JOTA where amateurs set up stations giving scouts and leaders a chance to exchange greetings from Scouts in other areas. Some exchanges lead to long-lasting friendships, and the exchange of photos, badges, pins and patches. *JOTA is the world's largest organized scouting event.*"

"This year the Orange County Boy Scout Council will be hosting a JOTA event at the council headquarters at 1211 E. Dyer Rd. in Santa Ana. Volunteers from several local ham radio groups and service organizations, including the Orange County Chapter of the American Red Cross, will be supporting this event, providing ham radio equipment and hands-on instruction for our local Scouts. **All Scout groups are invited to attend, including all levels of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.**"



Our next public service event is the La Palma Days Parade on November 14, 2009. This is the Silver Jubilee year for La Palma Days. Your participation in parade communications is a great way to serve the La Palma community. You will also hone your radio communication skills, while interacting with both public and the parade organizers. More details will be available at the October meeting. Contact Larry Tichauer at: ltichauer@sbcglobal.net for details.

Finally, at our October Board meeting, we had a great conversation of how amateur radio is beginning to take hold at Troy High School. It is a work in process and we look forward to hearing how the students on the air!

Please remember to join us for the pre-meeting dinner at Ruby's (Harbor and Orangethorpe). I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

73's,
Robert (KI6KYW)

Sources:

The Great California Shake Out™ Source: <http://www.shakeout.org/>

JOTA Sources: <http://international.ocbsa.org/pdf/JOTA2009.pdf>

http://www.scout.org/en/information_events/events/jota/the_52nd_jota_2009

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/10/07/11122/>

La Palma Days Source: <http://www.cityoflapalma.org/index.aspx?NID=222>

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Show –and-Tell

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.com

Nominations for 2010 Club Officers

Your Club President has appointed a committee for nominating candidates as officers and at-large Board members for year 2010. The committee is faced with the difficult task of finding club members who are willing to serve in the various capacities as described in the organization by-laws. The slate of nominees needs to be complete for presentation at the regular meeting in October, and that date is less than a week away. If you have been or will be asked to serve as an officer or board member **please** think about the request with due consideration of the Club and all members with your decision. Remember, this is **YOUR** club, and our activities and the club as a whole will be best served if you are a part of its operation. The duties are not overwhelming. Please see the club by-laws as posted on the web page if you have questions about the duties, etc.

If you are contacted by the nominating committee – say YES. Or, you can contact Tom Gaccione WB2LRH or Dick Palmer WB6JDH and volunteer.

Membership Reminder

Membership Dues are due soon for the New Year "2010". The Installation Dinner on Friday 18 December 2009. Please check page 7 of this newsletter for the Dinner information and menu. Please send your Renewal Dues and Dinner money to the Club P.O. Box soon. A membership renewal/application form is attached with page 6 of this newsletter. Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO
Treasurer

HDSCS ACTIVITIES

The 2009 Disneyland Half Marathon once again brought out HDSCS in larger numbers than the previous 2 years. On September 6, in support of the St. Joseph medical teams, our communicators were also asked to expand communications back-up to the key, later in the race, water stations. As in previous years we had shadow for key personnel critical to the well being of the runners and two bicycle communicators roving with medical personnel. Thanks to a cool start, and some overcast, there were far fewer medical problems than in the previous years. But our communicators still proved invaluable as they made sure electrolytes got to two of the medical tents on the course that didn't have any; radioed for assistance for a runner with a severe medical problem early in the race; called in for paramedic response for a runner that collapsed in front of the communicator at a water station; and, even after being released from duty in the main medical tent, an HDSCS communicator got help for a participant who got sick outside of the medical area. In all 28 communicators served in this event.

Also in September there were many meetings with hospital committees about H1N1 "swine flu" planning. Late that month, HDSCS was able to have Dr. Michele Cheung, deputy director, epidemiology, at the Orange County Health Care Agency, speak at one of our meetings. Dr. Cheung covered not only the basic background of the virus, but showed us the progression of this virus through Orange County starting back in the spring. From there she gave us a sound understanding of how this virus is spreading, reviewed treatment protocols, and updated us on the vaccine. It was a timely and highly educational program.

After a relatively quiet year for HDSCS, suddenly we get to October, and in under 48 hours HDSCS was activated three times to the same hospital. At about 2 AM on Monday, October 5, the telephone switch at Western Medical Center in Santa Ana went down because one of its storage battery modules failed. The hospital was left with only a few direct lines and some trunk lines that automatically connect to certain extensions when the switch is inoperative. An HDSCS Assistant Coordinator received a page about the declaration of an internal emergency and she immediately activated HDSCS in accordance with our standard procedures. The first

HDSCS operator arrived at the hospital approximately 35 minutes after the page and immediately established communications with the outside from the Hospital Command Center. Additional HDSCS operators arrived soon thereafter and were stationed in Emergency, Surgery and Radiology departments. These are key units because WestMed Santa Ana is one of the three trauma centers for Orange County, where emergency surgery is performed at any time of day. Important medical messages were passed via our internal network including a "stat" request to Radiology for a portable X-ray unit and technician to respond to the emergency department. Temporary repairs to the telephone switch were completed about 10 AM and our operation secured one half hour after that. The hospital immediately made plans for permanent repairs, but before those could be implemented, another failure took place at about 5:30 PM on Tuesday. Again, HDSCS received an alert page and promptly responded. We assisted with communications as needed, primarily from the Intensive Care Unit until the system was operational again at 8 PM.

BUT, there were more than phone issues at Western Medical Center in Santa Ana during that period. The trauma center went on alert and activated its Command Center at about 10:35 AM on Tuesday, October 6, when several victims of a possible hazmat incident in the Reagan Federal Office Building [Santa Ana] began arriving in the Emergency Department. At the time, it was unknown how many victims there would be and if decontamination procedures would be needed. HDSCS was activated by page from the hospital. Some members who were monitoring our main repeater were nearby and able to respond into the facility. Others who worked and lived nearby were also able to respond quickly. Once again we saw the value of training and having equipment at the ready. As it turned out, the incident was not severe, decontamination was not needed and the hospital's communications were not overstressed. Our operation secured at 11:30 AM.

Eleven HDSCS members were involved in the three responses to the trauma center – several of them more than once.

Public Service Event – La Palma Days Parade – Volunteers Needed

Calling all Hams! The Annual La Palma Days Parade is scheduled for November 14, which is a Saturday. Your help is needed, as usual, and any other volunteers that you can muster will be appreciated as well.

Please let me know your availability and who else might be coming along as well. We will have a Coordination meeting on Nov. 11 at La Palma Central Park.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

73's,

Larry (KE6AKE)

[Ed: This is a simple but fun event, and provides operators with an opportunity to get in some practice in message handling. Staging at booths begins at about 7AM. The parade ends at about 12:30 or 1PM, and operators are relieved of duty when their stations can be secured. Contact Larry at; ltichauer@sbcglobal.net for additional details.]

October Board Meeting Minutes

The Board meeting was called to order on October 7, at 7:21 by President Robert Doidge KI6KYW. Other members present were: VP Bill Preston KZ3G, Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Paul Broden, Members-at-large Larry McDavid W6FUB, Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, Tom Curlee WB6UZZ, Alex Valdez K9BLK, and members Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU and Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE.

Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Savings \$1,689.01; Checking \$1,411.32. Check issued to the Secretary for newsletter printing/postage and new club banner \$101.93.

Membership; currently at 54. We already have one renewal for 2010, so remember to renew your membership. Renewal/application form is included with this newsletter.

OCCARO report: Larry reports that the next OCCARO meeting will again be held at the American Red Cross office in Santa Ana, but location of future meetings is still to be determined. Red Cross has requested a change in meeting days if their facility use is to be continued. Orange Count Fair is seeking a new Amateur Radio Booth chairperson for the 2010 fair. Complete minutes of the meeting can be found on the OCCARO web site.

The Nominating committee is finalizing the slate of club officer candidates for next year. The nominations list is published elsewhere in this newsletter. The slate of nominees will be presented for acceptance at the October club meeting. Additional nominations may be received from the floor at that time, subject to the candidate's approval. Voting will take place at the regular November club meeting, with installation at the December meeting. [See club by-laws on the web page.]

The December officer installation and holiday dinner will again be held at Marie Callener's in Placentia. Meeting time and date are **Friday, December 18, 2009, QSO at 6:30, dinner at 7:00 PM sharp**. Cost of the banquet dinner has risen again this year, so price of the evening and dinner will be \$23.00 per person, tax and tip included. See Holiday Dinner menu and reservation form in this newsletter.

Several amateur radio equipment items have been donated to the club by the family of John Kelleher WB6RMO (SK). A letter acknowledging receipt of the equipment will be sent to the family by Secretary Paul Broden. Decisions regarding disposition of the equipment are pending; however, discussions have included use by or donation to youth groups for education and experience in amateur radio activities and community service.

A Radio Communications Club is being founded at Troy High School with emphasis on amateur radio education and operation. The group is awaiting final approval of their formation by school authorities. Initial emphasis will be on VHF/UHF uses, and will, hopefully, include a Technician level class provided by FRC. Bill Preston KZ3G is working with the group, and is searching for VHF/UHF equipment donations (hand-helds, preferably) for assistance with the training and experiential portion of the project. Equipment must be in working condition. Bill also reports that a map and compass orienteering event was held by the Troy High School NJROTC group. The event used both FRS and amateur radios for communication. The ham gear use was successfully throughout the entire event, where FRS failed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM
Paul Broden, Club Secretary

Next ARDF at Lake Los Carneros October 17

Lake Los Carneros Park in near Santa Barbara, CA will be the site of southern California's next international-style on-foot foxhunt on Saturday, October 17, 2009. This event is being staged especially for Santa Barbara area Scouts in the annual nationwide Jamboree-On-The-Air, but all are welcome and can be accommodated. A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment are not required. Bring the kids and grandkids; then go out on the course with them! There will be no charge for the transmitter hunting.

This session is being hosted by Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. Besides some easy fox transmitters just to help you learn and test your equipment, there will be a beginner-level international-rules course on 145.565 MHz FM. The site area is slightly less than 140 acres. It is relatively flat, making it a good site for foxtailers of all skill levels. Full-color orienteering maps will be available.

The session starts a 9 AM and hunters may start at any time until 1 PM. Courses close at 3 PM.

Because of the Scout involvement, there won't be time or space for the usual antenna and attenuator building clinic before the hunt. However, Marvin will have kits available for pickup and building at home if you if you contact him ahead of time. Send e-mail to Marvin (marvin@west.net) to order kits.

Directions to Lake Los Carneros: From US 101 about 8 miles west of downtown Santa Barbara, take the Los Carneros Road exit, head north about 1/4 mile and turn right into the Stow House parking lot. Parking is free. Look for the orange-and-white orienteering flag. The hunt will start in the picnic area, just east of the railroad depot. A map to the site is at www.homingin.com

Ham radio talk-in is on the K6TZ repeater, 146.79(-) PL 131.8.

73,

Joe Moell K0OV

Equipment Donation

Fullerton Radio Club has received a generous donation of amateur radio equipment provided by the family of **John Kelleher WB6RMO (SK)**. The equipment was delivered to Larry McDavid for presentation to us as a non-profit organization. Equipment received includes:

- Yaesu FT208R VHF HT with rubber ducky antenna
- Heathkit HW-202 VHF transceiver and microphone
- Heathkit HWA-202-1 ac power supply for the HW-202
- ICOM IC-735 HF transceiver with attached AH-2 antenna tuner

- Astron RS-20A power supply cabled for the IC-735
- Several older ham-related publications.

Options and opportunities for use of the equipment are under review by the club Board. Current thoughts on the equipment disposition include use for education, instruction and operation by local youth organizations that have expressed interest in Ham radio licensure, operations and community support. More information is to come as decisions are made.

October Meeting Presentation

Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE will present a broad review and different look at what we find today's antennas are doing in a wide range of unexpected uses. If you were unaware that antenna arrays are modulating the northern lights with many other advanced uses this might be interesting.



A Picture of the Alaskan HAARP array.

In the HAARP picture is a large novel antenna array used in US Ionospheric research that will briefly featured in the program. It's a science program that has become a threat magnet for the paranoid community who assert it's for Governmental mind control and a weapon of mass destruction. I am hoping Smoke Signals recipients who are curious enough will look up HAARP on it's Home page < <http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/> > to get an idea of what it's all about.

FRC Regular Club Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month
Fullerton Senior Center
340 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Fullerton, CA

Next Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Dinner before the meeting 5:15 PM at:
Ruby's Diner; Harbor Blvd. at Orangethorpe

Meeting time: 7:00 PM

FRC Board Meeting

Open to all members

Marie Callender's Restaurant
126 Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia
First Wednesday of each month

Next Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 4, 2009

QSO and dinner; 7:00 PM


Meeting: 7:30 PM

**Orange County Council of Amateur Radio
Organizations (OCCARO)**
www.occaro.org

FRC Tuesday Net

8:00 PM – 147.975 (-) PL 114.8

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION

Fullerton Radio Club
PO Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836

(Please Print)

Name #1 _____

Call: _____

Class: _____

Name #2 _____

Call: _____

Class: _____

Name #3 _____

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.



**Fullerton Radio Club Welcomes Members and Guests to our
Holiday Dinner**

Friday, December 18, 2009. 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 giblet 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 PRICE OF \$23.00. Tip and tax included.

Cash-and-carry bar available.

Please return this form with your payment to the Fullerton Radio Club meeting on October 21 or November 18, or mail no later than December 1 to: Fullerton Radio Club, P.O. Box 645, Fullerton, CA 92836-0645

Make checks payable to: Fullerton Radio Club

| Qty. | Menu Item & Number | Dessert |
|------|--------------------|---------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | X \$23.00 = | |
| | For server only: | |
| | Table # | |

I'll be attending but not eating: ____
 Name: _____
 Call Sign: _____
 Phone: _____

Name: _____

Call: _____