



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

September 2005

President's Corner

Hello All –

Welcome to the month of September... hmmm took me a couple of tries on that one. I started to type July, then August... guess my hands just don't want to accept it is September already.

Just a couple of notes:

First and most important – We need people to stand up and take over the leadership of Fullerton Radio Club. The nominations for the Officers and Board are due in October for voting in November. The open positions are:

President; Vice President (I believe, but if I am wrong, Bill correct me...); Treasurer

These are required positions in order for the club to operate. This is where you are a vital part of this organization. WE NEED YOU!!!

Sort of related to the first item, I will not be at the Board or Regular meetings for the next two months, although I will keep in contact with the Board through email and other electronic means. I will be heading off to Mesa, Arizona and Denver, Colorado to further my flight training for a career in the airlines.

This is one of the big reasons I am not running again for President. As my schedule will vary as to when I am in California and when I am not, I did not feel I could give the club my utmost. But I have seen you folks step up in a variety of ways over this past year, and I know there is someone out there who will do an incredible job. Is this person you?!?

Larry McDavid will be our guest speaker this month. He has always been an entertaining and educational speaker and we are very lucky to have him back again. Next month will be Jay Kobelin W2IJ. His son Mark was my flight instructor and now my friend. I got to meet Jay about a month ago. He is an intelligent, animated, committed ham who has wonderful stories to tell. I am sorry I will miss it but I encourage all of you to attend both meetings.

December will be the club Christmas party on Friday December 16. The menu will be posted on the website shortly, as will a downloadable form for you to bring with you to a meeting or mail to the club with the dinner costs. We look forward to seeing you for the end-of-year festivities and the passing of the torch to the new Board.

One final note – the Board voted and approved a system for using the Club's call outside of a club-sponsored event. We will be creating a form that will need to be filled out, submitted to the board at least one week in advance and approved by a majority vote from the board. A sign will then be issued to the control operator stating when, what, time, etc that the callsign will be used and who the responsible party (control operator) is. We didn't want to stop the use of the callsign, we just want to protect ourselves and our membership. More on this as it develops.

Well, until we see each other next.

73,

Karen Goodman, KG6USN

September Meeting Speaker

Larry McDavid W6FUB will continue his recent topic of frequency and time standards with a presentation on his analysis and restoration of a thirty-year-old time keeping system. The Daughters of the American Revolution donated this unique device to CSU Fullerton in 1976. Larry will describe his efforts to improve its accuracy.

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August Exam at Bob's Garage

The "Garage" hosted three applicants on August 13th, 2005. Of the three, two were successful; one Extra and one Tech will expect their new license in the snail mail in the very near future.

Again, the "garage" had more VE's than applicants, but will always be open on the second Saturday of every even month. Next session will be held on the 8th of October 2005. Please call Bob at (562) 691-1514 to pre-register one week prior to the 8th.

Board Minutes September 7, 2005

Meeting began at 7:46 P.M. at Marie Callender's in Placentia. Members present for Fullerton Radio Club board meeting: President Karen Goodman; Vice President Bill Kohlenberger; Secretary Gary Miller; Treasurer Phil Goodman; Board Members Cheryl Thorpe, Gene Thorpe, Tom Curlee, Paul Broden; and OCCARO Rep Larry McDavid

Topic/Speakers for September: Clipperton DX with Jay Kobelin, W2IJ [changed]

Silent Key: The board voted to donate \$50.00 to the American Heart Association in memory of Jim Boyd, K6MYN

Club Web Site: The site is open to all that wish to see it. No secret code or password is needed.

Club Officers: Nominations for all officers will be soon. Support the club and volunteer for next year.

Speakers Bill, W6ZJE would like to form a committee to come up with some more topics and speakers that the club would have an interest in learning about.

December Meeting: The menu for Friday, December 16 [holiday meeting] will be placed on the club web site.

Club Call: It is not the wish of the board to curtail the use of W6ULI. The board needs to know when and where it is being used. This is the reason for asking board approval prior to an event to use the club call.

Opportunity Drawing for August, – Prizes – Buy your tickets at the door.

Meeting ended at 9:06 p.m.

Gary Miller, ka6gpc, Secretary Fullerton Radio Club

Fullerton Radio Club T-Hunts

The regular FRC mobile transmitter hunts continue on the third Saturday of every month, beginning at 8 PM. Our starting point at the hilltop intersection of Skyline and Acacia is now in a high-class new housing area, but parking is still allowed on the north side of Skyline and we're able to get the hunts underway.

Mike Obermeier K6SNE, Richard Clark N6UZS and his friend Shanon hid the July hunt in the Great Indoors parking lot just off Peyton at the junction of the 60 and 71 freeways in Pomona. The transmitter ran just 300 milliwatts into a 4 element yagi pointed at Mount Baldy.

Team	Odo
<u>Calls</u>	<u>Miles</u>
WA6PYE/N6MJN	18.3
KF6GQ	21.2
N6AIN/KG6RQQ	25.0
K0OV	Unofficial
W6DFW	Did not finish

In August, Steve Wallis WA6PYE hid in the parking lot of a Best Buy store on the west side of the 15 freeway, north of Limonite Avenue in Norco. Unfortunately, this was out of bounds by over 7 miles! Steve's punishment will be having to hide again in September.

Team	Odo
<u>Calls</u>	<u>Miles</u>
KF6GQ	28.4
N6AIN/N6MJN	36.8
K6SNE	60.5
WA6DWL/K6MJU	67.0
N6ZHZ	Unofficial

73, Joe Moell K0OV

Glendora Radio-Orienteering and Barbecue

The next southern California on-foot hidden transmitter hunting session will be on Saturday, October 8, sponsored by Glendora Emergency Response Communications (GERC). A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment are not necessary -- we'll train you. All ages are welcome, so bring the kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews. (Young children should be accompanied by an adult at all times.)

If you are a beginner, there will be five entry-level two-meter transmitters in Gladstone Park just for you. For advanced radio-orientees, there will be a separate 5-fox two-meter course of about the same length as typical national championship courses, utilizing Gladstone Park plus residential and wilderness areas in the vicinity. One optional 80-meter fox transmitter will also be on the air.

Both the beginner and advanced hunts begin at 10:30 AM. There will be a barbecue lunch at 1:30 PM, presented by Roy Bishop KG6RGD of GERC. (Small lunch donation appreciated.) All ARDF courses close at 3:00 PM.

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 ARDF antennas, attenuators and receivers 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. Please wear sturdy shoes.

Gladstone Park is in the city of Glendora, on the south side of Glendora Avenue between Bonnie Cove and Sunflower Avenues, just west of the fire station. From the 210 freeway, exit Sunflower and go south to Gladstone, then west to the park. From the 57 freeway, exit Arrow Highway and go west to Sunflower, north to Gladstone, and west to the park. Look for the orange-and-white orienteering flag directing you to the starting area within the park. Note that there are two Gladstone Parks in the vicinity, so make sure you go to the one that is in the city of Glendora.

See you there!

Joe Moell K0OV

Amateur Radio Technician Class License

Whittier City is offering an Amateur Radio Technician Class license Beginning Oct 3, 2005. This will be a 2 times a week class for 5 Weeks. You will be taught out of the ARRL "Now your Talking" Book. The class will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9:30 PM. Classes will be held at the Community Center in up town Whittier. If you are interested contact Vi Barrett W6CBA at (562) 947-1356 or the Disaster Coordinator Ann Marie Hyashi at (562) 464-3419 at Whittier City Hall.

Amateur Radio Volunteers Filling Many Communication Gaps in Gulf Region

NEWINGTON, CT, Sep 9, 2005--Amateur Radio operators from states along the Gulf Coast and elsewhere in the US continue to volunteer their skills and expertise as the Hurricane Katrina relief effort heads into its third week. ARRL Section Managers (SMs) and Section Emergency Coordinators (SECs) across and around the affected region have been teleconferencing daily to keep their efforts on the same page. In the field, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and other volunteers are assisting as needed to support communication for relief agencies as well as for state and local government and even the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Louisiana SEC Gary Stratton, K5GLS, reports that earlier this week Amateur Radio was the only means for state officials at the state emergency operations center (EOC) in Baton Rouge to communicate with the so-called "Florida parishes" above Lake Pontchartrain.

"We have had praise from one end of Louisiana to the other about Amateur Radio operators," Stratton said. "There was a communication to the EOC in Baton Rouge from FEMA that said, 'Ham radio is our prime communications with you, and they should get anything they need,' so FEMA recognizes the importance of ham radio."

Stratton recounted how state officials arriving at the EOC would walk into the Amateur Radio room at the EOC asking if they could get through to hard-hit Washington Parish. "We give 'em the mike, and they're able to talk to their people over there," he said, noting that enough VHF repeaters had been restored to permit the officials to get their messages through.

A marshaling center has been established in Covington, Louisiana. ARES has been continuing to support Red Cross shelter and Southern Baptist Convention debris-clearing in St Tammany parish, as well as Baptist Men's Kitchen canteen operations. In Washington Parish, ARES volunteers--including more than a dozen from South Texas--have been arriving to provide critical communication among hospitals and the parish EOC, among other functions. Field teams were continuing to use HF to maintain communication with the EOC in Baton Rouge. Stratton hopes to install a temporary VHF repeater in Washington Parish this weekend.

Stratton, who's temporarily handed over his SEC duties to former Louisiana SM Al Oubre, K5SDG, said that while things are going along okay right now, he foresees a need for additional operators. "We really don't have enough operators," he said, especially once New Orleans and Plaquemines and St Bernard parishes are reopened.

"One of the biggest problems we're going to have is relief for the operators who have been down there [in the affected parishes]," he said. In one instance, an operator deployed from Shreveport to Baton Rouge returned home only to be redeployed to Washington Parish.

"New Orleans is, of course, our next thrust, and we're going to have to have to staff recovery efforts down there, but it'll be a different kind of recovery effort," Stratton predicted. "We'll be supporting the EOC in Baton Rouge with temporary communications until the National Guard can get in."

[Continued on Page 4]

Stratton said Amateur Radio has even had to loan some government agencies their communication gear because their own didn't function. "It's been an eye-opener to me operating in the EOC down there how terribly their equipment operates," he said. "We had to loan the Coast Guard an HT that was opened up for government frequencies because their equipment failed in the ops center."

In Mississippi, ARES operators have been helping to maintain communication among hospitals, EOCs and shelters. ARES District Emergency Coordinator Tom Hammack, W4WLF, reported operators were sleeping on the floor when off duty. State RACES Officer and ARES DEC Ron Brown, AB5WF, was reported working on a staging area for Amateur Radio volunteers near the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency in Jackson.

SECs in the US Gulf say volunteers signing up for duty in the hurricane-stricken zones should coordinate with their home SECs and, once given the go-ahead, arrive as self-sufficient as possible. "If you need it, you bring it," said Alabama SEC Jay Isbell, KA4KUN.

The Red Cross staging area in Montgomery, Alabama, continues to process and orient Amateur Radio volunteers for duty in Louisiana and Mississippi. Some volunteers will help support communication at Red Cross shelters set up for evacuees, while others will provide tactical communication for feeding stations. Alabama SM Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, has been coordinating ham radio volunteers at the Montgomery site, where an HF station has been set up to keep in touch with operations in the field.

Norm North Jr, WA1DBR, of Springdale, Arkansas, reported for duty earlier this week. He was deployed to a Red Cross shelter in Biloxi, Mississippi, which had no outside communication before he arrived. "There I continued to relay as much message traffic as I could," he told ARRL. "Sometimes it was difficult to get out health-and-welfare inquiries with all the streams of emergency traffic."

North says typical requests included pleas from mothers trying to find missing children, youngsters looking for parents and other trying to get word to families and loved ones that they'd survived the storm and were at the shelter. "Many messages got through," North said, "and I received many thanks and hugs."

North said it was gratifying to play a small role in the aftermath of the disaster. "EOC officials let me know in no uncertain terms that Mississippi had greatly appreciated me coming to them and offering a little help and comfort," he added. "I was very happy just to do my small bit."

Isbell said each Red Cross feeding unit was turning out 25,000 to 30,000 meals a day. "They still need communication," he said. Local amateurs in the affected areas were handling some of the tactical communication on VHF.

Amateur Radio volunteers deployed from Florida to Mississippi will get relief over the next couple of days with new operators from the Sunshine State. The fresh Florida Task Force ham radio volunteers will spend four to five days in Mississippi before returning home next week, when telephone and cellular systems are back in working order.

As the conventional telecommunications network starts coming back to life, traffic has been slowing on the major regional HF emergency net--the West Gulf ARES Emergency Net on 7.285 MHz days and 3.873 MHz nights. As a result, the net has begun shutting down between 1 and 7 AM CDT. Still, said Net Manager Lee Franks, N5FP (ex-AD5IS), the net passed traffic September 7 about a man trapped in an attic in Arabi [Louisiana].

"We're still getting a trickle of messages like this," he added. "As communications are reestablished via landline and VHF-UHF links in that area, there has been less demand on our net--but I'd call it an absolute, tremendous success what we have done."

(Above taken from ARRL Web Site)



Jim Boyd, K6MYN – SK

Jim Boyd, K6MYN – SK

Long-time Fullerton Radio Club member James E. "Jim" Boyd (photo at left) passed away on August 31 following heart surgery. Jim began his life in Fullerton at age 10, and was a graduate of Fullerton High School. Jim may be best remembered as co-owner of Andrews & Boyd Automotive Repair located across from the rail station on Santa Fe Avenue in Fullerton. A memorial service was held for Jim on Thursday, September 10. His family requests that any donations made on Jim's behalf be made to the American Heart Association, 1710 Gilbreth Rd., Burlingame, CA 94010.

Nominations

As noted in the President's message and Board minutes its time to consider nomination of a slate of FRC officers for next year. Nominations will be accepted at the October and November meetings, and voting will occur in November, with installation at the December 16th holiday meeting.

Please be aware that the current President, Vice President, and Treasurer will not be seeking reelection, and will pursue other obligations. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED** to fill these positions and to secure the future of Fullerton Radio Club.

We extend our thanks for dedicated service this year to: **President, Karen Goodman, KG6USN; Vice President, Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE; and Treasurer, Phil Goodman, WA6HOO.**

If you would like to be a candidate for one of these jobs, or any other, please let it be known to any of the current Board Members. Likewise, if you would like to nominate someone else, please obtain their permission, then let the Board know of the nomination. Additional opportunities for nominations will occur at the November meeting.

Club Meeting

Fullerton Senior Center
340 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Fullerton
QSO Time: 7:00 PM
Meeting: 7:30 PM

**Wednesday, September 21,
2005**

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: **October 8, 2005**

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

Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting: October 5, 2005

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

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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

<http://qsl.net.occaro/>

Fullerton Radio Club Web Sites

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org>
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/KC6YHM>

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