



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

September 2007

PREZ SPEAKS

It seems everyday we hear about the FCC selling frequency allocations for big bucks and with great demand. Truth is, there is only so much spectrum available and it is mostly fully used already. Anything that can be done to improve the efficiency of spectrum use must be done! Spectrum allocation must consider both frequency and geography. At our September meeting, Michael Scofield N6OKG will tell us about Radio Frequency Re-Use Over Terrain, explaining how analysis and modeling of geography is being used to make better use of our finite spectrum.

The ARRL Southwest Division Convention in Torrance will be over by the time you receive this newsletter. I hope all of you were able to attend this local convention. Fullerton Radio Club sponsored the mobile and on-foot T-Hunt activities; thanks go to Scott Bovitz N6MI, Joe Moell K0OV and Tom Curlee WB6UZZ for coordinating these hunts. Our club really supported this convention! In addition to the T-Hunts, our members presented five Tech Talks. Congratulations to April Moell WA6OPS, Joe Moell K0OV, Bob Farrow N6OPR, and Scott Bovitz N6MI. Even I, Larry McDavid W6FUB, presented a Tech Talk. Sponsoring the T-Hunt activities and giving interesting Tech Talks promotes convention attendance, which helps our club through sharing of the convention proceeds.

Back in 1959, Jim Carmody attended a ham class at Amerige Park and was licensed as WB6KCK while a freshman at Fullerton Union High School. Jim now lives in Houston as NN5O and recently confirmed BS7H as his final country, now having worked all of them! Jim will operate as EI2VNO from County Kerry, Ireland for CQWWSSB the last weekend in October and is **offering a special prize to any Fullerton Radio Club member who works him in Ireland!** Listen up, folks! There's a lot of history there.

School has started again and most vacations are over. I hope this leads to more time available to

support our club activities. We have just three 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) hope for some relief from this work next year. It's time to start thinking about selecting 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

September 2007 FRC Meeting

The September club meeting will feature **Mike Scofield N6OKG**, who will present the topic of Radio Frequency Re-Use Over Terrain. Mike is a well-respected and appreciated speaker who will hold your attention throughout the presentation. See pages 4 & 5 for information about Mike and the program
Meeting time: 7:30 PM, September 19 at Fullerton Senior Center; 340 W. Commonwealth.

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Bob's Garage To Terminate Ham Exams

Amateur Radio Examinations have been held in Bob's Garage since 1987. The Garage held exams bi-monthly, sponsored by the Anaheim Amateur Radio Association, the Fullerton Radio Club, and CLARA. During the time span of 20 years, the sessions have examined over 500 applicants. One of these sessions took place at the United States Marine Corps Station at Camp Pendleton where some 80 Marines from the Desert Storm conflict Communications Section were examined.

This operation will be discontinued with the final testing session to be held on October 13, 2007. Bob, KD6DA, the contact examiner for W5YI-VEC has decided that after some 20 years it is time to close the Garage and enjoy other avenues of Amateur Radio and other social activities.

[Editor's note: We all owe Bob a huge amount of gratitude for all the years of support of amateur radio. I know that his service was of great help to me as I progressed up the license ladder. Some of you might not know that Bob is a Life Member of FRC, and is also Trustee for the club license. ***Thanks Bob, from a grateful Fullerton Radio Club!***]

Board Minutes Sept. 5, 2007

Meeting began at 7:35 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, Treasurer Manuel Borges Smoke Signals Editor Paul Broden, Board Member / Public Service Gene Thorpe, Board Member Tom Curlee, Members Cheryl Thorpe and Bill Preston

Treasurer Report: Manuel reported that the club has \$460.84 in checking and \$1680.78 in savings. We currently have 45 paid up members.

Speaker / Topic for Sept.: Mike Scofield, N6OKG on Radio frequency Analysis
Possible future speaker: Dick Norton

ARRL Convention T-Hunt: Additions/Changes were made between Joe, Tom and Gene. Lots of time and effort has been put in by them to make the T-hunt a successful event this coming weekend. T. Hunters for the mobile hunt must be registered if they wish to be eligible for a prize. Sign-in sheet for foot hunt will include; Name, year of birth, email address, gender, and single or team. Registration for the foot hunt will close a 5:00 PM Saturday.

Club Officers: All offices positions are open for nomination. We need some new members to step forward and help with our club.

Events to keep in mind: Club Installation Dinner, Friday, December 14. A menu will be presented next month.
RR days: First weekend in May 2008

Meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Gary Miller, KA6GPC
Secretary Fullerton Radio Club

ARRL Elections

It is that time of the year when the ARRL holds its elections for Director and Vice Director for the Southwestern Division. The Southwestern Division will elect their new Director/Vice Director and ballots are due before November 16 2007 and the candidate chosen will start their term on January 1 2008.

We are encouraging all ARRL Full members to vote and vote wisely. We also encourage each club post to their websites and into their newsletter information regarding each candidate. Here is a list of the Official candidates for the Southwestern Division:

Director Candidates

Dick Norton N6AA

richardnorton@gmail.com. No campaign website found

Carl Gardenias WU6D wu6d@sdcxc.org / <http://wu6d.com>

Vice Director Candidates

Tom Fagan WB7NXH

wb7nrxh@yahoo.com / <http://wb7nrxh.com>

Joe Madas AE6JM ae6jm@arrl.net /

<http://ae6jm.com>

Tuck Miller NZ6T nz6t@arrl.net /

<http://tucknz6t.com>

Marty Woll N6VI n6vi@earthlink.net / no campaign website found

I encourage you to contact each candidate and request literature from each to post to website or newsletters.

Spread the word. This is an important election

Disclosure: Since all candidates are listed with e-mails and websites if they have one, there is no show of favoritism or bias. Please vote. Approved by the ARRL k1zz.

Cathy K6VC

S.W. Division Newsletter editor

Third Quarter Aftermath

Can you believe it? When the vernal equinox occurs early Sunday, Sept. 23, around 09:50 UT, three fourths of 2007 will have been already spent. It's sure going quickly but we members have succeeded with an ambitious range of important activities, helping to keep members experienced and prepared for the unexpected. Let's review just how much "Smoke" we have made so far in 2007.

Bold phone HF band expansions by the FCC in December '06 set the stage. By January, we could enjoy much more HF

Phone Band Space given at the expense of CW Space. CW testing which would strike terror in the hearts of prospective ham licensees was now no longer required but that didn't help Gene Thorpe KB6CMO.

By February Gene, had found barely enough committed Tennis Tournament volunteers. Yet thanks to his dogged efforts to find support from other clubs, this annual ham radio event was well supported, even better than it could have been with Cell phones. By all using one Frequency as a "party-line" those who hoped to gain valuable experience in net operating could hear all problems and solutions. That understanding is helpful when disasters pop up. They will happen, and at any time. Most important however, 1500 young people able to compete and then be confident in knowing where their next match would be played and who their opponent would be were well served.

An important question, will next year's organizer be overwhelmed by too many volunteers? Not likely, but if you, try to schedule the first weeks in February '08 to join and help our radio operating team with real, messaging practice. No "test messages" occur on this one.

A March T-hunting event in Hillcrest park was almost single handedly organized by Joe Moell with April's help. That's such a great activity for kids that even FRC old timers would enjoy helping Joe to put on the event in the future.

Finding enough hams for April 28th annual Donate LIFE event, Gene had again to "sweat it out", and again, FRC offered few enough volunteers that more operators had to be from other clubs or organizations members. Gene was just able to meet the operator needs at the very last minute.

In May, Fullerton Railroad Days immediately followed the next weekend by FRC's annual Antennas-In-The-Park had just enough member support to end up successful. Whew!

Field day, June 2007 was a success mainly due to FD Chairman Manuel Borges, AE6SG collaborating with several So. CA QRP Soc. members to do an entire QRP field day. While the team scored well, with the TEN multiplier, more member support we sure could have used. Plan to join FRC Field day fun in '08. The Sun will be better too.

Just this last weekend, Fullerton Radio Club sponsored mobile and an on-foot T-

hunts. They were official Hamcon 2007, ARRL SW Division Convention events. Our usual familiar faces had all the fun. Gene & Cheryl represented FRC by attended the monthly organizing meetings leading up to the three day Torrance convention. Joe, April and many in the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System team, with Gene and Cheryl, at the T-Hunter's registration tables to sign 'em up.

It was exciting to me that Robert Doidge, KI6KYW, Bill Preston, AF6ED, and son Robby, KI6KYX newest hams and club members were able for the first time to experience their first ham radio convention.

A most surprising personal highlight for me was that, after 45 years, an early FRC member and good friend, former FRC President, John Kemper, W6JN, now living in Torrance, stopped by to say hello. John had been active in the club from early 1950's through 1962 but we had not met again in 45 years till now. Please note that at this convention. Both new hams and us old hams had a great unmatched experience

Such examples show that as members of Fullerton Radio Club we become a group of the best kind of friends, for life. That's a point which can be used when inviting local hams, to join up with us in the Fullerton Radio Club. Our oldest of North Orange County clubs, at 57 years, has been and still continues to be a dedicated public serving, active and creative group of bright, interesting and friendly people, And we have much more that can be done without more (old and new) members joining in.

We plan to again offer license classes to interest and enable young bright innovative youth to use ham radio to aid and promote their future. Stay tuned; new opportunities appear to be developing. John W6JN was impressed that we are still a vigorous and active ham community. So don't miss the next meeting. See you there and be sure to invite a friend too.

Thanks to all for your generous support.

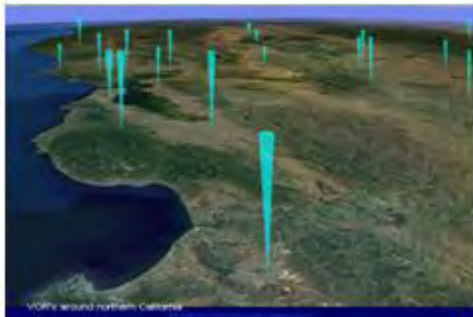
Bill Kohlenberger , V.P.

Radio Frequency Re-Use Over Terrain

An illustrated lecture by Michael Scofield, N6OKG



Given what we know about radio propagation, how closely can we re-use a frequency, in VHF or low bands? It depends upon the terrain, power, and other issues. We will look at how the radio spectrum is assigned (and re-used) in the AM broadcast, FM broadcast, television, air navigation, and air traffic control bands. This lecture makes generous use of computer graphics, mapping and geospatial visualization techniques.



Contact: Michael Scofield NMScofield@aol.com

FRC Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 3, 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, September 19, 2007
Dinner 6:00 PM at Carrow's, Harbor at Brea

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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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.