

# **Smoke Signals**

### **Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club**

**June 2007** 

#### **PREZ SPEAKS**

Field Day is upon us! In fact, our Field Day activities will start on the Friday following our regular June meeting. This year we will return to the Isaac Walton Cabin atop Hillcrest Park in Fullerton. This will provide all the amenities and a good antenna site to boot! We'll hear from Manuel Borges AE6SG at the June meeting on final plans. You don't need to plan the whole weekend there! But, you should come by at least and enjoy an experience you won't forget. We don't try to win some big award, just practice our emergency capability and have some fun. Do come and bring a friend!

Some clubs really go full-out for Field Day! The Orange County Amateur Radio Club will be joined by WARA and have a huge array of rigs and antennas at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base. I've been following their plans and it will be a massive, serious effort. You should stop by and visit their Field Day site just for the experience! I admit this is a lot more serious an effort than I'm prepared for but it will be an experience. Admission at the military gate will require a driver's license. Turn left on the road immediately after entering and look for the towers.

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.

Both Railroad Days and Antennas in the Park were excellent events this year. We had a crowd of perhaps 50 folks at Ants this year, thanks to participation by Super System members and visitors from other clubs. Read the report on Ants in this newsletter for more information on how it went!

Antennas in the Park was such a success that David Corsiglia and Joe Moell plan another park adventure on Saturday, July 14 in Craig Park. Please read the details in the *Park Adventure* article in this issue. I hope to see you all there!

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.

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

#### June 2007 FRC Meeting

The June FRC meeting will be dedicated to making plans for FIELD DAY. See the article on page 2 for details. The meeting will be held at the Fullerton Senior Center, 340 W. Commonwealth Avenue, Fullerton, across from the library at 7:30 PM.

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### FIELD DAY QST Calling all interested radio operators.

This is going to be a great opportunity to get together with your fellow hams and make this Field Day one to be remembered.

Remember this is not just a typical radio event we are here to prove that as amateur radio operators we provide one of the countries only reliable sources of communications in the event of a national disaster.

Remember Katrina and the other occasions when the only reliable source of communications came from fellow hams, like you. This does not happen by chance, it happens by design. So on the one day of the year lets get out gear out and see if we can muster the technology and our experience we have to provide the emergency communications that will be needed.

We have I large pool of resources in this club let's get out there and show what we have.

Now here is where I am going to ask each one of you to make this event possible, don't make plans for this date leave it open to support this event.

We need people like your self to come out and work the radios or give support to those who will be there. We would like to have this event last the full 24 hours and as of date we do have people who have committed themselves to working the night shift. We need more operators during the day, so come out bring your rig or use one if it is available and make a difference.

I would like to operate on battery power if it is possible, If not we have commercial power available.

There are indoor facilities and if you're into cooking your meals that can be done also. There are fine local restaurants, near by as well as burger places.

One last time keep this date opened, it's your date with the rest of the radio community.

Thank you and 73's, Manuel, AE6SG

#### JULY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

**NOTE**: FRC Board normally meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month; however, this date is July 4<sup>th</sup> and, therefore, the Board will hold its July meeting on Thursday, July 5. See the back page for time and location. All members are welcome to attend.

#### **ANTS in Review**

Fullerton Radio Club sponsored the annual *Antennas in the Park* [ANTS] ham radio demonstration and outreach barbecue on May 12. Western Amateur Radio Association and Super System clubs participated to make this a big success.

What a success was Antennas in the Park 2007! At one time I counted 39 in attendance, but that did not include several XYLs off under a tree I later discovered to be Super System members. And, some folks came early and left before we served food. So, the actual total attending was well over 40 and could have been as many as 50. I don't recall having anything like that number in recent years so we did well.

Most of those present did stay from perhaps 10:45 AM until 2:30 PM so we had a good crowd most of the time. FRC members predominated but Super System members counted about a third of the total and were a gracious bunch; WARA members made up the majority of the rest. But I also saw members from OCARC, AARA and a few others I invited out of the immediate area.

We strung our new FRC club banner at the edge of the road and, after a few landlubber knot failures, it waved throughout Ants. There was a fair amount of road traffic and the banner was easily seen; several park walkers stopped to chat. Since all the HF and one of the VHF stations were set up on the east side of that road, and the tower was there, we were easy to spot. Park Traffic Control complained about our stopping to unload/load cars but they did not make a big deal of it.

There were three complete HF stations operating and at least two mobile VHF/UHF stations and many HTs. WARA brought their tower trailer; Dino K6RIX, Hank W6HTW and Bob AA6PW put up several antennas during the event, testing one and then another with Bob's Icom 7000. One was a new 17 m WARC rotatable dipole that a member just received; a real DX SSB contact to North Cook Island was made immediately and there was a small rush of attendees to operate that DX station! Later a 3-element 15 m beam for Field Day was tested. Manuel AE6SG featured a new cookie-tin antenna tuner in his HF station. Paul K6MHD demonstrated his new portable emergency VHF/UHF station and provided early talk-in help. All this equipment was operated on emergency battery power to demonstrate our capability and prepare for Field Day in June.

I set up a Kenwood TM-742 and tri-band J antenna; David Corsiglia WA6TWF later used this station to demonstrate the Super System. He showed how he could, using their 440 MHz repeater, control his output from HF to 2 meters. We made several HF contacts, including one that turned out to be one of our own Ants stations! But, David successfully operated Arizona and mid-west HF stations also. It was interesting to hear the remote HF receiver slowly tune across a SSB signal and stop on command. Operation took a lot of button presses but it did work well!

David did a brief test with the Super System output on the Catalina repeater output frequency, attempting to show that his mountain-top repeater station has as strong a signal as the Catalina repeater. Unfortunately, those in that QSO never understood that our station was on the repeater output frequency and that they were not listening to the repeater; but, I guess that made the point!

Joe KOOV and April WA6OPS did a booming business with the T-Hunt and the starting horn was frequently heard. The hunter sign-in showed twelve registered to find the five hidden transmitters. Jay W6JAY found all five foxes in only 24:07, just 9 seconds behind the all-time park record. April brought her famous T-Hunt cake, this year decorated with an ink-jet icing-painted fox and ribbons. This marble layer cake, from a Brea bakery, was really good; April said the icing was French butter cream and it was great--not excessively sweet as icing too often is-and tasted wonderful! Great pictures of the hunt can bе seen http://members.aol.com/joemoell/ardfinla.h

Food was a big success! David Corsiglia and his Super System members bought two propane grills and they were kept busy. We had hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and even some Korean barbecued ribs! We had fresh sweet onions and lettuce; Kris Jacob KC6TOD from WARA answered my plea for help to cut the onions and lettuce. David did all the cooking and actively encouraged attendees to come for seconds and more!

He brought "Mother-in-law Baked Beans" which were a big success! We had lots of pasta salads, potato salad and many deserts. It was cool--wonderfully cool--so we had some cold drinks left over but most everything else got consumed.

In fact, the weather could not have been better! I think the maximum temperature might have been 75° F and there was a light breeze, with occasional gusts that blew a few things around. It was overcast until about 10:30; the sun was out fully after that but we stayed cool. I saw one RC sailboat on the lake. We had two blind attendees but no one fell in the lake this year! I set up a table with my station and club literature near the lake and under two large trees so I stayed in the shade the whole day.

We had numerous joggers run through, some attracting quite a bit of attention. One diminutive lady walked through with the largest poodle dog I have ever seen; this dog's head came above my waist but otherwise looked like a poodle gone crazy. She said it was a "giant poodle." Surely was. At the other end of this spectrumboth owner and dog--was the seldomseen Neil N6VHF who brought his Chihuahua puppy!

Are there "lessons learned?" Indeed! We need more helpers: a few did most of the work. We forgot to establish a talk-in frequency and really missed that boat; there were plenty of rigs there early and we could have helped talk up the event. I did several QST broadcasts but never got a return and after that I did not have time to do it again; we should assign that duty and pass it around. We had about 29 sign our attendance sheet so we missed quite a few; I walked it around once but we could do better. I wanted the burger and hot dog buns to be fresh and they surely were, my having forgotten to buy them until about 11:00 AM! We had lots more condiments than we needed but all other food items seemed about right; if it had been hot we would have used all the drinks. I'm sure.

All in all--a Big Success! If you could not attend, you missed a really great *Antennas in the Park*. We'll do this again!

Larry McDavid W6FUB

#### **ANOTHER PARK ADVENTURE**

Antennas in the Park was a great success this year but there will be another opportunity to enjoy ham radio and club friendship soon. David Corsiglia WA6TWF (Super System) and Joe Moell K0OV (Mr. Homingin) have decided to do another barbecue and T-Hunt on July 14, 2007 in Craig Regional Park in Fullerton. We are welcome to attend and to bring friends. I plan to go (Was that Ants barbecue good? Indeed so!), and I hope you all do as well.

Joe and April Moell will again coordinate an on-foot T-Hunt. They always have hunt receivers available to loan and will help beginners in this interesting activity. Since this is a different park, even if you hunted at Ants, you will have new territory to explore!

This event will be run a bit differently from Ants but will offer many of the same opportunities. David will provide the barbecue meats and do the cooking. But, he asks those attending to bring a pot-luck food item, such as main dish, salad, drinks or desert. Particularly, coolers with ice and drinks will be appreciated, as these will otherwise not be provided. To offset his expenses, David asks for a \$2 donation if you do bring such a potluck item or \$5 if you do not.

David expects many Super System members to attend and Joe expects the T-Hunt will attract many so there should be another large turnout of hams there. There will likely be a station setup as well. I will bring a canopy and table but each of you should bring your own chairs. There are lots of tables, trees and grass in this park.

Craig Park is bounded by Imperial Highway, Bastanchury Road, State College Boulevard and Associated Road in Fullerton. The entrance is east from State College Boulevard just south of Imperial. There is a \$5 park entrance fee if you drive in but you can also walk in at no cost; some parking is available on State College Boulevard just south of Imperial Highway. See the map for the exact location within the park where we will be set up.

Here is another opportunity for Amateur Radio outreach and summer fun. Come and enjoy the fellowship and food.

[A map of Craig Park and the Ham Radio Park Adventure can be found on page 6.]

Larry McDavid W6FUB

#### REMINDER

Dear Membership,

We have appreciated you support in the Fullerton Radio Club. It is my pleasure to serve as Treasurer and Membership. I will be asking you for your continued support in the club. You are all aware of the clubs responsibilities to carry on our events for the coming year and it operational expenses.

I am also hoping that you are aware that your membership may have expired. Please, if you are concerned about Fullerton Radio Club and its purpose I am asking on behalf of all the members that have paid for its continuation of functions that you do not hesitate a moment further and send in your dues and stay current.

Any past member will be dropped from the club roster as of the last meeting of June. It is imperative that we receive your dues by that date.

Bring a friend, you never know what he may bring with them, the opportunities span the spectrum.

Manuel Borges, AE6SG - Treasurer/Membership

#### **HDSCS NEWS**

June is off to a roaring start with 3 major activities already notched in our coax. On June 2, HDSCS was part of an Amateur Radio display at the Long Beach Scout-O-Rama that also included on-air contacts, Morse code introduction, and hidden transmitter hunting. HDSCS set up a simulated hospital Command Center with two Amateur Radio stations acting as the communication section. The mock scenario involved hospital damage and a loss of normal communications from an earthquake. When a Scout arrived, he or she was assigned to one of two HDSCS communicators at the Command Center to handle messages. They included requests for blood, patient transfers, and status reports to county Emergency Medical Services, all borrowed from drills and real incidents. After donning an emergency communicator vest the scout made the call to the appropriate entity and read the message to HDSCS hams at home base stations. They found that it took some effort to coordinate talking and using the mike button. In addition they learned about message priority and hospital abbreviations. Scouts who handled messages earned special certificates. This was our fifth year of participation in the Scout-O-Rama. Twelve HDSCS members participated including FRC members: Paul Broden, K6MHD; Alex Valdez, K9BLK; Dale Petes, KI6ANS, and April Moell, WA6OPS.

Only four days later HDSCS was involved in an Urban Area Strategic Initiative Drill (UASI) on June 6. On that Wednesday morning, 27 HDSCS communicators took positions at command centers, base stations, EMS, and in a special place called the "SimCell." We were simulating relief operators on the sixth day of a bioterrorism event. Although the 3-1/2 hour drill was part of an UASI grant to the cities of Santa Ana and Anaheim, 17 hospitals in nine cities of northern and central Orange County participated. This was realistic because any major multi-victim event would spread out to other hospitals in the surrounding areas. Orange County Emergency Medical Services Agency would coordinate these hospitals for transfer of patients and obtaining additional supplies in an actual emergency of this type. The outside consultant firm that scripted this drill obtained a special offsite location with staff to make phone calls into hospital command centers during the drill, simulating various departments and outside entities, the "SimCell". Two HDSCS hams were in the Sim Cell to handle traffic when phones overloaded, from the hospitals or when the script said a radio was to be used. Over half of the HDSCS communicators took time off from work to participate in this important exercise and several were new members receiving valuable mentoring. FRC members involved were: Paul Broden K6MHD, Louie DeArman K6SM, Tom Gaccione WB2LRH, Ted Kramer NB6N, Clay Stearns KE6TZR, Alex Valdez K9BLK, April Moell WA6OPS; and Ralph Swanson WB6JBI.

Then came Saturday morning June 9 when HDSCS was asked to assist at Huntington Beach Hospital during movement of a 200 pair cable. To move the cable would take down phones and fax machines in the lab, radiology, and the operating room. Fortunately no surgeries were taking place on a Saturday morning so communicators were not required there. However the lab was a crucial area for coverage and during the almost 3 hour time HDSCS was on site, the communicators handled several important messages from the lab. A total of six HDSCS members were involved in this incident. FRC members assisting were: Tom Gaccione, WB2LRH and Ralph Swanson, WB6JBI.

April Moell, WA6OPS HDSCS Emergency Coordinator Quoted from: The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 22, June 1, 2007.

# RILEY REITERATES RECOMMENDATION TO "LIGHTEN UP" ON HAM BANDS

FCC Special Counsel in the Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth's main message at the Dayton Hamvention®

<a href="mailto:</a><a href="mailto://www.hamvention.org">http://www.hamvention.org</a><a href="mailto:2007">2007</a> FCC
Forum may not have been a new one. But it's certainly one he believes bears repeating -- at least until it starts cutting through the QRM and QRN that pervade more communication channels than our Amateur Radio bands.

"Well, you could have gone to the flea market, but you came to church instead," Hollingsworth quipped to his Dayton forum audience. "I've got you now."

Hollingsworth repeated what for many Riley Watchers has become a familiar refrain: That the Amateur Radio community needs to "lighten up" on the air. Acknowledging that he was repeating himself, Hollingsworth urged his audience to take his message more to heart. "All of you can learn from each other," he said, "and you need to work together more and show a little more respect for your diverse interests and for the Amateur Service as a whole. It isn't about you. It isn't about enforcement. It's about Amateur Radio."

As radio amateurs take to the airwaves, he continued, they need to decide what's most important -- the best interests of ham radio or their ego, pride or perceived "rights."

"I realize I may be preaching to the choir here, but on the air you need to be more cooperative and less argumentative -- and I need you to take this message with you when you go home," he continued.

As a "homework assignment," Hollingsworth encouraged his listeners to read the "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial, "Most Effective Use"

<a href="http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2007/0">http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2007/0</a>
5/01/1/>, by ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, in May 2007 QST. In his commentary, Sumner stressed that interference occurring as a side effect of legitimate Amateur Radio activities in crowded bands "is simply a fact of life" and that it's "unfair to your fellow amateurs to assume that every instance of interference you may encounter is a hostile act."

Hollingsworth offered good news and bad news. "The good news: Nothing is wrong with Amateur Radio," he allowed. "It is a good service that is showing its value to the public on a daily basis."

The bad news, he asserted, making a comparison to "road rage," is "that there is an element of Amateur Radio that too often reflects present society generally."

Hollingsworth urged all radio amateurs to cooperate more and depend less on the FCC to solve their operating issues.

"We live in a rude, discourteous, profane, hotheaded society that loves its rights, prefers not to hear about its responsibilities, and that spills over into the ham bands," he said.

Hollingsworth's bottom line: Be flexible in your frequency selection and make regular use of the "big knob" on the front of your transceiver to shift to any of the "thousands of frequencies and hundreds usable at any given time of day or year" as necessary to avoid problems. "The world is ugly enough -- don't add to it," Hollingsworth advised.

"We can enforce our rules, but we can't enforce kindness and courtesy or common sense," Hollingsworth concluded. "And a very wise person, who happens to be standing to my left [FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer Bill Cross, W3TN -- Ed] once told me: 'You can't regulate stupid.' If we could, we'd be working for the United Nations instead of the FCC."

In his comments, Cross singled out the controversy that erupted recently over fears that automatically controlled digital stations would overwhelm the amateur bands, eclipsing most other modes. Cross cited §97.7 of the rules, which requires each amateur station to have a control operator and, in essence, to employ a "listen-before-transmit" protocol."

When a station is under automatic control, regardless of the transmission mode, Cross explained, the control operator need not be at the control point, but must employ station control devices and procedures while transmitting that ensure compliance with the FCC rules and does not cause harmful interference to ongoing communications of other stations.

The operational rule, Cross said, is: "Your call sign, your responsibility."

#### **Board Minutes June 6, 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, Treasurer Manuel Borges, Smoke Signals Editor Paul Broden, Board Member Tom Curlee, Board Member / Public Service Gene Thorpe, Member, Cheryl Thorpe, & Two visitors from the Downey club.

Treasurer Report: Currently the club has \$144.73 in checking and \$1680.78 in savings. We have 34 paid up members at this time. The club liability insurance was paid for the coming year for \$454.00.

Speaker / Topic for June: Manuel, AE6SG / Field day

Technician Licence Class: Classes are taking place weekly at CSUF on Saturdays in McCarthy Hall, Room 606. Bill, W6ZJE, and Mark, K6OGD are conducting the class but would welcome others to help. The ARRL book is being used and will take up to 18 weeks to complete.

Web Site: The site has last months Smoke Signals and new photographs.

Field Day: Manuel will be contacting members about a special meeting prior to the regular meeting on June 20th. Anyone planning to participate is invited. The time and date will be announced soon.

T- Hunt The Super System will be having a T-hunt and barbeque similar to our Antennas in the Park at Craig Park in Fullerton on July 14. All members are encouraged to attend. Larry will loan the club canopy and banner to the Super System for the event. Most of the board members plan on attending. More information will be given at the June meeting.

Generators: The club generators were sold at Gary's yard sale for \$95.00.

#### Events to keep in mind:

- 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 8:32 p.m.

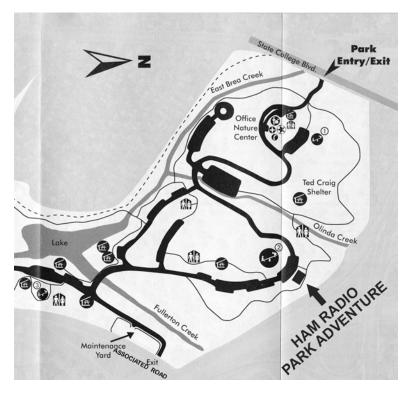
Gary Miller, ka6gpc Secretary Fullerton Radio Club





Special Tribute to Gene KB6CMO and Cheryl KE6TZU Thorpe

The photos above are of special awards and tributes given by **2007 Donate Life Run/Walk** to Gene and Cheryl Thorpe for their "tireless effort and attention to detail, while bringing mega amounts of safety to the walk!" FRC would also like to recognize the dedication of the entire Public Service group that assisted with this event, and especially to Gene and Cheryl for the long hours devoted to safety in the community of Fullerton. **CONGRATULATIONS GENE AND CHERYL** 



Map of Craig Park (Note: Orientation of the map is with North to the right instead of top of the page)

#### **Monthly Board Meeting**

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

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, July 5, 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 Exam: August 11, 2007

Please call one week in advance to reserve a place

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

www.occaro.org

#### **Fullerton Radio Club Web Sites**

http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org





## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION P.O. BOX 545, FULLERTON, CA 92836

[Please Print]				
Name #1;		Call:	Class:	
Address:		City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	ARRL Me	mber □ Yes □ No
Name #2;		Call:	Class:	
Address:		City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	ARRL Me	mber □ Yes □ No
Dues are \$20 per mer	mber, or \$25 per family. Stu	udent (Full-time) \$10.00		

Bring your dues payment to the next meeting or mail to the above PO Box.

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