



# Smoke Signals

## Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

### September 2010

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#### Prez Speaks

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Welcome to September! Kids are in school, the college/pro football seasons started, and my summer contribution to the Pageant of the Masters has completed for the year. It is hard to believe that summer has "officially" past and the fall is upon us. Checking the weather outside, I believe the fall is here! My express thanks to VP Albert Solomon (KI6WRU) for conducting the board meetings and general meetings these past three months!

For those of you that ventured to Laguna Beach this summer, I hope you had a chance to see the "Eat, Drink, and Be Merry" (this year's Pageant of the Masters). This summer I had hoped to spend a bit of time determining if I could hit the N6ME repeater from the top of the stage building. It would be a long shot, however it was a project I worked on decades ago with via CB radio with my group of Laguna Fire Explorers. Our target was the Top of the World fire station and we actually were successful! Well, as this summer's show activities would have it, this HAM project will be one deferred to the 2011 season.

We have several activities coming up, including ANTS, La Palma parade, nominations, and the installation dinner. Look for the details in this newsletter. Also, this is your reminder for the process of selecting club officers for next year. The nominating committee will be appointed in this month, with nominations presented in October, elections in November, and installation in December. As Paul noted in last month's article: "prepare yourself for participation on either the nominating committee, if so requested, or as a candidate for office – or both."

In remembrance, my friend and colleague Ron Martin (KI6QKM) is a silent key. I had the distinct pleasure of working with Ron both in Fullerton CERT and as a fellow member of my HAM radio class taught by Mark, Bill, and

Gene. Ron volunteered his time with the Fullerton Fire Dept and was a certified CERT Train the Trainer. I will miss him and his contribution to our community.

Please remember to join us for the pre-meeting dinner at the Fullerton Coco's Restaurant (Harbor and Berkeley). I look forward to seeing you at the general meeting and catching up on the past three months.

73's,  
Robert (KI6KYW)

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#### September FRC Meeting

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This month's program will be by Don Marshal, a retired Navy pilot with "seal" training. Don became an astronaut, but continued in other Government service before he could go into space. Since retirement Don has been active in producing technical documentation in collaboration with movie actor Elliot Gould.

Don is a graduate of Downey High School, incidentally had a ham license, and has completed documentaries covering Russian space program history and early military rocket technology during the cold war. Don has uncovered some surprising information about who may have preceded Uri Gagarin as first in space.

**Meeting: Wednesday, September 15, 2010**

**Time: 7:00 PM, sharp**

**Place: Fullerton Senior Center  
340 W. Commonwealth**

**VISITORS WELCOME**

### Fullerton Radio Club

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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](http://www.FullertonRadioClub.com)**

## Board Meeting Minutes

Vice President Albert Solomon KI6WRU called the September 2010 Board Meeting to order at 7:37 PM at Marie Calender's restaurant. Other's present included Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD, Board Members Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, Larry McDavid W6FUB, and Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE, and club members Bill Preston KZ3G and Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU.

Minutes of the August Board Meeting were approved as published in Smoke Signals.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account; \$1567.65: Savings account; \$1690.68. Since last month the club has paid a \$200 deposit to reserve a place at HamCon 2011. Gene KB6CMO showed the new event logo for the 2011 HamCon.

Membership report: The club now has 58 paid members. A new membership roster was given to Board members by email.

Gene and Cheryl showed the Board a plaque given to the Club by the DonateLIFE organization in appreciation for our participation in the 2010 Run/Walk event held in May at Cal State University. The DonateLIFE group will again be entering a float in the Tournament of Roses parade on January 1, 2011. [article and photo on page 3]

#### Old Business:

Antennas-in-the-park is scheduled for Saturday, October 9. As usual, there will be an on-foot T-Hunt sponsored by Joe Moell K0OV. The event will commence at 10:00 AM and last until at least 3:00 PM, but if you have equipment to set up it is best to be there by no later than 8:00 AM. The event will be held at Tri-Cities Park on Kramer Boulevard in Placentia. Details will be forthcoming by a separate email.

We've received news that the Catalina Amateur Repeater Association (CARA) will also be holding their picnic at Tri-Cities Park, on September 11. See their web site [www.cara.nu](http://www.cara.nu) for details.

The MS 150 mile bike ride will be held on October 16 & 17. This ride is a fund-raiser for the MS organization, and will be from Irvine to Mission Bay in San Diego. Gene KB6CMO is looking for volunteers to assist with communications.

La Palma Days parade is coming on November 13, and assistance is also needed for communications with this event.

OCCARO: FRC received multiple award certificates from the ARO booth organizers, and won the blue ribbon for best booth. Minutes of the OCCARO meeting were not available for review.

#### New Business:

The Club holiday dinner and officer installation will be held on Friday, December 17. Details to follow.

Troy High School JROTC will be conducting an awards "field day" for about 100 students at the school on September 25. Bill KZ3G needs 10 or more communicators to assist with the event. Time: approximately 0730 to 1400 hours. Contact Bill at 714-529-8004 if you can help.

A nominating committee will be appointed during September for next year's officers. Nominations are to be made at the October meeting, with additional nominations from the floor. Elections will be held at the November meeting, with installation in December. If you are contacted for either participation on the nominating committee or as a candidate, please remember that this is YOUR club and you need to be a part of this process, and not be just a chair-warmer.

The Club Secretary will be submitting the required non-profit Statement of Information to the Secretary of State by October 31.

Member Robert Zeigler KF6EVX remains hospitalized after the traffic accident in July. No visitors except family.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM

## Surprise Award

For the past eight years Fullerton Radio Club has participated, with hams from other organizations, as communicators at the DonateLIFE Run/Walk held each year at Cal State Fullerton. Coordination of communications at the Run/Walk is one of the multitude of community events handled by Gene KB6CMO and Cheryl KE6TZU. Quite unexpectedly, Gene and Cheryl were recipients of an award plaque from the DonateLIFE organization, thanking Fullerton Radio Club for our participation in the 2010 event. Gene and Cheryl are shown in the photo holding the plaque.



## Advice From My New Doctor

I had some questions about my health, so I went to a new Doctor and asked the following questions. Boy, was I pleasantly surprised by his answers. I like him already!

Q. Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong my life. Is this true?

A. Your heart is only good for so many beats, and that's it. Don't waste time on exercise. Everything wears out, eventually. Speeding up your heart doesn't make you live longer; it's like saying you can extend the life of your car by driving faster. Want to live longer? Take a nap.

Q. Should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A. No, not at all. Wine is from fruit. Brandy is distilled wine, which means they take water out of the fruit so you get even more of the goodness that way. Beer is made of grain. Bottoms up!

Q. How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?

A. Well, you have a body and you have fat; your ratio is one to one. If you have two bodies your ratio is two to one, etc.

Q. What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

A. Can't think of a single one, sorry. My philosophy is: No pain ... good!

Q. Aren't fried foods bad for you?

A. YOU'RE NOT LISTENING! Foods these days are fried in vegetable oil. In fact, they're permeated with it. How could getting more vegetables be bad for you?

Q. Will sit-ups prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?

A. Definitely not! When you exercise muscle, it gets bigger. You should only do sit-ups if you want a bigger stomach.

Q. Is chocolate bad for me?

A. Are you crazy? HEL-LO-O! Cocoa bean! Another vegetable! It's the best feel-good food around.

Q. Is swimming good for my figure?

A. If swimming was good for your figure, explain a whale to me.

Q. Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?

A. Hey! 'Round *is* a shape! You got it.

Well, this has sure cleared up any misconceptions I may have had about food and diets. And his parting advice: **Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways – Chardonnay in one hand – chocolate in the other – body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming “WOO-HOO, what a ride!!”**

[Copied with permission from the West Coast Amateur Radio Club, August 2010 newsletter, *Intermod*]

## FRC T-Hunt Report

On August 21, Dave Balgie N6MJN put his transmitter along Summit Street in Newport Beach. You might think that Summit Street would be some sort of high point, but actually it's at the western end of a beachfront home area south of Pacific Coast Highway (technically out of bounds), just east of the point where the Santa Ana River empties into the ocean. He ran 5 watts into a 5/8 wavelength whip antenna.

Three teams came out this time:

Team <u>Calls</u>	Odo <u>Miles</u>
N6AIN/WA6PYE	22.6
N6ZH/KD6CYG	38.8
W6ARK	Didn't find it

Is the Fullerton Radio Club T-hunt the longest-running continuously-scheduled hunt in southern California? For Orange County, it certainly is. It's time for you to try it, so come out to the top of Skyline Drive on September 18 at 8 PM and join in.

On the other hand, it's possible that this month's FRC hunt will be scrubbed because of the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in San Diego that weekend. The convention will feature two mobile T-hunts. A two-hour hunt for newcomers will take place Saturday afternoon at 5 PM and a four-hour advanced hunt will start at 2 PM on Sunday. Starting point for both hunts will be the southwest parking lot of the convention hotel. There is a prize for each hunt, but you must be registered for the convention to be eligible. If you're not registered, you can hunt unofficially. If you can't hunt but want to get in on the fun, you can join the hunters and hiders for supper at the end point, which is Casa Machado

Restaurant at Montgomery Field.

73,  
Joe Moell K0OV

## REGION 11 JROTC FIELD MEET

TROY HIGH SCHOOL will host the first field meet of the academic year on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am until about 2:00pm. The Commander of Unit Troy has requested that we, of the Ham Radio Community, turn out and provide radio communications for the event. There will be about 1000 cadets participating from 20 different schools from all over the Southwestern United States. Our role is to shadow the adult in charge of each of the dozen events spread across the athletic fields at Troy High School. The events vary from athletic to academic to marching and manual at arms drills. What you will witness is not what we've come to expect from the general population, but a bunch of smart, disciplined and enthusiastic kids competing for a share of the trophies and, more importantly, for bragging rights until the next field meet. I hope you can come out and lend a hand for a worthy cause, even if you can only be there for part of the event. For more information or to sign up call Bill Preston (KZ3G) at 714-529-8004 or on my cell phone at 714-393-8004.

## Antennas-In-The Park

Here come the picnic ants! Its time for the annual antennas-in-the-park (ANTS) event, only this year we will be holding it in the fall rather than springtime due to schedule conflicts that occurred in May. Here's what to expect:

**Where:** Tri-City Park, Placentia

**Date:** Saturday, October 9

**Time:** 10:00 AM to at least 3:00 PM (Set-up time will be at 8:00 AM)

What: Demonstration of amateur radio to the public, set up a variety of radios on multiple frequencies, meet friends and have a general good "hamming" time. We are scheduled to have some 10GHz gear on site for demonstration of UHF communication. You can bring your own rig, antenna and set-up gear. Remember, there will be NO AC-power, so bring battery-operated equipment (or a **very quite** generator for consideration of close-by neighbors).

Joe Moell K0OV will be setting up his usual T-Hunt. We may, if all goes well, have an opportunity for building T-hunting yagis and attenuators for those who may be interested. We also understand that April WA6OPS will be bring her famous T-Hunt cake -- YUM!

Plans are to have a burger and hotdog BBQ with typical trimmings. Free to FRC members; \$5 for visitors.

Additional details are forthcoming in an email as we develop additional plans.

Prepare to bring your portable equipment, provide demonstrations, and have good time in the park.

## HDSCS Report

Usually the end of summer is a quiet time but HDSCS folks were hardly that. August is the traditional HDSCS "Termite Month" when everyone is encouraged to come out of the "woodwork" and make contact with one another and practice hopping to the various repeaters we have access to for our activities. About two thirds of the group participated in some way collecting bonus points by answering questions, answering to surprise roll calls, following instructions by tactical reference and jumping around on frequencies and much more. Those that want to collect even more points can turn in log sheets. At the end of it all a Top Ten gets recognized but more importantly, members become more familiar with callsigns and names, get better at using their radios, go through reviews of HDSCS information, learn more about the coverage of the repeaters use and it is all fun. I'm still going through the myriad of log sheets. The Top Ten Termites will be recognized at our annual Termite Party coming soon.

Working around termite activity, coordinators attended meetings

with the various hospital nets planning for a major drill coming up this fall and also participating in planning meetings with the medical team for the Disney Half Marathon. HDSCS has supported the communications for the hospital that provided the medical care for the runners on the course through Disneyland and the city of Anaheim, and in the main medical tent at the end of the race. St. Joseph Hospital was in their 3rd year of putting together the medical teams. Over 14,000 runners ran the 13.1-mile course. HDSCS had 28 communicators assigned to medical tents on the course, at key water stations, on bicycles, in the main medical and reunion tents at the finish, shadowing key staff, and in the command center with Disney, police, fire, ambulance and St. Joseph personnel. This year's run had the fewest medical problems ever, in large part thanks to a cool, overcast morning with a little blanket of fog. However, the net stayed busy with request for more Vaseline, Tylenol, reports of runners to watch because of potential medical issues, and linking families up with runners who ended up being treated in a medical tent. FRC members who participated were: Paul, K6MHD

shadow; Joe, KØOV, NC; Tom, WB2LRH in main medical; Louie, K6SM at Med Tent 2; April, WA6OPS at Med Tent 3; and Dale, KI6ANS at the finish line.

April WA6OPS

## K9BLK Member News

The following article is a quote from the most recent issue of **Guide Dog News**, a quarterly publication of Guide Dogs for the Blind.

**"Alex Valdez**, a professional comic, put his talents and connections to work with a benefit at the Icehouse Comedy Club in Pasadena, Calif. The event was dedicated to the memory of his late wife, Jana. Gabriel Iglesias, known as 'the fluffy comic in the Hawaiian shirt,' performed and then generously matched the event proceeds. Through the event and private donations, Alex has raised more than \$15,000 for GDB. He recently received in-home training with his new Guide Dog, **Fabrica**."

Good job, Alex. Congratulations from FRC.

## FRC Regular Club Meeting

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

**Next Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 2010**

Dinner before the meeting at about 5:30 PM at:  
**Coco's Restaurant, 1011 N. Harbor Blvd.**

**Meeting time: 7:00 PM**

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

[www.occaro.org](http://www.occaro.org)

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## 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, October 6, 2010**

QSO and dinner; 7:00 PM

**Meeting: 7:30 PM**

**FRC Tuesday Net**

**8:00 PM – 147.975 (-) PL 114.8**

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Sat. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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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.**