



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

August 2005

President's Corner

Hello all –

Welcome to the wonderful (if you like heat) month of August.

This will be a short letter, but I am going to focus on an important item.

At the last Board meeting, I brought a topic up that had me concerned, which was the use of the club's Callsign at non-club events. I had been working a non-Fullerton Radio Club special event station, when I heard our club's call being used. Not knowing if the use had been previously approved, I went to the people who should know.

I brought up the use of the club's call at the next Board meeting, to inquire if anyone had known of the use. We discussed the specifics and the possible consequences of unauthorized use. Being on the board for around three years, I had not heard of any requests being previously discussed. I place a motion before the board to place restrictions on the use of the club's call.

The board approved the motion unanimously. The restrictions are:

- 1) the club call (W6ULI) will be used at club events only, or
- 2) upon the approval of the majority of board in advance, a club member may use the club's call on a one-time basis to participate in a special event station or other event that will gain the club a unique QSL or other notable item. To be fair to the board, the request should be made no later than one week before the intended use.

This will protect the board, the club and our Trustee, as we will all have knowledge of authorized uses of the club's callsign. I personally wouldn't want to have Riley knocking on my or any other member's door, but if he ever did, we would be prepared. I want to make sure we are squeaky clean and above board. I don't want even the perception of impropriety to grace our presence.

To the individuals who used the club's call to get a VERY unique QSL, I do wish to thank you publicly. You had our best interest in mind, which I understand from our conversations, more importantly, you made me take notice of a potential problem that needed to be addressed. I always appreciate being made aware of a deficiency or problem that can be corrected to make our club better. I look forward to putting the QSL into the coffer of the club.

Finally, start thinking about serving on the Board or as a Club Officer. We need people to keep this club running.

Thank you all and I hope to see you at the August meeting.

73

Karen Goodman, KG6USN

AUGUST MEETING PROGRAM
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

Fullerton Radio Club
P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836

President

Karen Goodman, KG6USN
Phone: (562) 693-5404
E-mail: president@fullertonradioclub.org

Vice President

Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE
Phone: (714) 525-2109
e-mail: cw4w6zje@pacbell.net

Secretary

Gary Miller, KA6GPC
Phone: (714) 529-2893
E-mail: KA6GPC@aol.com

Treasurer

Phil Goodman, WA6HOO
Phone: (562) 693-5404
E-mail: philgood@sandwalking.com

Public Service

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO
Phone: (714) 680-4258
E-mail: kb6cmo@ARRL.net

HDSCS

April Moell, WA6OPS
Phone: (714) 879-6895
Emergency Coordinator, HDSCS
E-mail: emcom4hosp@aol.com
www.hdscs.org

T-Hunt

Joe Moell, K0OV
http://www.homingin.com
E-mail: homingin@aol.com

Membership

Phil Goodman, WA6HOO
Phone: (562) 693-5404

OCCARO Representative
Larry McDavid, W6FUB

Trustee & VE Testing

Bob Reitzel, KD6DA
Phone: (562) 691-1514
E-mail: rreitzel@earthlink.net
Packet: KD6DA@WB6YHM-2

Directors

Cheryl Thorpe, KE6TZU
(Immediate Past President)

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO
Phone: (714) 680-4258

Tom Curlee, WB6UZZ
Phone: (714) 871-0337

Paul Broden, K6MHD
Phone: (714) 871-9478

Newsletter Editor

Paul Broden, K6MHD
Phone: (714) 871-9478
E-mail: pbroden@sbcglobal.net

Subject: Multiple Sclerosis support bike ride

Hi All,

The MS-150 Bike Tour is coming up very soon. It will be on **Oct 8-9, 2005**, from Huntington Beach to Carlsbad (overnight) Saturday, and to Hospitality Point (Mission Bay) on Sunday. There will be up to 2000 bicyclists this year. We are in need of radio operators for SAG (Support and Gear) vehicles and Rest stops. Will need lots of operators.

We may utilize the 440 band this year, so when you respond, please let David know if you have 440 capabilities, in addition to 2 meters, and which day(s) you are available. We need operators for both Saturday and Sunday, but if you can only work one of the days, we have a spot for you.

Respond directly to David Mofford, W7KTS, if you would like to work this fun event.

David Mofford W7KTS
davidmofford@hotmail.com
Res: 714-508-6434 Cell: 714-785-1760 Ofc: 714-665-8000

For more details about the event, go to
http://www.nationalmssociety.org/CAO/event/event_detail.asp?e=6029

Radio Classes

The City of Whittier received a page out of your bulletin regarding "City Looking for ham radio operators". If you have anyone who would be interested in classes or joining DCS and/or ARES in Whittier we would be delighted to have them give me a call. We appreciate your putting the article in your bulletin.

Thanks for your interest.
Vi Barrett W6CBA
(562) 947-1356

Board Minutes August 3, 2005

Meeting began at 7: 40 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 Member Cheryl Thorpe, Board Member Gene Thorpe, Board Member Tom Curlee, and OCCARO Representative Larry McDavid .

Topic/Speakers for August: Frequency Measurement Tests by Tom Curlee, WB6UZZ

Club Insurance: The check has cleared and is paid for the next year.

Field Day: A log was not submitted this year due to the small number of points collected.

Echolink: The board will try and work out a program demonstrating radio and computers communications using this popular program that is free to all amateur radio operators.

Club Call: The board voted on and passed the following motion. The club call, W6ULI is to be used only during special events, contests, or other cases with the board's approval.

Weekly net: The FRC weekly net on Tuesdays, is once again be on 147.975 (-) , PI 114.8. at 8: 00 p.m.

Orange County Fair FRC day was Wednesday, July 27. Many certificates were given out to young people that spelled out their name in Morse code at the booth.

Opportunity Drawing for August: 50-50. Buy your tickets at the door.

Meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.
Gary Miller, ka6gpc Secretary Fullerton Radio Club

Fullerton Radio Club, August Meeting

Tom, WB6UZZ has kindly consented to present a program on "Frequency Measuring History, Methods and Results" to the Fullerton Radio Club. We are privileged because you may remember that Tom is a noted co-author with Joe Moell of a book entitled.....

Transmitter Hunting

-- Radio Direction Finding Simplified

by Joseph Moell, K0OV and Thomas Curlee, WB6UZZ.

All the information you need about equipment and techniques for HF and VHF radio direction finding. Transmitter hunting is both practical and fun. Using the information in this book, you can not only locate jammers and other sources of malicious interference, but you can also locate downed aircraft, engage in sport hunting, and even help search-and-rescue groups save lives!
326 pages. First edition, © 1987. #2701 -- \$24.95"

Tom is one of the still blessed because he's been able to work in related radio related technologies on the job. But, Tom's motivation on this subject is partly from his participation in the ARRL Frequency Measuring Test, which was restarted in 2002. See an article at the ARRL web site that tells about the FMT.

<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2002/10/31/1/>>.

He will attempt to help us understand the background and importance of knowledge to help us assure we operate on the band where we trust we are legally.

Why is our trust justified? Come and listen to Tom. And he'll even answer a few questions too.

Next hunt August 20 in Huntington Beach

Huntington Central Park will be the site of southern California's next on-foot foxhunt on Saturday, August 20. This will be a "Welcome Home" event for ARDF Team California 2005 members, but it is free and open to everyone who wants to see and try the sport. Come out and meet some of the nine radio-athletes who are representing California at the 2005 USA and IARU Region 2 ARDF Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico during the first week of August.

The entire park is 350 acres, although some of it is unavailable for ARDF. It is relatively flat, but you'll encounter lots of vegetation (shade!) and plenty of trails. The two-meter course will be suitable for both beginners and advanced radio-orientees. All ages are welcome, but an adult should accompany young children. A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment is not required.

Bring any 2-meter RDF "sniffing" gear you have. If you don't have any, just bring your HT or scanner. A limited number of RDF sets will be available for loan. Also be sure to bring anything you'll need while going after those radio foxes, such as munchies, bottled water and sunscreen. Course maps will be available, so bring your own compass, protractor and pencil. Make sure all batteries are fresh.

Practice and beginner 2-meter transmitters will go on the air around 10:00 AM, and the main 5-fox hunt will begin at 10:30 AM. You can start hunting at any time up until 1:30 PM. There are picnic tables nearby, so you can bring your lunch. Courses close at 3:30 PM.

We will start from the parking lot at the north end of the park. The entrance is on the south side of Slater Avenue, east of Golden West Street intersection. (Map at www.homingin.com) There are no fees for entry or parking, but parking may be limited depending on other activities in the park that day. Look for the orange and white Orienteering flag and signs. Call K0OV or WA6OPS on 146.970 simplex if you have trouble finding the site.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

So Many Hams – So Few Helpers?

By Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE

Remember when...Long Beach was damaged by a major earthquake in 1933? Or when the Santa Ana River's banks were unable to hold the 1938 flood runoff? Or when a Train wreck happened in Placentia? Or when the Laguna Hills fire saturated communications? It was no surprise that ham radio operators were instantly in there, able to, and giving effective help! Whether or not you can remember that far back it's been demonstrated early on that ham radio proved essential in emergencies. Many hams that returned to civilian life after WWII were actively dedicated to continued learning, practicing and preparing to be able to give public support in times of emergency.

Ben - W6ECV, an early Fullerton Radio Club (FRC) member and president, in 1953 began an effort to organize the Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) in Orange County that is now under the O. C. Sheriff, and today, FRC members are still leading similar kinds of effort.

Just look at the example in the level of activity of the unique HDSCS team spearheaded by April-WA6OPS. Fullerton City RACES and OC RACES teams are also continuing to support. Ongoing training and exercises with City personnel and an ever more mature ham team is happening on an annual schedule.

Nevertheless, it is clear that requests for ham radio support volunteers today are met with fewer ham responses. So be assured that all you who are interested in joining Fullerton RACES will be warmly welcomed. A number of FRC members in surrounding cities, also are active in local city RACES teams.

In trying to line up hams for the April '05 5k/10k Gift-Of-Life event at Cal State Univ. Fullerton, Gene KB6CMO, did not know until the last few hours whether he would be able to get enough operators support. Thanks to Gene's untiring effort ham support to the event finally turned out to be a great success.

A recent request [see page 2], asks for hams support for a Multiple Sclerosis S-150 Bike event on Oct 8-9, 2005. Saturday, cyclists go from Huntington Beach to Carlsbad (overnight) and on Sunday to Hospitality Point (Mission Bay). Up to 2000 bicyclists are expected this year. Lots of radio operators are needed for SAG (Support and Gear) vehicles and Rest stops. Respond directly to David Mofford, W7KTS, if you would like to work this fun event. David is at...<davidmofford@hotmail.com>

Another club activity occurs on Tuesdays, @ 8:00 PM local, on 147.975, (-) PL114.8, the Fullerton Radio Club net, you will find is still happening. Heard to check in to date include Gary-KA6GPC, Rick-W6SRD, Paul-K6MHD, Chuck-K4TAT, Gene-KB6CMO, Cheryl-KE6TZU, Karen-KG6USN, Phil-WA6HOO and sometimes Bill-W6ZJE. Check-in numbers are not up to "round-table" size yet but all checking in are friendly interesting and good-natured. We even discussed some who-has-been-doing-what over the summer. Dust off the rig and Join us each Tuesday.

In trying to better understand what influences current levels of ham activity I looked at the FCC ham population database for Fullerton and surrounding areas. Data covered thru spring 1994, gives some interesting numbers for surrounding city's populations of licensed hams.

- 893 for Anaheim
- 270 for Buena Park
- 198 for La Habra
- 249 for Placentia
- 221 for Brea
- 660 for Fullerton
- 610 for Orange
- 371 for Yorba Linda

Total = 3472 – What percentage are Active?

New Licenses issued in groups in and around Fullerton in the month of June in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 are believed to result from License Classes offered at Sunny Hills High School.

- 52 In June 2000, KG6BTG thru KG6BVF
- 75 In June 2002, KG6LSP thru KG6LVO
- 44 In June 2001, KG6GVM thru KG6GXN
- 84 In June 2003, KG6RLW thru KG6RPJ

Total 255

What Percentage had the equipment and knowledge to get on the air? Has anyone heard any calls within these ranges used on the air? We're now working to try understanding how to involve the local abundance of radio amateurs to join us in supporting public service activity in North Orange County. So stay tuned.

73-W6ZJE

[Ed.: Bravo Bill! How many FRC members are active in events sponsored or supported by our own club? We are committed to Public Service, including, but not limited to RACES, but has difficulty in rounding up activity volunteers. HDSCS supports 33 hospitals in Orange County, and is hardly able to find sufficient responders to cover hospital emergency communication needs. Lets not wait for another earthquake, flood, train wreck, fire or other disaster to wake up to the need of volunteer communicators. VOLUNTEER NOW!]

FCC Proposes to Drop Morse Code Requirement for All License Classes

NEWINGTON, CT, July 20, 2005--The FCC has proposed dropping the 5 WPM Morse code element as a requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license of any class. The Commission recommended the change to its Part 97 Amateur Service rules in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 05-235. Any rule changes proposed in the NPRM would not become final until the FCC gathers additional public comments, formally adopts any changes to its rules and concludes the proceeding by issuing a Report and Order (R&O) spelling out the changes and specifying an effective date. That's not likely to happen for several months. The FCC declined in its NPRM to go forward with any other suggested changes to Amateur Service licensing rules or operating privileges beyond elimination of the Morse requirement.

"Based upon the petitions and comments, we propose to amend our amateur service rules to eliminate the requirement that individuals pass a telegraphy examination in order to qualify for any amateur radio operator license," the FCC said in its NPRM, released July 19. This week's NPRM consolidated 18 petitions for rule making from the amateur community--including one from the ARRL--that proposed a wide range of additional changes to the amateur rules. The FCC said the various petitions had attracted 6200 comments from the amateur community, which soon will have the opportunity to comment again--this time on the FCC's proposals in response to those petitions.

The Commission said it believes dropping Element 1--the 5 WPM Morse examination--would "encourage individuals who are interested in communications technology, or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become amateur radio operators." The FCC said it also would eliminate a requirement it believes "is now unnecessary and that may discourage" current licensees from advancing their skills, and that it would "promote more efficient use" of current Amateur Radio spectrum.

The FCC cited changes in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 as the primary reason to go forward with eliminating Morse code as an Amateur Radio licensing requirement in the future. Among other changes, WRC-03 deleted the Morse testing requirement for amateur applicants seeking HF privileges, leaving it up to individual countries to determine whether or not they want to mandate Morse testing. Several countries already have dropped their Morse requirements.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was not surprised that the FCC proposed altogether scrapping the Morse code requirement. The League and others had called for retaining the 5 WPM requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants. Sumner expressed dismay, however, that the FCC turned away proposals from the League and other petitioners to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license class.

"We're disappointed that the Commission prefers to deny an opportunity to give Amateur Radio the restructuring it needs for the 21st century," he said. "It appears that the Commission is taking the easy road, but the easy road is seldom the right road."

Sumner said ARRL officials and the Board of Directors would closely study the 30-page NPRM and plan to comment further after they've had the opportunity to consider the Commission's stated rationales for its proposals.

In 2004, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rule Making asking the FCC to amend Part 97 to complete the Amateur Service restructuring begun in 1999 but "left unfinished." The League called on the FCC to create a new entry-level license, reduce the number of actual license classes to three and drop the Morse code testing requirement for all classes except for Amateur Extra. Among other recommendations, the League asked the FCC to automatically upgrade Technician licensees to General and Advanced licensees to Amateur Extra. In this week's NPRM, the FCC said it was not persuaded such automatic upgrades were in the public interest.

The FCC said it did not believe a new entry-level license class was warranted because current Novice and Tech Plus licensees already can easily upgrade to General. "We also note that, if our proposal to eliminate telegraphy testing in the amateur service is adopted," the FCC continued, "a person who is not a licensee will be able to qualify for a General Class operator license by passing two written examinations, and that a person who is a Technician Class licensee will be able to qualify for a General Class operator license by passing one written examination." The FCC said it does not believe either path to be unreasonable.

The FCC also said that it's already addressed some of the other issues petitioners raised in its "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140. In that proceeding, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice refarming proposal aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus subbands to provide additional phone spectrum. Under the plan, Novice/Tech Plus licensees would be granted CW privileges in the current General CW subbands.

Filing Comments on WT Docket 05-235

To file on-line comments on the FCC NPRM&O in WT Docket 05-235 or to view others' comments in the proceeding, visit the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) site and click on "Submit a Filing" or "Search for Filed Comments."

In either case, type "05-235" in the "Proceeding" field, being careful to include the hyphen but not the quotation marks. Directions for filing comments, which can be in the form of an attached document, are on the ECFS site. Click on "Getting Started" to learn more.

The FCC is not expected to release a Report and Order in WT Docket 05-235 until late this year at the earliest.

Club Meeting

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

Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2005

Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting: September 7, 2005

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: **August 13, 2005**
and October 8, 2005

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

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



Janet Margelli
Manager
KL7MF

933 N. Euclid Street
Anaheim, CA 92801
714-533-7373, 1-800-854-6046
Fax 714-533-9485

ANAHEIM, CA • ATLANTA, GA • BURBANK, CA • DENVER, CO
NEW CASTLE, DE • OAKLAND, CA • PHOENIX, AZ • PORTLAND, OR
SALEM, NH • SAN DIEGO, CA • SUNNYVALE, CA • WOODBRIDGE, VA

**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>

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

Tel: (714) 521-8080
Fax: (714) 521-8920

"Since 1956"

FORD Electronics, Inc.

Electronic Parts Distributor
Wholesale • Industrial • Commercial
Network Equipment

8431 Commonwealth Ave., Buena Park, CA 90621-2527
Email: sales@fordel.com



The Advantage of Experience

1645 E. Orangethorpe
Fullerton, CA 92831-5294

Phone: 714-871-1020
FAX: 714-871-1951
www.orvac.com

Fullerton Radio Club
PO Box 545
Fullerton, CA 92836

First Class Mail

