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# Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

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October 2005

## October's Editorial

Comments in this "Presidential Corner" are actually Vice Presidential comments this time. Pres. Karen Goodman, KG6USN, has made a full time commitment to work toward becoming a career airline pilot, requiring her to put full attention on that task, and it will keep her at remote training sites for the next several months. We all wish you the very best success in achieving the goal Karen.

Pres. Karen and Treasurer Phil, WA6HOO, have worked hard in support of many club activities Karen began representing the club again with the Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations OCCARO, and Phil. struggled to upgrade the FRC web site. Karen also designed and initiated the on-line interest survey questionnaire.

In addition, F.R.C.'s annual Antennas In The Park event again gave ham radio exposure to the public. Also during the event, Joe Moel, KØOV, April, WA6OPS, with help from several others gave many curious and some experienced people, exposure to T-hunting.

Field day was fun for many in spite of a club generator's over-voltage condition that caused spectacular explosive destruction in Paul Broden's Power supply. The supply was eventually replaced with a "good" one so Paul can be back on the air.

Thanks much Karen for working to trim the club rudder. Phil, remember you are also still welcome to attend meetings, even when Karen is away. We'll all work to continue their fine efforts.

### Christmas Banquet

Now that it's October, it is time to act.

1. Mark on the calendar, Friday, December 16, 2005.
2. Next, choose your menu items from the list in this issue of "Smoke Signals", and make a copy for yourself.
3. Send or give the annual Christmas Banquet choices and reservations to Gene Thorpe as soon as you can.

Again this year Marie Callender's has our commitment for that night at 126 E Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia. F.R.C. is also joining again with Anaheim Amateur Radio Association, (AARA), to share this joint holiday banquet, making for greater fellowship and more eyeball QSOs. Also, Gene Thorpe has lined up some cool prizes, with selections that all the ladies will enjoy too. Be sure to reserve as soon as possible! We expect a bigger fun crowd.

### V. P. Soap Box Remarks

Ham radio this year has been called on as never before to help, big time, with two unprecedented and massive hurricane disasters. This has also given us some rare and needed congressional exposure. As reported in the ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 38. "ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, testified on behalf of the League September 29 before the US House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, addressing the hearing topic, "Public Safety Communications from 9/11 to Katrina: Critical Public Policy Lessons".

One of Kramer's most compelling statements was that there's been a lot of discussion in recent years about public safety interoperability. "The Amateur Radio Service provides a good deal of interoperability communications for first responders in disaster relief incidents," he told the subcommittee. He said ham radio is able to fill this crucial role because even the "interoperability channels" that exist in most Public Safety allocations are useless when the Public Safety communication infrastructure goes down." Kraemer's full remarks are available at the ARRL web site, < <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/09/30/2/>.

In 1950 when Jack Tielrooy, W6HDT, and the organizing hams started Fullerton Radio Club it was just four years after the end of WWII and most of us had returned having had direct wartime incidence experience. It was already apparent to us that supplemental public service emergency communications by amateurs with amateur equipment and practice was more reliable than almost any other means. We could help during anticipated disasters.

Ben Switzler, W6ECV, worked with the county trying to initiate RACES with little success for many years. Eventually O.C. RACES was and continues to be supported under the O. C. Sheriff's county communications organization.

Now 55 years later it is again demonstrated that amateur radio still has a more fail safe interoperability offer during disaster communications need. Even well designed public safety communications systems, as we can see, still are not immune to a disasters damaging affects. Yet today, for amateur radio, our main ham radio emergency response limitation is in the numbers of available and trained experienced hams.

It appears to me that a significant continuing challenge Fullerton Radio Club needs to address is that we must work smarter at promoting a growing replacement population of new hams who are able to respond to calls for immediate and well prepared communications response. Let's accept the challenge and get working on it. Please make comments and/or consider volunteering to help.

See you at the October meeting when Jay Kobelin, W2IJ will show and tell us about an exciting DX-pedition to Clipperton Is. But where is Clipperton, and why would anyone choose to go there?.

Plan to hear Bill Feldman, N6PY, in November who will show vintage radio gear that is restored.

73 and Thanks for listening.  
Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE

**October's Fullerton Radio Club Program**  
**"What Can Be Learned By Doing A DX-pedition"**  
**By Jay Kobelin, W2IJ**

Last spring while eaves dropping on a QSO between two active, dedicated DX'ers, Jay, W2IJ, and Charlie, W6KK, I heard them discussing the fact that the video tapes of their experiences should be put on DVD. As VP of programs and a motivation to find good programs and my complete agreement with the DVD idea, led me to brake in and gave my encouragement that a presentation on their DX adventures would be a super program.

Serendipity, next proved that supply can meet demand. President Karen's flight instructor is Mark Kobelin, WA2FIJ, Jay's son and Karen's OM, Treasurer Phil has DVD editing talent, knowledge and facilities. Through Phil's generosity, video of Jay's Clipperton Is. DX-pedition has now been put on DVD. So Jay has generously consented to present the DVD and give us the benefit of his intrepid expedition experiences at the October 19, 2005 Fullerton Radio Club meeting

Jay, born in Brooklyn in 1946, just as the 1947-8 sunspot maximum was beginning to peak. Jay got his novice License in 1958 also in time for the highest sunspot cycle on record. He soon advanced through to Extra class when 20 WPM CW was still a requirement. Earning a BSEE from U. Missouri led to a career that has given him a broad range of challenging experiences, most recently in aerospace defense systems.

Jay and I were both commuting to and from the desert on an overlapping schedule, allowing mobile QSOs on 220. Jay's technical commentary were always very interesting, yet it was clear that from Jay's unique DX-pedition experiences we could learn how to overcome a complex sequence of obstacles and solve problems to achieve a world class result. Jay has generously consented to show how the challenge of a DX-pedition can succeed.

Make sure you invite your friends and their friends, particularly if they are interested in DXploits and want to hear about really adventurous DXing.

Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE  
VP for Programs  
Fullerton Radio Club Inc.

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**Board Minutes October 5, 2005**

Meeting began at 7:30 P.M. at Marie Callender's in Placentia. Members present for Fullerton Radio Club board meeting: Vice President Bill Kohlenberger; Secretary Gary Miller; Board Members Cheryl Thorpe, Gene Thorpe, Tom Curlee, Paul Broden, and OCCARO Representative Larry McDavid.

Topic/Speakers for October: Clipperton DX with Jay Kobelin, W2IJ  
American Heart Association sent a thank you to the club for the \$50.00 from the club in memory Jim Boyd, K6MYN  
Club Officers; Nominations for all officers will be soon. Support the club and volunteer for next year.

Speakers: Bill, W6ZJE still needs 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, is on the club web site. Reservations and payment needed by Dec 1.

Opportunity Drawing for October, 50/50 Buy your tickets at the door.

Meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.

Gary Miller, ka6gpc  
Secretary Fullerton Radio Club

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**Transmitter Hunt 9/17/05**

After being considerably out of bounds when he hid the August FRC transmitter hunt, Steve Wallis WA6PYE made up for it by being well within bounds in September. He was in the parking lot next in a new business area east of Weir Canyon in Yorba Linda, north of the 91 freeway and south of Eastpark Drive.

Calls	Mileage
K6SNE	12.9
N6AIN	14.8
KF6GQ/KA6TAS	15.6
WA6DWL/K6MJU	25.1
K0OV	Unofficial

73,  
Joe K0OV



**Mystery Photo**

Any guesses as to the identity of the young OP at this station?  
Hint: the photo was taken in 1958.

**October Club Meeting**

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

**Wednesday, October 19, 2005**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

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

**Next Board Meeting: November 2, 2005**

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