



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

January 2006

President's Column

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all club members and guests who may be reading this first edition of **Smoke Signals** for 2006. We have just completed our first Club Board Meeting for the year, and are in the process of identifying goals and directions for the club and related activities. As noted in previous editions of the newsletter, a major focus for the club continues to be revitalization of inactive members, coupled with promotional activities in pursuit of additions to the membership. All current members can assist with this endeavor by inviting friends and acquaintances, and by reminding past members of the meetings and schedule of events. We may soon be doing a mass mailing to local HAMS inviting them to the various activities that will occur this year.

We are also considering the development of a public awareness program whereby some of the positive aspects of amateur radio are brought to the forefront of local media. The club board will be looking for opportunities to report on the voluntary works and activities of the club to give the public a fundamental understanding of amateur radio, and the value of our services.

One of the challenges I have personally is to make sure that **Smoke Signals** has maximum exposure and benefit to the club members and all who read it. This project will require improved distribution to members and the general public alike. We're working on the public distribution concept, but have not yet explored all options open for this purpose. Member distribution is the current main focus; but we wish to do this with minimal use of costly "snail mail." We've tried making the newsletter available on the web site (and will likely continue to do so), but it seems that few members use this as a source for retrieving the monthly publication. Direct e-mail will be the next option – but this method is not without problems itself. Spam filters may prohibit some deliveries. We will see how it works with this month's issue. I'll also be working on some newsletter reformatting for improved readability and ease in finding key items.

Thanks for being out there. We hope to see you all on Wednesday the 18th.

73 for now.

Paul Broden, K6MHD

Club Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2006

Fullerton Senior Center

340 W. Commonwealth Ave.

Fullerton

QSO Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting: 7:30 PM

January Program

Our January program is on the DARPA Autonomous Vehicle Competition that promotes research on how vehicles can be robot controlled to somewhat intelligently navigate over a various paths that are challenging to human drivers. Marty La Roque, N6NTH now an actively retired world traveler, spent many professional years in the inertial navigation business and maintains membership in the Institute of Navigation. Marty is also active in Orange County RACES supporting with ATV and voice communication from his white communication van. He participated in the recent DARPA Competition and has agreed to share with us results and what he learned. Find out how APRS was involved by coming to the January meeting and you can bring interested friends.

Planning Ahead to February

Our February guest speaker will be Quent Cassen, W6RI. Quent spent most of his career in integrated circuit design and wireless engineering at Rockwell/Conexant. From a ham's viewpoint, he will give us insight into the evolution of the cell phone from early analog systems to the new third generation networks. He has been licensed since 1952 and is currently employed part time at the University of California, Irvine, at the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology. Most of us have cell phones. Now is the time to find out how soon they will become obsolete!

IT'S A NEW YEAR. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE.
A RENEWAL APPLICATION IS ATTACHED.

FULLERTON RADIO CLUB NET; Each Tuesday, 8:00 PM; 147.975 (-) PL 114.8

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Future Events

Fullerton Jr. Tennis Tournament

February 4, 5, 11, 12, 13
Ten sites will be used, and approximately 35 Amateur Radio Operators are needed to coordinate communication between sites.
Contact: Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO (714) 680-4258

Donate Life 5/10 K Run

Saturday, April 29 at CSUF campus. Approximately 16 Amateur Radio Operators needed.
Contact: Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO (714) 680-4258

Orange County Fair

It's never too soon to start planning! FRC has selected Wednesday, July 26, 2006 as our day to man the HAM booth at Orange County Fair. We will be looking for volunteers. Put it on your calendar.

Call For Articles

Smoke Signals is *your* newsletter – intended to support the Club and its activities – and we'd like to include *you* in its publication. We are looking for articles of interest to members and non-members alike for presentation each month. If you have subject material you think may be worthy of inclusion in **Smoke Signals**, please provide it to me for review and potential addition to the newsletter and sharing with the Club. Although we are open to receipt and publication of many topics, we will give preferential selection to material related directly to amateur radio. A bit of humor would be nice once in a while. Keep in mind that, as your editor, I reserve the option to select articles for inclusion in the newsletter (assuming we will receive enough to be selective) and to do some editing, if necessary, to fit the space available.

Smoke Signals Editor, K6MHD

Frequency Change

In order to solve some co-channel interference, the N6MIK repeater, currently on 446.600MHz, will be moved to 446.540 - as the PacBell Lady used to say "Please make a note of it". :-)

The location, PL (114.8) and 24/7 connection to Echolink won't change. As an added bonus, coordination has been received for a second repeater that is up and running now on 446.540 with a Digital PL (DCS) of 261. The new (Carbon Canyon) repeater provides about the same coverage in OC as the existing (Brea) repeater, but works as far east as Cabazon/Palm Springs out to the base of the Cajon Pass. So - two repeaters, one frequency, both available to Brea RACES any time. Combined, they provide handheld radio coverage throughout the city (Including Brea and Carbon Canyons) and well beyond. Time to reprogram some radios!

FRC T-Hunt Results

Bob Miller N6ZHZ hid the December FRC transmitter at Hart Park in the City of Orange, just east of Glassell and north of the 22 freeway. His 1-watt transmitter was on the path from the river bottom to the baseball park. The antenna was a rubber duck.

RESULTS

Team	Odo
<u>Calls</u>	<u>Miles</u>
K6SNE	13.58
N6AIN	14.20
WA6PYE/N6MJN	14.70
KF6GQ/KD6LAJ	18.20
KG6RQQ/KG6LSE	27.80
N6XFC	Unofficial

REMEMBER THE CLUB NET

Each Tuesday at 8:00 PM FRC holds an informal club net for talk, tech stuff, and whatever thoughts that go through our minds. If no one is on the net when you get there, give us a QST and see who shows up.

Canadian Amateurs to Lose 220-222 MHz

January 3, 2006 -- Barring an outpouring of "compelling arguments to the contrary," Industry Canada will reallocate the 220-222 MHz portion of 220-225 MHz from the Canadian amateur service to the mobile and fixed services. Under the provisional reallocation, which will take effect January 25, the amateur service will be allocated the 219-220 MHz subband on a secondary basis. Additionally, the amateur service may be permitted use of 220-222 MHz "in exceptional circumstances on a secondary basis to assist in disaster relief efforts."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, commented: "The US and Canada generally coordinate their mobile allocations because of the long border we share. The fact that it has taken Canada 15 years to get around to implementing a mobile allocation at 220-222 MHz is indicative of the fact that the reallocation that took effect in the US in 1991 has never lived up to the claims of its proponents."

In fact, the document that includes the proposed reallocation, Canada Gazette Notice DGTP-004-05, Proposals and Changes to the Spectrum in Certain Bands Below 1.7 GHz, cites the earlier US reallocation as part of its justification for the change. Radio Amateurs of Canada opposed the reallocation. Comments are due to Industry Canada by January 26.

(Quote from ARRL Web Page)

Board Minutes January 4, 2006

Meeting began at 7:34 P.M. at Marie Callender's in Placentia. Members present for Fullerton Radio Club board meeting - President Paul Broden, Vice President Bill Kohlenberger, Secretary Gary Miller, Treasurer Manuel Borges, Board Members Cheryl Thorpe, Gene Thorpe, Tom Curlee, OCCARO Representative Larry McDavid

Speakers/ Topics: Marty Larocque, N6NTH, will tell about what he did for the DARPA Autonomous Vehicle Competition this month. For the month of March there will possibly be an auction of used ham items plus item for sale or free. An excuse to clear out the shack of some items not needed or used in a long time.

Tennis Tournament: Gene is looking for volunteers to work at one of the 10 locations in Fullerton. The event will be Feb 4-5, and 11-13.

Bylaws Committee: Larry submitted a draft for the board to study. No action was taken pending studying the draft.

December Meeting: Gene reported that 47 showed up for the December dinner meeting.

Membership: Membership applications will be available at the monthly meeting. Twenty dollars a year for one and twenty-five for family membership is the cost. Full time students will remain at ten dollars. An additional duty for the Treasurer will be Membership chairman.

Raffles: 50-50 this month

Meeting ended at: 8:50 p.m.

Gary Miller, ka6gpc, Secretary Fullerton Radio Club

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

[Please Print]

Name #1; _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Name #2; _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

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.

Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting: February 1, 2006

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

**Orange County Council of Amateur Radio
Organizations (OCCARO) Web Site**
www.occaro.org

Fullerton Radio Club Web Site
<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org>

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: **February 11, 2006**

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

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