



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Fullerton Radio Club

November 2008

PREZ SPEAKS

Frank Czopek, a GPS Systems Engineer from Boeing and aspiring ham, spoke at our October meeting on the early history of GPS. This was an exceptionally interesting program and very informative of how we nearly did not succeed. I had no idea that there were so many competing programs in different branches of our armed services for this system! Frank gave us Part 1 of the history and will return at a future meeting to explain how we got to the multi-national system in use and growing even today.

Our own Dennis Kidder W6DQ will present the program this month on precision timing and frequency standards. Dennis has an impressive personal collection of these instrument standards and I'm looking forward to his explaining how he uses them. I have a GPS-steered frequency/time generator originally used in CDMA cell phone sites, but Dennis has the real thing! This is sure to be an interesting program so plan to attend our meeting on Wednesday, November 19.

Our club year is drawing to a close and it is time to elect officers for next year. Our club bylaws restrict the club presidency to a two-consecutive-term maximum so I will pass the presidential baton to your new president at the December, 2008 Holiday Dinner. The Nomination Committee will present a slate of nominees but we will also accept nominations from the floor at our November meeting. Remember, this is YOUR club. It is great to enjoy club activities but you need to give something back as well. So, think about serving as an officer next year and make your intention known to Gary Miller KA6GPC or Paul Broden K6MHD. Most importantly, come and vote at the November meeting!

Our December meeting will be our annual Holiday Dinner on December 12, 2008 at the Marie Callender's Restaurant on Yorba Linda Boulevard in Placentia. We will formally introduce the new club officers at this dinner but meeting with friends for food and drink is the main attraction. And, of course, The Raffle! It is important that you make your reservation and meal selection for this dinner soon. Please review the menu and complete the registration form in this newsletter.

Some of our club members have not yet joined the club's Yahoo Group. This Internet Group provides a very

convenient way to send club announcements and for our members to ask for and receive help. I've sent several email invitations to join to those who are not yet members but some have still not joined. If you received the invitation to join FRC-OC Yahoo Group, it was not spam! Those of you who have not yet joined, please do so! You don't need an invitation email to join; just browse to <http://groups.yahoo.com> and enter FRC-OC in the Find a Group text box; from that group homepage, you can join our club Group.

Amazing coincidences happen! Recall that I described the devastation in Galveston, Texas from Hurricane Ike in last month's newsletter and at our last meeting. I mentioned that the US Navy sent a ship with heavy equipment and Navy engineers to help restore critical city services. I recently received an email from a ham in Florida who was formerly a member of WARA, our other Fullerton ham club. Asa Page KH2N, formerly WM6F and N6LAV, asked to join WARA's Yahoo Group and in the following email exchanges he explained that he is on active duty in the Navy and was instrumental in organizing supplies for the USS BATAAN, the very ship that was sent to Galveston! Asa was in daily contact from Florida with the BATAAN, coordinating her activities and ensuring that the ship got the supplies needed to support the recovery work at Galveston. It is truly a small world! Hams are everywhere!

Remember that analog TV as we have known it for over a half century will go off the air on February 17, 2009. That's right—all those old TV sets will cease to receive any station unless you get a digital TV converter box or buy a new digital TV. If you need a converter box to use your old TV, you better get your request for the \$40 coupon going!

I enjoy the Show-and-Tell each month and hope you do, too! Please find something of interest and bring it or plan to talk briefly about something you've done. Remember, this need not be a big presentation, just stand up and show what you've brought; if practical, pass it around the room for folks to enjoy.

Join us for dinner at the Carrow's Restaurant on Harbor Boulevard near Brea Boulevard about 6:00 PM before each club meeting.

Larry W6FUB

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Show-and-Tell

Bring something to the meeting of interest to other hams and share your story. Something old, something new, or just something interesting.

So, you think you know what time it is? A History of Precision Time and Frequency

If you ever wondered why we have 24 hours in the day or sixty seconds in the minute, then this is for you. Find out how to determine what time it *really* is. Learn how timekeeping has changed over the centuries and how modern innovation has changed the course of navigators and other users of precision time and frequency measurement. And, are those silly little wrist watches really atomic powered???

[Ed.: Do you know why clocks run "clockwise"? We'll answer that for you at the November meeting.]

The above presentation will be made at our November 2008 club meeting by Dennis Kidder, W6DQ. Here's a brief "bio" on Dennis.

W6DQ Bio:

Dennis was first licensed as WN6NIA in 1969, quickly upgraded and became WA6NIA. In addition to the typical HF, VHF and UHF amateur activities, he operates EME (moonbounce) on 144 MHz and has been a principle participant in a project using a 40 meter radio telescope on the 23 and 1.3 cm ham-bands. He also builds and operates microwave radios where his current projects include moving up from the 10 and 24 GHz bands to 47 and 76 GHz (and higher).

His passion is collecting "boatanchors" - older, vacuum tube military, commercial, and amateur radios from such companies as Collins Radio, E.F. Johnson, Drake and Hammarlund.

Dennis is a Life Member of the ARRL, an Assistant Emergency Coordinator with Orange County Hospital Disaster Support Communications System (HDSCS), and is the current President of The Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. Recently, he traded in his call of 37 years for W6DQ, the callsign of one of his early Elmers.

He is a Senior Principal Multi-Discipline Engineer with Raytheon, developing tactical communications systems.

November is election month, even for FRC. Please look at page 3 for the list of club officers and board members currently on the ballot. Remember, additional candidates may be identified before the meeting, and perhaps may even be nominated from the floor during the meeting. How about YOU! Wouldn't you like to serve the club?

FRC T-Hunt 10/18/08

Dave Balgie N6MJN found a suitable parking lot southeast of the junction of the 605 and 60 freeways and put his hidden transmitter there. The first two teams arrived at 9:05.

Team	Odo
<u>Calls</u>	<u>Miles</u>
N6UZS	18.7
N6AIN/WA6PYE	20.9
KF6GQ	21.7
WB6JPI	Did not disclose

If you have been thinking about trying mobile transmitter hunting, this would have been a good beginner hunt for you. Why not come out next time, Saturday, November 15. We start at 8 PM from Skyline Drive, east of Acacia. Arrive early and park on the north side of the road.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

ITS MEMBERSHIP TIME

Thankfully, FRC has grown a bit during this last year. We have a total of 59 members, 4 of which are designated as life members. But the year is ending, and we need to look forward to activities of 2009, including renewal of our memberships. A membership renewal form is included with this newsletter for your convenience. Please fill it out completely and legibly, including all requested information. It is important that you list address, phone number and email so our files can be updated. Thanks.

December Meeting

REMEMBER, December is our holiday dinner and officer installation meeting. As usual, we will meet at Marie Callender's restaurant in Placentia, near the corner of Yorba Linda Boulevard and Kraemer. The dinner menu is attached to this newsletter. Please fill out your dinner reservation and give it, with payment, to Gene Thorpe at the November club meeting, or mail it to the club address **no later than December 1.**

Guess Who?



Most of you will recognize Bill Kohlenberger W6JZE pouring the pancake mix, but do any of you remember the other guy? If not, Bill identifies the other ham as Bob Dantos N6ETS. The photo was taken in 1981 during the days when FRC put on an annual pancake breakfast at Hillcrest Park. Questions: Do we need to reactivate the pancake breakfast to attract more of the public to an interest in ham radio? Who has the griddle?

Photo courtesy of Joe Moell K0OV

FRC Election Candidates

Well folk, your nominating committee has been at work searching for members who would like to help keep the club running and to promote ham radio within the community. So far, we've identified the following candidates. Voting will occur at the November club meeting, with installation of new officers and board members at the December dinner meeting.

President	Robert Doidge, KI6KYW
Vice President	Bill Preston, KZ3G
Secretary	Paul Broden, K6MHD
Treasurer	Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO

Board Members At Large (We need at least one, but more is OK)
Larry McDavid, W6FUB
Tom Curlee, WB6UZZ
Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ
Alex Valdex, K9BLK

More about the December meeting

The December dinner meeting begins at 6:30 PM, with dinner served at 7:00, so don't be late. As usual, there will be door prizes for hams and non-hams. This is always a fun evening, so don't miss the opportunity to share with the group.



**Fullerton Radio Club Welcomes Members and Guests to our
Holiday Dinner**

Friday, December 12, 2008. QSO time starts at 6:30
Dinner will be served promptly at 7:00 PM

[At Marie Callender's Restaurant – Kraemer at Yorba Linda Boulevard, Placentia]

Menu: Select from one entrée, plus dessert.

<p>No. 1: Salad Bar and Soup Crisp greens, fresh fruit, garden vegetables and an array of special salad, plus all the necessary garnishes to complete our masterpiece. Visit the salad bar as often as you like. Served with toasted garlic bread or our famous golden cornbread.</p>	<p>No. 2: Chicken Broccoli Fettuccini Fettuccini and spinach tortellini, with slices of grilled chicken breast and fresh broccoli in a creamy sauce. Served with a crisp green salad and toasted garlic bread.</p>
<p>No. 3: Chicken Pot Pie of the Day Tender chunks of chicken with seasonings and vegetables. Served with a crisp green salad.</p>	
<p>No. 4: Marie's Home-style Meatloaf Meatloaf topped with a tasty old-fashioned gravy. Served with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables.</p>	<p>No. 5: Oven Roasted Turkey Dinner Hand carved slices of fresh roasted turkey with our special apple-walnut dressing. Topped with giblet gravy and served with cranberry sauce.</p>
<p>Salmon: Prepared in your choice of one of two styles. Both served with fresh vegetables and rice.</p>	
<p>No. 6: Cajon Lightly coated with New Orleans style spicy seasonings.</p>	<p>No 7: Garlic Lemon Pepper Grilled with fresh garlic, herbs, and seasonings.</p>

For dessert, make your choice from the following pie selection.

- **Lemon** – Slightly tart and slightly sweet, this pie is topped with light and airy meringue.
- **Apple** – Fresh apples slightly spiced with cinnamon.
- **Pumpkin** – Pumpkin, spice, and everything nice have made this an American favorite.

Served with your choice of coffee, tea or soft drink.

ALL FOR THE LOW PRICE OF \$22.00. Tip and tax included.

Cash-and-carry bar available.

Please return this form with your payment to the Fullerton Radio Club meeting on October 16 or November 19, or mail no later than December 1 to: Fullerton Radio Club, P.O. Box 645, Fullerton, CA 92836-0645

Make checks payable to: Fullerton Radio Club

Qty.	Menu Item & Number	Dessert
	X \$22.00 =	
	For server only:	
	Table #	

Name: _____

I'll be attending but not eating: ____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Phone: _____

Call: _____

FRC Monthly Board Meeting

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

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2008
Talk and Dinner: 7:00 PM
Meeting: 7:30 PM

FRC Regular Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month
Fullerton Senior Center
340 West Commonwealth Ave.
QSO 7:00 PM – Meeting 7:30 PM

Next Regular Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 2008
Dinner 6:00 PM at Carrow's, Harbor at Brea

Fullerton Radio Club Web Site

<http://www.FullertonRadioClub.com>

FRC Tuesday Net

Remember the FRC Tuesday evening net
meets at 8:00 PM on 147.975 (-) PL 114.8
Join us!

Hidden Transmitter Hunt

FRC operates a 2-meter mobile T-Hunt every
3rd Saturday. We meet at the corner of Acacia
Avenue and Skyline Drive at 8:00 PM sharp
for deployment on the hunt. You are invited.
There is no need to be a licensed ham to
participate.

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

<http://www.occaro.org>

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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[Please Print]

Name #1; _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

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

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____ ARRL Member Yes No

Name #2; _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

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

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____ ARRL Member Yes No

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.