



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

June 2010

Pres Speaks

Welcome to summer! Yes, amidst the June gloom and the warm afternoons of summer, spring has passed. It passed so fast, some of us hardly noted its arrival. My kids are looking forward to the end of school; my wife the opportunity to serve as the kid's personal chauffeur; and my annual participation in the Pageant of the Masters. For the next three months, Vice President Albert Soloman will be leading both the FRC Board meetings and General Meetings. Albert is ready for the task.

Spring was a busy time for our club. In April, our annual public service contribution for Donate Life included support for the 1K/5K event. The SCRPA Railroad Days (in Brea) included a small booth with handouts and demonstration of radio gear brought in by several club members. In May, the bi-annual Fullerton Airport Day was a standard net control arrangement, with a team of 22 radio operators in the field supporting the event. My thanks to the all the member of FRC that came out in support of these events.

A new project: Over Memorial Day weekend, Gene (KB6CMO) and I kicked the tires on the new Winlink system for Fullerton RACES. The equipment is part of the UASI grant and provides the components for a full deployment of Winlink for Orange County cities to communicate to Loma Ridge. The goal of the Winlink system is to transfer text messages (including email messages), via ham radio in the 431MHz band. One of our first steps was to setup a temporary antenna, using an available j-pole. Our equipment setup included a Dell PC, Kantronics 9612 TNC, and Alinco UHF radio. As with all projects there is a bit of experimentation. Our equipment needed a bit of EMI/RF treatment to reduce the noise level coming from the PC (we suspect the power supply). After three hours of experimentation, our first messages were successfully sent. Yes, there was a bit of joy... I recall something like "IT WORKS... OUR FIRST MESSAGES... IT WORKS!" We successfully transmitted nine messages at 9600 baud, before we called it a night and went to dinner. We have more work and experimentation on this exciting project.

Field Day is right around the corner and I encourage you to come out and attend. It is a great opportunity to work a variety of bands and with antennas that will be setup in advance. More information will be at the general meeting. I'll be attending the event late Saturday night and I look forward to seeing the "night owls".

Finally, please mark your calendars for the July 3 for the "Run for Fun" event in the City of La Palma. See Gene at the general meeting and page 5 of Smoke Signals for more information.

73's,

Robert (KI6KYW)

June Meeting Program

Ken Miller K6CTW and will be presenting "American Morse, the transition and evolution to the Continental Code (what we hams use on CW) and a little Russian Morse with some useful DX phrases."

Ken's BIO:

I was originally licensed as a novice with the call-sign WN2BKC in Madison, NJ in 1967. I soon took the General Class tests in New York City and became WB2BKC where I began a lifelong fascination with CW and the National Traffic System. I have held a number of call-signs since with my last two being VE7CTW and now K6CTW. About 10 years ago I became fascinated with Morse (a.k.a. American Morse) and learned the code with the assistance of a great program by Jim Farrior, W4FOK, and a 20 ohm sounder. Combining my interests in Morse and CW with modern languages, I am now in the process of learning Russian and Russian Morse!

Ken's website [<http://www.qsl.net/ae0q/>] includes, contesting, portable operating and camping in Wyoming and Colorado.

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

Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Meeting time: 7:00 PM – Visitors are welcome

Fullerton Radio Club
P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836-0545

President

Robert Doidge, KI6KYW
Phone: (714) 871-8721
E-mail: ki6kyw@arrl.net

Vice President

Albert Solomon, KI6WRU
Phone: (714) 348-7938
E-mail: albertsolomon18@yahoo.com

Secretary

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

Treasurer, Public Service & Membership

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

**OCCARO Representative and
Yahoo FRC-OC Group**

Larry McDavid, W6FUB
Phone: (714) 630-5672
E-mail: Lmcdavid@Lmceng.com

Trustee

Bob Reitzel, KD6DA
Phone: (562) 691-1514
E-mail: breitzel@juno.com

Directors

Larry McDavid, W6FUB
Phone: (714) 630-5672

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ
Phone: (714) 657-2862

Alex Valdez, K9BLK
Phone: (714) 672-0001

Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE
Phone: (714) 525-2109

Newsletter Editor

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

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

Next On-foot Transmitter Hunt at Mt. Pinos

The next southern California on-foot transmitter hunting session will be a two-day "training camp" at Mt. Pinos in the Los Padres National Forest on the weekend of July 10-11, 2010. It will be especially for members of ARDF Team USA who are in training for the ARDF World Championships in Croatia this September, but it is open to all other radio-orientees. These will be advanced courses. You must be capable of walking or running at high elevation for at least 5 kilometers. A ham radio license is not required.

Mount Pinos terrain is mostly runnable forest. The air is clear and there is no poison oak. Maps will be provided. Overnight camping is available on a first-come-first-served basis at McGill Campground. The campground is dry, so bring your own water. If you don't want to camp, you can stay at the BestRest Motel at the Frazier Park exit of I-5 or the Econolodge at the Gorman exit.

Additional details are still being worked out as of this writing. Information will be posted at www.homingin.com when available. If you plan to attend, please send e-mail to Marvin to help him make plans and to insure that you'll be expected at start time. (marvin@west.net)

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

FRC T-Hunt 5/15/10

May must have been a busy month because only two teams came out for the Fullerton Radio Club mobile transmitter hunt. It turned out to be a short one. Steve Wallis WA6PYE put his hidden transmitter in Anaheim near the Tustin Avenue exit of the 91 Freeway. Dave Balgie N7MJN found it first with 7.4 miles, but Bob Miller N6ZHZ and his helper Roland came in two minutes later with only 7.1 miles, making them the winners.

Join us for the next FRC mobile hunt on Saturday, June 19. It starts at 8 PM from Skyline Drive, just east of Acacia in Fullerton.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

WHERE IS OUR FIELD DAY ENTHUSIASM?

Field Day 2010 is close at hand, and its time for all club members to **actively** participate in the event. We need members to show their support for the club and purpose by showing up for field day. We have one member with enthusiasm and dedication to the club to such a level that he will be flying in from Texas, with equipment, just for the event. How about you? June 26 – 27; Hillcrest Park; be there! See page 4 for an FD update.

Amateur radio enthusiasts abuzz over traffic ticket

Published: Thursday, June 03, 2010

By Dave Canfield The Record

TROY [NY] — Amateur radio enthusiasts are abuzz on the airwaves over a traffic ticket Steve Bozak received Sunday in Troy as he talked to his buddies over the very same frequency.

Bozak, who owns an antenna company and has been using so-called “ham” radios for 34 years, was pulled over at the intersection of 15th and Hoosick streets while on his way to breakfast with fellow enthusiasts of the technology. He was slapped with a ticket for talking on a cell phone while driving, and he said Officer Mark Millington dismissed his claims that the radio was not in fact a telephone.

“He assured me that I could not be speaking on that cell phone while I was driving,” said Bozak, who lives in Clifton Park. “I mentioned to him politely that it wasn’t a cell phone but an amateur radio. He assured me that it was all the same.”

The section of New York’s vehicle and traffic law Bozak was cited for violating, 1225-c, requires a phone to be “in the immediate proximity” of the driver’s ear. It defines the types of communication devices it applies to as ones “interconnected to a public switched telephone network ... provided by a commercial mobile radio service.”

On its face, the statute does not appear to refer to devices like a ham radio, which transmits its signal across the same airwaves as devices used by emergency personnel to communicate with each other and with dispatchers.

Such radios do not require the user to place the device to his or her ear — they are typically played over speakers — and need only be held while the user is actually speaking.

New York is among eight states with a law banning the use of cell phones while driving. Washington’s law specifically excludes ham operators, who must first be licensed by the government to use the airwaves.

Bozak, who became licensed in 1976, said he believes the bulk of users have the devices in their vehicles. He said many are up in arms over the ticket,

and some were audible on a scanner Wednesday voicing their displeasure over their radios — many of them while driving.

“I don’t know how many cops I’ve been around in how many different states, but nobody ever said a word to me,” said one man whose job takes him on the road.

Ultimately, a Troy City Court judge will decide whether the ticket issued to Bozak is acceptable under the state’s law.

Sgt. Terry Buchanan, the Police Department’s spokesman who worked traffic patrols for years, said he doesn’t recall this issue coming up in the past. He said the department would have no comment on the matter because it is still pending in court.

Bozak is scheduled to appear on June 23, and he said more than a dozen fellow radio enthusiasts plan on being there with him.

He faces a \$100 fine, according to the statute.

“I’ll have my day in court, and we’ll see how it goes,” he said. “But I certainly have every intention of pushing this politely, and through the right methods, to get it resolved.”

The date may be pushed back because Bozak has requested a supporting deposition from Millington, who is typically assigned to Troy’s public schools and rarely works traffic patrol.

Bozak wants Millington to detail what happened and explain how he was breaking the law.

“He’s going to have to prove that I was on a cell phone, which is going to be hard to do,” he said. “I wasn’t on a cell phone.”

Dave Canfield can be reached at 270-1290 or by e-mail at dcanfield@troyrecord.com.

[Ed.: Remember when the hands-free cell phone law went into effect in California? Interpretations then were fairly clear that the law does not apply to radio use, either Ham or CB. But ... the California law changes as of January 1, 2011 and references that may be applied to radio use go away. A new legal interpretation is needed for use of our radios – in my opinion. Check out the new wording for Vehicle Code Section 23123 at www.dmv.ca.gov.

Laws like this are already an issue in Ontario, Canada, where the non-use of hand held electronic devices will apply to hams after January 1, 2013 unless the law is changed. Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) are already challenging the law.]

Field Day Update

Okay guys & gals, Field Day is upon us. Three weeks and counting. Our Texas affiliate has his tickets and is starting to pack. Our Antenna Team has held two clinics so far with another one planned for June 19th at 0800 in Hillcrest Park. We'll be finalizing the 80/20 dipole and our "launch" techniques.

Next Saturday, the 12th, anyone interested in brushing up on their operational skills is invited to rendezvous at W6DQ's "shack" for the VHF Contest where you can learn how it's done from a great coach or just work the kinks out on your own. Either way it's a great opportunity to tune up for Field Day and see a radio shack that will knock your socks off. The contest starts at 1100 so shoot for 1030 or so.

On Field Day our traditional breakfast will be held at Coco's at 0700. Setup will commence immediately after breakfast at the Hillcrest Cabin. We will have two HF positions that will switch bands as appropriate, and one VHF station that we will operate in different modes and at different frequencies as things open up. If six meters opens up this should be a hot station. The contest rules allow us a GOTA station, which we will evaluate the need for as the day goes by.

As discussed in a previous column our goal for this year is to raise the knowledge and skill level of our club members. The strategy is to continue this approach from year to year to year while introducing new elements and levels of competitiveness. Our hope is that our Tech License Classes and our recruiting efforts will produce a steady stream of new members who

will come out for the Field Day Team of the Future. To that end, our more seasoned membership will be involved throughout the day in coaching sessions and clinics aimed at basic skills and understanding of how the whole operation works. As time goes by and we continue these sessions around the calendar we will develop a team with the requisite skills and enthusiasm to get to the next level. Above all this is about having fun so let's all get out there and win one for the "gipper" (in this case Marconi) by demonstrating our enthusiasm and support for our hobby. Further discussion at the meeting - June 16.

Bill Preston KZ3G, Field Day Chairman

Need a Generator?

For those of you who may be considering purchase of a reliable, quiet generator, a special offer is being made to Hams who are members of qualifying Ham clubs (yes, FRC does qualify). Here's the offer.

Coffman Electronics Equipment Co, Grand Rapids, Michigan, is offering the Honda EU2000iS, 2KW inverter generator for \$860, including shipping (Continental US only) and a Honda generator cover. The unit list price is currently at \$1,149.95. Requirements for this offer are:

- Generators must be purchased through the club (you pay the club and the club pays Coffman).
- The club must be a registered non-profit organization (we are registered non-profit)
- Generators will be delivered to the individual members.
- The offer is good through July 31, 2010
- We must order a minimum of 10 generators.

We will discuss this possibility at the June meeting, so if you are interested be prepared to say so – with \$\$\$ before the deadline. This is a great generator for emergency preparedness, and is MUCH, MUCH QUIETER than the less expensive ones offered at the "big box" hardware stores. Gene KB6CMO has verified that the offer is legitimate.

June FRC Board Meeting Minutes

President Robert Doidge KI6KYW called the June Board Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Others in attendance included: Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD, Board Members Larry McDavid W6FUB, Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, Alex Valdez K9BLK, Field Day Chairman Bill Preston KZ3G, and club member Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU.

The Treasurer's report indicated that we have \$2,087.65 in checking and \$1,690.26 in savings. A check for \$320 was written to cover the club liability insurance policy.

Membership: We have one new member, KJ6IEN, Helen Solomon (Sister to our VP). Congratulations Helen.

Old Business:

Field Day planning status was reviewed. An antenna construction event was held at the QTH of W6DQ on May 29, where two dipoles were constructed; one for 40/15 meters and the other a 80/20 fan dipole. A trial launch of the antennas will take place on Saturday, June 5 at the field day site.

Breakfast before the field day event will be held at Coco's at 7:00 AM. Site set-up will occur immediately after the breakfast.

Member Jim Carmody NN5O will be traveling from his home in Texas to participate in field day.

OCCARO: Representative Larry McDavid W6FUB indicated that OCCARO now has 11 member clubs. The Ham booth at OC Fair still has 3.5 days open for clubs to sign up for coverage. FRC member names that may be tending the booth have been submitted for the mandatory Megan's law verification process. FRC day at the fair is July 23. Contact Larry for time assignments.

K6MHD will contact the club VP for identification of the speaker and subject for the June club meeting.

Airport Days: The event went well and had good attendance. There was very little radio traffic; - that's good!

Status of our IRS filing as a non-profit organization has been completed (thanks to Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE). Information regarding our corporate status needs to be verified. Gene KB6CMO will look for the papers.

Public Service: La Palma Run for Fun will be held on July 3. See the assistance request elsewhere in Smoke Signals.

New Business:

Consideration is being given to holding the Antennas In The Park event in October, perhaps the 16th. The month of May was just too busy for the usual event day. We need to verify availability of K0OV for conductance of a T-Hunt at the event.

HAMCON 2011: A planning meeting for HAMCON 2011 will take place on Sunday, June 13. The Board tentatively agreed to payment of a \$200 registration fee for our participation, pending the availability and willingness of K0OV to conduct another T-Hunt. We typically regain our registration fee, plus a surplus, from the event.

Fullerton RACES: Club members Robert Doidge KI6KYW and Gene Thorpe KB6CMO were active in the setup of the RACES Winlink system, with successful contact with the County emergency communications center at Loma Ridge.

Review of the May issue of Smoke Signals found no errors.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Submitted by Secretary K6MHD

[Ed.: Alex K9BLK brought his new guide dog to the meeting. What a beautiful and well-behaved animal. She – Fabrica is her name – was unnoticed in the corner throughout the entire meeting. She's an 18 month old, 60 pound black Lab.]

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT

A Healthy way to kick off your Fourth of July Weekend! On Saturday, **July 3rd**, La Palma's Fitness Run for Fun is celebrating its 30th year of running! In 30 years of running through the small town of La Palma, runners have completed 186,000 miles, used 180,000 cups and 1,500 gallons of water, community members have volunteered 15,000 hours, and 2,520 awards have been earned. If you're a long-time participant or this year is your first race, join us to celebrate this milestone.

La Palma's Fitness Run for Fun attracts participants from all over Southern California. To keep this competitive crowd moving around the beautiful 3.1-mile course takes over 150 volunteers, **which is why we need you as an amateur radio communicator!** The Run starts at 7:30 a.m. sharp on the morning of the 3rd of July. You will need to be there about 0600 to be in place before the event starts.

For more information and/or to volunteer please contact Larry Tichauer (KE6AKE) at: ltichauer@sbcglobal.net.

FRC Regular Club Meeting

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

Next Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 16, 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

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



HAM RADIO OUTLET

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

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, July 7, 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

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

FRC Web site: www.fullertonradioclub.com

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.