



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

October 2011

President's Message

Hi everyone, how are you doing? Really? Well I have something for you; La Palma days Parade is coming up and they could use your help! Now that you are in the volunteering mood we have the yearly elections coming up and we could use you for officer or board positions. Are you scared yet, well it is October and coming up on all hallows eve, so get out your candy and have fun. Now for the stuff you really care about.

Albert ki6wru

October Club Meeting

Dennis W6DQ will be presenting **The History of Receiver Development – Part 1: The Golden Age.**

This two-part talk discusses the history of the development of the radio from its humble beginnings as laboratory experiments to the most sophisticated, state-of-the art devices in use today. Part 1 covers the first 75 years of development, encompassing the

works of Maxwell and Hertz up through the end of the 1930's. It includes the work of notable greats as Marconi, Tesla, Armstrong and many others.

Forty-two years in the making (and still growing), W6DQ's collection of radios is built around the premise that the majority of the pieces are representative of either an evolution or a revolution of technology.

Part 2 will be presented at a future date and covers development during the war years, through the explosive growth of the fifties and sixties, the digital age and ends with the question, "What next?"

October Meeting Time and Location

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

- Chapman Activity Center
- 2515 San Carlos Drive, Fullerton, CA 92831

From downtown Fullerton proceed east on Commonwealth Avenue past State College Boulevard. San Carlos Drive is the second street past State College. Turn right and look for the Activity Center in Chapman Park.

- Meeting time: 7:00 PM sharp.
- Visitors are always welcome.

Fullerton Radio Club
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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

FRC Officer Nominations and Elections

Our Club President has appointed a Nominating Committee who is in search for candidates to fill elected club officers. Nominations will be presented at the October club meeting where additional nominations may be made from the floor (with nominee's permission). We will be searching for candidates for elected offices of: President, Vice President (also responsible for programs), Secretary, Treasurer, and at least one Board Member At-Large. Additional functional positions are appointed by the Board.

YOU may be called as a potential candidate for office. Remember, this is your club, and you should not expect that someone else should carry all responsibilities. Consider excepting a nomination, if asked.

Election of officers will occur at the November meeting, with installation at the December holiday meeting (Friday, December 16, 2011. Info elsewhere in Smoke Signals.)

October Board Meeting Minutes

President Albert Solomon KI6WRU called the October Board Meeting to order at 7:32 PM. Other members present were: VP Richard Belansky KG6UDD, Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD, Board Members Larry McDavid W6FUB, Bill Preston KZ3G, Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE, and members Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU, and Helen Solomon KJ6IEN.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account; \$1948.21. No change in Savings account. Remember; a new club year is just around the corner and membership dues will be due.

Minutes from the last Board Meeting were approved as presented in the September edition of Smoke Signals.

Old Business:

- HamCon was very successful with over 1300 in attendance, Vendor booths showed good sales.

New Business:

- The annual Holiday Dinner and officer installation party will be held at Marie Calendar's, Placentia, on Friday, December 16, 2011. Gene Thorpe will be in charge of obtaining raffle prizes. [Menu and details later in Smoke Signals.]
- Albert Solomon has appointed a nominating committee to identify officer candidates for next year.
- The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting this month will host a Cub Scout Pack to demonstrate ham radio and plant early interest in the hobby.
- OCCARO will meet next week.
- Additional discussion was conducted regarding reactivating the club 2-meter net, with consideration of alternate repeaters and/or operating bands.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM

Submitted by: Paul Broden K6MHD, Secretary

Results of HAMCON on-foot foxhunt

This on-foot transmitter hunt was on Sunday afternoon, just after the ARRL Southwestern Division convention (HAMCON-2011). Although there were similarities, it was different from our regular park sessions. A half hour after the convention closed in Torrance, we began a workshop for building measuring-tape antennas and active attenuators at Angel's Gate Park in San Pedro, about a dozen miles from the convention hotel. Then shortly after 2 PM, the hunt got under way. Instead of the usual 5-fox ARDF course, there were 16 two-meter signals on the air from all over the park. Hunters had 90 minutes to find as many of them as they could. Fullerton Radio Club (FRC), one of the HAMCON sponsoring organizations, organized this hunt. Fair skies and cool breezes from the ocean made for perfect weather. FRC has put on several HAMCON hunts here, beginning in 1995. Over the years, less and less of the 130-acre park has been available to us. For instance, the northwest portion is now the site of a new high school under construction. Fortunately, there is still plenty of room for a challenging foxhunt. The goal was to have something for hidiers at every skill level. Some of the fox transmitters were in traditional ammunition boxes, but others were the size of a chalkboard eraser, or smaller. Competitors were given up to 90 minutes to find as many as they could. Two of the transmitters were within the concrete-walled Fort MacArthur Military Museum, where displays of WWI and WWII memorabilia are viewed by the public every weekend. Participants came from all over southern California and Arizona. All of the finishers found at least one fox. But it wasn't enough to just find transmitters, because participants also had to correctly identify them by putting the three-digit code that they found on the transmitter into the correct box on their competitor slip. Many hunters didn't correctly identify the three foxes on 146.565 MHz because they didn't pay attention to the audio on the transmitters. The competitors were evenly split between individuals and teams of two. Many were experiencing on-foot foxhunting for the first time, but there were some old-timers, too. Dennis Schwendtner

WB6OBB, an experienced blind transmitter hunter, paired up with Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. Scoring was by points and time. Most transmitters found were worth one point each, but three of the most difficult transmitters were worth two points each. I also offered a bonus of two points to anyone who found all five of the transmitters that were sending MOE/MOI/MOS/MOH/MO5 with IARU standard timing. (Nobody did that.) To break ties in the number of points, those arriving at the finish earlier placed higher. Here are the results: Name and call Time Points
Byon Garrabrant N6BG 1:27:16 8 with Lara Garrabrant KD6AYO John Terrell N6LN 1:21:05 4 with Jamie Terrell Greg Shreve KE6YEX 1:27:02 4 with Todd Mendenhall Don Heflinger WA6FEL 1:27:32 4 with Thomas Heflinger KG6WGR Marvin Johnston KE6HTS 1:28:05 4 with Dennis Schwendtner WB6OBB Chris Rea KD5ADU 1:28:34 2 Mike Turner KC0CPZ 1:26:30 2 Vincent Tamae KA6SBQ 1:27:48 2 with Steven Tamae KJ6QLF Chris Sanders KE6BRY 1:28:40 2 Julianne Walsh KI6DYX 1:26:12 1 Bill Rose KA6HMS 1:29:50 1 Damon Jones KI6HNV OVERTIME. There were four nice convention prizes for the top scorers who were registered for HAMCON. Thanks to FRC president Albert Solomon KI6WRU for supporting this activity and to all the FRC members who put on this hunt. Gene Thorpe KB6CMO and Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU went to endless HAMCON meetings, gathered prizes, staffed the sign-up and prize tables, surveyed the site and helped at the finish line. Some other FRC members staffed the sign-up table during the convention. We're grateful for the site support and nice prizes provided by the HAMCON organization, led by Bev Pitman WA6TIU. We also appreciate the courtesies of the Ft. MacArthur Military Museum staff members, who allowed us to use their facility for this event. Photos are at www.homingin.com. Plan to attend our next event, which will be Saturday, October 8 at Bonelli Regional Park in La Verne. More information is at www.homingin.com 73,

Joe Moell K0OV

Something for Nothing (plus a few parts)

A few months ago a very nice Ham in Whittier gave me a box of radio parts. Among these parts were several RF amplifier boards that I patched up and tested. Two were for two meters and two were for 70 centimeters (that is, in the area of 146 MHz and 439 MHz). They are broadband RF amplifiers designed so that if you input 5 watts, you will get out 20-25 watts. Since many of our handy-talky rigs put out 5 watts, these boards make good companions for them.

A Ham could put one under his car seat and connect the amplifier to his cigarette lighter for power. Then he could connect the RF amplifier to his handy-talkie on one side and his antenna on the other. His mobile signal would suddenly jump 4-5 times in power.

Or, a Ham could put a board on his desk-top (mounted in a chassis), add 12-13 VDC and increase his home signal from 5 watts to 20 or more. I was able to put one of each board in a single chassis so I can have QSOs on either band.

The best part of my story is that the boards are free to the Ham in our Club who will put them to work. Yes, you should add a chassis, a heat sink, and connectors. I made a circuit diagram for you to have something to refer to.

The parts you need are inexpensive at Ford Electronics. For home use you will need a 12-14 VDC power supply at 7-8 amps. Some discarded computer power supplies, I have heard, could fill this need. I can help with technical advice and so can many other Hams in the Club. Perhaps other Hams have parts available they could donate.

If you are interested in these boards, please let me know at the next Club meeting or on the Internet at fiskets@msn.com. Please take care of the boards so that the next Ham who comes along can use them.

73's

Tom, AA6TF

CQ COMMUNICATIONS TO LAUNCH DIGITAL EDITIONS OF ALL MAGAZINES FIRST ISSUE TO BE RELEASED IN OCTOBER

(Hicksville, NY, September 27, 2011)-- CQ Communications, Inc., will launch multi-platform digital

editions of all of its magazine titles before the end of 2011, Publisher Richard Ross, K2MGA, announced today. Those titles include *CQ Amateur Radio* (CQ magazine), *CQ VHF*, *Popular Communications* and *WorldRadio Online*. Many CQ book titles are already available in digital form on CD.

"The digital editions will supplement, not replace, current print editions, and will feature enhancements not possible in the print medium," said Editorial Director Rich Moseson, W2VU. "Versions will be available for a variety of online and mobile platforms* and will be hosted by Zinio, one of the top names in the e-magazine hosting business. This will assure that our magazines will always be able to take advantage of new technology when it becomes available."

Examples of features that will be possible in the digital editions include live links to all World Wide Web addresses listed in each issue, as well as supplemental content, such as photo albums, audio and video files, software and more. "Imagine reading an article about meteor scatter and being able to listen to a meteor scatter contact with a click of a mouse," said Moseson, "or reading an ad for a piece of new gear and being able to click directly to a video explaining its features. All of this and more will be possible in our digital editions."

"At the same time," he added, "the print editions will retain their unique characteristics, such as portability, the tactile experience of holding a magazine in your hands, no need for batteries and the ability to continue reading on an airplane after you've been told to turn off all electronic devices!"

The digital launch will begin in late October with the November issue of an enhanced, multi-platform, version of *WorldRadio Online*, which will again become a paid-subscription publication; followed by November *CQ*, which, appropriately, is the magazine's first annual Technology Special. The fall issue of *CQ VHF* and the December issue of *Popular Communications* will round out the introductions. Digital editions will be available by single copy and by subscription. Details will be in the near future in the magazines and on all CQ Communications websites.

(*Initially, digital editions will be compatible with the following platforms: PC, Mac, iPhone, iPad, Android 2.0 and higher.)

THEN WAS GOOD, NOW CAN BE BETTER

A new crystal set, my first built in 1936 picked up just three broadcast stations, 50KW KFI & KNX and 250 Watt KVOE in Santa Ana. Sliding the tuner contact on my hand-wound coil stations would blend one into another.

I was startled one morning when KFI was blocked by a loud voice speaking strange words, maybe in English, "CQ CQ W6ECV. "Ben" in Emit Pike's radio repair store half a block away on 160 Meters "spoke". It's my first Ham radio exposure. By 1953 Ben Switzler was FRC's second president

North-OC area hams mostly built their radios then. Parts from obsolete trash radios fed hams. Special hand-wound coils and RF capacitors fed transmitter making. By 1940 some hams, replaced home-brew "regen" receivers with commercial receivers. On Sunday Dec 7, 1941 all ham activity was stopped until 1946.

1942, I built a 2 tube "regen" radio that could copy "Tokyo Rose" propaganda, short wave broadcasts, and even navy 5-word secret CW traffic.

Then, plenty of available bandwidth, yet wartime needs needed the spectrum. Radar pulses filled VHF & UHF bandwidth, followed by 1947 TV's start that led today's Spectrum overflow.

Little Ham bandwidth competition until microprocessors were seen. But Cell Phones are not our current main bandwidth threat.

In 1980, a band segment at 220 to 222 MHz was changed for "land mobile use. Non-ham entrepreneurs who suspect Ham radio is valueless see UHF bands like 70 cm available for new RF business opportunities.

ARRL news Letter (October 6, 2011) discussed the urgency for ham band spectrum defense. Some of the evidence also reported covered our Orange section Official Observer (OO) Dan Welch, W6DFW, effort to ID an unauthorized user of one of the 60 M HF ham frequencies.

See <http://www.arrl.org/news/every-radio-amateur-knows-that-spectrum-defense-matters> <

I have in the past thought that amateur spectrum loss was low risk because it seemed obvious our help in national disasters and support to victims was still credible.

ARRL for years has effectively shown Govt. leaders the value, need and benefits for a trained and practiced ham radio community. Today, partly due to Internet QRM, Our story is hardly being heard, even on Facebook & Twitter.

Evidence is in HR607, sponsored by a Congressional rep. to allocate spectrum, including the 70 cm band, for interoperable wideband first responders use. But where is all the new first responder population to come from?

Since 1951, FRC is still proactive, promoting our ability, talents and technical communication expertise in

public service events. Trying to be ready for emergencies or disasters.

It's again time for FRC officers 2012 nominations for to be considered. 2011's team succeeded, seen in all our practice public events, and classes that also yielded several new hams.

Ours is a "doer" club offering unique leadership experience for officers and active participants. Since 1951, I've seen how new and younger members learn & grow from FRC membership then do great things.

If a member of the Nominating committee contacts you, carefully consider how you can help. Let's join in and promote our fantastic hobby.

73 & good DX.

Bill Kohlenberger, W6ZJE

Community Service Assistance Needed

1. Winter Special Olympics need amateur radio operators November 12 and 13. Contact Mark Lidikay at mlidikay@holdenandrew.com to sign up for this event.

2. I am the Radio Officer for La Palma RACES. We are having our La Palma Day Parade on November 12th this year, and we need operators to work the parade. Would you please see if any of your group would like to volunteer. If so, please have them contact me. My cell phone number is (714) 402-6991. My email address is ingalsbe@mmlawyers.com.

Each operator will get a shirt for the parade, so I need their size when they sign up.

Thanks.

Bill Ingalsbe, AD6WI

Help needed with antenna I.D.

Folks, I've been using a half wave CB vertical since 1993 or so. It works on all bands from 10-40 except 30 meters...and now no longer on 40 since new coax, Of course due to the on-board tuner. However, everyone keeps asking me what it is and I have no answer. It is a half-wave 11 meter aluminum vertical in 3 sections (I took off 6 inches so as to have a quarter wave on 20), base fed, no coils, 3 short Horizontal aluminum radials at the base, and I think a couple of 4-6 inch long "whiskers" at the top. All the markings were corroded off when I got it in 1993, so I guess it would be vintage 1970s or thereabouts.

If anyone has any ideas what it is, I'd appreciate the answer. Got my rotator replaced, along with new coax for the 2 element delta loop (also a CB ant), which now works on 10 and 15. For those chasing DX, 10 and 15 have been opening up to Europe as early as 7 AM and they're hungry for west coast stations. Gordon WB6JVP

W6DQ Hosts an international visitor to his QTH

Saturday, October first, brought an interesting visitor to W6DQ's QTH: Angus Annan, MM1CCR. Now, Dennis gets a lot of visitors at his QTH, but having a visit from Angus was a real honor. You see, Angus is a Past President of the RSGB, The Radio Society of Great Britain. This is Great Britain's equivalent of our ARRL.

So, just how did MM1CCR come to visit W6DQ? Angus was in town visiting his non-ham cousin. The cousin happens to be friends of mine who are hams and have seen my collection of "stuff." Angus wasn't interested in seeing the normal touristy stuff. As they told me, he wasn't interested in going to Disneyland, he would rather see radios!

We toured the radio shacks and displays and had a wonderful visit. It isn't every day that I get to meet foreign hams OFF the air, and someone of this stature in ham radio. It was a unique experience and I hope that Angus enjoyed his time here in the States. And it is somewhat comforting to know that I beat out Disneyland!

Dennis W6DQ
Fullerton CA



Angus MM1CCR with Dennis W6DQ

On-foot Transmitter Hunting November 12 near Santa Barbara

Lake Los Carneros Park in Goleta will be the site of southern California's next international-style on-foot foxhunt on Saturday, November 12, 2011. A ham radio license and knowledge of radio equipment are not required. Bring the kids and grandkids, then go out on the course with them!

Besides some easy fox transmitters just to help you learn and test your equipment, there will be a beginner-level international-rules course. The site area is slightly less than 140 acres. It is relatively flat, making it a good site for foxtailers of all skill levels. If you need some one-on-one help to get started, just ask. Full-color orienteering maps

will be available.

If you don't have the antenna/attenuator system for on-foot foxhunting on two meters with your ham radio handi-talkie or scanner, you can easily make one during this session. There will be a workshop for building his kits for measuring-tape yagis and for 90 dB offset-type attenuators. An assembled/tested attenuator in a special housing that goes inside the boom of the yagi is also available. Please register in advance by sending e-mail to marvin-at-west.net, so he will have the kits reserved in your name waiting for you.

It takes about an hour to put the kits together with tools and soldering irons that will be provided. If you're not an electronic technician, don't worry because there will be plenty of experts to help you. We want you to succeed! Then with your HT and the kitbuilt equipment, you will be all set to hunt.

Kitbuilding and transmitter hunting start promptly at 9:30 AM. Hunters may start out on the courses at any time until 1 PM. Courses close at 2:30 PM.

Weather: In case of rainy or very wet conditions, the event might be postponed. Check www.homingin.com before you set out to make sure that the event is a "go."

Directions to Lake Los Carneros: From US 101 about 8 miles west of downtown Santa Barbara, take the Los Carneros Road exit, head north about 1/4 mile and turn right into the Stow House parking lot. There should be plenty of free parking. Look for the orange-and-white orienteering flag. The building session and hunt start will be in the picnic area, just east of the railroad depot.

Ham radio talk-in is on the K6TZ repeater, 146.79(-) PL 131.8.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV

FRC Transmitter Hunt Report

Bob Thornburg WB6JPI was hider for the September 17th 2011 Fullerton Radio Club transmitter hunt. He and the transmitter were about 4.5 miles northwest of the start point, and in clear line-of-sight to it, at the end of Olinda Drive in La Habra. The transmitter was a ran only about ten milliwatts into an 11 element beam, vertically polarized, pointing northeast. Even with low power and a beam pointing away, it gave a strong signal at the starting point.

<u>Team Calls</u>	<u>Odo Miles</u>
AB6PA/N6BOX	9.2
N6AIN/WA6PYE	16.6
N6MJN	17.5

Congratulations to the winners, who are new hunters Glenn Tobey AB6PA and Mike Box N6BOX. They came all the way from Moreno Valley to hunt with us.

73,
Joe Moell K0OV



Fullerton Radio Club Welcomes Members and Guests to our Holiday Dinner

Friday, December 16, 2011. 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.**

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.

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.

No. 3: Chicken Pot Pie of the Day

Tender chunks of chicken with seasonings and vegetables. Served with a crisp green salad.

No. 4: Marie's Home-style Meatloaf

Meatloaf topped with a tasty old-fashioned gravy. Served with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables.

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.

Salmon: Prepared in your choice of one of two styles. Both served with fresh vegetables and rice.

No. 6: Cajon

Lightly coated with New Orleans style spicy seasonings.

No. 7: Garlic Lemon Pepper

Grilled with fresh garlic, herbs, and seasonings.

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 PRICE OF \$23.00. Tip and tax included.

Cash-and-carry bar available.

Please return this form with your payment to the Fullerton Radio Club meeting on October 19 or November 16, or mail **no later than December 1** to: **Fullerton Radio Club. P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836-0545**

Make checks payable to: **Fullerton Radio Club**

Qty.	Menu Item & Number	Dessert
	X \$23.00 =	
	For server only:	
	Table #	

I'll be attending but not eating: ____

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Phone: _____

Name: _____

Call: _____