

Fullerton Radio Club

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Show – and –Tell: Every Meeting

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

April 2012 Board Meeting Minutes

President Albert Solomon KI6WRU called the March Board meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Others in attendance include Vice President Richard Belansky KG6UDD, Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB, Directors Larry McDavid W6FUB, Bill Preston KZ3G, Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ, Bill Kohlenberger W6ZJE, and members, Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU, and Helen Solomon KJ6IEN.

Minutes of the March Board meeting were reviewed and approved with correction of "Minutes of the March Board Meeting" and "The March general meeting presenter will be Larry McDavid."

Treasurer's report: Savings account; \$3,071.31. Checking account; \$2,200.56.

Old business:

Gene reported 1 new member. Payment for dues are past due if not paid and needs to be submitted if not already sent.

There will be NO Field Day event this year as a club. Will have a list of other participating clubs in Smoke Signals.

Donate Life is scheduled for April 28. This is the 10th year, and a larger crowd is expected. Volunteers are needed. To volunteer for Donate Life contact Gene Thorpe.

Next Technician class will be starting May 5. Class, 1 pm, Cedar Hill Mobile Home Park. Need to have the textbook before class and bring the textbook to class. Contact Bill Preston, KZ3G for more information.

Railroad Days this year will be May 5 and 6. The Club will not participate this year due to cost and limited member participation in the past.

Airport Days will be a weekend in September. No official date yet.

Antennas in the Park will be on May 12. For Antennas in the Park, someone needs to get there early enough (6:30am – 7:00am) to secure the area. Robert KG6WTQ will contact the Catalina group and let Albert know about food. Albert will get the club banner and canapé. We will talk about radios to bring and fliers at the April general meeting.

TAG Team meeting April 11 will be at Dennis Kidder's W6DQ house, 7pm.

OC Fair – OCARO will meet on April 11 and will discuss OC Fair

July Board Meeting - was voted to hold meeting on Tuesday, July 3 since the first Wednesday falls on July 4.

December Holiday dinner – was voted to have on Friday, December 14.

Baker to Vegas run will be April 21-22 (honorary mention).

The dinners at Coco's before the general meetings will be at 5 PM SHARP and will be ending prior to 7 PM so that the general meetings will be able to start on time and end on time.

New Business:

The April general meeting presenter will be Joe Moell.

The next Board meeting will be May 2, 2012, at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was closed at 8:12 PM

Submitted by Secretary, Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

FCC Inquiry on Effect of Land-use Restrictions

Here is a message from Marty Woll N6VI, our ARRL Southwestern Division Vice-Director.

"After years of effort by ARRL to get relief for Amateurs who have been constrained from putting up home antenna by private deed restrictions or by uncooperative homeowners associations, we finally have a window of opportunity but with a very tight time constraint. A few months ago, Congress passed and the President signed HR 3630, in which was included a modified version of the League's bill that would require a study of impediments (such as private land use restrictions) to the effective use of Amateur Radio in disasters. We had heard nothing from Washington since the passage, but we just learned that the FCC is about to issue a public notice with a 45-day comment period and no opportunity for rebuttals. This means that ARRL must present a well-documented, compelling case showing CC&Rs and HOA's have prevented hams from participating effectively in disaster response and relief efforts."

"Here's where you come in: If you have been or know of any hams involved in emergency communications whose home is subject to private land use restrictions that either (1) preclude or unreasonably restrict the installation and maintenance of outdoor Amateur Radio antennas, or (2) subject the radio amateur to the unlimited discretion of a homeowners' association, architectural control committee or other non-government decision maker as to whether he or she can erect and maintain an effective antenna, we need their story. We are looking for actual personal experiences with factual information, such as the relevant text of the covenants or rules and how they have kept the ham from participating in disaster preparedness, response or relief communications. We also want to hear from those emcomm-active Amateurs who believe they did not have a practical option when it came to purchasing real property because of the pervasiveness of private land use restrictions and the difficulty of finding a home not subject to those restrictions or if they became Amateur Radio operators after having already moved into deed-restricted or HOA-controlled

neighborhoods."

"Please e-mail write-ups and any supporting documentation to CCRINFO@ARRL.ORG. Submissions will be reviewed and compiled at ARRL Headquarters as part of the overall response to the public notice. We need an impressive volume of reports from a geographically diverse group of Amateurs who have been affected by private land use restrictions in connection with antennas and disaster communications. If you have questions about this request, you can contact Director Dick Norton N6AA or me. -- 73, Marty N6VI"

Please note that ARRL wants ***information only about the effect of private community CC&R's and Home Owner Association rules***. This is NOT about antenna ordinances passed by city and county governments. If you make a submission in this matter to CCRINFO@ARRL.ORG, please also copy Marty (n6vi@arrl.org). And if you make any mention of HDSCS in your submission, please copy April (wa6ops@hdscs.org) in your mail.

FRC T-Hunt Report

Mike Box N6BOX and Glenn Tobey AE6PA chose the Butterfield Ranch community in Chino Hills for their hiding location on March 17, 2012. That general area has been used before because it produces wonderful "Baldy bounces." The signal usually appears to be coming from Mt. Baldy, even when you reach the northern hunt boundary. Mike wrote a great story about the problems he had getting the hunt started:

"The leprechauns were out for the St. Patrick's Day hunt. I'm the fourth generation out of Ireland on me mum's side and me grandma's maiden name was Murphy, so it was only fitting the way things went."

"Glenn, AB6PA and I scouted the site a few weeks before. We've been hunting with the Fullerton group for less than a year and thought we could try our first Baldy bounce. We drove up from Moreno Valley and it was dry – no rain and the sun even came out for a while. We got to the site 35 minutes before the hunt was to start and as soon as we pulled into the parking lot of the park, the sky opened up and it poured."

"We set up the 11-element beam, attached the coax, placed it in the tripod, got it sighted towards Baldy and went to get the stakes to keep it from falling. Suddenly a gust of wind came along and knocked the whole thing over onto the sidewalk, breaking one of

the elements off. I swear I heard the Little People laughing. OK, so we re-set up the 10-element beam, staked the tripod, re-aimed the beam and moved to set up the radio."

"We used an Alinco DR-135 mobile, 125 AH Telco battery, PicCon controller and a RIGrunner to tie the power together. Easy-peazy, right? Nay nay. Got it all hooked up & the radio wouldn't stay on. Every time I set the power cord down, the radio would go off. My phone rang and it was Deryl, N6AIN, asking if we were hiding. Rats, it was after 8:00 PM. I let him know we having some technical difficulties and should be on the air in just a few minutes."

"I grabbed one end of what I thought was my extra Anderson Powerpole jumper and plugged it into the RIGrunner. As I pulled the other end out of the pile of junk I brought as backup stuff, I thought I heard a 'pop' like an electrical arc. Glenn said he didn't hear it, so I thought it was the Little People messing around again. I continued to pull on the cable and discovered it was the wrong cable. This one had eyelets to connect to the battery and they had touched, causing the fuse to blow on the RIGrunner."

"More digging produced the correct cable. Power on, PicCon working, we can hear it in our monitoring radio. We're on the air!"

"I called Deryl and he said they couldn't hear it. Now I know better than to trust what a T-Hunter tells me, but I could hear his radio in the background. I turned up the power to 10W and 50W. Still nothing. A quick look confirmed that the antenna was still standing. I checked the SWR meter that we had inline and I was putting out about 35W forward and 35W reflective. Now what?"

"Glenn checked the antenna with a flashlight and found that when the Little People pushed our now 10-element beam over, they also snapped the screw that was holding the center feed of the coax to the bazooka matching network. Glenn, being taller than I, was able to reach the connection without taking the beam down. He performed field surgery and jerry-rigged the broken part. A quick check of the SWR meter and it was reasonable. Another call to Deryl and it was confirmed. The hunt was afoot – 20 minutes late." -- N6BOX

<u>Team Calls</u>	<u>Odo Miles</u>
Calls	Miles
N6MJN	22.0
N6AIN/WA6PYE	26.4
WA6CYY	???? (Forgot to reset

his trip odometer)

73, Joe Moell K0OV

Anyone Working Enough DX Yet?

Our anemic March into April solar allotment has offered some intermittent but generous aurora and hot Ionospheric conditions to promote a few good HF DX openings. But, Sunspot numbers as well as 10.8 cm (2.776 GHz) Solar RF are close to half of Cycle 23 During 1999 and 2003.

The good news, ISS with SDO and STEREO Satellites are now revealing wild new views for how our sun does the job of adding to earth's Ionosphere energy needed for over horizon propagation.

A brief video tutorial < <http://www.youtube.com/user/LittleSDOHMI%3Fgl=C0%26hl=es-419> > presents a beautiful space View tutorial and sample.

The green "line" in the ISS snapshot below shows glowing ions responsible for reflecting HF signals is most concentrated. ISS's pass over aurora video vividly shows solar particle current density being injected at both poles along earth's magnetic lines. These Ions then spread away, moving toward the equator to create the blanket-mirror we freely use during strong DX. But still, today's solar activity is measurably lower when compared to the past.



Solar data monthly graphs on the [NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center](#) show cycle 24 so far is roughly half as intense as 23. Curiously, since 1750, 13 of the last 23 cycles, monthly sunspot averages averaged less or about the same as 24 is now. HF operation is still an awesome privilege, nevertheless Ham Radio activity may eventually migrate toward shorter wavelengths and higher frequencies anyway. Seems we have plenty to still do with this hobby.

73, Bill K., W6ZJE

Technician License Class Availability

Fullerton Radio Club will be conducting an amateur radio Technician license preparatory class **beginning May 5**, at 1:00PM. The class will be held the clubhouse at Cedarhill Estates (mobile home park), 2851 Rolling Hills Drive, Fullerton. Contact Bill Preston KZ3G for further information (714-529-8004).

The class is free, but attendees will need to acquire the Technician Class License book, at their own expense, before attending class. The book is available at HRO in Anaheim.

If you or someone you know would like to take part in this class please let one of the club officers know so we can plan for the number that will attend

Public Service Event

DonateLIFE 5K/1K FunRun on Saturday April 28, 2012 from 0700 to 1000 hours or so, at Cal State Fullerton.

This is the 10th anniversary of the event and larger crowds are expected. ADDITIONAL OPERATORS ARE NEEDED.

Send your Name, Callsign & Phone# to: Gene Thorpe KB6CMO at 714-680-4258 or KB6CMO@ARRL.net if you can help. Do it now!

73's Gene Thorpe KB6CMO

Remember the meeting location

We're still meeting at Chapman Activity Center, 2515 San Carlos Drive, Fullerton, CA 92831. Third Wednesday of each month. 7 PM Sharp!

Membership Dues

If you haven't renewed your club membership for 2012 your dues are overdue. A membership application / renewal form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

AMATEUR RADIO BOOTH AT ORANGE COUNTY FAIR?

WE'VE JUST LEARNED THAT OCCARO HAS VOTED AGAINST HAVING THE AMATEUR RADIO BOOTH AT THE ORANGE FAIR THIS YEAR DUE TO LACK OF A CLUB TO LEAD THE EVENT. UPDATE INFORMATION IN LATER EDITIONS OF SMOKE SIGNALS.

FRC Regular Club Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month
Chapman Activity Center
2515 San Carlos Dr.
Fullerton, CA

Next Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Dinner before the meeting at **5:00 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



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Manager
KL7MF

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FRC Board Meeting

Open to all members

Marie Callender's Restaurant
126 Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia
First Wednesday of each month

Next Board Meeting
May 2, 2012

QSO and dinner; 7:00 PM

Meeting: 7:30 PM

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Sat. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tel: (714) 521-8080
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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.