

# MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2009 OCCARO MEETING



## ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL of AMATEUR RADIO ORGANIZATIONS

1902 N. Ridgewood Street, Orange, California 92865-4458

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Meeting called to order at 7:42 PM by Chairman Richard Thompson.

Due to increased security at the Anaheim Utility Training Room, this meeting was moved to the Red Cross facility NE of Golden Circle Drive in Santa Ana. The location of future meetings is yet to be resolved.

### I. Members Attending

*Larry McDavid	W6FUB	Fullerton Radio Club
*Richard Thompson	WA6NOL	ARRL Asst. Orange Section Manager
*Dan Violette	KI6X	Autonetics Radio Club
*April Moell	WA6OPS	HDSCS
Robert Gimbel	KG6WTQ	WARA
Mack Garrett	KD6KSP	SOARA
Bill Prats	K6ACJ	ARRL ACC
Paul Gussow	W6GMU	OCARC
Tom Woodard	KI6GOA	OC Red Cross

\* OCCARO officer

### Guests Attending

Gerald Fullerton	KD6JBL	FV RACES
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### II. Minutes Approval

Minutes of the June 9, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted.

### III. Officer Reports

#### A. Chairman Richard Thompson:

1. Gordon West WA6NOL, Ham Radio Booth Chairman, was not present so Richard reported that OCCARO won the "OUTSTANDING" Blue Ribbon award for the ham radio booth at the 2009 Orange County Fair. Richard reported the Fair committee awarded this ribbon because our booth staff was always there early and consistently actively interacted with Fair visitors.
2. Gordon West WA6NOL awarded a trophy to MESAC for their volunteers' performance on opening day at the Fair.
3. The Fair Organizing Committee told Gordon West that OCCARO will get the same booth next year and will also get roof access for installation of antennas.
4. The Fair reported total attendance of 1,070,061.

#### B. Vice-Chairman April Moell: no report.

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- C. Secretary Larry McDavid:
1. The City of Anaheim Utility Department Training Room, a location OCCARO has used for 20 years, is unlikely to ever be available again for OCCARO meetings due to increased security demanded of utility facilities by the Department of Homeland Security. Larry contacted Tom Woodard of Red Cross and Tom agreed to make Room 232 at the Santa Ana Red Cross building available for the August meeting. Tom will discuss with Red Cross management the possibility of reserving this room for future OCCARO meetings but this is not yet resolved.
  2. Larry circulated for review and markup the meeting attendance list and the "Ham Radio Organizations in OCCARO Area" list.
  3. Larry reminded all present that updated attendance sheets, Minutes and the "Ham Radio Organizations" documents are available from the OCCARO Yahoo Group Files area.
- D. Treasurer Dan Violette:
1. Presented a January 1 through July 31, 2009 Treasurer's Report; copies were circulated for review and the Report was approved as submitted.
  2. Reported that 16 organizations had joined OCCARO and paid dues. Donations so far toward the OC Fair ham radio booth expenses were \$505.
  3. Paid \$448.29 for expenses related to the booth at the OC Fair. It is not yet certain this includes all expenses and Dan asked that participants submit any remaining expenses and personal donations toward expenses to him.
- E. ARRL SW Division Director: Not present; no report.
- F. ARRL Orange Section Manager: Not Present; no report.
- G. ARRL Orange Section Affiliated Club Coordinator Bill Prats K6ACJ reported he has sent reminders to all ARRL Affiliated clubs to update their club information on the ARRL website. Bill will continue this effort next for non-affiliated clubs.

### IV. Old Business

- A. OC Fair Ham Radio Booth results, donations and expenses were discussed. It was pointed out that we need to secure a chairman for the 2010 booth. Gordon West did an excellent job this year and will be encouraged to serve as booth chairman again next year.

### V. New Business

- A. Vice Chairman April Moell WA6OPS stated that we need to know that club membership applications and Fair booth participation arrangements are made by official representatives of each organization. A discussion followed about how the membership application for the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach was submitted this year by someone who is not a member of that club and who had no

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authority to do so. Secretary Larry McDavid agreed to review the OCCARO bylaws to determine if this need is clearly stated and will propose a change to the bylaws or membership forms if necessary.

### VI. Club Reports

#### A. April Moell WA6OPS for HDSCS

1. HDSCS staffed the Fair booth for three days. April reported she thought the Fair visitors who stopped by the ham radio booth were "higher quality" than in previous years: their interest was more sincere and their questions more insightful.
2. HDSCS has been participating in "Table Top" mini-exercises with hospitals, ambulance companies and community healthcare agencies.
3. HDSCS ham members will participate on August 22 in a CPR/First Aid Class for Healthcare Professionals.
4. Another mini-workshop 4-5 hours long is scheduled for the end of August at College Hospital.
5. Dr. Cheung, an epidemiologist, will present a program on the H1N1 "Swine Flu" to HDSCS in September.

#### B. Paul Gussow W6GMU, Treasurer for OCARC, suggested there should be a "briefing sheet" available to one-day Fair ham radio booth volunteers that outlines how they should present ham radio to Fair visitors.

#### C. Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ reminded attendees that WARA meets in the Sizzler Restaurant on Harbor Boulevard at Brea Boulevard on the first Monday of each month.

#### D. Dan Violette KI6X reported that the Autonetics Radio Club will move to the Boeing facility in Huntington Beach by January, 2010.

#### E. Tom Woodard KI6GOA for OC Red Cross

1. Tom reported he was pleased to offer OCCARO the Red Cross meeting room for the August meeting but that he must confer with their management to discuss future use of the room. Tom will try to get that approval arranged.
2. Volunteer communicators are needed to support the September-November wild fire season; a meeting will be held at Red Cross next week to discuss preparations for this year's fires and to organize a training drill. Red Cross has applied for a new funding grant for new equipment.
3. A drill will be conducted next week for SONGS, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station; county, Red Cross and emergency agencies will participate.
4. Tom reported we should expect both fires and landslides in Laguna Beach and south Orange County this year due to uncertainties in the El Nino.
5. Tom reported that Red Cross did staff the Fair ham radio booth this year and agreed a "Job Action Sheet" is needed for booth volunteers. April Moell added that a list of "Hams Can Do" actions would also be helpful.

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- F. Gerry Fullerton KD6JBL for Fountain Valley RACES
  - 1. FV RACES supported a "Paws for Cause" 5K Run about 5 weeks ago
  - 2. FV RACES has developed an excellent and close working relationship with FV Parks and Recreation Department.
  
- G. Bill Prats K6ACJ reported on the following upcoming events:
  - 1. QuartzFest will be held January 17 - 23, 2010 near Mile Marker 99 on US 95, about six miles south of I-10, in Quartzsite, Arizona. QuartzFest is a gathering in a large parking lot of hams in self-contained RVs. Visit [www.quartzfest.org](http://www.quartzfest.org) for more information.
  - 2. QPAC, a QRP convention will be held October 15-17 in the San Francisco Bay area.
  
- H. Mack Garrett KD6KSP for SOARA
  - 1. The SOARA club newsletter is available at their website
  - 2. Mack asked about a Speaker's List and some discussion followed. Mack agreed to download the Speaker's List from the OCCARO website, review and add their know recent speakers to the list and forward to Larry McDavid.

### VII. Meeting Closing

- A. The next OCCARO meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 7:30 PM at a location to be announced.
  
- B. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Larry McDavid W6FUB  
OCCARO Secretary