



# Smoke Signals

## Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

### January 2017

#### President's Column

Confessions of a Radio Geek

Hello and welcome to the New Year! I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new President of your radio club. I have met many of you, but if you don't regularly attend club meetings, we may not have crossed paths yet and I look forward to meeting you.

I will begin by confessing that I have been a radio geek for a long time. I first got interested in radio and electronics in 4th grade, after getting my first library card and checking out *The Boys First Book of Radio and Electronics* by Alfred Morgan. One of the projects in the book was a crystal radio, which my dad helped me build, complete with Quaker Oats tuning coil and a 1N34a detector (yes, I know that was cheating). After stringing about a hundred feet of wire across the back yard, I was amazed to receive WNBC, New York, almost fifty miles away! I have been hooked ever since.

In seventh grade, I built a two transistor AM BCB transmitter for my science fair project. It was about then that I first got interested in broadcast band DXing (who remembers White's Radio Log?) and Short Wave Listening. In 10th grade, I built a low power FM transmitter and would mix records and announcements to reel-to-reel tape and transmit my "radio station" through the neighborhood. This would often be followed by my friends and I riding around the neighborhood on our bikes, to see how far my signal was reaching. It was a bit more than twenty years later when I finally got licensed, first as KC6LVG, then later as AD6QF. I still think radio is magic.

Despite all this, my wife seems to think I have grown into a reasonably well-adjusted adult, except, possibly, for this hobby that you and I have in common.

Between the beginning and end of this story, I spent nearly 40 years as a high school teacher, so I have a homework assignment for you...

I would like to ask you to think of \*one thing\* you would like to see happen in the Fullerton Radio Club this year. It can be something new, something old that should be brought back, or something that is already happening that you like. Write your answer down. I promise to ask you soon.

73,  
Bob - AD6QF

#### January Meeting Presentation

By Tony Pointer

**The January presentation will include information about Orange County's fire history, the origin of the Orange County Fire Watch program and how we use Ham Radio Operators to assist with Red Flag Deployment operations.**

I have been an Emergency Responder and Emergency Response Instructor for over 25 years. I was a Reserve Fire Fighter and Officer with the Orange County Fire Authority for eight years until a back injury sidelined my fire fighting response. I received training as a Microsoft System's Engineer and have worked for several IT companies in multiple capacities and positions. I have been a volunteer board member and the Lead Community Emergency Response Team Instructor for the City of San Juan Capistrano's CERT Team since its inception in 2002. For the last 8 years I have worked with the American Red Cross in the Health & Safety and Information Technology divisions.

The attached photo is of one of our Fire Watch volunteers David Gordon (KB6BXD) giving a weather report at a Fire Watch location.



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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.org](http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org)**

**January 2017 Board Meeting Minutes**

The January 2017 FRC Board meeting was called to order by Vice President Walter Clark at 7:27pm. Present: Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO and Secretary: Linda Endsley KJ6IHB. Directors: Larry McDavid W6FUB, Paul Broden K6MHD, Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ and Richard Belansky KG6UDD

Treasurer's report: Savings - \$2,606.82; Checking- \$3,969.04

Minutes from the December Board Meeting were read and approved.

Old Business:

Paul offered suggestions on how to honor Bill (W6ZJE – SK) Kohlenberger with community related or science items.

New Business:

Walter Clark recognized Gene Thorpe for planning another successful Christmas dinner.

Larry updated the roster with the new renewals.

12 renewal memberships were received during the month and 2 renewals were received at the current Board meeting.

Walter suggested increasing attendance at meetings to use "Meetup" sites. Also, the sign-in sheet at the monthly general meetings can have an email address field for visitors so that we can communicate with them.

Larry suggested inviting WARA members to the Antennas in the Park event. Joe Moell needs to be contacted regarding a date for Antennas in the Park.

Donate Life Run will be on April 29.

Next board meeting: 1 FEB 2017

Adjourned at 8:22 pm

Submitted by Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Amateur Radio Operators are needed: To Help with the Donate Life Run/Walk Family Festival on Saturday April 29, 2017 from 0700 - 1100 hrs. or so. **Put it on your calendar.** Send Your Name, Call Sign, E-Mail Address, & Phone Number to: Gene Thorpe KB6CMO@ARRL.NET.

## CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES

YES, IT'S That Time Again. Your FRC Club Dues are Due. You can bring them to the Next Club Meeting or send them to the Club P.O.Box 545 Fullerton, CA 92836-0545.

### Special Event Station K7Z will commemorate Zane Grey's birthday on January 28-31, 2017

Payson, Arizona -- Sponsored by the Tonto Amateur Radio Association, Inc. and the Northern Gila County Historical Society that operates The Rim Country Museum and The Zane Grey Cabin. Members of our amateur radio association will be active from January 28 - 31, 2017 using the call sign K7Z from their own QTHs as well as from the Zane Grey Cabin in Payson, AZ.

Preferred frequencies will be in the General band segments. Like Us? Spot Us!

A special QSL card will be available for the event:  
<https://www.qrz.com/db/k7z>

#### QSL INFO

Direct Only - Your Card and SASE, Sorry No eQSL, LOTW or Bureau

Non-USA, Please enclose 2 US Dollars for return Postage

Send a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) for a commemorative QSL card to:

Tonto Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
PO Box 765  
Payson, AZ 85547

Zane Grey was an author and master of the American western novel. An Ohio born dentist, Pearl Zane Grey spent many years under the Mogollon Rim writing "To The Last Man" and a dozen other Westerns with Arizona settings and characters. His prolific writings popularized the American cowboy as a taciturn, romantic figure.

## December FRC Mobile T-hunt Report

"I looked at the first Saturday hunt boundaries and mixed them up with the Fullerton hunt boundaries." That was the excuse that Ron Allerdice WA6CYY gave for hiding well out of bounds on the December 17 Fullerton Radio Club mobile T-hunt. Ron was at the end of Ridge Park Road near the entrance to Coastal Peak Park, by the Crystal Cove hiking trails north of Laguna Beach. He was very close to the Highway 73 toll road, but you couldn't get to him that way. He was so far out that it's no surprise that half of the teams didn't leave the boundaries to find him. Perhaps we should make him hide again as a penalty.

| <u>Team Calls</u> | <u>Odo Miles</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|
| AB6PA             | 33.2             |
| N6ZZHZ/KK6JDC     | 60.0             |
| N6MJN             | DNF              |
| N6AIN/WA6PYE      | DNF              |

Who will hide the next hunt? Come out on Saturday, January 21 to the top of Acacia Avenue in Fullerton. The transmitter goes on the air at 8 PM on 146.565 Mhz.

73,  
Joe Moell K0OV

## PALM SPRINGS HAMFEST

February 4, 2017

**It's only an hour and 45 minutes (approximately) from Fullerton, so this one-day event should be a good opportunity for you to participate in a "ham radio active" event. Our own HDSCS Coordinator, April Moell WA6OPS will be one of the presenters. See the event brochure on page 5 for additional details.**

## **MD&M West Anaheim Show**

This large expo show at the Anaheim Convention Center will be held February 7-9. Registration for one show will get you entry to all seven shows running concurrently at the convention center. I go to this show every year and find it very interesting, if tiring by the end of the day. Registration for the Expo part of the show is free. Go here to register: <https://anaheim.am.ubm.com/2017/registrations/MDM>

Best wishes, Larry McDavid W6FUB Anaheim, California (SE of Los Angeles, near Disneyland)

## **ARDF Added to Scout Radio Merit Badge**

It started as the Wireless Merit Badge in 1918 and has become one of the most popular Scouting achievements. About 7000 Scouts qualify for the Radio Merit Badge each year. Now this venerable award has been updated with improvements to the Amateur Radio section.

The newest badge requirements list includes an option for Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF). Scouts are encouraged to build a simple direction-finding antenna and to participate in an on-foot radio foxhunt on the 2-meter or 80-meter band. In addition, cellular telephone topics have been added and the radio broadcasting section now includes internet streaming.

The updates were authored by Jim Wilson K5ND, who is former Director of Communication Services at the Boy Scouts of America and is the current president of the K2BSA Amateur Radio

Association. Jim decided to add ARDF after his experience at USA's ARDF Championships in Texas last April. The new section was then reviewed by leading members of ham radio's ARDF community.

The new Radio Merit Badge will be offered during the National Scout Jamboree in West Virginia during July, where a complete ARDF course will be set up and equipment will be available. ARDF has also been included in some Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) sessions here in southern California. In the photo, Tom Gaccione WB2LRH is helping some Scouts find transmitters during JOTA at the Cabrillo Youth Center in San Pedro. More about the badge updates is available at [K2BSA.org](http://K2BSA.org). Information about ARDF, including simple antennas and how to set up foxhunting courses, is at [www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com).

Joe Moell K0OV





# PALM SPRINGS



## FEBRUARY 4th 2017



**THE BIGGEST LITTLE HAMFEST IN THE WEST  
HAS A NEW DATE AND A NEW LOCATION**

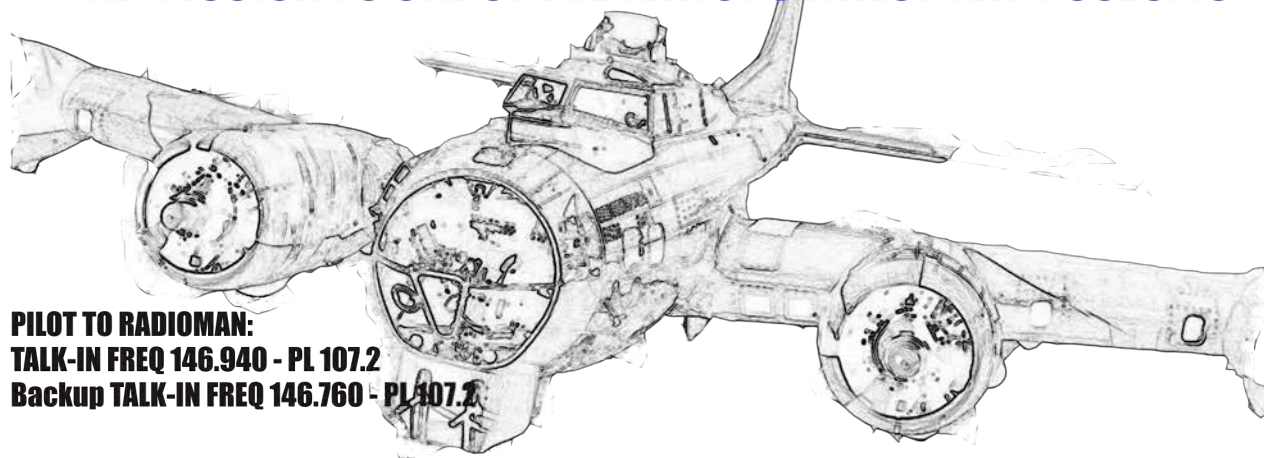
**MORE VENDORS. MORE FLEA MARKET / TAILGATERS. MORE FOOD VENDORS  
MORE GUEST SPEAKERS. KIDS AREA, BRING THE FAMILY SPEND THE WEEKEND.  
LOTS OF RV PARKING \$5 VE TESTING  
AN ARRL SANCTIONED EVENT**

**SEE US AT PALMSPRINGSHAMFEST.COM OR DESERTRATS.US**

**OPENS AT 9:00 AM WITH A RIBBON CUTTING BY PALM SPRINGS MAYOR MOON**

## **NOW AT THE PALM SPRINGS AIR MUSEUM**

**YOUR HAMFEST ADMISSION INCLUDES  
ADMISSION TO ONE OF THE NATIONS FINEST AIR MUSEUMS**



**PILOT TO RADIOMAN:  
TALK-IN FREQ 146.940 - PL 107.2  
Backup TALK-IN FREQ 146.760 - PL 107.2**

Monthly FRC meetings are held at:

**Chapman Activity Center**

2515 San Carlos Dr.  
Fullerton, CA

January's meeting will be:

**Wednesday,  
January 18, 2017**

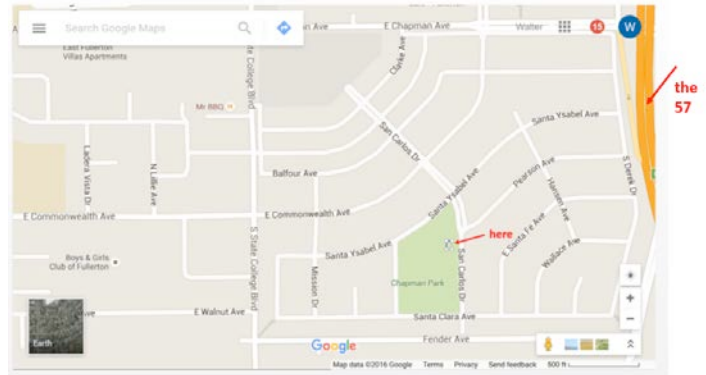
Dinner before the meeting at 5:30 PM at:

**Sizzler**

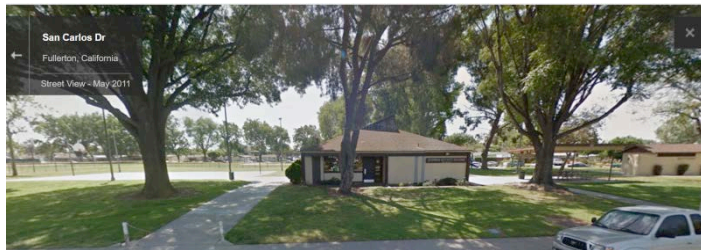
**1401 N. Harbor Blvd.  
Fullerton**

**Meeting time: 7:00 PM**

**Visitors are welcome**



Chapman Activity Center Location Map



Chapman Activity Center

**FRC Board Meeting**

**Open to all Club members**

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

**Next Board Meeting**  
**February 1, 2017**

QSO and dinner; 7:00 PM  
**Meeting: 7:30 PM**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION**

Fullerton Radio Club  
PO Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836

(Please Print)

Name #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name #2 \_\_\_\_\_

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.**