



# Smoke Signals

## Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

### November 2014

#### November Meeting Presentation

*Radar; everything you ever wanted to know except for what the traffic cop will tell you.*

Presentation by Tom Gaccione WB2LRH

Tom Gaccione has been a Senior Principal Engineer with Hughes Aircraft / Raytheon since 1985. He has worked on several RF, Microwave, and Laser systems for the F/A-18 and F-15 fighters and the B2 bomber including hybrid microelectronics, custom power devices, receivers, and electronically scanned arrays.

His current assignment is work on a DARPA project for an airship based extremely large experimental antenna array.

As more capability and functionality is added to modern defense sensors, RF and optical systems have become an order of magnitude more complex in the last 20 years. The topic of November's meeting will be on advancement in technology specifically related to radar systems, electronic antennas and measurement systems. Without too much math, Tom will review radar functionality and how measurements are made and where technology is heading in the next 20 years.

#### Club Officer Elections

It's November and time for elections, including Club officers for 2015. You will note from the slate of nominees that the office of Vice President remains open with no identified candidates. This is the most difficult office to fill due to the fact that the VP responsibilities include arrangement of the monthly meeting speakers. The Board suggested at the October Club meeting that we make a change in process for identification of meeting speakers. We will develop a calendar for sign up by all members who will be responsible for either arranging someone as speaker for their selected meeting, or that they will make the presentation themselves. This turns the VP job into that of a coordinator, following up with the calendar assignee to ensure that the speaker

has been arranged and confirmed. The VP will not be required to be a presenter or make arrangements for one (unless he/she chooses to do so). Further details on the calendaring processes will be provided as we move forward. You can expect to see a first draft of the sign-up calendar no later than the December holiday dinner meeting. When you sign up to be responsible for a specific monthly meeting you will be expected to provide the VP with status updates and confirmation information at least 30 days prior to the meeting date. Presenter "BIO" and topic must be available for printing in Smoke Signals before the meeting date. The process can work well if we all try. We even have the first sign up for provision of a presenter. Now that that's said, who would like to volunteer as a nominee for the newly defined VP/coordinator position?

We'd like to have a full slate of nominees for elections at the November 19 meeting. Here's a list of current nominees. Additional candidate nominations may be received for all offices from the floor before the election.

President: Albert Solomon AG6OF

Vice President (OPEN)

Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO

Board Members (Select at least one)

Bill Preston KZ3G; Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ,  
Mike LeFevre WD6AQH, Richard Belanski, KG6UDD,  
Larry McDavid W6FUB, Paul Broden K6MHD

#### Holiday Dinner Meeting Reminder

The December monthly meeting will be conducted as our annual Holiday Dinner meeting on Friday, December 12, 2014. If you haven't made reservations please do so no later than December 1. A reservation and menu selection form is attached to this newsletter. Thanks to Gene KB6CMO for negotiating the available menu with no increase in price. As usual, we'll be having a great prize raffle at the end of the meeting.

**President**

Bill Preston, KZ3G  
Phone: (714) 393-8004  
E-mail: billpreston@roadrunner.com

**Vice President**

Richard Belansky, KG6UDD  
Phone: (714) 970-6385  
E-mail: rhbelansky@raytheon.com

**Secretary**

Linda Endsley, KJ6IHB  
Phone: (714) 992-4645  
E-mail: lindierend@sbcglobal.net

**Treasurer, Public Service**

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO  
Phone: (714) 680-4258  
E-mail: kb6cmo@juno.com

**Membership**

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

**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 Representatives**

Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ  
Larry McDavid, W6FUB

**License Trustee**

Albert Solomon  
Phone: (714) 348-9097  
E-mail: albertsolomon18@yahoo.com

**Directors**

Larry McDavid, W6FUB  
Phone: (714) 630-5672  
Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ  
Phone: (714) 657-2862  
Mike LeFevre WD6AQH  
Phone: (714) 674-7687

**Director & 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.

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## **November 5, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes**

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The November 2014 Board meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Vice President, Richard Belansky KG6UDD. Other members present were: Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB, Directors Paul Broden K6MHD, Larry McDavid W6FUB, OCCARO representative Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, and member Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU.

Minutes from the October Board meeting were reviewed and approved with the correction to add attendee OCCARO representative Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ.

Treasurer's Report: Checking Account, \$2,758.85. Savings Account, \$3,073.34.

Check to be written for \$300.00 for prizes at the Christmas dinner was approved.

\$76.00 for blank checks ordered was approved.

Membership renewals are being received.

Old Business:

Christmas dinner will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in December – 12/12.

Voting on officers will be completed at the general meeting. Candidates for Vice President are needed.

La Palma Days Parade will be in November. No information has been received regarding this event.

New Business:

Speaker at the September general meeting will be Tom Gaccione WB2LRH. The topic will be on radar.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 7.

The meeting was closed at 8:08 PM

Submitted by Linda Endsley, KJ6IHB

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## **October Smoke Signals Correction**

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Minutes of the October Board meeting inadvertently omitted Board Meeting attendance of OCCARO Representative Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ.

## Next on-foot transmitter hunt November 22 at Topanga Park

The next southern California on-foot transmitter hunting session will be Saturday, November 22 in the Trippet Ranch section of Topanga State Park. This session is sponsored by the Fullerton Radio Club in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation. If you are a beginner, there will be entry-level two-meter "fox" transmitters, set by Joe Moell K0OV. Once you're proficient at finding them, try the 5-fox two-meter international-rules course, set by Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. One or two optional 80-meter fox transmitters may also be on the air.

If you have receivers, scanners, directional antennas, attenuators, or other equipment suitable for on-foot RDF, be sure to bring it. Make sure all batteries are fresh. A limited amount of RDF gear will be available for loan. Trails are primitive in some areas of the park, so wear sturdy shoes. All ages are welcome, but young children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

For those who want to build RDF gear for use with their own two-meter hand-held radios or scanners, Marvin will have kits for measuring-tape yagis and active attenuators. Also available is an assembled and tested assembly that includes the power switch, BNC connector, housing and battery, ready to install as the tape measure beam is built. There will be tools and soldering stations for building. If you're not an electronic technician, don't worry because there will be experts to help you. Send e-mail to Marvin ([marvin@west.net](mailto:marvin@west.net)) to pre-register and get more information about

equipment. The building session will only take place if there are sufficient advance registrations. If you already have equipment and just want to hunt transmitters, you don't need to pre-register -- just show up.

If it takes place, the building session will start at 9:30 AM. Please be prompt. Beginner transmitters will be on the air at that time. The main 5-fox hunt will start about 10:30 AM. Hunters may start the courses at any time until 1 PM. Courses close at 3 PM.

For the advanced 2-meter course, electronic scoring will be used. If you have an "e-stick," be sure to bring it. An optional \$5 donation is requested for the advanced course to cover expenses related to the use of Los Angeles Orienteering Club's e-punch equipment and maps. The beginner course and the 80-meter transmitter hunt are free of charge and e-punch is not required for them.

Topanga State Park is in the Santa Monica Mountains. From Highway 101 in Woodland Hills, go south on Topanga Canyon Boulevard (Highway 27) about 8 miles. From Pacific Coast Highway, go north on Topanga Canyon Boulevard to just past Old Topanga Canyon Road. Either way, watch for a "Topanga State Park" sign and turn east onto Entrada Road. (This is a dangerous corner.) Go about a mile, bearing left at the fork. We will gather at the end of the parking lot in the shaded picnic area. Look for the orange and white orienteering flag. Talk-in is on 146.52 MHz simplex. The state day-use fee for entry and parking is \$10 per vehicle.

A map to help you get there is at [www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com). For your GPS navigation system: 20829 Entrada Rd, Los Angeles, CA. Please note that dogs are not allowed on the

park trails, fire roads, or in the back country. If moderate-to-heavy rain is forecasted, check [www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com) on Friday 11/21 for possible cancellation.

73,  
Joe Moell K0OV

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## Community Service Opportunity

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### Special Olympics

Special Olympics will be holding an all day sporting event on December 13 and 14 in Fountain Valley. Numerous amateur radio operator volunteers are needed for communication support. Contact Mark Lidikay to sign up at [ke6tnm@scran.org](mailto:ke6tnm@scran.org)

Thanks  
Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ

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## Membership Renewal

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A new year is just around the corner and we need to begin the process of membership renewal. An application / renewal form is attached to this newsletter. You might consider including payment of membership renewal along with your reservation for the holiday dinner.

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## Future Meeting Topic

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Sometime after the beginning of 2015 (date not yet selected) the club will be holding a "swap meet" format meeting. Soooo, begin to clean out your ham shack, garage, or other source of no longer needed equipment and prepare to stock up a table of items offered for sale. Details of the event will be provided later, but this is a good time to start gathering "stuff."

## Hughes Retiree Day

A few Fridays ago, I had the opportunity to step back in time to the beginnings of the company where many FRC members once worked- the original Hughes Aircraft Company facilities in Culver City. Over the past 5 years, the Ratkovich Development Company has restored and renovated the original hangar, Buildings 1, 2, and several others. Designated historical buildings, the company and lessees kept them largely intact while updating them for modern office and studio space. Advertising agency and game company employees now roam the halls where Howard once oversaw his many businesses.

Ratkovich reached out to former employees (including our current ARRL Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton) and retirees to spend the day in the hangar as well as visit the companies now at the site. We were welcomed by former Hughes CEO Ken Richardson and executives of the companies currently there and were given tours of the current office space. The buildings were largely gutted for a more modern open floor plan; however the executive offices were repurposed as conference rooms (yes, even Howard's office). The original woodwork was refinished and the rooms restored largely as they were.

The developer was also looking for historical information; they had set up several rooms to interview former employees and collect photos of the old days. Ken Richardson was on hand to sign his book, "Hughes after Howard", the story of Hughes Aircraft Company. And, an old bunch of engineers also hit the jackpot: Free lunch!

One of the more fascinating places I got to visit was YouTube's Space in LA. From the old Hughes garage, Google has repurposed the facility for anyone to make YouTube videos. Several sound stages, high quality motion picture equipment, and editing bays are available to anyone who has a YouTube channel to come in and produce your own webcast. No more cheesy home videos! Once you complete several training classes, both online and in person, you are able, for free, to become the next Martin Scorsese. In fact several popular actors and actresses produce their web content there. For their part, Google takes a cut of your advertising revenue on your channel as compensation.

While I was in Culver City only a short time before moving to El Segundo, and there's a few more years I've got to go before I can leave, it was great to see the current owners and employees pay tribute to the company's history. Plus, if you want to do lunch, call my agent!

Tom WB2LRH



## FRC Mobile Transmitter Hunt

October 18, 2014

Dave Balgie N6MJN hid his transmitter a long way from his Costa Mesa home for the October mobile transmitter hunt. He was at 2808 East Cameron Ave in West Covina, which is between South Hills Country Club and South Hills High School. His signal was blocked from the starting point by the South Hills and his antenna was pointed at Johnstone Peak for a good reflection. Nevertheless, all the hunters found him within an hour or so.

<u>Team Calls</u>	<u>Odo Miles</u>
WA6CYY	21.2
N6AIN/WA6PYE	24.0
WB6JPI	28.5

Ron Allerdice WA6CYY won the hunt and will be hider for the November 1w5 hunt. Hunters will start from the top of Acacia Avenue in Fullerton at 8 PM. The signal will be constant on 146.565 MHz.

73,  
Joe Moell K0OV

## FRC Regular Club Meeting

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

**Next Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday,**  
**November 19, 2014**

**Dinner before the meeting at 5:00 PM**  
**at:**  
**Coco's Restaurant, 1011 N. Harbor Blvd.**

**Meeting time: 7:00 PM**  
**Visitors are welcome**

## 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**  
**December 3, 2014**

QSO and dinner; 7:00 PM

**Meeting: 7:30 PM**

## You never know what you'll find in the telephone directory

(Direct quotes from the North Orange County Telephone Directory.)

- Police station toilet stolen... Cops have nothing to go on
- Schizophrenia beats being alone
- If at first you don't succeed, redefine success
- If you have the capacity to learn from your mistakes, you will learn a lot today
- All true wisdom is found on T-shirts
- I don't have a solution, but I do admire the problem  
(Stay tuned; there will be more next month)

## 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.**



## Fullerton Radio Club Welcomes Members and Guests to our Holiday Dinner

Friday, December 12, 2014. 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: Salmon**

Plain Salmon

**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 November 19, 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: \_\_\_\_\_