



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

December 2019

HEADLINES!

Election Results

For the first time in recent memory we have a full complement of Officers and Board Of Directors. We have a Vice President!!!!

The period set for email responses to the club election for 2020 officers and members-at-large expired last night (Monday, December 9) at midnight so the responses received are final. Here are the ballot results:

YES to affirm election of the full slate of nominees: 13 total

NO to disagree with the full slate of nominees: 0

Per our bylaws, we need 20% of the paid and life membership for a formal action, including elections. That total is 36 as of the ballot, so at least 7 vote responses are required; we exceed that number so the ballot is valid.

Accordingly, the following are elected to serve FRC in 2020:

Board Of Directors

President: Tom Gaccione WB2LRH

Vice President: Bob Houghton AD6QF

Secretary: Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

Treasurer: Gene Thorpe KB6CMO

Members-at-Large:

Richard Belansky KG6UGG

Paul Broden K6MHD

Walter Clark

Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ

Larry McDavid W6FUB

The new slate of officers will be installed at the December 18 holiday dinner meeting.

Board Meeting Place Change

We have a new process for Board Meeting. In order to reduce the requirements of days for travel to meetings and consolidate schedules the Board meetings will now be held on the same day as the regular club meeting: **second Wednesday of each month**. The Board will meet at the Black Bear Diner 1011 N. Harbor Boulevard with dinner at 5PM and Board meeting to begin at 5:30. This should be (hopefully) sufficient time for completion of meeting agenda requirements, and allow time for the Board members to get to the regular club meeting location by starting time at 7PM. We'll try this for a while and see how it works. There is **NO** change in time or place for the club meetings. Note: All club members are welcome at the board meetings.

Remember! Special December Holiday Club Meeting

Christmas Dinner Meeting

When:

Wednesday, 18 December 2019

6:00pm to 9:30pm

(UTC-08:00) America/Los Angeles

(Hope you contacted Gene Thorpe with indication that you're coming so the restaurant has a count for table reservations)

Where:

Black Bear Diner; 1011 N. Harbor Boulevard at Brea Boulevard

Organizer: Larry McDavid lmcdavid@lmceng.com

Description:

Please attend our annual Christmas Dinner meeting. Yes! We will have our usual opportunity drawing. Black Bear Diner has a nice back room where we will have this dinner meeting. You can select food from the regular menu and pay at the restaurant register

It's time to renew your membership!

At the end of this newsletter is a membership application/renewal form. Fill it out and bring it to the Holiday Dinner meeting – – along with dues payment.

Fullerton Radio Club
P.O. Box 545, Fullerton, CA 92836-0545

Board of Directors

President

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

Vice President

TBD
(This could be YOU)

Secretary

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

Treasurer, Public Service, Membership

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

Members At Large

Richard Belansky, KG6UDD
Email:
Phone: (714) 970-6385

Walter Clark
Phone: (714)-882-9647

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ
Phone: 714-657-2862

Bob Houghton AD6QF
Phone: (714) 446-0520

Paul Broden, K6MHD
Phone: (714) 871-9478

Volunteers

T-Hunt

Joe Moell, K0OV
<http://www.homingin.com>
E-mail: homingin@aol.com

W6ULI License Trustee

Albert Solomon, AG6OF
Phone: (714) 476-9638
E-mail: albertsolomon18@gmail.com

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.

Web site: www.FullertonRadioClub.org

The December 2019 FRC Board meeting was called to order at 7:20pm by President Larry McDavid W6FUB. Others present: Treasurer Gene Thorpe; KB6CMO; Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB; Board Members, Bob Houghton AD6QF, Richard Belansky KG6UGG, Paul Broden K6MHD; Member: Cheryl Thorpe KE6TZU, Tom Gaccione WB2LRH

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: Checking - \$3,994.42; Savings - \$2,608.22.

New Business:

Wed, Dec 18, 6:30 pm, Christmas dinner will be at the Black Bear Diner.

Since there was no election at the general, Larry will send emails with candidate names for the election. Members can then reply yes or no for the candidates.

Since the January Board meeting falls on the holiday, January's Board Meeting will be before the general meeting on January 15, at the Black Bear; 5 pm for dinner; 5:30 pm for the meeting. Discussed changing the Board meeting date to the date of the general meeting.

Discussed different banks' requirement for accounts.

Discussed how to record dates in the future to complete forms for yearly requirements. Larry will check on Yahoo calendar.

Tom G updated the tax filing status (state 23701G). Will research Federal requirements.

January general meeting speaker will be Carl Gardenias, Section Manager, ARRL Orange Section,

Next board meeting: 15 JAN 2019

Adjourned at 8:45 pm

Submitted by Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

HARD DRIVES FAIL

Acronis True Image To The Rescue

Hard drives fail. It is a fact of life. You are either prepared or you will lose all your data! Acronis True Image is an excellent system backup software package that has been around now many years and is offered at a discounted price to NOCCC* members by Gene Barlow through his User Group Relations website:

<http://ugr7.com>

The current versions are True Image 2020 Standard for PC/MAC and True Image 2020 Premium; an intermediate version, True Image 2020 Advanced is shown but is no longer available through the user group purchase. The key difference between the two versions available is that the Premium version provides 1 TB of Acronis Cloud Storage and 24 hour/day telephone technical support. Another difference is that the Standard version is an unlimited-period-use purchase but the Premium version is valid for one year, after which a new purchase is required. Telephone support is nice to have, however.

The PC versions run under Windows 7(SP1 or later), 8 and 10. The MAC versions run under OS X 10.10.2+, 10.11 and 10.12. I'm still using Windows 7 and True Image runs well there.

I really don't trust cloud storage of my personal data so I recommend the Standard version. The current user group price for True Image Standard is \$25 for a single license and \$40 for three licenses. If you want to back up your laptop computer as well as your desktop computer, you will want additional licenses. True Image can also back up your cell phone.

I install the software on my hard drive and immediately create a Bootable Rescue Media CD, useful if you have a hard disk total failure. Gene Barlow provides a PC Starter Guide, currently at version 2019 but which will be updated for the 2020 version by Gene. I recommend downloading the available 2019 Starter Guide here:

<http://ugr7.com/files/TrueImage2019StarterGuide.pdf>

This Starter Guide gives instructions on installing and using True Image. First, you need to purchase the license from the user group website. Gene will send

you an email with a receipt and an incredibly long serial number. Don't try to write down this long alphanumeric number but select and copy it to your clipboard for use during the install process.

If you already own a previous version of True Image, I strongly suggest you uninstall it before you proceed to register the serial number and download the new version. The problem with leaving an old version installed is that True Image will read and save the previous configuration data and you may want to change that. Some configuration options are likely to be different in the new version anyway. The Starter Guide says True Image will uninstall an older version; it will, but it will first save the configuration data. My previous True Image version filled the backup drive and would not allow me to delete early backups; this problem might have persisted had I not uninstalled the old True Image version first!

To register True Image, you need an account at Acronis. Visit the website at:

<https://www.acronis.com/en-us/>

Click Account at the top of the page. This will take you to a page where you can enter your existing login information or register a new account. This will take you to a page that shows the Acronis software you have already registered previously. To register a new purchase, click "+ Add keys" in the upper right corner. Use the software serial number you saved to your clipboard. Entering the serial number will add the new software to your registered products. Next, click the Downloads button and download the software. Click Run to install the software.

Follow the steps in the Starter Guide. Make sure you create the Bootable Rescue Media CD before you configure True Image or perform any backup operations. To configure True Image, the Starter Guide suggests you accept the default "Entire PC" large round button on the left and proceed to click the Select Destination large round button on the right. Don't do this!

I suggest you click the large round button that shows "Entire PC" and look to see what True Image will back up. You want to backup the c: drive. But, you may have other hard drives or even thumb drives plugged into

your computer at this point. If other hard drives are shown, uncheck those, leaving just the c: drive to be backed up. My desktop computers always have multiple hard drives, one of which I often use as the backup drive. You don't want to back up the backup drive! And you probably don't want to back up a thumb drive that happens to be plugged in. So, it is important you check to see what True Image is set to back up.

Then follow the Starter Guide instructions to select the backup drive, which can be an internal hard drive or an external USB drive. Again, follow the Starter Guide instruction to first configure the backup by clicking the Options button at the bottom of the True Image setup page.

The Starter Guide then walks you through step-by-step to set the important Options. The 2019 Starter Guide is somewhat out of date since some names and options have changed in the 2020 version but the differences are minor. Acronis continuously updates True Image so even the setting options may change throughout the year. You should always check to see if there is a new True Image version to download and follow the same installation process. If you are within the same year software version and the backup process is working for you, you can likely leave the current version installed and let the new version delete the old one during installation, thus keeping the configuration you previously selected.

One important decision to make is how often and when you want the backup operation to begin. I choose to incrementally backup weekly and to begin the backup at 2:00 am on Sunday morning when I am unlikely to be using my computer. It is important to know that even if your computer is configured to "sleep" after a period of inactivity, True Image will wake it up to perform the backup. Of course, you can't turn your computer completely off or it won't back up!

Gene suggests selecting incremental backups but to change the number of incremental backups to eight before a full backup is again created. I prefer to leave that number set to the default of 5 incremental backups before a new full backup is created.

There is one key difference between Gene's Starter Guide 2019 and what is actually in True Image 2020. That is how "Version Cleanup Rules" is managed. Gene's Starter Guide 2019 suggests selecting "Keep the

size of the backup to no more than 800 MB." But, that option is not shown in True Image 2020. Instead, there are options to "Delete version chains older than nnn days" and "Store no more than nn recent version chains. Why the option to limit the actual total maximum size of backups before deleting old version chains was removed is unclear and Gene has not yet commented on this difference. But, really, it makes little sense to store very old version chains. A "Chain" is the full backup plus the selectable number of incremental backups. Until this option is clarified, and knowing that I have chosen to perform weekly backups with 5 incremental backups before a full backup is again performed, I have chosen to limit version chains to 5 chains. That will keep all backups for slightly over six months. Gene may find reason to choose something different so I recommend you keep checking the User Group Relations website for his release of his Starter Guide 2020.

I suggest you read through Gene's Starter Guide and understand the whole process before you proceed to install and configure True Image. His instructions are very detailed but understand the changes I suggested above as well. Gene presumes every computer is the same and has only one hard drive and this may well not be true in your case.

I have used Acronis True Image for many years and have found it to be very reliable and easy to use. I recently bought an 8 TB USB3 external hard drive at Costco and it came with its own backup software. I looked at that software and found it incomprehensible! I highly recommend Acronis True Image and the User Group Relations website makes it easy to purchase for NOCCC members.

I am one of the four original 1976 founders of NOCCC so I've been through some trials with computers! Some long-familiar software is still available and just works. I like Acronis True Image. Even older but still useful is VOPT for defragging your hard drive. Not every new product on the market is as good as it claims! Talk to your NOCCC friends and see what works best!

* the NOCCC acronym is for North Orange County Computer Club that meets at Chapman University in Orange

Larry McDavid W6FUB

Just a note of history about Texas, 5 land.

When becoming a state they had to choose either metric or English measurements. They

chose English; no one wanted a "37.85411784 Liter cowboy hat".

Tom KD6HWD and Vicki KD6MCM Risher

December 2019 Holiday Meeting

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Black Bear Diner

1011 N. Harbor Boulevard
(corner of Harbor and Berkeley)

QSO time 6 PM

Dinner at 6:30 PM

You can select food from the regular menu and pay at the restaurant register

January 2020 Board and Club Meeting

Board meeting open to all Club members

Black Bear Restaurant

(1011 N. Harbor Boulevard, Fullerton)

January 15, 2019 – second Wednesday

Board meeting before the regular club meeting

QSO and dinner; 5:00 PM

Board Meeting: 5:30 PM

This should leave sufficient time to get to the regular club meeting

Move to the Chapman Activity Center

2515 San Carlos Drive, Fullerton

(Second street east of State College Blvd. off Commonwealth)

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.