



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

February 2020

February Meeting

Dave Gorin KB6BXD will be presenting a new ARES unit known as Orange County Hospital Emergency Amateur Team (OCHEART) that is being developed as an amateur radio backup communications system in support of critical Orange County medical facilities. Note that this is not a rejuvenation of the Hospital Disaster Support Communication System (HDSCS), but is a totally new group. Dave will be presenting information about the new group and will be looking for recruits.

See Dave's OCHEART recruitment appeal on [page 3](#).

DAVE GORIN KB6BXD

David Gorin, KB6BXD, was first licensed as a Novice in 1983 as a result of intense badgering by a good friend. He obtained his Technician Plus ticket in 1995 as a result of more intense badgering by the same good friend. However, being preoccupied with supporting five dependents, he never really got on the air until 2014 when he attended a presentation by April Moell of the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System and bought a Chinese HT. He upgraded to General class during a recent Field Day exercise.

A mighty shock came after four years of training with the Hospital Group when it abruptly disbanded. After a year of no visible hospital communications support by the amateur community in Orange County, David gathered fellow operators from Mission Viejo RACES-ARES and Laguna Niguel Auxiliary Communications Service have to form the "South Orange Hospital Emergency Amateur Radio Team" or "SOHEART", to support Mission Hospital with internal and external backup communications.

On October 1, 2019, David accepted the position of Emergency Coordinator for hospital communications support throughout the county and SOHEART became OCHEART, the Orange County Hospital Emergency Amateur Team. The mission of OCHEART is inspired by that of HDSCS, namely, is to provide backup internal and external communications for critical medical facilities in Orange County, California whenever normal communications are threatened or compromised.

As of today, there are twenty-nine communicators on the OCHEART roster, but at least twice that many will be required to provide a minimal communications network in times of disaster. With minimal fear of contradiction, it can be said that OCHEART communicators will be activated more often than communicators in any other Emergency Communications Group, and will be supporting some of the most critical infrastructure in the community.



Dave Gorin KB6BXD

February 2020 FRC MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Chapman Activity Center

2515 San Carlos Drive, Fullerton
(Second street east of State College Boulevard off
Commonwealth)

Meeting time – 7:00 PM

Visitors are always welcome

Dinner before the Meeting:

Black Bear Diner

5:00 PM

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

Board of Directors

President

Tom Gaccione WB2LRH
Email: tsgaccione@yahoo.com

Vice President

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Secretary

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Treasurer, Public Service, Membership

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Walter Clark
Phone: (714)-882-9647

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ
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Larry McDavid W6FUB
Phone: (714) 630-5672

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

Volunteers

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Joe Moell, K0OV
<http://www.homingin.com>
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Albert Solomon, AG6OF
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Newsletter Editor

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Phone: (714) 871-9478
E-mail: pbroden@sbcglobal.net

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.org

January Board Meeting Minutes

The January 2020 FRC Board meeting was called to order at 5:35 by President Tom Gaccione WB2LRH. Others present: Treasurer Gene Thorpe; KB6CMO; Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB. Members, Bob Houghton AD6QF, Paul Broden K6MHD; and Walter Clark. Visitor: Irene Broden.

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: Checking - \$3,876.42; Savings - \$2,608.30.

New Business:

Election results:

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

Larry McDavid W6FUB

Walter Clark

Robert Gimble KG6WTQ

Discussed changing the date of the Board meetings. The Board meetings will be the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Black Bear Diner; 5 pm for dinner; 5:30 pm for the meeting.

Bob Houghton suggested to have small events for the group.

Time to renew FRC memberships. Received 12 renewals for 2020.

Bob to renew club liability insurance; policy expires in March. Tom emailed information on club operating practices and deadlines for government filings to be printed and given to Gene to put in the SDB. Tom to file Federal and State tax forms online for 2019.

Paid \$51 for the renewal of the PO Box

February general meeting speaker TBD

April 25 Donate Life Run/Walk. Gene needs more radio ops.

May 2 and 3 Railroad Days

May 9 tentative date for ANTS in the Park

June 27 and 28 Field Day

Next board meeting: 12 Feb 2020

Adjourned at 6:40 pm

Submitted by Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

OCHEART APPEAL

It is often said that "Ham Radio Saves Lives". It would be more accurate to say "Amateur Radio Operators who are properly equipped and trained can save lives". Ham radio operators have a unique opportunity to support perhaps the most vital resource in any community: a hospital or other medical facility.

Here is the problem: All the sophisticated communications systems employed in the healthcare industry need backup. Imagine a disaster scenario where

- Landline service
- Cellular service
- Internet
- Power grid
- Satellite Phones

is/are overloaded or defunct.

The one communications system that can still function is amateur radio. Your amateur radio skills and equipment can fill the critical gaps that history tells us will inevitably exist in a widespread emergency.

A new ARES unit known as Orange County Hospital Emergency Radio Team, or OCHEART, has been formed to establish a backup communications system for critical Orange County medical facilities.

Besides the requirement for an Amateur Radio License, OCHEART communicators are expected to complete certain FEMA and ARRL courses, demonstrate understanding of the privacy and security provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), learn to operate appropriately in the hospital environment and maintain portable equipment for "Every Day Carry".

Yes, you can do it. With a minimal investment in equipment and proper training and practice you can be a critical part of protecting the lives of those in need of medical assistance during a major incident or countywide disaster.

Learn what you need to have, know and do to be a Hospital Communicator with OCHEART. Contact KB6BXD@OCHEART.net or call David Gorin at 714-742-4891 for more information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Q:** What if I am currently in a RACES group?
A: According to the ARRL, FEMA and the ARRL both recommend dual membership in RACES and ARES*.
- **Q:** What if the leadership in my RACES group expresses concern about possible conflict arising from dual membership in RACES and OCHEART?
A: You can assure them that there is no conflict. There may be occasions when OCHEART has been activated before any RACES activation. In such cases, a

communicator with dual membership will come under the jurisdiction of a government's Emergency Management Incident Commander once RACES is activated, who may direct that RACES/OCHEART hospital communicators remain at a medical facility or be deployed elsewhere in a RACES-specific role.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a healthy and happy holidays and a wonderful New Year!

As we enter 2020, I wanted to thank past President Larry McDavid and the FRC board for their work in overseeing the club and resolving a number of administrative issues. We still have one or two minor things to wrap up, but we've made tremendous progress in the last year. We will be documenting our work in the next few weeks so we don't lose the history on how the organization is set up, by-laws, taxes, and insurance.

Going forward this year, I'd like to see us work on the future of the club. Over the next five years, what do we want the club to look like?

First, I'd like input from anyone on ideas on how to grow the club membership. This is a hobby wide issue, and I'm wondering if anyone has new ideas on how to interest new people in the hobby. Perhaps additional outreach, events, or classes. We have a university and college nearby, yet we struggle with getting interest in the hobby. Please let us know what you think.

Secondly, I know Paul Broden and Bob Houghton struggle with getting articles for this newsletter and speakers for club presentations. If you have something of interest (not necessarily Amateur Radio) that you would like to write about or speak about, please contact Paul or Bob. Remember, it's OUR club, and it's only as interesting and fun as we make it. If there's anything you've ever wanted to learn about, the internet is at your fingertips! Then perhaps you could write about it or present at a meeting! Please participate!

In that vein, we will continue this year with Antennas in the Park and Field Day, both at Hillcrest Park in the spring and summer. They were very successful, and it would be great if the interest we had in each transferred into new membership.

PLEASE remember to renew your membership for 2020. Your \$20 goes towards the costs the club incurs each year: Postal Service charges, Club Insurance, gifts for the holiday dinner, and government fees that are required to keep the club incorporated. Send your check to Gene Thorpe at the club PO Box or follow this link <https://fullertonradioclub.org/application-renewal-form/>. Thank you!

73,

Tom, WB2LRH

Sparklecon Event

Over the weekend of January 25-26, Bob Houghton, Walter Clark and myself attended our local Maker Space Group's Annual Sparklecon Event. 23b, as the group is known, had demonstrations, talks, food, and items for sale at their facility near downtown Fullerton. Walter had set up a space for FRC and he demonstrated some of his microwave doppler devices, and Bob and I attempted to demonstrate amateur satellites. We've got a few bugs to work out on our satellite setup; but I think we'll be able to put things together for next year!

Tom Gaccione
WB2LRH

Here's a few photos from the Sparklecon event.



Fast Internet Access

For many years I used DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) for Internet access. Earthlink was my ISP (Internet Service Provider) and DSL was facilitated by AT&T. Problem was, I was 10,000 feet from the nearest AT&T Central Office and the fastest DSL download speed I could get was 1.5 Mbps (megabits per second). I suffered with that for years, hoping AT&T would provide fast fiber optic U-Verse service in my neighborhood, but that never happened. Finally, to get faster Internet access I subscribed to Spectrum cable for Internet access only; I did not get Spectrum TV. This has been a great success!

Spectrum provided free, quad-shield coax cable installation from the curbside Cable TV coax pull-box and provided a free cable modem (without router). Offered at 100 Mbps, I initially achieved 117 Mbps download speed and I was delighted; the service was reliable and the cost \$44.95/month. Spectrum does not require a contract and I could cancel this service without penalty, though I don't expect to do so.

About two months ago Spectrum announced a free upgrade to 200 Mbps Internet service. That happened for me shortly thereafter with no change in equipment or settings. Suddenly, I am now getting 235 Mbps download speed. Based on this experience, I heartily recommend Spectrum for fast Internet access.

However, I have a registered Internet domain name and I use a domain-name email address. To make that work requires a "Web Host" service, which originally Earthlink provided. Almost uniquely, Earthlink is both an ISP and a Web Host. Spectrum, however, is an ISP only and does not offer any Web Host functionality. To maintain my domain-name email, I needed another Web Host. I selected 50webs because my son uses them for his extensive business Internet presence. Like Earthlink, 50webs provides domain name registration and domain-name email redirection, supporting my domain-name email address. The migration from Earthlink to 50webs as web host happened overnight with no loss of data or emails. Note that using my domain-name email address I did not need to change my email address when I changed my ISP; that is a key feature of having a registered domain name for email.

I don't use any form of web mail, such as Google Mail; instead, I use a local email client, Thunderbird, and

download all my email to my own local computer. 50webs hosts this POP3 email service easily and performance has been excellent.

I live in Anaheim, where the telephone provider is AT&T. AT&T long ago made a corporate decision to *not* run fiber optic cable to individual residential homes. Some areas do have AT&T U-verse fiber optic cable to a neighborhood DSLAM (Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer), continuing to use the old POTS (Plain Old Telephone System) twisted copper wire pair from the DSLAM to homes. So, I had no hope of getting fiber optic service to my home in Anaheim. Spectrum coax cable to my home has solved my fast Internet access speed problem.

Verizon, unlike AT&T, does provide fiber optic to residential homes in cities where they are the telephone utility. My son in Chino has Verizon service and does have fiber optic cable into his home. But, his Internet download speed seems to be throttled by Verizon to about 70 Mbps; it could surely be faster using fiber optic feed. So, if you live in a city that has franchised Verizon for telephone, you likely can get fast Verizon Internet access. But, Verizon, like Spectrum, does not provide web host functionality so if you want to use domain-name email you will need another web hosting company.

I use SpeedTest.com to measure Internet access speed. I have my own Ethernet/WiFi router connected to the Spectrum cable modem. I even have SpeedTest as an Android app installed on my cell phone. Connected to Spectrum by WiFi from my router, my cell phone also reports 235 Mbps download speed.

So, if you are not satisfied with your Internet access speed and can get Spectrum cable service, consider that. You are unlikely to find any faster Internet access!

Larry McDavid W6FUB

Community Service

Put it on your calendar! The DonateLife run/walk event will take place on Saturday, April 25, and Gene KB6CMO will need LOTS of hams as support. It's fun event with positive outcome. Please keep the date for this event. You'll receive additional information later.

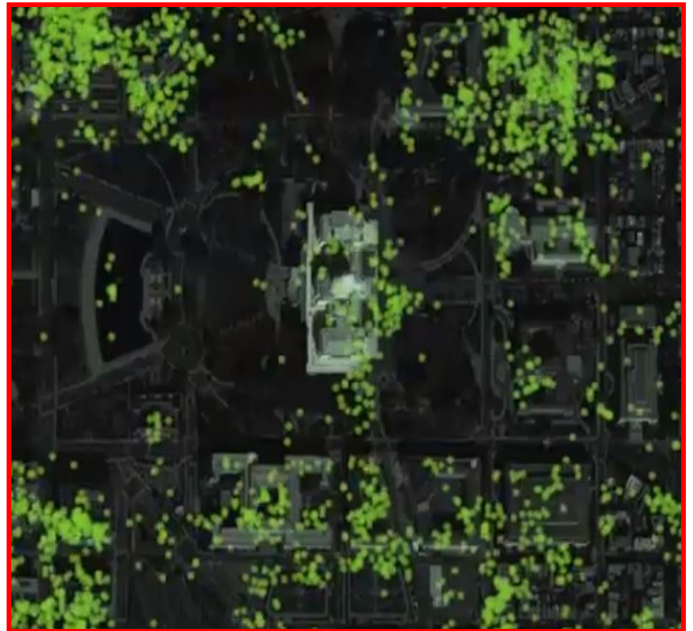
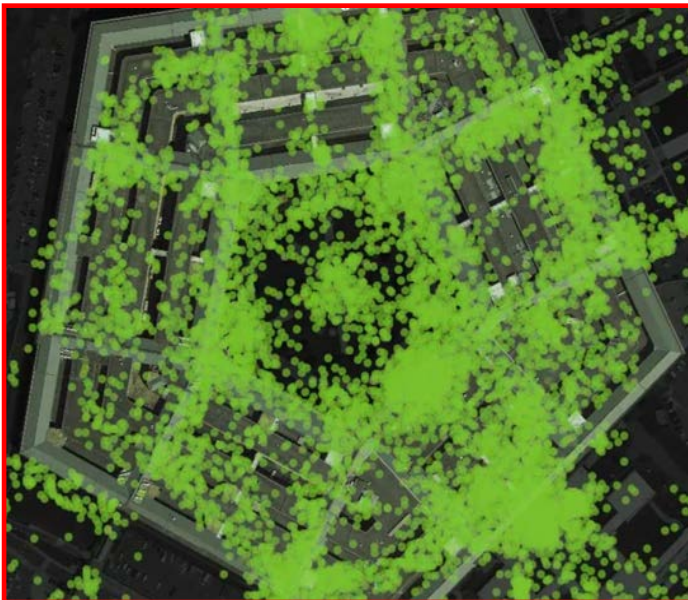
Does everyone know their Advertising ID?

The future of advertising lies in further analysis and understanding of what customers want and who they are. In recent years, a whole industry has sprung up of companies that collect tracking data from personal devices. The data is compiled and analyzed for ad agencies, retailers and whomever is willing to purchase it for directed advertising to phone subscribers. Most people have never heard of any of these companies (Foursquare, Inrix, Cuebiq, Tutela, Gimbal, Teemo, and others) and might not be aware of how this data is collected and could be used.

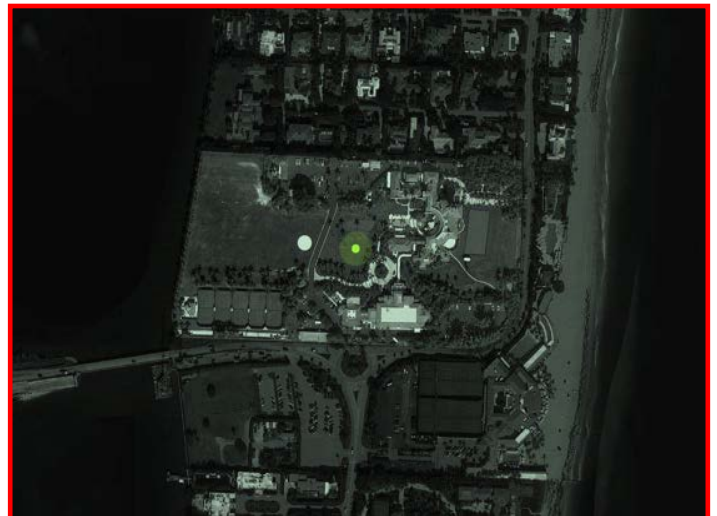
A recent New York Times Investigation into the Location Tracking Industry revealed a little bit about how it works. America's love affair with features offered in phone applications has led them to install millions of them on their personal devices. Software Development Kits in those apps and your personal Google settings can enable GPS tracking in your phone to ping your location in real time to the tracking company. And assign you an advertising ID.

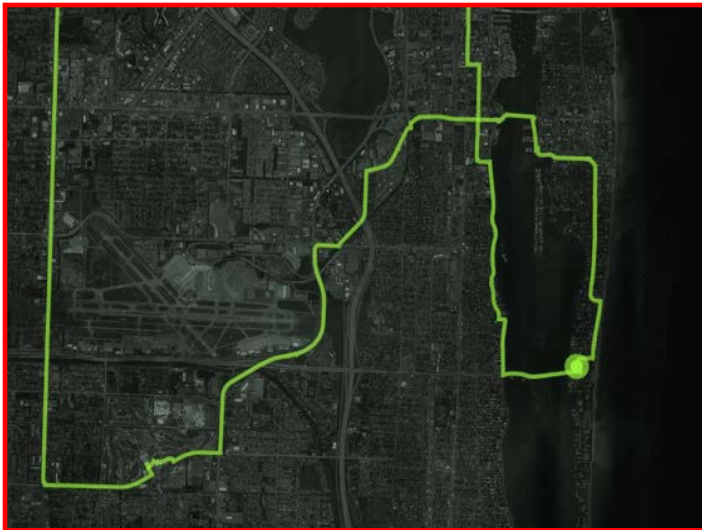
While the data is supposed to be randomized, it was not especially hard to isolate the data to a specific person. Recently, an anonymous employee of one of the data companies sent a file of data from several months in 2016 and 2017. 50 billion GPS pings from 12 million phones over three months were reviewed.

Here's a look at some random data sets; see if you can recognize the places in the photos.



From this data, you could isolate one phone and track it's owner to get a diary of the person's every movement. Again, see if you recognize the places in the photos.





And later that evening, the phone went home.

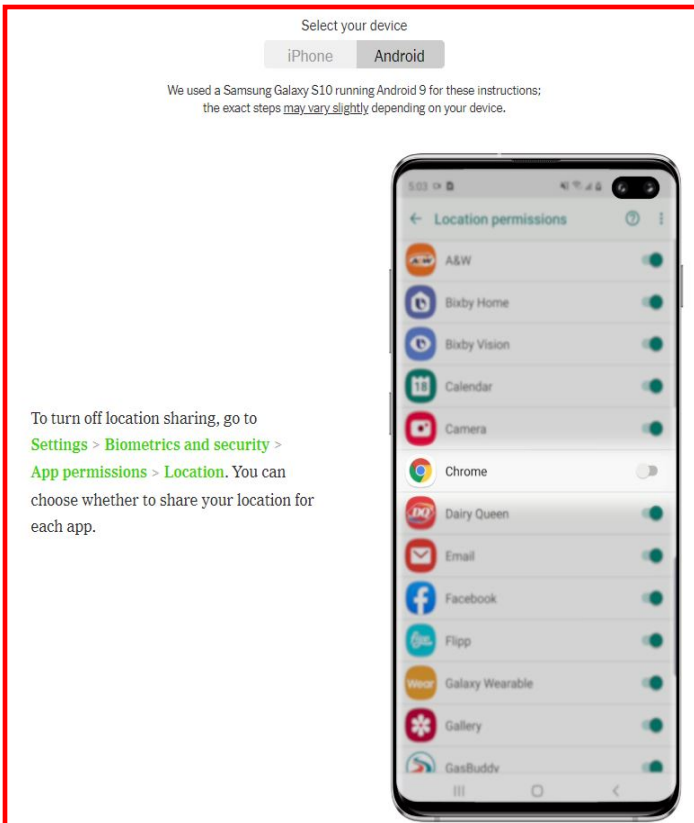
President Trump had a fundraiser at his Mar-a-Lago resort and several places around Palm Beach, FL that day...

It turns out, it wasn't him, but someone very close to him...

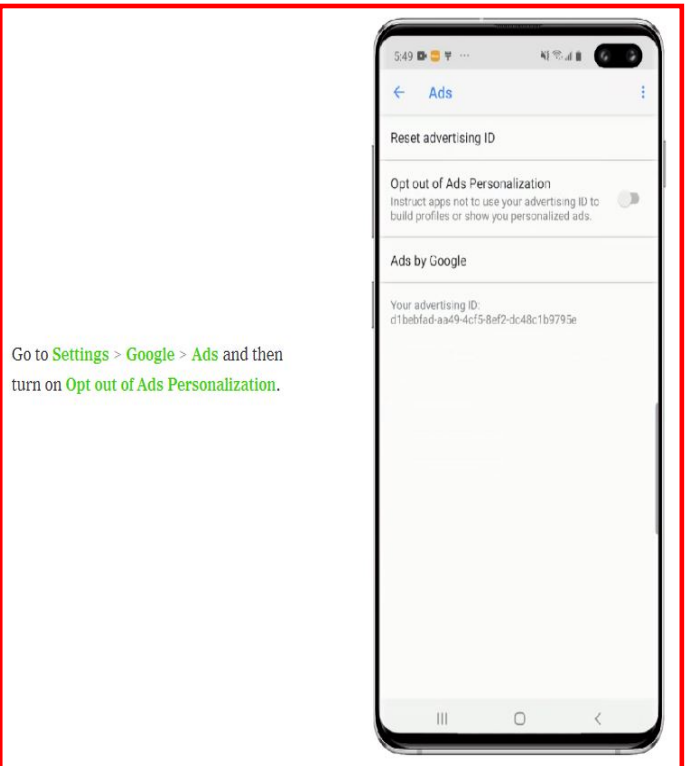
From this data, you could determine the Secret Service officer's home address and from that, personal and family information.

What to do?

Fortunately, there are a few settings you can adjust on your phone to limit some of this data collection:



To turn off location sharing, go to [Settings > Biometrics and security > App permissions > Location](#). You can choose whether to share your location for each app.



Go to [Settings > Google > Ads](#) and then turn on [Opt out of Ads Personalization](#).

Prevent Google from sharing your location: Go to your Google account and adjust the account's location activity controls. Turn off location sharing. And now, I guess I'd better stop going to those massage parlors. (That was a joke, everyone).

Tom WB2LRH

February Board Meeting

Open to all Club members

Black Bear Restaurant

(1011 N. Harbor Boulevard, Fullerton

Second Wednesday of each month)

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2019

QSO and dinner; 5:00 PM

Meeting: 5:30 PM

Yeah, we've changed the Board Meeting date, again. It's too difficult to complete business and get to the regular club meeting if we do it on the 3rd Wednesday, so we've moved it to the 2nd Wednesday. After the Board Meeting those that are interested can go to Walter Clark's home for the TAG meeting at 7:00 PM. You'll get this announcement from Walter.

Note; It's February already. Time for club membership renewal (or initial application). But it's more than just payment of annual club membership dues! It should be renewal or activation of your regular participation. Attendance at regular club meetings. Perhaps providing a subject for presentation, either yourself or by identifying someone who will do so. And, of course, special events. Antennas In The Park is coming soon, and Field Day will be upon us sooner than we expect.

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.