



# Smoke Signals

## Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

### October 2020

## Club Election

### It's Front Page now!

We're at that time of year again, and we really need to hear from YOU the club members. Elections! Not just those related to national, state, county, and city leadership, but **Our Club Leadership as well**. Club by-laws require that the club President appoint a nominating committee at the regular September club meeting (DONE). But the problem remains that no one has volunteered for the offices of President or Vice President as of today's date, and the nominating committee hasn't been able to identify anyone to fill either position nomination. We're at that impasse again without a nomination for club President or VP. Nominations may still be made during our Zoom October club meeting, and are subject to approval of the candidate. *And yes, you can nominate yourself*. Additional nominations may be made prior to the election at the November regular club meeting.

So why are we emphasizing this? *Because as a California Corporation we are required to have a President (or Chair of the Board)*. Our by-laws also call for a VP. The jobs aren't all that demanding, and won't take all that much time. All positions are open for candidates. How about YOU?

#### Current List of Candidates:

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| President:      | Open                 |
| Vice President: | Open                 |
| Secretary:      | Linda Endsley KJ6IHB |
| Treasurer:      | Gene Thorpe KB6CMO   |

#### Members at Large

Walter Clark  
Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ  
Larry McDavid W6FUB  
Paul Broden K6MHD

But remember, just because there is one candidate now doesn't mean that others can't be added to the list! Be prepared to add a name to the list (YOURS?).

## President's Message

Happy October Everyone! The FRC Board hopes everyone is staying safe!

While the virus has hampered club get togethers, remember, we still have a two meter net on Wednesday nights as well as a Zoom meeting. And if you have a technical interest, we have the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting on the second Wednesday also! We'd love to see and hear from you! If you are interested, VP Bob Houghton AD6QF can get you the details.

As 2021 approaches, our annual election for the leadership of the club is here. We would like to see new blood in the leadership roles of the club; it brings new ideas and interests to the membership. It takes little time each month, and the board is always a big help if you're new at it! Please consider becoming a club officer; remember it's YOUR club.

We're always looking for speakers to talk about things they are interested in, and it doesn't have to be amateur radio. Please let us know if there's anything you'd like to talk about. We'd like to see you at the Zoom meeting or on the two meter net!

PLEASE remember to renew your membership for 2021. 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

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

**Board of Directors**

**President**

Tom Gaccione WB2LRH  
Email: tsgaccione@yahoo.com

**Vice President**

Bob Houghton AD6QF  
Email: bobhoughton@mac.com

**Secretary**

Linda Endsley, KJ6IHB

**Treasurer, Public Service, Membership**

Gene Thorpe, KB6CMO  
E-mail: gtkb6cmo@juno.com

**Members At Large**

Richard Belansky, KG6UDD

Walter Clark

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ

Larry McDavid W6FUB

Paul Broden, K6MHD

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**Volunteers**

**T-Hunt**

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

**W6ULI License Trustee**

Albert Solomon, AG6OF  
E-mail: albertsolomon18@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor**

Paul Broden, K6MHD  
E-mail: pbroden@sbcglobal.net

**Entertainment**

Listen to a little "CQ Serenade". Something cute for you "hamsters" from Tom Risher KD6HWD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MgOyWW5uG8>

**BOARD MEETING**

***The next Club Board meeting will be on  
November 11 and will be conducted  
using Zoom video conferencing  
platform.***

***5:40 PM***

***Members are welcome.***

**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)**

**October Board Meeting Minutes**

The October2020 FRC Board meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm by President Tom Gaccione WB2LRH via Zoom (Coronavirus). Others present: Vice President Bob Houghton AD6QF; Treasurer Gene Thorpe; KB6CMO; Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB, Paul Broden K6MHD; Larry McDavid W6FUB, Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report:

Checking - \$3,980.42; \$Savings - \$2,608.56

**Old Business:**

Two new members added. 33 paid and 3 life members. Total 31 members, 3 life members.

Tax and corp fillings status: Gaccione report – As of 10-12-2020, we are still not a tax exempt entity. The FTB website says it may take up to 4 months to process, and that we will get a grant letter if we're approved. We submitted the application at the end of November 2019.

**New Business:**

Election 2020 suggested to seek officers for 2021; do nominations in October, and elections in November. Need candidates for the election. Tom will continue to support the government agencies (forms that need to be submitted).

Next board meeting: 11 November 2020

Adjourned at 7:20 pm

Submitted by Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

**TAG Activity Report**  
**(Technical Advisory Group) of the Fullerton Radio Club**  
**for October 2020**



At the left are most of the guys for the October TAG Zoom meeting. The theme for the evening was “atomic clocks” under \$100. Larry, Dennis and other hams own the real thing “atomic” clocks which they use as frequency standards. But I’m talking about so called atomic clocks for the house which are really ULF receivers of signals from Colorado; WWVB.

Larry McDavid is the real expert and did most of the explaining. Your reporter here... Walter Clark took his laptop on a tour of his house. First showing what looks like a ham shack, but better described as a man cave. He then showed his remodeled kitchen which features a new corner window which make the view of his back yard appear to be 180 degrees. He then showed his clocks that are actually ULF receivers. The location of the clock under the TV screen (see picture below and to the right) is ideal for the way he uses a clock. But behind it is the chimney. Although brick is somewhat transparent to radio waves, Larry suggested that the rebar in the chimney blocks the signal. The other so-called atomic clock is in the window and communicates with the mother ship every night. It is the reference. My “blind” clock uses its own crystal that is fast by 3 seconds a day. Every few days I have to move the small LED clock to the window and leave it sit overnight.



This is really unacceptable. There is a new digital protocol (binary phase shift keying) being sent out from Colorado that according to Larry would have no problem getting to a clock under the TV screen. But alas, the only clock/receiver available at this time is a 14” diameter round dial clock. . . <https://www.lacrossetechnology.com/products/404-1235ua-ss> I’m hoping they



someday make this “ultraAtomic” clock available in 2” high numbers clock for under the TV screen.

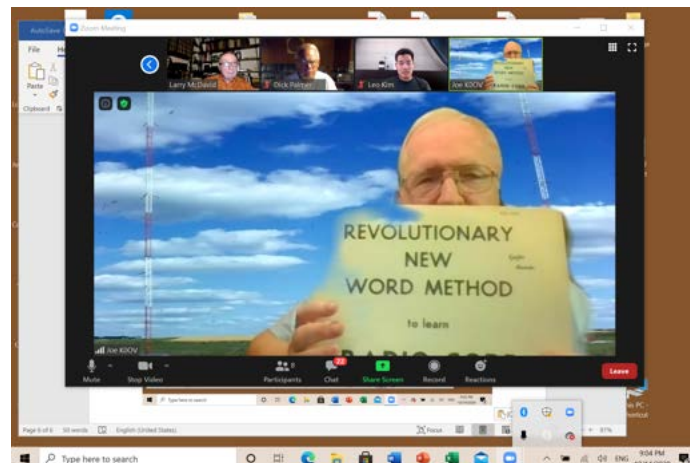
**Larry McDavid** shared with us his work bench area and the frequency reference at the very bottom. He showed us how he compares clocks with different source: WWVB vs. GPS time standard.



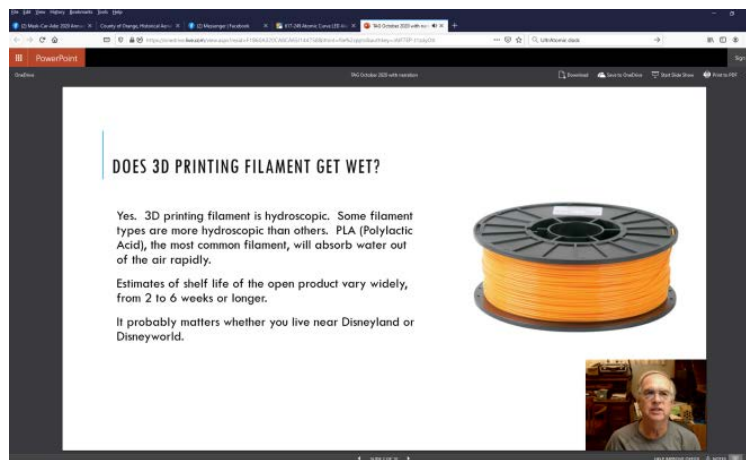
**Bill Preston** and Larry shared their history of medical problems and the equipment used. But as you can see here, Bill has us all beat with his oxygen therapy suit. This is for the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase cure for his prostate cancer. This is after chemo and radiation. We were all pleased to hear that it is in complete remission.



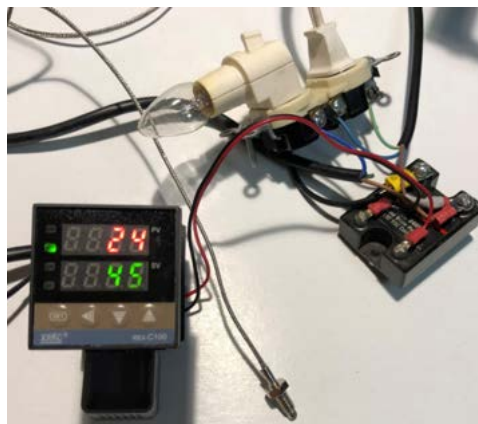
**Joe Moell** shared with us something of a collectors item in the form of an original “Revolutionary New Word Method” of learning Morse Code. This method, invented by Russ Farnsworth has each letter sent quickly but the space between letter spread out for the beginner. Presumably whole words can be sent quickly with long space in between for beginners.



**Bill Webb** gave a 5 minute presentation on a problem that seems to plague the entire 3D print world; the plastic filaments absorbing water right out of the air and making the produce have blisters.



His solution was a drying oven made out of a Styrofoam box and temperature controller.



When Bill came to the last slide of his presentation his screen saver was apparent. This was before he relinquished the Zoom screen to the next person who speaks. It was of Death Valley.

He remarked on how beautiful, interesting and cheap a vacation there is. This led to a long discussion on Scotty's Castle and other places to go to there.



**Dick Palmer** has two silent key friends whose stuff he's helping get rid of. The two lists will be disseminated to the TAG invitation list.



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# October FRC Meeting

The October Club meeting will again be presented by video teleconference using Zoom. Members will receive Zoom connection information by our [Groups.io](https://groups.io).

**Meeting date: October 21 2020;**

**On ZOOM!**

**8:00 PM**

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## FRC Wednesday Net:

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We're conducting a 2-meter net on Wednesday evenings. All members, prospective members and friends are welcome. Raytheon repeater, 7:30 PM: 146.970 (-) PL 136.5. This is followed by a chat session on Zoom at 8:00PM. Members will have the Zoom code, but we don't publish it openly to prevent unwanted interruptions.

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## TAG MEETING

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meets each second Wednesday at 8:00 PM by Zoom, until such time as safe small group meetings are acceptable. We don't publish the Zoom log-in number or password to prevent unwanted interference, but you can receive this information by contacting Walter Clark (TAG meeting host) by email or phone.

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## 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.**