



Smoke Signals

Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

January 2023

PREZSEZ: CHANGE

You often hear that the only thing constant is change. There certainly has been a lot of change around us! I find myself returning as club president, at least partly in absentia as I continue to support my other club and society interests. Fortunately, Bob Houghton AD6QF has agreed to continue to support our increasing club Zoom activities. And Zoom continues to be a change for FRC.

Remember when we met only once a month in an inconvenient location with poor acoustics and dangerous nighttime access? Zoom meetings, managed by Bob, have been so successful for us that we now meet every Wednesday evening and often have more members and visitors attending than we had in-person at regular meetings!

These weekly meetings have allowed us more opportunity for show-and-tell and have led to increased participation in POTA, discussions of low-height antennas, visits to parks and now, "WinterHeat." I could use some winter heat.

I could also use some sun! My home solar system will produce in January its lowest output in seven years. Rain! Gosh, I've had over 4.7 inches in the flatlands of Anaheim in January. Reservoirs to our east are so full they now must dump water into the Santa Ana River faster than the percolating basin inflatable boom dams can divert it into storage. Sadly, rain water is again headed to the Pacific. I just read that almost all of California is now out of "Extreme Drought" and statewide reservoir storage is at 81% of average; we still have drought conditions but rain has brought a big improvement. This is certainly a welcome change.

I started a minor home bathroom remodel and that has certainly led to a change for me! Predicted to be complete in three weeks, now eight weeks later it is almost done! What about those water-saving toilets? My new one is astonishingly effective, fast and quiet! Who would have believed those sales promises? Some serious engineering and testing went into that development!

What will this new year bring us? You can bet there will be more changes to come.

Remember FRC membership renewals are due in January. If you have not renewed yet, please use the form in this newsletter and do so.

Larry W6FUB

FRC Members participate in WINTERHEAT

Fullerton Radio Club members have been warming up the local airwaves by participating in WINTERHEAT, a VHF/UHF FM simplex communications event. WINTERHEAT is a month-long amateur radio event conducted annually in the month of January to help promote simplex FM amateur radio on the VHF and UHF bands.

Although WINTERHEAT started in Illinois as a regional emergency communications exercise, it is growing into a nationwide event. This event operates on pre-determined frequencies in the 6 m, 2 m, 1.25 m, 70 cm, and 33 cm bands and uses an over-the-web QSO tracking database that displays event totals in real time as the event progresses. It's fun, but also good emergency preparation to practice communication with other club members with without the use of repeaters. We often talk about amateur radio saving the day when all the cell towers go down during a disaster, but what isn't as often discussed is that the majority of repeaters are likely to be off the air during an extended power outage.

Although the event started on January 1, FRC members started participating last week. The operators who have been active so far are AD6QF, K0OV, KB6A, WB6JDH, and WB6WUW. Also registered so far are WB6OZZ and friend of the club K6MBL.

To help facilitate contacts, AD6QF started by operating from the highest parking lot at Hillcrest Park. As of this writing, we have completed about forty contacts.

If you would like to join us, you can sign-up at hamactive.com. We meet daily at 1 pm, starting on 147.57 MHz. If you are undecided about participating, why not at least listen for us?

If you'd like more information about the event or would like some help getting started, send me an email at AD6QF@arrl.net.

73, Bob

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

Board of Directors

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Vice President

Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ
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Secretary

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Treasurer, Public Service, Membership

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

Members At Large

Walter Clark
Bob Houghton AD6QF
Bart Pulverman WB6WUW

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: Pbroden53@gmail.com

***February 2023 FRC BOARD
MEETING***

The next Club Board meeting will be on

February 1, 2023

*Due to decisions made by the Board we will
continue to hold the meeting by Zoom at the
usual Zoom ID and passcode.*

Meeting time: 5:30 PM

All 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

January Board Meeting Minutes

The January 2023 Board meeting was called to order on January 4 by Zoom at 5:30 PM by President Larry McDavid W6FUB. Additional members present were Vice President Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ, Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD, Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO, Board Members Bob Houghton AD6QF, Walter Clark and Bart Pulverman WB6WUW.

Minutes from the December 2022 Board Meetings were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report: US Bank checking account balance: \$6,720.39 as of 1/4/23.

Membership records for 2023 show 24 paid renewals and 1 life member as of 1/4/23. No new members are reported.

No club activities are currently scheduled. TAG meetings will resume in the spring.

- Potential for additional club fieldtrips was discussed.
- The Winterheat Amateur Radio Simples Event was discussed as a potential activity.
- Larry suggested the review of Power Lineman videos as presented on YouTube. He will provide a link.

The club continues to search for ideas whereby articles and authors for Smoke Signals can be identified.

Old Business

- Strategy for a backup process to continue our Zoom meeting sessions when Bob is traveling was discussed.
- Shared duties was also discussed to provide assistance to Larry as new club president when he is unable to attend the regular scheduled meeting.

New Business

- Walter Clark made a motion that the club treasury should reimburse Bob Houghton for the use of his personal Zoom account for club activities, with a payment of \leq \$15 per month. Paul Broden seconded the motion which passed in a vote.

There was no additional business.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Submitted by Secretary Paul Broden K6MHD

Cleaning out the shack and roof. Now available in Fullerton:

Near-new Diamond F-718A 440 MHz base station antenna with fiberglass radome.

4-element full-size 6-meter yagi with delta match and coax balun

PC Electronics TVC 1.2 GHz ATV receiving downconverter system with 12-element yagi antenna

Call Joe Moell K0OV
(657) 286-5125

January 2023 FRC Regular Club Meeting

The January club meeting will be held on Wednesday, **January 18, at 7:00 PM**, on Zoom at the usual address and passcode. If you need this connection information, please contact one of the Board members who will provide the information.

Remember, club membership renewals for this year are due now. Please use the form below for renewal or new member application.

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: _____

ARRL Member ☐ Yes ☐ No

Dues are \$20 per member, or \$25 per family. Students (full time) \$10

Mail to the above address.