



# Smoke Signals

## Newsletter of Fullerton Radio Club

### May 2021

#### President's Column - May 2021

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After returning from a one year hiatus, members of the Fullerton Radio Club and friends had an enjoyable day at Hillcrest Park in Fullerton for our (usually) annual Antennas in the Park. After obtaining permission from the City of Fullerton, we were able to secure use of the Izaak Walton League Cabin. Gene and Cheryl Thorpe helped to supervise the facilities. Joe Moell and Marvin Johnston set up an ARDF course which attracted about a dozen participants. April Moell procured the traditional foxhunting cake. Larry McDavid picked up muffins and Starbucks coffee. Dick Palmer, William Phinzy, and Tom Hall brought HF rigs and operated "park portable." Not only was it fun to meet everyone in person, it felt like our first step in returning back to normal.

Bob AD6QF

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#### Foxhunting Follow-up

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Thanks to everyone who came out to Hillcrest Park to hunt for the hidden transmitters on May 8. If you had a good time, there will be more opportunities this summer. If you would like to travel and maybe win some medals in this sport, consider the USA ARDF Championships, which are scheduled for October in North

Carolina. Also the World ARDF Championships were scheduled for Serbia in September, but that is still in doubt at press time due to the COVID situation, which is much worse in many countries compared to the USA.

Course times and photos of the Hillcrest Park hunt are posted at [www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com), along with news of upcoming hunts.

73,  
Joe Moell K0OV

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

**Next Club Meeting date:  
May 19 2021;  
On ZOOM! - 8:00 PM**

**This month we'll be having an informal discussion, targeting, among other subjects, anything you've been doing at your ham shack.**

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

**Board of Directors**

**President**

Bob Houghton AD6QF  
Email: bobhoughton@mac.com

**Vice President**

Paul Broden, K6MHD  
E-mail: Pbroden53@gmail.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

Tom Gaccione, WB2LRH

Robert Gimbel, KG6WTQ

Larry McDavid W6FUB

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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  
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**Newsletter Editor**

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**June FRC BOARD  
MEETING**

***The next Club Board meeting  
will be on June 9, 2021 and will  
be conducted using Zoom video  
conferencing platform.***

**5:40 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](http://www.FullertonRadioClub.org)**

**May 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**

The May 2021 FRC Board meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm by Bob Houghton AD6QF via Zoom (Coronavirus). Others present: Vice President Paul Broden K6MHD, Treasurer Gene Thorpe KB6CMO; Secretary Linda Endsley KJ6IHB, Larry McDavid W6FUB; Robert Gimbel KG6WTQ and Walter Clark.

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report:

Checking - \$4,118.52; \$Savings - \$2,608.74. As of 5/12/21.  
(\$212.90 reimburse Bob; \$42.80 reimburse Larry)

New deposits: \$80 (3 renewals, 1 new member)

43 paid members, and 2 life members) as of 05/12/21

New expenses: \$255.70

Old Business:

Antennas in the Park was a success.

New Business:

Upcoming Programs Report

Field Days will be June 25 and 26.

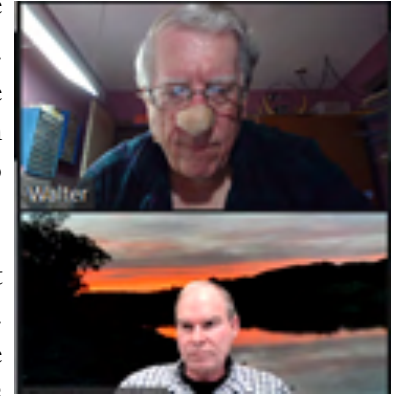
Next board meeting: 9 June 2021

Adjourned at 6:15 pm

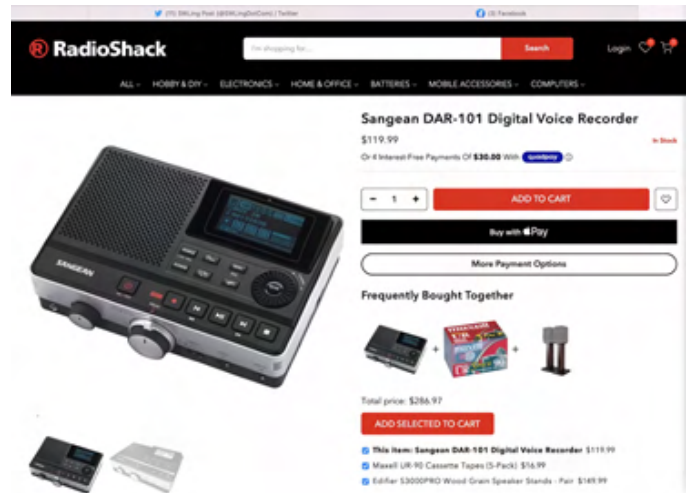
Submitted by Linda Endsley KJ6IHB

## TAG Activity Report for May 2021

Before the screen is full of people there's a kind of pre-meeting discussion. The most obvious and somewhat disturbing thing to talk about was Walter's nose. (Walter is your reporter for the TAG Activity Report.) His nose had a large bandage covering Mohs surgery to remove basal cell carcinoma. Several of us on the Zoom meeting are of northern European descent, so there was about a 5 minute discussion on how the Mohs surgery was done.



The evening's activity discussion started with our president **Bob Houghton**. What he shared with us is the fact that RadioShack is back, but this time only mail order. But still with the familiar slightly higher prices than eBay or Amazon. The discussion was about the products they are now featuring. Bob shared this example; an audio recorder that is big enough to resemble a cassette deck but no, it records on flash drives or directly into your computer. There was a bit of humor in the catalog description here in that "Frequently Bought Together" included blank cassette tapes which this thing can't record on. Remember the name "Maxell"? Here's that section of the ad a little bigger. Either customers are unbelievably stupid, or more likely "Frequently Bought Together" is blatant lie.

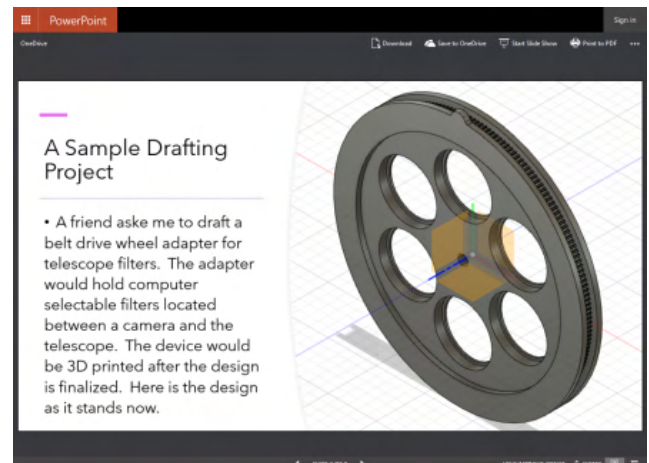


### Frequently Bought Together



**Bill Webb** has yet another 3D-Printer project. This one for an eyepiece turret for a large aperture telescope. Below is a link to his entire presentation. Don't miss the animation on slide 4. He also answered our questions about adapting a 3D-Printer for 2-D laser cutting of sheet balsa and 3-D carving using a router head.

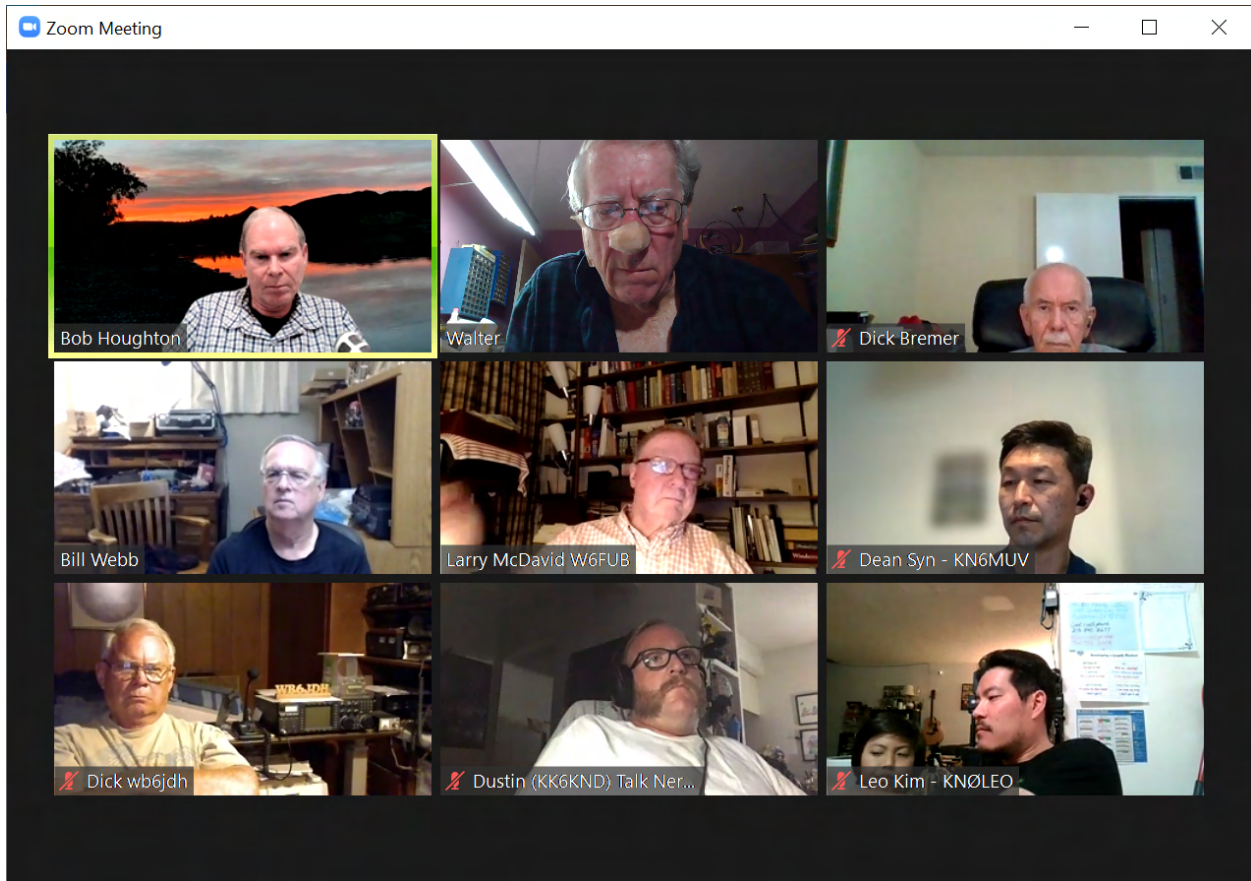
<https://1drv.ms/p/s!AmXKqAwyCrbxiYMJa-on5pQfs5Ngw?e=zN0Bmi>



**Leo Kim**'s project for the month was to get his ham shack back up and running. The various radios and power supplies were stored away or covered while he was working on the plumbing throughout the house.

That led to a discussion (mostly between Leo, Bob and Larry) about PEX. Polyethylene Cross Linked pipe. We learned from Larry that the X (cross linked) turns a cheap and rather weak plastic into something that can replace steel or copper for all plumbing, not just drains. Leo said that cross-linked polyethylene is also used for ultra-light ballistic panels/plates (armor) used by the military. Back to the subject of plumbing, Leo pointed out that not just the material of plumbing is new, but the style is new. Instead of a circuit of pipes, the trend now is a central place with a manifold where pipes radiate out from there.

Usually his daughters share the camera on these zoom meetings. Not this day. The latest with them, is that his 7-yr-old daughter is working on her ham license and Leo is hoping she gets before the higher FCC fee kicks in.



**The TAG meeting attendees**



**Walter Clark** had his latest plane to share. It is one of his smallest. It is called a Discuss Launched Glider. This link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mjHZR-e18I>

is to a short video of a much better built plane and a much younger flyer. Wednesday morning I flung it about 20 times with no bad landings. I caught half of those where that was the purpose of the fling. From the highest point of the throw, I dived down to pick up speed for a loop. I did two, but only just barely. In the hobby of model airplanes, it is only 3-phase electric motors, LiPo batteries and spread spectrum that's new. That when it comes to flight, nothing's new in model airplanes, except maybe Discuss Launching. That is only 20 years old. I then talked about the technology of 80 year old "indoor free flight"

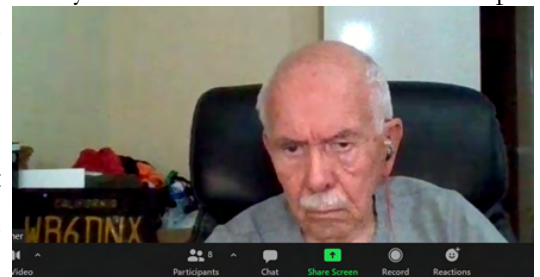


**Dick Palmer** took it from there to share his "own" indoor free flight experience; rubber band powered microfilm airplanes as they are called. He describe how the lightest balsa is shaved to a few thousandths of an inch thick and then wrapped around a steel wire until the dope (that is the glue for such light airplanes) dries. It is pulled away from the wire form to become the fuselage. The wing skin was made of a drop of dope that is allowed to form as a film on water; a film of only a few molecules thick. He flew his plane at the Cow Palace in San Francisco with flight times of more than 20 minutes on 36,000 turns on the rubber band. Perhaps the most amazing thing about microfilm airplanes is both the wing and the fuselage are braced with wire so thin you can't see it. So thin that corrosion is of more concern than strength or lightness. It is a nickel-chrome alloy.



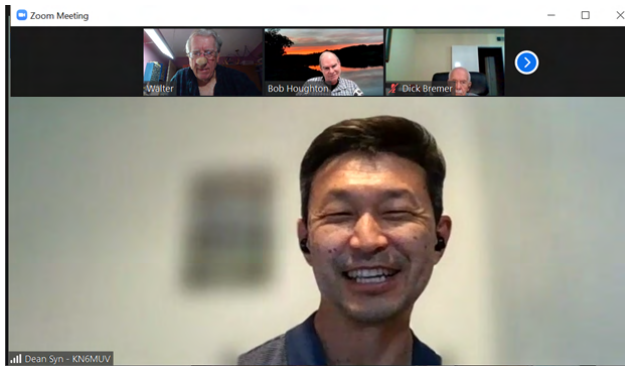
That led to a discussion on surface area to mass ratio and how aluminum is anodized and why. That discussion was led by **Larry McDavid**. Larry also told us about sources of water in Anaheim and his experience with contaminants in his own supply and how he filters it in his kitchen. 1.3 million gallons a day is filtered from waste water in a plant in Fountain Valley. That is sent upstream to allow it to re-enter the aquifer that Anaheim wells sink into.

**Dick Bremer** gave his presentation in silence. We couldn't get him to turn off his mute. We were making hand gestures I guess, he couldn't understand or see. He certainly couldn't hear us. Maybe he thought we were motioning our approval.



**Dustin Rachuy** was on board and was also silent, but in his case it was by choice. In ham radio talk he's SWLing. So I guess he was ZLing, or zoomelling or something. Rumor has it that he's studying 2D-laser engraving.

Since **Dean Syn** is new to us, I asked questions to write something of a biography for the newsletter. Right now



he's busy helping the wife with gardening. He says it is nice having that which you can eat growing right in your own back yard. Leo Kim introduced him to Fullerton Radio Club and perhaps was his inspiration to ham radio itself. He said he's always been something of a nerd and a talker, which is why his wife, Helen, said it is such a fitting hobby for him to get into.

His wife majored in psychology as an undergrad, but her work currently is in the area of public health. Two of his three sons are in college and majoring in creative writing and psychology.

Those two boys and his wife have a lot to talk to each other about. He is rather hoping his youngest son, will major in the hard sciences so Dean himself has someone to talk to.

Dean's last name is pronounced Shin but spelled Syn. Dean is a chemical engineer and works for a company that makes essential products for the refinery industry. That's how he was able to get his vaccine so early on.

On the subject to ham radio, Dean talked about his two antennas. The first is a dual band copper J-pole on his roof. (You've all seen J-Poles so; picture not shown.) The peak of the antenna sits just shy of 28 feet off the ground. With it he has been able to participate in the Red Eye Net that uses the Keller Peak repeater, 61 miles away. The second is a G5RV antenna, but instead of setting it up as an inverted V, he bent it so that it follows the contour of his roof. (picture to the right) The peak of the antenna is about 21 feet off the ground. He is trying to figure out the best way to raise it higher yet. This second antenna is connected to a Kenwood TS-440S and a MFJ-949E tuner on which he has been able to receive signals on 80 and 40 meters, but has yet to confirm with a QSL card.



### FRC Wednesday Net:

**Reminder: We're continuing to conduct 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.**

### 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

**Bring your application and dues payment to the next meeting or mail to the above address.**