



range Bytes

Volume 48 No 10

October 6, 2024

\$1.50

NOCCC meetings for Sunday October 6, 2024

MAIN MEETING

Some interesting videos on using Claude AI
in your everyday life.
And a TBA or 2

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Main Meeting Schedule

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Beginners Digital Photography**Science 131**

Questions and Answers about Digital Photography

Linux for Desktop Users.....**Science 129**

Beginners' Questions about Linux

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Noon

3D Printing**Science 127**

Questions and Answers about 3D printing

Advanced Digital Photography...**Science 131**

Questions and Answers about Digital Photography

Linux Administration**Science 129**

More topics about the Linux operating system

Mobile Computing**Science 109**

We discuss smart phones, tablets, laptops, operating systems and computer related news. **Waiting for a new leader.**

12:00 PM Noon – 1:00 PM

3D Printing..... **Science 127**

Questions and Answers about 3D printing if requested.

PIG SIG **Irvine Courtyard**

Bring your lunch. Consume it in the open-air benches in front of the Irvine Hall or join the group that goes to the student cafeteria. Talk about your computer(s) and life experiences.

1:00 – 3:00 PM Main Meeting

There a large number of ways that you can benefit from the various FREE AI programs that are available online. Online search is an area that can save a lot of time. While it is true that in a lot of cases, if you enter a long enough, detailed enough, Google search criteria, you might get a similar result. It seems like the AI can infer the gist of your search request without requiring the specific details. PLUS, the results of your request are displayed as apposed to a bunch of URLs to go to. And that is only one area AI can be helpful!

BOD.....3-4PM..... Science 129

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Board Meeting.....
Science 129

Verify your membership renewal information by checking your address label on the last page. If it is not right, let the treasurer know.

Mark your calendars for these meeting dates

2024: Oct 6, Nov Dec 3,

2025: Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2 Apr 6, May 4.

Coffee, cookies and donuts are available during the day in room 129 .

“Friends Helping Friends” since April 1976

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Special email addresses

Jim Sanders is: editor@noccc.org

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Our Website

WWW.NOCCC.ORG

Reminder: Membership expiration dates are based on the date that you joined the club. **Example**, you joined or re-upped your membership in the club in October of 2023. That means that in October 2024 you should pay your membership dues. In the address label area of the Orange Bytes is your join month/expiration month.

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Editor's Report

As the capabilities of various AI programs that I can access for FREE have increased, I find the responses both interesting and impressive. Sometimes they are even entertaining.

The following is a case in point. As it happens, I own and like a Bionair brand of electric room heater. I like enough that when I couldn't find a new one locally or online, I bought a second one on Ebay that was used They contain a microcontroller that allows them to have several easy to use options displayed on a digital screen. But after 1-2 years of use, dust builds up on the squirrel cage fan and ceramic heater. That requires taking them apart to clean and oil the motor bushings. While I was pretty sure they were no longer in business, I didn't know why. So I asked Google: Did the Bionair electric heater company go out of business? **The response:**Showing results for [did the Bionaire electric heater company go out of business](#) Search instead for [did the Bionair electric heater company go out of business](#) . Note the changed spelling of the name which is a company that makes air filters. The second link goes to an Ebay

site selling a used heater. As the reply was not useful, I decided to ask Google's Gemini AI to see if it might be more informative.

So I signed into my Google Gemini account and asked:

What happened to the Bionair electric heater company?

The Bionair brand continues to be active in the market. While there might have been some changes in ownership or distribution over the years, the company's electric heaters remain popular and widely available. You can find them at various retailers, including online marketplaces and home improvement stores.

If you have specific questions about a particular Bionair product or need customer support, you can check the company's website or contact their customer service directly.

How can I ask specific questions about a particular Bionair product or need customer support, when the company's website is for sale?

Finding Bionair Customer Support Even if the Website is For Sale

Here are a few alternative methods to reach Bionair customer support:

1. Check the Product Manual or Packaging: Many products have a customer service phone number or email address printed on the packaging or in the included manual.
2. Retailer Contact Information: If you purchased the Bionair product from a specific retailer (like Amazon, Walmart, or Best Buy), their customer service department might be able to assist you. They may have a relationship with Bionair or can provide you with contact information.
3. Online Forums or Communities: Search for online forums or communities dedicated to home appliances or heating and cooling. People who have purchased Bionair products might be able to share their experiences and provide contact information.
4. Social Media: Look for Bionair's official social media profiles (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). You can try reaching out to them through direct messaging or public comments.

Reverse Phone Lookup: If you have a phone number associated with Bionair (from a previous interaction or the product manual), you can use a reverse phone lookup service to try to find more information about the company or its customer service department.

By using these methods, you should be able to find a way to contact Bionair's customer support and get the assistance you need.

Why did you suggest "If you have specific questions about a particular Bionair product or need customer support, you can check the company's website or contact their customer service directly" when you should have known the website is for sale, implying the company is out of business?

You're absolutely right. My previous response was incorrect. If the website is indeed for sale, it's a strong indication that the company may be transitioning or discontinuing operations.

I apologize for the oversight. Thank you for catching my error. Would you like me to try providing more accurate information based on the assumption that Bionair is potentially out of business? Perhaps I can suggest alternative brands or retailers that may carry similar products.

Yes, please do that.

Finding Similar Products to Bionair

If Bionair is no longer operational, here are some popular brands and retailers to explore for similar electric heaters:

Popular Brands:

- Lasko: Known for their variety of electric heaters, including ceramic, fan, and radiant models.
- Honeywell: Offers a range of heating solutions, including space heaters and portable heaters.

- Dyson: Known for their innovative designs, Dyson also produces electric heaters with advanced technology.

Comfort Zone: Provides affordable and reliable electric heating options. Retailers:

- Amazon: A vast online marketplace with a wide selection of electric heaters from various brands.

- Walmart: Has both online and in-store options for electric heaters.

- Home Depot: A popular home improvement store with a variety of heating and cooling products.

Best Buy: Carries a range of electronics, including space heaters.

When looking for a replacement, consider these factors:

- Heating Type: Choose between ceramic, fan, or radiant heating based on your preferences and needs.

- Power: Check the wattage to ensure it's suitable for your space.

- Safety Features: Look for features like automatic shut-off and tip-over protection.

Noise Level: If noise is a concern, opt for quieter models.

By exploring these brands and retailers, you should be able to find a suitable electric heater to replace your Bionair product.

So I asked again: What happened to the Bionair electric heater company?

Bionaire is still a very active company. They primarily focus on air purifiers, but they also offer a range of other home comfort products, including humidifiers and dehumidifiers. While they might not be as well-known for their electric heaters as they were in the past, they continue to be a significant player in the home appliance market.

Obviously Google Gemini doesn't remember what it learns.

A LITTLE HUMOR

A New York attorney representing a wealthy art collector called his client and said to him, "Saul, I have some good news and I have some bad news."

The art collector replied, "I've had an awful day; let's hear the good news first."

The attorney said, "Well, I met with your wife today, and she informed me that she invested \$5,000 in two pictures that she thinks will bring a minimum of \$15-20 million. I think she could be right."

Saul replied enthusiastically, "Well done! My wife is a brilliant businesswoman! You've just made my day. Now I know I can handle the bad news. What is it?"

The attorney replied, "The pictures are of you with your secretary."

Four men are in the hospital waiting room because their wives are having babies. A nurse goes up to the first guy and says, "Congratulations! You're the father of twins."

"That's odd," answers the man. "I work for the Minnesota Twins!"

A nurse says to the second guy, "Congratulations! You're the father of triplets!"

"That's weird," answers the second man. "I work for the 3M company!"

A nurse tells the third man, "Congratulations! You're the father of quadruplets!"

"That's strange," he answers. "I work for the Four Seasons hotel!"

The last man is groaning and banging his head against the wall. "What's wrong?", the others ask.

"I work for 7 Up!"

North Orange County Computer Club

**Dr. Donald Armstrong
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To All Members:

The line above your mailing address now shows your joindate. Please use your join **month** to choose when to renew your membership.

Dated Material – Please deliver ASAP

Membership Level (\$)	1 Year	3 Years
Individual Member	35	90
Each Additional Family Member	15	40
Full-Time* Enrolled College Student	20	
Enrolled High School Student	15	
*Minimum 12 Semester Hours		
Business Member + Ad (Business Card)	25	
Business Member + Ad (¼ Page, ½ Page)	65,	100
Business Member + Ad (Full Page)	175	
Contributing Member	75	
Supporting Member	100	
Advocate Member	250	
Patron Member	500	

Directions to the NOCCC meeting location



Enter CA-55 N (Costa Mesa Freeway) crossing Interstate 5 toward Anaheim/Riverside for 9 miles. *Notice freeway and street signs stating "Chapman University."* Exit toward E Chapman Ave. Turn right onto N Tustin St. Turn left onto E Walnut Ave.

1) Turn left past N. Center St. for the **best place to park** in the underground parking structure (Lastinger under the sports field). Pay the small fee (\$2) to park Ask members or help@noccc.org about parking details, restrictions, and our price break!

2) Turn left onto N Center St. On the right is the Hashinger Science Center, 346 N Center St. Orange California. Parking on the University side is free. Parking on the residential side is a city violation that may cost you a **tow away and a ticket!**