



GOAT NOTES SEPTEMBER 2019



THE END OF SUMMER

Here we are almost the end of summer. Where does the time go- not like when you're a kid and summer lasted forever. It was a hot one and well, we do live in a desert environment. So this month we will take some time to go over one of the mandates of our club and that is emergency preparedness. Don't worry nothing too crazy, just some common sense information and ideas you all probably know just a friendly reminder to stay in the game when the "BIG ONE" hits.

Ken KC6WOK and Kathi KD6CAF participated in the National Night out at Covina Heritage park on August 7th. National Night Out is an annual community building event that promotes Police and Community partnerships and

neighborhood camaraderie. Ken and Kathi manned the Covina CERT team booth and promoted the newly re-formed group to the community. If you want more information on this group please drop me an e-mail (newtvic@gmail.com) and I will try and point you in the right direction.

This month we had our monthly meeting and were fortunate to have, as our first guest speaker. Bob Brehm AK6R. Bob is the chief engineer at Palomar Engineers. (<https://palomar-engineers.com/>) Othur thanks to Scott KG6ABF for arranging this valuable resource for us.

This Month's SPOTLIGHT is our new Treasurer Jack KM6UNQ. Jack was chosen for his ability to organize the club's new financial future and will keep tabs on all such important duties, plus Jack can actually spell treasurer, unlike your humble correspondent. Good luck on your new post Jack and now the rest of the club can read what a friendly and humorous person you are.

As of this writing I am on my way to Utah for my granddaughter's FIRST birthday. I will hope to make a Ham Radio meeting while I am there. I will report back on that next Month.

OK GOATS- let's get to it shall we ?

OUR SPOTLIGHT



In 1959, when I was nine, my family moved to an oil lease that was on the central coast of California. It was 5 miles from the nearest town which had a rousing population of 500 people including the surrounding farms. There were five houses on the lease and as it turns out, the Company electrician who lived next door was a ham. I still remember his call sign was WA6UWO. I used to watch and listen, and pester him for hours. He's the person who I credit for my interest in amateur radio. I even bought a 33 1/3 phonograph record that was made to teach Morse code. Since my family only lived there for a few years and due to Morse code requirement back then I wasn't able to pursue a License.

Coincidentally, nearly 60 years later, in March 2018, my next door neighbor mentioned that he was thinking about getting a ham license so he could communicate with friends when they were off-roaring. I explained that I had wanted to be licensed for a long time and we agreed to study together. The time

was short because the question pool was changing on June 30th, 2018. We took the exam on that day. Both of us passed and became Technicians. I was finally a Ham at age 68. Now what? All I knew was enough to be dangerous.

Fortunately, one of the Volunteer Examiners had set copies of a flyer for the Tri-County Amateur Radio Association on one of the tables. Two weeks later I was at my first club meeting, without a radio and with a bag full of questions. I didn't even have a radio. This was me at the time.

I was anxiously waiting to meet other Hams. Luckily I met my first "Elmer's" even though they didn't realize it at the time. Mark Arlotti KM6AHY and James Jannsen W6FRQ.

Since that time I have had numerous Eimers. Every Ham that I have met in the last year and a half has been more than willing to help me with my equipment or mentor me in some way. There are a few that I want to also recognize,

Ken and Kathi Mixon, Russel Hamilton, and Jim Kesterson who have fostered the advancement my knowledge and interest in Amateur radio.

Over the last year I have upgraded my License from Technician to General and I'm studying for my Amateur Extra ticket. I now have four Radios: Two Handhelds, a mobile unit for my car, and a HF all band base radio. I belong to three Ham Clubs; K6PIN repeater club, Get On The Air Hams and TriCounty Amateur Radio Association, all of which have different areas of focus and activity. Sometimes all of this makes me a little crazy but I am having fun and learning something new everyday. I may even try to learn Morse Code. And, believe it or not, I've been able to Elmer other folks that are new to the hobby. That's what keeps me going. This is me now. I'm dreaming of new equipment and new experimental projects that I don't know if I'll ever finish.

As I continue my Journey, I hope that I am not going to be the harbinger of a variety of mischief and malicious RF.

Jack it has been my pleasure to count you not only as one of my Elmers, but as a good friend. Thanks for all you do for our club and may this journey of yours continue for many years to come.

When Nature Calls

The recent earthquakes in Southern California were some of the most powerful in two decades, according to the folks at the U.S. Geological Survey. The quake was devastating to the area closest to the epicenter, Ridgecrest and Trona, California.

This brings us to a topic, I am sure that all of you have already thought and planned for. This is just another, as if you needed one, of the reasons to stay prepared

My daughter just returned from a trip to see her new niece in Utah. On the way home she stopped by to see Bryce Canyon National Park. She is always prepared for just about any circumstance and emergency. She took a hike late in the evening and it was getting dark on the trail. No problem she had her backpack of goodies and deployed her flashlight. Well no light- the battery was dead. She had done an equipment check several months ago but did not check her flashlight prior to her trip. Being the well prepared person, she had a back up light which worked like a champ.

When she came home and told me this story we had a good laugh, but then I did an equipment check. Well I found several dead batteries, expired medical gear, the fuel in my generator was foul and the 35 year old Coleman generator has pretty much seen the end of its service life and I had not rotated my water supply in awhile.

The estimate of the Los Angeles Emergency Command is that when the “Big One” hits, it may take five days before any outside help could respond. That may be an optimistic estimate, but the point being that we must stay prepared. One of the goals of our club is to be able to lend a hand to our communities by the fact that we can communicate in times of those emergencies.

Take some time to check them batteries, learn about solar to recharge batteries or to run stations. Check fuel supplies and if you have outgrown the needs of your emergency generator.

Have a meet location if you become separated from your family or group. Have an outside area contact, like another State, where notifications can be made.

Have an old fashioned AM radio to listen to any information that may be available. Have a list of the local repeaters programmed into your HT or base station.

This is only a quick review. There are many in the club with extensive experience in this field. If there is more interest, we can go into other areas of this subject- just let me know. 73 and Stay Prepared- Vic KM6RWB

Our Last Meeting

Our monthly meetings are getting bigger and bigger. There were some new folks who I did not get a chance to chat with, and I only had time to greet James W6FRQ and Scott KG6ABF. I sat next to KathiKD6CAF and Grace KM6LJL.

The guest speaker was Bob AK6R. Bob is a pretty big deal in the Ham Radio community and is also the owner and Chief Engineer at Palomar Engineers (<https://palomar-engineers.com>). Bob shared his vast knowledge of ferrite filters and their different applications. Not only did we learn that these filters have different uses but they have different chemical mixes, that have different properties. Bob explained that you have to know how the ferrite “beads” are mixed in order to make the maximum use of them.

Bob had a Q and A session and gave out Ferrite rings as prizes. It was a great presentation. Bob then advised the club that his company will have a 10% discount on the items his company makes by logging on to his website and putting in the code “GOTAHAMS”, and if you missed the presentation the contents will also be on the website. Thanks Bob.

Kathi said she has some photo books that can be had for a donation to the club- remember this is a fundraiser and there is a limited supply of books.

Jack gave us our clubs FIRST Treasurers report and laid out the various levels of club membership.

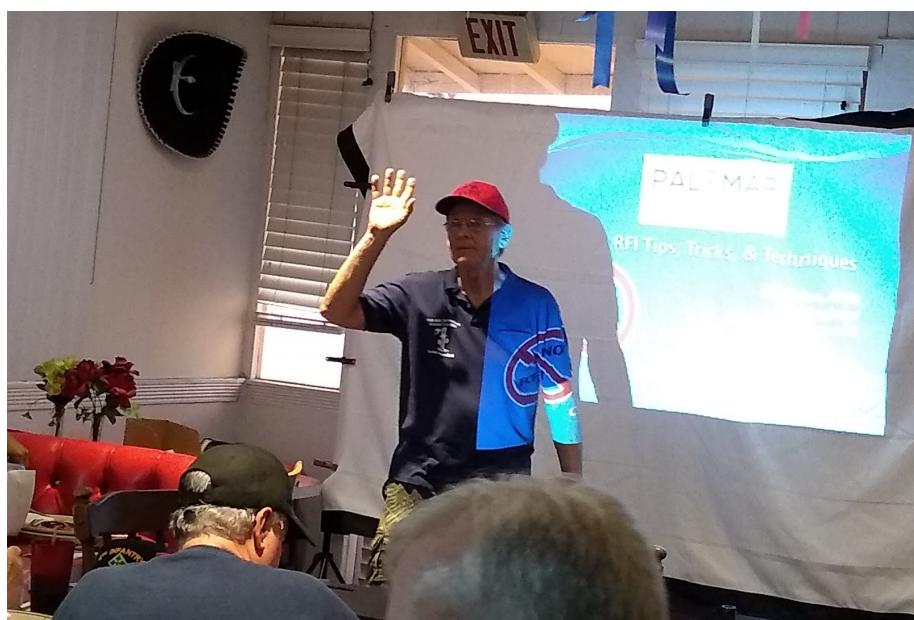
Ken gave a brief overview of the solar power on the GOTAHOME that we used at this past Field Day and when we do our Saturday in the park radio days.



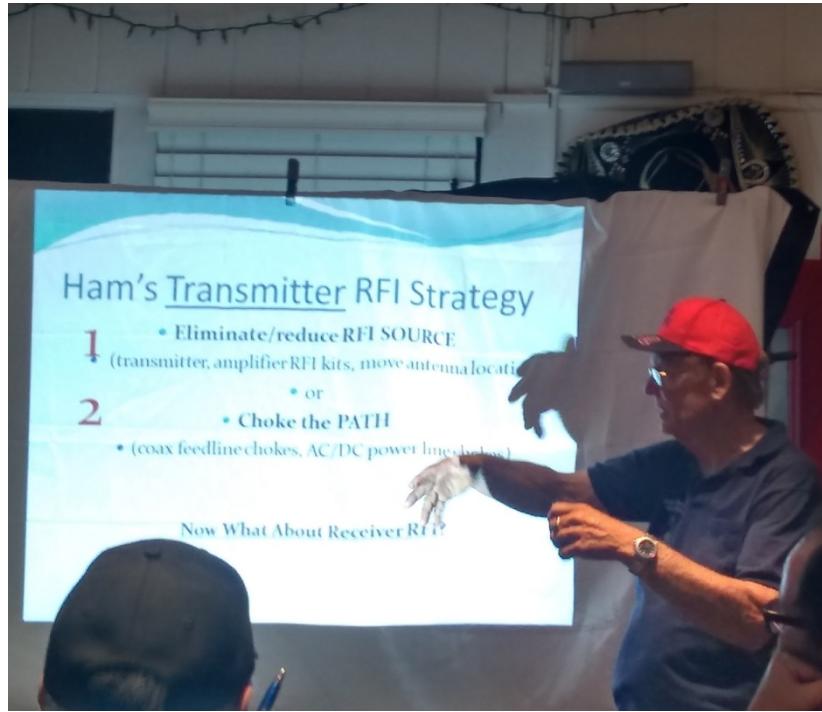
Ken gets the meeting started



Jack gives his report and Scott introduces our guest



Bob greets the Goats



The presentation was fantastic, thanks Bob



It's official- the Goats now fill the room- Nice.



Dinner and a Show- What could be better



After the meeting- it was time to socialize

We also discussed that some of the Goats have began monitoring, on an occasional fashion, an open repeater in the area where we have made a couple of QSO's, so something to keep in mind. The repeater, WA6FZH can be found at 446.400 tone 103.5

Lionel Lizard L6ZRD

by Kathi Mixon KDCAF

Lionel Lizard lives in the mountain foothills among the evergreen trees and silver tasseled scrub bushes. He makes his home in an old shack with a telegraph key sending out Morse Code messages.



On a hot summer day Lionel was tapping out his message, CQ CQ CQ This is L6ZRD Lionel QSL?

He started to noticed strange static, crackling, and buzzing noise coming from his little telegraph speaker.

Lionel wandered outside in the sunshine spying Buttercup the Butterfly and Seemore Blue Jay enjoying the fresh air.



Unable to speak Lionel looked at his antenna connections with the help of his friends.

They tried to figure out the reason for the Radio Frequency Interference.

A message was sent to Lionel from Bob Brehm AK6R, Palomar Engineers.

He suggested the static, crackling and buzzing noise could be minimized or eliminated by placing

split bead ferrite filters over wires and cables.

Lionel thought it was a great idea so he ordered the ferrite filters through the mail.

A few days later he was outside with his friends and saw Seemore BlueJay carrying a bag.

They installed the filters on wires and cables so Lionel could go back to tapping out his message.



CQ CQ CQ this is L6ZRD Lionel QSL?

The End

OK folks that's it for this month - 73 to everyone and STAY RADIO ACTIVE.

