



April 2019

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# GOTA HAMS NEWS

*"Become Radio Active"*



Welcome

This is our first Newsletter of our new club. News and items of interest will follow and we are glad you have joined us- So let's get to it.

## A Club is born

### The Beginning of an New Adventure

There are times when your surroundings and circumstances are no longer a good fit, it is time for a change of view is warranted. It's like leaving home for the first time- kind of scary but mostly a sense that a great adventure and new opportunities are out there, and these things can't be found in your own back yard.

They always say the grass isn't greener next door- but maybe a few blocks over it just may well be- and you don't know if you don't go.

Which brings us to mid March 2019. We had been discussing leaving our old club because of internal strife and disagreement on the direction the club as going. We felt that there was maybe a better way, well the better way was to form a new club with new ideas and leadership. If ham radio has taught us anything it has taught us that there are more was to achieve propagation than the same old dipole.

With that spirit we decided that just going to a meeting once a month was good, but working the radio, seeing how it all comes together and learning "hands on" would be better. The ability to go out and put to practice what is learned in print and videos would be an exciting endeavor.

So we got together, formed a board, established a preliminary mission statement and began to establish by-laws. The building blocks of our new club was set in place. The name of the new club would be, hereafter know as, GOTA hams- GOTA as in Get On The Air and hams- well you get the idea. We applied to ARRL and received a club radio license KN6AQW.

Also in the same month, we set up an active web site to allow future potential members a place where current info, articles and events would be posted. You can find us here at <https://gotahams.com/>

This is a great start to a great adventure, This is by no means a rebellion, an overthrow of the old club or open gang warfare- there is no loyalty demand or blood initiation, just a way for friends to stay "Radio Active", have fun and learn more about our hobby. ARRL even encourages operators to join more than one club as a way to experience the full range of our hobby. So stop by , say hello and let the adventure begin.

## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

We will try and spotlight one our members or person's of interest to our club. This month the spotlight is on our Vice President, **Mark Arlitti KM6AHY**.

**Name and age** - Mark Arlotti, 48 years old

**Type of ticket** - Amateur Extra

**Call Sign- if a vanity call sign what it means** – KM6AHY no vanity

**General Home base / Hometown if different** – La Verne, CA

**Family** - My wife Vilma and one son, Joseph

**Other hobbies** – Where to begin? I like to do a lot of off road 4 wheeling in my old 1988 Toyota 4x4 pickup. My wife and I enjoy backcountry camping in areas far off the grid where all you have is what you bring, aka dry camping. This led us to join another ARRL affiliated club called Land Ops. They excel in off road driving, navigation, remote camping and amateur radio communications. What's not to love?

I also enjoy going out shooting with family and friends out in the desert or at local ranges. Being a machinist by trade, I do a lot of my own gunsmithing.

Around the house I like to play my guitars, read books and watch movies and hockey games. GO KINGS GO!

**Short summary of how and when you got into ham radio.** – A few years back in 2016, my wife and I decided to get into prepping. We meet a friend, Bob Kemp KG6JSS who encouraged us to get our amateur license and so I did. From there, the more I learned about the hobby, the more I wanted to grow in it. Amateur radio just seem to fit in well with everything else I was into.

**Any other info you think would be of interest to the club** – I don't know if it's interesting to the club or not, but here are a few other thing that I am or was into.....Scuba diving, snow skiing, photography, mountain bike riding and drinking assorted craft beers.

Here is Mark and his wife Vilma, who happens to be our club Hospitality person.



Mark and Vilma

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Lionel The Lizard  
By Kathi Mixon KD6CAF



Lionel is an alligator lizard who lives among the evergreen trees and silk tasseled scrub bushes.

He made a cozy home in an abandoned railroad telegraph shack.

On the wall hung an old picture of Samuel Morse and a weathered copy of the Morse Code.

Outside his window stood an old deserted railroad car.





One day he decided to go exploring and climbed onto the big blue car.

Lionel met two new friends, a kangaroo rat and gopher snake.

They were very nice. He invited them to his house to practice Morse Code by using his telegraph key.

He told them his vanity call sign was L6ZRD and he uses his Morse Code key to talk to the world using dits and dahs.

CQ CQ CQ... this is L6ZRD Lionel QSL?



The End.

