



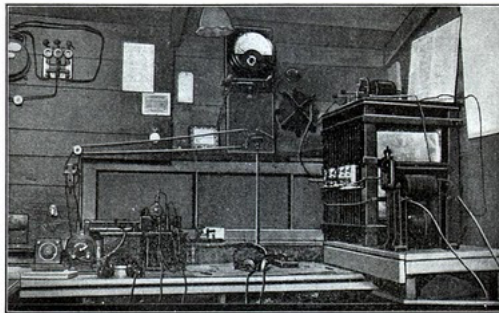
Goat Notes October 2021



Yaesu Releases new FTM6000



Yaesu has a new mobile dual band mobile added to their product line. Details can be found on the Yaesu website. [Here](#) Wish it had APRS. Looks nice and sleek, hopefully they receive the FCC approval on it that is pending.



FRONTISPIECE.—An Amateur's Set Heard Over a 500-Mile Range. I. K. W. Station Built by Mr. Ralph Batcher, at Toledo, Iowa, with the Assistance of the 1916 Edition of this Book.

World War I

By 1917, World War I had put a stop to amateur radio. In the United States, Congress ordered all amateur radio operators to cease operation and even dismantle their equipment. These restrictions were lifted after World War I ended, and the amateur radio service restarted on October 1, 1919.



BOTA, SOTA, POTA, IOTA

Like Summits on the Air (SOTA), there is also a trend called Boats on the Air (BOTA), Parks on the Air (POTA)

How It Works:

Boats on the Air (BOTA) was created to combine two passions: boating and ham radio!

<https://www.boatsontheair.com/>

This program is in its early stages and will continue to develop over time. Join us to activate any floating object on any body of water. In addition to being a fun activity, it is hoped that BOTA will further emergency preparedness and experimentation with amateur radio. Participate by activating or chasing!

Following in the footsteps of successful activation platforms such as:

Summits on the Air ([SOTA](https://www.sota.org.uk/)) <https://www.sota.org.uk/>

Islands on the Air ([IOTA](https://www.iota-world.org/)) <https://www.iota-world.org/>

Parks on the Air ([POTA](https://parksontheair.com/)) <https://parksontheair.com/>

Gotaham, Dave W6OOD brought his Buddi Hex to Radio in the Park on October 9. We tried it out with an Icom IC 7300 & Yaesu 991A radio

POTA contacts made:

Gotaham members Jack, KM6UNQ and Dave, W6OOD contacted activated parks. K9JOY, Park# K2827; KB9VBR, Park# K4533; W0KEH, Park# K-1770; K7GU, Park#



K3074; KN4COE, Park# K1261;

KO4LWH, Park# 2930; K0DVP, Park# K0831

Dave W6OOD setting up his Buddi Hex Antenna & making POTA contacts

Jack KM6UNQ makes POTA contacts at Radio in the Park while Ken KC6WOK attends Zoom at 11am with TCARA Tri-County Amateur Radio Association



KE6LKV did some simplex communication from a place called “white mountain” a few weeks ago. Had a wonderful view of the high desert from the top. At 7,676 feet you can really hear some traffic out there. Was also able to hit the 147.210 Repeater and hear everyone crystal clear. Here are the GPS coordinates of the location. [Here](#)



****W6TRW Swap Meets are always on the last Saturday of every month.
Time: 7:00 AM to 11:30 AM.**

<https://w6trw.com/w6trw-amateur-radio-club-swap-meet/>

This month it will be held on October 30th, 2021.





****C.A.R.S. Swap Meet; Granite Creek Community Church, 1580 N. Claremont Blvd. Claremont,**

If you have time stop by visit the Gotahams booth
They are always looking for members/guests to lend a helping hand if you have the time.



Information and photo taken from the ARRL website

There are two School Club Roundups during each school year in October and February. Each 5-day event runs Monday through Friday from 1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday. A station may operate no more than 6 hours in a 24-hour period, and a maximum of 24 hours of the 107-hour event.

October Session: Third full school week of October, **October 18-22, 2021**

February Session: Second full school week of February, **February 14-18, 2022**

All amateur bands except 60, 30, 17 and 12 meters are permitted.

Repeaters are not to be used. Only recognized simplex frequencies may be used. U. S. A. examples include 144.90-145.00; 146.49, .55, 58; and 147.42, .45, .48, .51, .54 and .57 MHz. The national calling frequency, 146.52 MHz, may not be used. Similar restrictions apply in other countries.

Suggested HF Frequencies:

Phone (MHz): 1.855-1.865; 3.850-3.880; 7.225-7.255; 14.250-14.280; 21.300-21.330; 28.440-28.460

CW (MHz): 1.800-1.810; 3.530-3.540; 7.030-7.040; 14.030-14.040; 21.130-21.140; 28.130-28.140

More information can be found @ <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>



Gotahome Great Plains Adventure

With an RV full of our daughter and grandchildren's possessions, Kathi, KD6CAF and Ken, KC6WOK along with Gwen Ball Python and Penny Hamster set off for a 2000-mile trip across the United States of America.



Our destination was Mahomet, Illinois,

which is 56 miles away from
WB9Z & NV9L QTH and super
shack

Ham Nation's Val, NV9L and her husband, Jerry, WB9Z



Leaving California, paying nearly \$5 for a gallon of gas, with a vehicle that gets 10 miles per gallon, we hoped to see lower fuel prices outside of the California border. Traveling a northern route, we entered Nevada and was greeted by lower gas prices at Terrible's Casino, Stateline. With a full tank of gas, Gotahome roamed northward through the corner of Arizona to heading toward Utah, land of majestic rocks, colorful plateaus, long narrow canyons, and fertile farmlands. A quick stop for fuel in Beaver Utah, Kathi was caught off-guard when a station attendant washed and dried Gotahome's windshield.

It had accumulated bug corpses from California, Nevada, and Arizona.

The price of fuel was around \$3 dollars. We decided on a route across the center of the Great Plains which appeared to be the shorter route and traveled across Utah through the dark of night hoping to find a place to rest until morning.

Fortunately, we found Ivie Rest Picnic Area located off Interstate 70.



Next to the 18-wheel trucks, on a windy night we fell asleep listening to beautiful harmonics through a giant wind chime.

One of the many advantages of traveling

“self-contained” is our food and lodging traveled with us. The next morning, we woke up surrounded by big rigs which had squeezed tightly together to sleep satisfying the requirements of their logbooks.



With an early start, we headed into Colorado and learned it was full of elevation changes as we drove through eastern Utah and western Colorado and had arrived ready to take on the Colorado Rockies, or so we thought.



The mountain range greeted us with more than hills. Although the Rockies had incredible scenery, the past fires led to devastating mud and rockslides which damaged roads and stopped traffic. Workers were in all stages of road repair and reconstruction. Kathi had taken on the driving duties but spent many hours sitting in single lane traffic jams among stopped trucks.

We listened to drivers talk about what was happening down the road.

This allowed extra time to take in nature's artwork of the Rockies.

The Colorado Rockies located on the eastern side of Colorado not only had high elevations, but there were also large holes in the highway needing continual road repairs.

After passing Vail, Colorado we drove to eastern Colorado heading toward Nebraska and the midwestern plains of America.

Our self-induced timeline to Illinois was three-days.

With Kathi still at the wheel we continued down the road toward the Nebraska border. An hour from our target stop at Big Springs, Nebraska we suddenly heard a loud BOOM, Slap, Slap, Slap the familiar sound (to Ken) of a tire blowout. Kathi was caught by surprise. She slams on the brakes, but oops, we are still in the lane! I tell her (well, yell at her) move over to the side of the road! She pulls slowly across the fog line into the shoulder. Now looking back down the road the tire carcass (Alligator) is halfway across the right lane with drivers having to avoid it! Kathi grabs a set of gloves, heads



down the road on foot to clear the tire remnant from the lane while I try to assess the damage and figure out if we can limp this vehicle off the highway to a safe location.

Tire out of the road, Kathi back in our RV, fortunately we were at the Sedgewick, Colorado offramp.

Unfortunately, the facilities included a long-abandoned Gas/Service station, active but closed gas station pumps and a small café that was closing.



The good news was there was a large gravel parking area. We removed the items including our spare tire from the rear basement storage area of Gotahome. We had forgotten to pack our daughters two floor jacks which, right now, would have come in handy.

With nothing else in our RV to raise the backend, we thought, maybe we should call someone for help. Thinking quickly, I called Love's Truck Stop because they advertised 24-hour tire service. I explained the situation, they asked "What is the tire size?" I answered, 225-75R16. They responded, "we do not work on size 16, only size 17.5 and above". I explained that I have a spare and simply need a jack, still "We cannot help you". Really?

It occurred to me, I have AAA, Auto Club with premier including RV service. We said, "Let's call them". My AAA contact number is in California., I explained I was in Colorado, so they transferred me to the Denver office. I told the operator the situation we were in but as soon as I said right rear inside dual tire, they told me AAA does not change "Dual Wheels". They will change the front but not the rear. Really? Why the hell am I paying extra for RV coverage?

Instead of giving up, I do some quick research on my smart phone and realized all the tire shops are closed. I found a 24-hour wrecker service, advertising towing/recovery but the closest shop was 26 miles away. I thought they would surely respond.

A quick call verified that there would be someone there in 20 minutes. I thought, how could they do that from 26 miles away? Within 6 minutes a shiny red flatbed wrecker was sitting next to us. Apparently, the operator of the flatbed named Zach lives just a few miles up the road in a small town of 108 people. He drives the wrecker home for just this type of call. In under 20 minutes he changed the ripped tire and we had it resting in RV tire storage compartment of Gotahome. When we went to his truck to pay the charges we noticed on the side of his truck, wouldn't you know, it had an AAA logo.



We told Zach we had called AAA and was told they do not change dual wheels. He was not surprised, but frustrated they were turning away his future customers.

Once again, we were on our way and heading to Big Springs, Nebraska. We found a comfortable parking spot at a local truck stop to spend the night. When we woke most of the trucks had already gotten back on the road. After we moved Gotahome to a secure location, we decided to have breakfast at Max's Highway Diner and found a tire shop in North Platte, Nebraska called, Nebraska Land Tire and Service. We decided to put all new tires on the back of the RV and, of course, dealing with all these tires pushed our timeline back by half a day.



Nebraska is a big state and it seemed most of the I-80 is being repaved, so we were slowed to 55mph much of the time instead of the 80mph speed limit (no we don't do 80 in a RV but the big rigs DO).

It turns out that every state has different rules for their rest stops. Before we stopped for the night we checked BoonDocker's Bible

<https://www.boondockersbible.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/state-by-state-summary-of-rest-area-rules.pdf>

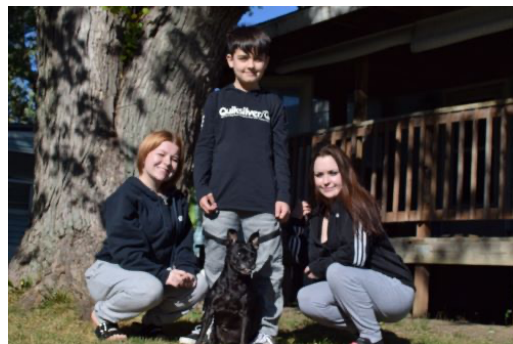
Gotahome used the Plattsmouth Bridge to cross over the Missouri River traveling from Nebraska to Iowa.

Since we were taking advantage of rest stops along our route, we stopped near Iowa City at a rest stop which was under repair.

The facility was closed to car traffic, and it was taped off with yellow caution tape but since we didn't want to take space away from the big trucks, we pulled over next to the construction tape and went to sleep. Early in the morning we drove away from the rest area and set our sights on our destination, Mahomet, Illinois.

When we arrived, we were greeted by our grandchildren. Of course, first order of business was the unloading of Gwen Ball Phytton and Penny Hamster taking special care to find just the right place for them in their new home.

Penny and Gwen were very sleepy from their 2000-mile Gotahome ride.





Next, we gathered the family together to unload personal belonging which just traveled 2000-miles across six states. We asked the children, our two granddaughters and grandson, to help unload Gotahome which met with some resistance until MOM (our daughter) came out and began barking orders. This made short work of transferring the mess from Gotahome to their house.

Kathi was unsure of our plans. I was not in any great hurry to leave after the lengthy road trip, so we decided to stay an extra day. To complete our mission of bringing all our daughter's belongings to her new Illinois home, I volunteered to take the Gotahome to Indiana where the remaining stuff was in a storage locker. It was a crazy idea, I know. The group going to Indiana included our daughter, myself and one of our granddaughters. Kathi stayed behind to take our grandson to and from school along with our other granddaughter to a job interview.

It was nearly two hours one way to Indiana and to my surprise the number of belongings that could be housed in a 12 foot by 6-foot upstairs storage locker with no elevator.

It was amazing. We used a cart and the long ramp at the storage facility to seriously pack all items into the Gotahome, allowing barely enough room for a third person to sit for the 2-hour trip back to Illinois.



After about two days and two nights spent, we said our good-byes and headed back to California. We drove a southern route which allowed us to visit some family and friends.

Kathi has extended family in the Shawnee, Oklahoma area. Our driving route put us on a direct path through Missouri. We had forgotten GOTAhams Ken, N6PCD and Pat N6PRC Campbell lived in Missouri. I believe we passed right through their area. So sorry we missed seeing you.





On to Oklahoma, Kathi was texting with her cousin most of the way. These relatives are also RV'ers and have full hookups at their home. We had another free overnight stay. Kathi knew that there was a wedding happening on the weekend.

When we showed up, but we didn't know the wedding was taking place that evening. After a hearty farm style Oklahoma meal of Chicken Fried Steak from beef our family had raised themselves, Kathi was invited to attend a country wedding with her cousin.

I stayed behind and was entertained by her cousin's husband. He was happy we showed up when we did.

Kathi returned with lots of photos and stories of relatives she hadn't seen in some time and others she was first introduced to but anyone on her Family Facebook page certainly knew her name. We were invited to stay an extra day, was shown around rural Oklahoma farms and the place where her dad lived as a boy. All that remained was a water well and a storm cellar.



We were taken on a tour of rural Shawnee Oklahoma. Kathi's cousin was well-known in the area. The tour included different locations where he had installed driveways, and landscaped yards. All the neighborhoods we saw were on 5 acre lots.

Across the street from his current construction job two Amateur Radio operators, Kathi KD6CAF and Ken KC6WOK became very interested in a plethora of antennas.

These included an azimuth elevation Dual Band circular antenna pair, some HF Beams, verticals, J poles and a vertical antenna far behind the house that turned out to be a 630-meter base loaded vertical. We learned the shed located about 100 feet from the house had a sliding roof that exposed a very advanced Astronomy/hobbyist telescope.



We looked up his QRZ page

<http://www.k5dnl.com/dx.htm> leading to his web site explaining his hobbies, a very interesting read.

<http://k5dnl.com/>

After leaving Shawnee Oklahoma we met a truck driver friend in Oklahoma City at the Petro truck stop. He treated us to a nice lunch at the Iron Skillet Café. We set our phone GPS to Fort Mohave Arizona the QTH of Gotham, Tim N6DLC.

We arrived just in time for a virtual Board Meeting with Tri-County Amateur Radio Association (TCARA). Tim offered us a safe place to stay for the night. Thank you.



In the morning Tim made coffee and we walked his property talking about his potential plans concerning his antenna placement, cabling around entrance points, and upgrades to his new “Arizona Shack”.

Our schedule included a visit to Kathi’s sister, Karin. She is an amazing artist living with her boyfriend, Donny, in Lake Havasu City, Arizona which is directly south of Fort Mohave. They have several dogs and a turtle.

We had a great couple of hours until Karin had to leave for a doctor appointment. After she left we headed to a local gas station to top off our gas tank with lower priced Arizona fuel before continuing to the I-40 and back to California.



The trip went well, with a few unexpected glitches. Being in LA county during the Covid-19 pandemic seemed to blind us to anything outside our “fishbowl”, we learned that pandemic mania is really a big city, concentrated population thing.

We also learned that outside of California some people refer to our state as “Covid Nazi’s”. Even though we always had our face masks handy we found only a few specific regions to utilized them.

It was some portions of Nevada (Las Vegas), New Mexico, and California. The few exceptions were big box home improvement stores etc. that likely set national mandates for employees.



The Lowes we visited had employees masked and posted signs “required masking” but only a percentage of customers conformed. Of course, being well conditioned, we masked up!

It was a safe whirlwind trip. We were successful in the tasks we set out to accomplish including tackled unexpected issues, but we had wonderful visits and have are considering taking the Gotahome on future trips.

Thanks for everyone’s interest and support along our journey. '73

Ken KC6WOK and Kathi KD6CAF

Lionel Lizard L6ZRD
by Kathi Mixon KD6CAF

Lionel is an alligator lizard who lives in the mountain foothills among the evergreen trees and silver-tasseled scrub bushes.





His home is an abandoned telegraph shack. On the wall is the Morse Code alphabet and an old, tattered drawing of Samuel Morse. Outside the window sits his ornamental railroad car he uses to go on adventures.

Lionel sits with his morse code key and taps out his message using his long lizard snout.

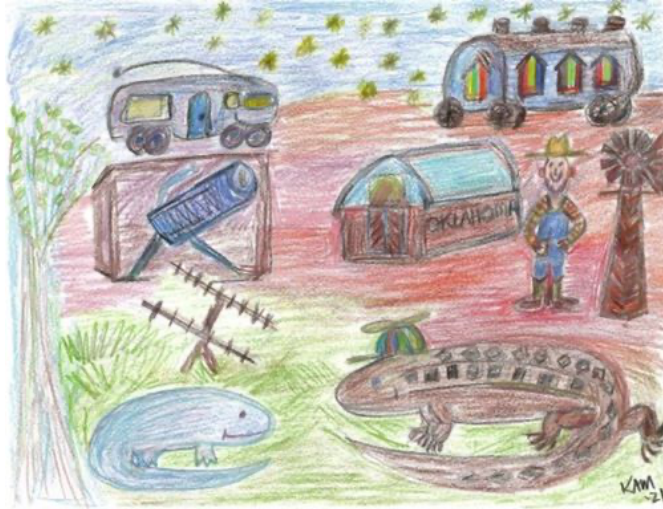
CQ CQ CQ, This is L6ZRD, Lionel, QSL?



Lionel receives a message from Oklahoma. The Gotahome is parked there talking with an Amateur Radio Operator, K5DNL. He tells them he uses a HomeBrew EME antenna (Earth-Moon-Earth) MoonBounce.

It sounds very exciting so a few days later Lionel and Sally were outside the telegraph shack with their bag packed. They climbed onto the railcar for the long journey to a new place.





When they arrived in Oklahoma, Lionel and Sally saw the Gotahome.
The telescope took a picture of Horseshoe Nebula located far out in space.
K5DNL was happy to show his new friends his big telescope and lots of antennas.
When Lionel and Sally returned home they told their friends about their adventure and
the new way to look at all the beautiful stars in the sky.
CQ, CQ, CQ, This is L6ZRD, Lionel, QSL?

The End

Upcoming Events

Saturday October 16- C. A. R. S. Swap Meet at Granite Creek Church, 1580 N
Claremont Blvd, Claremont

Thursday October 21- at 10:21AM The Great Shake Out- Earthquake Drill, Gotahams
are registered on <https://www.shakeout.org/> working on and asking for input involving
this planned event.

Saturday October 30- www.homingin.com "Fox Hunt" at Bonelli Regional Park in San
Dimas. This event will include a BBQ Picnic Lunch, please contact Kathi Mixon
kd6caf@gmail.com if you will be attending and what you would like to bring to share
with the group. Sponsored by Tri-County Amateur Radio Association and Co-Hosted
with GOTAhams Amateur Radio Club.



It has been 2 years since the last Bonelli event and is a family friendly, very social event. Everyone has a fun time in an old-fashioned picnic atmosphere.

November is already looking very busy for the Gotahams

Mandatory Meeting on Thursday, November 4th for the Covina Christmas Parade at the LDS Church on Route 66, Glendora

“Tour de Foothills” event mandatory meeting is scheduled for November 6, at the La Verne Fire Department EOC on Bonita Ave and ‘C’ Street in La Verne.

The event takes place November 13, 2021. There will be many operators from both clubs under the guidance of Jim Kesterson KR6JK. Please bring your waiver form with you. If you need one, please contact Kathi kd6caf@gmail.com

November 20 will be Radio in the Park following the C.A.R.S. Swap Meet. We will welcome members of the USS Iowa Historical Radio restoration crew. Showing them what our GOTAhams do to practice for Field Day and ANY upcoming emergency.

December will bring our annual Christmas meeting.

We would like any input concerning this event. This will be a Hybrid meeting and will certainly involve “HAMaClaus” in some form!



Drawing by James, KN6IPL



Please contact Mike, Goat Notes, Editor, ke6lkv@gmail.com with events, stories and any information you would like to see in the Goat Notes.

