



Goat Notes April - May 2022

We are a social club which enjoys Amateur Radio together.

Gotahams have been busy the last couple months participating in events in local parks and planning for Field Day, Amateur Radio Open House

Each week our club secretary, Dave, K6EV, sends us an email to keep membership and friends up to date on daily net topics, news, and interesting events to mark on our calendars.

The Gotahams Repeater Information: WG6OTA REPEATER at 449.160 MHz (-) PL 77.0 at 8pm

I have showcased some of the fun times we have with our friends.



KidCare International 5K Walk/Run

On April 23 Gotahams club members provided communication and safety support for the Kid Care International 5K Walk/Run at Frank G. Bonelli Regional County Park in San Dimas, California. Over 100 people participated in the event and all proceeds benefits the KidCare International organization.

left to right- Erik, KN6NRQ; Mark, KN6SBK; Ken, KC6WOK



Early Morning Set-Up:

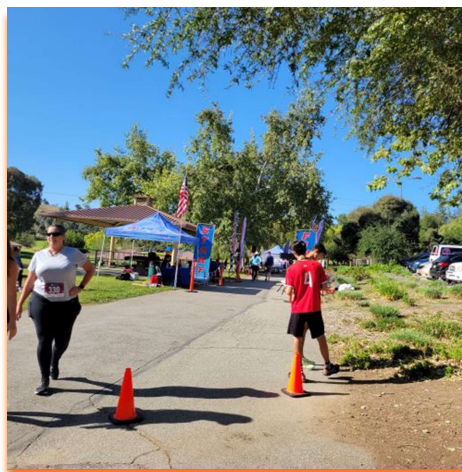
Bruce, AG6YS, Net Control, brings donuts from Donut Man in Glendora, CA

Gotahams, Kathi KD6CAF and Ken KC6WOK keep Runners Safe





Here come the Runners



KidCare 5K Communication Team

Left to Right: Erik, KN6NRQ;

Mark, KN6SBK; Bruce, AG6YS;

Jose KK6JM; Jere, KN6PED;

Ken, KC6WOK; Bruce, KM6WBI

Bruce, KM6WBI writes: Had A great time Saturday helping at Kid Care 5K at the park, it was A lot of fun watching the runners and monitoring the radios. and keeping traffic away from the runners. Great fun.

Jere, KN6PED writes: I had a very enjoyable time and it was an honor to be able to provide support for the KidsCare organization.

Elmer in the Park & Radio in the Park

Elmer in the Park and Radio in the Park are popular outdoor events involving Gotahams and Friends of the Club.

Each month, except June, Field Day month, Gotahams set up canopies, tables, chairs, equipment, radios, and antennas to have fun with hand-on projects.

Dave, K6EV, assembled “kits” for a DC power cable construction project.

Members and guests learn to use heat shrink tubing, as well as the proper use of tools for crimping, stripping, soldering wires and power connectors. Thank you, Dave, for helping us learn important skills.

On the left is Dave, K6EV & on the right is Bruce, KM6WBI

Remember: if you are soldering and you smell chicken you might be holding the iron on the wrong end.



Marco KN6SJV and Michael KN6HHW make HF contacts on an IC 7300. Ken shows WebSDR on his laptop



Jere, KN6PED and Ken, KC6WOK fly the drone
at Cedar Creek Park in Eastvale, CA

Dave, W6OOD, wore his
“May the MORSE be with you” T-Shirt



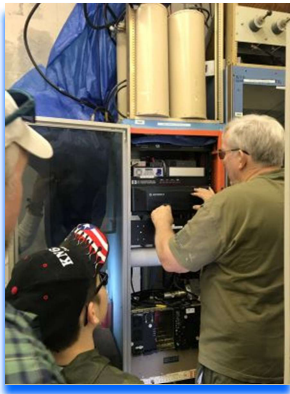
Repeater News



Welcome to the WG6OTA Repeater (Formerly AE6TV) privately owned and managed repeater system NOT owned by GOTAhams but maintained to support the mission of the GOTAhams club, Local active CERT teams and the Amateur Radio Community.

We introduce you to the WG6OTA Repeater on Sunset Ridge north of Claremont CA near Mt. Baldy Village, California.

Location: Sunset Ridge



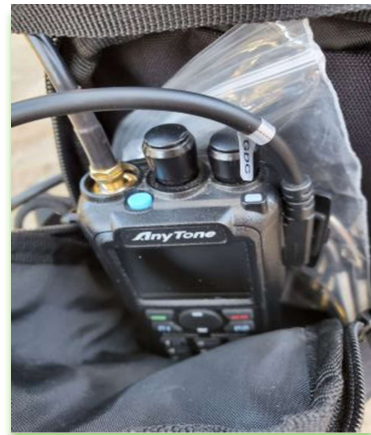
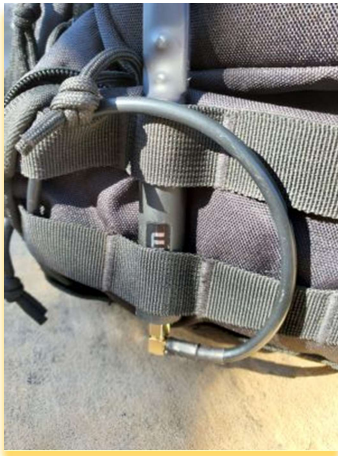
Repeater Type: [Motorola MTR2000 Information Index \(repeater-builder.com\)](http://repeater-builder.com)

Controller: [RLC-4: 4 Port Basic Controller – RLC-Controllers Main Site \(rlccontrollers.com\)](http://rlccontrollers.com)

Digital Links: [Micro-Node Nano-Node](#), [Micro-Node AllStar RTCM](#)

There is far more to a repeater than this “Short List”, we will continue to add information of this system and update it as we extend/improve capabilities. We are planning to add backup power, better external linking capabilities and soon a “Broadcastify” audio feed for the capability of our Prospective (Pre-Licensed) Hams to listen to our Repeater and GOTAhams nightly nets!

My Antenna Backpack by Erik KN6NRQ



This is my “backpack antenna” setup. The backpack is a simple backpack with MOLLE weaving.

This type of weaving allows for secure attachment of all types of items, very popular with military applications, first responder applications, and backpacking.

In my case, I utilized it to attach an antenna and provide almost hands-free operation. The antenna is weaved and secured through the MOLLE and connected with a cable to the radio.

The antenna is a 30" Abree style antenna, which tops out about 12 inches above the top of the backpack.

The radio is in a side pocket where it is easily reachable for adjusting volume and/or switching channels.

The external speaker / microphone is attached to the left strap of the backpack,

when on my back it is just a few inches away from my face. All I have to do is turn towards the mic, key up, talk, then let go and carry-on hands free.

Other than keying up, the operation is hands free. Signal reports for this setup were favorable.

Additionally, the backpack allowed me to carry extra batteries, radios, and water. 73.

Erik, Great Story about your Backpack Antenna -If any of our readers have a story about a project, radio or activity they would like to share, please send the information to

Kathi KD6CAF – kd6caf@gmail.com and we will feature your story, event, photos in an upcoming edition of Goat Notes.

ARRL Mentor Award

Gotahams (left) Dave, K6EV and (right) Ken, KC6WOK receive the ARRL Mentor Award Certificates presented by Jack, KM6UNQ at Larkin Park, Claremont, California on May 7, 2022.





Field Day 2022- June 24-June26

Field Day meetings are on Zoom chat each Thursday evening at 6:30pm

If you would like to volunteer, please contact our FD coordinator,

Jack Sklar, KM6UNQ, km6unq@gmail.com

Possible Youth Activities for Field Day



Morse Code
Snap Circuits

Dan, K6YIC, Vintage RTTY station



Craig, KM6EIC,
Safety Officer

General Meeting, May 10, 2022



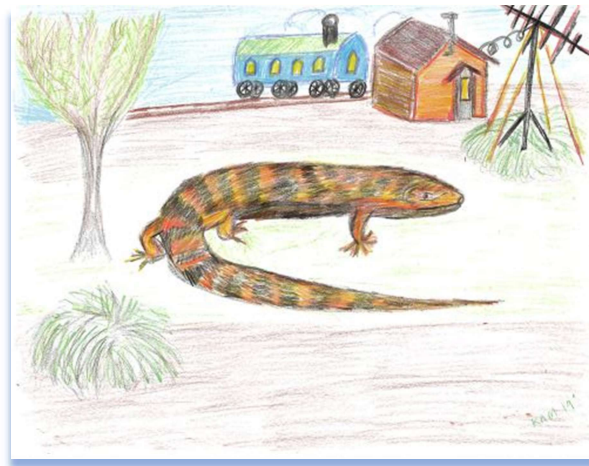
Gotahams met in-person and on Zoom chat for the May 2022 General Meeting.

We had Great Food and Fantastic Service at Casa Jimenez Restaurant, Claremont, CA

In attendance was Ken, KC6WOK; Kathi, KD6CAF; Milt, N6MG; Grace, K6FS; Ken, N6PCD and Sonia, KN6CSX along with 20 Gotahams members on Zoom chat.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2022

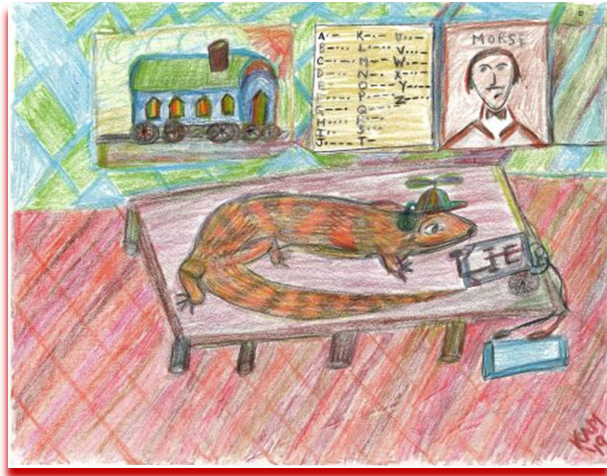
Lionel the Lizard by Kathi KD6CAF



Lionel Lizard lives in the foothills among the evergreen trees and silver tasseled scrub bushes.

His home is an abandoned telegraph shack.

In his shack he has a Morse Code chart and an old, tattered picture of Samuel Morse.



Outside his back window sits a colorful ornamental railcar.

He communicates using his long lizard snout tapping out his message on his Morse Code key,

CQ, CQ, CQ this is L6ZRD Lionel, QSL?

One day he was in his shack listening to Morse Code and hears about the KidCare International sponsoring a 5K event at Bonelli Park in San Dimas, California.

The Gotahams, WG6OTA will be there too. Lionel decided he would like to help during this important event. Lionel and Sally decided to board their railcar and travel to Bonelli Park.



When they arrived, Lionel and Sally met with the other volunteers at the KidCare International.

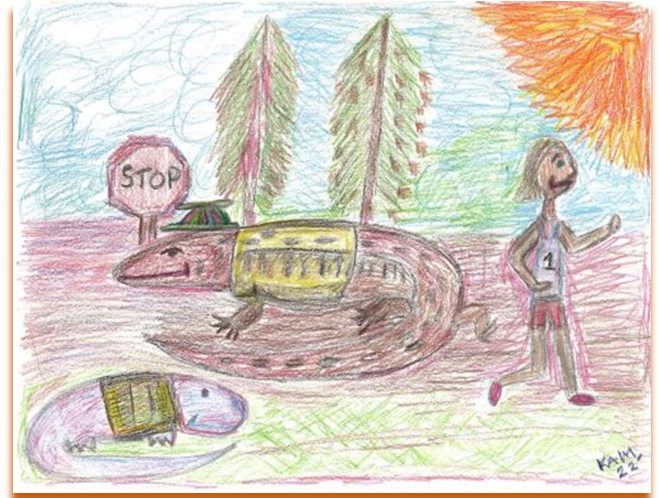
Their job was to use a stop sign to keep cars from crossing a driveway which racers would be crossing during the event. When the race was finished, Lionel and Sally received a good report from the runners. Everyone felt safe and was happy with the job they had done.

They waved good-bye and boarded the railcar for the long journey home.

Lionel went to the telegraph shack to tap out his message telling his friends about the fun day they had in San Dimas, California helping Kidcare International during the Inaugural 5K event.

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

The End



Some Contributing Writers and Photographers: Erik, KN6NRQ; Jere, KN6PED; Sonia KN6CSX; Jack, KM6UNQ; Craig, KM6EIC; Dave, K6EV; Kathi, KD6CAF

