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GOAT NOTES AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2022

Newsletter of the GOTAhams Amateur Radio Club

GOTAHAMS.COM PO BOX 1583 CHINO, CA 91708-1583

In the previous issue of GOAT NOTES (June-July 2022) our founding club member, former Secretary and Newsletter Editor Kathi Mixon KD6CAF(SK) gave us another fine newsletter just shortly before she left this mortal coil. That issue was dedicated to the memory of several SK members without our imagining that, by the time we got to this issue, we would have lost Kathi. On August 20th we had a wonderful celebration of our time with Kathi, combining both her family, friends and GOTAhams. You'll find some great pictures from that event in this issue alongside other contributions from GOTAhams members. Ken Campbell, N6PCD has volunteered to take up the newsletter in the future, so this is an interim issue. Any errors are mine (K6EV) and my great thanks to the many contributors of photos and content and to all who made the past few weeks so special for the GOTAhams family. And: Thank-You Kathi.



IN MEMORIAM: KATHI MIXON KD6CAF (SK)

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GET ON THE AIR!



Join the fun! For information about joining our club, Amateur Radio or how to find or attend our events, contact our club Secretary, Dave, K6EV at: K6EV@ARRL.NET



Greetings and Some Thoughts From a Not-So-Old Goat

Vic Corella KM6UWB

Editor: KM6UWB was a founding member of the club and was the club's ORIGINAL news letter editor. In fact, Vic is ALWAYS original. Vic moved to beautiful Utah last year so many of our newer members may not have met him, but he is always a 'Goat' and he has some special thoughts to share with us this month. PS: He was a great editor.



August 30, 2022

Greetings Fellow GOATS

So many times, I have addressed our club in such a manner and it has always brought a smile to my face and a warm feeling to my soul. Today is no different. I am saddened at the passing of my dear friend Kathi and that is one side - on the other I know that I am a better person for having known her. The friendship she and Ken afforded me is without a doubt one of the highlights of my time here on earth.



I will always have fond memories of our all too short time together. I have to be the least capable editor in the history of newsletters, but Kathi made me look like a champ every month. I learned a bunch about putting together the GOAT NOTES and she made it so much fun.

We have a saying in our family that goes- "Don't cry because it's over- Smile because it happened" This saying served us in many a tragedy as well as many highlights. I believe, for me, it fits here.

I know this feeling of loss for her family is devastating as it is for the rest of us, but knowing she will always be with us every time the net is open with our club call sign-



yeah, she'll be there and that helps.

Best wishes to the herd- Remember to stay Frosty and Stay RADIO ACTIVE.

73 Vic Corella KM6RWB

“Once a GOAT always a GOAT”



Gallery: Radio-At-The-Park and Celebration of Life KD6CAF, 8/20/2022





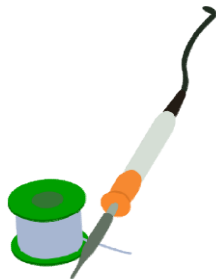




Elmering-In-The-Park – Coming in September

In July and August GOTAhams members had a chance to finish up DC power cables and to tackle the process of installing Crimp/Solder type PL-259 connectors onto either or both of RG-8X or LMR-400 sized coaxial cables. Lot's of hands-on time was had by participants and everyone was successful with coaching from Dave Wilkie, K6EV. The focus was on stripping the cable and otherwise preparing it, crimping on the outer conductor and soldering the center conductor. Participants also got a chance to use a variety of different tool types.

Beginning on September 17th, Ken Mixon KC6WOK and Tim Adams N6DLC will be offering some simple solder kits which involve attaching common through-hole components to a circuit board and soldering the connections. You'll learn about soldering techniques, avoiding excess heat, etc. The exact device is still being selected at this writing but information will be available ahead of the September date. A modest donation will again be suggested to cover the cost of materials. We skipped the September 3 date as it falls on Labor Day Weekend. And of course, BRING those radios and antennas because we like to be ON THE AIR on these week-ends.



Cubscouts-On-The-Air at Camp Cherry Valley, July 2022

Photos by Charles McCants KM6CEM

At the end of July and early August, GOTAhams member Charles McCants KM6CEM volunteered his time to help the Cub Scouts with a major activity at Camp Cherry Valley on Catalina Island. Charles has done this each year for over 5 years now. The scouts (boys and girls) come over in a couple different groups and all told there are a few hundred that attend. Activities can include hiking, swimming, archery, a shooting range, and possibly some sailing.

And this year, about 28 scouts attending the camp were able to build the same GOTAhams paper-clip CW keyer/oscillator project that we used at Field Day this year. This gave them some exposure to electricity/electronics as well as to Morse Code. About 28 scouts built the project and, in general, they loved it. Next year Charles wants to bring more kits as he basically 'sold out' this year!



Charles was able to send some great pictures. Check out that smile. Does Catalina Island qualify as GOTAhams first overseas trip? Our thanks also to Kathi KC6CAF(SK) and to Jerry KN6PED and others for helping to prepare the kits for this activity.

This year Charles was honored with a camp name consistent with sending radio signals and ham radio: WindTalker. And WindTalker is off to the scout's Golden Nugget event next. Maybe we'll see some new hams!



In Person Ham License Testing at Brackett Field

Time certainly does fly and it is hard to believe that we have already completed two cycles of the GOTAhams-sponsored in-person ARRL-VEC in-person Amateur Radio License Testing at the Brackett Field Airport in La Verne. This will repeat on the LAST SATURDAY of every month except December (due to holidays) at 1PM in the Pilot's Lounge in the terminal building (follow the signs for the Norms Hangar coffee shop and you'll be there. Read below for additional information. We've seen a number of newly licensed and upgraded GOTAhams as well as members of the public. CONGRATULATIONS!



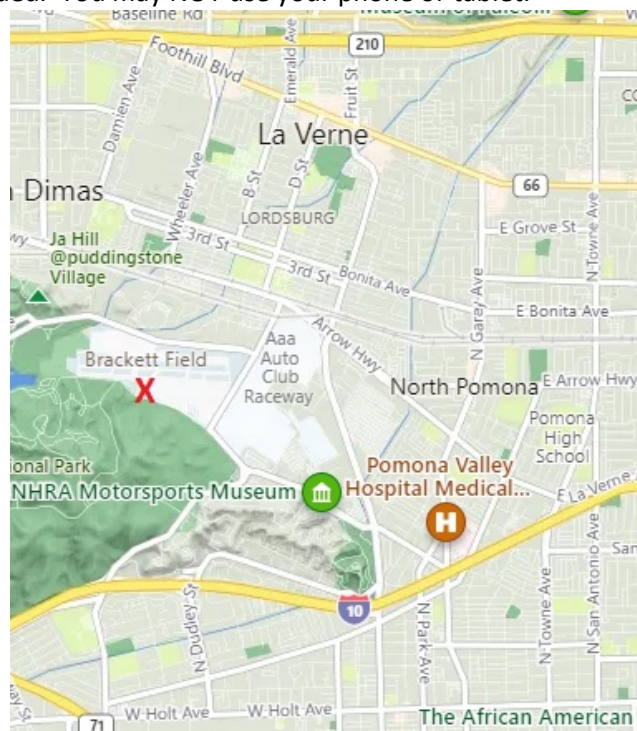
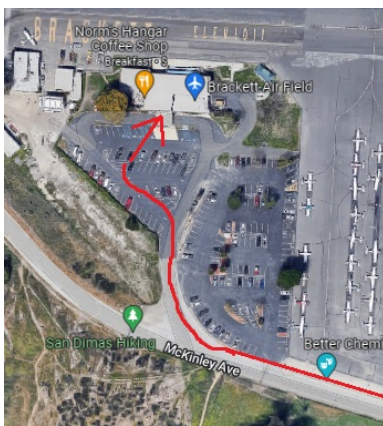
When: Last Saturday of each month at 1PM except December. While walk-ins are usually OK, you are strongly advised to message Frank Westphal W6FW in advance at either 909-257-7205 or W6FW@ARRL.NET. Include your contact info. Frank can advise you as to what to bring. Please review this web page: <http://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>

Where: Pilots Lounge, Bracket Field, La Verne. Follow the signs to Norms Hangar Diner in the terminal building. The pilots lounge is through the terminal doors and to your left down the hall.

Information on FCC fees (NOT collected at test): <https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee>

Information on VEC Exam fees that ARE collected at test: \$15.00 (\$5.00 for minors), Cash or check payable to ARRL VEC. No credit cards. (Examiners are unpaid volunteers, credentialed by the ARRL VEC).

Reminders: Photo ID, OFFICIAL copy of any existing license, Originals AND photocopy of any CSCE credits, You MUST have an FCC FRN number assigned BEFORE coming to the test session. We can no longer test using Social Security or Taxpayer ID numbers. Pencils with erasers, pen, calculator with no stored programs or formulas is acceptable if needed. You may NOT use your phone or tablet.



Dakota On The Air!

By Savi Savinovich, W1SAV

It was a wonderful Saturday morning, this past August 20th, at Las Flores Park in La Verne. Getting out and making contacts is always a good reason to leave the shack. This day was especially meaningful as we had a celebration of the life of one of our founding members, Kathi KD6CAF (SK). Her love of life and of our club was quite evident by those that showed up. Of course, it would not have been right had the club members not gotten on the air. I saw contacts made on VHF/UHF, digital, Morse Code, and SSB. Kathi KD6CAF (SK), we honored you by doing what you loved.

Coincidentally, the North American QSO Party was on, and this time I intended to make a few contacts. You know, getting out to the park is as much a social event as much as getting on the air. Twice I've set up and never hit the PTT as my interactions with the folks there took precedence. I was going to correct that this time around. Indeed, I made contacts in the states of Maine, Montana, Vermont, Washington, and Michigan. This was done over the course of several hours as the socializing was still in play.

Of course, hamming it up with other hams about ham radio is part of the fellowship of the ham. Did that sound too ham fisted? Well, I enjoyed the fellowship with Bruce KN6UBG who is a recent general. He used my setup to make his first three HF contacts! That was cool to see, and I believe he enjoyed that as well. This was done as Chris N6CTA was also making contacts on the same band, 20 meters, only 30 feet away. Eventually, we alternated throwing our callsigns out and spotted for each other stations running on the contest. It was fun.

Throughout this time, I was able to speak with Ken KC6WOK, Misty, and Dakota (Kathi's daughter and grand-daughter) about Kathi KD6CAF (SK). It was not hard to feel their emotions, yet we were there for a celebration. Later as Dakota was sitting with her mom and friends, I asked her if she would like to give getting on the air a shot. It did not take much prodding for her to agree, especially with the support of her mom, Misty. She came over to my setup, and Bruce KN6UBG gave up his seat so Dakota could get on the air.

Apprehension was etched on her face, yet she was going to do it! I wrote a basic script for her and had her practice it. When she was comfortable, she went on the air. The contact she was trying to make was with Tom K7RI, in the state of Washington. After several tries, he acknowledged the YL, and that was her cue. She hit the PTT and off she went. She repeated the process several times as there was a lot of noise on the band. After Tom K7RI returned the call, Dakota read the second part of the script. This cycle was repeated several times until Tom mentioned she was in the noise and called QRZ. So, Dakota somewhat made the contact as Tom K7RI responded with my call several times, but mother nature was not going to have it. Technically, she got a ham to answer her call even though the QSO was never completed. The important thing for me,

is that Kathi's granddaughter got on the air. This was a poignant moment for me in honoring Kathi.

As the time at the park began to draw down, Chris N6CTA, and I began to compare the performances of our antennas as we were chasing the same contacts most of the time. He had a Yaesu ATAS 120 antenna with 16 radials automatically controlled from his radio. I had an MPAS 2.0 antenna in the vertical configuration, 17 feet tall using an auto-tuner. The next time we set up next to each other, we plan to swap antennas to check performance with the other's antenna. It was time to tear down.

A final chat with Ken KC6WOK and some of his old (is there a pun?) high school buddies closed out my day at the park.

Ciao for niao

73 de Savi W1SAV.



On The Air!

Repeater News: WG6OTA: 449.160 MHz, -5Mhz, PL=77.0Hz

With all of the activity of the past few weeks, we took a little pause on some of the development of the repeater. But we are looking ahead now to starting anew. Our immediate project is to finalize the development and assembly of a module that integrates the repeater controller, DC power switching and wiring, etc. into a neatly connector-ized replaceable module. There is quite a bit of mechanical and electronic fabrication to complete, followed by testing. We have purchased enclosures and materials to build two duplicate units so that we have an identical and fully documented hot spare. Not only does this provide us with a path to rapid repair, but it allows us to do adjustments and module level repairs down on the flatland where it is convenient.

In addition, we've obtained the missing wireline card for our backup repeater as well as a test microphone. So once the controllers are re-configured we should be able to test.



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with that we are thinking ahead to our long term IRLP platform selection as well as platforms for ALLSTAR ECHOLINK. More on that as progress is made. Another project after that is to look at back up power options in terms of performance, longevity and cost then see what can reasonably be funded.

Meanwhile, stay radio active, whether through the repeater or via other modes and bands.

view up the tower supporting the WG6OTA receive antenna.

GOTAhams Election of Officers for 2023-2024 Term

In the latter portion of even numbered years the club conducts nominations and elections for officers. The information below illustrates the timeline of this process for 2022. There are four elected positions: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws. In addition, on/after January 1st the four newly elected officers will appoint 2 Members-At-Large to serve on the club's board as full voting members. Refer to the By-Laws for detail.

September 17th Club Meeting: Formal opening of nominations. Nomination requires that the candidate be willing to serve if elected, a nomination by a voting club member and a 'Second' to that nomination from another voting club members. Nominated candidates will appear on the ballot.

October 11th Club Meeting: Final nominations will be taken from the floor and nominations closed. Within a couple of days of the end of the meeting, absentee ballots will be mailed to all voting club members. Ballots will have a due date that is a day or two ahead of the November meeting so that they can be counted in advance.

November 8th Club Meeting: Those who have not voted by email absentee ballot can cast votes in person. Ballot totals will be compiled after the meeting and the election results will be reported to the membership by email shortly after the meeting or during the meeting.

December club meeting or Holiday Party (Exact date TBD):



GOTAhams Schedule: September thru December 2022

We always have a LOT going on, but especially so in the latter portion of the year. Here is a summary for your convenience: Club meetings are at 7PM (6PM at restaurant).

September 13: Club Mtg. Open election nominations. Presentation: RTTY by K6YIC

September 17: Radio-in-Park: 10AM Larkin Park Claremont.

September 28: Simplex Net 146.580Mhz.

October 1: Elmering-in-Park. 10AM San Dimas Canyon Park. Component soldering by KC6WOK and N6DLC. Simple kit build.

October 11: Club Mtg. Close nominations. Presentation: WINLINK by W1SAV Post meeting distribution of election ballots/instructions via email.

October 15: Radio-in-Park: 10AM Las Flores Park, La Verne

October 26: Simplex Net 146.580Mhz.

November 5th: Elmering-in-Park. 10AM Larkin Park Claremont. Continue/conclude simple kit builds.

November 8th. Club Mtg. Officer Election concludes with in person voting. Presentation TBD.

November 12th: TOUR DE FOOTHILL bicycle race. GOTAhams provides communication support. Will skip 3rd Saturday radio in park in November as very busy.

November 23: Simplex Net 146.580Mhz.

December 3rd: COVINA CHRISTMAS PARADE: Gotahams provides communication support. We will skip Elmering In The Park that Saturday as we have a busy evening.

December 10th or 17th, possible dates for Holiday party, either evening at a facility or park during the day. Details TBD.

December 28: Simplex Net 146.580Mhz.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE TREMENDOUS NUMBER OF THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE.



In particular, Maribel KN6HSW, Sheila KM6KNO, Grace K6FS, Savi W1SAV, Charles KM6CEM, Vic KM6RWB, all of the club officers and to all of the GOTAhams Members, family and friends who contributed mightily (again) to the success of our recent events. My apologies if I missed anyone. THANK YOU for making this such a great club. More great on-the-air adventures just ahead! 73, Dave, K6EV

Member News

Apologies in advance to anyone for anything missed. With such a great and active membership it is difficult to keep track of all the upgrades and changes.

A Warm GOTAhams WELCOME to New Members since mid-July:

KO6BOB Robert Smith
KM6CEM Charles McCants (returning member)
N6CTW Clifford Wickey
W6FRQ James Janssen (returning member)
W6GA Gary Andary
KK6PAH Nilesch Bellare
KN6RPB Joanna Escobar
KN6RRA John Escobar
KN6SLX K.C. Lin
KN6UTA Jason Averweg
KN6UWV Kevin Goodwin
KN6VJM Skye Haulman
KN6VJS Robert Rogus

Upgrades and Call Sign Changes

W6BZZ Jack Sklar, formerly KM6UNQ: New callsign
N6ENT Jeff Roberts, formerly KN6VKB: New callsign
N6GLK George Kopiloff, formerly KN6UXG: New callsign
KN6SLX Mark Witte, General Class Upgrade



GOTAhams Roster

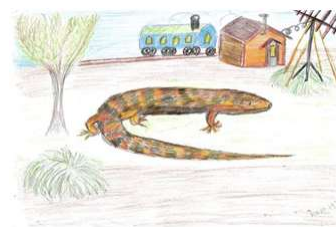
Sept. 5, 2022

117 Members

W6ABW(SK)-Ed Van Prooijen
N6ACN - Arvin Nicolas
K6AHT - Doug Barcon
KM6AVK - Keith Reeves
K6BCB - Justin (Tuan) Nguyen
KO6BOB - Robert Smith
W6BZZ - Jack Sklar
KD6CAF(SK) - Kathi Mixon
KM6CEM - Charles McCants
KK6CRP - Richard Pryor
KN6CSX - Sonia Silao
K6CT - Shaun Luciano
N6CTA - Chris Anderson
N6CTW - Clifford Wickey
KK6DH - David Hurley
W6DJS - David Seiler
N6DLC - Tim Adams
KM6EIC - Craig Borchard
KJ6EMM - Emilia Marquez
N6ENT - Jeff Roberts
K6EV - Dave Wilkie
N3FAA - Bryan N Wollenberg
AC6FJ - John Setterlund
WB9FPM - Jay Jones
W6FRQ - James Janssen
K6FS - Grace Clark
W6GA - Gary Andary
KM6GDM - Lisa Hager
N6GLK - George Kopiloff
KN6HHV - Michele Harwick
KN6HHW - Michael Harwick
KN6HSG - Anna Ngo
KN6HSW - Maribel Gershman
KN6HWA - Cruz Guerrero
KK6INF - Greg Nelson
None - Jeanne Nelson
KN6IPL - James Setterlund
KN6IPZ - Tom Ciezki
KB6IQ - Frank Mayancsik
K6JFE - Jim Eagon
KR6JK - Jim Kesterson
KK6JM - Jose Marquez
KN6JU - Les White
KN6JWK - Kenny Downey
W7KJZ - Kelvin Zelaya
None - Sarah Eure
KM6KNO - Sheila Eure

KF6KVR - Bob Spence
KE6LKV - Mike Carlone
K6LRY - Lori Wilkie
KN6LYX - Mark Harwick
K6MBL - Mark Logan
N6MG - Milt Garb
KG6MN - Jerry Grzelak
NP2MV - Barbara Pennell
KK6MXW - John Suardini
KN6NFB - Tyler Zelaya
KD6NOT - Mark Bender
KN6NRQ - Erik Dlugajczyk
KN6NYX - Scott Van Diest
W6OOD - David Wood
KN6OQP - John Edgemon
None - Eva Smith
AB6OS - Michael Smith
KN6OUR - Cesar Motts
KN6OVN - Piers Shaw
KN6OXZ - Steve Combs
KK6PAH - Niles Bellare
N6PCD - Ken Campbell
KF6OPD - Kyle Jorgensen
KN6PED - Jere Neal
None - Karla Perez
N6PRC - Pat Campbell
KN6QX - John Wetzork
KK6RDN-Woody (Nolan) Woods
KJ6RIH - Michael Eure
KN6RPB - Joanna Escobar
KN6RRA - John Escobar
KE6RXX - Kim Setterlund
KM6S - Chris Argueta
W1SAV-Savi(Walter) Savinovich
KN6SBF - Sean O'Donohue
KN6SBK - Mark Witte
KM6SCA - Andrew Usmani
KN6SEP - Channing Abbott
KN6SJQ - Marco Di Meo
KN6SLX - Kuo Cheng Lin
KM6SSB - Michael Long
KM6TKT - Stephanie Brizuela
W6TPG - Art Aslesen
None - Pat Aslesen
AE6TV - Hans Ehlert
KN6UBG - Bruce Gary
N6UNIX - Marc Holzer
KK6UPC - Ric Penafiel
KN6UTA - Jason Averweg
KN6UWV - Kevin Goodwin
KI6UXO - David Sage
KN6UYZ - John Gribbin

K2VGE - Lewis Siegler
KJ6VGX - Robert Kindron
KN6VJM - Skye Haulman
KN6VJS - Robert Rogus
KM6VOA - Laurel Wetzork
KM6WBI - Bruce VanBuskirk
KC6WOK - Ken Mixon
K6XYR - Clarence M Chanea
K6YIC - Dan Jones
KM6YIF - Susie Rode
KK6YJM - Marida Slobko
AG6YS - Bruce Bolton
KC6ZCR - Dominic Mercado
None - Luke Mercado
KN6ZEA - Roger Zelaya
W6ZHS - Alan Couch
AG6ZR - Mark Carey
KD6ZSE - Heidi Bender



73 de Lionel, L6ZRD