



# GOAT NOTES

*Celebrating Amateur Radio!*



<https://gotahams.com>

December 2023-January 2024

**WG60TA RPT: 449.160 (-) PL 77.0 enc/dec**

**The Editors' two bits...**

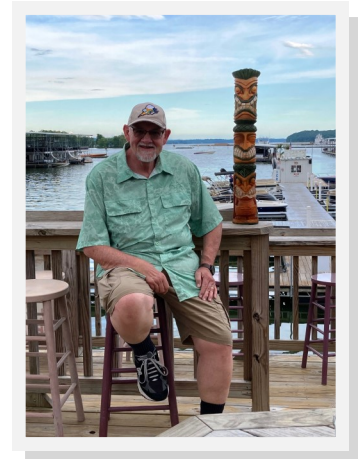
**Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season.**

**Winter is here with chilly days and nights, but at least we live in an area with plenty of sunny days!**

**So, what are your ham radio plans for 2024? Participate in Winter Field Day? Try a new mode? Maybe build an antenna? Whatever you do, keep on participating in the club. Excellent fellowship and lots of resources here.**

**Make sure to read the weekly email to keep informed of the latest and greatest news and events.**

**73 de N6PCD**



# RADIO ACTIVITIES

## Monthly Club Meeting

GOTAhams Monthly Club Membership Meeting - the second Tuesday of the month, 7PM , Zoom and In-Person. If you would like to join the meeting in person, please join us at Casa Jimenez Mexican Restaurant in Claremont at 921 W Foothill Blvd. Please arrive an hour early (at least) at 6PM so that you can order your dinner and have it out of the way ahead of the meeting. (The restaurant does expect you to order a meal.) We'll be in the back room. See the weekly email for Zoom details.

## GOTAhams Nightly Net

Held each evening at 7:30 PM Pacific time on the club repeater: 449.160 (-) PL 77.0. Please see Dave's weekly email for a list of topics.

## Radio In The Park & Elmering in the Park

See the weekly email for days and times. These are fun events, so come on out and join the fun!

## Monthly Simplex net

Hosted by Erik KN6NRQ on 146.580MHz. A great way to explore the reach of your 2 meter equipment without benefit of repeater, both receiving and transmitting. Fourth Wednesday of the month. See the Weekly email for vital details.

## V.E. Amateur Radio License testing

LAST SATURDAY EACH MONTH AT 1PM. Location is Brackett Field airport in La Verne. Sponsored by the GOTAhams. Frank Westphal and his experienced team of examiners are running in person Amateur Radio License testing at Brackett Field Airport in La Verne. [See Dave's weekly email for testing requirements and other important details.](#) No testing in December due to the holidays.

## Interested?

If you would like more information about Amateur Radio, GOTAhams Club Activities, or have any interest in joining the GOTAhams Amateur Radio Club please contact the Club Secretary Dave Wilkie (K6EV) at K6EV@ARRL.NET. All are Welcome and no license is required to become a member.



## Give Directions to Anywhere in the World in Just Three Words



What is *what3words* and how to use it?

what3words is a popular free app for Apple and Android phones that provides precise geographic location in three English words. Use it instead of a street address, latitude & longitude, or other descriptions.

Casa Jimenez Restaurant location

what3word: secondly records poem

Street Address: 921 W. Foothill Blvd, Claremont, CA

Lat & Lon: 34.107515, -117.731924

Other: Just west of Sprout's grocery store

**How it works:** The operators of the app have devised a copyrighted system that has mapped out the entire surface of the Earth into trillions of 10 x 10 foot squares, and assigned to each individual square a unique address with three words. While we would use English in the U.S., it is available in 50 languages.

**Who Uses It:** Emergency service operations around the world are rapidly implementing systems that dispatch based on what3words. Los Angeles and Orange County Fire dispatch systems have both adapted their systems to recognize locations based upon what3words.

As you can imagine, the app provides more precise location information for search and rescue operations. But it is also helpful to first responders in locating people in large event venues where a street address would not provide any specific location information.

You can download the app from Google Play or the Apple App store. Once your app is installed, you can either use the app to detect your exact location using the phone's GPS abilities, or you can search for a specific address using the app's search function.

The app can also be used to generate turn by turn instructions in Google Maps.

*Submitted by Bruce Gary K6GH*

# Fun Stuff You May Not Know...

## ***TECH LIFE UPGRADES***

Be the James Bond of Windows: There's a secret version of the Start menu. Hold down the Windows key and click the letter X, and you'll access an advanced menu with Device Manager, Task Manager and Disk Management options. You can also right-click on the Start button to access this menu.

Anyone who wishes to find cables or adapters for Heil headphones or microphones, or wished to find the correct headphones and settings for their transceiver may want to go to current website, [www.heilhamradio.com](http://www.heilhamradio.com). There, they can match up all of Heil equipment to their own transceiver. The old website, [www.heilsound.com](http://www.heilsound.com), now deals in live sound microphones for studio recordings and other things. This is part of the changes to the Heil Sound operations since Bob step down from operations.

**HEIL**  
HAM RADIO

Contributed by Cliff Wickey N6CTW

**Gerson Strassberg, WA2JXX invented this item which no self-respecting geek would have been without. Now, you could probably only find one on e-bay. What is it?**

**The Plastic Pocket Protector!**



**His call-sign was K2ORS and he wrote and narrated a classic film that had everyone saying "you'll shoot your eye out". Who is it?**

Answer: **Jean Shepherd**

**Jean Shepherd was a writer and radio-television personality who narrated 'A Christmas Story'. The movie was based on his writing.**

# *Congratulations!!!*

Andy Di Meo, Age 6, passed his Technician exam Sunday, November 11 and received his callsign, KO6CCI today. Andy is our youngest licensed GOTAhams to date. He and his Dad Marco Di Meo KN6SJK are very active members of the club and Andy got some great support and Elmering right at home. We hope this is motivating to other young prospective hams and to any one else studying for their exam. Please listen for Charlie India. Below is a great photo taken just after he passed his exam! Our thanks to Marco and Andy for sharing this.

By Dave Wilkie K6EV



Andy Di Meo, KO6CCI won the first Club-provided radio to a new ham under 18 years old and received a Baofeng GT-5R 'legal' HT. At age six, what a great example.

# TOUR de Foothills™

**Saturday, November 11, 2023**

It was a magnificent, beautiful day for a bike ride! It's my understanding that there were over 1200 riders on the three courses, and GOTA Hams once again provided excellent radio communications for the event.



Photos by  
Ken Mixon  
KC6WOK



# TOUR de Foothills™



Photos by Bruce Gary

K6GH



# Holiday Party 2023

The Holiday Party this year was well attended and all who were there had a good time! WX cooperated making for a beautiful day. Ham radio, good friends, great food, and nice prizes. What's not to love?!?!



Photos by Michael Harwick  
KN6HHW



# Holiday Party 2023



Photos by Shelia  
Eure KM6KNO



# Holiday Party 2023



Photos by  
Jere Neal  
KN6PED

1+ 5G

5G

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