



# GOAT NOTES



**Celebrating Amateur Radio!**

<https://gotahams.com>

**October-November 2023**

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

## The Editors' two bits...

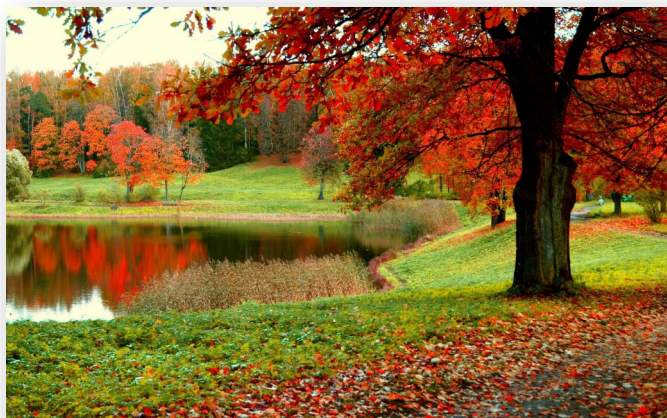
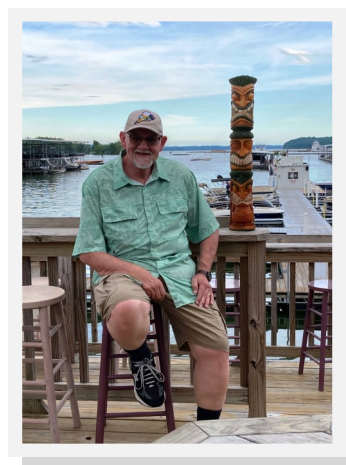
Greetings to y'all in the Fall! Man, its about time we got some cooler WX.

There's a couple of upcoming events that the club is providing radio assistance to in November and December. First is the Tour de Foothills bicycle rally on November 11th. Several GOTAHams have already volunteered to operate this event. If you're interested please see Dave's weekly email for information.

On December 2nd we will be providing assistance to the Covina Christmas Parade. Bruce Bolton AG6YS is the event coordinator, and still urgently needs about five volunteers as of this writing.

Please contact Bruce directly at either [1bcbolton@gmail.com](mailto:1bcbolton@gmail.com) or at 1-626-806-2898. The parade occurs on the late afternoon and evening of December 2nd.

A bit of business here: If/When you send me an email, please send it to [n6pcd@icloud.com](mailto:n6pcd@icloud.com). I had an old Gmail address, but it is no longer in use. Any emails sent there will be lost. So, if you've a contact for me in your email client, please delete the Gmail address and replace it with [n6pcd@icloud.com](mailto:n6pcd@icloud.com). Thanks much!



**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 Bracket 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.



# RADIO

## In The Park: Saturday, September 19

It was a relatively cool and cloudy day here at San Dimas Canyon park, but there was a good representation of club members at the gathering.



# Ham Operations and Hurricane Hilary

By Bruce Gary, K6GH



We don't get many hurricanes in Southern California, so what should any good ham operator do when a once in a century hurricane arrives? What else but **GET ON THE AIR.**

The weather forecast looked bleak. About Wednesday, four days before the storm hit, I began hearing weather forecasts that spoke of a hurricane named Hilary possibly headed for California. By Friday, the National Weather Service was issuing alerts forecasting tropical storm force winds and "catastrophic and life-threatening flooding" for our region.

My local RACES group, IDEC, was monitoring the storm. (IDEC stands for Irvine Disaster Emergency Communications. IDEC is a volunteer organization of licensed ham operators supporting the City of Irvine's emergency preparedness plan and general public safety. Our members meet monthly for training and hold weekly check-in nets.)

Sunday morning, August 20<sup>th</sup>, IDEC leaders notified members by email that beginning at 12:00 noon, hourly nets would be held to take reports of local conditions. Two different repeaters were used alternately, with our "Tango" repeater (449.580) used on even numbered hours, and "Sierra" repeater (446.720) used on odd-numbered hours. (As I was the first member to check in at 4:00, I automatically became net control host for that hour.) As members checked in on the net, we provided our callsign and gave a short rain report (amount and intensity) and wind report (light, moderate, or heavy).

As Sunday wore on, it became clear from the bland reports of our members that Irvine was spared the worst of the storm. Although light rain continued all day (we had an inch or two total rain), we experienced only moderate winds in the afternoon. Sadly, some other communities experienced much heavier rains that led to flooding and mudslides.

*(Continued on next page)*



**What did I learn from this weather experience? First, I learned that it helps to be prepared for an emergency. During the weekend spent at home while it rained outside, I checked my earthquake emergency supplies and discovered to my embarrassment that my supplies needed restocking. Because I had neglected to periodically check my supplies, the batteries in most of my flashlights had not only died, but in some cases leaked out, destroying the flashlight. I also noted that my emergency supply of first aid medications (e.g., Tylenol, antiseptic cream) had expired six years prior.**

**Second, I enjoyed being part of a community that was prepared to assist in an emergency. Even though there was no notable damage reported in Irvine, I received tremendous satisfaction knowing that I was helping keep our community and my friends safe. This gave purpose to my amateur radio hobby.**

**The third lesson learned is that weather can be fickle and spotty. While the storm mostly missed my community, other towns were not so lucky. The next hurricane that arrives might not be as gentle in my neighborhood.**



# Fun Stuff You May Not Know...

Ever want to call someone but don't want them to know your number? Oh, you're gonna love this. It works for all smartphones and landlines. Open your phone's keypad and dial \*67, followed by your recipient's phone number.

**THE QWERTY KEYBOARD CAN SLOW YOUR TYPING SPEED ON THE COMPUTER! THIS KEYBOARD WAS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE JAMMING ISSUES OF TYPEWRITERS. HOWEVER, THE MOST USED LETTERS ARE NOT PLACED TOGETHER ON THE KEYBOARD.**



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**UNDERWOOD No. 5**  
At Lowest Prices Ever Quoted

The Underwood is fully equipped with every modern improvement such as automatic ribbon, back space, correct margin, reverse spacing, etc. It is the most reliable, efficient, and durable typewriter ever made. It is the only one that can be used for communication, without modification.

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These high-quality, late model Underwood No. 5 are completely renewed and refinished to operate and look like brand new. They have the up-to-date improvement the name as the new Underwood selling for \$100 and more. Yet our price is almost half price, and we sell on easy monthly payments besides.

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The Underwood No. 5 is guaranteed in writing to operate as well as we claim, or it will be given perfect satisfaction.

The guarantee is in full for all defects in material or workmanship and to replace any defective part free within 30 days.

**2 Year Guarantee**

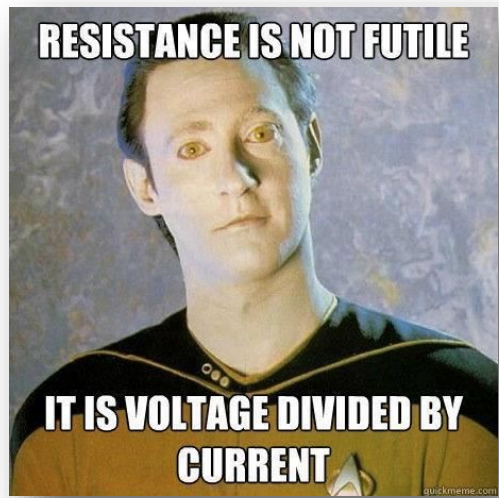
See Order Blank for low price and Easy Terms.

DeLuxe Model

Easy Terms  
Only 12c a Day

**\$100 DOWN A FULL YEAR TO PAY**

According to Wikipedia and several other sources, the term "Wi-Fi" doesn't stand for anything. It was a name invented by brand-consulting firm, Interbrand, after it was contracted by the Wi-Fi Alliance to coin a name for its new wireless technology. It was never intended to be a shortened form of Wireless Fidelity. Who Knew?!?!



# The DX Code of Conduct

1. I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling.
2. I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.
3. I will not trust the DX cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.
4. I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.
5. I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call.
6. I will always send my full call sign.
7. I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.
8. I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.
9. I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.
10. I will not transmit when the DX station requests geographic areas other than mine.
11. When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.
12. I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.
13. I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.



# RADIO

In Larkin Park: Saturday, October 21





# The Book Report

By Ken Campbell, N6PCD

## UGLY'S Electrical References

Have you ever been in need of an Ohm's Law equation? How about formulas for series or parallel circuits? How about thread dimensions with tap and drill sizes? If so, I've a great book for you!

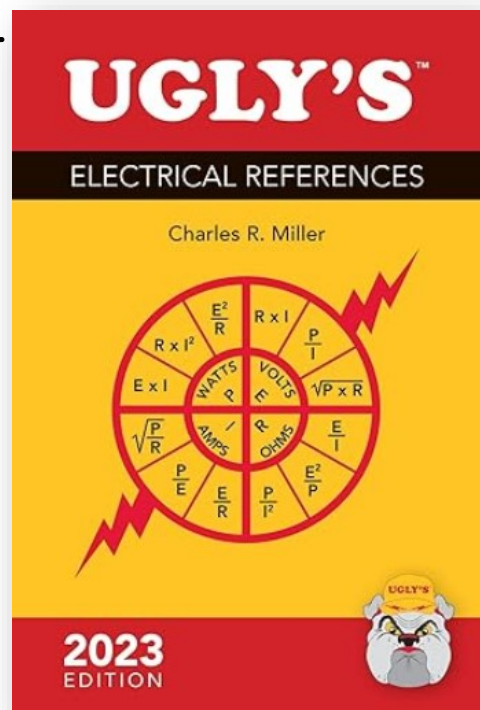
*Ugly's Electrical References* is the gold standard on-the-job reference tool of choice for electrical industry professionals and others in need of this kind of information, including us Hams!

Offering the most pertinent, up-to-date information used by electricians, including: updated NEC code and table change information, mathematical formulas, NEMA wiring configurations, conduit bending guide, ampacity and conduit fill information, transformer and control circuit wiring diagrams, and conversion tables. New Features of this Edition:

- Updated to reflect changes to the 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC)
- Expanded coverage of the following topics:
  - Full-load currents for 3-phase transformers;
  - Maximum number of conductors in electrical metallic tubing for trade sizes 5 and 6;
  - Equipment grounding conductors;
  - General lighting loads for non-dwelling occupancies.

If you don't have a copy, get one. I use mine on a fairly regular basis. Its one of the handiest books I own.

Available from Amazon.com in pocket sized spiral-bound or Kindle editions., and other booksellers.



# A Blessed Thanksgiving to you all!!!

