



GOTAhams November Newsletter

GOAT NOTES

W6GOTA RPT: 449.160/PL 77.0 / Echolink Node 106963, All star Node 569430



Editor's Bit

Good day to you my fellow GOTAhams members. This is your very own Mark H., KN6LYX, and I bring you this edition of the GOTAhams monthly newsletter. Please, if you have any suggestions, improvements, or any constructive criticism please reach out to me through my email (85markj@gmail.com) so I can improve the newsletter. I would also like to mention that this month's simplex net will be canceled due to the holiday, in case anyone is wondering. **Thank you, and God bless.**

I am hoping that everyone is getting ready for Thanksgiving and the start of the holiday season and a great thanks to everyone who provided pictures and other media for this month's edition of the newsletter. See you next month sincerely **Mark (KN6LYX) :-)**



For more information see the GOTAhams website: <https://gotahams.com>

Email Gary, the Club Secretary: 1gtke6cbw@gmail.com

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573677329942>

Join the Facebook group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/747704755629648>

GOTAhams Club Meeting

This month for November we had Grace A. Papay, K8LG, Young Ham of the Year for 2024, with “Beyond The First Contact” a presentation on her personal experiences getting into the hobby, and some ideas on how to attract the younger generation and get them into ham radio.



She also talked about the Youth On The Air camp and how it helps young amateurs to get on the air. The Youth On The Air camp group in the Americas operates a summer camp program made for and managed by young amateurs. The youth campers themselves lead most, if not all, of the camp learning sessions and are involved in the planning, promotion, and operation of the program. They get hands-on learning with satellites, contesting, morse code, kit building, high altitude balloon launches and more.

The club meeting was recorded and is available on our YouTube channel here:

<https://youtu.be/0z-aMa0UuLg?si=xKprna7Z8CQgJNt4>

POTA activation

This month we had our POTA Activation on November 1st, at Pío Pico State Park. .Pío de Jesus Pico is one of California’s most remarkable historical figures. He was the governor of California in 1832 and again in 1846 before and during the Mexican American War. His adobe home at “El Ranchito” has been completely restored to how it appeared in the 1880s letting visitors experience and celebrate his life and times.

Parks on the Air or (POTA) is an international program for amateur radio operators that encourages them to set up portable radio stations in parks and public lands, promoting outdoor exploration and radio communication. Participants, known as activators, make contacts with other operators, called hunters, and can earn awards based on their activity.



We had four activators at the park: Joe (AK6MB), Ken (KC6WOK), Niles (KK6PAH), and John (KI6ZDP).



Tour de Foothills

This year we participated in the tour de foothills providing radio support for the bike rally. The **Tour de Foothills** is a premier cycling event that brings together riders of all levels for an unforgettable ride through the scenic foothills of Southern California. Whether you're a casual cyclist or a seasoned pro, there's a route for everyone! This year there were around 1,300 cyclists at the event.

GOTAhams helped in the support cars patrolling the 3 different routes (SAG) and monitored the 5 rest stops along the way. We helped injured riders, fixed flat tires, helped coordinate medical emergencies, and returned riders and property to HQ in the SAG cars. And coordinated with the 5 rest stops where cyclists rest themselves, get a bite to eat, and refill their water.



This year our operation went very smoothly. Net Control / HQ was in a better spot away from the noise of the Start / Finish line and the music. It was a fun event and the staff made it known that they appreciate our help with the event. We had two emergencies with riders going to the hospital. One of our operators, Johnathan, was able to pick up the bike and property and deliver it to a friend of one of the injured riders.



We would like to give special thanks to all who volunteered and helped out with the event including;

(KC6WOK) **Ken Mixon**, (W6MIC) **Johnathan Mickle**, (K6FJY) **Joe Berlejungm**, (KM6EIC) **Craig Borchard**,
(KN6YVH) **Rodney Cole**, (KM6YIF) **Susie Rode**, (KN6ZEA) **Roger Zelaya**, (KN6PED) **Jere Neal**,
(KE6CBW) **Gary Totten**, (WG6OTA) **Bruce**, (K6GH) **Gary**, (KN6HHW) **Michael Harwick**,
(KK6EWK) **Ryan Bennett**, and myself (KN6LYX) **Mark Harwick**.



Upcoming December Events

Every night		7:30pm	Nightly Net
4th	Thursday	12:00pm	Board meeting
6th	Saturday	4:00pm	Covina Christmas Parade
13th	Saturday	6:00pm	Holiday Party
25th	Thursday	All day	Christmas

Covina Christmas Parade

GOTAhams and other volunteers will be helping with communications at the Covina Christmas parade and surrounding events on December 6th. We will help by coordinating any medical emergencies, parade changes, parade progression, and informing law enforcement of any possibly dangerous situations as observers

Christmas Holiday Party

I hope you are ready for the annual holiday Party. It is our big event at the end of the year. This year it will be held outdoors at Larkin Park. You can come set up a radio or just hang out with us. The club will be providing a main dish from El Ranchero and drinks. If you want to bring a main dish, side dish, salad, desert, drinks, or anything else it will be appreciated but it is not required. The club will supply paper plates, napkins, bowls, utensils, and table cloths. You may want to bring a chair and or tables if you can, there are a few picnic tables and we will bring some tables and chairs.

We will also have our White Elephant **Gift Exchange** – Every participant brings a gift (new or old, ham radio or gag) valued at \$20 or less and club members present at the event will draw for them. Please **WRAP THE GIFTS** in paper or a bag.

This year there will be three **cash prizes**, **\$50**, **\$100**, and **\$200**, given away by drawings. Members Only and **MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**.