



GOTAhams February 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. As usual, 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. **Thank you, and God bless.**

I am hoping that everyone had a wonderful Valentine's day and a good month. Thank you to everyone who provided pictures and other media for 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>



Simplex Net

Our last Simplex net was held on **January 28**, after a two month hiatus for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This is a great way to explore the reach of your 2 meter equipment without the benefit of repeater, both receiving and transmitting. Bring a pad of paper and record signal reports for all you hear. We will collect your reports on the net.

Our next simplex net will take place on **February 25 from 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm**, on **146.580MHz**. The Simplex Net will continue to take place on the fourth Wednesday each month.

Marconi Net

The Marconi Net took place on **February 14 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm** with no problems. on the WG6OTA repeater located on Sunset Ridge, North of Claremont, in Southern Californian and the GB3IW repeater located near Cowes, on the Isle of Wight, in the UK. We had a good time talking with our hams across the pond, in the UK.

If you wish to join a future Marconi net the next one will be on **March 14 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm**. Please be aware these are open repeaters, and we welcome guests. As usual, we encourage all participants to completely ignore (do not acknowledge in any way) any intentional interference during this or any other net. The KS7MC repeater (Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club) in Fort Mohave Arizona may also be linked during these nets. No special radio programming is required, just access the WG6OTA repeater as usual and it will be linked to GB3IW. Keep transmissions to less than 2 minutes and allow time for a FULL carrier drop (by the repeater) between transmissions. We do ask that participants pay special attention to avoid time outs.

For information about the clubs, please check out their respective web sites at:

<https://gotahams.com> <https://iowrs.org>

For information about the net, contact: Bill Appleton, KF4MCG at kf4mcg@hotmail.com

POTA Activation

This month's POTA activation took place at
Dockweiler State Beach.

Joe, Marco, Jay, and Nielesh set up their stations, and made some contacts while enjoying the beach. The weather was good and the ocean view was amazing.





You can find more information about POTA here: parksontheair.com.
For more information contact Marco, KN6SJK@gmail.com

We usually do a POTA Activation on the first Saturday of each month. You can come to watch or come and setup a station or you can participate from home (Hunters). All you have to do is check the POTA website here: <https://pota.app/#/> and look for WG6OTA. Listen to the frequency the Club POTA group is using. Then make a contact. That is it. Signing up for your own account or logging your contacts at the POTA website is not required but optional if you want to keep track of your POTA contacts.



Come to our next POTA event on **March 7th** at **Chino Hills State Park**.



The Park opens at 8am. We will set up inside the park almost exactly 3 miles from the intersection of Sapphire Rd & Bane Canyon Rd, just past the Telegraph Canyon Rd Lookout, turn right on the dirt road headed North. You can use this link: https://maps.app.goo.gl/nGtL3gHWBeYlMga67?g_st=ic or enter these coordinates into your GPS: 33.920868, -117.701230 I think there is a \$10 charge to get into the park.

Club Meeting

This month's club meeting took place on **February 12 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**. We had **Kirk Beasley, KN6UMV** personally come to the meeting with a second presentation for us on DMR. In the first presentation he covered what DMR is and how it works. In this month's presentation he focused more on how to use DMR.



If anyone wants to do a presentation for the club, Please contact our club president **Micheal Harwick KN6HHW**.

Our next club meeting will take place on **March 12 @ 7:00 pm at El Rancho 984 W. Foothill Blvd., Claremont**. Our presentation will be from Wolf River Coils.

Radio In The Park

Our most recent Radio in the Park took place At Larkin Park in Claremont. It was a good day, the weather was great but cold. The trees gave us enough shade. We had six Radio Stations set up. We had a large turnout with a few new people, a few temporary guests, and a lot of brownies, donuts, and other snacks. Overall it was a fun event and I would encourage others to come too.

Jason KJ6RTA using his
Icom IC-7300 on 12 meters



Joe AK6MB using an Icom IC705
with a buddypole mini



Dave Wood W6OD using a Yaesu FTX1
for CW on 15mhz.

Nelish KK6PAH using a zBITx



on 20 meters and FT8



Dave K6EV working on a Wolf River Coil antenna



We had a guest appearance from Harish, KO6FJT, using a FTA91a on 20 and 6 meters with a homemade Balun. I forgot to get a picture of before he left.

Our next Radio In The Park will take place on **March 21 @ 8:00 am at San Dimas Canyon Park 512 Sycamore Canyon Rd, San Dimas, CA**. We would recommend bringing a chair and a table if you plan to set up a radio.

Upcoming March Events

Every night (except club meeting)	7:30pm	Nightly Net
25th	Wednesday	6:15pm
		Simplex net
28th	Saturday	1:00pm
		VE Testing
7th	Saturday	8:00am
		POTA Activation
12th	Thursday	7:00pm
		Club Meeting
14th	Saturday	12:00am
		Marconi Net
21st	Saturday	10:00am
		Radio In The Park
25th	Wednesday	6:15pm
		Simplex net
28th	Saturday	1:00pm
		VE Testing

VE Testing

Our next VE testing session will take place at **Brackett Field on February 28 @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm.**

Tests will be held on the LAST Saturday of each month (EXCEPT DECEMBER) at 1PM in the Pilots Lounge of the Brackett Field airport in La Verne (map below). Walk-ins are allowed, but you are strongly encouraged to contact Frank at 909-257-7205 in advance. Please leave a message with your contact information and indicate which license level(s) you are pursuing.

Please bring \$15.00 for the A.R.R.L. VEC exam fee. (\$5 if under 18). Payment must be cash or check – no credit cards or electronic payment methods. Also, please review the ‘preparation’ link below to ensure that you have completed the other required preparations for a successful test. **You MUST bring an FCC FRN number** to the test event – contact us if you need help with creating this on the FCC website. Successful candidates will be contacted by the FCC for payment of any additional fees due before issuance of the license.

Preparation: Please review this page: <http://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>

Information on FCC License Fees
(NOT collected at test):

<https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee>

Map and Directions:

The pilot’s lounge is located in the terminal building also housing Norms Hanger Coffee Shop.

Enter the front entrance and turn to the left just after the gift shop. One door down on the left.

[Brackett field la Verne](#) Click for directions

GOTAhams is grateful to Frank and his team for their commitment to continue this long-standing volunteer effort, having conducted hundreds of prior exam sessions.

