



GOAT NOTES

June 2019

by Vic KM6RWB

What A Month

Seems that it was only the end of April, wait a minute it was- oh well that means it's Gota Newsletter Time. I am thinking of naming the newsletter "Goat Notes." What do you think? please let me know.

This month's SPOTLIGHT is on our favorite propeller top, Kathi Mixon. One of the most energetic people I have ever met. Kathi is our secretary and so much more. When the meetings start to go off track, as they usually do, she is there to make sure we get everything accomplished according to the schedule. Not an easy task with this bunch of operators.

We got good news from ARRL and our local mucky mucks. We are now recognized by ARRL and QRZ as a genuine and established club. We are also listed at ED's radio (edradio.com) which is also a great source for staying RADIO ACTIVE.

We also had our first coming out party at both the Claremont radio Swap meet and a grand picnic and radio day in the park at San Dimas Canyon Park.

Jack KM6UNQ's wife Michelle is under the weather and we wish for her speedy recovery.

Lots going on and we are just getting started- Field Day 2019 is upon us and we are just about to "Geterdun" So without further QRM let's get to it.

Spotlight of the Month



This month's spotlight is our beloved secretary, Kathi Mixon KD6CAF. Kathi is over 21 and her birthday is in November. Kathi has been an operator since the 90's, She said she got interested when her husband Ken (KC6WOK) was studying for his Tech ticket, when knowledge and ability to send and receive Morse code was

still the standard for that basic license . Kathi took her Tech License and passed on the first try. Kathi said that when she got her Tech license (KD6CAF) a friend of her husband, said it was a perfect call sign because she was “Cute And Friendly”, good call. In 2018 she took and passed her General ticket under the tutelage of Jim Kesterson. Kathi is now studying for her Advanced license, good luck Kathi.

Kathi grew up in the La Verne area. She has lived in Claremont and the Antelope Valley, she now resides in Covina.

When Kathi is not on Grandma Duties, she enjoys cooking fish that she has caught herself. Hiking and fishing in the high Sierras are some of her other passions. Kathi is a skilled seamstress and an accomplished quilt maker. Kathi holds family as one of her most favorite activities and looks forward to her annual family reunion. Her children and grandchildren are among her favorite subjects of conversation.

Interesting point of fact- Kathi was a ski lift operator at the Mount Baldy ski resort from 1976 to 1984. Kathi is also a fellow Los Angeles City retiree, man this woman has done a lot of things and has been successful in all of them and we are so fortunate to have her as our friend, secretary and so much more.

Recruitment Duty

The day started out early on the morning of April 18, 2019. Mark, Vilma and Kathi were the early risers and set up the GOTA booth at the Claremont ham Radio Swap Meet. The group met up, set up and spoke to a bunch of folks about our new club. Coffee, donuts and GOTA buttons were passed out. There were some interested people and some interesting stories that were traded for a cup of Joe. Vic came by later to lend a hand.

The swap meet isn't very large but the GOTA space was definitely the most popular spot there. Here are some pictures of our recruiters in action.

Below is our Vice President Mark KM6AHY and our Hospitality Secretary.



Kathi KD6CAF, Mark and Vilma manning the recruitment booth.



Vic KM6RWB, Kathi, Vilma and Mark at the Swapmeet recruitment booth.



The First Annual GOTA Picnic

What a wonderful day for our picnic. The week prior had been overcast and rain came and went just as quickly. The weather people were not able to decide what that Saturday would bring, but it was 50-50 as to picnic weather.

The experts were wrong and the sun was out and the skies were clear and the temps were on the mild side. The place that we chose was open and a shade tree was the perfect accent to the cooking space. Mark was on grill duty and the hot dogs were cooked to perfection and he even made some wrapped in bacon Downtown L.A. style.

Vilma and Kathi prepped the other goodies that were brought by the rest of the club members. Ken and Kathi then turned their attention to a New Orleans style boil of shrimp, sausage, potatoes and corn- what a treat- this specialty will now be known as Goat Chow in honor of the club's logo.

For dessert we had a tasty bundt cake, some fruit and berries- if I left anything out, and I am sure I did it's because of food coma I was going through. Talk about needing a nap.

But no naps were to be had, as we had radios to get on the air. Jack brought out his new FT-991 mobile HF radio and new Wolf River mobile antenna- Ken set up his MFJ--- antenna and matched it up to his IC-7300- I believe I saw this shoot-out on You Tube a while back. To see such fine pieces of equipment next to each other , in person, well it was impressive to say the least.

Even though the conditions were not ideal for making numerous contacts the fact that we had these radios to compare was a big deal in itself. I have to tell you seeing those radio's side by side did not make my future purchase any easier to decide, as they both looked great. Although my wife Jan pointed out that the screen on the IC-7300 is bigger and bigger is better. So much for size doesn't matter. Although in this case she is probably right, as usual. (Not really BUT she does read this so...you get the idea haha). My wife had a great time and finally got to see other people involved in ham Radio and was glad to see so many nice people in one place at one time. No drama, just people enjoying each other's company.

Michelle, Jack's wife attended and was temporarily in a wheelchair as she was waiting for surgery to repair injuries to her feet and ankle, she was a real trooper and made the picnic that much more special, thanks for attending and supporting the club ma'am.

Mark's parents were also in attendance and the look of pride in a Father's eye for a son explaining a contraption he built was quite a moment.

Bob came by to hang out for awhile, left his horse at home though, maybe next time.

The food was great and the company could not have been better. This was, in my opinion, a dress rehearsal for Field Day, and I think it went off in fine fashion.

Below are some of the photos of our special day.





Ken looks on as Kathi and Vilma set up the feast



Our Grill Master Mark



Bob KM6OWV not sure if Bruce KM6WBI or Jack KM6UNQ are telling fish stories or they are truly coax experts



Vic's wife Jan and Jack's wife Michelle enjoying the day despite some injuries, real troopers and good sports to hang out with this bunch of operators.



Fox hunting gear, hummm Bruce says back in the 70's this was not the fox hunting he was used to, and everyone agreed.



Goat chow being made - some folks call it a Cajun Boil- but we renamed it- Our Chef Ken was at the helm of this deal



And it was as good as it looks



Chow hounds- enjoying the day's feast and company



Explaining stuff to your dad- a classic



Ken and Kathi finally taking a minute to enjoy themselves



Field Day dry run

OK Folks that just about covers it. Next Month we will have a full newsletter on our Field Day activities. Let's pray for good weather and good waves. Till then stay safe and stay RADIO ACTIVE

