

January 2020

# The Pasadena Radio Club

# Bulletin

## SOTA???

### What's That?

Summits On The Air has been around since the British created the program in 2002. A California branch was organized a decade later. In this talk David presents information about SOTA, discusses several helpful tools he uses to prepare his activities, and shares some of his experiences on the trail and summit.

David Hodge N6AN has been a licensed radio amateur for 50 years. CW continues to be his favorite operating mode. Traffic handling, contesting, and DXing keep his ears and fist sharp. Since 1979, operating worldwide contests from different countries has been a highlight, signing such calls as VP2VEQ, P42E, KP2A, PJ2T, XE1NTT, A73A. From 1990 to 2001 Mexico City was his home and he played principal Horn in the Mexico City Philharmonic and the Sinfonica Nacional. In 2006 he represented Mexico with Ramon, XE1KK, at the World Radio Team Championship held in Florianopolis, Brazil. With John, K6AM, he competed for the USA in Boston at the 2014 WRTC. For the 2018 WRTC in Lutherstadt, Germany, he served as a referee. The SOTA program caught his attention in 2019 and he has been quite active since April.

### January 28th Program



**David Hodge, N6AN**

## President's Message

The new year beckons us with new opportunities to learn, serve, and play in our Amateur Radio hobby. And we're here to have fun doing it. Program Chair Jim Marr is striving for a diverse yet balanced series of informative lectures for our meetings. I will be pushing for more outside activities whether they be radio related or not. How about a picnic or a build-a-thon, or a technology tour?

Got a good idea for a club activity or lecture? Let me know.

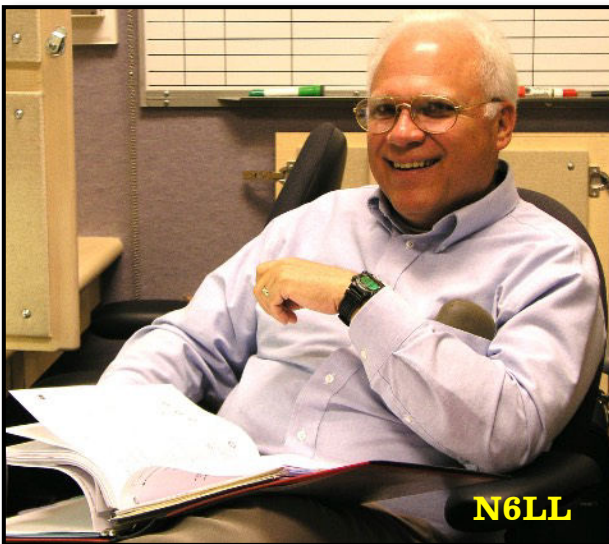
Is there something in which you would participate? Let me know.

Is there an activity you would lead? Let me know.

Let's have some fun!

See you at the meeting.

73, President Paul, N6LL



**N6LL**



# Pepperoni or 2-Meters?

Pizza Pan Antenna / Tester

For less than \$4, Walmart has a 16" steel pizza pan – bring a small magnet to make sure it's steel.

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Mainstays-16-Pizza-Pan/14913176>

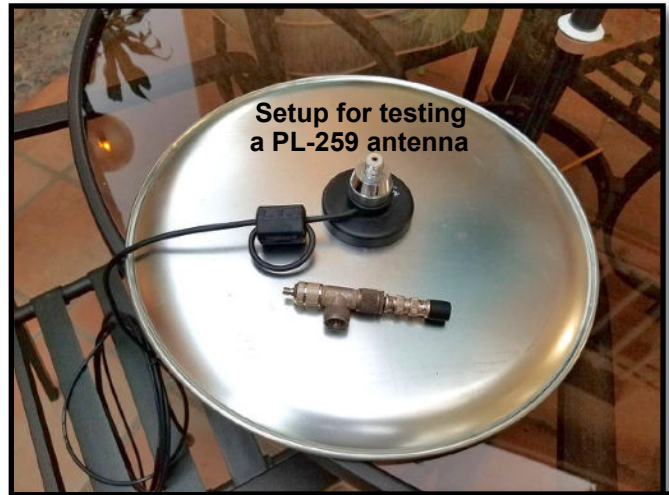
With a mag mount + compatible antenna it can be used for an inside the house antenna. With a little more effort, it can be used to test NMO, PL-259, BNC, SMA and reverse SMA antennas.

Using an antenna analyzer the combination of antennas and adapters might not be exactly the same as you would see on your car or hand held radio but it would indicate if an antenna is "good enough" by finding its resonate point on the pizza pan. With a wide range analyzer, it would identify unknown and multiband antennas and determine duds. Once mounted on a car, the antenna in question can be tuned to the required frequency.

This is a handy tool to have around the shack for a temporary antenna, checking antennas or for field testing mobile and rubber duckie antennas.

Allen – kc7o

## The AntPan



Setup for testing a PL-259 antenna



SO-259 adapter & PL-259 to BNC adapter



Using a PL-250 "Tee" makes a connector holder and handy handle



Wrapped up for storage or transport



16" steel pizza pan  
Walmart - <\$4



Ferrite - isolates coax from the antenna

NMO mag mount

BNC to reverse SMA

PL-259 to SMA

PL-259 to BNC

SO-239 to NMO