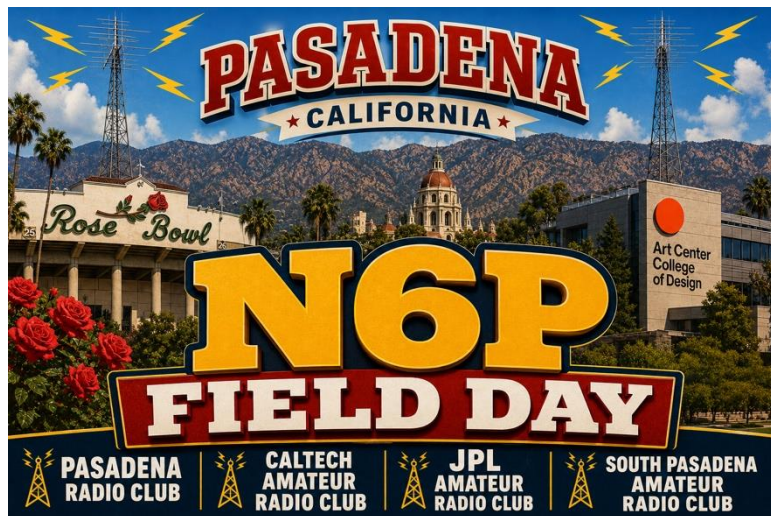


Field Day 2026 Postlude

Carol Bruegge, 17 July 2026

cjbruegge@gmail.com; cell: 818-862-1677



Dates: June 27-28, 2026

Who:

- The joint PRC (Pasadena Radio Club), SPARC (South Pasadena Amateur Radio Club), JPLARC (Jet Propulsion Laboratory Amateur Radio Club), and CITARC (California Institute of Technology Amateur Radio Club)
- Youth, Scouts, and other non-radio operators interested in learning more about Amateur Radio

Exchange: N6P (special event call sign), or W6SPR (GOTA)

Chairs:

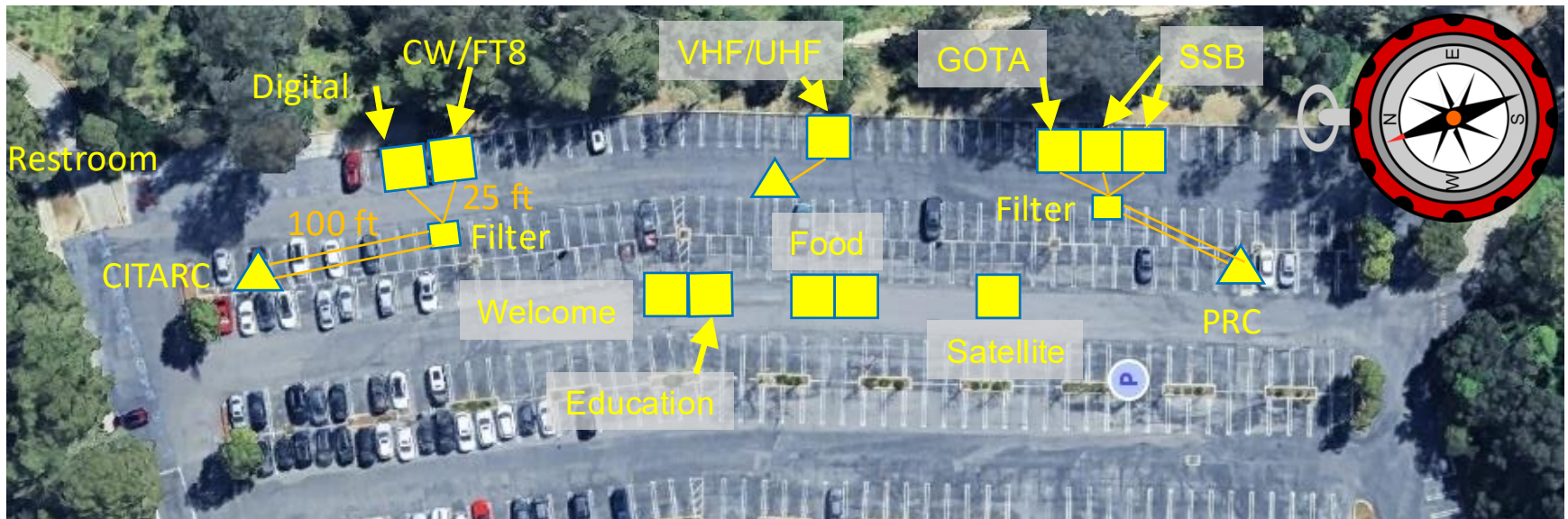
- Carol KE6SRN (retired JPL), Mark W6MES (PRC)



Location: Art College Hillside Campus

1700 Lida St, Pasadena

PRC has used the Art Center College since 2008, excluding 2000-2003.



- CITARC – first deployment since 2019
- Special thanks to Carlos Lopez, Campus Security and our FD contact point



2025 vs 2026 results

	2025	2026
CW	581	1029
Digital	167	364
VHF	55	105
HF	969	752
GOTA	37	77
Satellite	0	3
Bonus points	2035	2335
Total points	7149	9501

GOTA station

- 2025: operated from 1-5 using BSA ICOM
- 2026: station available 24 hrs with one op making 29 evening QSOs. Used JPL ICOM

Bonus points

- 2025 missed media outreach and satellite
- 2026 earned all bonus points

Operators submitting from home in 2025, with affiliation to PRC/SPARC/JPLARC/CITARC

- 4 in 2025
- 1 in 2026 (Allen Wolff). Deadline Tuesday, July 28, 2026



2026 Station Leads (4A class)

CW/ Digital antenna (CITARC)

Lead: Steve Tovali KN6ZOO (PRC)

1. CW: Tom Bruegge KE6SRO (2026 SPARC President)
2. Digital (FT8/ FT4): Frank O'Donnell K6FOD (retired JPL)

PRC antenna trailer

Lead: Mark Seigel W6MES (PRC)

3. SSB: Mark Seigel W6MES (PRC)
 4. SSB: Justin Linam KN6EJG (PRC)
- GOTA station: John Aboud KK6ZVQ (SPARC)

Towing: Steve Newquist KO6DTY, Niel Errickson KO6HZM (PRC)

Station unique antennas

- VHF/ UHF: Stan Tahara KR6CV (SPARC)
- Satellite: Carol KE6SRN, Tom KE6SRO, Michael Trowbridge (JPL)



Participants



Carol KE6SRN and Mark W6MES
Field Day chairs



Frank K6FOD, Digital station



Justin Linam KN6EJG, SSB station



Pancake time
with head chef
Steve KO6DTY



GOTA station with Perry as coach



Participants, cont.



David N6AN and Mike W4EF



CW Champions

- David: 500 CW QSOs plus 436 SSB
- Mark (night shift): 529 CW QSOs
- Mike: CITARC custodian

← Mark WB6CIA pulling an all-nighter at the CW station

Below) John AC6VV (PRC Pres) and Rick KI6ZKM



SPARC team members: Tom KE6SRO, Mark WB6CIA, Jeff W2JEL, Stan KR6CV. Not shown: John KK6ZVQ, Rick KI6ZKM



Mike KO6KLT and John KK6ZVQ





Future Quantum Physicist

(as proclaimed by her)



Ellie, San Gabriel Troop 5 with Rick KI6ZKM. Mom couldn't convince her to leave, so went home to get husband and sister, then spent the day with us.



Bonus points

100% emergency power (battery): N6P policy

- Batteries recharged via generator or solar

Welcome table: Carol KE6SRN

Educational activity: John KK6ZVQ & Jeff W2JCL

Messages to ARRL and others: Jeff Liter W2JCL via Winlink

Satellite QSO: Carol, Tom, Michael

W1AW bulletin: Frank K6FOD

Report submission via web: Carol KE6SRN

John KK6ZVQ

- Media publicity
- Site visit, elected official (Congresswoman Laura Friedman)
- Site visit, agency rep (Glendale and Pasadena fire department)
- Social media

GOTA: Hal KF6RRR with BSA Troop 5 (boys) and Troop 55 (Girls)

Youth participation: Scouts, Ella Tovali

Steve Newquist KO6DTY

- Safety
- Hospitality

Setup/ tear down: All



Who can operate GOTA?

- Any generally inactive licensee
- Any person licensed since the previous year's Field Day, regardless of license class
- Only one GOTA station can be on the air at a given time
- The GOTA station must use a different call than the principal station
 - Use W6SPR

Scoring

- All QSOs earn 5 pts bonus plus 2 pt per QSO with power multiplier
- 100 bonus points for having a GOTA coach
 - A control operator must be present if the GOTA participant is operating outside their license class
- 20 pts per Youth operator 18 yrs or younger. Max 100 pts.

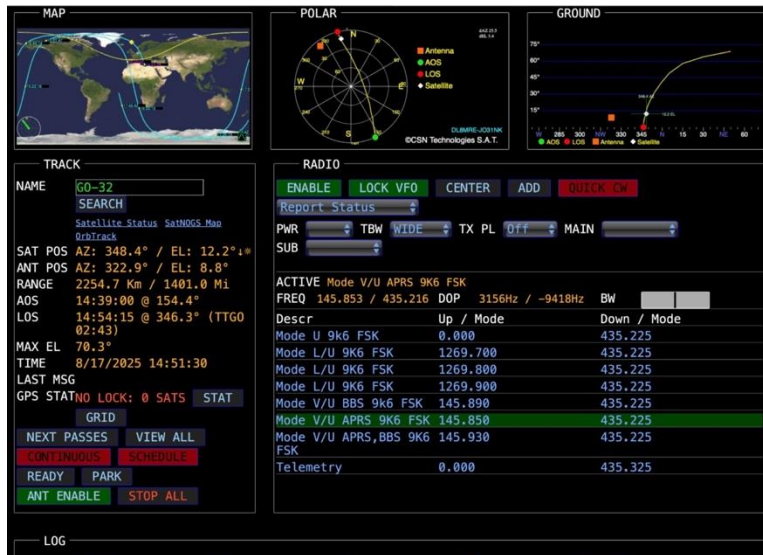
Station supervision

- John KK6ZVQ or Perry N9LFF from 1-5 pm for scouts, youth, and VIPs
- Carol KE6SRN all other hours



Satellite QSO

- Icom IC-9700. An all-mode tri-band transceiver covering 2 meters, 70 centimeters, and 23 centimeters. It supports SSB, CW, AM, FM, and D-STAR digital modes. It is celebrated for its high-performance RF direct-sampling SDR receiver and full-duplex satellite capabilities
- Arrow 146/437-10BP Yagi
- CSN S.A.T. Radio controller
- iPad connected to the S.A.T. box via WiFi
- No internet/ cell required – download Kepler coefficient days before





PRC Antenna Trailer

For SSN phone and GOTA stations

- Trailer:
 - Texas Bragg 16 ft Classic Car Carrier.
- Tower:
 - U.S. Tower tilt-over, crank-up (~35').
 - Model TMM-433SS
- Antenna:
 - Cushcraft A3S triband (20/15/10m).
 - 75m/40m Fan Dipole.
- Antenna Rotator:
 - Kenpro KR-400
- Power Caster model PC-2:
 - For maneuvering trailer when not attached to a vehicle.

Issue: Tower was tied to an aluminum diamond plate, not tied to trailer frame. Some lobbied to not use the antenna for 2026; PRC board overruled. Niel KO6HZM has since overhauled.





CITARC antenna

For CW and Digital stations



- Equipment

- Force 12 C3S triband Yagi (20/15/10m)
- Antenna rotator (guide rope)
- 80/40 m fan dipole

Issue: The antenna had not been used since 2019. It had been sitting in the desert sun since that time. Tires and rims needed to be replaced. Custodian unavailable in the months prior to FD. Uncertain where to stage in the days before FD.

It all worked out!!!! Thanks Steve KN6ZOO for the vision to make it happen.





Lesson learned

- Need more help documenting antenna setup
 - We have no procedure for either antenna setup. Gave assignment twice.
- Need more volunteers to bring side dishes for lunch/ dinner.
- Sunday breakfast:
 - Steve KO6DTY prepared and served pancakes and sausages at 8 am. Some of us who had been up all night were very hungry.
 - Dave Holcomb K9DBA had 8 breakfast meals delivered from the Black Cow. It arrived at 9 am. Everyone was back on shift by this time.
- Need a dedicated photographer. Bruce does a great job with the video.
- Coax shortage: We need an additional 100 ft cable for the CITARC antenna



Clean up crew





References

- Contact

cjbruegge@gmail.com

Cell: 818-862-1677

Carol's blog report (2026): <https://radioandrides.com/2026/07/01/field-day-2026/>

Bruce Nolte YouTube videos

2026 video will be presented at the August 2026 PRC meeting

- <https://youtu.be/I2JhKOWkPkk?si=5y70--vW6a05M2LR> (2019)
- https://youtu.be/N564yTOKv38?si=GW9R9nT8SnjuUv_V (2024)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0ucOwlQsOo> (2025)



MeshCore

- Meshcore is a means for individuals to keep in touch during a grid-down scenario.
- Tom KE6SRO presented a request to install a MeshCore node in the La Canada. Waiting for reply.





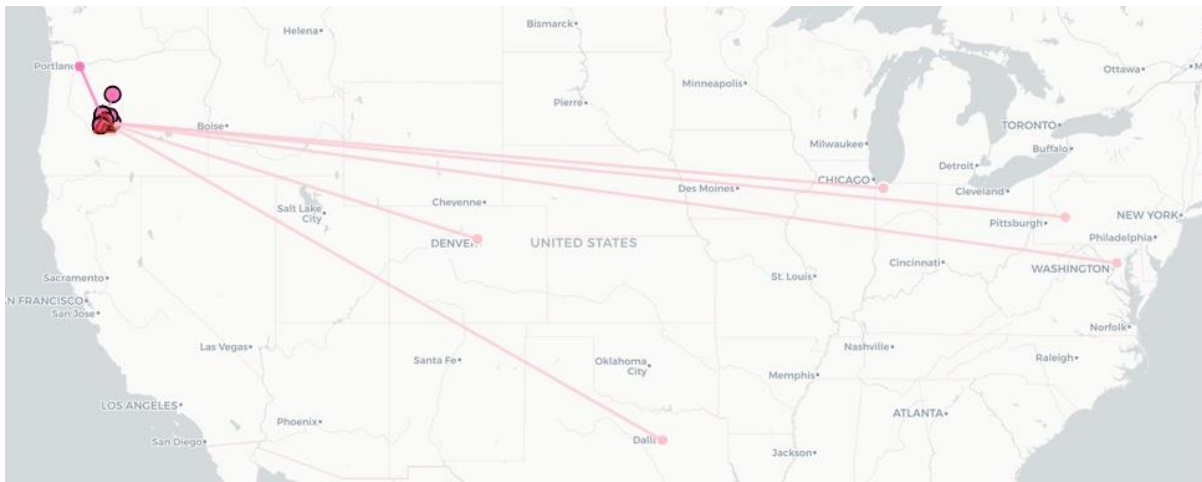
2026 PNW SOTA Campout



- Held at the Crane Prairie Campground near Bend, Oregon
- Over 75 ham operators in attendance, believed to be the largest gathering of SOTA hams anywhere.
- Three children, ages 9, 10, and 11 from 2 households were active participants
- Tom and I hiked 11 summits for a total of 53 SOTA points and 11 multipliers for the 2026 SOTA challenge.



Satellite was a topic of discussion



17k km reached in three RS-44 overpasses



Working the “birds” gives me an advantage

2m/70cm Challenge Activator Results

SOTA is not inherently a competitive activity, it's about individual aspirations and working towards a goal at your own pace. However, it can be fun to see how your progress compares with that of others, hence we publish our Honour Roll on the internet.

Please help us to keep this page up-to-date by regularly submitting your SOTA logs.

All W



Show

Position	Callsign	Total Distance (km)	Unique Summits	Points
1	KE6SRN	142818	98	13996164
2	KE6SRO	71418	98	6998964
3	KF7NP	212234	24	5093616
4	W6LOR	47963	60	2877780
5	WJ7WJ	35096	80	2807680
6	N1CLC	55098	45	2479410
7	K6STR	41101	55	2260555
8	WJ7V	24982	63	1573866
9	K7ATN	30754	51	1568454
10	KX6I	17624	62	1092688



Gabriel AJ6X



Sophie KO6MFP, Alex KO6MFO, and Gabriel AJ6X on Mount Bachelor (W7O/CM-005). Gabriel is from Romania and has interesting stories of listening to prohibited amateur radio during the Communist era. Both Sophie (11) and Alex (9) love traveling and hiking with their dad. They both know Morse Code and just may be the youngest to earn Mountain Goat when they get there.



The MotoSoto Gang



The MotoSota gang on Pringle Butte (W7O/CM-094) – including Josh WU7H and Rex KE6MT. They rode to 5 different peaks that day.



Newest Mountain Goats



Brian AB6D, Jarod NE7ET, and Clinton KJ7LLS each became Mountain Goat during the event. Brian is the developer of SOTAMat (pronounced MATE which rhymes with late). There is lots of documentation on the App on his web site. Most know it as a tool to spot, including using a command to Garmin's InReach when there is no cell coverage. It also has a tool for estimating your hiking time based on previous hikes and can control your Elecraft radio using SOTACAT.