

The PROPAGATOR

July, 2005

The Monthly Newsletter of South Orange Amateur Radio Association

July "Show & Tell"	Fantastic Field Day 2005	O. C. Fair Booth
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Time once again for Show & Tell. This is the time SOARA members get to show off their favorite toy or project. Bring your favorite boat anchor (hollow state or solid state technology), test gizmo, operating aid, small antenna, QRP rig, power sources, RDF equipment etc. to the meeting by 7:00 PM.

We will have about a forty (40) minute window to make all of the show & tell presentations. We will divide the 40 minute time period by the number of participants. Example; 10 members to Show & Tell will each have about a 4 minute time frame. Please think about what you would like to say about your item, and how to cover the important points in the relatively short time. A time keeper will indicate when your time is almost up. Information pass outs regarding your item are welcomed.

Members already scheduled include John, NJ6A, with his nifty keyer. Dale, W8RRV, with an audible S-meter, and Jim, K6LIO, showing his antenna on a fishing pole

So that we may have an ideal about how many will joining in the fun, please notify Jim, K6LIO, at (949) 581-3123 or by e-mail k6lio@soara.org.

73 K6LIO ♣

As Chairman of the Field Day Event, I wish to express my personal THANKS to everyone that participated. A special thanks to Vicki & Randy Davis of R & D Running for helping with the food, they did a great job. There are a few people who really make the Field Day the success it is. Ray AE6H causes all the equipment, antennas, etc. to magically appear at the start of Field Day and disappear at the end. Heiko AD6OI who seems to be around whenever a BOSS is needed, where would we be without those special orders. Dale W8RRV in his quiet way makes sure so many things get done. Richard K6RBS & Brian NJ6N who makes that special effort to make sure demonstrations get performed and radios & antennas operate. While a few of you contributed to making contacts in Morse Code, a special Thanks to Dana K6NR and Tak W6SI. Our Membership team, Robin KG6MCA, Jim K6EEE did a great job signing up 11 new members. How could I forget Jeremy KG6JAD who set up the network and kept the data flowing and Howard KG6GI for the internet access and Band pass filters and.... I could go on & on until I mentioned everyone in the club, but I just have to end this with just a great big THANK YOU to all of us, and of course I'm looking forward to next year.

Lou, KG6FCT. ♣

SOARA is helping staff the Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations (OCCARO) booth at the O.C. Fair. It is a great booth, and an opportunity to share Ham Radio with prospective Hams, current Hams looking to affiliate with a local club, and the general public.

Although SOARA's first date, Saturday, July 16, may have passed by the time you get this, there is still a chance to sign up for a time slot on Saturday, July 23. It's loads of fun, so don't miss out! Contact SOARA VP Jim Yetter, k6lio@soara.org or by phone at (949) 581-3123 to sign up and get your Fair tickets and parking pass. □

Lane Victory Cruise, August 14

If you have not already heard, Dino Darling, K6RIX, president of WARA and of OCCARO, is organizing a group one day cruise aboard the SS Lane Victory for August 14, 2005. Many people have replied and Dino is keeping a separate e-mail list of names for those who want to attend. It is still not too late to get your name on that list! If we get 50 people to sign up, we will save 15% off of the regular ticket price!

There are two radio rooms with one of them being the ORIGINAL CW (only) station with vintage WWII radio gear and the other an



amateur station. Both stations will be ON THE AIR for operation at sea! The special event call sign will be W6LV and certificates will be provided.

For those who want to get on the e-mail list for this event, send an e-mail directly to k6rix@earthlink.net. As payments are received, Dino is sending out confirmations immediately via e-mail!

Please send, ASAP, a check for \$85.00 per person, made checks payable to: **Lane Victory**
c/o Dino Darling
12413 S. Tigrina Ave.
Whittier, CA 90604-4110 ♣

SOARA Picnic: August 7

SOARA's annual summer picnic will be held Sunday, August 7, 2005 at Dana Point Harbor, in the picnic area, referred to as "Baby Beach". The gathering time will be about 11:00 AM, with food being served about 1:00 PM. The fare will be the traditional hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, etc. SOARA will furnish the burgers, dogs, buns, condiments, and soft drinks. It would be very helpful if those attending could bring a salad (potato, bean, fruit, green, etc.) or a picnic style desert such as cookies, brownies, or the like.

Talk in will be on the San Clemente Repeater: 146.025+ (110.9). Bring your family, your side dishes, appetites, lawn chairs, and be prepared for a great time! The August T-hunt will be held at the beach. Just as last year, it will be an "on foot" hunt, and a great opportunity to try your hand at hunting. There will be several hunts of varying difficulty to add to the fun. Bring your 2m HT and try hunting — you may find that you like the challenge of it! ♣



The Way I See It: Field Day Technology

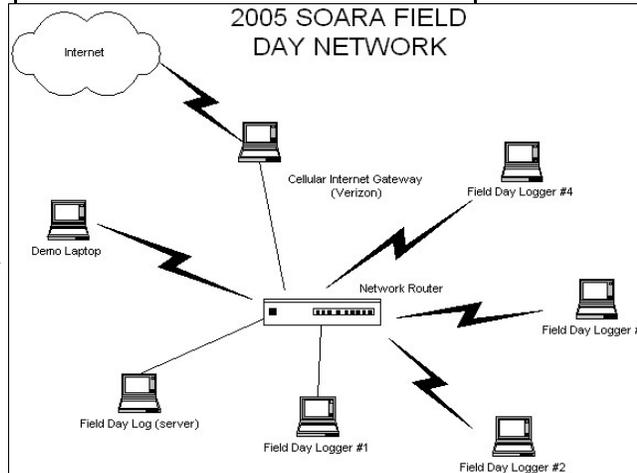
The field day network that is set up every year under the direction of Phil, AD6NH, in the past and now Jeremy, KG6JAD, is typically only used to convey the contacts worked at each radio station to a master logging server. The typical network is comprised of one laptop computer for the primary field day log server and three or four laptops to log contacts as they are made at the various station locations. All of the computers are usually connected together using standard "10/100baseT" twisted pair network cabling.

This year's network had several technological improvements over the previous years networks. First, we introduced 2.4GHz wireless networking capability thus freeing the stations from their wire tethers (other than the inevitable "train transformer"

necessary to power the unit for the 24 hour field day period). This enabled us to have a laptop in the membership area that could keep track of the contacts being made at all of the other stations which we share with visitors, without the need to hover over one of the stations and possibly distract the radio operators.

cellular modem and the engineering ingenuity of the SOARA Field Day Networking Team of Howard, KG6GI, Jerrod, K6TEK, Jeremy KG6JAD, and Brian, NJ6N, (who supervised) we were able to outfit ALL of the field day stations with Internet access.

We didn't end up using the Internet enabled



features of the logging software (the excellent Field Day Network 2.4 program by N3FJP), but we were able to demonstrate our web site to visitors and use the Internet for a variety of tasks including running Satscape to get satellite pass predictions in an effort to achieve bonus points. Perhaps next year we can keep a running tally of our field day contacts on our web site for off-site members to monitor!

The second improvement over last year was the introduction of an Internet connection by way of a Verizon cellular modem courtesy of Howard, KG6GI. With Howard's Verizon

All and all, we had a very impressive field day setup and a top-notch network for sure. ♣

Who Let the Foxes Loose?

Who that guy with a foxin' antenna bigger dan his car?

Who that guy crossin' ragin' rivers bare foot, sniffin' foxes out faster than a cat?

Who that guy that has a partner that's at more club functions then people who actually "belong" to the club?

I'd a got a picture of him but he found the fox and beat feet to a play! Didn't even hang around for a burger or dog!

Yup it's Dale all right, W8RRV.

Sneaking in at 1 hour and 30 min, and you can bet that he and Karl, KF6MDF, are going to make people squeal when they hide it this time!

But enough of that. Richard and I spared no expense putting this one on. Richard looked high and low and hawked every corner of the county to find this bitty of a hiding place. Looking out over Orange County proper at 850 feet, he used his "fox hunting" antenna to aim the signal right at Hieko's big screen TV! And Hieko was giving us a report of 9++.

Yeah, you bet he was, and the signal stayed on forever. I thought Richard had put the Gettysburg Address on there!



And to spice things up, a tasty C-note was on the transmitter! IF you beat the 15 minute record to find the fox the \$100 was yours. No takers this time so I slipped the note back into my pocket, and Richard put the Lobster on the table. Yes Richard's wife, Kelly, helped us with the shopping, set up AND cooking. She didn't want to hear any sniveling about the food either. It was sit down, eat, and smile while yer saying "thank you, ma'am."

She also kept the kite flying while Rich and I were out doing radio things.

As time ticked on and we realized that there were no more hunters in the area, we started to give clues. Here's one: "we're in Laguna Beach." How about, "we're on Balboa St." Then Richard started giving Lat's and Long's!! Gee, aren't "they" supposed to find "us"? OK so it was a hard one but Brian and Tek got in at 3 hours and 37 min. Bri was starving as was Tek. They chowed before going on to get the fox.

Kareem, KG6USK, called in on 2 meters to get directions but he had to get to the airport so he took off as did the team of Howard, KG6GI. The traffic was bad and after 4 hours of looking he, Lou, KG6FCT, and Jeremy, KG6JAD, were heading for a cold one (or slushy).

Now due to the fact that we cooked up all these burgers and you guys never got to us, we're sending all of you your burger, first class mail. Some of them have cheese, some of them don't.

Marching Band Moms are way meaner than soccer Moms so careful what you say. Just eat your burger and smile real nice. 73, Dave ♣

Year 2005	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	24	28	21	18	16	20	18	15	19	17	21	No meeting
Program	WU6D (Org. SM)	KG6UOS "Long Waves"	N6NHP "Ham Radio & Astro."	AA6MH Calif. ACS	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep.	Show & Tell	K3AW Video on Antennas	K6RIX Radio KFI	TBD	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	24	28	21	18	16	20 25	18	15	19	17	21	—
SOARA T-Hunt	9	6	6	3	1	5	10	7	11	9	6	4
Board Meeting	31	3/7	28	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	28	
ARRL Field Day						25/26						
SOARA picnic												
SOARA Holiday Party												4

ARRL Membership

You can join or renew your membership to the ARRL through SOARA. Why do that? — The ARRL gives the club a small portion of the money you pay. There is no extra cost to you, but the club treasury benefits.

We should all support the ARRL for they are our best representative in protecting our interests. See Tony, AE6QT for the details on the simple process involved.

Club-Wear

Have you seen those nifty blue SOARA caps some of the members are sporting? You can get one. They have the SOARA logo on the front and your call sign on the back.

Some very nice blue T-shirts (for wearing on T-hunts?) are also available. They are sponsored by our Ways & Means committee. Tony, AE6QT, has all of the details.

**2005 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention
September 9 - 11
Riverside Convention Center
Riverside CA**

Plan on attending the convention this year. The cost is modest (\$12.50 before August 21, \$15.00 at the door) and the location is a reasonable drive for spending the day. Visit SOARA's web site and click the link on the home page. You will be pleased with the range of program topics and the number of exhibitors. Plan on attending.

**Sunday Morning 40m Net
Time Change Notice**

New Time:

Start 8:00 AM
Finish 9:00 AM
Frequency 7.250 MHz LSB
All are welcome

Field Day Statistics

1725 QSOs
1297 unique stations worked.
-- Modes --
CW 682
DIG 99
PH 944

Total 2005 score: 6,702

QSOs by BAND & MODE

Band	CW	Digital	Phone
160			
80	112		62
40	122		288
20	237	99	269
15	204		107
10			16
6	6		167
2	1		26

Raffle Update

Congratulations to last months raffle winners of the West Mountain Radio computerized battery analyzer and "nomic" rig interface. The July five dollar raffle prize is a Yaesu FT-7800 dual band mobile transceiver. Good luck!

73, Brian, NJ6N

The PROPAGATOR

South Orange Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 2545
Mission Viejo, CA 92690



**Meeting: July 18, 2005 at 7:00 PM
"Show & Tell"**

☛ **SOARA** meets at the Mission Viejo Community Center, 26932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. Changes to the meeting time or place are announced in this newsletter and on the 147.645 two-meter repeater.

☛ **License Exams:** Amateur License Exams are given prior to SOARA meetings. Exams are from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Walk-in applicants are welcome. For information call Paul Levey, NZ1M, at 949-481-5454.

☛ **Contacting SOARA:** Questions about SOARA? Send e-mail to: info@soara.org, or leave a message at 949-249-1373.

☛ **Web Site:** SOARA maintains a web site with current club information. The URL is: <http://www.soara.org>.

☛ **Repeaters:** The Laguna Beach, San Clemente, and Trabuco repeaters are open. The Santiago Peak repeaters are closed. For details or questions on the repeaters contact the Repeater director, KG6GI.

2m — 147.645 - (110.9) Laguna Beach
2m — 146.025 + (110.9) San Clemente
2m — 145.240 - (110.9) Trabuco
220 — 224.100 - (110.9) Laguna Beach
220 — 224.640 - (123.0) Santiago Pk. (C) 440 —
445.660 - (110.9) Laguna Beach
440 — 447.180 - (131.8) Santiago Pk. (C)

☛ **Nets:** SOARA 2 m repeater open net is held Tuesday 8:00 PM 40 meter HF net (7.250 MHz +/- for QRM), Sunday 7:30 AM.

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