



The

Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

April 2011

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Meeting
April 18,
2011
7:00 PM
N.P.
Murray
Center
Veterans
Way
Mission Viejo

Brian, NJ6N, & Howard, KG6GI, on:

SOARA's resident authorities on all things D-STAR will bring us all up to date on this exciting technology at the club meeting on Monday. D-STAR is a system for voice communications using digital transmissions, but it is much more than that. It is a system for locating and establishing a link to other D-STAR users anywhere in the world.

SOARA has a significant commitment to D-STAR users including voice plus data repeaters on 144 MHz, 440 MHz, and 1.2



GHz. A high speed data repeater on 1.2GHz is also available to members.

Come to the meeting to learn the basics and the latest news on D-Star. Come and learn more about one aspect of the digital revolution in our hobby.



QST de AE6SH

Calling all Thespians, the spot light awaits. In September SOARA will once again do its part supporting the ARRL

South West Division convention by performing the Wouff Hong Ceremony. This sacred midnight ceremony is only performed at ARRL conventions and is a time honored tradition that SOARA is proud to continue. Our performance is "lip-synced" (for audio quality) so speaking is not required. We do have limited costumes and special effects, so we will need support staff as well as players for this performance. More information will be forthcoming and rehearsals will begin soon. Are you a member of the Royal Order?

order. Your new and returning directors will be taking office at our next Board meeting. Please join me in welcoming them to the Board!

As this edition goes to press I will be participating in my third weekend in a row of Ham radio events. April 2nd was the Vision Quest Mountain bike ride, the 9th was the High Desert Trials Rally and the 16th is Baker to Vegas. I know that many SOARA members also are on their third as well. Any one of these events is enough to quench your thirst for using your ham radio for a good cause, but three in a row?! My cup runneth over and so has my gasoline bill for the month. But I can tell you this: although I am exhausted, it is a good kind of tired. Knowing that by using ham radio thousands of racers, runners and bikers where all kept safe by simply having a radio and knowing how to use it! So get out there and use your radios.

Speaking of order, congratulations are in

73, Tom AE6SH



April 23

SOARA Saturday
Old Time Radio

May 1

SOARA T-hunt

May 20 - 22

Dayton Hamfest
Dayton, Ohio

June 25 - 26

Field Day
Gilleran Park

July 16 - 17

O C Fair Booth

August 7

SOARA Picnic

September 9 – 11

**South West
Hamcon**
Torrance

T-Hunt News

While seven SOARA T-hunters scoured southern Orange County for the hidden transmitter, Richard, K6RBS, and Spencer, NG6K, were relaxing in the shade of an overpass along Camino del Avion in Laguna Niguel. A bike and walking path crosses under the road with a fair number of people enjoying the warm weather while getting some exercise. Richard and Spencer enjoyed explaining the equipment and large beam antenna to interested passers by. A high gain 2 meter antenna and a 50 watt amplifier gave an ERP (effective radiated power) of about 1 kW! No problem hearing the signal - and the reflections.

The first hunter to locate the site was Joe, W6BGR, who arrived there in just under an hour. Joe will hide the transmitter for the next hunt on Sunday, May 1. Join us in the hunt.

Of Note:

SOARA member, Hal Silverman, WB6WXO, will be master of ceremonies at the upcoming Memorial Day Ceremony. The event will be on Monday, May 30, 2011 starting at 1100 hours, at the Submarine Memorial West, Seal Beach. The Submarine Memorial West is located on Seal Beach Blvd between Westminster Blvd and Pacific Coast Hwy. Parking will be along Seal Beach Blvd or at the nearby Boeing parking lot. There will be a shuttle bus from the parking lot to the memorial site.

The ceremony will last about 1 hour and will feature several guest speakers as well as a "Tolling of the Boats" to remember the 52 WWII and 2 Cold War submarines that were lost. Everyone is welcome.



1944
USS SPIKEFISH-SS404

SOARA Saturdays

The next *SOARA Saturday* is April 23rd at the Murray Center from 9:00 AM to noon. The theme for this Saturday is: "**That Old Time Radio**".

This is the Saturday to bring in and share with the younger generation (anyone under 55 is in that group) that old equipment you used years ago (and may still be using.) Whether it's an old straight key, an old radio book or an old radio, we would like to see you bring it in and share your memories of radio in the old days.

Of course, we will still be there to help program your hand held or your base station, to give a helping hand with that little project you haven't finished yet, or just swap stories of the last contacts you made. Hope to see you all there.

Mike, NM6X, and Richard, K6RBS

Membership

Six months ago, the annual membership renewal was requested. April 1 is the date when those of us who did not renew their membership and pay the amount due through September 2011, were moved to the inactive member list.

If you want to know whether you are still a regular active member, please check the membership roster on our website to see if your name is listed. If it's not, and you want to pay or think you have paid, please send an email to membership @ soara.org. There may be some checks in our P.O. Box that were not received by April 1st. If that is so, we will be glad to re-activate those members.

Our current membership total is 186.

Marie Zitzmann, KD7JHS
Horst Zitzmann, KD7JHR
SOARA membership

Volunteer Opportunity: Fire Watch

OC Fire Watch is a countywide fire watch program to alert the public of elevated fire dangers in wilderness parks and communities across Orange County.



April 18, 2011

Monday, April 18, is the day that tax returns are due! Make sure that you get yours taken care of before that deadline.

Why?

Because:

There are better things to do on the 18th. The SOARA meeting is on the 18th, and you want to hear the presentation on D-STAR.

Also:

Monday, April 18 has been designated as **World Amateur Radio Day**

by

The International Amateur Radio Union.

So

You really should celebrate the day by getting on the air some time during the day.

Wildfires are more likely to occur and spread during Red Flag conditions, when strong winds are accompanied by low humidity levels and high temperatures. OC Fire Watch will increase public awareness of the fire dangers by raising red "Fire Alert" flags at OC Parks and other County facilities, as well as at Orange County Fire Authority fire stations and participating City Halls throughout Orange County.

The program will also incorporate fire watch volunteers to help monitor the County's wilderness parks, which are especially vulnerable to fire during Red Flag conditions. OC Parks and OCFA will raise Fire Alert flags at their respective facilities during designated Red Flag conditions which will be based on CALFIRE advisories.

[OC Fire Watch Volunteer Orientation](#)

[Volunteer Form and Training Sessions for 2011](#)

Android App

MWave-design.nl reports that it has introduced the first Android application that allows users to do RF and microwave calculations and conversions. The target users are engineers, electronics students, and radio amateurs. The current version (V1.0) contains 35 calculators, with more tools planned for the future

Current calculators include:

PI and T attenuator, VSWR, mismatch error limits, mitered bend, ratio-to-dB, field intensity and power density, parallel LCR impedance, series LCR impedance, inductor impedance, capacitance impedance, Ohm's Law, radio equation (1-way path loss), air core inductor inductance, parallel-plate capacitor, noise floor, amplifier cascade (NF, Gain, P1db, IP2, IP3), skin depth, low-pass filter, high-pass filter, band-pass filter, band-stop filter, image rejection, frequency band designations, EMC (EIRP, ERP, dBμV/m), helical antenna, Peak to RMS, mixer spurious.

<http://www.mwave-design.nl/mw/index.php?title=Androidure>

Welcome to newly elected Board members:

Michael Mahan, K6MSM
Publications

Heiko Peschel, AD6OI
Education

Raffle

For the \$1 raffle, I have a Harbor Freight DMM, a set of LED flashlights, a set of pliers and cutters for electronics work. I also have several other things from Brian's grab bag.

The \$5 raffle will be a Yaesu FT 7900R/E. We need to sell 63 \$5 tickets to raffle off the prize this month.



I will not be at the meeting but Heiko will fill in for me

Hal, WB6WXO

Year 2011	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	—
Program	It's Your Club AF6GL	Rally KI6IUC	Contest Fun AF6GL	D-STAR NJ6N & KG6GI	Spring Auction						Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	24	28	21	18	16	25 Field Day	18	15	19	17	21	—
SOARA Saturday		Mar. 5	26	23	21	Field Day	23	20	24	22	26	
SOARA T-Hunt	2	6	6	3	1	5	3	7	4	2	6	4
Board Meeting	31	Mar 7	28	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	28	
Special Events					20-22 Dayton		16 - 17 OC Fair booth		9-11 SW Div Hamcon			
ARRL Field Day						25-26						
SOARA picnic								7				
Holiday Party												3

☛ **SOARA** meets at the Mission Viejo Community Center, 26932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. For the months of January and February the third Monday is a holiday and the meeting is held on the fourth Monday.

☛ **License Exams:** Amateur License Exams are given prior to SOARA meetings. Exams are from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Prior registration is encouraged, but walk-in applicants are welcome. For information call Mike Slygh, NM6X, at 949-305-1374.

☛ **Contacting SOARA:** Questions about SOARA? Postal mail: P.O. Box 2545, Mission Viejo, CA 92690. 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
D-Star	2m	—	146.115	+	(K6SOA C)	Laguna Beach
	220	—	224.100	—	(110.9)	Laguna Beach
	220	—	224.640	—	(123.0)	Santiago Pk. (C)
D-Star	440	—	445.660	—	(K6SOA B)	Laguna Beach
	440	—	447.180	—	(131.8)	Santiago Pk. (C)
D-Star	1.2G	—	1282.600	—	(K6SOA A)	Laguna Beach

☛ **Nets:** SOARA UHF/VHF open net is held Tuesday 8:00 PM 40 meter HF net (7.200 MHz +/- for QRM), Sunday 8:00 AM.

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