



THE

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

May 2011

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Meeting
May 16,
2011
7:00 PM
N.P.
Murray
Center
Veterans
Way
Mission Viejo

Spring Auction

It's that time of year again to do some spring-cleaning in the shack. In SOARA's effort to offer green solutions to our members, we will be holding an electronics-recycling program. This event will offer you the ability to turn the electronic items you no longer use into some cash.

This program will be held in the form of our spring auction. Once again Kris, KI6IUC, has agreed to be the auctioneer. The auction is in place of the May meeting. If you have items to auction bring them to our regular meeting room at 6:00 p.m. to get them checked in. SOARA takes a small percentage of the sale price as

handling fee or you can donate the item to SOARA in which case the club takes 100% of the profit.

It is always fun to see what there is, whom gets into a bidding war with whom, and of course the biggest challenge of all, see if you actually go home with less stuff than what you brought.

Items can be new, used, very used, or very very used. The rules are an attachment to this month's Propagator and are available on the SOARA website.



May, June and July have to be by far the busiest months for our club. If you look at our calendar, it is jam

packed with stuff to do and places to go, more than enough to go around.

First up is this weekend's bike ride in our local mountains. Several of our members, including yours truly, will be assisting the Warriors society with communications for the "Traverse". Next up is our spring auction meeting. This is one of my favorite functions we have at SOARA and is always a good time for all who attend. Be sure and bring your goodies early so you can get them tagged and logged in, Oh yes and also your cash or check book! This same week will also see several of our members travel to the Dayton Hamvention in Dayton Ohio.

QST de AE6SH

And while we are not having the "Dayton Trek" contest this time around, I am sure there will be an opportunity to work some of the members from Dayton via one of the many modes available to us. Then in June we will have our Field Day preparation meeting and that is followed very closely by Field Day proper and that is our biggest event participation-wise by members and non-members alike and also our most physical! As soon as we are recovered from Field Day the 4th of July is upon us and that means that the Orange County Fair is just around the corner. SOARA will again be manning the booth on at least two full days and possibly more. Our very own Mack KD6KSP is again handling the scheduling for the entire run of the fair! Thanks Mack great job! So as you can see our dance card is pretty full and the music has started. I hope to see everyone out on the dance floor and having fun enjoying our hobby and the people in it.

73, Tom Hobbs AE6SH



May 20 - 22

Dayton Hamfest
Dayton, Ohio

June 25 - 26

Field Day
Gilleran Park

July 16 & 24

O C Fair Booth

August 7

SOARA Picnic

September 9 – 11

**South West
Hamcon***
Torrance

*The cut-off date for early bird registration for Hamcon is 5/31. The registration form is available on the Hamcon-2011 web site. hamconinc.org

Field Day

With Solar Cycle 24 upon us, Field Day 2011 promises to be an exciting event. Barring any unforeseen disruptions, the improved propagation should allow us to make many more contacts especially on the 20 Meter and the 40 Meter bands during the nighttime.

If you are new to amateur radio (Technicians or Generals with less than one year), you will want to spend time at the GOTA station collecting QSOs from around the Country on HF. You will also have an opportunity to talk on amateur television, try D-Star, and to experience satellite communication. Don't miss this once a year event.

For those *experienced hams*, all of the bands should be open for contacts using all modes; RTTY, CW, phone, ATV, etc. Please be prepared to log lots of contacts and generate lots of points.

Field Day Location:

We will be at Gilleran Park which is located at 24960 Felipe Road between La Paz and Oso Parkway. (Note Felipe Road becomes Olympiad North of La Paz)

Field Day Schedule:

Friday, June 24th, 5:00pm – 8pm
We will meet at our storage container on the upper level of Gilleran Park to prep the antennas, coax, etc.

Saturday, June 25th: We begin set-up at 7:00am and begin making contacts at 11:00am. Field Day continues throughout the night. Those that care to may bring a tent and/or sleeping bag to catch some sleep at the park during the night.

Sunday, June 26th. Field Day contacts continue until 11:00am on Sunday morning at which time we stop operating and begin taking down the antennas, radios, tables, etc. and moving them back to the container.



Please join us at the final SOARA meeting before Field Day on June 20th for more information and to sign-up for your preferred operating time.

W6VDV - Vern

No Raffle this Month

There will be no raffle at the May general meeting. The auction will pre-empt the raffle. There will be a raffle at the June meeting.

We need to sell another 32 \$5 tickets to raffle off the FT 7900 R/E.

I am expanding the \$1 prize selection from a variety of places. As you have seen, I have now added prizes from Harbor Freight as well as HRO. I also have been doing some research to add some small kits from Electronix Express.

Electronix Express generally caters to schools and provides a variety of materials to Saddleback College.

If you have any suggestions for either the \$1 or \$5 raffle, or if there are any comments, please let me know, at WB6WXO@SOARA.org



Volunteers are needed for Monday, May 30. The Laguna Hills 1/2 Marathon needs radio communicators from 6:30 am to 11 am to support the race.

Hand held radios, a chair and comfortable clothing are all that is necessary.

We will go out for Pizza after the race.

Please call (949) 859-3868 or e-mail: ad6oi@soara.org

Thanks,
Heiko AD6OI

Thank you to all the SOARA members who showed up at the HRO HamJam on April 30th. We were very well represented. It was a bit windy, but the \$1 hot dog meal was well worth it!

DaytonTrek 2011

The DaytonTrek contest will not be conducted this year. Jeff is unavailable to attend the Hamvention and because of this our big gun mobile shack will not be available.

Many club members have mentioned over the past two years that although they did not participate in the contest that they enjoyed following us across the country. In this light, Brian - NJ6N and I will be making the trip barefoot in my little pistol mobile shack. We will be "pinging" APRS as AF6GL-9 and will be making contacts as before, just not in the grueling competitive spirit as in past years. Let's hope the propagation is good and we can make some casual Q's!

Check the SOARA website for more information.

Memorial Day:

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.



USS SPIKEFISH-SS404

OC FAIR



SOARA is once again supporting the OC Fair Ham Radio Booth. SOARA's scheduled dates are: Saturday **16 July** & Sunday **24 July**.

The shift schedule is estimated to be approximately 4.3 hours with 3 people. Sign up by email or see Mack KD6KSP at the Club's "Spring Auction" on 16 May.

Information needed if using email to sign-up: 1 - Name (First, Middle, Last), 2 - Call Sign, 3 - County of Residence, 4 - Contact Phone Number, 5 - Date at Booth, and 6 - Shift (Morn--Mid--Late)

Mack, KD6KSP
OC Fair Steering Committee
SOARA OCCARO Liaison
Cell 949 584 2249

Membership



Welcome to our new members:

Dave Bass, AF6XP, Amateur Extra from Lake Forest, Ca.

Scott Medling, N6DO, Amateur Extra from Laguna Hills, Ca.

Membership total now stands at 194 members.

Marie Zitzmann, KD7JHS
Horst Zitzmann, KD7JHR
SOARA membership



From K6HIV,
SOARA PIO:

This Week In
Technology
(TWIT) announces the launch
of "HAM Nation"

A weekly HD
video webcast
about Ham Radio featuring interesting
guests. Hosted by Bob Heil, K9EID, they
will cover many fascinating aspects
of Amateur Radio each week.

Set your browser
to TWIT.TV live
on Leo Laporte's TWIT
network

Tuesday Evenings at 8:00
pm CDT
(Central)

Join us for the
initial episode with special
guests Joe Walsh, WB6ACU
and Dave Jennings WJ6W.

The T-hunt That Nobody Heard

Not many hunters, but lots of miles traveled on Sunday, May 1. Joe (W6BGR) hid the transmitter Sunday and turned it on, at 1pm, or so he said. The hunters were off and running... But which way to run? They couldn't hear it from their starting positions. There are not too many places that you can hide a transmitter and not hear it unless it is buried down low and running low power from where we started. Perhaps somewhere in Laguna Beach? ...but, when we got to PCH, nothing.

Joe had spent the previous day out at Cook's Corner doing a bike race so we figured that may be where he was hiding. So, eastbound on Crown Valley Parkway... Left at Antonio and then north (east?) on the 241 all the way out to Portola. Still no signal. We turned around and headed south toward San Clemente. Hit I-5 at Alicia. Off at Vista Hermosa. Again, still no signal.

After enough reports Joe decided to use his mobile transmitter to give the hunters a chance to get a bearing. Soon all of the hunters were converging on the Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club at the eastern end of Avery Parkway. The first to arrive was Gray, WA6BJY, with Clark, KI6IZE, and a friend. Dale, W8RRV, soon showed up followed by Karl, KF6MDF. The hunters then took turns berating Joe for using a signal so weak that it had to crawl off the antenna in an attempt to radiate. Gray will hide the transmitter for the next hunt on June 5th. He promises to have a healthy signal.

Dale W8RRV & Gray WA6BJY

SOARA Saturdays

Thanks to all who joined us on our most recent Saturday, held on 4/23. We were not able to use our normal room, but were glad to be able to run power and cabling from the room. As you can see from the picture it was a nice day outside, but we were glad to at least have some shade. Heiko (AD6OI) brought a vintage WWII meter from Germany and several old books, going back to the 20's at least, for us to peruse. It was fun looking to see which broadcasters were still around today, such as KFI and KNX, listed as being on 469 & 360 meters at the time (one of which still stands today... in kHz).

Others, (Steve N5YRJ, Richard K6RBS & Lee K6QAX) brought a KWM-2 Collins radio, a Kenwood TS-830 & a Drake 2B receiver (pictured). We made a few contacts on HF. Though the rigs didn't always do the best job of staying on frequency, it was great to see that they could still get it done!

Don't miss the next SOARA Saturday, on 5/21 where we are planning to have a "homebrew" 10m antenna shoot-out.

Bring your materials, build it from scratch and we'll see who comes up with the best design.

We'll provide a radio, battery, coax, analyzer, a/c power and coffee!



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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