



PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

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Meeting

March 16th,
2015

7:00 PM
N.P.

Murray
Center
Veterans
Way
Mission Viejo

Gordon West WB6NOA

Our next meeting will be on Monday March 16, 2015 at 7pm at the Norman P. Murray center in Mission Viejo.

At this Monday's meeting we are pleased to welcome Gordon West, WB6NOA, as our guest speaker. If you have not yet had the pleasure of meeting "Gordo" and his lovely wife Suzy be sure to come to the meeting. If you have (met them) you know how much fun it will be.

Gordon West hails from Costa Mesa as well as many other parts of the globe. Gordon is well known for his knowledge of amateur radio, his excellent teaching skills and his all around great sense of humor. He is a mentor to many of us in many different ways. When Patti and I were first licensed we joined the 78's ARC and Gordon showed up and took a whole bunch of radio rookies under his wing that membership list was well over 500 when I last looked.



He and Suzy have been members of SOARA for a while now and on Tuesday nights Gordon is our news behind the news on the SOARA VHF/UHF net. I would like to encourage as many of you who can make it to come to our meeting. Please see soara.org on the web for more information.

Other Meeting Items & Looking Ahead

Also at this meeting we will be asking for nominations from the floor for all the positions up for election. We are also looking for a volunteer to be appointed to replace our secretary Rick (NU6D) who resigned due to health reasons. If you need to refer to our constitution and or by-laws and don't happen to have a membership booklet handy please feel free to check our web site at soara.org and look under "about" and then click on "constitution and by-laws".

Looking forward Our April speaker will be Diana Feinberg, AI6DF, She has interesting presentation about the Amateur Radio International Light House and Lightship Weekend.

On Sunday May 3rd is the next Orange County Marathon and we will need about 20 operators for that (more details to follow). Right after this is the Laguna Hills Half Marathon on May 25th. In May we will have another of our semi-annual auctions with many exciting things for sale.

Now is also the time to start planning for Field Day (June 26-28). This is probably the most exciting weekend in amateur radio and much can be done and learned by all who participate. We will be setting up antennas and radios for all bands and modes from 160m up to 1.2 GHz and even above. We will also provide food and non-alcoholic drinks for the participants. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to come and see what impromptu/emergency communications can look like.

Thank You
Heiko, AD6OI



Gordon West at SOARA
March 16

SOARA Saturday
March 21

Baker2Vegas
March 28

ARRL Field Day
June 26-28

VEC License Exams

6pm—before the General Meeting

Please see our [website](#) for more info.

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General | Technician Exams

[SOARA Website](#)

SOARA Elections (Directors)

SOARA Board Recommendations for the upcoming election are as follows:

Repeater director: Brian Roode NJ6N
 Technical director: Tom Hobbs AE6SH
 Publications director: Mike Mahan K6MSM
 Education Director: Steve Kuver K6UVR
 Communications Director: Heiko Peschel AD6OI
 Membership Director: open

If you are interested in running for any of these positions or would like to nominate someone else, please come to the meeting on Monday and announce your intention to do so. Any member can nominate themselves or any other member in good standing for any position that is up for election. If you have any questions feel free to ask any board member about the positions. Information on these positions can be found in your membership handbook or on our web site at soara.org under "about" and click on "constitution and by-laws".

Also, the Officer position of Secretary is open (appointment needed—let us know if you are interested).

Heiko
AD6OI



SOARA Raffle Update:

The \$5 prize this month is a [YAESU FT-1DR-HD](#). \$1 prizes will also be available. Here are some features of this versatile radio:

- Compact Size
- Rugged Case with Water Protection
- High Power and Long Life Operation
- Illuminated Keyboard
- Real Dual Band Operation (V+V/U+U/V+U)
- Four (4) Communication Modes
- Automatic Mode Selection
- Wideband Receive Coverage
- Built-in GPS
- Micro SD Card Slot
- Improved AM Broadcast Reception





From Membership



For those of you that haven't paid your renewal dues (from October) yet, please be reminded that you will be dropped from membership after March 31st.

We encourage you to pay in advance of that to keep your membership benefits.

Horst Zitzmann,
KD7JHR

Membership
Director



50 Mile Ride for Rwanda Volunteers Needed April 25

Thank you [SOARA] for previous service in supporting the 50 Mile Ride for Rwanda. The success of this ride would not have been possible without your help. Last year we had 936 participants and raised over \$125,000 to support our causes in Rwanda and other African countries.

We are gearing up for our 9th annual ride on April 25th, 2015 and will be back at Oakley again this year. We need over 250 volunteers and would greatly appreciate your help.

If you are able to help out, please sign up on our volunteer sign-up page. There are listings for many specific needs as well as general volunteer positions. Our biggest needs right now are for the following positions:

- Course Guides – Helping Riders at Fixed Positions Along the Trail
- Oakley – Flexible Volunteers

If you would like to help out and have any questions, please feel free to email or call me directly. I look forward to serving with you.

Warmest Regards,

Rich Wood
Volunteer Coordinator
50 Mile Ride for Rwanda
949.307.2072
woodrd@mac.com



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®

www.arrl.org

2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

HAM RADIO

Mark you calendar! Our biggest event of the year, Field Day, is coming up in just over 3 short months. **Field Day 2015 is June 26-28**, officially beginning at 11am Saturday. We will need volunteers on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of that weekend. Please come out and join the fun! ARRL Objective - To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions.



[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

For the second week in a row, average daily sunspot numbers were down. From ARRL Propagation Bulletins 6-10 the average sunspot numbers were 139, 81.6, 54.6, 59, and 54.1. Over the past week the number was all the way down to 32.

Also for the second week in a row, average daily solar flux had a trend, but this one was up. Average daily solar flux from ARRL Propagation Bulletins 6-11 were 151.1, 144.1, 121.4, 116.3, 122.9 and 127.8. These averages cover dates from January 29 through March 11.

Predicted solar flux is 128 on March 13-14, 130 on March 15-16, 135 on March 17-19, 125 on March 20, 120 on March 21, 115 on March 22-23, 110 on March 24-27 and 115 on March 28-31. Solar flux then goes to a high of 125 on April 2-15, then drops to a low of 110 again on April 20-23.

ARRL Shorts

[Solar Flares, Poor Operating Challenge Eritrea DXpedition](#)

An intense burst of noise from what is being called a “monster X-class solar flare” briefly blanked out HF reception around the globe at around 1600 UTC on March 12, and additional disruptions could be on the way. The March 12 event was an X-2.2 flare. X-class flares can have a nearly immediate effect on Earth. The E30FB DXpedition currently under way from Asmara in Eritrea (number 20 on the ClubLog DXCC Most Wanted List) said current solar conditions have been a challenge.

“We are continuing to work through the effects of the X-class solar flare. Conditions have been fluctuating day to day,” reported the DXpedition, headed by Zorro Miyazawa, JH1AJT. Radio blackouts resulting from solar activity also have been reported this week. NOAA’s Space Weather Prediction Center has issued a G1 minor geomagnetic storm watch for March 13 and 14. But solar flares are not the main problem at E30FB.

“Our main challenge continues to be out-of-turn calling and poor ham spirit on the bands,” the team said. **“Our QSO rates could improve, if everyone would listen and follow the DX Code of Conduct.”** As is the case with most DXpeditions, the operators will be operating split and not listening for calls on their transmit frequency. The E30FB DXpedition will continue through March 17 — St Patrick’s Day. It is operating on all bands from 160 to 10 meters. The 7QAA DXpedition in Malawi (number 113 on the ClubLog Most Wanted DXCC List) also is active on HF from Africa...

[IARU Emergency Telecommunications Guide Available Online](#)

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Emergency Telecommunications Guide is now available for download from the IARU website. The guide was developed to provide the IARU member-societies with materials suitable for training radio amateurs to participate in emergencies. It also was designed to provide guidance to individual Amateur Radio operators with little or no experience in handling emergency communications but desire to enhance their ability to participate in such events or to simply have a better understanding of the process. The IARU Administrative Council meeting approved the Guide at its 2014 meeting.

“IARU member-societies are encouraged to distribute this guide among its membership and, if necessary, to provide a translation into a language used within their own country,” an IARU media release said. “This guide can also be used in conjunction with other training materials by leaders within the emergency communication community to train radio operators in the basic theory and practice of handling emergency communications traffic.”

The IARU International Secretariat has invited feedback, comments, or suggestions regarding the Guide.

[League Counters Another Mimoso Move for 10 GHz Wireless Broadband Sharing](#)

The ARRL has told several US House and Senate members that the 10 GHz band, where the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services have allocations, is not a suitable choice to expand wireless broadband. Three Republican and three Democratic lawmakers wrote FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler on March 2, asking the Commission to “explore potential sharing opportunities within the 10 GHz band” to alleviate “the well-documented spectrum crunch.” The primary allocation of 10.0-10.5 GHz is for federal radiolocation, with Amateur Radio secondary in the entire band and Amateur-Satellite secondary at 10.45 to 10.50 GHz. The League pointed out that plans for additional sharing are already in the works...



5 2015 SOARA Calendar THE PROPAGATOR

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	26	23	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	—
Program	N6HC DXped.	Old Time Radios	Gordon West	Light House/ Ship	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	TBD	SOARA Fair	TBD	TBD	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	26	23	16	20	18	At Field Day	20	17	21	19	16	—
Educational Classes (Starts)												
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	31	28	21	25	23	20	25	22	26	24	21	—
SOARA T-Hunt	11	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13
Board Meeting	Feb 2	Mar 2	23	27	Jun 1	22	27	24	28	26	23	—
Special Events	Quartzfest 18-24	Yuma Hamfest 20-21	Palm Springs Hamfest 14	Visalia Intl DX 17-19	Dayton Hamven- tion 15-17	ARRL Field Day 26-28		SOARA Picnic 2	ARRL SW Division 11-13	JOTA 16-18		SOARA Holiday Party 6
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW 21-22 CQWPX RTTY 14-15	ARRL DX-SSB 7-8 CQWPX SSB 28-29		CQWPX CW 30-31	ARRL Field Day 26-28			CQWW RTTY TBD	CQWW SSB 24-25	CQWW CW 28-29	
Volunteer Events	OC Chili Run 24	Paws Fur Pink 14 OC Chili Run 21	OC Chili Run 14 Baker to Vegas 28-29	Ride for Rwanda 25	HD Trails 2 OC Mara- -thon 3 Memorial Day 1/2 Mara- -thon 25	ARRL Field Day 26-28	4th of July Fire -works			Vision Quest 24	Stache Dash TBD	

*Dates subject to change. Check the [SOARA website](#) to verify locations and times.

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 at 6pm.** Prior registration is not required and walk-in applicants are welcome. For further information, email Sean Reigle, AJ6B, at aj6b@soara.org.

SOARA Library:

SOARA has many amateur radio related books such as hand books, books about electrical theory, etc. available to lend out to club members. Contact Heiko Peschel ad6oi@soara.org for more info.

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, or repeater@soara.org.

	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 Peak. (C)
	440	—	445.660	—	(110.9)	Laguna Beach
D-Star	440	—	445.705	—	(K6SOA B)	Laguna Beach
	440	—	447.180	—	(131.8)	Santiago Peak. (C)
D-Star	1.2G	—	1282.600	—	(K6SOA A)	Laguna Beach



Nets:

UHF/VHF (447.180, 147.645 & 224.640):
Tuesdays 8:00 PM

D-Star (146.115 C module):
Wednesdays 7:30pm

40 meter HF (7.200 MHz +/- for QRM),
Sundays 8:00 AM.

Gordo Net (HF 7.250 MHz +/- for QRM),
Weekdays 8:30AM

SOARA OFFICERS

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