



The PROPAGATOR

September, 2000

The Monthly Newsletter of South Orange Amateur Radio Association

APRIL MOELL, WA6OPS, Speaker

April Moell, this month's speaker, has been the Emergency Coordinator of the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System in Orange County and participated in hospital disaster planning since 1980. She has had over 20 years of patient care experience, is a former hospital department head and has a Master's degree in Human Resources Management. Active in Amateur Radio since 1976, and holding an Advanced Class license, she has developed its potential for local hospitals. In addition, she has identified the value and appropriate use of other alternative communication resources and now consults in the area of medical disaster communications. Locally she is a regular member of the hospital disaster committees that plan the yearly hospital mass casualty drills and the Orange County Disaster Advisory Group. In October 1992 she coordinated the first Hospital Disaster Communications Symposium held at the Bergen-Brunswig Drug Company in Orange, California. She has presented programs at numerous disaster and radio conferences since 1983. She has written articles for medical, government, and Amateur Radio publications. In February 1996 she published her first book, "Amateur Radio: A Communications Resource for Hospitals". A second book written for Amateur Radio operators who are interested in supporting hospitals will be out in the near future. Currently the HDSCS support 34 medical facilities in the county.

New Members

A hearty welcome to SOARA's newest members:

Justin Haghverdian, KG6CXA
Jim Richards, KD6VDH
Bruce Orsborn, WD6FHL

Upcoming Events on SOARA's Calendar

Gordon West will be here for the October meeting. His presentations are always very entertaining and informative. Gordon is active in many aspects of Amateur Radio and stays abreast of the latest developments in our hobby. Don't miss this meeting.

October is also the time for membership renewal. All members will receive a notification in the mail. A new feature this year is the ability to pay your dues via credit card over the internet. Watch for your notification and return the payment promptly to ease the burden on the treasurer.

Last year a questionnaire was mailed with the dues notification letter. The Board felt that the resulting input from the membership was helpful and this tradition will be continued. Please use the questionnaire to express your interests and comments.

The November meeting will feature SOARA's semiannual auction. It is always a fun time, thanks in no small part to our spectacular auctioneer, Malcolm, KO6SY. Take advantage of the opportunity to get rid of that old useless radio gear that you have grown tired of and to obtain some new "old useless radio gear." You can enjoy it for 6 to 12 months and then bring it to an auction!

There is no regular meeting in December. December is the time for fun and merriment. It is the time for the fabulous SOARA End of the Year Party. If you have never attended, then you have missed a great time. There is good food, entertainment, music, and time for relaxed visiting. The past few years the location has been the Sizzler on the lake at Mission Viejo. We will be moving to a new location this year. If you would like to be involved in the planning, decorating, etc., see Mike Mullard, KF6HVO.

Tim Smith, KF6AUE, SK

By Ray Hutchinson, AE6H

It is with great sadness that I must report to you that SOARA Member, Tim Smith, KF6AUE passed away on Thursday afternoon, September 7, 2000. This occurred suddenly while Tim was at work, and comes as a great shock to all who knew him.

Tim was a regular at participating in SOARA club meetings and functions. He was always willing to assist with a new project or to help out a friend or stranger in need. He was very active in the Orange County Chapter of the Red Cross, working as a Disaster Services Volunteer. Tim frequently responded to the scene of structure fires and other disasters in the Saddleback Valley, providing assistance with housing arrangements, food, and clothing for the victims.

Tim also was president of SMART, the Santa Margarita Amateur Radio Team, an ARES unit, and was an active member of the Santa Margarita Disaster Preparedness Committee. He also was active in community events such as Run the Rancho and the Santa Margarita Rodeo.

Tim leaves behind his wife, Becky; daughter, Stephanie; and son, Steve. His list of friends is innumerable. He will be greatly missed, but long remembered.



Support for The Spectrum Management Associations

By Howard G. Brown, KG6GI, Repeater Director

This issue includes articles from the Two Meter Area Spectrum Management Association and the 220 Spectrum Management Association, which I encourage each of you to read.

These organizations lend legitimacy to their bands of responsibility and provide a vehicle so that the maximum number of Radio Amateurs can enjoy the privileges of VHF whether our interests lie in packet, weak signal, repeaters, transmitter hunting or other specialty areas. Further, by being coordinated, we protect our interest in the event of any interference problems.

These are the only organizations open to the average SoCal ham; the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association (SCRBBA) limits their membership to repeater owners and operators, and only manages the repeater spectrum.

Like all of amateur radio, they are experiencing a significant downturn in their membership and are becoming increasingly more concerned over their ability to remain a viable organization. If they should fail, we might become another "New York" with no coordinated repeaters or band plan.

In keeping with the responsibilities of a significant Radio Amateur Club whose members are benefiting from spectrum management, I have requested the members of the Board to join and support these organizations, as I would request of our membership.

More information, including application forms can be found at:

<http://www.qsl.net/tasma/>
for TASMA

and:

<http://www.220sma.org/>
for 220SMA.

TASMA Seeks Input From SoCal Amateur Radio Community

by Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JRChairman,

TASMA (Two-Meter Amateur Spectrum Management Association) coordinates the two-meter spectrum in Southern California. You may think it's just coordinating repeaters, but there is much more. Resolving interference complaints, defining areas for digital (including packet BBS, APRS and DX spotting), SSB, simplex, ATV coordination, EOC and other operational activities all pose a challenge for TASMA and an opportunity for its volunteer members to show their skill in making it all work. TASMA needs your support as a member and your expertise as a volunteer. We have leadership positions available for persons with administrative, technical, legal, database and financial skills. We're also interested in fluent English/Spanish reading, writing and speaking skills in working with the Spanish speaking community and their coordination needs.

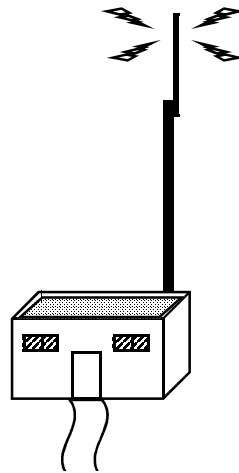
Two meters is the most popular Amateur Radio band and Southern California has one of the highest concentrations of licensed operators (and coordinated repeaters) in the USA. Think of the chaos on the band if TASMA went away! Think it can't happen? It's happened elsewhere, including the New York metro area. By donating your skill and support to TASMA, you are giving something back to a great hobby and preserving its most popular band for the near and long-term future. For membership info, visit the TASMA web site:

<http://www.qsl.net/tasma/>

220SMA - What's in it for me?

by Jim Fortney, K6IYKPresident, 220SMA

Frequently I am asked: How can you afford to spend so much time supporting Amateur Radio Spectrum Management activities? My response to the truly interested Amateur is: How can you afford not to? Clearly the biggest challenge to Amateur Radio today is



being able to maintain our frequencies. Their value to other services is so great that Congress is now funding a good sized portion of the Federal Budget by having the FCC auction off all underutilized spectrum. If Amateur Radio is going to continue to exist, we can not allow anyone to perceive that one of our Bands is underutilized. History has taught us that we cannot depend upon emergency protests to save our Bands. Preventing the perception that we don't use

or need our Bands is a full-time job and must be handled as such. Only through sound management practices can we be ready when the challenge is made. Sound management encompasses several aspects. It means *involvement* (involving individuals that represent every mode used on the Band). It means *planning* (planning for how we can most effectively use the frequencies and planning for how we can enable technology that will make our service even more valuable). It means *cooperation* (Amateurs acting as a Community to gain from the strength of numbers, and to support efforts for the good of the whole). How does all this happen? It happens when those interested in these concepts band together and form an organization that is stronger than the sum of its members. It happens when individuals step up to the call and provide leadership for these organizations. It happens when those who can't be full-time participants show their support by joining the organizations and speaking their opinion when consensus needs to be achieved. It happens when you do your part for the good of Amateur Radio. It happens through the Spectrum Management activities, and on 222MHz. it happens through the 220SMA. I encourage you to identify those organizations that are trying to represent you and who need your support. I encourage you to join and participate in as many of those organizations as you can, and to the extent practicable. It will only be through the participation of individuals like yourself that Amateur Radio can be successful in the long run. Can you afford not to be involved?

73, Jim K6IYK <http://www.220sma.org>

Year 2000	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	24	28 PSK31	20 T-hunt	17	15 Auction	19	17	21	18 Hosp.	16 Gordo	20 Auction	No meeting
VEC Testing 5:30 PM	24	28	20	17	15	26	17	21	18	18	20	
Propagator Deadline	8	12	4	1	4/29	3	1	5	2	9/30	4	2
Board Meeting	31	3/6	27	24	22	26	24	28	25	23	27	
Spring Auction					15							
ARRL Field Day						24 - 25						
SOARA picnic								5				
Fall Auction											20	
SOARA Holiday Party												3

ROGER'S SUPER STEW

Makes 4 to 6 servings.

2 lbs beef (nearly any cut is OK)	1 tsp salt
1 Tbs oil	1/2 tsp black pepper
1 large potato, diced coarse	1/2 tsp paprika
3 large carrots, sliced thin	1/8 tsp powdered clove
1 medium onion, diced coarse	1/8 tsp nutmeg
3 stalks celery, diced fine	1/2 cup water
16 oz can peeled tomatoes, diced coarse	2 Tbs flour (as needed,
8 oz can tomato sauce	for thickening)

Trim fat from beef, cut into bite sized chunks. Pour oil into frypan, heat over med. flame, add beef chunks, and stir to coat. Drain beef when browned and pick one of the choices below:

Crockpot: Pour beef into crockpot, add remaining ingredients, and stir to mix well. Cover and cook on HIGH for 4 hours, or LOW for 8 hours.

Stovetop: Pour beef into large pot or dutch oven, add remaining ingredients, and stir to mix well. Cover and simmer over a LOW flame for 3 hours.

Serve with warm sourdough or french bread.

CA Antenna Bill

The so-called California PRB-1, our states version of the valuable FCC paper which forces local governments to provide amateurs with reasonable accommodations for antennas, is awaiting the governor's signature. When it is signed it will become the law in California, giving Hams more ammunition in obtaining favorable antenna ordinances.

It does not do away with the problem of CC&Rs, but it should help. Several SOARA members have been quite successful in obtaining variances from their homeowner's associations to put up usable antennas. The awareness of amateur radio in emergencies helps convince agencies.

HF Rig Available

I'm purging my shelves of all equipment which is no longer used. Here is an IC-735 all mode HF transceiver which receives from 100 kHz through 30 MHz, 12 memories, dual VFO's, and transmits on all ham bands from 160 through 10 meters with adjustable 5 to 100 watts output. Most of the time it has sat on a shelf ready to come into action as a backup rig, which never happened. The cabinet is excellent (I am a non-smoker). All controls function properly. It will require a dc power supply capable of 13.8Vdc @ 20A. Accessories include: original HM-12 hand mike (rarely used), operating manual and the power cable. No modifications have been made to the radio. This rig will make a fine addition to a new or existing HF station, whether SSB, AM, FM or CW for only \$450.

Contact: Tom Kormanik - w5lon@soara.org

Morse Code Keys

One of our new members, Jim Richards, KD6VDH, has an interesting avocation. He produces telegraph keys in his garage workshop. Each key is carefully crafted of brass and mounted on a polished wood base. Several SOARA members have purchased keys from Jim.

They are available in both straight key and paddle versions. Jim's fine keys were noted in the June issue of QST this year.

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**Meeting: Monday 8/21/00 at 7:00 PM
April Moell, WA6OPS**

☛ **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 two-meter repeater.

☛ **License Exams:** Amateur License Exams are given prior to most SOARA meetings. Exams are from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. You must make an appointment at least a week in advance. Call Lou Parker, KA6BJO, at 951-0336. (No calls after 9:00 PM please.)

☛ **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 SOARA 2-meter and 70 cm repeaters are open to all licensed hams.

SOARA 2m — 147.645 - (110.9)

SOARA 440 — 445.660 - (110.9)

The SOARA 220 and HROC 440 repeaters are shared by members of both clubs. Each machine is subject to the operating rules of its respective club. Call KG6GI for details.

SOARA 220 — 224.100 - (110.9)

SOARA 220 — 224.640 - (123.0)

HROC 440 — 447.180 - (131.8)

☛ **Nets:** SOARA 2 m repeater open net is held on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM following the Laguna and M.V. emergency nets.

40 meter HF net (7.262 MHz +/- for QRM), Sunday 7:30 AM
PSK-31 net: 28.120 USB 1 KHz meets Fridays at 6:00 PM.

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