

The PROPAGATOR

August, 2005

The Monthly Newsletter of South Orange Amateur Radio Association

Antenna Insights	SOARA Picnic	Shown and Told
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“Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Antennas, but were afraid to ask” would be a fitting title for this month's presentation. Frank Rutter, K3AW, (Silent Key) made this videotaped presentation at Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory in 1981. The presentation covers vertical, horizontal, Yagi and log periodic antennas. Frank gives an excellent case for providing a low ground resistance when using vertical antennas. He includes a discussion of radials and of the optimum number to use for amateur radio installations.

The advantage of low angle of radiation as well as the need for medium angles in general ham communication work is clearly shown in the presentation.

Jim, K6LIO

New Members

Welcome to SOARA's newest members

Bob Swayne	K3NIE
Daryl Owen	N6QPK
Patrick Wong	AK6C
Ray Chandos	WA6RRK
Dwayne Williams	W8AME
Nathan Nordskog	KG6YXA
John Nordskog	KG6YWZ
David Mergele	AC6SJ
Keith Johnson	KC6EAR
Knute Josifek	K6HIV
Carmine Fiorello	WK6C
Richard Gehle	WD6Y

I sure had a great time at the picnic and hope everyone there felt the same. It was nice to see and talk with everybody. A special THANKS to Ray Bell, KG6QWY, and Richard Saunders, K6RBS, for arriving at 5:00 am to securing our spot.

It was a beautiful day at the beach with balmy breezes. The T-Hunters and the newcomers to T-Hunting had plenty to keep them busy with an introductory lesson by Richard, K6RBS, and Dave, KG6QCI.. Great effort was expended by our T-Hunters Dale, W8RRV, and Karl, KF6MDF, who hid and monitored all the transmitters. Dale & Karl got off easy this time because they didn't have to provide the food for the hunters. A regular feature of the monthly hunt is the after party hosted by the previous winner.

A special THANKS to my wife Phyllis, *WIFE*, who helped with both shopping for and serving the food.

What's NEXT? — the SOARA Holiday Party in December! A committee will be starting soon to work on the planning and arrangements for that event.

Your Events Chairman
Lou, KG6FCT



“Show and Tell” was the theme for the July meeting with four presenters.

John, KG6YWZ, displayed his wooden code keys. He machined these keys from wood and used three volts to drive a piezo sounder. The keys were a teaching aid for Boy Scouts learning Morse code.

Dale, W8RRV, showed his audible signal strength device for fox hunting. He gave a

tutorial explaining the circuit features of the device.

Frank, KG6FCT, explained a portable J-Pole antenna he constructed. The antenna is housed in PVC pipe cut in short lengths for easy storing. A cord keeps the pieces from becoming separated. A nice touch was the use of a balun to couple the antenna's balanced matching device to the unbalanced coax.

Jim, K6LIO, presented his rendition of the St Louis Vertical. When in use it is a twenty foot fishing pole with base loading and a few radials. It is a very light weight portable with 10 through 40 meter coverage.

Raffle

Congratulations to Tony, KG6IGZ, who won the Yaesu FT-7800R 2m/440 mobile radio at the July meeting! The August \$5 raffle prize is an Alinco DJ-596T 2m/440 dual band hand held radio that features 100 Alphanumeric memory channels, a high-power NiMH battery and 4.5 watt VHF/4 watt UHF output power and more. Many thanks to those of you who support the SOARA raffles. 73, NJ6N





New Club Status

SOARA recently received notice that the club has been designated as a Special Service Club. A copy of the text of the notification letter from the ARRL is shown to the right.

Special Service Clubs (SSCs) are the leaders in their Amateur Radio communities. They're the ones with the active training classes, the publicity program and the members who actively pursue technical projects and operating activities.

SOARA is honored to have been granted this recognition



July 1, 2005

Ray B. Hutchinson, AE6H
PO Box 2545
Mission Viejo, CA 92690

Dear Ray

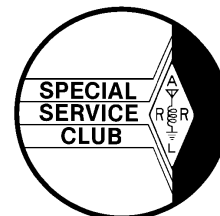
We are pleased to report that the South Orange Amateur Radio Association has been officially designated a Special Service Club. The next renewal for the club will be in two years. Through the work of its members, this club is recognized for its extended efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and service to its community.

You are to be commended for your work with the club in helping it realize its potential. By copy of this letter, we are informing the club of its success. From time to time, you may want to visit our club web pages where new ideas are periodically shared at www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/. We also welcome your stories to share with other clubs, which can be sent to Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, nfusaro@arrl.org.

Congratulations, and thanks again for your good work. If we can be of further assistance, just let us know.

73,

[Signed]
Gail Iannone
ARRL Affiliated Clubs



Bob and Sarah Heil arrive at the Orange County Fair Amateur Radio booth on Saturday, July 23.



SOARA members who were volunteering their time at the Amateur Radio booth on Saturday, July, 23, when Bob Heil visited the fair: From left to right: Jeremy, KG6JAD, Lou, KG6FCT, Robin, KG6MCA, Gordon West, KB6NOA, Sarah Heil, Bob Heil, K9EID, Dale, W8RRV, and Karl, KF6MDF. Other SOARA members who helped at the booth on the 23rd include: Tony, AE6QT, Jim, KB6OUM, Heiko, AD6OI, and Patti, AD6OH. More pictures at www.soara.org.

ORANGE COUNTY FAIR

The Amateur Radio booth at the Fair each year is sponsored by OCCARO (the local umbrella organization of radio clubs). Member clubs provide the planning, construction and staffing for the booth. SOARA was responsible for two Saturdays, July 16, and 23.

Demonstrations of Ham radio at the booth included HF, VHF/UHF, ATV including reception from a local helicopter flying over the fair grounds.

Thanks to all who volunteered their Saturday to greet the public and represent Amateur Radio (and play with some neat equipment!).

July 16: Jim, K6LIO, Tek, K6TEK, Don, KE6BXT, Kriss, KG6UOS, Kareem, KG6USK, Brian, NJ6N., Tom, AE6SH

July 23: Lou, KG6FCT, Jeremy, KG6JAD, Robin, KG6MCA, Dale, W8RRV, Karl, KF6MDF, Tony, AE6QT, Jim, KB6OUM, Heiko, AD6OI, and Patti, AD6OH. Thanks to all who helped. □

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	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								7				
SOARA Holiday Party												4

The HROC Corner

Another SOARA picnic has come and gone, and I am sorry to say that due to an out of town family commitment, I missed it. The first HROC meeting I ever attended was a summertime picnic meeting at Tri Cities Park in 1987. Kubi, N6JSX, sponsored me for membership and invited us to the event. We had a great time, meeting new people and talking with lots of friends from T-Hunting. Kubi gave a

demonstration of a wire 4 element quad for mobile hunting that raised a lot of interest among the members.

HROC had a tradition of summer picnic meetings, with one or two scheduled every year, most recently at Yorba Regional Park. I sincerely hope that some of our HROC members attended the SOARA picnic this year. Nobody is more fun than a group of hams at a picnic.

73, Roger-W6SQQ

2005 HamCon, Riverside

September 9-11, 2005

Are you going to the Convention this year? Did you know SOARA will have a booth at the Convention? We can still use some volunteers for booth duty. Send Lou an e-mail, kg6fct@soara.org, if you can spare an hour or two to man our booth. We especially need volunteers Friday between 5:00pm – 8:30pm, and Sunday between 9:00am — 12:00 noon. Hope to see you all at the convention. Check out the website, <http://arrlswdconv.org>, for the activities.

73, Lou, KG6FCT

Education

You have probably heard that the FCC has proposed dropping the Morse code requirement for all licenses.

Do you want to upgrade before the requirement is dropped or wait until after? Drop John Walker, AC7GK a note to let him know what **classes** interest you. John's e-mail: ac7gk@soara.org

CQ CQ CQ EMERGENCY COMMUNICATORS

Local ARES/RACES groups

SOARA will be having a display table at the ARRL SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION CONVENTION in Riverside, CA. on September 9th, 10th, and 11th. See our website for more information. We would like to share this table with all Emergency Communication Clubs or Organizations in our area. We encourage all clubs to contact Lou, KG6FCT, and have literature for presentation on our table. You can also provide a representative to share in manning the booth. Non SOARA members are welcome to respond as SOARA encourages all forms of emergency communications.

73, Lou, KG6FCT

The ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference

September 23-25, 2005 -- Santa Ana, California

Mark your calendar and start making plans to attend the premier technical conference of the year, the 24th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference to be held September 23-25, 2005, in Santa Ana, California. The conference location is the Embassy Suites Hotel - Orange County Airport North

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



Meeting: August 15, 2005 at 7:00 PM K3AW Video on "Antennas"

☛ **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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k6rbs@soara.org