



The

# Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

October 2007

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## October Meeting on 15th

Bring your crystal ball to the Oct. 15 meeting and join in an open discussion on the future of amateur radio. Old timer or novice, your input is welcome. The question will be: What is the Future of Amateur Radio?

We will look at: emergency communications, new technologies, testing re-

quirements, etc. We will discuss ways that a club like SOARA can help its members prepare for new modes and new technologies. What aspects of the club need to change, and what needs to be preserved? Come and join in the discussion — the future is coming whether we are ready or not. — — — — —



## QST, QST, de AE6H

By now most of you are no doubt aware that the candidate for ARRL Southwest Division Director who was sup-

ported by SOARA, Carl Gardenias WU6D, has been disqualified by the ARRL, and the incumbent, Dick Norton, N6AA, has been declared the winner. We congratulate Dick, and wish him well, and offer SOARA's support as he represents us during his second term. Likewise, we extend to Carl our best wishes and support, and our gratitude for his good work on our behalf, as Orange Section Manager. I sincerely believe that Carl's disqualification was the result of misunderstandings and honest error, and should in no way impugn Carl's sincerity and integrity. Many feel that once the allegations were made

known, the election should have gone forward, allowing the electorate to decide. None-the-less, the ARRL should be applauded for their efforts to keep the election process as clean and fair as possible.

All of the above being said, let's look at why we chose to support Carl in the election. For me, it was quite simple: I liked the message that Carl was sending. The future and survival of amateur radio will be because of two things. First, our involvement in public service, especially emergency communications, and second, the need to work to interest and involve young people in the amateur radio service. Carl has been tirelessly promoting both of these concepts, and we need to both thank and assist him. Our future depends on it! 73, Ray

*Links relating to the disqualification at:*  
<http://soara.digitalfracture.net/viewtopic.php?t=81>

## Meeting:

Oct. 15

7:00 PM

N. P. Murray  
Center  
Mission Viejo



### Events:

**October 24**  
SONGS test  
Volunteers  
needed

*Yes, the general use of hams during the SONGS test was canceled, but Dave has made arrangements with the City of San Clemente to participate with them.*  
kg6qci@soara.org

**November 1**  
Antenna  
seminar

**November 15**  
EchoLink  
seminar

**December 9**  
SOARA Party  
Antonucci's  
on Muirlands in  
Mission Viejo

## Activities

The Holiday season is fast approaching and it is time to think about the **SOARA Holiday Party**. Start your holiday season at the SOARA Holiday Party. Please plan on purchasing your Holiday Party Tickets, for \$25 each at this coming meeting. We have only two meeting before the party. This year we will be having our party at Antonucci's Italian Restaurant in Mission Viejo. They are located in the shopping center at the corner of Alicia and Muirlands. There will be entertainment and surprises. Bring a grab bag gift, one per person for the grab bag game. As a suggestion grab bag items should be between \$5 and \$15 in value. I am looking forward to seeing every one at **Antonucci's Restaurant on Sunday December 9, 2007** at 6:00 PM for our annual Holiday Party.

Lou KG6FCT



**Lunch anyone?** Just a reminder that there is an informal lunch every Friday at noon at the Carl's Jr. on the corner of La Paz and Marguerite Parkway

Join the "Lunch Bunch" for technical, operating and general discussion related to ham radio (mostly). It is very casual and everyone is welcome to attend. It is a good way to get acquainted with the club members. We usually gather in the side room. Just look for the tables adorned with HTs and schematic scrawled napkins.

## Raffle Report

Congratulations to all of the lucky winners in the September one-dollar raffle! There is still time for you to buy tickets for the \$5 raffle prize, an ICOM IC-91AD D-STAR ready (already has



the D-STAR digital board in it!) handie-talkie. This two-band HT also works on conventional FM repeaters and has a wide-band receiver with dual receive and a host of other nice features.

I want to thank Joe, W6BGR, and Heiko, AD6OI for running the raffle in September while I was busy setting up the ID-1 D-STAR transceiver and antenna to provide Internet access for our guest speaker.

Thanks to everyone for supporting the club raffle and I hope to see you all at the October meeting!

73, Brian, NJ6N



Support the  
Boy Scouts  
50th Jamboree-  
on-the-Air  
OCTOBER 19-  
21, 2007



## SCEE

On Sept. 19, SOARA hosted a booth at the Southern California Electronics Exposition. Thanks to K6HIV, K6DBW, KF6MDF, & W8RRV for working the booth. Shown in the booth is Knute, K6HIV, who made the arrangements.

## D-STAR

There are several new repeaters in the Southland that are linked together through the International network of D-STAR repeaters. The two newest repeaters are run by the Papa Repeater System and are located on Oat Mountain near Los Angeles on 447.200 -, "KI6JKA B", and Saddle Peak near Malibu on 449.080 -, "KF6BQK B". Both of these systems are connected to the International D-STAR network run by the Texas Inter-tie Team. Check out the Papa System web site for more information at <http://papasys.org>.

For more information on D-STAR and a complete listing of D-STAR repeaters around the world, point your web browser to <http://dstarusers.org>. Also, be sure to keep an eye on the SOARA D-STAR page at <http://soara.org/dstar>.

73, de NJ6N, Brian

## Education

The seminar program got off to a great start with the antenna presentation by Ron Weaver, W6OM. Two seminars are now scheduled and more are planned for next year. Part two of the **antenna seminar** is scheduled for November 1, 2007. A seminar on "**How to use the Echolink Repeater**" is set for November 15<sup>th</sup>. The presenter is Howard Brown, KG6GI. Starting time for each seminar is 7:00PM and they will run for two hours. They will be held at the Murray Senior Center. The room number will be announced.

I have approached Brian, NJ6N, to conduct a **D-STAR seminar** early next year. This is intended to be a 'hands-on' seminar where each of the attendees will be shown how to use the D-Star system. I have been formulating plans to bring my test equipment from home to the Murray Center to conduct a two night **measurement seminar**. I have an oscilloscope, signal generator, digital and analog meters, and power supplies.

73, Hal, WB6WYO

[wb6wyo@soara.org](mailto:wb6wyo@soara.org)

## Repeaters

Brian & I took care of some Echolink upgrades recently. The San Clemente site has been reconfigured so that the CTCSS tone is present on the repeater output ONLY when the user radio is keyed. Then the hang time and courtesy tone have been restored. With these changes, the Echolink node, which uses CTCSS squelch, will not transmit the courtesy tone over internet (which is an Echolink requirement for participating in conferences). Users also will not hear the courtesy tone if they are using CTCSS squelch, otherwise they will.

The other change we made was to upgrade the Echolink software to the latest version. For current features and functions see the [Echolink.org](http://Echolink.org) site. As part of the software upgrade we also upgraded the Echo-Time function. Currently you will hear 'Kate' but from time to time I may change it to 'Paul' or 'Sam'! We are also aware that the audio on the Trabuco Canyon site is quite low. We suspect a component failure and will repair it as soon as site access and time permits. KG6GI

Year 2007	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	22	26	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	No meeting
Program	KI6BLP Sat. trk ant & APRS	K6LCS Clint Bradford	W6OM Ron Operatin g DX	Program on D-Star	Spring Auction	F.D. Prep.	KI6ICU Rally Racing & APRS	WU6D Reaching Yputh	KC6MMF Winlink for EmComm	Future of Ham radio Forum	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	22	26	19	16	21	23	16	20	17	15	19	—
SOARA T-Hunt	7	4	4	1	6	3	1	5	2	7	4	2
Board Meeting	29	3/5	26	23	29	23	23	27	24	22	26	
Special Events			24	25	19							
ARRL Field Day						23/24						
SOARA picnic								5				
SOARA Holiday Party												9

☛ **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 5:00 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](mailto: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, KG6GL.

	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 (DV)
	220	—	224.100	—	(110.9)	Laguna Beach
	220	—	224.640	—	(123.0)	Santiago Pk. (C)
D-Star	440	—	445.660	—	(K6SOA B)	Laguna Beach (DV)
	440	—	447.180	—	(131.8)	Santiago Pk. (C)
D-Star	1.2G	—	1282.600	—	(K6SOA A)	Laguna Beach (DV)
D-Star	1.2G	—	1299.900		(K6SOA AD)	Laguna Beach (DD)

☛ **Nets:** SOARA 2 m repeater open net is held Tuesday 8:00 PM 40 meter HF net (7.250 MHz +/- for QRM), Sunday 8:00 AM.

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