



The

Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

July 2008

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Meeting July 21 - "Work the World on HF"

The upcoming general meeting will feature SOARA member, Ron Weaver, W6OM, who will give a talk entitled: "Work the world on HF without overworking your credit cards!"

Ron's presentations are always interesting and are well received by club

members. If you have new HF privileges, or are working on upgrading, (or just want new insights on HF) don't miss this month's meeting.



QST , QST de AE6H

Greetings from Ray, AE6H. This month, I'd first like to thank everyone who participated in SOARA's ARRL Field Day

this year. We had an excellent turn out, lots of participation, and our operation on a very wide range of bands and modes earned us remarks of praise from Dick Norton, ARRL SW Division Director. When he visited the site on Saturday afternoon, Dick indicated to me that he believed that SOARA had the most widely varied and highly technical Field Day Operation of any he was aware of in the Division. He also was complimentary about the high level of participation he observed. Mike, KI6IRA, and his organizing team, as well as all SOARA members should be very proud. While all we currently have are raw contact scores, unlike some

previous years, this time we were able to garner almost all of the bonus points that were available to us, Bonus points are those credits for such things as operating a GOTA station with at least 100 contacts, digital modes, Satellite contacts, alternate energy, and more. Also, since this event is not just an emergency operations exercise, but is also a contest, we are rated against our competing groups in the 3A class. Because of the tabulating times involved, we probably won't see our ranking published in QST magazine until October. I am confident that it will be a respectable showing.

Right on the heels of Field Day, is of course, the Orange County Fair. Another upcoming event to put on your summer schedule is the SOARA picnic on Sunday, August 3, 2008.

73, and best wishes,
Ray, AE6H

Meeting:
July 21
7:00 PM
N.P.
Murray
Center
Veterans
Way
Mission Viejo

Field Day 2008, a good time was had by all!

For pictures taken at the F. D. site visit
<http://nj6n.com/fd2008/>

Were you able to come out and visit the SOARA Field Day site? Although several members were away on vacation or business, we had an outstanding number participate. The number of young people at this year's event was probably a record for SOARA. At the moment we have a large number of members who are 18 or younger. (And from the reactions at Field Day, there will be more young people getting their licenses soon!)

Under the leadership of Mike Slygh, KI6IRA, preparations before the start of the event ensured a smooth and organized set-up of antennas and equipment. Mike Morgan, KE6IBH, took charge of the visitor's table and did an outstanding job of ensuring that all visitors felt welcome - and informed. Among the visitors were the Mayor and a City Council member from Mission Viejo. Our ARRL Division Director, Dick Norton, N6AA, came to see our site and left after some very flattering comments about the operation.

Knute, K6HIV, our Public Information Officer, put a lot of effort in getting publicity for Field Day, and encouraged people to bring youngsters to see radio in action. His work paid off in the number of young people who kept the GOTA (Get On The Air) station busy. Many thanks to the volunteers who served as control operator/coach for that station. Alan, WB6T, is seen with Mayor Trish Kelley as she talks to a station in Hawaii.



Kris Marciniak, KI6IUC, managed to snare two QSOs via satellite - using a hand-held antenna. That bought us some valuable bonus points as well as generating a fair amount of spectator interest. He made it look easy! Kris also took on the (new this year) education project. His subject was APRS with both demonstrations and hands on experience.

Lou and Muriel Parker came in from their home in the desert to conduct testing. It was great to see them. Perhaps the most important job of the entire weekend is the chief cook and bottle washer. Dave, KG6QIC, took on the task this year. He not only looked the part, but he saw to it that no one went hungry or thirsty. He was helped by members of the Warriors Society who provided Saturday's dinner in appreciation for SOARA's help in providing communications support for their races.



Reports are that the band conditions were not as good as hoped, so the numbers of contacts were not as high as we expected. How this will affect our standing relative to other clubs will depend on whether the conditions were wide spread or just local. Still, we made a respectable score. We had a lot of visitors, and every one seems to agree that this was as good a field day as any.

Plans are already made for experiments with new antenna configurations for next year. Oh, our final score came to 5172 points.

See you all next summer at F.D. 73.



Events:

*Orange County
Fair Amateur
Radio Booth:*

*Wednesday,
July 16, was the
day SOARA had
responsibility for
staffing the
booth. Thanks
to the nine
members who
volunteered
their time.*

*A hidden trans-
mitter hunt is
scheduled for
the first Sunday
of each month.*

Sunday, Aug. 3
*Noon— ???
Baby Beach,
Dana Point*

*Burgers, Dogs &
Drinks provided.
Bring salad or
desert to share.*

*Food, Games,
Radio - at the
beach, what
could be more
fun?
See you there!*

Fire Season?

As this newsletter is being prepared there are 17 California fire incidents active, and some SOARA members are or have been deployed to fight them. Are you affiliated with an ARES or RACES group? You may be needed this summer.

WANTED

Linear Amplifier

I am looking for a tenderly used 600- to 1,000-watt linear amplifier; any design, all or most bands; Heathkit, Tokyo Hi-Power or Ameritron preferred but will consider older Yaesu or Kenwood. Must be in excellent working condition with instructions, SoCal pick-up strongly preferred.

Clark,
NØVCY/6,
secret7@cox.net.

Bavarian Field Day Report

The membership directors, KD7JHR and KD7JHS, wish to thank Heiko, AD6OI, Patti, AD6OH, and everyone else who took care of membership while we were in Germany. We managed to attend a Southern German field day and the following pictures show the overwhelming activity with the verticals. Most of the action was around the grill and picnic tables which caused the former club president, Bernd to call it the club's "sausage grillday" instead of field day. There is a shot of Horst demonstrating D-Star (note the antennae mount); and a picture of the first and most important action in Bavaria: uncorking the beer keg.

(Now we know why beer steins have those lids!)




Annual Picnic Planned for Baby Beach

The annual **SOARA Picnic** will be held on Sunday **August 3rd** at Baby Beach in Dana Point. We plan to have a phone HF station operating, and a VHF/UHF station for talk-in. Early bird radio set-ups at 10:00 AM.

Lunch will be from noon to 2:00 PM. The club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks. Please bring a salad, chips, or dessert to share.

Activities from 2:00 to 5:00 PM will include: games, T-hunting, and geocaching. To add to the fun bring an HT, a GPS, a compass, and T-hunting gear. (There will be some gear to loan, and teams will be encouraged.)



Year 2008	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	28	25	17	21	19	16	21	18	15	20	17	No meeting
Program	Red Cross	DX trip N6HC	OOP Dan Welch W6DFW	EmmCom Wayne Berringer KB6UJW	Spring Auction	F.D. Prep.	H F Ron Weaver W6OM	TBA	TBA	TBA	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	28	25	17	21	19		21	18	15	20	17	
SOARA T-Hunt	6	3	2	6	4	1	13	3	7	5	2	7
Board Meeting	2/4	3/3	24	28	6/2	23	28	25	22	27	24	29
Special Events												
ARRL Field Day					17 Work Day	28-29						
SOARA picnic												
SOARA Holiday Party												7

☛ **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. Prior registration is encouraged, but walk-in applicants are welcome. For information call Ernie Senser, W6ETS, at 949-458-2504.

☛ **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, 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
	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 (7.250 MHz +/- for QRM), Sunday 8:00 AM.

SOARA OFFICERS

President: Ray Hutchinson, AE6H 949-496-8020
ae6h@soara.org

V.P.: Tom Hobbs, AE6SH 949-830-8131
ae6sh@soara.org

Secretary: Phil Lonzello, WA6LDI 949-362-8534
wa6ldi@soara.org

Treasurer: Tom Parkes, KI6DDB 714-224-2982
ki6ddb@soara.org

SOARA DIRECTORS

Repeater: Howard Brown, KG6GI 949-581-2634
kg6gi@soara.org

Publications: Dale Griffith, W8RRV 949-830-3767
w8rrv@soara.org

Membership: Horst(KD7JHR) & Marie(KD7JHS) Zitzmann
949-768-8552
kd7jhr@soara.org or kd7jhs@soara.org

Education: Hal Silverman, WB6WXO 714-897-5002
wb6wxo@soara.org

Technical: Brian Roode, NJ6N 949-495-5336
NJ6N@soara.org

Communications: Lee Krank, K6QAX 949-201-6708
k6qax@soara.org

SOARA COMMITTEES

Activities: Lou Frank, KG6FCT 949-206-1986
kg6fct@soara.org

Testing: Ernie Senser, W6ETS 949-458-2504
w6ets@soara.org

Website: Richard Saunders, K6RBS 949-770-5099
k6rbs@soara.org