



The

Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

April 2010

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**Meeting:
April. 19
7:00 PM**

**N. P.
Murray
Center
Veterans
Way
Mission Viejo**

Hospital Disaster Support Presentation

The Hospital Disaster Communications Support System is now thirty years old! This amazing organization is so unique in the United States that the ARRL in 2003, presented it with the National Certificate of Merit. This award is rarely given even to an individual, and had never before been bestowed on an organization. HDSCS serves all the hospitals in Orange County with auxiliary communications in event of an emergency. The group doesn't just prepare for "The Big One," but is called out many times every year, not only for drills, but in active support during phone or power outages and during actual disasters such as the Laguna Fire and the

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QST, QST, de AE6H

First, let me begin by reminding everyone to vote in the SOARA election prior to Saturday, April 17. In an effort to encourage more member participation in SOARA

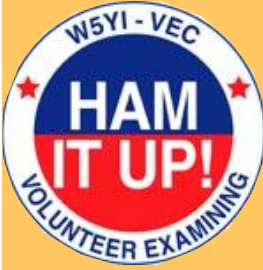
elections we have gone to all electronic voting. If you didn't receive an electronic ballot, it may be because we have an incorrect or outdated email address for you. In an effort to preserve voter anonymity we did not use the same email distribution list as we do for the Propagator, so you may get this Propagator, but still not receive an electronic ballot. Please contact Brian, nj6n@soara.org, if you didn't get a ballot by email. Another option is you should check your spam folder, because it may have ended up in there. Please vote and make your choice and voice heard.

Next, I'd like to thank all the great members

who turned out Saturday, April 10, to clean up, paint, and upgrade our Laguna Beach repeater facility. In spite of other events that were scheduled for the same time, and in which SOARA members actively participated, we still had 13 members turn out to work and learn more about our main and most complex repeater facility. Among the more significant tasks accomplished, we painted the exterior of the repeater building. Also very significant was the installation of a new solar powered roof vent fan system, to cool the building interior and therefore all our electronics inside.

The great level of member participation we have in SOARA, whether it is in the voting for club officers, maintaining our facilities and equipment, or supporting the community in public service events and emergencies is the hallmark of a truly great organization. Thank you all for making SOARA so great.

Best 73 de Ray, AE6H



Testing

Testing Results
From
March 15, 2010

Upgraded to Extra

Spencer Ammermon
KI6URT
Stephen Shobe
KI6YWH

Upgrad to General

David Meador
KJ6FPY

New Technicians

Adam Lowery
KJ6GKQ

George Najarian
KJ6GKR

73



Events:

Dayton Trek 2010
Follow the mobile
trip to and from the
Dayton Hamvention
In mid-May

Watch for details

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Placentia train wreck. The 70+ members embody the essence of service and dedication, responding quickly at any hour of the day or night, and staying until the problem is alleviated. The SOARA presentation this month will show how they do it, give glimpses of inner workings of the group, and give hints of why they have been successful for so long.

The presentation will be given by Dr. John Walker, AC7GK, who has achieved the status of Certified Hospital Communicator with the group

Raffle



Congratulations to Sean Reigle, AD6SW, who was the lucky winner of the five-dollar raffle at the March meeting. Sean was the lucky winner of a Yaesu FT-7900 dual-band mobile transceiver. Congratulations to all of the lucky winners in the one-dollar raffle and a special thanks to Gordon, WB6NOA who donated autographed license preparation books and other goodies to the one-dollar raffle!

I want to thank our Activities Director, Timothy, AF6GL for help with the raffles.

The April five-dollar raffle prize is a Yaesu FT-60R dual-band handheld radio. Good luck to everyone in the raffles!

73, Brian, NJ6N

Next Month

SOARA's May meeting will be devoted to the Spring auction. Start looking over the gear that is gathering dust in your shack (or in the garage) to see what items you might want to turn into cash. From small components and accessories to full size transceivers, chances are that someone will be thrilled to buy them. Also there is a good chance that someone will have just the piece of gear that you have always wanted, so plan on being at the May meeting to join the fun of bidding. Come early to set up if you are bringing gear to sell.

T-Hunt

Karl, KF6MDF, out of compassion for his fellow hunters (completely out), chose a hiding location for the April hunt within the boundaries of Mission Viejo. As you drive by the mission Viejo Mall — The Shops at Mission Viejo — you notice that there is a steep bank between the mall and the freeway. Such banks are tempting locations for hiding the transmitter.

On Marguerite Parkway the mall has a 6 story parking structure. If a directional beam was mounted on the back of a truck and pointed toward the freeway. . . . And if the truck was on the top of the structure. . . . Well, not on the top, that would be too obvious. So the truck is parked on the next to top level. The result is a lot of reflections around the mall and a lot of signal around that steep bank by the freeway.

Richard, K6RBS, found the "T" at 2:11, followed by Gray, WA6BJY at 2:12. Eventually all hunters arrived and admired the view.



Welcome

Welcome to our new members:

Edmund C. Ginn,
K6MFI,
a Technician from
San Juan Capistrano, Ca.

John Gori,
KJ6WSX,
a Technician from
Laguna Hills, Ca.

Michie Reigle,
KJ6FQB,
a Technician from
Laguna Hills, Ca.

James P. Stewart,
KJ6FHE,
a Technician from
Aliso Viejo, Ca.

Greg Honeyman,
K5MGH,
a General from La-
guna Hills, Ca.

Dick Roberts,
KJ6EPE,
a Technician from
Lake Elsinore, Ca.

Looking forward to talking with you on the radio and seeing you at club meetings.

After the latest dues reminders, payments and inactive choices, our membership now stands at 191.

Horst Zitzmann,
KD7JHR
Marie Zitzmann,
KD7JHS

New 2 m Band Plan

Recently I overheard a SOARA member (who shall remain anonymous) on the radio, advising another club member to switch to a "traditional" 2 meter FM simplex frequency. Only problem is, that that "traditional" frequency is no longer an FM voice simplex as defined in the TASMA 2 meter Band Plan. As of the latest revision of the band plan, that particular frequency is now dedicated to remote base operations.

TASMA is the acronym for the "Two meter Area Spectrum Management Association. This group coordinates repeaters and designates frequencies in Southern California, and publishes them within the two meter band. This publication is called a Band Plan, and operating in accordance with good amateur practice, as required by the FCC, also means being aware of and making good faith attempts to comply with the band plan for a particular band and area.

Because of the very large number of hams in Southern CA and the demand for frequencies for repeaters, both analog and digital, simplex, packet operations, IRLP, Echo link, and special uses such as ATV, T- Hunting, weak signal, and the like, It has been determined that it's necessary to "channelize" the two meter band in 15 kHz steps. In some regions of the country, the repeater frequencies are specified. But, simplex users and others can operate anywhere within the band as long as they don't interfere with repeaters, and these other frequencies are not specified. Again, because of band congestion, such an inexact band plan would result in too much interference and chaos here, hence the "channelization" of the bands.

This most recent Southern CA 2 meter band plan was adopted and published by TASMA in December 2009. If you want to view the changes in the plan, go to SOARA's web site www.soara.org, and

Pre-Field Day Report

Thank you to all that came out to Gilleran Park Saturday for maintenance and practice for Field Day. With such a good turnout we accomplish everything that we had hoped to achieve and were done by two o'clock.



The 20 meter beam has been cleaned, tuned, fitted with new hardware, and is ready to "reach around the World" on Field Day. Likewise the 15 meter beam and the 10 meter beam were cleaned, tuned and are ready to go. Plans were made for the wire antennas, the 40 meter Moxon, the Hex Beam and the 43' DX Engineering vertical; all of which will be at Field Day. If solar conditions continue to improve, as they have the last few weeks, Field Day should be very exciting with good contacts both local and DX. Mark your calendars for June 26th and 27th for a fun weekend.

Vern, W6VDV

scroll down the home page and you will find "2M BAND PLAN CHANGES" with a brief summary of the latest changes, and the URL for TASMA, where you will find charts with the entire plan. You will also learn about TASMA as an organization, and how to join so that you can have input and participate in the process.

At the very least, I encourage all of you to familiarize yourselves with the new 2 meter band plan so you can be sure to operate in compliance with it.

73 de Ray, AE6H

Year 2010	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	25	22	15	19	17	21	19	16	20	18	15	—
Program	Midway Atoll N6HC	AE6SH Disaster Comm	Digital Modes WB6NOA	Hospital Group AC7GK	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep					Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	25	22	15	19	17	26 Field Day	19	16	20	18	15	—
SOARA T-Hunt	3	7	7	11	9 ?	6	11	1	5	3	7	5
Board Meeting	Feb 1	Mar 1	22	26	24	28	26	23	27	25	22	TBA
Special Events				3 Pre-F.D. Exercise	14-16 Dayton		O C Fair Radio Booth		17-19 SW Div Hamcon			
ARRL Field Day						26-27						
SOARA picnic								1				
Holiday Party												TBA

☛ **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 5:30 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? Postal mail: P.O. Box 2545, Mission Viejo, CA 92690. 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
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 (7.200 MHz +/- for QRM), Sunday 8:00 AM.

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