



THE

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

November 2011

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Meeting
Nov. 21,
2011
7:00 PM
N.P.
Murray
Center
Veterans
Way
Mission Viejo

FALL AUCTION!

Yes, it's that time of year again! Please join us for our annual Fall auction (2nd and final auction of the year) at the Norman P. Murray Center on November 21. The goal of the auction is to sell more than you buy, but somehow it always seems that everyone leaves with more than they came with. The strange paradox aside, we hope to have as many bidders and sellers as possible for the meeting. I'm sure there will be plenty of

interesting radios and gadgets to entice even the most tight-waded ham! It one of our biggest events of the year and we hope to see a good turnout to support SOARA.

Thanks!



QST de AE6SH



It is fall auction time again at SOARA or as I like to think of it "spring and fall inventory rotation".

This is one of my favorite things to do, along with the monthly swap meet (TRW) and of course the Dayton Hamvention swap meet. The reason I call it an inventory rotation is because I usually sell and buy, instead of just selling... as I should! I really think that Ham's have been "green" long before it was the buzz word for all things recycled. When you think about it Ham's have been recycling bits and pieces of stuff since the very beginning. More out of necessity than environmental con-

science, but never the less we rarely get rid of anything without using it up or modifying it or re-purposing it until there is nothing left for it to give. Then of course we bring it to an auction or swap meet to see if anyone else can find a use for it.

So look around the shack and garage for those odds and ends (ham radio related) and bring them to the next meeting, so you can make room for all of those new bits and bobbles that you will undoubtedly find at the SOARA auction. Also remember that you can donate the entire sale price of any item to SOARA to help support the club! (I am sure Santa will take this into consideration when checking his list next month!)

See you all at the Auction/Meeting!

73'
Tom Hobbs AE6SH



ARRL Phone Sweepstakes

November 19-21

Fall Auction

November 21

SOARA Saturdays

November 26

SOARA Holiday Party

December 3

ARRL 10 Meter Contest

December 10-11

Holiday Party

Please join SOARA for the annual Holiday Party!

When:
Saturday
December
3rd 6:00 pm
for cocktails
(no host bar) and 7:00 pm for dinner.



Where: [Casta Del Sol Golf Course](#)
27601 Casta Del Sol
Mission Viejo, CA 92692
Enter from Marguerite Pkwy/
Casta Del Sol

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Menu: Choice of Roast Beef, or
Chicken Piccata
Includes: drink, vegetable,
potato, salad and dinner roll.

Tickets: No real tickets just order on
PayPal or contact me by
e-mail (AF6GL@soara.org).
When ordering on PayPal include
meal order in comments. i.e. \$50.00 1-
chicken & 1 beef.

Deadline: Wednesday, November 23.

Extra Details: No gift exchange just
bring a good ham related
story that brought you
cheer in the past year.

And oh yes, there will be
a nice **door prize** again
this year, a [Yaesu VX-8DR](#), a tri/quad band, HT
with APRS® & Bluetooth®
capabilities!

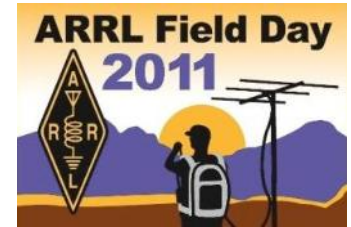


Field Day Results

Congratulations to SOARA and
thanks again to everyone that helped
on Field Day!

In the 3A class
we were:

25th in Nation
2nd in CA
1st on ORG (by a huge margin)
4th in ORG in all classes



More info can be found on the
[ARRL results page](#).

Membership Update:

Welcome to our new members:

Shawn Barry, WI6EEE, an extra from
Trabuco Canyon;

Christine Masterman, KJ6NBE, a technician
from Aliso Viejo;

Tula Masterman, KJ6RCE, also a technician
from Aliso Viejo.

We'll have your badges and handbooks availa-
ble at the November 21 meeting.

Thanks to all who have renewed their member-
ship and paid their dues.

Please pay your dues if you haven't already
done so, then you can be eligible to win the
fantastic door prize when you attend the holi-
day party, in December.

If you have questions regarding your dues sta-
tus please email us, at:
membership@soara.org.

Horst Zitzmann,
KD7JHR
Marie Zitzmann,
KD7JHS





Check out Ham Nation on TWiT.tv:

<http://twit.tv/hn>

In case you missed it, this video was a hit at the last meeting:

[K6FRC video](#)

Yes, ham radio can certainly be a money pit!

[K7RA Solar Update](#)

This week geomagnetic indices quieted a bit, and so did solar activity in general. Sunspot numbers reached a high of 220 on November 9, and this week declined, rose to 176 then declined again.

Average daily sunspot numbers slipped 8.4 points to 145. Average daily solar flux dropped 12.5 points to 161.2.

T-Hunt Report

Good job to everyone who found the T! The transmitter was located on the north side of Cedar Grove Park in Tustin, near Jamboree and Tustin Ranch.



There were 6 hunting teams on the day, Mike K6MSM, Richard K6RBS & crew (Mike NM6X and Jason W6NRD), Mark KD6WLY & Laura K6VIX, Aaron KJ6CFC, Gray WA6BJY, Clark KI6IZE and crew. The rain let up just in time

to allow for the hunters to enjoy a beautiful partly cloudy afternoon, though the wet ground did make for at least one fall while sniffing out the well hidden T in the bushes. Note to file, watch your step when seeking the T! Mike made the "rookie mistake" of being the first to find the T after getting lucky and starting closer to the T than he had thought possible. Most took to the hills to get their first bearing, but Mike decided to put some time in at the office and then do some casual hunting. Now he has the

Murphy's Laws for T-Hunters!

By

Gray Bickford WA6BJY

- If you can hear the "T," so can everybody else.
- If everybody else hears the "T", you can't.
- If you can't hear the "T," it is not your equipment. You need to get closer.
- There is always somebody closer to the "T" than you.
- If you are the closest to the "T", it's a mileage hunt and you must go the long way around to get to it.
- Your beam antenna is always higher than that tree branch hanging over the road.
- You never start at a high enough location to hear the transmitter.
- Somebody will always ask for a high power transmission at the start of the hunt. Use it while you can.
- Sniffers don't.
- Helpful hints aren't.
- You sniffer's battery will die just as you are closing in on the hidden "T."
- If you are hiding the transmitter, it will not have enough output power to key the amplifier.
- If you found the perfect spot to hide, someone will pick that location to start from.

Continued on page 4...

"misfortune" of not being able to hunt next month and needs to find a good hiding place for the T!

See you all next month on Sunday December 4 at 1pm (day after SOARA dinner) with Mike hiding the T.

73 de
AJ6B



SOARA Saturdays

We will be having a SOARA Saturday this month. The topic will be about 10 meters and simple to make 10 meter antennas that are easy to build. This is ideal for Technicians since you have some 10 meter privileges and we would like to help you get on the air and join in the excitement with HF! Please join us from 9am to 12noon at the Murray Center on Saturday, 11/26 and give HF a try!

Here is a link to some info about the [10m band](#).



THANK YOU

Thank you to all that helped out at the Saddleback Marathon on 11/5!

Heiko AD6OI and Patti AD6OH were at HQ, with course helpers including: Sean AJ6B, Michie KD6CAT, Richard K6RBS, Mikkel NR6E, Dave AF6TN & Max KI6MGP, and with Mike K6MSM acting as gate keeper. The views on the course were reported to be amazing. The drive itself was brought great views for most of us and while it was rather cold (I'm glad I had a heavy jacket), the sun came out enough to generally keep us warm.

Murphy's Laws for T-Hunters!

...continued from page 3:

- If you found the perfect high location that overlooks the entire countryside to start from, some other hunter found it too.
- Don't transmit on the "T" frequency. It pisses off the other hunters. And it lets the smoke out of your attenuator.
- If you think you have found the "T," you are mistaken, by a wide margin.
- That strong signal you are chasing down is just a reflection. The transmitter is in the opposite direction.
- Don't be the first to find the "T." Coming in second is just as good and you don't have to hide for the next hunt.
- On vehicle hunts, it helps to have the pointer in the car point in the same direction that the beam on the roof is pointing.
- Dopplers have slightly less sensitivity than you need.
- That compass bearing is off inversely proportional to the distance you stand from your vehicle.
- Body fade method only works good during demonstrations but not good enough when you forget your sniffer (tape measure) beam.
- Your friends will let you use their beam when you forget yours, but only after they found the transmitter.
- All hints and help provided by the other hunters (and hider) are truthful, up to a point. That point is determined by you.
- The quickest route the transmitter is jammed with stop and go traffic.
- It rains on hunters and hidiers alike.
- It rains harder when you are on foot sniffing out the transmitter.
- Don't drive past a hunter on your way to hide the transmitter.
- If you are the only hunter, you still have to find the transmitter in order to win.
- Somebody has to be last. It may be you. Deal with it.
- If you are constantly last, you may consider the fact that you may be doing something wrong.



RAFFLE REPORT

I am happy to announce that 44 \$5 tickets were sold at the last raffle of the season. We were able to raffle off the Kenwood tri-band handheld radio. The winner was Timothy KD6UYK.

All in all, the raffle yielded \$262. We much appreciate all your support for the raffle.

I hope to have some 2011 handbooks for the January meeting. Remember that there is no raffle this month, due to the Fall auction.

If you have any suggestions for either the \$1 or \$5 raffle, please let me know. If there are any comments, please contact me at WB6WXO@SOARA.org

Year 2011	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 Dues	21	—
Program	It's Your Club AF6GL	Rally KI6IUC	Contest Fun AF6GL	D-STAR NJ6N & KG6GI	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	QSL'ing AF6GL	Ham "Career" Fair	DXpedition Report N6HC	TWiT.tv Ham Nation	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	24	28	21	18	16	25 Field Day	18	15	19	17	21	—
SOARA Saturdays		Mar. 5	26	23	21	Field Day	-	-	24	-	26	—
SOARA T-Hunt	2	6	6	3	1	5	3	7/31	4	2	6	4
Board Meeting	31	Mar 7	28	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	28	
Special Events					20-22 Dayton		16 & 24 OC Fair booth	7 Picnic	9-11 SW Div Hamcon			3 Holiday Party
ARRL Field Day						25-26						
SOARA Picnic							7					
Holiday Party												3



SOARA OFFICERS

- President:* Tom Hobbs, AE6SH 949-830-8131
ae6sh@soara.org
- V.P.* Timothy McGowen, AF6GL 760-310-7634
af6gl@soara.org
- Secretary:* Rick Edgmon, NU6D 949-495-2979
nu6d@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:* Mike Mahan, K6MSM 949-279-9936
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- Membership:* Horst, KD7JHR & Marie, KD7JHS
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kd7jhr@soara.org or kd7jhs@soara.org
- Education:* Heiko Peschel, AD6OI 949-859-3868
ad6oi@soara.org
- Technical:* Brian Roode, NJ6N 949-495-5336
nj6n@soara.org
- Communications:* Mikkel Hansen, NR6E 949-632-5573
nr6e@soara.org

SOARA COMMITTEES

- Activities:* (OPEN & accepting applications)
- Testing:* Mike Slygh, NM6X 949-305-1374
nm6x@soara.org
- Website:* Richard Saunders, K6RBS 949-770-5099
k6rbs@soara.org
- Ambassador:* Heiko Peschel, AD6OI 949-859-3868
ad6oi@soara.org

☛ **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 Mike Slygh, NM6X, at 949-305-1374.

☛ **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 Peak. (C)
- D-Star 440 — 445.660 — (K6SOA B) Laguna Beach
- 440 — 447.180 — (131.8) Santiago Peak. (C)
- D-Star 1.2G — 1282.600 — (K6SOA A) Laguna Beach

☛ **Nets:** UHF/VHF (.180, .645 & .640): Tuesdays 8:00 PM
D-Star (146.115 C module): Wednesdays 8:00pm
40 meter HF (7.200 MHz +/- for QRM), Sundays 8:00 AM.