



THE

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

October 2012

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Amateur Radio Support for Patient Care Communications

From THE 'INSIDE----->OUT'

Many Amateur Radio groups around the country claim support for hospital communications in an emergency. Most of the time that support consists of an installed station linked to a city or county EOC and possibly the state as well. The hospital staff, along with the well-meaning hams, now think they have a plan should communications fail or overload, but do they?

While the hospital equipment set-up might allow for communications with a city or county EOC in a major emergency, what happens if the hospital has all their phones go down due to an errant backhoe? The loss of communications is a potential disaster for patients regardless of the cause. Who can legally operate the equipment will not be the same as who knows how to oper-

ate the equipment. Knowing how to operate simplex within the hospital becomes necessary while a link to the county EOC may not be necessary at all. Having an installed station in the command center isn't needed at all, but communicators are needed in the ICU, the OR, the ED, the PACU.

Amateur Radio is the one resource available to hospitals that can provide support for patient care communications within the hospital as well as linking a hospital to the outside world or both. The Orange County Hospital Disaster Support Communications System has done just that since 1980. Come hear more on Monday night, October 15, as SOARA welcomes **APRIL MOELL, WA6OPS, to discuss these very important topics.**

Continued on page 2...

Meeting

Oct. 15th,
2012

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



QST de AE6SH

October is here and pretty smooth year and our meetings and events have been a lot of fun, so I guess that explains the rapid acceleration of time. I and trick or hope everyone will renew their membership and is looking forward to another great year with SOARA! I know I am. Let's also hope it is time for renewing our membership in SOARA! Yes I know it seems like it was only a short time ago, but it has been a whole year. Time flies when things run smoothly and you are having a good

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73'
Tom Hobbs, AE6SH



**Pacificon
ARRL National**
Oct 12-14

**SOARA
Saturdays:
JOTA**
Oct 20

**CQ WW DX
Contest (SSB)**
Oct 27-28

**SOARA Fall
Auction**
Nov 19

**CQ WW DX
Contest (CW)**
Nov 24-25

**Holiday Party:
Antonucci's**
Dec 1

**VEC
License
Exams**

Next session:
(5:30pm), be-
fore the General
Meeting
Contact Sean
AJ6B for info.

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |
Technician
Exams

APRIL MOELL, B.Sc., M.A., CHCom, WA6OPS ARES District Emergency Coordinator, Orange County

April Moell has been the Emergency Coordinator of the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System in Orange County and participated in hospital disaster planning since 1980. She has had over 20 years of patient care experience in acute rehabilitation, is a former hospital department head, and holds a Master's Degree in Human Resources Management. She's been active in Amateur Radio since she was first licensed in 1976. Currently she holds that very rare Advanced Class license

Locally she is a regular member of the Orange County hospital disaster committees that plan the hospitals' participation in mass casualty drills and work on overall hospital disaster planning. In addition she is a member of the Orange County EMS Disaster Advisory Group and serves on the Hospital Preparedness Planning Advisory Committee. She has done presentations at numerous disaster and radio conferences since 1983 and has written articles for medical, government, and Amateur Radio publications.

Currently the HDSCS supports 36 medical facilities in the county and has responded to over 115 emergency activations. During her time as the coordinator of HDSCS, the group has been recognized by the ARRL, St. Jude Medical Center, Huntington Beach Hospital, Orange County EMS, the county Board of Supervisors, state and federal legislators, FEMA and NDMS. In 2005 she was recognized with the "Vision in EMS" award from the Orange County Health Care Agency.

A highlight for April and the group hopefully comes late this fall, when additions to the newest version of the Hospital Incident Command System will include a Job Action Sheet for Amateur Radio Operators. This sheet was put together by HDSCS coordinators and taken by a California Hospital Association representative to the national HICS Center Board.

Holiday Party News

Mark your calendars! We are booked at Antonucci's for Saturday, December 1st @ 6:00pm. Please check next month's Propagator for additional details. Thank you.

Raffle, Raffle - Final Raffle of the Year! Get on 220!

The October meeting marks the last raffle for the year, with the auction being next month. We will begin the raffle again at the January meeting.

For October, the \$5 prize is an [Alinco DR-235 Mk III](#) 220 MHz mobile radio. SOARA has two 220 MHz repeaters for the membership to use and enjoy. One repeater is at Laguna Beach and the other is at Santiago Peak.

The Tuesday night net is linked to a 220MHz repeater as well as 2M and 440MHz repeaters. There are also several 220 links that provide reliable coverage up and down the state of California.

I use 220MHz for my IRLP station and have had no interference. I used to use the Condor Link to help keep a friend of mine company as he journeyed to Northern California to visit his family. There is also a WALA Link and an Edison Link(?)

So to enjoy this band and maybe get acquainted with a new experience, I look forward to your support for this last raffle of the year! WB6WXO@SOARA.org



Jason, W6NRD, with his prize from last month's raffle.



From Membership

Joe Koenig,
KJ6ZMT
(awaiting new call), an amateur extra from Santa Ana, Ca.

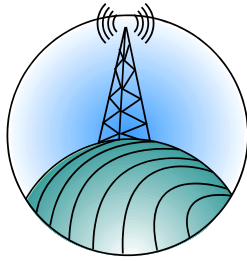
Chris Mather,
K6CBM,
a general from Laguna Niguel, Ca.

Tom Myers,
K6PET,
a general from Mission Viejo, Ca.

Our membership year ended on September 30 and we thank the **50** members who have **renewed** their membership for the Oct.2012-Sept.2013 year!

Horst Zitzmann,
KD7JHR
Marie Zitzmann,
KD7JHS

SOARA is sad to announce that **George Hampton** W6GLH, a club member from San Juan Capistrano, became a silent key about two weeks ago.



SOARA T-Hunt October 7th 2012

A Tale of Two T's: Hidden by W6BGR for WA6BJY

Gray asked me to hide this month so I was not prepared with a location that I could scout out ahead of time. So with the help of my son Bronson KJ6OCR we looked at a few places and came up with the Las Ramblas location just a mile or so east from the I-5. A small San Juan Capistrano park called Acu park that has a small ball field and a rather large wooded area with full sized vehicle, fire road that went through and around this water catch basin. I wanted it to be fairly easy to find once you got out of the car and walked about 70 yards to the back side road. On the T was a note that told them to get back in their car and go to the top of the hill and find the other hidden T somewhere near where I was waiting.

On the same frequency was a different T that was QRP (lower power) and hidden in a plastic portapotty. That too was easy to find but I had a reason for making that one easy because I hid a wildlife camera that takes a photo when motion is detected.

The T was found first by the team of Sean Reigle AJ6B. He found the second T first and had to back track to find the 5 watt transmitter. They found the QRP unit in 1 hour at 2:00 pm and 20 minutes later he announced on the simplex channel that he had found the main T.

About 2:50 pm Daniel (KI6LWN) and Clark Croisette (KI6IZE) showed up in the exact same way. The too drove right past the other more powerful signal and sought out the new weird sounding T in the same general area.

I was told later by Clark that they could hear the main T all over the south county area but didn't hear the weaker one until they were in the area.

The small group of hunters had fun finding I hope and the weather was not bad at all. Maybe it was the \$5.00 a gallon gas prices, maybe it was the California QSO Party contest that was going on. I prefer to believe they heard I was hiding and were afraid I was going to use my Dummy-load Yagi antenna I have used before.

73's Joe Lopez, W6BGR



Ham radio - always something new...



Pierrette, K6PTR & Michie, KD6CAT, on the hunt.



Sean, AJ6B, amused at yet another T location that no one has thought of before?



FCC Seeks to Change Amateur Radio Licensing Rules, Allow Additional Emission Types

On October 2, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ([NPRM](#)) in WT Docket No.

12-283 that seeks to change the Amateur Radio licensing rules, especially as they concern former licensees.

Acting upon an [April 2011 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the Anchorage VEC](#) to give permanent credit to radio amateurs for examination elements they have successfully passed, the FCC proposes to revise Section 97.505 to require that Volunteer Examiners (VEs) give examination credit to an applicant who can demonstrate that he or she formerly held a particular class of license. More at: [ARRL Website](#)

BEGINNER HAM RADIO CLASS

- Pass your ham radio FCC license exam right in class.
- Live equipment demonstrations, including emergency communications.
- Training on how to operate through local radio repeater systems.
- Radio demonstrations of radio internet linking, and computer communications.
- Multiple choice examinations with no Morse code test required.

Ham radio operators provide valuable communications in an emergency. Many cities throughout the country use ham radio operators to support Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and actual call-outs. This six-session class will feature live ham radio equipment for everyone to learn how to operate. With homework between sessions, spend a few weeks learning to pass your amateur radio Element 2 Technician Class examination, given right in the classroom on the last session.

Class schedule: Tuesday evenings 6pm – 9:30pm

Classroom dates: 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18 (2012)

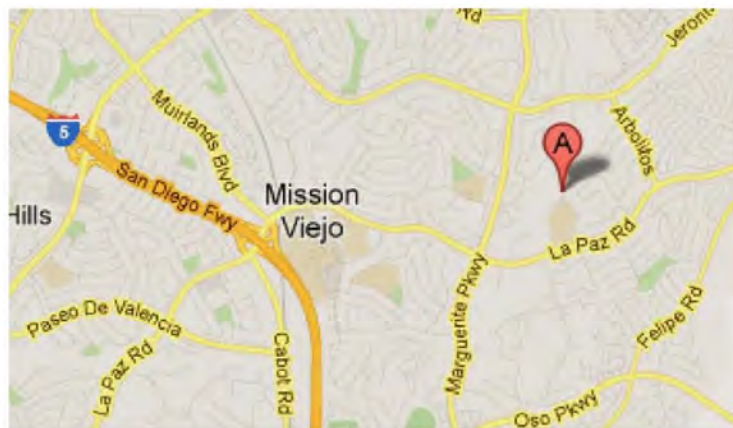
Location: Norman P. Murray Community & Senior Center
24932 Veterans Way
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

Costs: FREE instruction
\$15.00 FCC examination fee

Required Materials: Gordon West 2010 Technician Study Manual (~\$21)

Registration: Pre-registration is required.

Contact: Sean Reigle at aj6b@soara.org.





Propagation de K7RA

Another decline in sunspot activity this week, but based on activity over the past few days and projected solar flux values it is making a steady recovery.

Average daily sunspot numbers dropped from 73 to 51.7, a difference of 21.3 points. But the past three days saw sunspot numbers higher (63, 71 and 82) than the average, and climbing.

The average of daily solar flux was off 23.8 points to 104.9, and like the sunspot figures, the past three days saw solar flux values (106.2, 112 and 116.6) higher than the average for the week, a good indicator of the rising activity.

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/>

The HF Page CQ DX CQ DX...

Notable Contests/Events

- PA QSO Party (Oct 13-14)
- AZ QSO Party (Oct 13-14)
- Oceania DX Contest, CW (Oct 13-14)
- IA QSO Party (Oct 20)
- **JOTA (Jamboree on the Air)** (Oct 20-21)
- NY QSO Party (Oct 20-21)
- IL QSO Party (Oct 21-22)
- Worked All Germany Contest (Oct 20-21)
- CQ Worldwide DX, SSB (Oct 27-28)
- ARRL Sweepstakes, CW (Nov 3-5)
- JIDX (Japan) phone contest (Nov 10-11)
- ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB (Nov 17-19)
- CQ Worldwide DW, CW (Nov 24-25)

NOAA Space Weather Now:

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SWN/index.html>

Selected DXPeditions

- Chad, TT8TT (Oct 3-16)
- Svalbard, JW9DL (Oct 10-15)
- Rodrigues I, 3B9SP (Oct 16-23)
- W. Kiribati, T30PY (Oct 16-25)
- Mariana Is, NH0J (Oct 18-22)



JOTA (Jamboree on the Air)

What is JOTA? When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But few people realize that each year more than half a million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2010 JOTA had just over 700,000 Scout participants from nearly 6,000 amateur radio stations! Modern technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham) Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years. With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Some operators use television or computer-linked communications.

<http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

SOARA is planning to work some JOTA stations as part of the next Saturday's event at the Murray Center, on 10/20. Please join us!



Year 2012	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	23	27	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	—
Program	Ham Jeopardy	T32C DXPed Report	K6IRD	H.S. Tech	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	DIY	SOARA Fair	T & Fox Hunting		Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	23	27	19	16	21	Field Day	16	20	17	15	19	—
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	28	Mar 3	24	—	26	—	—	25	22	20	24	—
SOARA T-Hunt	8	12	4	1	6	3	1	7/29	2	7	4	2
Board Meeting	30	Mar 5	26	23	28	25	23	27	24	22	26	—
Special Events	Palm Springs 28	ARRL Yuma 17-18			Dayton 18-20	Field Day	Ham Jam 21	Picnic		Pacificon 12-14		Holiday Party 1
ARRL Field Day						23-24						
SOARA Picnic								5				
Holiday Party												1

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 at 5:30pm, changing to 6pm for 2013. Prior registration is not required and walk-in applicants are welcome. For further information, email Sean Reigle, AJ6B, at aj6b@soara.org.

SOARA Library:

SOARA has many amateur radio related books such as hand books, books about electrical theory, etc. available to lend out to club members. Contact Heiko Peschel ad6oi@soara.org for more info.

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 (447.180, 147.645 & 224.640): 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.
 Gordo Net (HF 7.250 MHz +/- for QRM), Weekdays 8:30AM

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