



THE

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

April 2012

IN THIS ISSUE

- Sparky Speaks 1
- QST de AE6SH 1
- FCC Study 2
- High Desert Tr. 2
- T-Hunt Report 3
- Special Events 3
- SOARA S.days 3
- 60m Update 4
- Raffle Report 5
- 2011 Calendar 6
- Club Directory 6

"Sparky" (NG6K) Speaks

Please join us on April 16th for a special presentation as SOARA's Spencer Ammermon, NG6K aka "Sparky", will be talking about the tech productions he does at school and about his Tesla coil and hard-disc platter launcher.

Spencer has been interested in just about everything electronic-related since he was two years old and as many in SOARA know, this has turned into a passion that has carried into school and in his everyday life.

Spencer started off my tech productions at Dana Hills High School, as a freshman, and as a new recruit to the Lighting and Sound crew. After showing my skills and knowledge in the equipment, he was quickly put to the task of wiring up the 70KvA generator for the homecoming half time show. After a huge success with homecoming and other events later on in the year, he was asked to be on Student Government for my following year at Dana as a "Techie". Many of the

aspects of operating some of this equipment he learned through ham radio. Spencer constantly has a drive to "build" and this comes in many shapes and forms such as antennas, the popular "Potato Cannon" and more recent summer

Continued on page 2...



Meeting

April 16th,
2012

7:00 PM

N.P.

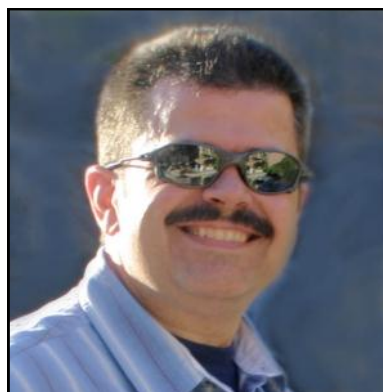
Murray

Center

Veterans

Way

Mission Viejo



QST de AE6SH

Spring is here! (I think) It's kind of hard to judge by our weather patterns. The term "spring cleaning" seems to always come to mind this time of year. Maybe that is why we have our repeater

site maintenance day this month and our auction next month.

Our Repeater maintenance day will be over by this month's meeting and everything will look fresh and tidy and we

should be in fine shape for another year of weather. Thanks to all who participated!

Looking ahead, it's time again to start cleaning out the shack and find those treasures that need a new home. It is never too early to prepare for our (May) "spring auction"! It is just over a month away and if our last two auctions are any indicators we should have a fine assortment of goodies to tempt even the most well stocked (or over stocked) ham shack. I hope everyone is looking forward to the auction and enjoying the spring season and hope to see you all at the next meeting.

73'
Tom
AE6SH



Temple Hill Maintenance
April 14 (9am)

SOARA Election Results
April Meeting

High Desert Rally
May 12

Dayton Hamvention
May 18-20

Memorial Day 1/2 Marathon
May 28

ARRL Field Day
June 23-24

VEC License Exams

Next session:
4/16
before the meeting.
Contact Mike
NM6X for info.

Walk-ins ok.

Extra || General
|| Technician &
CW Exam, too!

FCC Seeks Public Comments on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications

In response to the Congressional directive to prepare a study to assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications and the impact of private land use regulations on the amateur community's ability to provide such communications, the FCC issued DA 12-523 soliciting comments from the public. The period for public comment runs **[only] until May 17, 2012.**

"As part of the study contained in Public Law No. 112-96, the Commission has opened a 45 day period for comments to be filed on the issue," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Because of the short deadline for the study to be completed and presented to Congress -- before the end of August -- the ARRL and the amateur community must quickly mobilize their response."

The FCC Public Notice focuses on two specific areas for comments.

The first is the role that Amateur Radio has played and continues to play to support emergency and disaster relief organizations, such as FEMA and local/state emergency management agencies. The second is to determine impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications. This would include the impact that private land-use regulations -- such as deed restrictions and

Continued on page 5...



High Desert Trails Rally QST 2012!

The High Desert Trails Rally is a performance time trial event that will run on May 12th, 2012. Rally Racing is a motorsport where a driver and navigator (*co-driver*) race down closed dirt roads, one car at a time, as fast as they can. The cars race against the clock and not head-to-head. The racing sections are called Special Stages and are closed to all non-rally traffic. Performance rallies would not exist in the US without amateur radio! We rely on the skills of hundreds of volunteers to keep us safe in the woods. Hams keep track of all of the route, and handle communication - uses your communication skills as a



Expanded the gorgeous County, the celebrating last year onto roads of Kern rally will be it's 39th anniversary on stages south and west of Ridgecrest, California. Make sure to bring clothes to be out in the weather, sunscreen, water, and some extra snacks. As a communicator you will be out on the course all day. We will be providing a small sack lunch and waters. A mobile 2M rig is necessary and extra antenna options are always a good idea for your vehicle. Volunteers can find out more info and sign up at <http://highdeserttrails.com/volunteers/>

...continued from page 1.

project, a real Tesla Coil. After many long nights spent out in the garage, doing everything from painting, mixing up salt water, to winding the massive 1,055 turn secondary coil, the Tesla Coil was finished.

Spencer's hard-disc platter launcher, an even more recent project, also involved many hours of tedious work. Both of these projects used parts that weren't exactly made for what he used them for but that is part of the fun of home-brewing projects like these. The nickname "Sparky" became very appropriate after the completion of both of these projects, especially the Tesla Coil.

Continued on page 4...



From Membership

After the dues deadline, on March 31, our membership now stands at 201.

Horst Zitzmann,
KD7JHR
Marie Zitzmann,
KD7JHS

Membership
Directors

Check out Ham
Nation on
TWiT.tv:

<http://twit.tv/hn>

T-Hunt Report

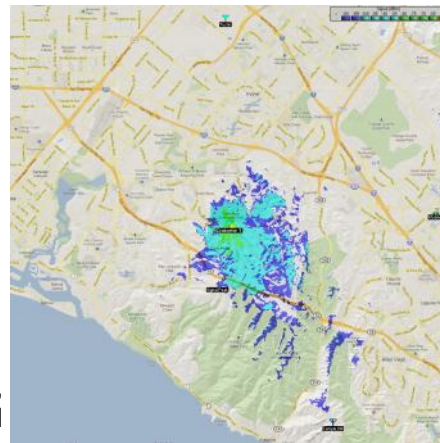
After much thought and many hours of driving around looking for that perfect spot to hide the T and burn the hot dogs in the same area, we finally found that perfect spot at Turtle Rock park in Irvine.



Uncle Drew, KI6IZD volunteered to cook the hot dogs while Clark, KI6IZE and I (KI6LWN) hid the T in tree facing the 73 toll road. After an hour of hunting, the exasperated hunters couldn't find a signal, so they requested that we give them a hint. After giving the hint, it only took Gray, WA6BJY 30 minutes to find the foxy T, closely followed by Sean, AJ6B, and the rest of the hunters trailed in within the hour. After the last hunter arrived, we all enjoyed hot dogs and root beer; Compliments of Chef Uncle Drew.

Below is the list of the hunters:

WA6BJY Gray at 2:34
AJ6B Sean at 2:35
K6RBS Richard and NM6X Mike at 2:48
KF6MDF Karl at 3:15
K6MSM Mike at 3:24
KJ6CFC Aaron at 3:30
W8RRV Dale 3:40



73's,
Daniel KI6LWN

Special Events

1/2 Marathon on Memorial Day May 28. Here again we are emergency communications support at a much larger event. Hand held radios with extra batteries are the primary requirements. After all of these events we usually go out for a bite to eat and to recap the events of the day.

This type of communication is good practice for radio operators who wish to improve their skills and have fun at the same time. If you would like to join us please e-mail me at ad6oi@soara.org or call me at (949) 859-3868.

Thanks
Heiko
AD6OI - Education Director

SOARA Saturday

Thanks to all who joined us for a very informative demonstration of a loop antenna by Bill Prats, K6ACJ. We even made a contact with Australia, with Richard K6RBS at the controls. Not bad for an antenna about 6' above the ground!

The next SOARA Saturday is scheduled for 4/21.





ARRL Field Day
Field Day is the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day 2012 will be held June 23-24, 2012.

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.

If you are interested in filling one of the committee roles please contact Jason Masterman (W6NRD) at w6nrd@soara.org

[please see the attached for more info]

NTIA: No Objection to Additional Data Modes on 60 Meters

QST de W1AW

In response to requests for clarification from the ARRL, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has confirmed that it has no objection to the use of a broader range of data emissions by amateurs on the five 5 MHz frequencies on 60 meters. ARRL's original understanding was that the NTIA preferred that the use of 2K80J2D emission be limited to Pactor III. The NTIA now says that that is not the case.

In an e-mail response to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, Karl Nebbia, Associate Administrator of the NTIA Office of Spectrum Management, stated, "NTIA has no interest in limiting the types of emission used by the amateurs as long as the data emission does not exceed the 2.8 kHz bandwidth generated by the upper sideband transmitter." Nebbia referred all further inquiries to the FCC, which "...sets the conditions for use of the five 5 MHz frequencies by the amateurs."

The requirement of only one signal per channel remains, as well as the prohibition against automatic operation. The FCC continues to require that all digital transmissions be centered on the channel-center frequencies, which the Report and Order defines as being 1.5 kHz above the suppressed carrier frequency of a transceiver operated in the Upper Sideband (USB) mode. This is typically the frequency shown on the frequency display.

Channel	USB Suppressed Carrier (kHz)	Center (kHz)
1	5330.5	5332.0
2	5346.5	5348.0
3	5357.0	5358.5
4	5371.5	5373.0
5	5403.5	5405.0

The ARRL advises amateurs to operate with care when using digital modes in consideration of the fact that hams are secondary users on these frequencies. See the revised 60-Meter FAQ page on the ARRL Web at, <http://www.arrl.org/60-meter-faq>. The revised ARRL 60-Meter Recommended Practices document can also be found in PDF form on the web at, http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Recommended_Practices_Version_6_5.pdf.

...continued from page 2 - [High Desert Trails Rally](#)

This event proudly kicks off the California Rally Series Championship for 2012. As the premiere rally series in the Southwest, and one of the biggest regional championships in the country, the California Rally Series provides an exciting, well run championship for competitors, plus support, equipment, and volunteers for the rally. The event will be sanctioned by NASA Rally Sport, the grassroots rally sanctioning body for the US. NASA Rally Sport focuses on competitor fun and providing support for rally organizers. Providing tools to the racers, organizers, and fans to increase their enjoyment of rally is one of the core missions of the organization. Please join us in the beautiful high desert!

Kristopher Marciniak KI6IUC & Christine Marciniak KI6IUE
High Desert Trails Rally Organizers

High Desert Trails Website: <http://highdeserttrails.com> California Rally Series: <http://californiarallyseries.com> NASA Rally Sport: <http://www.nasarallysport.com/>



KG6YPI's
RemoteHams.com
 Enhances Remote-
 Controlled Radio
 Capability

**W1AW 2012
 Spring/
 Summer Oper-
 ating Schedule**

[http://
 www.arrl.org/
 w1aw-operating-
 schedule](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule)

...Continued from page 2. [FCC Seeks Comments](#)

homeowner association covenants -- have on the ability of licensed amateurs to fully participate in providing support communications to the served agencies.

"This study is not about zoning ordinances or regulations adopted by the local or state governments," Henderson explained. "Amateurs already have the limited protection of PRB-1 to assist them with those situations. The areas of concern here are the limitations that are placed on a property when it is purchased, either as part of the deed of sale or by restrictions imposed by the neighborhood/homeowner's association. Those restrictions -- sometimes referred to as CC&Rs -- are not currently covered by the FCC's PRB-1 decision from 1985."

To allow the ARRL to quickly collect and collate relevant information from the amateur community to help support the filing it will make with the FCC on this issue, a website has been setup. The site -- www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information -- provides details about what kind of information is needed by the ARRL.

Also on the site, you will find links to two online data collection forms. The first form allows you to provide information about specific emergency communications in which Amateur Radio has played a role since January 2000. The second form asks for specific information on the CC&Rs/deed restrictions that control your property. It also asks you to provide information on how those restrictions have impacted your ability to fully support emergency communications.

"Whether you are an ARRL member or not, your information and situation are important to helping us make the case for all amateurs," Henderson said. "Whether your support communications are with ARES, RACES, SKYWARN, CERT or other emergency and disaster groups, your voice should be heard. If you cannot operate effectively from home during an emergency because CC&Rs prohibit adequate antennas on your property, that is important to document and quantify. This issue affects all of Amateur Radio, not just ARRL members."

[Please see the attachment to this month's Propagator for further information.]

Raffle Report

Last month, the \$5 raffle was won by **Tom Jacobs W6TST**. The prize was an MFJ 259B antenna analyzer. It seemed an appropriate prize since the SOARA Saturday built and tested a wire antenna that weekend.

All in all the raffle took in \$354. This was enough to pay for the \$5 prize as well as the \$1 prizes. Thank you for your support.

The \$1 prizes were the LED flashlight set, an MFJ speaker, an MFJ set of headphones, a 18V cordless drill, and a 2 position RF switch.

The \$5 prize for April is an **iPad 2**. This iPad is a 16GB version with a black frame around. We need to sell 86 tickets for the iPad.

I have most of the \$1 prizes for April, so the raffle cost in April should be minimal. I may have to pick up 1 prize.

As always, if you have any suggestions for raffle prizes, please let me know.

73.....Hal WB6WXO
WB6WXO@SOARA.org



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		Spring Auction						Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	23	27	19	16	21	Field Day	16	20	17	15	19	—
SOARA Saturdays	28	Mar 3	24	21	26	—	—	—	22	20	24	—
SOARA T-Hunt	8	12	4	1	6	3	1	5	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	OC Fair Booth	Picnic				Holiday Party
ARRL Field Day						23-24						
SOARA Picnic								4				
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 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 (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.

CW Nets: Tuesday—7pm (2m—Trabuco) & Thursday—8pm (10m)

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
k6msm@soara.org
- Membership:** Horst, KD7JHR & Marie, KD7JHS Zitzmann 949-768-8552
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:** Kelley Saunders, KJ6NNK 949-770-5099
kj6nnk@soara.org
- 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