



THE

# PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

May 2012

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## Meeting

May 21, 2012

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

## Spring Auction!

Thanks to all who joined us on April 16th for Spencer's, (NG6K aka Sparky), talk and demonstration about high school tech. The Tesla coil and hard-disc platter launcher demos were real hits! It's a good thing he had an insulating mat to stand on!

As for this month, SOARA is pleased to present the next installment of the *very popular Spring Auction!*

Yes! It's that time of year again to do some spring-cleaning in the shack, aka our semi-annual electronics-recycling program. This event will offer you the ability to turn the electronic items you no longer use into some cash!

Heiko, AD6OI, has agreed to be the auctioneer and the auction is in place of the May meeting.

If you have items to auction bring them to our regular meeting room at 6:00 p.m. to get them checked in. SOARA takes a small percentage of the sale price as Spring Auction handling fee or you can donate the item to SOARA in which case the club takes 100% of the profit.

It is always fun to see what there is, whom gets into a bid-ding war with whom, and of course the biggest challenge of all, see if you actually go home with less stuff than what you brought!

Items can be new, used, very used, or very very used. The rules for the auction are attached.



## QST de AE6SH



As always, and also your cash or check book! This May, June same week will also see several of our and July members travel to the Dayton Hamvention are the in Dayton Ohio.

busiest months for our club. If you look at our calendar, it is packed with stuff to do and places to go.

Then in June we will have our **Field Day** preparation meeting and that is followed very closely by Field Day itself. Field Day is our biggest event participation-wise by members and non-members alike and also our most physical! As soon as we are recovered from Field Day the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is upon us and that means that the Orange County Fair is just around the corner. (details to follow)

There's more than enough to go around.

73, Tom Hobbs AE6SH

Next up is our spring auction meeting. Be sure and bring your goodies early so you can get them tagged and logged in, Oh yes

Editors Note: The president is traveling to Dayton and will not be back for the meeting (auction). Have fun, Tom!



**Dayton  
Hamvention**  
May 18-20

**SOARA  
Saturdays**  
May 26

**Memorial Day  
1/2 Marathon**  
May 28

**ARRL Field Day**  
June 23-24

**OC Fair**  
July TBD

**SOARA Picnic**  
August 4

## VEC License Exams

Next session:  
5/21  
before the  
meeting.  
Contact Sean  
[AJ6B](#) for info.

Walk-ins ok.

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

## ARRL Field Day

Field Day is the fourth full weekend of June (6/23-6/24 this year), beginning at 11:00AM (local time) Saturday and running for 24 hours straight (yes even during the wee hours at night!) and ending at 11:00AM on Sunday.

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.

With Solar Cycle 24 (finally?) heating up, Field Day 2012 promises to be an exciting event. Barring any unforeseen disruptions, the improved propagation (remember that last year's Field Day only had about 90-94 on the solar flux scale vs. 130 which is typical now). This should allow us to make many more contacts especially on the spacious 10 and 15 meter bands during the day and possibly into early dusk hours.

If you are new to amateur radio (Technicians or Generals with less than one year), you will want to spend time at the **GOTA station** collecting QSOs from around the Country on HF. You will also have an opportunity to talk on amateur television, try D-Star, and to experience satellite communication. Don't miss this once a year event. For those experienced hams, all contest bands should be open for contacts using all modes; Phone, CW, RTTY, PSK31, ATV, etc. Please be prepared to log lots of contacts and generate lots of points!

If you are interested in helping, please contact Jason Masterman (W6NRD) at [w6nrd@soara.org](mailto:w6nrd@soara.org)



## "High Desert Trails Gives Competitors a Great Day of Rally!"

On a light breezy Saturday morning with the sun keeping it around 80F, the teams unpacked trailers and setup. Radio crews and volunteers had been busy getting ready for the four new miles of road that would bring competitors excitement and smiles for the rest of the day. This new section included jumps, twisty turns, and trees. Stage 1 - 'Gold Rush' took drivers and co-drivers on a 14.3 mile ride of everything this rally has to offer: 1600 foot elevation changes, blind crests, flowing fields, cattle guards, fast sections, technical, and twisty. Drivers reported that they simply loved it!



Sean, AJ6B, at his post for the rally

Coming off a small rally hiatus, it was unclear if Keith Jackson and Marra Estep would be able to pick up their 2009 USRC winning pace. Winning Stage 1 with more than a 45 second gap quickly confirmed that there was no issues getting right back into maximum attack with their Subaru Impreza WRX. Their competition was Bill Holmes and Sean Gallagher in their Ford Raptor followed closely by Jon Burke and Zachary Dickinson in another Subaru Impreza WRX. Burke would have problems with the car and not continue after service. This left Holmes in 2nd, a minute and a half behind Jackson, and well over 3 minutes ahead of the CRS GT cars. Having some brake problems on the last stage, Cem Akdeniz and Mustafa Samli would take 2nd in Open 4WD and 6th overall.

Running in Subaru Imprezas, Alex Rademacher and Jeana Yi were close with Leelyn Pritchard

*Continued on page 4...*



### From Membership

The membership total is 207 members.

If you upgrade your license, or change your call sign, please let us know so we can put the change into the roster. If you have a new call, we'd like to get you a new badge so send an email to membership@soara.org to let us know.

Welcome to our newest member, Dennis Popp, KJ6VKF, who has a general license and is from Costa Mesa.

Horst Zitzmann, KD7JHR  
Marie Zitzmann, KD7JHS

Membership Directors

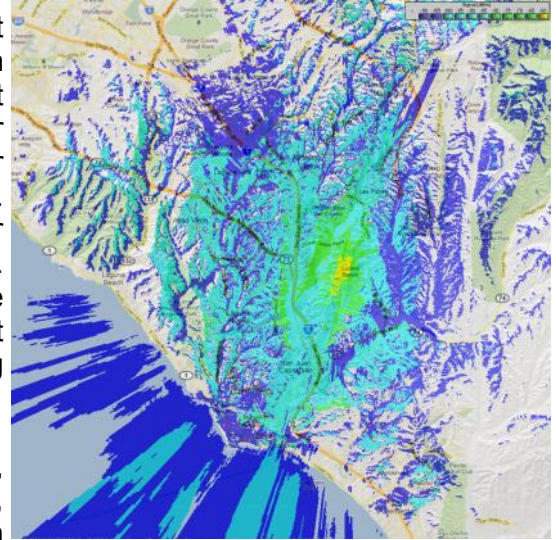
Check out Ham Nation on TWiT.tv:

<http://twit.tv/hn>

## T-Hunt Report

Gray, WA6BJY hid the T this month in a spot that shouldn't have been **too** difficult, but then we (Mike, K6MSM & Pierrette, KJ6VXB) didn't start all that close and ended up doing a fair amount of driving. It would have been easier to start from home in Mission Viejo in my case. In any event, Gray found a suitable tree under which to hide the T this time in Ladera Ranch. The 1W transmission from a whip on the side of the box really wasn't good for much, except for reflecting off the "wonderful" stucco siding homes in Ladera.

Karl, KF6MDF was the winner this time, though he was just a nose in from of Norm, KJ6SON. It's always amazing how hunts with people starting all over the county can end up as near foot-races at the end. Karl and Norm even passed each other, which was a good sign that they were close! All hunters finished within about 45 minutes of each other.



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## Memorial Day Events - May 28th

### Laguna Hills Half Marathon

We are providing emergency communications support at the Laguna Hills Memorial Day Half Marathon. Hand held radios with extra batteries are the primary requirements.

SOARA is looking for volunteers for the Memorial Day 1/2 Marathon on Monday May 28 race time is at 7 am and we will have lunch at about 11 am 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](mailto:ad6oi@soara.org) or call me at (949) 859-3868.

Thanks  
Heiko



### Submarine Memorial

SOARA member, Hal Silverman, WB6WXO, will be master of ceremonies at the upcoming Memorial Day Ceremony. The event will be on Monday, May 28, 2012 starting at 1100 hours, at the Submarine Memorial West, Seal Beach.

The Submarine Memorial West is located on Seal Beach Blvd between Westminster Blvd and Pacific Coast Hwy. Parking will be along Seal Beach Blvd or at the near-



by Boeing parking lot. There will be a shuttle bus from the parking lot to the memorial site. The ceremony will last about 1 hour and will feature several guest speakers as well as a "Tolling of the Boats" to remember the 52 WWII and 2 Cold War submarines that were lost. Everyone is welcome.



### Raffle Report

The iPad2 was raffled off last night at the regular meeting. The winning ticket was held by no other than myself (WB6WXO). The ticket was pulled by Kellie. Boy was I surprised!

The response was so successful that I am considering raffling another one off later in the year.

I am also considering an antenna tuner in support of SOARA Saturdays for those who are engaged in wire antenna construction.

As a reminder, there will be no raffle at the May general meeting as the meeting will be devoted to the May auction.

If there are any comments, please contact me at [WB6WXO@SOARA.org](mailto:WB6WXO@SOARA.org)

High Desert Trails Rally (continued from page 2.)

and Logan Mineer all day. After service it became not only a battle for CRS GT, but a battle for third overall. Radmacher turned up the pace in the afternoon and pulled into the lead. Pritchard maintained bragging rights by beating him on Stage 8 - The DirtFish Power Stage! Co-Driver Logan Mineer said "I'll admit, it was nice holding that champagne for a bit, even if I knew it was Keith's all along." Michael Carnes & Reza Yazdani were back again this year in their Audi Quattro to take 3rd in CRS GT.



Hal, WB6WXO, wins the raffle!

by a Performance Stock VW Golf driven by the experienced Tony Chavez & Raquel Salas. Chavez would go on to set fast times and secure 1st in P-Stock and 5th overall! 2nd in P-Stock would be Sarkis Mazmanian & Arin Hovsepian in an Acura Integra.

The DirtFish Power Stage spurred on the competition to the finish. There was no stopping 4WD Driver Keith Jackson and Co-Driver Marra Estep all day. They won every stage, and this one was no exception, grabbing the top prize from Leelyn Pritchard and Logan Mineer. Bill Holmes and Sean Gallagher also stayed in complete control of 2WD to emerge victorious and take the \$100 from Tony Chavez & Raquel Salas. Jackson and Holmes then celebrated with a spray of champagne.

Teams are off to Rally Idaho for the next event in the California Rally Series Championship on June 9th & 10th. We would like to thank all the volunteers and captains for making this such a successful event! See you next year at High Desert Trails when we celebrate our 40th anniversary!

Rally website: <http://highdeserttrails.com>

In 2WD Eddie Fiorelli & Tom Smith set an outstanding pace for the first stage in their CRS-2 VW Golf, taking the 4th fastest time, and surprising a number of turbo 4WD cars. They would keep 1st in CRS-2 all day, ahead of Sean Lane & Christian Coulter in their Dodge Neon, and Javier Olivares & Brock Heinz in their Mitsubishi Gallant, but would be beaten overall



Photo Credit: Bill Rogers Motorsport Memories - <http://www.motorsportmemories.com/>

### SOARA Positions Available

With Heiko, AD6OI, taking over as VP, he is now doing double duty as he is also the Education Director. SOARA is also looking for a new activities coordinator to assist with the Picnic and the Holiday Party and a website coordinator. If anyone is interested in the above positions, please contact any member of the Board. Thank you for your support!

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	—	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](mailto: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.

**SOARA OFFICERS**

- President:** Tom Hobbs, AE6SH . . . . . 949-830-8131  
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**SOARA COMMITTEES**

- Activities:** *Open - Please let us know if you are interested!*
- Testing:** Sean Reigle, AJ6B . . . . . 714-261-1717  
[aj6b@soara.org](mailto:aj6b@soara.org)
- Website:** Mikkel Hansen, NR6E. . . . . 949-632-5573  
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