



THE

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

December 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

From the VP	1
Holiday Party	2
Raffle	2
Yuma Hamfest	3
Earthquakes	3
2013 Calendar	4
SOARA Info	4
2014 Calendar	5

Season's Greetings from SOARA

As another year draws to a close it is time to reflect and also to look forward to next year. Amateur radio is still growing, we are seeing more new hams and folks upgrading (thanks Sean and your gang). The need for more trained operators is more obvious all the time (thanks Charley, Joe and Ed). I would also like to thank the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for their efforts in training and educating their members about amateur radio (thanks Ken and Howard). We are hearing more operators on our repeaters, nets, and on H.F. all the time and I would encourage you to be more active and use the radio in your car instead of phoning or texting, either of which can be dangerous. For next year we have several speakers in the works but I'm always interested in hearing from you for your recommendations. Some events to look forward to are the Winter Trail Run series, Quartzite, Desert Rats Hamfest, and the May auction.

With that I hope that all your wishes are fulfilled this holiday season and looking forward to another great year.

Thanks
Heiko
AD6OI

SOARA VP & Ambassador

There is a new educational video about Amateur Radio. It is free to view and share and can be found here:

<http://youtu.be/ivUMIADFSDw>

It has been created for anyone who wishes to encourage youth and adults to explore the world of Ham Radio. It also can be found on the home page of the project website at www.RadioQRV.com. [and look for a very familiar Field Day scene at 20:47]

[New Technician Class](#)

Starts January 8th

Please contact Sean, aj6b@soara.org for further details on the first class of the new year. Thank you for your support.

No
Meeting
This month

Next
meeting is:
January
27th, 2014



Sean, AJ6B, wins the 2013 WW7D award, as the SOARA ham of the year.

Holiday Party Pictures

Thank you to all who attended our return trip to Antonucci's! There were many prizes to win and please congratulate Sean, AJ6B for winning the WW7D award as ham of the year.



SOARA Raffle:

Hal Silverman

The monthly raffle resumes in January. Please see next month's Propagator for further details.

73.....Hal

If there are any comments or suggestions for either the \$1 prizes or a future \$5 prize, please contact me at WB6WXO@SOARA.org



Quartzfest
Jan 19-26

SOARA Meeting
Jan 27

SOARA Saturday
Feb 1

Yuma Hamfest
Feb 14-15

VEC License Exams

No regular testing session this month.

Next session:
January 27th
Contact Sean
AJ6B for info.

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |
Technician
Exams

SOARA Website



Propagation de K7RA

Solar indicators rose over the past week, for both solar flux and sunspot numbers. The highest were on Tuesday, December 10 when the sunspot number was 169 and solar flux 175.2. In an otherwise quiet week the planetary A index reached 26 on Sunday, December 8, sparked by a strong solar wind surging from a coronal hole. We could see a repeat this weekend. Geomagnetic activity during the ARRL 10 Meter Contest this weekend should be more active than contesters would prefer...

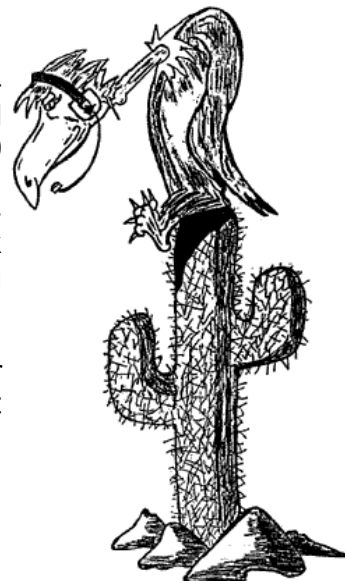
2014 Yuma Hamfest (Feb 14-15th)

Now in our tenth year and one of the largest hamfests in the ARRL's Southwestern Division, the Yuma Hamfest is one of the few multi-day convention-style hamfests held in Arizona. We feature commercial exhibitors and vendors, tailgating, grand prizes worth \$13,700, on-site RV camping, free parking, seminars held in parallel tracks, amateur license testing, DXCC card checking, an antenna clinic & transmitter hunt, our famous "Buzzard BBQ" dinner, great hourly door prizes, a hospitality area, the "Country Store" consignment sales area, and much more.

Admission is only \$5, tailgating spots are \$10 for the weekend, and we offer a food concession run by a professional chef. Our now-famous "Buzzard BBQ" dinner is only \$10 and has sold out for the last three years. We are giving away a Samsung Note 10.1 tablet as an admission registration prize to someone just for attending. You should mark the third weekend of February on your calendar and plan on attending the Yuma Hamfest.

Please check our website at www.yumahamfest.org for more information. If you have questions, contact us at info@yumahamfest.org or by phone at 928-305-1034.

Roger Hunt, K7MEX
Director, Yuma Hamfest



L.A. 'Megaquake' Could Disable Internet and Cell Sites

It doesn't take much reflection to see how dependent [we] have become on cell phones and the Internet. The BBC News article [Could Los Angeles withstand a 'megaquake'?](#) by science writer Simon Redfern offers a sobering view of what people in Southern California would face after a megaquake.

"It's not a question of if the San Andreas Fault ruptures in Southern California, but when," he writes introducing comments from US Geological Survey (USGS) scientist Dr. Lucy Jones at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco.

Redfern writes, "The last big earthquake that hit California, the one at Northridge, occurred when the Internet age had just got going. Now, two-thirds of the data capacity of L.A. is carried in fiber-optic cables that cross the San Andreas Fault and would likely be broken in a large quake. Mobile phone antenna towers are not covered by earthquake building regulations."

Jones said the magnitude 8.8 quake that hit Chile in 2010 wiped out all electronic communications for three days...

See more at: [TV Technology](#)

4 2013 SOARA Calendar THE PROPAGATOR

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	28	25	18	15	20	17	15	19	16	21	18	—
Program	Digital Radio	Tropo Ducting	DX Pedition	K6ACJ	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	2 DXp's	SOARA Fair	Ham Radio in the 21st Century	"Kids"	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	28	25	18	15	20	Field Day	15	19	16	21	18	—
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	Feb 2	Mar 2	23	20	25	—	20	24	21	26	23	—
SOARA T-Hunt	6	10	10	14	12	9	14	11	8	13	10	—
Board Meeting	Feb 4	Mar 4	25	22	Jun 3	24	22	26	23	28	25	—
Special Events		Yuma 15-16			Dayton 17-19	ARRL Field Day 22-23		SOARA Picnic 4		JOTA 19-20		SOARA Holiday Party 1
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW CQWPX RTTY	ARRL DX-SSB CQWPX SSB 30-31		CQWPX CW 25-26	ARRL Field Day 22-23			CQWW RTTY 28-29	CQWW SSB 26-27	CQWW CW 23-24	

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 6pm.** 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.

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|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| | 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

SOARA OFFICERS

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- | | |
|---|--|
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| <i>Testing:</i> Sean Reigle, AJ6B | 714-261-1717 |
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5 2014 SOARA Calendar THE PROPAGATOR

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	27	24	17	21	19	16	21	18	15	20	17	—
Program	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	TBD	SOARA Fair	TBD	TBD	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	27	24	17	21	19	At Field Day	21	18	15	20	17	—
Educational Classes (Starts)	Tech 8		General 5		Tech		General		Tech		General	
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	Feb 1	Mar 1	22	26	24	21	26	23	20	25	22	—
SOARA T-Hunt	12	9	9	13	11	8	13	10	14	12	9	—
Board Meeting	Feb 3	Mar 3	24	28	Jun 2	23	28	25	22	27	24	—
Special Events	Quartzfest 19-26	Yuma 14-15	Palm Springs 15	Visalia DX 3-6	Dayton 16-18	ARRL Field Day 28-29		SOARA Picnic 3	ARRL SW 12	JOTA 18-19		SOARA Holiday Party 7
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW TBD CQWPX RTTY 8-9	ARRL DX-SSB TBD CQWPX SSB 29-30		CQWPX CW 24-25	ARRL Field Day 28-29			CQWW RTTY TBD	CQWW SSB TBD	CQWW CW TBD	

