

THE

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

March 2013

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Swains Island DXPedition

Please join us for our meeting on Monday (3/18) at the Norman P. Murray Center as Arnie Shatz, N6HC, presents his latest DXPedition report (NH8S-Swains Island - 2012).

If you want to know all about the "behind the scenes" of these epic endeavors, from a highly experienced operator, don't miss this meeting!

It's always very interesting to see the effort and dedication of the DXPedition operators (and sponsors) to make it possible for us to simply tune the band and easily work (pile-ups aside) a rare country or DXCC entity.



From the V.P.

It is time to start looking forward to the spring and summer seasons.

At the meeting this Monday we will be accepting nominations for the director positions that are up for election in April (Repeater, Technical, Education, Communications, Membership, and Publications).

In May we have the auction and a look in the box at Gilleran to see what we no longer need. In June there is Field Day on the 21st-23rd and we're looking for all the help that we can get. Planning is starting as we speak. Our Activities director Pierrette (K6PTR) and I will be heading that up. If you would like to do something to help in the planning, set up, or operation of Field Day please get in touch with one of us (our phone numbers and e-mail addresses are in the Propagator).

In August there is the picnic at the beach. All this time Sean (AJ6B) our Education director has classes planned. Technician starting on April 3rd and General and Extra later in the year. I would like to encourage all of you to use all of our repeaters more often and in order to do so I'm starting a contest, if you talk to me on a SOARA repeater you get one point, the person with the most points at the April meeting will get two free \$5 tickets and ten free \$1 tickets for the Raffle. If you have articles or pictures for the propagator please send them to Mike (K6MSM) for inclusion in the newsletter.

Heiko ad6oi@soara.org

Meeting

Mar 18th,
2013

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



SOARA
Saturdays
Mar 23

OC Marathon
(Help Needed)
May 5

Dayton
Hamvention
May 17-19

Memorial Day
1/2 Marathon
May 27

ARRL Field Day
Jun 22-23

VEC
License
Exams

Next session:
(**6:00pm**), be-
fore the General
Meeting
Contact Sean
[AJ6B](#) for info.

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |
Technician
Exams

SOARA T-Hunt

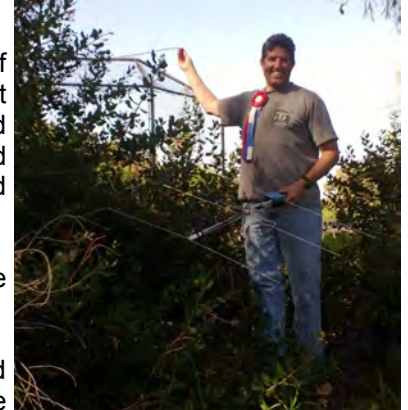
Our apologies to everyone who hunted on March 10.

The T had a break in the center conductor between the edge of the box and the transmitter. We pulled the radio out and put it directly on the antenna and then all of Orange County heard it. The hunt was not meant to be a difficult hunt. It was located at 33.53009N 117.72155W in Niguel Woods Park by Alicia and Niguel Road with a 3 element beam facing south.

Please, if you are not able to hear it by 10-15 minutes please tell the hider!

We did change the transmitter to 5W vs. 1W when we decided that an S1 at the picnic table was far too weak. However, the resultant S7 may have been a clue as well. When we changed it to the J-pole, it was S9+40.

Jason, W6NRD (pictured) ended up winning on his first solo T-Hunt, due to sheer persistence. When he could hear my test transmissions from my HT clearly, but the T not at all, we knew we had a problem. Mike, K6MSM, will hide the T next month, assuming he is functional, after returning from vacation.



SOARA Saturdays - Antennas, Baluns & Ununs

Please join SOARA on the Saturday after the meeting (March 23rd), for Sean's, AJ6B, latest technical presentation, which will focus on wire antennas, baluns and ununs.

SOARA Raffle Report

Hal Silverman

The raffle held February 25, 2013 yielded \$266. \$195 was in the \$5 raffle and the balance of \$71 for the \$1 raffle.

The \$5 raffle prize was a FT60-R dual band VHF/UHF. We were fortunate to get them on sale at HRO. Each radio was about \$150 each.

The \$5 raffle went to Gayle Gomez (W9GCG). For the March raffle we will be looking at an iPad Mini or another suitable prize.

The \$1 raffle will be a mix of prizes from Harbor Freight and HRO. I will look for bargains at both Harbor Freight and HRO. We also seem to get some donations from members.

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



From Membership

Welcome to our newest SOARA members:

Loren Kellogg, KE7RXD, a general from Irvine.

Jeff Row, KK6CHF, a general from Mission Viejo.

Tony Sanchez, AE6QT, an extra from Fountain Valley.

Eric Tate, KK6BMC, a technician from Lake Forest.

We're glad you've joined the club.

Total membership is 234.

We hope that when the 6-month grace period ends, this month, that the total membership doesn't drop too far.

Horst Zitzmann,
KD7JHR

Marie Zitzmann,
KD7JHS

Membership
Directors
SOARA

The HF Page CQ DX CQ DX...

Selected Contests/Events

- BARTG HF RTTY Contest (Mar 16-17)
- Russian DX Contest (Mar 16-17)
- OK QSO Party (Mar 16-17)
- VA QSO Party (Mar 16-17)
- CLARA HF Contest (Mar 19 & 23)
- CQ WW WPX Contest (Mar 30-31)
- [DXPeditions](#)
- [NOAA - Space Weather](#)
- [Propagation de K7RA](#)
- [ARRL Propagation Charts](#)

Ham Radio Featured on an ABC Network TV Show

On Friday evening, March 15, the ABC network aired an episode of the comedy series "Last Man Standing" starring Tim Allen (Home Improvement) as Mike Baxter, marketing Director of "The Outdoor Man," a large sporting goods store. In this episode, Tim's boss, Ed Alzate, travels on a safari to the wilds of Brazil, and utilizes Amateur Radio to make contact on 20 meters with Kyle, back at the store in the U.S.

One of Mike's three daughters, Mandy, is receiving poor grades in history, so Mike takes away all her modern electronic communications devices; cellphone, laptop, .etc. Mandy is devastated because she can no longer keep up her contacts with friends via all social networking, etc. She especially wants to talk with Kyle, her current love interest. As Mandy is searching the garage to see if she can find where her Dad has hidden her cellphone, she hears Ed in Brazil and Kyle at the store, in QSO. Excitedly, she keys up her Dad's HF radio and talks with Kyle.

The show is fairly true to the ham hobby, with Mike's home shack located in the garage, featuring an Icom 7000, boom mike, and lots of QSL cards and award certificates on the wall. Mike, Kyle, and Ed all are licensed hams with call signs. The Show departs with authenticity, when, presumably unlicensed Mandy uses her Dad's station to join the QSO, and neither Ed nor Kyle admonish her. The scene ends with Kyle explaining Ham radio, and the fun of the hobby to Mandy, and she observes that "Ham radio is just like Twitter, only more advanced, because you don't have to type!"

It seems that the show's writers had some knowledgeable technical advisors because overall, the ham radio segment was very positive, and a relatively accurate representation of ham radio. I would consider the show as a very positive "pitch" for our hobby.

Ray Hutchinson, AE6H
President ex Officio

[Ham Radio in Hollywood: Last Man Standing \[Featured\] Amateur Radio Storyline](#)



Year 2013	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		Spring Auction	Field Day Prep		SOARA Fair			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	7	5	2	7	4	1	6	3	1
Board Meeting	Feb 4	Mar 4	25	22	Jun 3	24	22	26	23	28	25	—
Special Events		Yuma 15-16			Dayton	Field Day		Picnic				Holiday Party 1
ARRL Field Day						22-23						
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 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.

	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

President: Tom Hobbs, AE6SH 949-830-8131
ae6sh@soara.org
V.P. Heiko Peschel, AD6OI 949-859-3868
ad6oi@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: Sean Reigle, AJ6B 714-261-1717
aj6b@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: Pierrette Rizco, K6PTR 949-235-2546
k6ptr@soara.org
Testing: Sean Reigle, AJ6B 714-261-1717
aj6b@soara.org
Website: Brian Roode, NJ6N 949-495-5336
nj6n@soara.org
Ambassador: Heiko Peschel, AD6OI 949-859-3868
ad6oi@soara.org