



THE

# PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

June 2014

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## Meeting

June 16th,  
2014

7:00 PM

N.P.

Murray  
Center

Veterans  
Way

Mission Viejo

## Get Ready for Field Day!

### Monday, June 16

Please join us at this month's SOARA meeting, which will focus on training and planning for Field Day. Besides providing the necessary information to help you to enjoy the event, there will be sign-ups for your preferred operations (CW, SSB, VHF/UHF, etc.) and remaining volunteer positions. [Note that we are not requiring sign-ups by time this year.]

### Friday, June 27

We will start setting-up on Friday, 3pm, at Gilleran Park... See page 5 for a map. Tents, antennas, coax, radio stations, etc. should be up by 6pm, after which we can enjoy some dinner. We need all the help we can get to build our Field Day "City"!

### Saturday, June 28

We are having Breakfast at Bravo Burger (27200 La Paz Rd, Mission Viejo) at 8:30am. Please then show up at 9:30am at Gilleran to help make final adjustments prior to commencement of Field Day. Then get on the air! We begin making contacts at 11:00am. Field Day continues throughout the day and night. Those that care to may bring a tent and/or sleeping bag to catch some sleep at the park during the night.

### Sunday, June 29

Field Day contacts continue until 10:59:59 am on Sunday morning at which time we stop operating and begin taking down the tents, antennas, radios, tables, etc. and moving them back to the container. Again, we will appreciate all the help we can get with the cables, antennas, radios, etc. Thank you!

### From the VP

As you know our next meeting will be on Monday June 16 at the Norman P. Murray Center. We will be discussing our Field Day prepara-

tions. We will have three H.F. stations, a GOTA station (for new and non active hams) and a VHF/UHF station. Mike, K6MSM will provide us with computer and logging support. Tony, KJ6UFG, with Pierrette's help, will be in charge of the food and drinks, for the weekend. Tom, AE6SH is supplying the power generator. Elsewhere in the Propagator and on the web you will find more about Field Day. So come out and help, the set up starts at 3pm on Friday June 27 and contesting starts at 11am on Saturday the 28th.

In August we will have our annual picnic with more information to follow.

Heiko, AD6OI



[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)



## Field Day Schedule & Positions



**Field Day Prep Meeting**  
June 16

**HRO HamJam**  
June 21

**ARRL Field Day**  
June 28-29

**SOARA Picnic**  
August 3

### VEC License Exams

**At Field Day**  
this month 6/28  
2pm

Please see our [website](#) for more info.

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |  
Technician  
Exams

[SOARA Website](#)

Fri 6/27	3pm	Setup begins (towers, antennas, tents, radios, computers)
Fri 6/27	6pm	Dinner
Sat 6/28	8:30am	Breakfast at Bravo Burger (27200 La Paz Rd, Mission Viejo)
Sat 6/28	9:30am	Remaining setup
Sat 6/28	11am	Field Day operations begin
Sat 6/28	12pm	Lunch
Sat 6/28	2pm	ARRL-VEC Testing Session
Sat 6/28	4pm	Educational Activity
Sat 6/28	5:30pm	Dinner
Sun 6/29	8am	Breakfast
Sun 6/29	11am	Field Day operations cease/Begin Teardown
Sun 6/29	12:30pm	Lunch
Sun 6/29	1:30pm	Approximate leave time

### Field Day Membership Special!

Join SOARA on Field Day (Saturday or Sunday) and the Initiation Fee will be waived! (new members only)

### SOARA June Raffle (6/16):

Hal Silverman

The \$5 raffle is a Icom ID-31A UHF hand held D-Star Digital Transceiver. We need to sell 64 \$5 tickets to complete the raffle. The \$1 raffle will consist of items from Harbor Freight and HRO.

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

### Field Day Location:

Where is SOARA's Field Day?

We will be at Gilleran Park which is located at 24960 Felipe Road between La Paz and Oso Parkway. (Note Felipe Road becomes Olympiad North of La Paz) - see pg. 6 for a map

### Volunteer Positions:

Captain: Sean AJ6B  
Cooking: Tony KJ6UFG and Pierette K6PTR  
Antennas: Paul KB7V  
Radios: Mike K6MSM  
Computers: Mike K6MSM  
Tents: Craig KI6WLP  
Safety: Jeff KK6CHF  
Education: Frank AG6QV

### Antennas:

Beams: 20m, 15m, 10m, 6m, 2m & 440  
Wire antennas for 40m and 80m  
Tri-band beam for GOTA (10,15,20 + 40m dipole)  
The "batting cage" vertical

### Radios:

CW station: AJ6B K3  
SSB station: Spencer FT950  
Mixed station: KK6CHF TS2000  
GOTA: Mike FT450  
Spare HF radio: Heiko TS850  
VHF/UHF: Sean (706mkiig & Alinco 220 FM)





### Propagation de K7RA

Last week's bulletin opened with your author (me) moaning about a decline in solar activity, but this was short lived.

The current week saw average daily sunspot numbers more than double, rising from 60.1 to 144.3, and average daily solar flux rise from 104.1 to

146.4. In addition, on June 12 the daily sunspot number was 196, and solar flux was 174.5. It actually was not long ago when sunspot numbers were last at that level. April 16-19, 2014 had numbers ranging from 245-296.

Predicted values are also up. The latest has solar flux at 170, 165 and 155 on June 13-15, 145 on June 16-18, 140 on June 19, 130 on June 20-21, then reaching down for a low of 110 on June 24-25, then peaking at 165 on July 8. The outlook for Field Day Weekend has brightened, with solar flux at 115 on June 27-28 and 120 on Sunday, June 29.

## Why Field Day?

Despite the Internet, cell phones, email and modern communications, every year whole regions find themselves in the dark. Earthquakes, fires, storms, tornadoes, ice and even the occasional cutting of fiber optic cables leave people without the means to communicate. In these cases, the one consistent service that has never failed has been Amateur Radio. These radio operators, often called "hams" provide backup communications for everything from the American Red Cross to FEMA and even for the International Space Station. SOARA "hams" will join with thousands of other Amateur Radio operators showing their emergency capabilities this weekend.



Over the past year, the news has been full of reports of ham radio operators providing critical communications during unexpected emergencies in towns across America including the California wildfires, winter storms, tornadoes and other events world-wide. When trouble is brewing, Amateur Radio's people are often the first to provide rescuers with critical information and communications. On the weekend of June 28-29, 2014, the public will have a chance to meet and talk with South Orange Amateur Radio Association's ham radio operators and see for themselves what the Amateur Radio Service is about as hams across the USA will be holding public demonstrations of emergency communications abilities.

This annual event, called "Field Day" is the climax of the week long "Amateur Radio Week" sponsored by the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. Using only emergency power supplies, ham operators will construct emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and backyards around the country. Their slogan, "When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works" is more than just words to the hams as they prove they can send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, internet or any other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis. More than 35,000 amateur radio operators across the country participated in last year's event.

"The fastest way to turn a crisis into a total disaster is to lose communications," said Allen Pitts of the ARRL. "From the earthquake and tsunami in Japan to tornadoes in Missouri, ham radio provided the most reliable communication networks in the first critical hours of the events. Because ham radios are not dependent on the Internet, cell towers or other infrastructure, they work when nothing else is available. We need nothing between us but air."

At Gilleran Park in Mission Viejo, the South Orange Amateur Radio Association will be demonstrating Amateur Radio starting at 11am on Saturday. They invite the public to come and see ham radio's new capabilities and learn how to get their own FCC radio license before the next disaster strikes.

Amateur Radio is growing in the US. There are now over 700,000 Amateur Radio licensees in the US, and more than 2.5 million around the world. Through the ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Services program, ham volunteers provide both emergency communications for thousands of state and local emergency response agencies and non-emergency community services too, all for free.



### Silent Key:

A giant in Em-Com has died,

**Wayne  
Barringer  
KB6UJW**

creator of the Incident Command System for Amateur Radio called ZRICS. Silent Key 05/19/2014

## T-Hunt Report

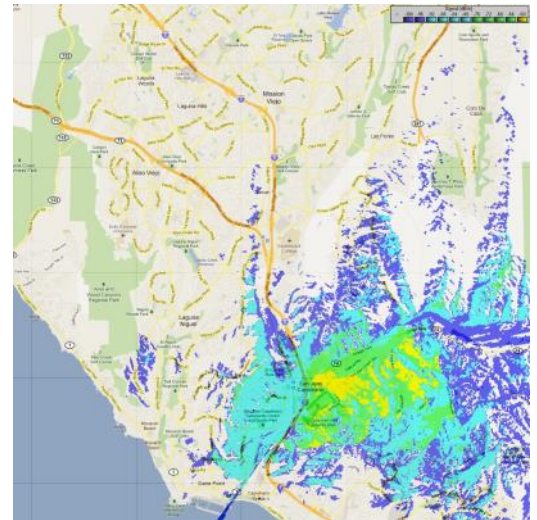
The hidden transmitter was placed behind the upper level of the strip mall near the corner of Rancho Viejo Road and the Ortega Highway in San Juan Capistrano. This was a last minute change from the (unspecified) location I had scouted out the previous day off of (I am not telling). The location was up against a retaining wall which I was hoping would block the transmitter's signal to the north. The transmitter was running about 5 watts into a horizontally polarized beam pointed roughly slightly south of east. Seeing as it was so easy to find, my efforts were not entirely successful.

The first hunter to find the transmitter was Karl, KF6MDF, at about 45 minutes, followed closely (one second later) by Richard, K6RBS. Karl was quite happy as anytime you can beat Richard, it is worth all the sweat, tears, agony, and gas expended, no matter how close behind you he is. Karl also wanted me to reiterate he beat Richard. Mike, K6MSM, started out to hunt but was unable to hear the transmitter. He later dropped out using a four letter word, "work." Perhaps we should hide the next transmitter in the office parking lot where he works? Karl????

Also hunting was Ron, WA6CYY, who started in Costa Mesa. He indicated that he started at about 2 o'clock and he found it after about thirty five minutes. We talked in Jeff, KK6CHF, who was trying to build a tape measure beam at the last minute and come hunting. A new addition to the group for sure.

If anybody else is interested in hunting, please give one of the hunters a call or email. We always have fun after the hunt trying to figure out how we can defeat the team of Richard and Mike, NM6X, and their Doppler setup. Hope to see you next time.

Gray WA6BJY



## HRO Ham Jam

HRO Anaheim's annual Ham Jam is right around the corner!

Saturday, June 21 will be a day of ham radio fun. Again the weekend before Field Day, we will offer a variety of interesting seminars and educational opportunities to attendees. This will include checking mobile installations, how-to handheld radio programming, and software hints for programming, contesting, and remote control. We have many returning exhibitors, including the Red Cross, Orange County RACES, Hospital Disaster Services, several clubs, various mfr representatives, Gordon West, and other experts who have offered to display/demo/teach and otherwise make our event as informative as possible.

There will be three prize drawings throughout the day, and hot dog lunches to keep you fortified. TESTING FOR ALL LICENSE CLASSES AT 11AM! Be sure to call or email the store to reserve space.

Come join us to learn, to see and be seen, to laugh, to eat, and completely enjoy a day filled with everything ham radio!

Kind 73,  
Janet Margelli, KL7MF  
Manager

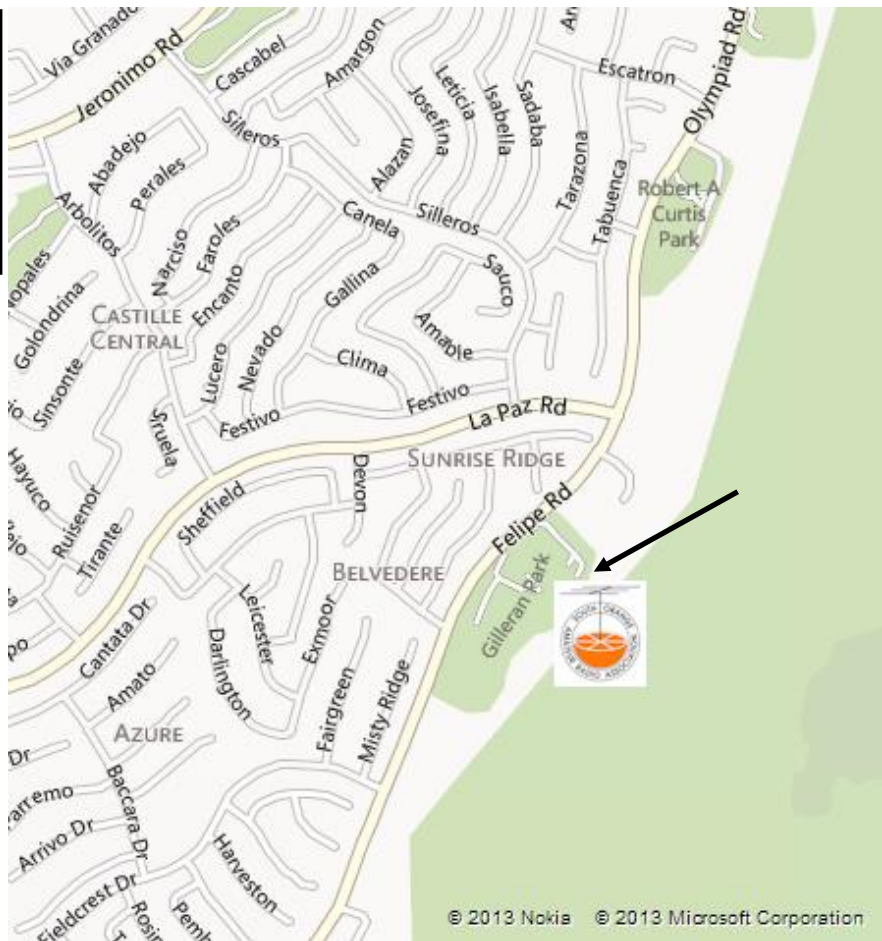
Ham Radio Outlet, 933 N. Euclid St., Anaheim, CA 92801



# Field Day Map & SOARA Saturday Pictures



SOARA Saturday was at Gilleran Park in May and we got the tents ready for Field Day. There is NO SOARA Saturday in June due to the HRO Ham Jam. Please join us there!



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Gilleran Park—Site of SOARA’s Field Day Activities. We are in the \*upper\* part of the park.



# 6 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	Baker to Vegas	Rally	Digital HF	AR Video	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 4						
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	Feb 1	Mar 1	22	26	24	21	26	23	20	25	22	—
SOARA T-Hunt	12	9	9	13	18*	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 15-16 CQWPX RTTY 8-9	ARRL DX-SSB 1-2 CQWPX SSB 29-30		CQWPX CW 24-25	ARRL Field Day 28-29			CQWW RTTY 27-28	CQWW SSB 26-27	CQWW CW 23-24	
Volunteer Events	OC Chili Run 25	Paws Fur Pink 15 OC Chili Run 22	OC Chili Run 22 Baker to Vegas 22	Vision Quest 5	HD Tr. 3 OC Mar. 4 Memorial Day 1/2 26	ARRL Field Day 28-29					Stache Dash TBD	



**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](mailto: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](mailto: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)
	440	—	445.660	—	(110.9)	Laguna Beach
D-Star	440	—	445.700	—	(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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