



PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

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Meeting

Sept. 21st,
2015

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

SOARA Fair



All are welcome to join SOARA for their next SOARA Fair on Monday, September 21 at 7pm at the Norman P Murray Center in Mission Viejo.

The SOARA Fair is held once a year during a general club meeting where club subject matter experts will have mini-seminars on a range of Amateur Radio and electronic topics. The mini-seminars are held informally and you can rotate from seminar to seminar. This event is open to the public and there is no cost to attend.

This year presenters currently scheduled are:

- Charlie WA6RUZ, Emergency Communications / RACES
- Steve K6UVR/Mike K6MSM, Wire Antennas & Antenna Tuners
- Dave K6DBW, HF on Long Wire Antennas and QSLing
- Olaf K6BFE, How to set up HAM Radios in your mobile
- Joe AE6XE / Don KE6BXT, HAM Mesh Networking (AREDN)
- Gray WA6BJY, T-Hunting
- Heiko AD6OI, Event Communications

If you are a subject matter expert and wish to demonstrate, please contact us so we may reserve you a location in the room!



SOARA's Wouff Hong

Let me start by saying that the event described below is what reaffirms what I have always known. SOARA is absolutely one of the, if not the absolutely best, Amateur Radio clubs on the planet. All of you should be proud that you are members. Here's why:

SOARA again conducted the Initiation Ceremony for the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong at HAMCON 2015 in Torrance, CA precisely at Midnight, September 12, 2015. 24 hams were inducted into the secret society that is devoted to fostering courteous and good operating techniques among amateurs, in the spirit of amateur radio. For the un-initiated, When those who stray from the path of good amateur practices are found, the Wouff Hong, an instrument of punishment so terrible that the application can only be left to the imagination, awaits them. The Wouff Hong Induction Ceremony can only be performed at divisional and higher ARRL conventions. SOARA's own Wouff Hong implement is pictured above.

Presenting the Wouff Hong Ceremony is no trifle of a feat. We have light, sound, special effects, costuming, ticket sales, personalized official certificates, and more. Because the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong is a secret society, I cannot divulge many details, beyond it taking a cast and crew of approximately 12 persons to make it work.

SOARA embarked on the Wouff Hong project this year a little later than I would have liked, with approximately 2 months of preparation being ideal. We had barely 2 weeks to round up our cast, hold rehearsals, order and assem-

(Continued on page 5)



SOARA Fair
Sept. 21

SOARA Saturday
Sep 26

SC Prep Expo
Oct. 17
(see page 4)

Fall Auction
Nov 16

SOARA Holiday Party
Dec 6

VEC License Exams

6pm—before the General Meeting

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

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General | Technician Exams

Volunteer Opportunity—Cycle for Life Ride

We are getting prepared for our 5th annual CF Cycle for Life ride! The ride is scheduled for Sunday, October 11th this year. We have aid stations in Irvine, Mission Viejo, and San Juan Capistrano to cover as well as the start finish in Silverado Canyon by Irvine Lake. I am looking for seven operators to properly cover all stations. The event will last from 7am till about 1pm, but there are shifts available so that you don't have to be there the whole time. If you are interested please get in touch with me at (949) 859-3868 or e-mail to ad6oi@soara.org.



Thanks,
Heiko, AD6OI—Comm. Director

8th Annual South County Disaster Preparedness Expo

Supervisor Lisa Bartlett will be hosting the 8th Annual South County Disaster Preparedness Expo, being held again this year in conjunction with the City of Mission Viejo's "Walk Against Drugs". The Expo will take place on Saturday, October 17th from 9:00 am until noon at the Norman Murray Center in Mission Viejo.



Carolyn McInerney

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SOARA Raffle

From the assistant to the Raffle Meister.

As many of you know, Hal, our Raffle Meister has spent some time recently at Hoag Hospital. In his absence I have stepped in to help out.

Our \$5 raffle item this month is an FT-60 Yaesu handheld 2m/440 radio. We will also have an assortment of radio related goodies for the \$1 raffle.

Also on display will be our Holiday Party door prize, an Icom IC-718 HF Radio. This is a good entry level radio to learn HF with and will make someone smile.

Heiko
Assistant to the Raffle Meister

Last month's \$5 winner was Gene Winward, who passed his test at the August meeting, and is now in possession of his shiny new TH-F6A (see picture at right).





The K7RA Solar Update

Solar activity is perking up this week. Average daily solar flux rose from 85.3 last week to 97.3 this week (September 10-16).

Over the same two weeks, average daily sunspot numbers rose from 37.3 to 66.9.

The latest forecast from USAF/NOAA shows solar flux at 110 on September 18-20, 105 on September 21-22, 100 on September 23, 95 on September 24, 90 on September 25-26, then 85, 80 and 85 on September 27-29, then 90, 95 and 90 on September 30 through October 2, 85 on October 3-6, then 90 and 95 on October 7-8, 100 on October 9-10, 105 on October 11-12, then 100 and 95 on October 13-14, and 90 on October 15-23.

Predicted planetary A index is 8, 12, 16, 8 and 6 on September 18-22, 5 on September 23-24, 10 on September 25, then 5 on September 26-29, 8 and 18 on September 30 through October 1, then 25, 20 and 12 on October 2-3...

Membership Report

We now have 251 active members. This is up 3 members from our August report! If your call sign or ticket changed let me know and I will update the roster.

SOARA gives a big welcome to our new members:

- Kevin Scofield, KD0VHD
- Carter Combs, KE6CCC
- Gary Rotter, W6KS, Gary was a member many years ago. Welcome back Gary!



Annual Renewals In October

Next month the annual renewals are due. This process will be a first for me. I sure hope everybody receives good value for membership and renews. If you don't plan to renew, I would really like to hear your issues. We cannot improve SOARA unless we understand the issues. I'm always eager to listen to new ideas too.

Badges

If you need a new badge just email membership@soara.org. Make sure to tell me your name and callsign as you want it on the badge. I will make you a new badge with all the handy information on the back. I will have it for you to pickup at the next meeting assuming you give me enough runway to make it.

Repeater User's Guide & Membership Manual

I have a box full of these manuals. Please help me get rid of them! If you haven't already, come to our next meeting and get your membership guide and manual. This is revision 7.0.

HamCon

I attended my first HamCon and Wouff Hong ceremony. I had great fun and learned useful techie stuff in the seminars. And, I spent too much buying "stuff" I "really" needed on the show floor.

Ray deserves a special thank you for pulling the Wouff Hong together. I know Ray is thanking everybody else that participated but who's thanking Ray for a fantastic job? This would have never happened without Ray's leadership and hard work.

Wouff Hong Pins

If you want an ARRL Wouff Hong pin, I have a few extras at \$6 each. I do not plan to order more pins so get yours while they are available. Proceeds go to SOARA. See me at the next meeting if you want a Wouff Hong pin.

I hope to hear you on the radio and see you at the SOARA events!

73,
Ed Barnes, KK6PUB
Membership Director



Chip Margelli, K7JA & Gordon West, WB6NOA
at the Hamcon Dinner

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 8TH ANNUAL
**SOUTH COUNTY
 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
 EXPO**

Save the
Date

HOSTED BY
OC SUPERVISOR LISA BARTLETT

*Earthquakes, Wildfires, Floods, Tsunami:
 Prepare your family and home for when disaster strikes!*

The Expo Will Feature:

Informative Presentations ■ Emergency Response Vehicle/Equipment Displays
 Interactive Vendor Booths ■ Disaster Preparedness Kits ■ Earthquake Simulator (Quake Cottage)
 Fun Activities for All Ages ■ Food ■ Giveaways!

**Please confirm your participation to have your organization
 included in the final event flyer**

The Expo is free and open to the public and will begin at the conclusion of
 the City of Mission Viejo's "Walk Against Drugs."

Saturday, October 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Village Green at the
 Norman P. Murray Community & Senior Center
 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92692

For more information, please email carolyn.mcinerney@ocgov.com



(Continued from page 1) *SOARA's Wouff Hong*

ble newer AV equipment, obtain the certificates from ARRL HQ, and the like. Once again, though SOARA and it's members came through, and we performed the ceremony in yeoman fashion, and received compliments from the audience and organizing committee of HAMCON 2015.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the following club members who gave up many hours to make our presentation possible:

Our Wouff Hong Hamcon 2015 Team

Neil Altneu, N2URI,
Phil Lonzello, WA6LDI,
Steve Morris, KF6JVT,
Heiko Peschel, AD6OI,
Lou Ruggiero, K6LMR,
Ray, AE6H,
Don Hill, KE6BXT,
Steve Kuver, K6UVR,
Sean Reigle, AJ6B,
Howard Brown, KG6GI,
Steve Zipperman, WA6DUN,
Ed Barnes KK6PUB,
Sandra Hyatt, and
Debby Hutchinson.



I couldn't be more proud of our team and out great club!

73 de Ray, AE6H
SOARA President

T-Hunt News

A short hunt was had by, well, just about all. I decided that it being Labor Day weekend, I would make it easy and not have hunters spend an inordinate amount of time driving in holiday traffic by hiding in the south end of the county so I hid at Gilleran Park (SOARA's Field Day site), placing the transmitter and beam just over the edge behind the conex boxes, running about a watt into a beam pointed up near Santiago, hoping that anyone starting up there would think that the transmitter was somewhere off Antonio Parkway. I was somewhat disappointed that nobody started at the park, or so I thought.

First in was Ron, WA6CYY, after about 35 minutes, followed shortly thereafter by Karl, KF6MDF. Ron spotted it first but he will not be able to hide next month so as second place, Karl will hide.

About 3:00 pm, figuring that there were no more hunters, I went down to the lower park to retrieve my vehicle. As I was getting into my car, Clark, KI6IZE, pulls up and gets out. I was surprised to find that he was also hunting and told him that it would be easier if he went up to the upper park and looked there. Turns out that he started at the entrance to Gilleran, never actually driving into the park, and figured that nobody would hide at a known starting point. Ask him how his tour of Coto was.

Next month, we will all look for Karl. Hope to see you out there. Gray WA6BJY



Image courtesy of San Diego
Transmitter Hunters

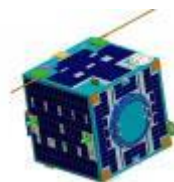
SOARA Holiday Party

Mark you calendar! Our annual Holiday Party will be on Sunday December 6 at Antonucci's Ristorante. The cost is about \$25 and the Door prize will be an **Icom IC-718!**

ARRL Shorts

Launch of Nine Chinese Amateur Radio Satellites Postponed 24 Hours

The launch of nine Chinese satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads was postponed by 24 hours due to technical reasons. [Learn More](#)



ARRL VEC Reminds License Applicants: The FCC is Now Paperless!

The ARRL VEC is reminding Amateur Radio license applicants that the FCC no longer routinely prints or mails license documents. [Learn More](#)

California Radio Amateur is Wildfire Victim

A Calaveras County, California, radio amateur — Mark McCloud, K6YCV — fell victim to the Butte Fire on September 16. [Learn More](#)



Fox-1C and Fox-1D FM Transponder CubeSats to Share a Ride

AMSAT and Spaceflight, Inc have arranged for two of the Fox series of CubeSats — Fox-1D and Fox-1C — to share a ride into space. [Learn More](#)

Orlando HamCation to Host 2016 ARRL National Convention

Orlando HamCation® will host the 2016 ARRL National Convention in February. The convention will mark the 70th anniversary of HamCation — second only in the US to Dayton Hamvention® in terms of attendance. [Learn More](#)



Two Aussie Balloons Carrying Ham Radio Payloads Launched from California

Foil party pico balloon launcher Andy Nguyen, VK3YT, couldn't resist the opportunity during a work assignment on the US West Coast to release a couple more balloons carrying Amateur Radio payloads. Working for a month at San Jose, Nguyen on September 12 released his out-of-sequence PS-54 mission, carrying a solar powered APRS/Olivia payload feeding a 10 mW transmitter, to test the local environment. He thus became the first to launch such balloons in both the Southern and Northern hemispheres. Nguyen described his debut US flight as "zooming right past the San Francisco Golden Bridge at 8000 meters before spending a day bouncing along the West Coast of California..."



Nguyen released mission PS-53 on September 13, this time carrying a payload transmitting WSPR and JT9 on HF. During a period of favorable propagation, it was tracked by US stations as well as by trackers from as far away as Australia and New Zealand. [Learn More](#)



ARES/RACES Volunteers Activate for California Wildfires

Information is incomplete on Amateur Radio's response to the wildfire emergency in California, but ARES volunteers in Amador County supported communications at a Red Cross shelter that's housing evacuees from the Butte wildfire in Northern California. [Learn More](#)

Amateur Radio Special Event Stations to Mark Pope's US Visit

When Pope Francis visits the US in late September, Amateur Radio special event stations will be on the air to mark the occasion. When Pope Francis visits the US in late September, Amateur Radio special event stations will mark the occasion. The Pope is scheduled to visit the US from September 22 until September 27. Six Papal Visit Amateur Radio special event stations will be on the air while he is here... Call signs from the Washington, DC, area will be K3P and N4P; from New York and New Jersey, K2P; from Southeastern Pennsylvania, W3FRC/WMF, and from Philadelphia, W3P and WM3PEN. Four commemorative QSL cards and a certificate to mark the historic event will be available. [Learn More](#)



7 2015 SOARA Calendar THE PROPAGATOR

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	26	23	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	—
Program	N6HC DXped.	Old Time Radios	Gordon West	Light House/ Ship	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	Arecibo	Satellite HT	SOARA Fair	TBD	Fall Auction	—
VEC Testing	26	23	16	20	18	At Field Day	20	17	21	19	16	—
Educational Classes								8 Tech	19 General	10 TBD	14 TBD	—
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	31	28	21	25	23	20	25	22	26	24	21	—
SOARA T-Hunt	11	8	8	12	3	7	5	9	6	4	1	6
Board Meeting	Feb 2	Mar 2	23	27	Jun 1	22	27	24	28	26	23	—
Special Events	Quartzfest 18-24	Yuma Hamfest 20-21	Palm Springs Hamfest 14	Visalia Intl DX 17-19	Dayton Hamven- tion 15-17	ARRL Field Day 27-28		SOARA Picnic 2	ARRL SW Division 11-13	JOTA 16-18		SOARA Holiday Party 6
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW 21-22 CQWPX RTTY 14-15	ARRL DX-SSB 7-8 CQWPX SSB 28-29		CQWPX CW 30-31	ARRL Field Day 27-28			CQWW RTTY 26-27	CQWW SSB 24-25	CQWW CW 28-29	
Volunteer Events	OC Chili Run 24	Paws Fur Pink 14 OC Chili Run 21	OC Chili Run 14 Baker to Vegas 28-29	Ride for Rwanda 25	HD Trails 2 OC Mara- -thon 3 Memorial Day 1/2 Mara- -thon 25	ARRL Field Day/ Setup/ Ops/ Clean 26-28	4th of July Fire -works			Vision Quest 24	Stache Dash TBD	

*Dates subject to change. Check the [SOARA website](#) to verify locations and times.



SOARA meets at the [Norman P. Murray Center](#), 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA on 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, except June. **Exams are at 6pm.** Prior registration is not required and walk-in applicants are welcome. For June, exams are held at Field Day. 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, or repeater@soara.org.

	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 — 445.705 — (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 7:30pm

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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kk6wow@soara.org

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ag6qv@soara.org

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nj6n@soara.org

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kk6pub@soara.org

Education: Steve Kuver, K6UVR 949-874-1972
k6uvr@soara.org

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ae6sh@soara.org

Communications: Heiko Peschel, AD6OI 949-859-3868
ad6oi@soara.org

SOARA APPOINTMENTS

Past President: Tom Hobbs, AE6H 949-830-8131
ae6sh@soara.org

Activities: **VACANT**—Please contact us if you are interested.

S. Saturdays: Frank Kromann, AG6QV 949-702-1794
ag6qv@soara.org

Raffle: Hal Silverman, WB6WXO 714-897-5002
wb6wxo@soara.org

Testing: Sean Reigle, AJ6B 714-261-1717
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