



THE

April 2016

# PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

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## Meeting

April 18th, 2016

7:00 PM

N.P.  
Murray Center  
Veterans  
Way  
Mission Viejo

## N6HC - TX3X DXpedition

All are welcome to the next SOARA General Meeting on Monday, April 18 at 7pm at the Norman P Murray Center in Mission Viejo. This month's speaker is Arnie Shatz, N6HC speaking about the TX3X Chesterfield Island DXpedition. HAM Radio Testing is available at 6pm. If you have any interest in HF or checking out exotic places, it's always a great presentation showing the incredible preparation required and steps to get set-up and operating for these expeditions, benefiting many thousands of hams.



### From the President

Greetings, and In case you aren't already aware, I'd like to call your attention to two significant amateur radio events occurring in the next few days of this month.

The first is World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) 2016, on this coming Monday, April 18. Coincidentally, it's the same day as our Monday night meeting. WARD commemorates the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). The IARU was formed in 1925, at a meeting in Paris, France in response to fears of amateur radio pioneers, that as Hams developed the technology to utilize the then new short wave bands, that commercial interests would utilize that technology, and force the Hams off the HF bands. Amateurs from 25 countries attended the 1925 meeting, one attendee being none other than the co-founder of the ARRL, Hiram Percy Maxim. As a result of the establishment of the IARU was that 2 years later the organization was able to gain the allocation of a number of amateur bands; 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters, that still exist today.

There are a number of on the air activities scheduled for WARD. Perhaps you can contact one of the Special Event or demonstration stations. For more details and information, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/world-amateur-radio-day-2016-will-celebrate-amateur-radio-s-contribution-to-society>

<http://www.iaru.org/world-amateur-radio-day.html>

The second, soon to occur, event is Earth Day 2016, on Friday April 22. Earth Day has a large number of environmental events and projects, several right here in Orange County. The significance for amateur radio is that a number of groups around the US will have Special Event stations marking earth day. For the most part, these stations will be active on Saturday, April 23, 2016, but some will be on the air on april 22 as well. The 23rd corresponds with this month's SOARA Saturday, which will be at Guilleran Park, with the emphasis on portable emergency operations. Since operating from a park is favored for Earth Day, perhaps we can put K6SOA on the air on the HF bands and connect with some of the other Earth Day special event stations.

For more info on Earth Day 2016, go to: <https://www.epa.gov/earthday>,

and for Orange County events: <http://www.capovw.com/blog/2016-earth-day-events-orange-county-ca/>

For information that one particular Amateur Radio club is doing for Earth Day 2016, go to: <http://www.parmaradioclub.com/events/4th-annual-earth-day-celebration-2016/>.

73, and I hope to see you all at the Monday Night meeting.

Ray, AE6H



**SOARA**  
**Saturday**  
Apr 23

**SOARA Spring**  
**Auction**  
May 16

**Dayton**  
**Hamvention**  
May 20-22

**CQ-WPX**  
**CW**  
May 28-29

**ARRL Field Day**  
Jun 24-26  
[FD Info](#)

## VEC License Exams

6pm—before  
the General  
Meeting

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

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |  
Technician  
Exams

## Get Ready for Field Day 2016



SOARA will be sponsoring ARRL Field Day again this year at Gilleran Park in Mission Viejo. Make sure you clear your calendar for Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26. Set up begins on Friday, June 24 at 3pm. Hope to see you there! More information is available on the website at [www.soara.org](http://www.soara.org).

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.

“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 GOTA station at Gilleran - FD 2015

## Volunteers Needed

Our next race will be a big one, *The Orange County Marathon on May 1*. We will need more than twenty operators for that one including several with special skills like working directly with two police departments. If you have any special event experience, or are interested in getting some, I would like to talk to you.

Elsewhere you will read about our plans for Field Day, SOARA Saturdays, and other fun things. **I would like to encourage our members to become more active in your participation with the club.** We have found a volunteer for the position of activities director and will announce it as soon as he has received board approval. Our group of net controls has years of experience and some could use a break once in a while. In order to achieve this I would like to ask some of you to step forward and become additional net controls for the Tuesday night net. If you feel that this is something that you would like to try, please get in touch with me or any other member of the board.

Thanks,  
Heiko

Communications Director for SOARA [ad6oi@soara.org](mailto:ad6oi@soara.org)  
(949) 859-3868



### The K7RA Solar Update 4/15/16

There was an upward bump in recent solar activity, with average daily sunspot number for the April 7-13 period at 32 (compared to 19.1 for the previous seven days) and average daily solar flux rising 23 points to 106.1.

Note that what we are seeing now is the occasional uptick in solar activity as the Sun continues its decline to solar minimum, perhaps sometime around 2020.

Average daily planetary A index rose three points to 12.4, and average daily mid-latitude A index from 7.6 to 8.3.

For the near term, predicted solar flux is 110 on April 15-17, 105 on April 18-19, 95 on April 20-22, 100 on April 23, 95 on April 24-29, 90 on April 30 through May 3, then 95, 100, 105, and 110 on May 4-7, 112 on May 8-13, and 115 on May 14-17. Solar flux then drops below 100 on May 21 and beyond.

[WM7D's Solar resource Page](#)

## SOARA Saturday Schedule and Events

We're looking for someone that wants to take on the SOARA Saturday responsibility. I'm substituting until we find someone more permanent. If you are interested let the board know.

Last SOARA Saturday, we had about 16 hams attend. I demoed 3D the printing process with 3D CAD modeling software called Cubify Invent, Cura slicer, and some sample items printing from a SD card. I showed a preprinted HT stand I have been designing and refining. Heiko & Patti brought the Dunkin Donuts and setup a HF rig. We ran out of 2 dozen donuts. Wow! We had great fun. The room was full and lots of discussion.

### April 23 SOARA Saturday at Gilleran Park:

We are planning emergency power. (radios too!) So bring your batteries, solar panels and generators. Several of us (I hope) plan to bringing oscilloscopes so we can see measure the sine wave quality on the ac inverters. I think it would also be fun to bring emergency radios rigs and share ideas on our setup and configuration. Bring your equipment, instruments, share ideas, and get on the air.

Steve / K6UVR mentioned we would offer multimeter instruction too. Bring your multimeter and learn about all those multimeter features. This is what SOARA is all about. Hams-Helping-Hams.

### 2016 SOARA Saturday Schedule of Events:

May 21, Gilleran, Prep for field day

Jun 18, Gilleran, Field Day

Jul 23, Gilleran, setup HF Radio, open for suggestions

Aug 20, Murray Center, Bring a kit like the Elenco AM/FM Radio, that requires soldering. See kit ordering links in March Propagator issue. Or, find any kit you want to build and we will help you get started. We will help with soldering, oscilloscope, & function generator will be available.

Sep 24, Oct 22, Nov 26, Murray Center: Open to suggestions

Let me know if you want to help on a future Saturday too! If you have a something you want to share or know more about please contact SOARA. There will be coffee and donuts supplied by SOARA and lots of radio discussions.

SOARA Saturday Ideas: (See March Propagator)

73, Ed Barnes, KK6PUB

## From Your Communications Director

Some of the members of the Laguna Woods Amateur Radio Club have expressed interest in developing a relationship with a few local youth of high school age who are interested in learning about ham radio and obtaining an FCC license. With the vast array of communication equipment LWARC has at its disposal, these youth could be taught to operate on any band for which their specific license was issued. We could also assist in finding equipment, at reasonable prices (maybe even free), for them to use as they set up a station of their own. I would like to find out from our membership who works in the high schools around here and who has contacts in the school system that we could work with to achieve these goals. You can get in touch with me directly at [ad6oi@soara.org](mailto:ad6oi@soara.org) or call me at (949) 859-3969.



Heiko Peschel  
SOARA Director of Communications



### ARRL Rookie Roundup

Returns with SSB Event on Sunday, April 17! The SSB edition of ARRL Rookie Roundup returns on Sunday, April 17, getting under way at 1800 UTC and continuing through 2359 UTC. For the purposes of this operating event, a "Rookie" is any radio amateur licensed within the current calendar year or in the previous two calendar years, regardless of license class. The goal of Rookie Roundup is to encourage recently licensed operators in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive Amateur Radio operating. Rookie Roundup events take place three times a year: SSB in April, RTTY in August, and CW in December.

[More Info](#)

## Membership Report

We have 209 paid members and 0 unpaid. The previous unpaid members went to inactive. I think we are doing really good with so many members. So, now lets get more people on the radio and participating in events. We have all types of interesting activities. Pick one or more event and just do it!

There are no new member applications for April.

### Badges

If you want a new badge email [membership@soara.org](mailto:membership@soara.org). Tell me your name and callsign as you want it on the badge. I will make you a new badge with all the handy repeater information on the back.

### Repeater User's Guide & Membership Manual

I have plenty of manuals with a wealth of SOARA information for easy reference.

FYI, now that I'm finally an extra, my callsign is scheduled to change on April 18th. I guess I will have to print myself a new badge! Previously I applied for K9CQ. About 40 hams applied. And, amazingly I didn't get that call sign. It's probably good though. The original silent key K9CQ worked at NASA and participated in AmSAT. Those are big shoes to fill and I'm no rocket scientist or satellite designer. So, I'm almost glad I didn't win it. However, it would have been wonderful to say K9CQ CQ on UHF/VHF and annoy the radio purists. ;-) After all, we ARE supposed to have fun with amateur radio. Aren't we?

I hope to hear you on the radio and see you at the upcoming SOARA events! Go the club calendar at [www.soara.org](http://www.soara.org) for more information on future events.

CQ CQ 73,  
Ed Barnes, KK6PUB  
Membership Director  
[membership@soara.org](mailto:membership@soara.org)

## Raffle Update

Please be sure to participate in both the \$1 and \$5 raffle at the April meeting. Note that the May meeting will be the Spring auction, so a raffle won't take place that month.

The raffle prizes for April will include:

\$5: Yaesu FT-60  
2m/440 radio

\$1: An MFJ-281clear tone speaker and a Repeater location guide.

**March's \$5 Raffle Winner:**

**Cathy, K6VC**

**It was an Icom ID-31A**



## ARRL DX News (4/14/16)

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-dx>

This week's [ARRL email] bulletin was made possible with information provided by QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

**SPRATLY ISLANDS, 9M0.** Look for Michael, DF8AN to be active as 9M0S from Layang Layang Island (AS-051) between April 19 and 29. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using mainly CW. QSL via DF8AN, direct or by the Bureau.

**SAMOA, 5W.** Haru, JA1XGI will be active from April 19 to 25 as 5W0XG from Samoa (OC-097, WW Loc. AH46ec). He will be QRV on 40 to 10 meters using CW with some RTTY and PSK. QSL via JA1XGI, direct, via the bureau, ClubLog or LoTW.

**MALTA, 9H.** Mek, SQ3RX will be active as 9H3SQ from Marsalforn, Gozo Island (EU-023) from May 13 to 19. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters, and possibly 80 meters, using CW and SSB. QSL via SQ3RX, direct or via the bureau.

**ALGERIA, 7X.** The Algerian Amateur Radio Union is going to operate around the World Amateur Radio Day (April 18) with the special event call 7U7WARD, between April 17 and 19. QSL via 7X2VB.

**TURKEY, TC.** Look for special event station TC2016ANT to be active during Expo 2016 Antalya, with the theme of Flowers and Children, between April 23 and October 30. QSL via TA4ED.

**TRINIDAD and TOBAGO, 9Y.** Bill, K2HVN plans to get on the air holiday style from Tobago (SA-009) from April 19 to 26 signing 9Y/K2HVN on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via home call.

**HONDURAS, HR.** Gerard, F2JD will be active as HR5/F2JD from Copan from April 16 to July 13. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via F6AJA, direct or via the French REF Bureau.

**BOTSWANA, A2.** Nobby, G0VJG, Nick, G4FAL, Tony, G4DLD, Edd, GM0WED, and Giles, M0TGV will QRV with the call A25UK until April 19. Look for them on 160 to 10 meters on CW, SSB and RTTY. Logs will be put on Clublog daily. QSL via M0OXO.

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6.** The Emirates Amateur Radio Society (EARS) supports the Emirates' Sharjah Heritage Day with the special event call A60SHD until April 23 on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via IZ8CLM.

**EASTER ISLAND, CE0Y.** Henry, LU4DXU will be active from April 16 to 29 as CE0Y/LU4DXU on 80 to 6 meters, using SSB. QSL via home call, direct.

**SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5.** Mike, ZL1MRC will be QRV from Rarotonga Island (OC-013, WW Loc. BG08dr) until April 22 as E51MRC on the HF bands. QSL via ZL1MRC.

**SPAIN, EA.** Members of the European ROS Club and of the URE section Novelda join the World Amateur Radio Day from Spain with the call EG5WRD between April 8 and 19 on HF using digital modes, SSB and CW. QSL via LoTW or eQSL. Also, special event station AM1MDC commemorates the death of Miguel de Cervantes, author of Don Quijote, until the end of the month. QSL via EC1CSV, direct or via the bureau.

**IRAN, EP.** Yuris, YL2GM, Valery, YL3CW, Jack, YL2KA, Dmitry, UT7UJ, Oleg, US7UX, Sasha, UT7UV, Alexander, UX0LL, Mohammad, EP3MIR and Mohammad, EP2LMA will be QRV as EP2A from April 16 to 25. They are going to set up four stations on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via YL2GM or ClubLog OQRS.

**AMERICAN SAMOA, KH8.** Tom, KC0W is QRV as KH8/KC0W from Tutuila Island (OC-045) until April 18. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL via KC0W, direct.

**BRAZIL, PS.** Look for Ed, PS7DX to be active from the Calcanhar Lighthouse (ARLHS BRA 035) from April 15 to 17. He plans to be in the CQMMDX Contest (April 16-17) on 80 meters. QSL via PS7DX.

**FRANCE, F.** TM91WARD draws attention to the World Amateur Radio Day from France between April 16 and 24. QSL via bureau.

**LIECHTENSTEIN, HB0.** Jose, EA5IDQ will be operating as HB0/EA5IDQ from April 15 to 18 on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and RTTY, with a focus on the WARC bands. QSL via home call, direct or via the bureau or ClubLog OQRS. Also, operators Mans, PA2HGJ, Robert, PA2RDK, Frank, PA3CNO, Henry, PA3HK, Gert, PE0MGB and Piet, PE1FLO, all members of the radio club PI4RAZ, are returning to Liechtenstein to operate from April 16 to 23. Look for them using HB0/home calls on 160 to 10 meters on CW, SSB and PSK31, and maybe also from SOTA references. QSL via PE1FLO.

**KAZAKHSTAN, UP.** Members of the UN8LWZ Radio Club in Kostanai are using the special call sign UP50LWZ until May 7 to celebrate their club's 50th anniversary. QSL via RW6HS direct only.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Test, ES Open HF Championship, Worked All Provinces of China, CQ Manchester Mineira DX Test, Nebraska QSO Party, Michigan QSO Party, EA-QRP CW Contest, Ontario QSO Party, North Dakota QSO Party, Feld Hell Sprint, YU DX Contest, WAB 3.5/7/14 MHz Data Modes and the ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB, are all on tap for this weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is April 18 and the 222 MHz Spring Sprint is April 19.

The ARRL National Parks on the Air event runs during all of 2016 to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

Please see April QST, page 86 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

More info about DX opportunities, including DXpeditions can be found at the [Announced DX Operations website:](http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html)  
<http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

18 APRIL  
**WORLD AMATEUR  
RADIO DAY**

اليوم العالمي لراديو الهواة

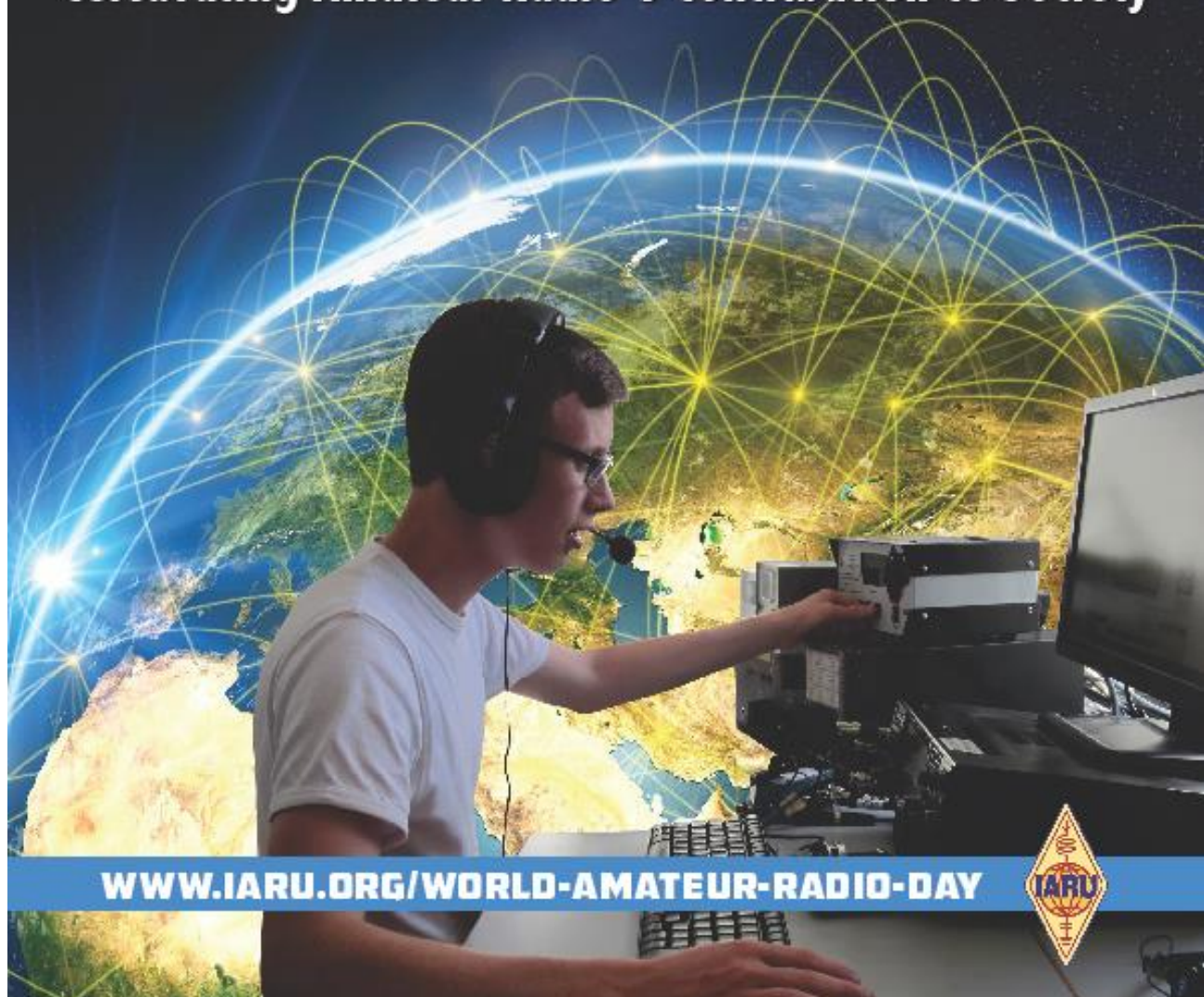
Día Mundial del Radioaficionado

Всемирный День радиолюбителя

Journée mondiale de la radio amateur

世界业余无线电日

**Celebrating Amateur Radio's Contribution to Society**



[WWW.IARU.ORG/WORLD-AMATEUR-RADIO-DAY](http://WWW.IARU.ORG/WORLD-AMATEUR-RADIO-DAY)



Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	25	22	21	18	16	20	18	15	19	17	21	-
Program	TASMA	LFP Batteries	WU6D	Arnie Shatz N6HC	<a href="#">Spring Auction</a>	<a href="#">Field Day Prep</a>	TBD	<a href="#">SOARA Fair</a>	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">Fall Auction</a>	-
VE Testing	25	22	21	18	16	At Field Day 25	18	15	19	17	21	--
Educational Classes	Tech 23	Extra 20	Tech 19	-	General 14	Tech 18	Extra 16	-	Tech 17	-	-	-
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	30 Murray	27 Murray	26 Murray	23 Gilleran	21 Gilleran	18 Gilleran	23 Gilleran	20 Murray	24 Murray	22 Murray	26 Murray	-
SOARA T-Hunt	10	14	6	3	1	5	3	14	4	2	6	11
Board Meeting	Feb 1	29	28	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	28	-
Special Events	<a href="#">Quartzfest 17-23</a>	<a href="#">Yuma Hamfest 19-20</a>	<a href="#">Palm Springs Hamfest 12</a>	<a href="#">Visalia Int'l DX 15-17</a>	<a href="#">Dayton Hamven- tion 20-22</a>	<a href="#">ARRL Field Day 24-26</a>		<a href="#">SOARA Picnic 7</a>	<a href="#">ARRL SW Division</a>	<a href="#">JOTA 14-16</a>		<a href="#">SOARA Holiday Party 4</a>
Ham-Related Swap Meets	<a href="#">TRW 30</a> <a href="#">C.A.R.S. 16</a>	27  20	26  19	30  16	28  21	25  18	30  16	27  20	24  17	29  15	26  19	31  17
Major HF Contests		<a href="#">ARRL DX-CW 20-21</a> <a href="#">CQWPX RTTY 13-14</a>	<a href="#">ARRL DX-SSB 5-6</a> <a href="#">CQWPX SSB 26-27</a>		<a href="#">CQWPX CW 28-29</a>	<a href="#">ARRL Field Day 24-26</a>			<a href="#">CQWW RTTY 24-25</a>	<a href="#">CQWW SSB 26-27</a>	<a href="#">CQWW CW 26-27</a>	
Volunteer Events	<a href="#">OC Chili Run 23</a>	<a href="#">Paws Fur Pink 21</a>  <a href="#">OC Chili Run 27</a>	<a href="#">OC Chili Run 19</a>  <a href="#">Baker to Vegas 19-20</a>	<a href="#">Desert Storm Rally 1-2</a>	<a href="#">HD Trails 7-8</a> <a href="#">OC Mara -thon 1</a> <a href="#">Memorial Day 1/2 Mara- thon 30</a>	<a href="#">ARRL Field Day/ Setup/ Ops/ Clean 24-26</a>	4th of July Fire -works 4			<a href="#">Vision Quest</a>		<a href="#">Run for a Claus</a>

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

K6MSM's  
assistant helping  
assemble a  
Mono Gap 15m



**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](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, or [repeater@soara.org](mailto: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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#### **SOARA APPOINTMENTS**

**Past President:** Tom Hobbs, AE6SH 949-830-8131  
[ae6sh@soara.org](mailto:ae6sh@soara.org)

**Activities:** **VACANT**—Please contact us ([board@soara.org](mailto:board@soara.org)) if you are interested.

**S. Saturdays:** Ed Barnes, KK6PUB 949-468-7706  
(temporary - contact us) [kk6pub@soara.org](mailto:kk6pub@soara.org)

**Raffle:** Hal Silverman, WB6WXO 714-897-5002  
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**Testing:** Sean Reigle, AJ6B 714-261-1717  
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**Website:** Sean Reigle, AJ6B 714-261-1717  
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[ng6k@soara.org](mailto:ng6k@soara.org)  
[Blog](#)