



PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

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General Meeting
 January 22,
 2018
 7:00 PM

NP Murray Center
 Veterans Way
 Mission Viejo

Science Heads

Join us at the Norman P. Murray Center in Mission Viejo, CA on Monday, 1/22 at 7:00 pm for our next General Meeting.



Richard Stember, Executive Director of the local non-profit organization [Science Heads](#), will be giving a presentation about their High Altitude Balloon / Student Experiment project. Local Middle and High School students will be designing and building experiments to be carried to 'near space' as part of the non-profit's support for STEM education. Aboard the payload will be a dedicated 2M APRS transmitter which will provide GPS coordinates and telemetry data. Richard will also discuss the ways local HAMs can help with this initiative and inspire young minds to dream big.

President Message

Greetings. Many of you have heard, and several of you have commented about the controversy being raised by some over the management and governance of the ARRL

by the current Board of Directors. This month I'd like to take the opportunity to comment on this movement led by a few hams, several of which are from Region 6.

Open letters have been written and circulated by some, whom we should assume are well intentioned, alleging that the ARRL Board has cut deals in secret, and sold out to special interests. Letters allege actions have been taken by the Board to place "gag orders" on officers and Directors to prevent them from telling the membership about Board decisions and actions.

One such "special interest deal" that is alleged is that the League has sold us out on the Parity Act to the distinct advantage of Homeowner's Associations, yet the author of the letter provides no specifics or proof, merely an accusation. Another is the reported "Censure" of a Director for criticizing league actions at a very public ham radio event. While the League is hesitant to publicly name the Director, or the event, reliable rumor has it that the director was our own Southwest Division Director, Dick Norton, N6AA, and the event was the last annual DX Convention in Visalia, CA. I don't know any more specifics, but I do know Dick to be dedicated, conscientious and hard working on our behalf, I encourage you to keep an open mind.

I have witnessed several of these type of "rebellions" over the years, one even attempting to establish a rival organization: The United States Radio League. Fortunately, this effort and others have been short lived. I suspect, and hope, that this current controversy will be short lived as

(Continued on page 3)



**3YØZ
DXpedition**
Under Sail!

Quartzfest
Jan 21-27

**Yuma
Hamfest**
Feb 16-17

**ARRL
DX-SSB**
Mar 4-5

Visalia DX
Apr 20-22

VEC License Exams

6pm—before
the General
Meeting

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

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |
Technician



<http://www.bouvetdx.org/>
YOUR INVITATION TO FOLLOW US

Jan 9, 2018: The 3YØZ team will be using a Garmin (formerly DeLorme) InReach SE satellite tracking device that will enable you to follow along with us and see our travel route on a near-real time map as we journey to the “Most Remote Place on Earth.” Hal, W8HC will activate an InReach SE when he leaves his WV QTH January 9th and will leave it “on” during the trip (while moving) until the team is on Bouvet Island. This device uses Iridium satellite technology and is set to send a “way point” along the route every 30 minutes. These points will show up on our Bouvet “MapShare” website, as we travel to Chile and eastward on our vessel, the Betanzos on the 10-12 day journey across the South Atlantic, and onto our ultimate destination — Bouvet Island. If all is working properly, and the device has good visibility with the satellites, our MapShare viewers will be able to see our current position, including GPS coordinates and speed. You will be able to enjoy the full resolution capabilities with Topo and Aerial view options provided and can toggle-in and toggle-out of the website’s detailed Google map.

In addition to the MapShare, we will be using the InReach device to send messages along the way to provide updates and important information. These messages will show up on the MapShare route as small blue rectangular boxes, which viewers can click to read.

We will also have the option to post messages to our social media outlets— Facebook and Twitter.

Please bookmark our Bouvet MapShare website:
<https://share.garmin.com/bouvet> ...or, click on the globe icon...

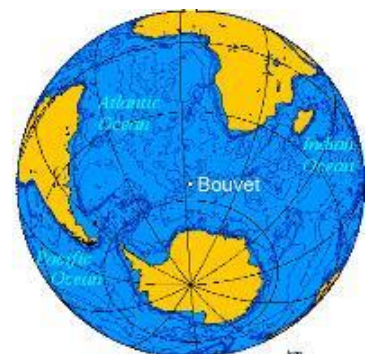
We cordially invite you to “journey” with the 3YØZ Team... follow along with us on this incredible DXpedition to Bouvet Island!

[Update] On the Way to Bouvet!

Jan 19, 2018: The M/V Betanzos pulled away from the Puntas Arenas pier today at 1240z, with 20 happy and excited 3YØZ operators on board.

Tug boats were summoned for help, due to very strong winds and rough seas that were holding the ship against the pier.

Now, it’s full speed ahead to Bouvet!



Listen for 3G9A/MM during their voyage to Bouvet.



Ham Radio Mobile News

From Vic Ray a former member now in San Diego.

Vic Ray to Amateur Radio Bass Anglers
December 21, 2017 at 6:31pm · Here's some good news...

ELECTRONIC WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES – 23123.5 VC – Amend

Removes and clarifies that “specialized mobile radio devices” (citizen band radio, amateur radio) and “two-way messaging devices” (walkie-talkies) are not wireless communication devices that are prohibited from use while driving.

High Altitude Balloon Launches

My non-profit organization is planning to launch a number of student designed experiments aboard a High Altitude Balloon on April 20th, 2018 as part of a local STEM education initiative. The launch will like take place at Mile Square Park. An APRS transmitter will be included in the payload providing telemetry including GPS coordinates and altitude information.

We are seeking HAMs willing to help with the recovery of the payload. Two or three recovery teams in vehicles will be needed to fan out in Orange County and stay in contact with our command post.

My questions are:

1. Would SOARA be willing to allow us to use one your repeaters for these communications?
2. Are there any members of SOARA who would be interested in helping with the recovery and communications?

I would be happy to attend one of your meetings to answer questions.

Thank you for considering this request.

Richard Stember
Executive Director
Science Heads Inc.
KM6HCB

Cell: 949-616-9481

Email: richard@scienceheads.org

Web: www.scienceheads.org

*(Continued from page 1) - **President's Message***

well. ARRL President, Rick Roderick, K5UR recently wrote an excellent explanation of the League's position in this month's ARRL e-Letter. It may be found here: <http://www.arrl.org/news/a-note-to-members-from-arrrl-president-rick-roderick-k5ur>

I strongly encourage you to read it. as it explains the other side of the controversy.

73 de Ray, AE6H

SOARA Raffle Returns!

The popular SOARA Raffle returns this month, to the January meeting!

January's \$5 raffle will be a Yaesu FT-60R dual-band VHF/UHF handheld. We will need to sell about 35 tickets to complete this raffle.

73.....Hal WB6WXO





Membership

Membership is progressing well.

We have 238 active members, 174 have paid their dues and 61 are unpaid and past due since October. Please pay your dues if you have not already paid. The membership dues supports our communities, emergency radio activities, fire watch, funds field day, nets, our repeaters, maintenance on repeaters, and numerous other expenses. If you need as official SOARA badge replacement, call sign change or have a question, just email me at membership@soara.org.

73, Ed, WA6ED

SOARA Saturday

SOARA Saturday is an informal, easy to walk around, ask questions, and see things work event. Or, break out into your own discussion. So, attend, ask questions, have fun, share your experiences, and knowledge. SOARA will provide [coffee and donuts](#). Time 9am to noon. Contact: Ed Barnes, WA6ED@soara.org

Members!

Have you always wanted to build a tape measure 3 element 2 meter Yagi t-hunt antenna? This is the optimal time to do it. Get your FREE tape measure at Harbor Freight this weekend, with purchase... (see ad & coupons below) I usually buy a ammo box for a battery box and then get a free tape measure. Most other parts are available at the hardware store. YOU MUST BUY YOUR OWN PARTS and bring them to SOARA Saturday.

Instructions and detail links are here on the SOARA website:
<https://www.soara.org/activities/soara-saturdays/>

Email me if you have questions: wa6ed@soara.org I will try to help as best as possible. Then be sure to show up SOARA Saturday.

We will help you build your antenna on SOARA Saturday this month. Next month, we will t-hunt practice and show you how to do it. Well, at least get started...

73,
Ed, WA6ED
SOARA Saturday Chief Cook and Bottle Washer

DXpedition Leader, Contester, Mentor David Collingham, K3LP, SK

Well-known DXpedition leader and contester David Collingham, K3LP, of Mt. Airy, Maryland, died on January 6 after falling through the ice on a pond near his home the previous evening while trying to rescue his stranded dog. An ARRL member, he was 59. Collingham was co-leader, with Paul Ewing, N6PSE, of the 2016 VP8STI/VP8SGI DXpedition to South Sandwich and South Georgia Islands, and he was president of the Intrepid-DX Group.

According to news accounts, Collingham had alerted his family that his golden retriever had fallen through the ice, but by the time they and rescuers arrived on the scene, Collingham had already slipped beneath the ice.

Licensed at age 15 as WN6KTF in his home state of California, Collingham went on to take part in more than 70 DXpeditions and served as leader or co-leader of 14 major DXpeditions. He was a 2014 inductee to the CQ DX Hall of Fame, credited with focusing on using Amateur Radio as an educational tool at home and abroad. With the support of Collingham's long-



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Try out FT8!

It is the hottest new HF digital mode and is 4x faster than JT65 or JT9. This is a great way to make some QSOs!

Want Solar for your Home?

Avoid Optimizers and/or Microinverters!

Don't make this mistake like I did and am currently attempting to mitigate.

Mike, K6MSM

Magnetic Loop Chapter 4

From Tak, W6SI

I just upped the chapter 4 of Magnetic Loop antenna article at my web site, <http://w6si.com>

This one look into how to automate the tuning of MLAs.

Let me know what you think.

Thank you,

de W6Si / Tak

Harding TT Event

Trusted crew of volunteers: I know it is late to ask but would you be available to help out again for this year's Harding TT event on February 17th?

We are looking for the following:

- 3-4 people at the start to help with staging and timing
- 2-3 people at mid aid station (no timing here)
- 3-4 people at top to help with timing and food
- 3-4 people at Cook's to help with registration
- 1 HAM at Cook's, Tucker, 4 Corners and a couple Dual Sports

Please reply back with your availability either way so I can fill spots quickly and know who else I may need to reach out to.

Thanks,
Josh Kompa
SAW Sports Productions
www.sawsp.com

Special Event Communications

It is that time of year again for special event communications. For those of you interested in emergency communications this a good way to get trained. Here is a list of upcoming special events that we would like help with:

[OC Chili Winter Trail Run Series](#)

- Saturday, January 27, Feb. 17, March 24 2018.
- 8:00 AM 12:00 PM
- O'Neill Regional Park ([map](#))
- HEAT UP YOUR WINTER! The OC Chili Winter Trail Run Series will keep you fit and well fed this winter! January is the first race of the series! You don't have to run all three to be a part of the fun! A beautiful 5 mile, 7 mile or 10 mile train run through O'Neill Regional Park, high quality t-shirt, and post race chili is included in registration!

[Paws FUR Pink OC](#)

- Sunday, February 18, 2018
- 8:00 AM 12:00 PM
- Irvine Regional Park ([map](#))
- Celebrate with ALL the ones you love (both 4-legged and 2-legged) this February! The event features a Hearty Hound 5K, Dawdling Doodle 1 Mile Walk, and FURever Yours Expo. Partial proceeds from Paws FUR Pink benefit the Orange County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

Please call or e-mail me at:

(949) 859-3868
ad6oi@soara.org

Thanks, Heiko, AD6OI, Director of Communications for SOARA



Warrior's Society

Vision Quest

This is a request from one of the groups who support SOARA with a request for ride radio support for the next Vision Quest/Counting Coup rides on **April 7**. Please offer your support, if you can.

My name is Chris Vargas (KF6TKE) and I'm a member of SOARA. I'm planning my annual mountain bike event to be held on Saturday, April 7th and I'm looking for ham support. Joe Lopez, cc on this email, has been Net Control for our events for many years and we've had many members of SOARA support it.

The event takes place in the Santa Ana Mountains and starts at 4:30 a.m. and ends about 5:00 p.m. We need support at various aid stations and on the mountain. If they have a 4 wheel drive vehicle that's a plus but not necessary.

As always, we reimburse support for their costs supporting the event and they get a t-shirt and lunch.

In 2004 the Warrior's Society produced a video on the Vision Quest and Counting Coup mountain bike events. It gives a 3D video tour of the course with original music. It captures the true toughness of the event showing the struggles and triumphs of those participating.

Please pass it on to anyone willing to support the event and ask them to contact me at sanofan.chris@gmail.com

Here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QqrWwOGrijNs>

Thanks!

Chris

More information at: http://www.warriorssociety.org/events/vision_quest_general_info.html

ARRL Propagation de K7RA

It was a quiet week in space weather (January 11-17) with 0 sunspots over the weekend and geomagnetic indicators rising only slightly.

Compared to last week, average daily sunspot numbers declined from 11.9 to 7, but average daily solar flux went from 69.9 to 70.7.

Seems counter-intuitive that sunspot and solar flux would move in opposite directions, but these are all very low numbers anyway, and any change is slight. Also, there are no sunspot numbers between 0 and 10 due to the arcane and somewhat confusing way they are counted. The number gets 10 points for each sunspot group, and one point for each sunspot in those groups. Therefore the minimum possible sunspot number if there is any sunspot activity is 11.

Geomagnetic indicators were quiet, with average daily planetary A index moving from 5.4 to 6.1, and mid-latitude A index from 4.6 to 4.9.

Predicted solar flux is 71 on January 19-25, 72 on January 26-27, 70 on January 28 to February 17, 72 on February 18-23, and 70 on February 24 to March 4.

Santiago Repeater Site Update

Our Santiago site provider is working on several improvements. First, they have replaced their telephone pole based antenna support structure with a concrete and steel structure. This work has been ongoing for nearly two years now. There have been delays due to the permit process. During the construction, our antennas were relocated to the buildings roof where they currently are now. The lower level means that we have reduced coverage. Once our antennas are back up on the tower, we should be in much better shape again. We will let the membership know when this important upgrade is completed by our vendor. The second improvement involves adding additional cooling to the building. A new air conditioner has been installed that should improve the environment for our repeater equipment.



During the construction, our 224.64- repeater was taken off the air through the coax being disconnected. We do not know who did this, or why, but it caused damage to the repeater transmitter that we need to resolve. This repeater is currently off the air and is being sent in for repair.

Recently, our 447.180- repeater was powered down unexpectedly. During the site visit to determine the cause of the failure, the entire system was removed and brought down the mountain for evaluation and repairs. A temporary repeater is on loan to us from one of our members. Many thanks to Tom and his cohorts for making several trips to the site and managing the restoration of services there.

Vy 73 de Brian, NJ6N

*(Continued from page 4) - **Silent Key: David Collingham, K3LP***

distance coaching, teacher Bev Matheson, KJ6RSX, a Fontana, California, elementary school teacher, was encouraged to start a ham radio club for fourth and fifth graders at Dorothy Grant Elementary School. A Fontana High School graduate, Collingham provided a complete station for the school. He also promoted and taught Amateur Radio abroad.

Professionally, Collingham was president and CEO of International Quality Registrars Corporation, a global ISO 9001 certification firm.

NCJ Editor Scott Wright, K0MD, recalled hearing Collingham speak at a Dayton DX Dinner. "He challenged those in attendance to always think of others, especially DXers who are generally less fortunate," Wright recounted. Collingham also challenged those in attendance to help school clubs and start one, and to realize that ham radio would die, were a new generation not mentored and fostered, Wright said.

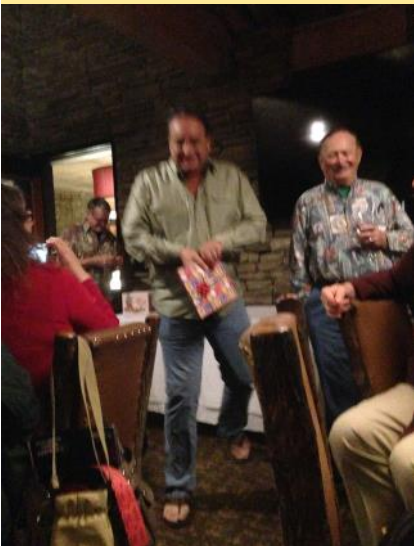
"David lived his life bold, courageous, and heroically, and he died trying to save his beloved dog," Ewing wrote in announcing Collingham's death. "He will always be a hero in our hearts."

SOARA Holiday Party 2017



Ed, WA6ED, was the winner of the 2017 SOARA WW7D Award for Ham of the Year. The Richard Coyne WW7D Memorial Award was created in 2005 to recognize an individual SOARA member who had made an outstanding contribution to the club and the HAM community throughout the prior year.

Some of the raffle winners are pictured below. Thank you to all who attended and tried out the new venue with us!



Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	22	26	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	-
Program	Science Heads				Spring Auction	Field Day Prep		SOARA Fair			Fall Auction	-
FCC Ham Exam	22	26	19	16	21	At Field Day (2pm)	16	20	17	15	19	-
Educational Classes	Tech 20	Gen 24	-	Tech 14	Extra 19	Tech 16	Gen 14	Tech 18	Tech 15	-	-	-
SOARA Saturdays (9am)	27 Murray	Mar 3 Gilleran	24 Gilleran	21 Murray	26 Murray	23 Gilleran	21 Murray	25 Murray	22 Gilleran	20 Murray	24 Murray	-
SOARA T-Hunt	7	11	4	1	6	3	1	5	2	7	4	2
Board Meeting	29	Mar 5	26	23	29	-	23	27	24	22	26	-
Special Events	Quartzfest	Yuma Hamfest		Visalia Intl DX	Ohio Hamven- tion	ARRL Field Day 22-24	HRO Ham Jam	SOARA Picnic		JOTA		SOARA Holiday Party
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW CQWPX RTTY	ARRL DX-SSB CQWPX SSB		CQWPX CW	ARRL Field Day			CQWW RTTY	CQWW SSB	CQWW CW	
Volunteer Events	OC Chili Run	Paws Fur Pink OC Chili Run	OC Chili Run Baker to Vegas	Desert Storm Rally Vision Quest	HD Trails OC Mara- thon Memorial Day 1/2 Mara- thon	ARRL Field Day	MV Fire- works			OC Cycle for Life OC Prep Expo		Run for a Claus

*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 — (pvt)	Santiago Peak. (C)
	440 — 445.660 — (110.9)	Laguna Beach
D-STAR	440 — 445.705 — (K6SOA B)	Laguna Beach
	440 — 447.180 — (pvt)	Santiago Peak. (C)
D-STAR	1.2G 1282.600 — (K6SOA A)	Laguna Beach

Nets:

UHF/VHF (447.180, 147.645 & 224.640): Tuesdays @ 8:00PM

D-STAR (146.115 C module):
Wednesdays @ 7:30PM

40 meter HF (7.200 MHz +/- for QRM), Sundays @ 8:00AM

10 meter HF (28.410 +/-)
Sundays after the 40m net.

Gordo HF (7.250 MHz +/- for QRM), Weekdays @ 8:30AM



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