

The April 2020

# Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange County Amateur Radio Association

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**General Meeting** 

April 20, 2020 7:00 PM via GoToMeeting

## President's Message, March 2020

By now, with the news cycle being inundated with "Novel COVID-19" news and events, You're no doubt well aware that there will be no SOARA General Meeting this month. But, I repeat this again, because as we often said in the Air Force, "10% never get the word". This is our attempt to reach that illusive 10%.

After several days of deliberation, and watching the information coming from the medical community, we decided on Thursday, last to postpone our meeting. By Friday afternoon, our decision was reinforced as the City of Mission Viejo decided to close the Murray Center until April 1, at least. We were able to hold SOARA Elmer Saturday outdoors at Gilleran Park, as scheduled. We deemed the size of the attendance, the fact that we were outdoors, and the ease of maintaining "social distance" we felt it was safe, and we did have a very informative session on SDR Radio and Magnetic Loop antennas. Thanks to all those who turned out.

So, what to do with so many regular gatherings of all types being cancelled? Well, I say we can spend more time with family and loved ones. Car sightseeing trips should be relatively safe, watching streamed movies and shows at home, and maybe some more time spent on hobbies as well.

Hobbies, you say? This presents a great opportunity to spend a little more time ham radio operating. We can delve into those areas we've been wondering and wanting to learn more about. Spend more time making long distance contacts, or even local ones. I'm guessing hams all over the world are also in quasi self-quarantine and filling their down time with more ham radio too. Perhaps this is a great opportunity to work on those WAC WAS, and similar challenges.

SOARA will being looking for ways to bring more radio activities for our members that don't involve large close contact events. Stay tuned for more, and we welcome suggestions from our members about things we might do to continue enjoying the hobby.

Finally, stay safe, stay healthy, keep calm, and radio on!

73 to all, Ray, AE6H SOARA President

## President's Message, April 2020

The SOARA April meeting topic will be the Orange County Fire Watch Program, and our presenter will be Tony Pointer, Fire Watch Program Manager for the Irvine Ranch Conservancy, and Orange County Parks.

Because of Social Distancing / Safe at Home, our meeting and program will be held virtually via computer using the Go To Meting platform, This platform will allow a similar format to our typical in-person meeting with introductions, announcements, a presentation with graphics and videos, and an interactive Q and A session.

The Go to Meeting platform was selected because it works with, computers, laptops, tablets and smartphones, and most important, attendees do not have to download any special software or applications. An invitation and link will be sent out by Propagator, and email, as well as posted here on the SOARA website shortly before the meeting.

More detailed instructions will be in the propagator, but the Go to Meeting platform is really easy to navigate. Hope you can join us, 7:00 pm, this coming Monday night.

73 to all, Ray, AE6H SOARA President

### **SOARA Nets**

We are running a number of nets on our repeaters to help all of us stay in touch and keep ourselves occupied while we are mostly staying at home. Except as noted below, the nets are held on the 2M (147.645) and 70cm (447.180) linked repeaters.

Some of these are what we have been doing for a while such as the Tuesday night 2000 net on the 2M/70cm repeaters, the Dstar net Wednesday nights at 2000 on 146.115 MHz and the HF nets on Saturday 40M (7.200 MHz) at 0800 and 10M (28.415MHz) at 0900.

There are new nets as well:
Astronomy Net - Wednesday evening at 1900 on 2M/70cm
Dinner Net - Friday evening at 1900 on 2M/70cm
Tech Net - Saturday morning at 0900 on 2M/70cm

## **Dale Tyler W6EDT**

Contacting Soara: Questions about SOARA? Postal mail: P.O. Box 2545, Mission Viejo, CA 92690 Send e-mail to <a href="mailto:membership@soara.org">membership@soara.org</a> or leave a message at 949-667-0173 Facebook: K6SOA Twitter: @K6SOA

## **GotoMeeting Information**

#### WHAT TO EXPECT MONDAY EVENING

When you join Monday's meeting, it is highly recommended you use Google Chrome if you plan on entering via browser. It is also recommended to use a headset or earbuds with a mic. Avoid a laptop mic as the speakers that sit right next to the mic tend to produce echo and feedback. Your webcams will be disabled.

The meeting will be locked in order for Soara Board members and our Presenter to arrive first. Please email me if you would like to make an announcement to the other members so I'll know in advance to call on you. You will be in a waiting room until 7pm when I'll open up the meeting. Please keep your microphones muted when not talking. I will Mute all attendees if there is an unmuted mic disrupting the meeting.

You can use the Chat feature to request to ask a question. When, acknowledged, you can ummute your mic and ask away. You may ask the question in the chat if you prefer and we'll ask the question for you. You may comment as well if you like, just keep it clean. You can also chat with a specific individual privately. Just be sure of what you are saying and where it is going.

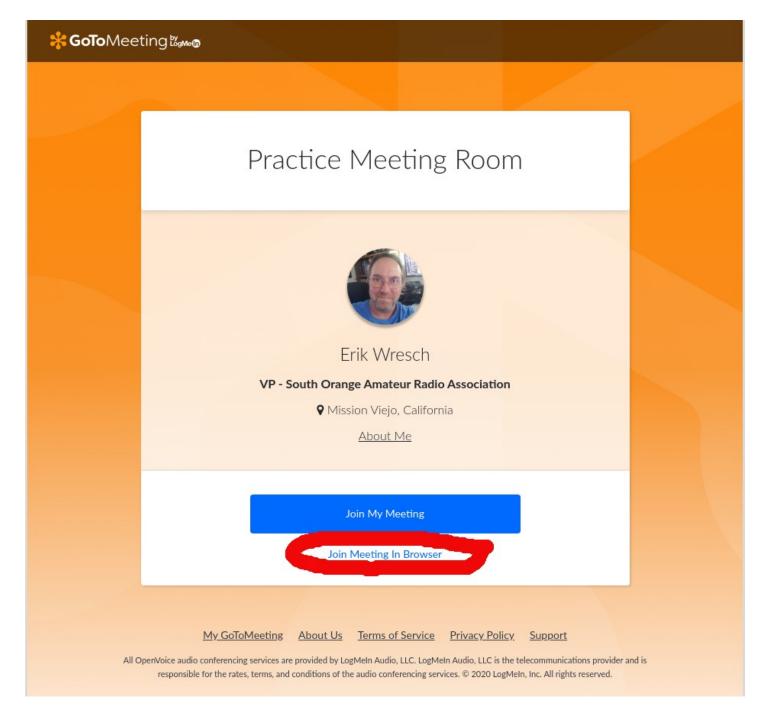
As this meeting is open to the public and announced as such on the website, we expect a smooth meeting. If we, by chance, get a disruptive guest they will be Dismissed from the room by the Moderator and the meeting room will then be locked to prevent re-entry.

Let's have a great online meeting!

#### **Erik W6INE**

Some additional notes from Dale Tyler. Meeting details and links, etc. will be sent out Monday afternoon and will also be available on the soara.org website.

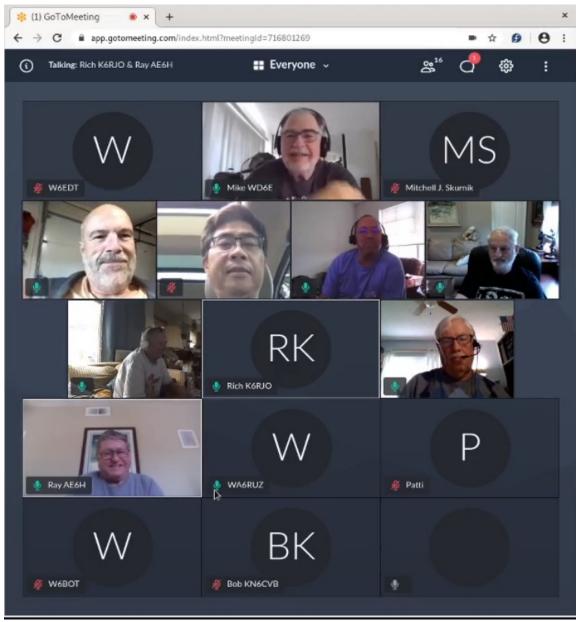
So far, the only browser that I have seen work is Chrome. The meeting link will look something like <a href="https://www.gotomeet.me/ErikWresch/SoaraMeeting">https://www.gotomeet.me/ErikWresch/SoaraMeeting</a> (subject to change - check email or soara.org). When you follow the link you will see a screen similar to this:



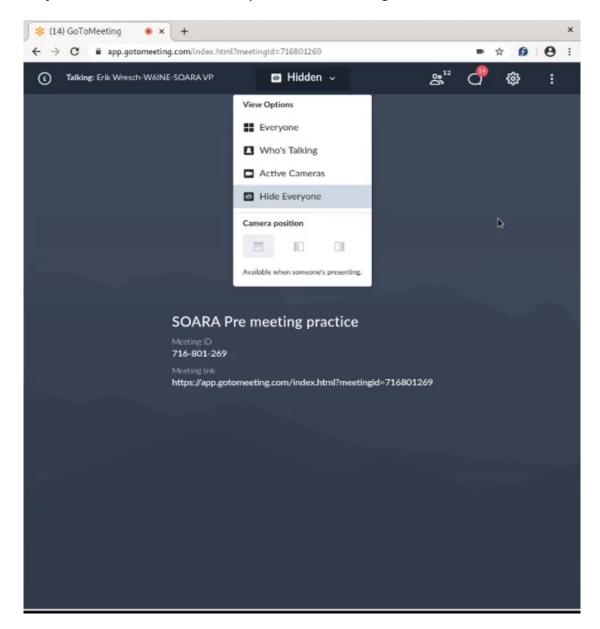
Be sure to choose "Join Meeting in Browser". Next you will have an opportunity to enter your name and ID. Please use your callsign for your ID. For example, I used <u>W6EDT</u> and my name was <u>Dale</u>. If you have previously used GotoMeeting, your name and ID will be stored in cookies associated with the site. You may or may not want to change them,

As was mentioned above, a headphone is best, but as long as you do not unmute your like, the PC speakers will also work.

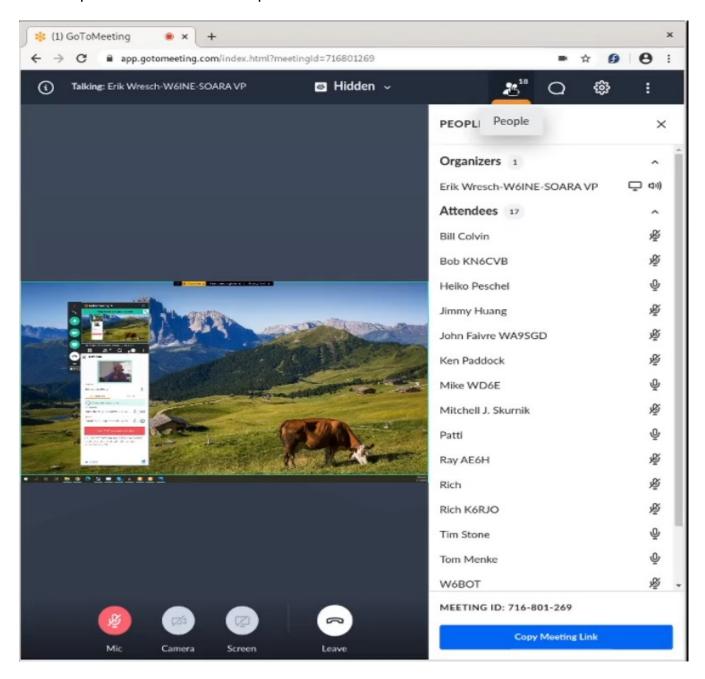
Once you enter the meeting you will see something like this (I am the "W" in the upper left:



I would suggest you click on 'Everyone' at the top of the screen and change the display to 'Hide Everyone'. This will make the presentation, larger and easier to see.



Finally, if you need to update your name or simply want to see who is logged in, use the people icon at the top right of your screen. To update your name or ID, click on your name and press "Edit" in the drop down menu.



Please leave your Mic icon as shown (muted RED), which prevents noise at your location from disrupting the meeting.

There will also be a telephone number you can call on a telephone and an access code to allow you to listen to the presentation, if a computer is not available. Please be sure you have unlimited long distance, as the number will not be toll-free.

If you wish to join the meeting on a phone or tablet, either Android or Iphone, you will need to install the GotoMeeting App from you phone vendors approved 'store' The App is free, but may require certain permissions to function.

If you need help getting connected, please place a call on the Santiago repeater and I'll try to help you.

Also, if you would prefer to watch a live stream on YouTube, the link will be announced on the soara.org web site. The meeting will be available for playback later on YouTube as well.

This is a great way to participate in our club's meetings even when staying home to be safe.

73, Dale Tyler - W6EDT

## **Membership Report**

Currently, we are 238 active members with 30 unpaid dues. If you wish to continue your membership please pay your dues now. Regular dues are \$50. Renewal email reminders have been sent monthly since last October. I will be inactivating unpaid memberships on or about April 2nd.

Welcome New Members!

Tim, KN6HDA Tim, WB6YCQ Benny, KM6JBS Nick, NU6R

I you need a new badge, let me know. I typically make badges monthly. If I forgot your badge, please remind me. If you forgot your badge, see me and pick it up. I have a stack of badges. Wearing your badge is a great way for others to get to know your callsign and name plus show your SOARA support!

73, Ed, WA6ED SOARA Membership Director

## **SOARA Elmer Saturday (SES) March 14 Software Defined Radio - Gilleran Park**

March SOARA Elmer Saturday (SES): Software Defined Radio, Gilleran Park had about 15-20 attendees. Ray AE6H and Bill KM6FOY setup SDRs and had some fun. Greg WE4BY brought his pickup and demonstrated a homemade 40 meter pushup flagpole vertical antenna setup. Ed WA6ED demonstrated the homebuilt magnetic loop antenna and a SDRplay connected to a RaspBerry Pi 4. This is the antenna Tak W6SI, Rich W6BOT, Jimmy KK6TTL, and Steve Morris KM6EMF and I WA6ED are working on. I also demonstrated the motorized tuner system for the loop. Later in the meeting Tak arrived and helped answer lots of questions. That was great timing, I was loosing my voice talking so much!

The future SOARA Elmer Saturday's will be canceled until the COVID-19 guidance changes for gathering of people 10 or more.

I'm thinking, with the Board's permission, and no prior usage obligations, we might have a SOARA Saturday net until we can physically meet again. Please let me know if you would like to participate. We could go round-robin and talk about emergency power, battery box construction and other topics related to the next SOARA Saturday subject. Then we can go off subject like nets usually do. 10 meters would be good even for technician license. Or, maybe VHF 2 meters. Let me know! Better ideas welcome too.

73, Ed Barnes, WA6ED wa6ed@soara.org

### **SOARA Tech Nets**

We are now running technical iQ&A nets each Saturday morning at 0900 with the Santiago (447.180) and Temple Hill (147.645) repeaters linked together. Hieko (AD6OI) and Ed (WA6ED) run the net and log the subjects discussed. These nets are informative and a lot of fun.

Here are the logs collected from these nets. The live logs are updated while the net is going on at <a href="https://www.soara.org/soara-saturday-log/">https://www.soara.org/soara-saturday-log/</a>

#### 4/4/2020 Tech Net 9am

WA6ED, Ed (net control)
AD6OI, Heiko
meetings online to members, goto meeting, zoom, and others
how to make updates on www.soara.org
linked 2m to 440, wait for both to key down
K6WHC, Scott
interesting session
WB6NOA Gordon
beam antenna, moon bounce, FM Sat., meteor scatter, 6M FM, 10KHz wide
this summer, high pressure, tropospheric ducting
kids excited tonight 8:37 ISS, 3 min, 41 deg, look NNW

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Tusday NASA TV Clear Ae6h Ray radio repair problem, alinco 605, fuse glowed, display half brightness, radio timers set 90-120 seconds 10MHz cutoff USB, below 10MHz LSB chimney help W6BIK leff ticket in lan, studying for general webex and goto meeting, lately zoom, 40 minute sessions, zoombombing likes the notes!!!!! WD6E Mike 57 GHz & up liked modes tropo work, moon bounce, Stanford dish antenna, 1200 MHz to Hawaii likes the log too!!!! KM6ZPO. Mark. checking in, tram1480? zoom not using passwords KK6TTL, Jimmy suggestion: record tech net, 5W HF radio, how to determine lsb usb difference in reception? sw to demod SSB signal, headless radio, cell phone control using LSB USB convention clears up question 73 KM6FOY Bill, chimney mount, use stainless straps chimney mounts designed for TV antennas black UV zip ties KE6RDK, Dan, on car mobile zoom Chimney mount question asker! Thank you for all the info. (Maybe connect with Ray) W6EDT, Dale after keying pulses, every 50khz suggest stainless chimney straps, galvanized lasted about 4 years, wide as possible to reduce load USB LSB, 60 meter USB only channelized 73 AI6CG, Mark checked in, monitoring Anaheim ht 73 / clear AG6VQ, Mike ID-51 HT, how to get onto DSTAR? Car antenna next! 73 / clear WE4BY, Greg software decode? LSB USB Webex at work, metal faring, slot antenna, 2 story roof LSB USB convention, contrarians timed out? KN6BMR. David 73 KK6LZB, Roger Zoom Webex, Skype, feature set KF6QPC, John getting familiar with DMR & Fusion, FT70D AI6OU, David K6RBS, Richard

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set your timer glendora jamming repeater 60meter US K6ACJ, Bill recorded net

#### 4/11/2020 SOARA Saturday Tech net, 9am, 147.645 and 447.180 repeaters

AD60I, Heiko (net control) WA6ED, Ed W6EDT, Dale K6RJO, Rich K6MSM, Mike N6WH, Liana KC6FZY, Charlie WD6E, Mike spectrum.ieee.org mtt.org microwavejournal.com AJ6LJU, Harold KM6FOY, Bill AB6CP, Adam NR6E, Mikkel K6ACI, Bill K6UVR, Steve K6RBS, Richard homingin.com IoeMoell http://www.foxhunt.com.au/ vk3yng KJ5KG, David AG6VQ, Mike KJ6PFW, Patrick

#### 4/18/2020 SOARA Saturday Tech net, 9am, 147.645 and 447.180 repeaters

AD60I, Heiko (net control) AE6H, Ray Field Day, Gilleran Park Closed Investigating Alternatives AB6CP, Adam 6 meter, 10 meter antenna suggestions? vertical dipole CB antenna could be adapted to 10 meters K6WHC, Scott K6RJO, Rich K6SI, Tak KM6FQY, Bill AJ6LU, Harald KE6GQO, Montey W6BIK, Jeff Lido, Panavice double stick AI6ED, Mike N6WH, Liana KN6CVA, Bob KB6POE, Richard

KM6ZPI, Josh

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KK6UMB, Tom KC6FZY, Charley W6EDT, Dale

## 73, Ed Barnes, WA6ED wa6ed@soara.org

## **SOARA Financial Report YTD Revenue and Expenses as of 02/29/2020**

Revenue:					
Membership Dues	\$10,362.00				
Initiation Fees	\$400.00				
Total Membership Income	\$10,762.00				
Activities:					
Auction Commissions	\$131.00				
Donations - Unrestricted	\$723.00				
Donations - Restricted Donations - Hal's Estate Asset Disposal	\$680.00				
Total Other Revenue	\$1,359.00				
Total Revenue	\$10,055.00				
Expenses: Site Rental: Santiago Peak City of San Clemente	\$1,750.00 \$0.00				
Laguna Beach Water Dist	\$5.00				
Utilities:	<b>#200.20</b>				
Internet DSL Telephone Lines	\$288.20 \$369.67				
Website:					
Linode	\$74.55				
Insurance	+ 622 00				
Hartford	\$633.00				
Post Office Box Postage	\$118.00 \$0.00				
i ostage	ψ0.00				

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Corporate Fees	\$0.00				
Activities: SOARA Saturday Field Day - Food Field Day - Other (Generator) Picnic	\$34.80 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00				
Equipment/Repeater Maintenance \$2,185.7					
Other/Miscellaneous Heiko - Radio Manual Holiday Door Prizes	\$24.45 \$337.02				
Total Expenses	\$3,562.84				
Net Revenue	\$6,492.16				
Raffle Income Raffle Expense	\$919.00 \$791.68				
Ending Cash Balance PayPal Balance Raffle Balance	\$22,035.10 \$550.37 \$2,341.33				

## **SOARA Equipment For Sale Online Site**

Based on numerous requests from SOARA members for a place to post Ham Radio related items for sale to other club members, we have set up an opt-in based Mailman mailing list on our server. Interested SOARA members are invited to join the mailing list. The SOARA organization and Board of Directors do not provide any warranty or guarantee for the items being advertised, buyer beware! To subscribe, navigate to:

https://soara.org/mailman/listinfo/forsale

Enter your "real" email address, not your at "soara dot org" alias. You must be able to send and receive email from the address you provide.

Once subscribed, you will receive email when other members post items for sale. When posting to the list, you should provide an accurate description of the item for sale, its condition, and asking price. Replies to postings should be sent to the poster of the item, and not the list.

The archives of postings are publicly available on the web here: <a href="https://soara.org/pipermail/forsale/">https://soara.org/pipermail/forsale/</a>

This mailing list may be suspended or discontinued at the discretion of the SOARA Board of Directors should that become necessary.
Brian NJ6N

## 2020 SOARA Calendar

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	27	24	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	-
Program	-	-	-	-	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	-	SOARA Fair	-	-	Fall Auction	-
FCC Ham Exam 6:00 PM	27	24	16	20	18	At Field Day (2pm)	20	17	21	19	16	-
Education Classes 8:00 AM	Tech 25	General 22	-	-	Tech 16	-	-	Tech 15	Extra 19	-	Tech 14	-
SOARA Elmer Saturday 9:00 AM	11 Murray	8 Murray	14 Gilleran	11 Gilleran	9 Murray	13 Gilleran	11 Murray	8 Gilleran	12 Murray	10 Gilleran	14 Murray	12 Gilleran
SOARA T-Hunt 1:00 pm	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	-	•	-	-	-
Board Meeting	Feb 3	Mar 2	23	27	26	-	27	24	28	26	23	-
Special Events	Quartz- fest 19-25	Yuma 14-16		Visalia DX 24-26	Dayton Ham- vention 15-17	ARRL Field Day 26-28	HRO Ham Jam -	SOARA Picnic 3		JOTA 16-18		SOARA Holiday Party 6
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW 15-16	ARRL DX-SSB 7-8 CQWPX SSB		CQWPX CW 30-31	ARRL Field Day 21-23			CQWW RTTY 26-27	CQWW SSB 24-25	CQWW CW 28-29	
Volunteer Events	OC Chili Run	Paws Fur Pink OC Chili Run	OC Chili Run Baker to Vegas	Dessert Storm Rally Ride for Rwanda	HD Trails OC Maratho n LH Maratho n	ARRL Field Day 26-28	MV Fire- works 4			Vision Quest		Run for a Claus

Dates subject to Change - Check the SOARA Web Site (http://www.soara.org) to verify locations and times

## **SOARA Information**

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.



<u>License Exams</u>: 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.

2	2m	-147.645	-	(110.9)		Laguna Beach
2	2m	<b>—</b> 146.025	+	(110.9)		San Clemente
2	2m	<b>—</b> 145.240	-	(110.9)		Trabuco
D-STAR 2	2m	-146.115	+	(K6SOA	C)	Laguna Beach
2	220	-224.100	-	(110.9)		Laguna Beach
2	220	<b>—</b> 224.640	-	(pvt)		Santiago Peak. (C)
4	440	<b>—</b> 445.660	-	(110.9)		Laguna Beach
D-STAR 4	440	<b>—</b> 445.705	-	(K6SOA	B)	Laguna Beach
4	440	<b>—</b> 447.180	-	(pvt)		Santiago Peak. (C)
D-STAR	1.2G	1282.600	-	(K6SOA	A)	Laguna Beach
D-STAR 4	220 220 440 440 440	<ul><li>224.100</li><li>224.640</li><li>445.660</li><li>445.705</li><li>447.180</li></ul>	- - - -	(110.9) (pvt) (110.9) (K6SOA (pvt)	B)	Laguna Beach Santiago Peak. (C) Laguna Beach Laguna Beach Santiago Peak. (C)

#### Nets:

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

D-STAR (146.115 C module): Wednesdays @ 8:00PM

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



#### **SOARA OFFICERS**

President: Ray Hutchinson, AE6H 949-322-8468

ae6h@soara.org

V.P.: Erik Wresch, W6INE 714-883-7694

w6ine@soara.org

Secretary: Dave Southworth <u>ks6rfi@soara.org</u>

Treasurer: Lori Carey, NI6X 949-444-8190

ni6x@soara.org

**SOARA DIRECTORS** 

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ad6oi@soara.org

**SOARA APPOINTMENTS** 

Past President: Tom Hobbs, AE6SH 949-830-8131

ae6sh@soara.org

Activities Coordinator: Dana Wresch, KM6LZG

<u>km6lzg@soara.org</u>

S. Saturdays: Ed Barnes, WA6ED 949-468-7706

wa6ed@soara.org

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ng6k@soara.org