



The

October 2021

# Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange County Amateur Radio Association

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## General Meeting

October 18,  
2021 7:00 PM  
Norman P. Murray  
Center  
23492 Veterans  
Way, Mission Viejo,  
CA 92692

## Presidents Message - October 2021

Greetings,

My message for this month: We will feel the change change of seasons, as we move into fall. Not only do we welcome cooler fall weather, but the season change also has opportunities for more enjoyment of our hobby. The fall typically sees changes in propagation, generally improved, with more opportunities for longer distance HF contacts. Not only does the location of the fabled gray line change, based on the time of day, but moves in a way that improves earlier evening contacts to the west, bringing Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Japan and other parts of Asia into play. We no longer have to stay up into the wee hours to work this part of the world.

Fall often brings other opportunities for all hams even if your license doesn't give you lots of HF privileges. New hams and veterans alike can benefit from many opportunities to participate in contests, and many other activities like local public service events.

For contests, just check the ARRL website, or other popular contest calendars, and you'll find hundreds of contests you might want to explore. The cooler weather and earlier darkness make predominately indoor activities more attractive for us. As we learned from Bob Grubic NC6Q, program presenter at our September meeting, contesting is a great way to learn more about your radio setup, and about operating in general.

Another great way to not only improve your operating skills, but to also give back to the community is to make the effort to join in as a communicator on special events, and of course become involved in one of the numerous public and disaster preparedness (Emcom) organizations that make extensive use of hams. The list of these organizations is extensive and they give numerous opportunities to participate. Examples include: your local city ARES or RACES. Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Mission Viejo, the Tri-Cities combined ARES-RACES group of Dana Point, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano are

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all examples. Groups with wider ranging coverage such as OCHEART and OC Fire Watch also have many Ham volunteer opportunities. Through the above organizations and several others, you can use and grow your ham radio skills. New hams remember, your new Technician license allows you privileges that are perfect for the local Emcom and public service groups, and special service events, which typically use UHF and VHF extensively bto provide communications.

Tom summarize, fall with it's shorter days and cooler weather give us lots more opportunities to grow in and enjoy our hobby.

**73, and get more radio-active!**  
**Ray, AE6H**

### [General Meeting - ARRL - History and Current Activities](#)

We will be meeting at the Murray Center located at 23492 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA, 92692. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

Our guest speaker will be Bob Turner W6RHK, our new ARRL Orange Section Manager. Bob will briefly cover the history of ARRL, explain some of the benefits of being an ARRL member, and cover what you need to do for your RF Exposure Station Evaluation.

The online meeting link for those not attending in person at the Murray Center is below.  
[ARRL - History and Current Activities](#)

Masking is not required; but we do ask that you use your best judgment of whether or not you should.

Ham Radio Examinations will be administered at 6:00 PM, prior to the start of our general meeting. Cost is \$15/attempt. Pre-registration is not required and you don't need to be a SOARA member to take the test.

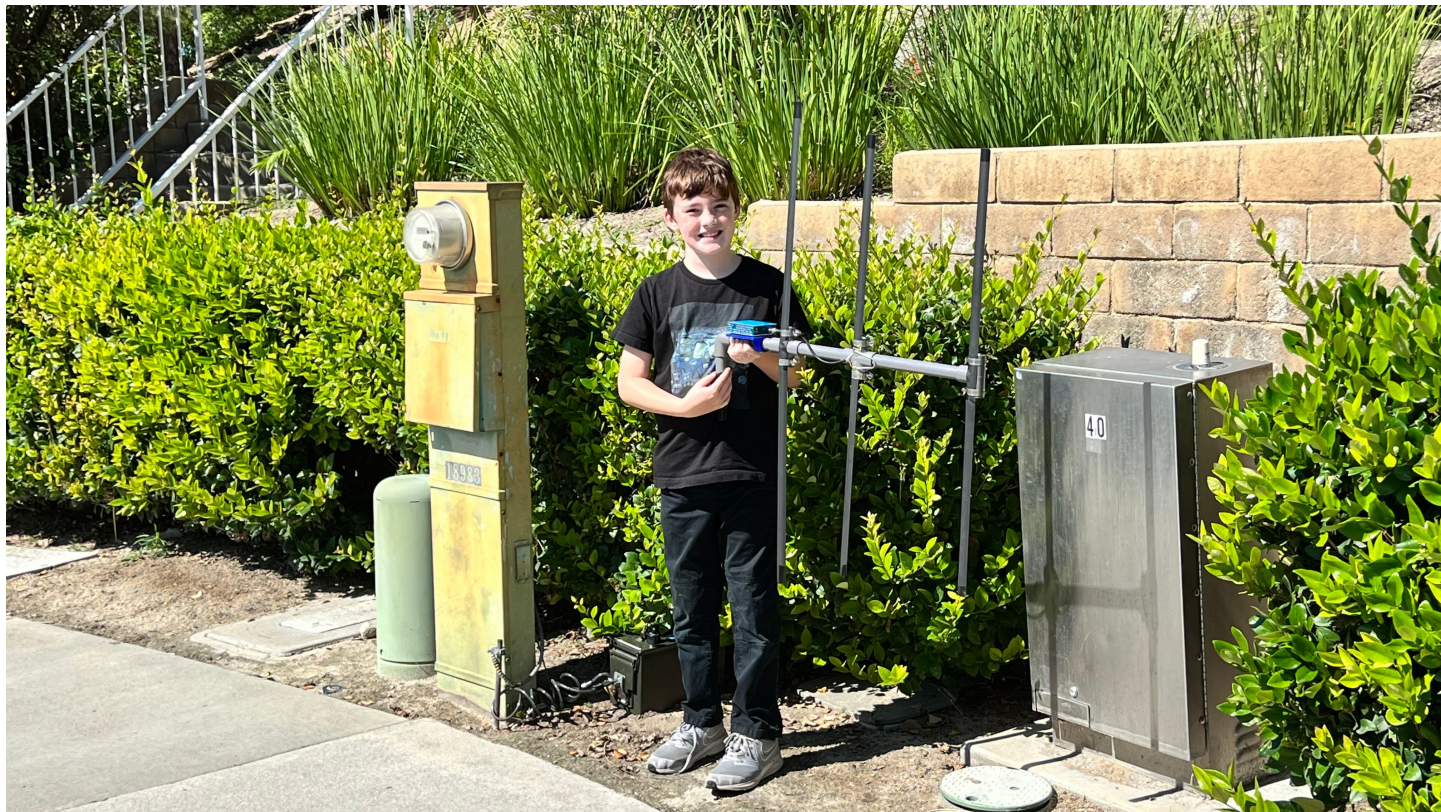
**Erik Wresch**  
**Vice President - South Orange Amateur Radio Association**

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## [SOARA T-Hunt Report](#)

Come join the fun on the monthly SOARA T-Hunt!

Our most recent T-Hunt was held on Saturday October 9th. Liam Perrigoue, age 9 found the T. He took all of the bearings himself. Great Job Liam!



T-Hunting is fun and enjoyable way to engage with our radio hobby and has the added benefit of letting you explore and see many interesting areas of South Orange County. If you are interested in becoming a T-Hunter a great place to start is Joe Moell's (K00V) comprehensive website <http://homingin.com> Joe provides useful information and links for beginners and those looking to improve their craft. A simple tape measure Yagi, HT and attenuator (home built or low-cost kit) is all that is need to get started.

More information can be found on the SOARA website:  
<https://www.soara.org/activities/transmitter-hunting/>

I hope to see you out on the hunt soon!

**Joe Perrigoue**  
**K7KCE**  
Activities Director

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## [Volunteers Needed for the Club and for Special Events](#)

Hear ye, hear ye. We are looking for more support for our radio system.

### Type of people needed:

Volunteers who can help with net control duties on our nets, HF, or VHF/UHF no experience necessary, that is how I started. I actually had two nets to learn the job before they gave me the position.

Seriously it is not that difficult. If you are a good listener, and this is important, know how to get the other person to tell their story and prompting them when they start to falter, then you are qualified.

Also we are looking to form a SOARA Tech committee to help Brian, our repeater director/software/hardware engineer, (See Brian, <nj6n@soara.org>)

### Special Event:

On Oct 23 there will be a benefit bicycle ride starting and finishing in Santa Margarita, and we are looking for about 5 or 6 volunteers for that, I already have two but we have 4 or 5 aid stations and some will need am and pm operators.

**Heiko AD6OI**  
**Director of Communications for SOARA**

## [SOARA Membership Report](#)

Dues were due Oct 1st. Regular dues are \$50. Please read through your email I send for your dues balance. I put the dues information after the presidents letter. New members typically have a credit of some amount. If you don't use the credit, it keeps rolling over. Some members have already paid their dues. Thank you for paying promptly.

Currently 230 active members, 106 paid dues and 121 have not paid dues. Please pay your dues as soon as possible. Be sure to check the amount in your email, if you owe less than \$50 just select pay "other amount" on BrainTree. I will figure it out. Two new membership applications pending and one new member!

Welcome Bob N5KZV, please welcome Bob when you hear him on the air.



Lanyards are here! The SOARA Board of directors approved to buy lanyards for our badges. Each fully paid SOARA member may have one free lanyard. If you need additional lanyards they will be \$1.00 each.

I'm making badges this weekend. Let me know if you need a new badge for your new lanyard.

**73,  
Ed, WA6ED  
SOARA Membership Director**

### **[SOARA Elmer Saturday Updates/ Tech Net](#)**

The SOARA Saturday Tech Net is every Saturday at 9 am, except when we are at the live SOARA Elmer Saturday at Gilleran Park or the Murray Center. We will be on 146.025+ pl 110.9, 147.645- pl 110.9, 224.640- pl 123, and 447.180- pl 131.8. Send questions to [ad60i@soara.org](mailto:ad60i@soara.org). Also Joe, K7KCE is helping me with the logging. We will be alternating weeks going forward. If you would like to volunteer for the tech net please contact AD6OI, Heiko.

**The live SOARA Elmer Saturday is October 23 at Gilleran park, 9am.**

1. Coffee and Donuts will be provided
2. If you would like to volunteer for a topic contact Ed [wa6ed@soara.org](mailto:wa6ed@soara.org).
3. I need a DMR person to help Ray AE6H program his DMR radio. Also DMR is a good topic since it's a little tricky to setup.
4. We may be indoors soon, It's time to start thinking about kit building, thunt tape measure antennas, and other projects. If you want to buy a kit, build it, and need assembly help. We can setup a future SOARA Saturday to kit build, bring solder stations and safety glasses.
5. No update on my slinky antenna. I am sidetracked for now with my RasPad tablet computer. But, I have some ideas to make the tent poles more stable. Next, I want to try a slinky vertical antenna. It never ends.
6. I will bring my RasPad, this is a Raspberry Pi 4 touchscreen tablet. I'm installing ham radio applications DL1GKK has a website that shows many Ham Radio installs: <https://dl1gkk.com/setup-raspberry-pi-for-ham-radio/>

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7. I will setup my HF rig with antenna in case anyone wants to get on the air. This is the IC 7300 and super antenna on battery. Feel free to bring a different radio / antenna in case others need demos or compare and contrast.
8. Link from KI6LOM, <http://ionosphere.meteo.be/ionosphere/LIEDR/>
9. Link on VNAs from Rich, W6BOT, [https://www.ieee.li/pdf/viewgraphs/network\\_analysis.pdf](https://www.ieee.li/pdf/viewgraphs/network_analysis.pdf)  
Bring something interesting to demo or talk about. We have many interesting topics and interesting people attend.
10. Below are September photos, first, Jimmy's KK6TTL prototype Raspberry Pi Zero HF rig with smart phone browser control using node.js & CSS. Look at all the filters & relays!!! If this is not cool, I don't know what is. Second, are the picnic benches with everyone talking and having a good time. I think I took this photo after some folks left, these events get busy & I forget to take pictures until I had my second cup of coffee.



You see Jimmy KK6TTL in the red-ish burgundy sweatshirt. Greg N6PM and Jim KI6LOM at the same table. Then K6RJO, then ... Jaime KJ6YOG, then ... I'm getting fuzzy. I don't want to guess callsigns! Arrrg!

Let me know if you need a special green Elmer badge. All it takes is for you to help other amateurs.

**73,  
Ed WA6ED**

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## [Swap Meets and Auctions are Back](#)

One of the most fun I have as an electronics enthusiast and amateur radio operator is attending electronic swap meets and auctions. They are great places to pick up some cables, used ham gear, test equipment and much more.

We have two local swap meets that are up and running monthly.

The TRW Swap meet is held on the last Saturday of each month. The swap meet hours are 7:00 AM to 11:30 AM., located on the southeast corner of Aviation Blvd. and Space Park Drive (one traffic signal south of Marine Ave.) in Hawthorne, CA. More information can be had at [W6TRW Swap Meet](#) The next one will be on October 30, then November 27 and December 25. Yes, they even happen on Christmas - attendees are pretty dedicated. SOARA has a booth where excess club equipment is being sold by Heiko, AD6OI. There were about 40 vendor booths in September. My find last month were two assortments of Fair-Rite and Laird ferrites for \$40.00.

The Claremont Amateur Radio Society (CARS) Radio/Electronics Swap meet is held on the third Saturday of each month, except December. 6:00am to 11:00am, at the parking lot of Granite Creek Community Church 1580 N Claremont Blvd, Claremont, CA 91711. There are usually 15 or so vendors selling radios, components and other items. I picked up a AR-22 antenna rotor and control box rebuilt and tested for \$40. The next swap meet is November 17.



Clairmont - July 2021

There is also the former ACP Swap Meet, used to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month at Edinger and Grand in Santa Ana. This event has mostly faded away and there were no vendors the last two months, but I mention it just in case it re-appears.

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Finally, SOARA is holding an auction at our November General Meeting. There rules will be different than at prior SOARA auctions to make the auction go more quickly and to avoid the many unsold items that plagued prior SOARA auctions. Details on auction rules and item limitations will be sent to all members by email and will be in the next Propagator.

Remember, one person's "junk" is another person's "treasure".

**Dale - W6EDT**

## **SOARA Statement of Income and Expenses - September 2021**

Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2021

Fiscal Years Ending	September 30, 2021	September 30, 2020	Increase (Decrease)
<b>General Account:</b>			
Income:			
Memberships	13,604	12,475	1,129
Other	1,128	3,250	(2,122)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14,732</b>	<b>15,725</b>	<b>(993)</b>
Expenses:			
Repeaters:			
Site rental	4,320	4,325	(5)
Utilities	1,696	1,618	78
Equipment & Maintenance	1,936	3,109	(1,173)
Property Insurance	820	633	187
<b>Total Repeaters</b>	<b>8,771</b>	<b>9,685</b>	<b>(914)</b>
All Other Expenses	925	771	154
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>9,696</b>	<b>10,456</b>	<b>(760)</b>
 <b>Net Income</b>	 <b>5,036</b>	 <b>5,269</b>	 <b>(233)</b>
Beginning Cash	20,661	15,392	5,269
Ending Cash	25,697	20,661	5,036
 <b>Raffle Account:</b>			
Received	285	919	(634)
Spent	303	1,072	(769)
Current Year Cash	(18)	(153)	135
Beginning Cash	2,061	2,214	(153)
Ending Cash	2,044	2,061	(18)

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Note: If any member has questions about the financials, please contact the Treasurer or any board member.

**Ron Mosher - K0PGE**  
**SOARA Treasurer**

### **[SOARA Library/Nets](#)**

As some of you have already heard the AD6OI/SOARA Library is now up and running at our house. (Please see attached picture for details). This library contains ARRL Handbooks, Repeater location guides, Tech modification books, radio and electrical books and a wealth of radio related information. For now the library will be open from 1pm to 4pm on Saturdays, and other times by appointment, if you call first, either by radio or telephone. E-mail will also work but allow at least 24 hours for a reply.

In other news, when using SOARA repeaters there are some things that it might interest you to know.

It is always good to key down for several seconds when first waking up your favorite repeater, otherwise the beginning of your announcement won't be repeated.

Also if you are in an extended conversation please leave room for others to break with their call sign.

It is never good form to interrupt a conversation with a comment. Using your call sign to identify yourself is usually sufficient to get the attention of the individuals involved in a conversation (aka QSO). When recognized feel free to go ahead with your comment.

You can find a summary of all of our nets at [SOARA Net Schedule](#)

**Thank you**  
**Heiko AD6OI**  
**Director of Communications for SOARA**

### **[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 "soara dot org" alias. You must be able to send and receive email from the address you provide.

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Send e-mail to [membership@soara.org](mailto:membership@soara.org) or leave a message at 949-667-0173  
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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:

<https://soara.org/pipermail/forsale/>

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

**Brian, NJ6N**

# 2021 SOARA Calendar

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	18	15	15	19	17	21	19	16	20	19	15	-
Program	-	-	-	-	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	-	RF Exposure	-	-	-	-
FCC Ham Exam 6:00 PM			15	19	17	-	19	16	20	19	15	-
Education Classes 8:00 AM			13	17	15	-	17	14	18	16	13	-
SOARA Elmer Saturday 9:00 AM	Net Every Sat	Net Every Sat	20	24	22	FD	24	21	25	23	20	-
SOARA T-Hunt 1:00 pm	<a href="#">updates</a>	<a href="#">updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">Updates</a>	<a href="#">updates</a>
Board Meeting	25	22	22	26	24	FD-	26	23	27	25	22	-
Special Events	<a href="#">Quartz-fest</a> 17-23	<a href="#">Palm Springs</a> <a href="#">Yuma</a>		<a href="#">Visalia DX</a>	<a href="#">Dayton Ham-vention</a>	<a href="#">ARRL Field Day</a> 25-27	HRO Ham Jam			<a href="#">SOARA Picnic 2 JOTA</a> 16-18		<a href="#">SOARA Holiday Party</a>
Major HF Contests		<a href="#">ARRL DX-CW</a> 20-21	<a href="#">ARRL DX-SSB</a> 6-7 <a href="#">CQWPX SSB</a> 27-28		<a href="#">CQWPX CW</a> 29-30	<a href="#">ARRL Field Day</a> 25-27			<a href="#">CQWW RTTY</a>	<a href="#">CQWW SSB</a>	<a href="#">CQWW SSB</a>	
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 LH Marathon	ARRL Field Day 25-27	MV Fire-works 4				Vision Quest OC Marathon 7	

Dates subject to Change - Check the SOARA Web Site (<http://www.soara.org>) to verify locations and times or click on the live links in the table

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# 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.



**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	-	(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:**

- 40 meter HF (7.200 MHz +/- , Sundays @ 8 AM
- 10 meter HF (Technicians Welcome) (28.415 +/-) Sundays @ 9 AM
- General Membership Net - UHF/VHF (447.180, 147.645 & 224.640): Tuesdays @ 8 PM
- Astronomy - VHF 147.645: Wednesdays @ 7 PM
- D-STAR (146.115 C module): Wednesdays @ 8 PM
- Dinner Net - 147.645, 224.640, 447.180: Fridays at 7 PM
- Tech Net - 147.645, 224.640, 447.180: Saturdays @ 9 AM
  
- California Rescue Communications (Gordo Net) HF (7.250 MHz +/- for QRM): Weekdays @ 8:30AM
- MVRACES - 447.180: Tuesdays @ 7PM
- Tri-Cities RACES - 146.025: Wednesdays @ 8 PM
- LNACS - 147.645: Thursdays @ 7 PM
- OC Parks Fire Watch - 447.180: Thursdays @ 8 PM

## **SOARA OFFICERS**

**President:** Ray Hutchinson, AE6H 949-322-8468  
[ae6h@soara.org](mailto:ae6h@soara.org)

**V.P.:** Erik Wresch, W6INE 714-883-7694  
[w6ine@soara.org](mailto:w6ine@soara.org)

**Secretary:** Charles Schultz  
[NY6I@soara.org](mailto:NY6I@soara.org)

**Treasurer:** Ron Mosher, K0PGE 949-363-0047  
[k0pge@soara.org](mailto:k0pge@soara.org)

## **SOARA DIRECTORS**

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[ae6sh@soara.org](mailto:ae6sh@soara.org)

**Communications:** Heiko Peschel, AD6 949-859-3868  
[ad6oi@soara.org](mailto:ad6oi@soara.org)

## **SOARA APPOINTMENTS**

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

**Activities Coordinator:** Joe Perrigou K7KCE  
[k7kce@soara.org](mailto:k7kce@soara.org)

**S. Saturdays:** Ed Barnes, WA6ED 949-468-7706  
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**Raffle:** Bill Colvin KM6FOY [km6foy@soara.org](mailto:km6foy@soara.org)

**Testing:** Steve Kuver K6UVR [k6uvr@soara.org](mailto:k6uvr@soara.org)

**Website:** Vacant  
[@soara.org](mailto:@soara.org)

**Ambassador:** Spencer Ammermon, NG6K  
[ng6k@soara.org](mailto:ng6k@soara.org)

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