



Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange County Amateur Radio Association

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General Meeting

NPM Center
June 19, 2023
7:00 PM
Norman P. Murray
Center
23492 Veterans
Way, Mission Viejo,
CA 92692

President's Message

Field Day is Upon US!

Yes, ARRL Field Day is next weekend, but more on that in a bit.

First I'd like to sincerely thank everyone who worked on, donated items for sale, everyone who bought or sold items, or even just attended the Auction on Saturday, June 10. It was a great success and some really excellent deals were to be had. Thanks again everyone!

Now for ARRL Field Day, (FD) 2023. I encourage everyone to attend, even if you don't plan to operate, can only spend a short time, or would like to jump in with both feet! There's lots to see, do, and participate in. We especially will need helpers on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning, and Sunday afternoon for setting up and breaking down our operating venue.

We'll be competing in Class 3A, which means 3 HF stations on the air simultaneously. In addition we will have a GOTA HF station, along with vhf, uhf and 6 meter station(s). Although Fred day resembles a contest, and offers you the opportunity to sharpen your contest operating skills, it's really NOT a contest (according to the ARRL, anyway) but rather an emergency operating exercise.

I encourage everyone to participate in operating one or more of the stations, or assist with computer logging. For those who have never operated HF, or hold a tech license, there will be lots of chances to do and learn. The GOTA station is especially good for learning, and the rules have been changed a bit to allow more folks to operate the GOTA station. We also get more points than in previous years for GOTA contacts! FYI, GOTA stands for Get ON The Air, and is designed to help hams become more proficient, on HF and to allow non-hams to discover the fun of ham radio. Also we can earn lots more points than in the past for GOTA contacts, so our GOTA can be a significant contributor to SOARA's FD score.

You'll never experience more on the air activity than on FD, as it's a combined event sponsored by both the ARRL and the Canadian equivalent, the RAC, and that's been held annually since 1933! In addition to thousands of ham operators here in North America, many hams from other nations use it as an opportunity to make contacts in North America.

There will be a lot more information shared, and opportunities to sign up for various things at this meeting, Please try to attend, as It's a really Important one.

73 DE Ray, AE6H

General Membership Meeting
Monday, June 19 @ 7:00 pm.
Norman P. Murray Center

All Members,

If you plan to participate with SOARA at ARRL Field Day (FD) next week-end, want to help, or would just like to learn more about ARRL Field Day:

I definitely urge you to attend the SOARA General meeting, 7pm this evening (Monday, 6/19) at the N.P. Murray Community Center, end of Veteran's Way, Mission Viejo. (Our regular meeting location).

This meeting is very important, because it's where the rules are explained, plans are laid, and lot's of other good FD information is handed out! Oh yes, there'll be coffee and refreshments too! Don't miss it!

Sincerely hope we see you there!

73 DE Ray, AE6H
SOARA President

Note: Ham Radio Examinations will take place prior to the General Meeting and also at the Murray Center. Testing session starts at 6pm and is \$15/session.

Pre-registration is not required and you don't need to be a SOARA member to take the test. Please contact our Education Director, Steve Kuver, if you have questions about testing at k6uvr@soara.org

SOARA Membership Report

We're currently at 207 active members.

If you need a new badge or a copy of the repeater manual, send me an email at membership@soara.org.

73, Greg, N6PM
SOARA Membership Director

Desert Rats

Heiko AD6OI, submitted an interesting article about amateur radio to share with Propagator readers. The star of the article is a friend of SOARA and a former member before moving to the desert. Please enjoy at The Guardian's website. Link provided below.

https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/may/27/ham-radio-emergency-natural-disaster-climate-crisis?te=1&nl=california-today&emc=edit_ca_20230607

SOARA - Statement of Cash Income & Expenses October 1, 2022 Through May 31, 2023

SOARA - Statement of Cash Income & Expenses October 1, 2022 Through May 31, 2023,			
Eight Months Ended:	May 31 <u>2023</u>	May 31 <u>2022</u>	Increase (Decrease)
Cash Income:			
Memberships	10,054	7,548	2,506
Other	<u>5,283</u>	<u>1,849</u>	<u>3,434</u>
Total Cash Income	<u>15,337</u>	<u>9,397</u>	<u>5,940</u>
Cash Expenses:			
Repeaters including site rental, utilities & insurance	12,536	4,828	7,708
Member Activities	3,191	2,174	1,017
Other expenses	<u>901</u>	<u>1,102</u>	<u>(201)</u>
Total Cash Expenses	<u>16,628</u>	<u>8,104</u>	<u>8,524</u>
Cash Net Income	(1,291)	1,293	(2,584)
Beginning Cash-October 1	<u>25,860</u>	<u>27,741</u>	<u>(1,881)</u>
Ending Cash - May 31	24,569	29,034	(4,465)

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

Ron Mosher - K0PGE
SOARA Treasurer

SOARA Nets and Repeaters

As many of you already know, SOARA has nets two nights a week and both Saturday and Sunday. There are also many other nets on our repeaters as well.

We have about seven or eight different net controls for over two dozen available positions every month, depending on whether the month has four or five turns available.

We are always looking for more Net Control operators so please apply if you want to join our select group.

In general our nets are friendly and easy going but there are some rules that we should follow, not many thank goodness.

- The FCC requires you to identify with your call sign within ten minutes of getting on the air and every ten minutes thereafter including when you finish the conversation.
- We (SOARA) as well as almost all organizations with repeaters ask you to identify yourself with your FCC issued I.D. when you first get on the air and then follow the FCC guidelines, including when signing off.
- Other than that we try to avoid controversial subjects that might displease or anger others.

Now to the fun part.

- First of all, all SOARA nets are directed nets and the Net Control is in charge.
- In a conversation with a friend recently we came up with some thoughts and ideas on how to run an amateur radio net and also how to respond to it.
- As Net Control you should try to let your guests do the talking. Guests please feel free to express yourselves.
- Prime them with a good general topic that they can expound on. Guests, if you have topical suggestions for the Net please address the Net Control operator with your thoughts.
- Net Controls, prepare yourself with some good leading questions ahead of time to ask when you need to get a response.
- If it is a small group let them do a round robin, being sure to remind them who is before and who follows. This will make it easier for you.
- Round robin is from Net Control to the first operator A, then to operator B, then to operator C, and so on until everyone has had a chance to express themselves.
- If one operator has a question for another operator, let the operators go directly one to another as necessary, this will save you time and effort.
- In general make sure that they are enjoying themselves.

- Never put anyone in a position where they might feel uncomfortable.
- As a special note for my Emergency Communications friends, this is for our casual SOARA nets, Emcom lives by a different set of rules.

Nota bene: been there and done that.

Heiko AD6OI

[SOARA Library](#)

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.

**Thank you
Heiko AD6OI**

[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:

<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

2023 SOARA Calendar

Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
General Meeting 7:00 PM	30 Online	27	20	17	15	19	17	21	18	16	20	-
Program		-	-	-		Field Day Prep	-	-	-	-		-
FCC Ham Exam 6:00 PM		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education Classes 8:00 AM			-	-	-	-						-
SOARA Elmer Saturday 9:00 AM	28 WFD Gilleran	Mar 4 Murray Center	18 Murray Center	22 Murray Center	20 Gilleran Park	24 FD Gilleran	22 Gilleran Park	26 Gilleran Park	23 Murray Center	21 Murray Center	25 Murray Center	16 Murray Center
SOARA T-Hunt 1:00 pm	updates	updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	Updates	updates
Board Meeting	Feb 6	Mar 6	27	24	22	FD	24	28	25	23	27	-
Special Events	Quartz-fest 17-23	Palm Springs		Visalia DX	Dayton Ham-vention	SOARA Auction 10			SOARA Picnic TBD	JOTA 16-18	SOARA Auction TBD	SOARA Holiday Party TBD
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW 20-21	ARRL DX-SSB 6-7 CQWPX SSB 27-28		CQWPX CW 29-30	ARRL Field Day 23-25			CQWW RTTY	CQWW SSB	CQWW SSB	
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 23-25	MV Fire-works 4				Vision Quest OC Marathon	

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

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.

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:

- 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

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SOARA APPOINTMENTS

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