



Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange County Amateur Radio Association

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General Meeting

NPM Center
September 18,
2023 7:00 PM
Norman P. Murray
Center
23492 Veterans
Way, Mission Viejo,
CA 92692

SOARA Annual Picnic

The annual SOARA fall picnic will be held this year on Sunday, September 17th from 11:30am - 3pm at Laguna Niguel Regional Park, Shelter #3 (see map below, circled in red). Come join us for some fun and food!

The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, all the fixings, and bottled water. Side dishes, salads and deserts are pot-luck. Bring your favorite dish and enough to share with others! Food will be served around 12:30pm.

It wouldn't be an amateur radio picnic without some radio fun so feel free to bring your "park rig" or any other radios and get on the air. I will set up a short walking T-hunt as well so bring your t-hunting gear!

There are benches in the shelter, so bring a comfy chair if you prefer.

Please RSVP to me, joe@perrigoue.com with the number in your party that will be attending. We are expecting a big crowd this year, I need you to please make an extra effort send an RSVP so we can get an accurate count. The picnic is open to all members and immediate family as well as prospective members.

I'm looking for volunteers to help setup & cook. If you can help please let me know.

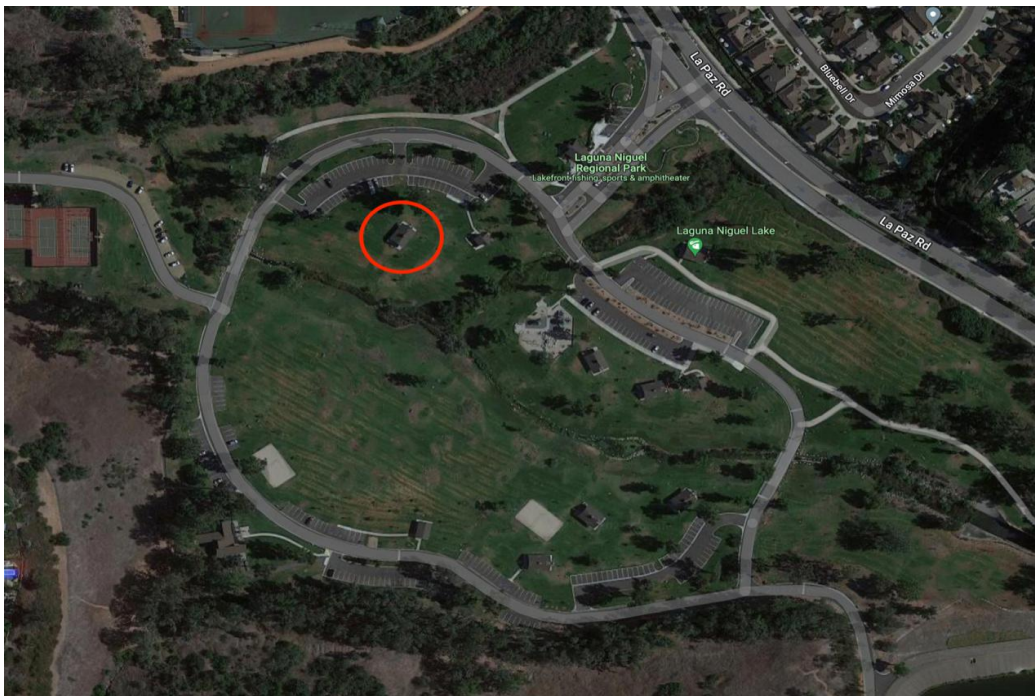
Looking forward to seeing you all!

Laguna Niguel Regional Park
28241 La Paz Rd, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Shelter #3 (see map, circled in red)

11am-3pm

Parking is \$5, free to OC Parks members



Joe Perrigoue K7KCE - Activities Coordinator

General Membership Meeting
Monday, September 18 @ 7:00 pm.
Norman P. Murray Center

SOARA Members,

Join us for our membership meeting Monday, September 18th at 7pm at the Norman P. Murray Center.

When operating our radios, we always desire that our signal can reach places far away. We can increase the transmit power from our radios but we have to make sure that the power gets to the antenna for radiation in an efficient way. We simply don't want to waste it. Maximum power transfer occurs when the antenna impedance R_L equals the source (radio) impedance R_S . But R_L changes when you change frequency or band. It is here where the antenna auto tuner comes into play.

In this presentation, our own SOARA member, Jimmy KK6TTL, will explain the impedance matching theory and algorithm in a plain language you can understand and show you how he designed an automatic antenna tuner for QRP operations. It will be fun and educational.

Erik Wresch W6INE,
SOARA Vice-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 218 active members. We're pleased to welcome three new members:

Steve Evans, AF6HR

Tim Evinger, KE7GMK

Mike Lemp, KO6AL

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

[SOARA Elmer Saturdays](#)

The August SOARA Saturday was all about test equipment, HF operation and a t-hunt! Thanks to Ray AE6H we had live HF operation. I always like someone demoing HF operation. This helps new members get a feel for the equipment needed and how to get started with that General license. I had so much fun on HF with my General, it took me over a year to work on the Extra license.

Thanks to Erik W6INE we had a t-hunt. Everyone should thank Erik for all he does. I think at least two hunters were searching for the transmitters. We need more T hunters. Erik showed me the green painted PVC pipe he put a transmitter in. It was painted green. So, it was difficult to see in the bushes. Fair warning, t-hunts are challenging!

I demoed a Megger for high voltage insulation testing. This time the insulation was coax. Lots of people were interested in the Megger. Next month is antenna testing with VNA's. I plan to demo TDR on coax as well. TDR is time domain reflectometer. It can tell you how far down the coax is a reflection. The TDR sends a pulse through the coax and then measures the elapsed time for the echo / reflection. That reflection could be a cut in the coax, a connector (disconnected), or some other imperfection.

We broke even on the coffee and donut funds. DK's Donuts cost \$20 for a dozen assorted donuts and a dozen donut holes. We had \$19 contributed into the SOARA can. I added the 20th dollar. After all, I ate the maple bar. I haven't charged for the coffee I make. This

time it was 2 pots of Kauai coffee or 20 cups. We had plenty of coffee in the airports. Maybe next month, I can buy a pound of coffee to cover some of the supply costs. Bill KM6FOY brought his awesome vette and the coffee cups and additives. Thank you Bill!

I also worked with the NanoVNA a bit. More on VNA's next month. The next SOARA Saturday will be Sept 23 at Gilleran Park 9 am to noon. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Maybe more HF operation and a t-hunt? Everybody ask Erik to hide T's and maybe we will have another hunt! I find walking t-hunts the best. It gives you time to get to know your equipment and walking around in circles is good exercise. Plus, you aren't burning gas.

Patti AD6OH counted 21 attendees. The sign in sheet only recorded 11. WA6ED, KM6FOY, K6NOV, W6WK, WE4BY, AD6OI, AD6OH, KN6KOR, KK6UMB, KM6SLF, AE6H. Please sign in if you attend.



Jaime, W6WK watching a demo of something



Ray, AE6H setting up a vertical antenna for HF operation

**73,
Ed, WA6ED**

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

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Ten Months Ended:	August 31 <u>2023</u>	August 31 <u>2022</u>	Increase (Decrease)
Cash Income:			
Memberships	10,754	7,968	2,786
Other	<u>8,327</u>	<u>2,133</u>	<u>6,194</u>
Total Cash Income	<u>19,080</u>	<u>10,101</u>	<u>8,979</u>
Cash Expenses:			
Repeaters including site rental, utilities & insurance	14,539	6,837	7,702
Member Activities	3,879	3,506	373
Other expenses	<u>997</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>(197)</u>
Total Cash Expenses	<u>19,415</u>	<u>11,537</u>	<u>7,878</u>
Cash Net Income	(335)	(1,436)	1,101
Beginning Cash-October 1	<u>25,860</u>	<u>27,741</u>	<u>(1,881)</u>
Ending Cash - August 31	25,525	26,305	(780)
Note: If any member has questions about the financials, please contact the Treasurer or any Board member.			

Ron Mosher - KOPGE
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 you 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

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 17	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
- 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

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SOARA APPOINTMENTS

Past President: Tom Hobbs, AE6SH 949-830-8131
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Activities Coordinator: Joe Perrigoue, K7KCE
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S. Saturdays: Ed Barnes, WA6ED 949-468-7706
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Raffle: Bill Colvin KM6FOY
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Ambassador: Heiko Peschel, AD6OI
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