



THE

February 2018

PROPAGATOR

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

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General Meeting

February 26,
2018
7:00 PM

NP Murray Center
Veterans Way
Mission Viejo

Powerwerx Presentation

The February 26 speaker will be Kevin Karamanos, WD6DIH, Director of Sales and Marketing of Powerwerx. He is also well-known in the Southern CA Ham community. He Authors and publishes the well known Southern California Repeater Location Guide.

From the website: www.powerwerx.com:

"Powerwerx offers communications and DC power products including Anderson Power Products, fuse blocks, USB mobile chargers, auto-off mobile timers, desktop power supplies, DC circuit breakers, stranded hookup wire, welding cable and panel mount products."

They also offer a line of handheld radios under the Tera and Wouxon brand as well as a dual band Mobile with the Powerwerx label.

President's Message

SOARA is an ARRL Special Service Club

As you enter our general meeting, you may have noticed, or not, the plaque and banner declaring that SOARA is an ARRL Special Service Club. You also may have wondered just what being designated a Special Service Club means or entails. For the curious, I've decided to let our membership know about SOARA's status as an ARRL Special Service Club.

The ARRL says a Special Service Club is "A club that exists to go above and beyond for their communities and for Amateur Radio is what defines a Special Service Club

(SSC). They are the leaders in their Amateur Radio communities who provide active training classes, publicity programs and actively pursue technical projects and operating activities."

I think that you'll agree that SOARA handily fulfills all of those requirements and more. For training, we provide nearly monthly new licensing or upgrade classes. And of course there is license testing before nearly every meeting. For publicity, we hold Field Day in a very public place with appropriate banners, press releases, and guest invitations. Also we participate in other public events such as the Mission Viejo Emergency Expo, have booths or tables at HamJam, OC Fire Watch Symposium, Dana Point Harbor picnics, and more. For active technical projects we sponsor our monthly SOARA Saturdays, and the annual SOARA "Maker" Fair.

Our members serve their communities through the several Emcomm ARES / RACES organizations, and a number of SOARA folks participate in the OC Fire Watch Program, which is both public service and educational. Our repeaters are regularly made available to these activities and we also provide personnel and equipment support to a number of charitable public service events such as bicycle races, marathons, and the like.

Socially, in addition to our monthly meetings, we hold two major social gatherings each year: the Summer Picnic, and the Holiday Party. Our members also participate in nearly the entire gamut of Amateur Radio interests and facets. We attempt to make information about these various in-

(Continued on page 4)

Contacting SOARA: Questions about SOARA? Postal mail: P.O. Box 2545, Mission Viejo, CA 92690.

Send e-mail to: membership@soara.org, or leave a message at 949-667-0173. Facebook: K6SOA. Twitter: @K6SOA



Propagation de K7RA

Average daily sunspot number dropped from 24 during the previous seven days, to 5.6 in the current reporting week, February 15-21.

That average is so low because no sunspots have been seen since February 17, and no new sunspot regions were observed since February 4. Average daily solar flux dropped to 70.1 in the current period from 77.4 in the previous week.

Based on the latest 45-day prediction for solar flux, I expect sunspots to reappear by March 2 or 3, when solar flux is expected to increase suddenly.

Predicted solar flux is 68 on February 23 to March 1, 69 on March 2, 76 on March 3-12, 74 on March 13-14, 72 on March 15, 70 on March 16-25, 72 and 74 on March 26-27, and 76 on March 28 through April 8.

Predicted planetary A index is 8 on February 23-25, then 12, 16 and 8 on February 26-28, 5 on March 1-3, 8 on March 4, 5 on March 5-13, then 10, 8, 12, 16, 14 and 12 on March 14-19, 8 on March 20-22, 5 on March 23-30, 8 on March 31 and 5 on April 1-8.

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, Appointed ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, of Fremont, California, has been appointed Pacific Division Vice Director, ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, has announced. The appointment came upon the recommendation of Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, who succeeded long-time Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, upon Vallio's election as ARRL Second Vice President.

McIntyre, who has served as ARRL Technical Coordinator for the East Bay Section, says on her QRZ.com profile that she's been interested in radio since she was about 5 years old. She got her Technician ticket in the late 1970s while a student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After letting her license expire, she re-licensed and obtained her Amateur Extra license.

She also is licensed in Japan, her second home, as JI1IZZ. McIntyre is president of the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Club and is a senior software engineer at Apple.

“This Ham Radio Operator Could Save Your Life”

SOARA member **Knute, K6HIV**, featured in the OC Register

Please see page A3 of the 2/25/18 OC Register.

The article can also be found here:

<http://ocregister.ca.newsmemory.com/>

<https://www.ocregister.com/2018/02/23/this-ham-radio-operator-could-save-your-life-one-day/>

https://www.ocregister.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/0223_nws_ocr-l-hamradio-02-1.jpg?w=861

Knute Josifek, 75, an active ham radio operator, looks for people to talk with as he sits outside his workplace, Fortron/Source Corporation, in Rancho Santa Margarita on Monday, Feb 19, 2018. Josifek uses his ham skills as a volunteer communicator with the City of Mission Viejo's Emergency Operations Center. (Photo by Jeff Gritchen, Orange County Register/SCNG)





COMING
SOON

**SOARA
Saturday**
Mar 3

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

**CQ WPX
SSB**
Mar 24-25

Visalia DX
Apr 20-22

**SOARA
Spring Auction**
May 21

VEC License Exams

6pm—before
the General
Meeting

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

Walk-ins ok.

Extra | General |
Technician



Unfortunately the DXpedition had to be aborted. The Bouvet team is safely to Cape Town, South Africa after poor weather (high winds) and engine failure necessitated aborting the DXpedition.

<http://www.bouvetdx.org/news-and-updates/>

February 17, 2018, 0900 UTC Aboard the M/V Betanzos:

The Cape of Good Hope is in site with Tabletop Mountain rising majestically above the sea. A tugboat shot a line to us to deliver updated local charts, and we are proceeding toward dry land. We've been at sea and aboard this vessel for over a month now. For some, this has been a difficult time, but now stability and dry land is on the horizon.

I'm not sure, but this may be our last update until we arrive safely at our homes. If it is, thank you once again to all of you for your support during this difficult time. We've enjoyed the "GLs" and "dit-dits" during our 9,000+ maritime mobile QSOs. It was nice to have you riding with us.

Thank you and 73 —

Ralph – KØIR

SOARA Saturday

ARDF Amateur Radio Direction Finding

Go to <https://www.soara.org/activities/soara-saturdays/> for details, like topics, information, links, time, date, location. I only wish we had more Saturday's! It's lots of fun to make stuff and talk to fellow amateur radio enthusiasts! Also, we are very informal, so other topics often start.

The February SOARA Saturday will be on March 3rd from 9am to noon. It will be an introduction to transmitter hunting at Gilleran Park. If you are an experienced t-hunter please attend and help. This will give us a chance to test those newly built tape measure antennas from last month and help those that want to learn more about t-hunting fun. Bring and demo your t-hunting equipment!

The March 24th SOARA Saturday will be HF radio setup and operation in Gilleran park. Come see us setup a radio and operate on HF. This is how I got the HF bug!

73,
Ed, WA6ED



New IARU Region 2 HF Beacon Coordinator Named

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Executive Committee has named Dennis Stice, W15V, of Oklahoma City, as the new HF Beacon Coordinator for the region. Former Region 2 HF Beacon Coordinator Bill Hayes, WJ5O, stepped down on January 19, after 10 years in that position.

IARU R2 President Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, praised Hayes for his service. "During this period Bill, has advised the IARU R2 Executive Committee and provided detailed reports on the status of HF beacons in the continent," Leandro said. "The position couldn't have been in better hands."

Amendment to ARRL DXCC Rules Will Expand DXCC List

The ARRL Board of Directors approved a motion to amend the DXCC Rules, when it met January 19-20. Section II, Subsection 1 of the DXCC Rules now will include a new Subsection (d): The entity has a separate IARU member society and is included on the US State Department Independent States in the World.

(<https://www.state.gov/s/inr/rls/4250.htm>)

"The discussion during the Board meeting and the rule change did not address any specific entity," ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, said. "The amendment could allow some additions to the current DXCC List of entities. It's a good thing not only for DXCC but for all active hams."

In fact, the **Republic of Kosovo (Z6)** has been added to the DXCC List of current entities, increasing the total number of current DXCC entities to 340. The addition of Kosovo raises to 331 the required number of current entities confirmed to qualify for DXCC Honor Roll; Top of Honor Roll is 340. DXCC award accounts are being tabulated to reflect the change.

This change qualifies as an "event," effective on January 21, 2018, at 0000 UTC. Nothing is retroactive.

A new Logbook of The World (LoTW) TQSL configuration file (v.11.4) will be released on January 23. TQSL will detect when this file has been released and will install the update automatically. Radio Amateurs outside of Kosovo should continue to upload their logs to LoTW in the usual manner. LoTW users within Kosovo (either with a Z6 call sign or reciprocal call sign Z6/home call sign) will use TQSL to request a new call sign certificate for their call sign. The request will use Republic of Kosovo as the DXCC entity, and the QSO Begin date will be January 21 or later. LoTW will reject call sign certificate requests for the Republic of Kosovo with a QSO Begin date prior to January 21. Z6 users requesting call sign certificates may e-mail a copy of their Amateur Radio license to, LoTW-Help@arrl.org .

Kosovo's IARU member society SHRAK (<http://www.shrak.org/en/>) and its president Vjollca Caka, Z61VB, are hosting a 10th-anniversary activation to celebrate Kosovo's independence in February, 2008.

SHRAK Headquarters station Z60A now is active on several bands with multiple guest operators. Club Log will be used for this activation, while QSLs are via OH2BH.

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

terests and modes through our meeting programs. We also participate in (and run) regularly scheduled T-Hunts.

Thinking about all of the above, I think you'd agree that your club definitely qualifies for our Special Service Club designation. But we shouldn't just stop there. If you have any suggestions for activities or events that you'd like to see us participate in, please, by all means bring it up to one of our Board members, or come to a Board meeting to present your thoughts.

Thanks and 73,

de Ray, AE6H



Welcome new Members!

1. **David**, AI6OU
2. **Keith** Murphy, working on license
3. **Ron**, WB6GKK
4. **Jean-Francois**, KM6KHI
5. **Don**, KM6OXI
6. **Eric**, KM6OZI
7. **David**, WD4VE

We have 241 active members, 3 life members, 192 have paid and 46 are unpaid. Please pay your dues if you have not already. 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 an official SOARA badge replacement, call sign change or have a question, email membership@soara.org. 73, Ed, WA6ED

High Altitude Balloon Launch

Science Heads 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.

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

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, March 24 2018.
- 7:15 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!

Please call or e-mail me at:
(949) 859-3868
ad6oi@soara.org

Thanks,

Heiko, AD6OI
Director of Communications
for SOARA



The logo for the Warrior's Society Vision Quest. It features the text "Warrior's Society" in a stylized, serif font with a sword and a feather integrated into the design. Below this, the words "Vision Quest" are written in a large, bold, black font with a yellow outline. The background of the logo is a colorful, abstract pattern.

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=QgrWwOGrijNs>

Thanks!

Chris

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



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	Power werx	TBD	TBD	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	TBD	SOARA Fair	TBD	TBD	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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