



The

July 2018

Propagator

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Orange County Amateur Radio Association

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General Meeting

July 16, 2018
7:00 PM

NP Murray
Center
Veterans Way
Mission Viejo

President's Message, July 2018

In this message I want to take the time to thank a number of SOARA members for their "above and beyond" contributions to our club. June and July have been very busy months, and this has required a lot of extra effort on the part of a number of our members.

June brought us Field Day (FD), and I'd like to recognize Dana, KM6LZG for organizing and giving us a fantastic FD. Dana had never attended a full FD before, but she very quickly grasped all the moving parts and pieces that need to come together to make it a success, and a success it was. While the band propagation conditions were disappointing, the Field Day itself was definitely not. We need to thank all the folks that came out for both set up before the event, and for break down afterward. We especially appreciate the goodly number of folks that either stayed after FD, or came by just to help with the breakdown. The strong participation we saw this year was especially welcome, as we were all very tired from the event. Our kitchen crew was excellent, and I'd like to thank Dave, QCI, and Cliff, PWC, as well as Dana LZG and Erik, INE and several others who all helped out with the food service. The meals were great!

Kudos to everyone who operated the stations, and in spite of the terrible band conditions, we did reasonably well. Mike, MSM has yet complete assembling and tabulating the package that he will submit to the ARRL, but he plans to wind it up, likely prior to Monday's meeting. Mike also set up the computer networking for logging, in spite of ongoing medical issues, and thanks to Jimmy, TTL for keeping the system up and running. Craig again furnished and installed the lighting, Tom, SH picked up and returned the monster generator, and a large number of folks who assembled and helped raise the towers and antennas, and of course, Steve, UVR who strung the overhead lines for the low band dipoles. Don, BXT, and his brother also brought their trailer mounted tri-band beam for the GOTA station again this year.

I'd also like to thank the several groups that displayed at FD this year, such as AREDN, the Laguna Woods Ham Club, W6LY, Mission Viejo Races, the ISS contact folks, and OC Fire Watch. This number was

more than double from previous FD's. Also we appreciate the many folks that kept their above booths staffed throughout. We welcomed our special guests from the Mendez Middle School, Santa Ana, who had a Saturday field day trip to SOARA's FD to learn about and experience operating ham radio. They were very interested in the various displays and of course the GOTA station.

Then, shortly after Field Day, on July 7, we participated in Ham Jam, 2018, with a booth, and a number of displays, notably of the many projects from SOARA Elmer Saturdays. I want to thank ED, WA6ED, Heiko, OI, Brian, NJ6N, Erik, INE and some others who all braved the 103rd heat to set up a booth and display promoting SOARA.

Finally, I want to thank Mike, MSM for his years of service to the club and the Board, and Publications Director, notably bringing you the Propagator each month. Life changes made Mike feel that he no longer would be able to devote quite as much time to the club as he has in the past, so he reluctantly resigned his board position, effective July 1. Mike promises to remain involved in SOARA, just not quite to the extent he previously has. Thanks again, Mike!

The above is also a great segue to announce to you that Dale, W6EDT has been appointed by the SOARA Board in the position of Publications Director to fill out the term vacated by Mike. This is a recent occurrence, leaving Dale very little time to put together a newsletter, but I'm sure you'll find this month's, as well as future month's editions to be interesting and informative. Please give Dale a thanks and welcome when you see him next. Welcome Dale, and thanks for stepping forward to grab the reins.

SOARA is truly an amazing group of dedicated folks and it is humbling to be part of such a great and active club, thanks to all of you!

Best 73 to all, de Ray, AE6H

[The 11th Essential for Your Daypack](#)

You may be thinking "Eleven?! I thought there were only 10 Essentials. At least when I was a Boy Scout there were only 10". Well, you're right. There were only 10 listed and the list varied a bit for the younger cubs. This is the list for the Boy Scouts:

- A pocket knife (presumably more than just a knife, a Swiss Army knife for example). In order to use a knife in Scouting, you must have your Totin' Chip award.
- A first aid kit. A basic kit for first aid might include adhesive bandages, medical tape, sterile gauze, moleskin, soap, antiseptic, a mouth-barrier device for CPR, scissors and band-aids.
- Extra clothing to match the weather. Multiple layers are superior to a single massive jacket, because layered clothing is adaptable to a wide range of temperatures.
- Rain gear.

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- A flashlight.
- Trail food.
- Water Portable water purifiers and water stills may be used to obtain potable water from virtually any source. If a water-source is unavailable the use of a dromedary bag should be considered. Also bring bottled water.
- Matches and/or a firestarter may be used to light fires for heat, or for signalling purposes. (Publicly owned forests in the United States often have lookout stations for forest fires and signal fires.)
- Sun protection may include sunblock, sunglasses, lip balm and a wide-brimmed hat.
- Trail maps and compass.

These are the 10 Essentials you should have in your daypack on extended day hikes. Honestly, if I'm only going to Peter's Canyon for a loop or a quick out and back to Top of the World I'm likely going to shed most of these items except for water and First Aid Kit.

Item Eleven should be, you probably guessed correctly already, your programmed HT (Handy Talkie) radio and a spare battery whether it's a local short hike or an extended and more remote hike such as in the San Bernardino or San Gabriel Mountains. Do your homework before you depart so you know what repeaters are in the area and that you will be able to use them if necessary. Add the lightweight local repeater directory to your map bag in case of emergency and the repeater your thought would work doesn't. Also fun to see what repeaters you can reach when you are on a prominent peak or ridge.

On a recent trip to the San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness area, I found myself using my HT for several things. One was that two of the people in my party had become separated and I was able to enlist the help of several other hikers who had their radios to keep an eye open for them. Fortunately they were located and all was well. One of my other hiking partners had taken quite a lead ahead. He is a newly licensed Ham and I was able to loan him another radio so we could keep in touch. Lastly, I was able to make contact on our own club repeater from a high point and get a message to my wife letting her know all was well. By the way, my cell phone was surrounded by civilization on all sides, but cell reception was little to none....mostly none. Cell reception can disappear deep in our own Trabuco Canyon too if you're not high up enough.

If you're a relatively new ham it's important to get as familiar with your radio as possible. No sense in carrying the extra weight if you don't know how to use it in time of need.

It's mid-July and the heat has been cranked up to make it officially feel like summer. Enjoy the outdoors this summer and don't forget to take your 10 Essentials in your daypack when hit the trails and don't forget the 11th Essential....your HT radio. Be safe and have a great summer.

Erik Wresch, W6INE

[2018 SOARA Summer Picnic ****New Location****](#)

The SOARA Summer Picnic is less than 4 weeks away! This year we will be having the picnic at Lake Mission Viejo. If you are not a member of the lake, do not worry!! We will have a guest list at the gate to enable you to enter, however there will be a \$3 charge per non-member guest. You will need to RSVP for this so we can create the guest list. Please invite your family or friends to this event. We have lots of picnic tables, lots of shady trees and plenty of parking. There are optional activities available such as kayaking, paddle boats, sailboats, and more at a nominal charge.

We will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers and non-alcoholic beverages (water, lemonade and iced tea). We ask that you bring a side dish to share. You may bring "adult beverages" to the lake, they just can't be in glass containers.

Have questions? Want to RSVP? Call, text or email me.

Dana Wresch
SOARA Activities Director
KM6LZG@SOARA.ORG
Cell: 949-579-0509



[SOARA Elmer Saturday July 21 at Murray Center](#)

This month's topic is test instrumentation. We will plan to demo a multimeter, oscilloscope, LCR, and a few other instruments. Bring questions and we will try to give answers. If you have interesting ham equipment, like a service monitor, to demo please help!

Go to <https://www.soara.org/activities/soara-saturdays/> for more SOARA Elmer Saturday details, like topics, information, links, time, date, location, photos...

73,
Ed, WA6ED

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Membership and Ham Jam Report

Membership:

We now have 240 active members. If you need an official SOARA badge replacement, call sign change, or have a question, email membership@soara.org. I recommend attending SOARA activities. Thirteen new members at Field Day. Welcome new members and I hope to hear you on the radio soon!

New Members:

1. April McClure, KM6UNT
2. Annette, KK6CNT
3. Stefan, KM6OQV
4. Anthony, KM6OQU
5. Matt, KF6BRC
6. Ray, KJ6AOX
7. Sal, KG7OMV
8. Thersea, KG7OMU
9. James, KC5LJZ
10. Bruce, K6WKB
11. Bill, KG6IAR
12. Tim, KM6TUB
13. Grace, KM6JOS

Silent Keys:

1. Richard Grifasi (KI6UMW)
2. Doug Northern (AG6XD)

Ham Jam:

We had a nice table at Ham Jam this year. It was a busy and hot day. Heiko (AD6OI), Brian (NJ6N), Jim (KI6LOM), & Erik (W6INE) all helped at the SOARA tent. I displayed literature and past Soara Elmer Saturday projects like the field strength meter, dummy load, arduino temperature, pressure and humidity meter, battery box, connector box, plus a few other projects I built related to ham radio. There was lots of interest in SOARA.

**73,
Ed, WA6ED**

SOARA July 16th General Meeting
ARRL Orange Section Mgr., Carl Gardenias, WU6D



Our July Guest Speaker will be Carl Gardenias, WU6D, ARRL Orange Section Manager. Carl will be speaking about the news from the ARRL Orange section, Southwest Division, and the National organization. Come to learn about the latest directions and events in amateur radio with a focus on new items associated with ARES. We can almost guarantee that we will also see Cathy Gardenias, K6VC fielding questions about the administrative side of the Section, and the National as well. They are always very interesting speakers, so come and learn about the ARRL and what's going on.

To learn more about ARRL Orange Section, go to <http://orange-arrrl.org/>

2018 SOARA Calendar

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	OC Fire Watch	NCG	Spring Auction	Field Day Prep	TBD	SOARA Fair	ARRL Section Mgr	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	-I	-	-
SOARA Elmer Saturday (9 am)	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	At Field Day	23	27	24	22	26	-
Special Events	Quartz- fest	Yuma Ham fest		Visalia Intl DX	Ohio Ham- vention	ARRL Field Day 22-24	HRO Ham Jam 7	SOARA Picnic 6		JOTA		SOARA Holiday Party
Major HF Contests		ARRL DX-CW CQWPX RTTY	ARRL DX-SSB CQWPX SSB		CQWPX CW	ARRL Field Day 22-24			CQWW RTTY	CQWW SSB	CQWW CW	
Volunteer Events	OC Chili Run	Paws Fur Pink	OC Chili Run Baker to Vegas	Dessert Storm Rally Vision Quest	HD Trails OC Marathon	ARRL Field Day 22-24	MV Fire- works 4			OC Cycle fo Life OC Prep Expo		Run for a Claus

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

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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.

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



SOARA OFFICERS

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