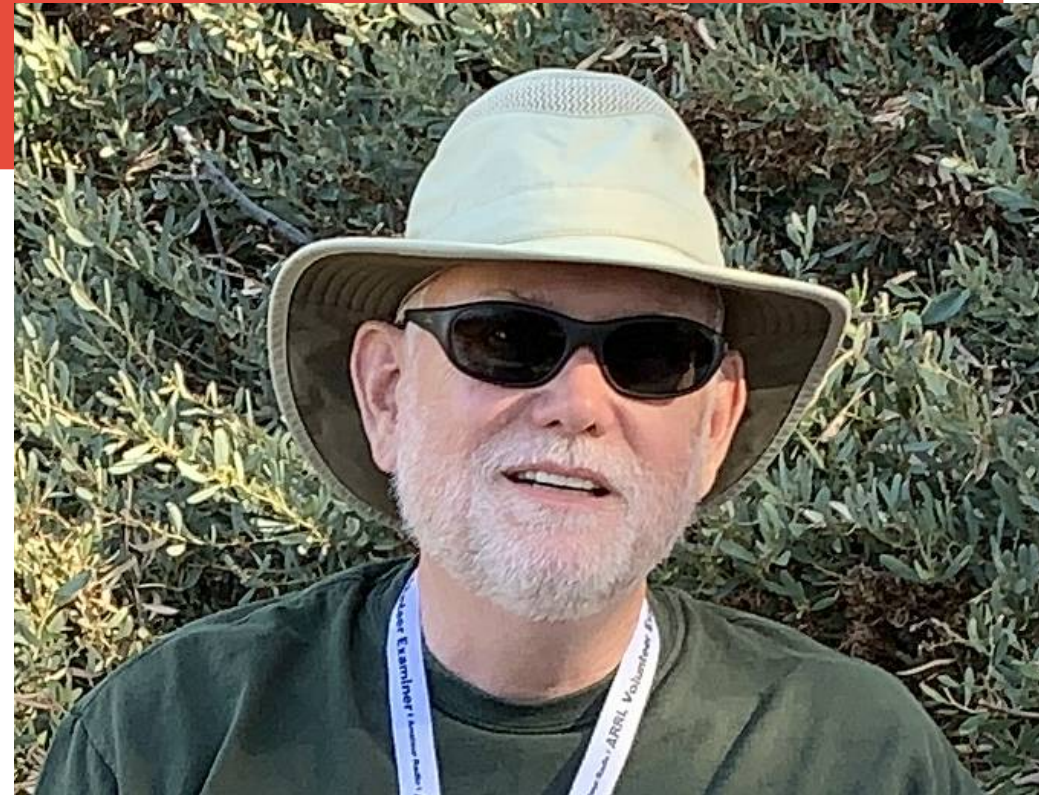




SOARA Elmer Saturdays

By Ed, WA6ED



SOARA Saturday History



- Mike, NM6X founded SOARA Saturday's. His idea was a more interactive, hands on, open discussion type of meeting. This is something you don't get in the monthly meeting with agendas, raffles, and guest speakers!
- In 2016, Ed, WA6ED started publishing annual calendars of events. This helped members plan for future meetings.
- In 2018, we renamed SOARA Saturday to SOARA Elmer Saturday. This change promotes more Elmering.

•SES Volunteers

- Mike, NM6X
 - Founder
- Sean, AJ6B
- Frank, AG6QV
- Heiko, AD6OI
- Ed, WA6ED
 - current

HF Operation, 1/31/2015



This was about the first SOARA Saturday Ed, WA6ED attended. The four of us was it.

Now, we have about 15 to 20 attendees for every meeting!

HF operation at Gilleran Park, 6/25/2015



Heiko AD6OI, demonstrating HF voice operation at Gilleran Park in Mission Viejo, CA

Emergency power, 4/23/2016



Solar panel basics, 4/23/2016

Steve K6UVR
demonstrating
solar panels,
voltage, current,
etc.



Emergency Power, 5/21/2016



RF noise issues from the generator was fixed in about 30 seconds, Jim, KI6LOM sticking a screwdriver into the ground with a wire to ground generator fixed the noise issue.

Battery Box Build, 7/23/2016



Tony W6TNY, instructing battery box build. Lori NI6X building first battery box.

Battery box builds have been popular.

SOARA attempts to sponsor one of these build events per year.

Arduinos!, 7/23/2016

Arduino projects are popular discussions.

They are easy to program and interact with the hardware directly.



Soldering 101, Pixie CW kit, 8/20/2016

The pixie kit started as a low cost soldering project. Once several kits were built, everyone wanted to see if they worked. Crystal may be in the extra band. (before soldering) This can be fixed with a different crystal in a tech band.



Field Strength Meter, 3/4/2017

Scott K6WHC, building the field strength meter at the Murray center in Mission Viejo.

This field strength meter build is based on QST Feb. 2015 article. We used a “FREE” Harbor Freight multi-meter.

Ed ordered parts for about 10 kits. We build the circuit on breadboard. The kit builder could choose a RCA or BNC connector for the antenna.



HF Dummy Load Kit Build, 4/22/2017

We provided \$10 parts kits based on article by Ken, K4EAA.

Source: <https://k4eaa.com/dummy.html>



Software Defined Radio, 11/25/2017



Mike K6MSM, demonstrating a SDRPlay

SDR theme SOARA Saturday's are very popular. Past SES have demoed RTLSDR, and NOAA weather reception with QFH antennas

SES 2018

I didn't find photos for 2018, we did have meeting though:

- Jan, T hunt antennas, tape measure antenna, cubic quad, attenuators
- Feb, T hunt practice in the park
- Mar, HF Operation demo, power, radio, tuner, antenna
- Apr, Kit building, soldering, bring a kit
- May, Arduino with display, temp, pressure, & humidity sensor
- Jun, Field Day!, battery box build
- Jul, Multimeter 101, Oscilloscope, frequency generator, LCR
- Aug, Wireless Arduinos, 433 & 315 MHz
- Sep, Portable antennas, mag loops, vertical, random wire, dipole
- Oct, 3D printing, focus on ham radio
- Nov, Ham kit demos, bring your favorite kit

Instruments & Multimeter 101, 7/1/2018

Several members brought various instruments.

Multimeters, LCR, Antenna analyzers, Oscilloscopes, and more



Connector Box & Antennas, 9/22/2018

George KM6AFI,
building a
connector box.

Antenna setup in
the background.

We try to help all
that attend.



Tape Measure Antennas 2/2/2019

Over the years, we have built tape measure antennas based on Joe Leggio's WB2HOL article and offset attenuators.



Mag Loop Parts, 3/2/2019



Jimmy K6TTL, inspecting 3D printed magnetic loop parts. Several of the regular meeting members formed a group to build magnetic loop transmitting and receiving antennas. Jimmy designed the tuner with Tak W6SI.



Building an Antenna Analyzer, 3/2/2019



Alex K6FTL, faster than light, working on his antenna QST analyzer. November 2017 QST

Kit building, Jumbo Spot, 3/25/2019

Kit building is very popular.

The only activity more popular than kit building is talking about kit building!

The Jumbo Spot is drawing increased interest with DSTAR, Fusion, & DMR



Future Hams are welcome , 3/23/2019



SOARA encourages the family to attend our events.

The only requirement is safety.

Thunt at Murray Center, 4/20/2019



Joe explaining the rules!, 4/20/2019



Several Events on Digital Modes

Brian NJ6N,
hosted a DSTAR
introduction
(no photo) At
Gilleran Park.

Later, Mikkel
NR6E hosted a
DMR
presentation
also at Gilleran
park.



Side discussions are Common

Hams always have something to talk about.

Jim KI6LOM, Dale W6EDT, & Greg N6PM.

We encourage groups to form on various hopefully Ham related subjects.



Coffee & Donuts!



SOARA provides coffee and donuts for these events.

We encourage benefiting members to help defer costs too.

We have a donation can.



Emergency Power & Operation, 2019-10-26



Start your Club Elmering Event



Success Keys:

- Set a schedule and post on club website
- Promote event on nets and at meetings
- Allow open discussions and breakout into different groups
- Post supporting materials on club website
- Bribe with Coffee and Donuts
- Usually 3 hours, 9am to noon
- Make special Elmer badges for those that teach
- Ask members for event topic ideas
- Elmers help others learn!