

SOAR Newsletter July 2020

The SOAR Board of Directors met by Zoom on July 8 and received reports from the newly formed COVID-19 Response Teams. The Finance Team has worked out various scenarios. They will recommend that, if we have classes in Spring 2021, members as of Fall 2019 not be charged.

The Operations Team is contacting presenters who had agreed to give classes in Fall 2020 to see whether they would be interested in presenting classes virtually (five had already volunteered—such is the good will towards our organization). They are hoping to be able to offer some presentations either outdoors or virtually for Fall 2020.

The Public Relations Team understands that its role during the crisis is to maintain communication with members and to present SOAR's continuing activity to the general public. Communication will be maintained through regular emailed Newsletters, the website <https://www.soarnorthcountry.com/> and through our new Facebook page (established by Laurell Brault with 57 followers already). <https://www.facebook.com/soarnorthcountry/>

Some of you may remember Martin Walker's (SUNY Potsdam, chemistry dept.) presentation on making internet resources (for education and medicine) available in places where web connections and electricity are absent or unreliable. He and his colleagues developed a device on which Wikipedia and Kahn Academy could be loaded. I have found Kahn Academy full of information on everything from blood types to the windows of Chartres Cathedral. Perhaps you would like to see what Martin's work has made available throughout the world. <https://www.khanacademy.org>