

ALL EARS

146.880 – PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society

December 2001

CALENDAR

Dec 15, '01 **EARS Annual Christmas Party**
Jan 8, '02 **EARS Board Meeting** at Konrad's
Jan 22, '02 **EARS Monthly Meeting**
Aug 16, '02 ARRL SW Div Convention in Escondido

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

December 15: EARS CHRISTMAS PARTY – See the announcement elsewhere in this issue. Bring a gift of \$5.00 value for the gift exchange. Also, there's a separate raffle with lots of prizes so you may come home a big winner! Loads of fun and comraderie. 4 to 7 p.m. See you there!

January 22: REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – EARS is back to meeting once a month. Watch for the meeting announcement in your January newsletter.

REPEATER REPORT

by Nick Uran, KK6TV

Some time ago I volunteered to assist with the installation of the new repeater controller for the EARS 146.88 repeater. What could be easier than installing a simple repeater controller? All you need to do is connect the receive audio up to the receiver, connect a PTT line to the transmitter along with transmit audio and you are good to go right? Wrong!

As I quickly learned under the watchful eye of our technical guru, Art, KC6UQH, there is a lot more to getting a repeater on the air. For starters, there is this thing called PL tones, and they are injected, filtered, and detected into and from the audio at several places throughout the repeater.

Let's also not forget about the link to the 220 machine and the control link input. Also, the new controller is CPU controlled using an 87C51 microcontroller and has around 70 different items which need to be programmed for proper operation.

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NEW OFFICERS ELECTED EARS RETURNS TO MONTHLY MEETINGS

Nominations and elections were held at the October club meeting. The new officers who were "herded up" for 2002 are:

President	Nick Uran, KK6TV
Vice President	Willie Peloquin, N8WP
Treasurer	Konrad Wallenda, N6UKO
Secretary	Art McBride, KC6UQH
Emergency Coord.	Jo Ashley, KB6NMK
Member-at-Large	John Magnone, KG6DVE
Member-at-Large	Marvin Munster, WB6PKK
Newsletter Editor	John Musselman, WB6UHF
Past President	Bill Palashewski, KD6BFR

Both outgoing and incoming officers agreed at the EARS Board of Directors meeting held November 27, 2001, to return to monthly meetings in 2002.

During 2001, the club had begun meeting every other month, but the general agreement was that this schedule did not give members enough consistency and that planning was difficult that far in advance.

Thus, commencing in January, the club will once again meet every month.

PRESIDENT'S KORNER

by Bill Palashewski, KD6BFR

Well, it was a short time spent as your President (having to succeed Jake when his work schedule forced him to resign mid-year) but I enjoyed it very much. I want to thank all the hard workers who keep the club rolling. We are all looking forward to a new year with new blood at the top. I hope you all join me in supporting the new President and Board members who make this club go.

Thanks again for your help and support. See you in the new year.

73's, Bill

REPEATER (CONT)

After spending some time tinkering with the programming, I felt I had achieved the proper configuration for operation. On Sunday, November 11, Art, KC6UQH, Konrad, N6UKO, John, KG6DVE, and myself all met at the repeater site in anticipation of installing the controller and making it work.

Well, we installed the controller and made it work, but not quite good enough. The repeater operated fine in carrier mode but the command to place it into PL receive mode did not seem to work. The second problem was the controller would not accept inputs from the control link. Since the Sunday net was to start soon we decided to return the repeater to the original configuration and to work out the controller problems with a more thorough bench check of the controller. Hopefully we will get these minor problems worked out and get the new controller on line soon.

THINGS TO CONSIDER IN AN EMERGENCY

by Larry Ruegseger, WA6UTQ
Chairman, Amateur Radio Commission
The American Legion Dept of California
Phone 760-758-5820
Email wa6utq@n2.net

1. Will I be at work, home, in between, or somewhere else when the EMERGENCY occurs?
2. Will I be able to contact my family members?
3. Is there someone outside the area I can designate as a point of contact in the event local calls are impossible but long distance works? Does that person have an up-to-date contact list for my family members and theirs? Does the list include land phones, cellular phones, pagers, e-mail accounts and backup e-mail accounts for each person?
4. Plan an evacuation route and designate several sites for family members to meet at in the event they are unable to return home.
5. If I had to leave the area immediately, without returning home first, what things would I need? Consider the following basic list of essentials:

Three days water (min one gallon / person / day)
Three days of clothing and one blanket / person
Critical medicine
Emergency gas money
First Aid Kit (with wound irrigation and bandages)
Flashlight (working with spare batteries)
Local, regional and state maps.
Pocket knife (under 3 1/2 in folding is legal)
Portable radio (working and with spare batteries)
Rope, heavy duty
Spare automobile tire in good condition
Spare glasses/ contact lenses / cleaning solution
Umbrella, raincoat and waterproof matches.

BOARD ACTIONS

by Nick Uran, KK6TV

The regular board meeting of November 27, 2001 was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Bill, KD6BFR. Board members present were Leon, N6VS, Marvin, WB6PKK, Bill, KD6BFR, Konrad, N6UKO, John, WB6UHF, Willie, N8WP, Jo, KB6NMK, and Nick, KK6TV. Also present were John, KG6DVE, (member at large elect) and Skip, KD7CBF.

1. Willie agreed to do a Christmas party invitation on a post card to be sent asap so members would know about the party. Motion by Marvin and 2nd by Willie, all agreed. Also, if Harry can provide invitations, they will be sent with the newsletter!
2. Bill stated HRO has donated four \$25.00 gift certificates for our party. It was agreed the club would also provide two \$25 cash door prizes at the party. Motion by Bill, second by Konrad, all agreed.
3. The party will be at 530 W 17th (Felicitia), 4 to 7 pm. Party information with a link to a map has been posted on the web site by Nick.
4. The Christmas parade will be December 8th. Free breakfast for all volunteers will be at 6 a.m. at Charlie's. Konrad still needs operators. Also, it was discussed that the Jaycees should solve some of their past logistical problems such as bus parking, etc. Marvin's wife will be riding in the golf cart with the Jaycee coordinator which may give EARS a direct problem solving line. The Jaycees also need 12 volunteers to carry giant balloons.
5. Nick, KK6TV, stated that the repeater controller was installed by Art, KC6UQH, Konrad, N6UKO, and himself. The controller would not go into PL mode, possibly a programming error by Nick and they also could not get the control input to work. Therefore, the controller was removed for further bench checking by Nick and verification by Art and Konrad. Nick is currently in middle of moving so the controller is on hold until his move is complete.
6. There was unanimous agreement to return to monthly meetings next year. Motion by Willie, N8WP, second by John, WB6UHF. It was decided to move the February meeting up to January. The next board meeting will be held January 8th since the 1st is holiday. Possible programs were discussed. Also discussed was possibility of a different board member being responsible for the topic/guest each month.
7. Motion by Marvin and second by John to make Harry Hodges, W6YOO Board member/club historian for next year. Unanimous approval! Congratulations, Harry!

The meeting adjourned at 8:20

-----GENERAL INFORMATION-----

CLUB BADGES - Let everyone know that you are a member of EARS and avoid having them guess what your name is. See Jo, KB6NMK for the traditional round badge and Harry, W6YOO for one of the new rectangular ones.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/CALLSIGN - Please let us know if you change your address or callsign. We want to keep our records up to date. Call Konrad, N6UKO, who is the keeper of the club roster, or visit our website at www.qsl.net/earsca.

MILITARY AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM - The US Army, the US Air Force, and the US Navy/Marine Corps Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) are looking for a few good men/women to join MARS. If you would like to get on the HF bands regardless of license, now's the time. See Harry Hodges, W6YOO/AAR9LX for details.

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) - If you were first licensed twenty-five or more years ago and that you are licensed today (it doesn't have to be continuous) you are eligible to join the QCWA. There is a local chapter in San Diego that holds quarterly meetings (brunch) and has VHF net on Wednesday evenings. The national organization conducts an annual QCWA QSO party and there is an annual convention. They are a great group so if you are interested in more details, contact Harry, W6YOO

MONTHLY ARES MEETING – The San Diego Section ARES meets on the second Saturday of each month at Coco's Family Restaurant, 5955 Balboa Ave. Come in for breakfast at 7am, with the meeting starting at 8am. The training session follows from 10 until noon, at the Kearney Mesa Rec Center.

ARRL AND ARES BULLETINS - The ARRL and ARES bulletins are posted daily on K6PD-1 packet BBS on 145.03 MHz.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS - If you need to renew your license or supply the FCC with a change of address, the form to use is NCVEC Form 605 (obtainable from Harry, W6YOO). You fill out the form; attach a Xerox copy of your license and mail to SANDARC VEC, PO Box 2446, La Mesa, CA 91943-2446. You must include your Social Security Number. There is no charge for this service.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST - EARS members meet socially the third Saturday of each month at the Westside Cafe, on West Ninth Ave. corner of Redwood St. at 8:30 a.m.

SUNDAY EVENING NET is every Sunday at 8PM local time. You can get the latest information on club activities there. Tune in to the club repeater at 146.88 MHz, negative offset and PL of 107.2, check in and say hi.

WEEKLY BREAKFAST - EARS members also meet most Friday mornings at the K & S Cafe, 622 Enterprise Street at 7:00 a.m. with conversation following at "The Bunker".

EARS REFLECTOR – is a free service which keeps members up-to-date via e-mail. Local news, gossip, "for sales" as well as reminders of all upcoming EARS functions are sent regularly to all subscribers. When you subscribe, you may also broadcast messages to all the other subscribers.

To get on the reflector, go to the EARS website at <http://www.qsl.net/earsca> and click on the Yahoo Groups banner at the bottom of the main page. Or, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/earsca> and follow the directions. If, you have any questions, suggestions or comments, email Nick, kk6tv@arrl.net.

AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES - If you or someone you know is interested in taking an Amateur Radio class for getting a license or upgrading, call Larry, WA6UTQ, at 760-758-5820. Classes are held at the Vista Blind Center.

EARS WEB PAGE - EARS is on the Internet. You can read about upcoming activities, get links to other ham radio sites, or update your call and address information. The information is updated regularly. Check it out at www.qsl.net/earsca.

ARRL LETTER - The ARRL Letter, a weekly e-mailing of amateur radio related news, is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe for e-mail delivery, ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site, www.arrl.org/members. The ARRL Letter is also available to all, free of charge, at www.arrl.org/arrlletter, where it is posted each Friday after it is distributed via e-mail.