

ALL EARS

146.880 - PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society

February 2002

UPCOMING MEETINGS

EARS meets at the Escondido Chamber of Commerce building, 720 N Broadway, at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Come early and chat! And remember to bring canned food items, etc., for donation to the North County Food Bank.

FEBRUARY 26

HI-Q ANTENNAS / SHOW AND TELL

Charlie Gyenes, VE7BOC/W6 (HA5CMG), of Hi-Q Antennas, will present his company's new and improved "Stealth II" Series HF Mobile antennas. These antennas are the latest, 6th generation design by Charlie and feature remotely tunable center loaded coils.

You can check out Charlie's products before the meeting at www.hiqantennas.com and bring any questions you may have.

We will combine the previously scheduled show and tell / home brew night with Charlie's presentation. Bring your latest project or ham radio goodie and share it with us! If you have something too big to bring, share some photos!

MARCH 26

IRLP

Learn about the hottest new mode in amateur radio. IRLP, the Internet Radio Linking Project, links repeaters all over the world via the internet. Now you can talk to DX as if they were locals. Our planned guest speaker will appear from the United Kingdom via the IRLP network! This looks to be one of the most interesting programs we've had in some time.

APRIL 23

ANNUAL EARS AUCTION

Clean off your workbench and get rid of that boat anchor. Or put a new treasure on your workbench. This is a popular event!

EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 26	EARS Monthly Meeting
Feb 28	SANDARC Meeting
Mar 2	ARRL DX Contest, SSB
Mar 5	EARS Board Meeting
Mar 9	ARES/RACES Training
Mar 16	BARTG Spring RTTY Contest
Mar 16	EARS Monthly Breakfast
Mar 26	EARS Monthly Meeting
Mar 28	SANDARC Meeting
Mar 30	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB
Mar 30	VE Testing Session
May 19	Escondido Street Faire (see below)
Apr 26-28	Int'l DX Convention in Visalia
Jun 21-23	ARRL Field Day (see below)
Aug 16-18	ARRL SW Div Convention (see below)

EVENTS OF NOTE

May 19 – Escondido Street Faire. This is a fun community support event. Needed are about 20 operators with HTs to work 9-1 or 1-5 shifts. Konrad, N6UKO is event coordinator.

June 21-23 – ARRL Field Day at Dixon Lake. Set up on Friday, operate Saturday morning until Sunday morning. The aim is to show the community that we can communicate in times of emergency. Willie, N8WP, is the event coordinator.

Aug 16-18 – ARRL Southwestern Division Convention. To be held at the California Center for the Arts (CCA). This is a must attend event. Technical sessions, vendors, prizes, banquet and DX breakfast, and more!

NOTICES

The March 5 Board meeting will be held at the home of Marvin Munster, WB6PKK.

There will be no VE session this month. VE sessions are normally held on the last Saturday of the month. Regular VE testing will resume in March.

PRESIDENT'S KORNER

by Nick, KK6TV

Like it or not, I think most hams help with public service at one time or another. The ARRL has been repeating to our lawmakers the fact that we offer a great service, and I think it is reiterated by the fact President Bush recently checked into a Florida ARES net.

Not only do we offer vast and varied resources, we come at a cost of nothing. When I first became a ham, emergency services were something I never really thought of. These are just things that come with the territory.

Yet, as I watched the smoke from the recent Fallbrook fire from my living room window, I wondered how ready we really are. Sure, I have charged battery packs, multimode capability, multifrequency capability, and portable antennas. But what do I know about damage assessment or disaster services? How useful would I be interacting with government agencies? If I was needed, would I really know what to do?

The first step is to join and register your equipment with ARES. They need to know what equipment is available in an emergency situation. Second, attend the American Red Cross training classes "Introduction to Disaster Services" and "Damage Assessment". These classes both last about four hours. Finally, improve your operating skills by assisting with public events such as the Street Faire, Christmas Parade, Grape Day Parade, and Field Day.

For more info on ARES or RACES, see Jo, KB6NMK, or check out the San Diego ARES web site at www.qsl.net/sdgarrrl.

Speaking of disaster services, I would like to thank everyone who "came through" and made our last meeting a success. Jo, KB6NMK, who redirected traffic in the cold over to Casa Escondida after our meeting location was given to someone else. Bill, KD6BFR, who always is able to accommodate us when these situations arise. And Willie, N8WP, with the assistance of Skip, KD7CBF, who provided a movie on the DXPedition to Clipperton Island after our guest speaker had car trouble and had to cancel at the last minute. We had an excellent turn out with over 25 members and guests present. Charlie of Hi-Q Antennas promises to be here for our next meeting. We are also going to feature the show and tell and home brew night, so bring in your latest project, that new rig or anything you think we may be interested in. See you at the next meeting.

73,
Nick, kk6tv@arrl.net

REMOTE CONTROL RADIO

by John, WB6UHF

It's 4:00 p.m. and I just finished listening to 40 meters. I heard a number of DJs, LAs, Is, Fs, OKs and so on. But I was especially interested in the pileup on YU8/9X0A and all the euros working him. 40 was packed and the Europeans were blasting in everywhere I tuned at the low end of the band. At 4:00 in the afternoon!

How did I get such good reception? Easy. I used a receiver located in Sweden. Welcome to Javaradio.

This system, designed by Kelly Lindman, SM7NHC, is one of the latest applications bringing real-time audio to the internet. In this case, the audio is the output from a general coverage receiver located in Stockholm and tuned by guest operators from around the world. As I was the only one logged in at the time (12 p.m. in Stockholm), I had full reign over the radio and was able to "tune" the bottom end of 40. The reception from Kelly's discone antenna was great and the audio sounded just like I was there.

The heart of the system is an Icom IC-1000. This general coverage receiver allows you to listen to local broadcast stations (AM and FM), shortwave, aircraft, ham radio, you name it. To tune the radio, though, you use a virtual front panel designed by Kelly and which appears via your web browser. The audio comes out of your PC's speakers. Since more than one person can be logged onto the site at a time, there can be more than one operator. Conflicts are avoided by a chat window for all the users to decide whose turn it is.

So, how do you get on Javaradio? Start by pointing your web browser to javaradio.com. There you'll find a list of a number of sites around the world where individuals have installed "Javaradios". For some, such as the ones run by Kelly, you will need to pass a test before access is granted. Others, though, are open access. Just be careful to observe proper "netiquette". Each radio has a chat area and a list of users logged in. Remember that someone else may be using the radio. Watch first and ask before changing any settings. The drop down list of preprogrammed stations is a good starting point. You can also "tune" the radio but it takes some getting used to, especially with the maddening five to ten second delay before anything you do actually happens on the radio.

Javaradios are currently located in Sweden, the UK, the U.S., and Australia. It was fascinating for me to hear what the bands sound like from the other side of the "pond". My only regret was not being able to answer some of the CQs, but maybe in the future...

TRIVIA NET

information provided by John, KG6DVE

Every other Sunday, before the regular club net, a new Trivia Net is taking place. Organized and run by trivia master Curt, KF6VHA, the net is open to all interested persons.

Whether you are a trivia neophyte, trivia hack or trivia grandmaster, be sure to check it out. The Trivia Net will meet this Sunday, February 23, at 7 p.m.

Trivia trolls are forewarned, computers and internet searches are not allowed! Further information will be presented in ALL EARS as it becomes available.

FOOD DRIVE

information provided by John, KG6DVE

An ongoing program has begun to help the North County Food Bank. All EARS members are asked to donate any non-perishable food or personal care items (toothbrushes, blankets, etc.) at the monthly EARS meetings.

The food drive is being organized by Curt, KF6VHA, and benefits an organization which provides a helping hand to those truly in need.

Again, more information appear here as it becomes available.

ALL EARS

The official bulletin of the Escondido ARS

An e-mail subscription to All Ears is FREE! You don't need to be a member. Just drop a note to:

John Musselman, WB6UHF, Editor
wb6uhf@arrl.net

Permission is given to copy any article contained in All Ears when not otherwise copyrighted and provided proper credit is given.

The deadline to submit material for the March bulletin is Tuesday, March 12.

SANDARC NEWS

by Nick, KK6TV

As most of you know, Willie, N8WP, Konrad, N6UKO, and myself are the new EARS delegates to SANDARC. SANDARC is the San Diego County Amateur Radio Council. Willie and I attended the first 2002 meeting. Among the items discussed:

1. ARES is desperate for people. ARES is trying to staff every hospital in the county with two hams during an emergency or disaster. If you would like more info on ARES, check with Jo Ashley, the EARS Emergency Services Coordinator.

2. The 2002 SW Division Convention (in Escondido) still needs a Credentials and Transportation Chairperson. Registration forms are available on their web site, www.sdc2002.hamcon.net. There is also a link on the Ears Web page.

3. ARRL can save \$100,000.00 by moving the section news and contest line scores (except Field Day) from QST to the ARRL Members Only website. We will take a poll on your opinion and forward results to Tuck at next EARS meeting.

4. SANDARC needs a chairman/coordinator for the Del Mar Fair ham booth from 15 June to 7 July, to be available during the entire fair period. EARS will also be responsible for a few days(?) of volunteers on weekdays. The fair theme has something to do with Elvis and Rock and Roll. So grab your HT and those blue suede shoes! Spend a day at the fair!

5. Special Olympics needs volunteers with an HT and/or packet capability, April 13-14. Contact Kazuo Tagami WA6BCC, wa6bcc-1@juno.com or 858-453-1829.

The Escondido Amateur Radio Society

A non-profit organization of social and educational benefit to Amateur Radio operators and those interested in Amateur Radio in the Escondido area.

Contacts:

Nick Uran, KK6TV, Pres., 743-6572, kk6tv@arrl.net
Harry Hodges, W6YOO, 743-4212

Club dues are \$13.00 per year. Come join the fun!

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

EARS REFLECTOR – is a free service that 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> and follow the directions. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, email Nick, kk6tv@arrl.net.

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

SUNDAY EVENING NET is every Sunday at 8 p.m. 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”.

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 Recreation 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.

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.

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.

Escondido Amateur Radio Society
Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name _____

Call _____ Class _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone No _____ Date of Birth _____

E-mail Address _____

Date Licensed _____ Expires _____

Member of the following organizations?

ARES _____ ARRL _____

EVAC _____ MARS _____

Red Flag _____

Interests _____

Other _____

Membership Rates

One year \$13.00

Family membership \$3.00

Lifetime membership \$130.00

Lifetime membership (family) \$20.00

Mail this form with payment to EARS, PO Box 3243, Escondido, CA 92033, or give to the treasurer or any other club officer at a regular club meeting.

Membership is from January 1 to December 31. After July 1, membership to the end of the year is ½ the annual fee. Special rates apply for family membership for each additional licensed amateur radio operator in your immediate family and for lifetime membership.

For membership confirmation and auto-patch codes, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with this form.

ESCONDIDO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 3243
ESCONDIDO, CA 92033

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE