

ALL EARS

146.880 - PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society

March 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 each month. Come early and chat! And remember to bring canned food items, etc., for donation to the North County Food Bank.

MARCH 26 I-LINK

Learn about the hottest new mode in amateur radio. I-Link connects repeaters all over the world via the internet. Now you can talk to DX as if they were locals. This live demonstration will include contacts from all over the country and possibly the world using only an HT! Learn how any ham can link into this exciting new mode with only a PC. Also, we will discuss IRLP, the Internet Radio Linking Project, a rival system. These modes are breathing new life into VHF/UHF - you don't want to miss this one!

APRIL 23 ANNUAL EARS AUCTION

Once again hams from all over North County and beyond will gather to bid for the treasures that most catch their eye at our annual auction. Art, KC6UQH, will once again serve as auctioneer. Anyone is invited to sell or buy- but come early as this is arguably our most popular meeting of the year.

MAY 28 APRS

A presentation by Willie, N8WP, of the Automatic Position Reporting System, or APRS. This technology connects GPS to ham radio.

Also, at this meeting will be a final presentation of Field Day plans and a demonstration of how to use the CT logging program for Field Day logging and for other contests.

EVENT CALENDAR

Mar 16	BARTG Spring RTTY Contest
Mar 16	EARS Monthly Breakfast
Mar 26	EARS Monthly Meeting - I-Link
Mar 28	SANDARC Meeting
Mar 30	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB
Mar 30	VE Testing Session
Apr 2	EARS Board Meeting
Apr 8	Deadline for April All Ears
Apr 13	ARES Breakfast Meeting
Apr 20	EARS Monthly Breakfast
Apr 23	EARS Monthly Meeting - Auction
Apr 26-28	Int'l DX Convention in Visalia
Apr 27	VE Testing Session
May 19	Escondido Street Faire (see below)
Jun 21-23	ARRL Field Day (see below)
Aug 16-18	ARRL SW Div Convention (see below)

UPCOMING 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 April 1 Board meeting will be held at the home of Harry Hodges, W6YOO.

PRESIDENT'S KORNER

by Nick, KK6TV

If you are a ham and a member of EARS, you can't be bored! There is so much going on. If you have not been involved, now is the time to start. But if you get involved, plan on having fun.

Willie has been working hard on Field Day planning. Expect a series of planning meetings and equipment check out sessions soon. It looks like we have a lot of interested volunteers. We plan on adding a Get On The Air (GOTA) station this year. So, if you just want to try Field Day and just Get On the Air, this could be for you. We are also accepting donations to help defray the cost of the group campsite at Dixon Lake. With a little planning, this year's Field Day could be one of the best ever!

Willie has an excellent presentation planned on I-Link for our March meeting. If you have not checked out I-Link or IRLP, I encourage you to do so. Simple software for I-Link can be downloaded off the internet. With it, you can easily work the world from your computer. An I-Link interface card kit which allows you to work the world with your HT or through your computer can be purchased for about 40 bucks. For more info, check out the links on the EARS web site.

SANDARC continues to need volunteers for the ARRL SW Division Convention in Escondido in August. If you would like to volunteer, make sure you let one of your EARS SANDARC delegates know. They are Nick, KK6TV, Willie, N8WP and Konrad, N6UKO.

EARS will also be providing operators for the SANDARC booth at the Del Mar Fair for a couple of days. Spend some time at the fair talking up ham radio and get free admission to boot.

John, WB6UHF, continues to do a really excellent job with the newsletter. He has started producing an electronic PDF version of the newsletter. Quite a few members have elected to receive the PDF version via e-mail instead of the printed version. The PDF version costs the club almost nothing while it is costing us almost a buck an issue for the printed version. As you can see, YOU can save the club lots of money by electing to receive the PDF version. The last thing in the world the board wishes to do is raise membership fees.

73 all, and see you at the next meeting, breakfast, net or ?

Nick, kk6tv@arrrl.net



At the February meeting, Charlie, VE7BOC/W6 (HA5CMG), of Hi-Q Antennas, presented his company's new and improved "Stealth II" Series HF Mobile antennas, right down to the nuts and bolts. (Photo courtesy PeterShintani, VE7CQA).

ARRL SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION CONVENTION

What's coming up at the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in August? Maybe you didn't hear yet, but check it out:

- The Banquet speaker will be Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. Mr. Hollingsworth is the FCC official who has almost singlehandedly revived FCC enforcement of Amateur Radio rules, especially regarding on-air misconduct.
- You will also be able to meet many of the top ARRL brass. Of course, all the local division and section leaders will be on hand. In addition, ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, will be in attendance and speaking.
- There's plenty of "stuff-to-do", too. Exhibits from ham radio vendors, technical forums, T-hunt, flea market, you name it.

And did you know?

There's a separate Ladies Luncheon for XYs, ham or not, and kids can enter for free when accompanied by an adult. So, it's a real family affair.

All this will take place here in Escondido at the Center for the Arts, August 16 through 18.

Get more information and register on-line at sd2002.hamcon.net.

“SONOFABITCH”

author unknown

I was sitting at my desk when I remembered a phone call I had to make. I found the number and dialed it. An ill-humored individual answered saying “Hello?”. “Hello, this is Alfonso. Can I please speak with Andrea?” I asked pleasantly.

Suddenly, I sensed that he had hung up on me. I couldn’t believe that there could be anyone so rude. After that, I looked for Andrea’s number in my telephone directory in case I had dialed wrong. It turned out that the error was that she had transposed the last two digits of her number. After talking with Andrea I noticed the erroneous number still on my desk. I decided to call the “lowlife” again. When the same person picked up his phone, before he could speak I told him “You sonofabitch” and I hung up rapidly. I immediately wrote the word “Sonofabitch” next to his phone number and placed it in my telephone book.

Every couple of weeks, when I was paying bills or having a bad day, I would call him, he would answer and I would tell him “You sonofabitch”. This served as anti-stress therapy and made me feel much better.

A few months later, the telephone company introduced Caller ID service, which disappointed me because I had to stop calling “Sonfoabitch”. Then, one day I had an idea: I called his number, heard his voice saying “Hello?” and I changed identity: “Hello, I’m calling from the telephone company to see if you had heard about our new Caller ID service.” “No!” and he hung up as usual. Quickly I called him again and said “That’s because you’re a sonofabitch”.

The reason I tell you this story is to demonstrate that if something is really bothering you, you can always do something about it. Just dial 555-4863...

(to be continued)

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., 749-8734, kk6tv@arrl.net
Harry Hodges, W6YOO, 743-4212

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

EARS TO BE ON JERRY SPRINGER

by Nick, KK6TV

An upcoming Jerry Springer show is going to air a segment entitled “I was a bored housewife but Amateur Radio made an animal out of me!” The show will feature our own 146.88 repeater with several prerecorded clips of our Sunday night net which was recently linked to the Jerry Springer show via satellite. Also featured will be some of our more racy commuter net conversations. I would like to remind all of our repeater users that FCC regulations do allow rebroadcast of our on-air conversations by the media. In case you missed it on the air, make sure you catch all the action on the Jerry Springer show on April First.

DX TIP

from Tom, N4KG, in North ALA

This is the season to work that difficult polar path DX on the high bands:

Spring Equinox = Polar Path Propagation Peak

During the past two years, N4KG has worked literally hundreds of Asians (non-JA) in CQ Zones 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 on each of the high bands, i.e. 10, 12, 15, and 17M, short path, from early March through mid April. Openings begin around local sunrise and sunset, lasting for 2 to 3 hours.

20M and 30M propagation is typically short path in the evenings and may be either short path or long path in the mornings for different locations.

ENJOY !!!

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 April bulletin is Tuesday, April 8.

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.

MARCH BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Art, KC6UQH

1. A letter written by Art, KC6UQH, to the Escondido Chamber of Commerce confirming our meeting dates was approved.

2. Jo, KB6NMK, reported the Baker to Las Vegas race is coming up. Jo has samples of our old brochure and needs updates on the web site and other Club activities to complete a new brochure.

3. Konrad, N6UKO, reported the treasury as \$938.80 in checking and \$1321.68 in savings. We have 52 regular and 12 Life Members.

4. Konrad reported that he talked with Ed Gallo about the fee at Lake Dixon. Ed said that he could do nothing about the fee but might be able to to provide us a donation of \$500.00. The board agreed to have the Secretary write a letter outlining the Club needs and deeds to the Escondido Community in hopes of receiving a donation.

5. John, KG6DVE, reported 9 checkins to the net last week. The Board congratulated him on a good job running the net, and hope that more members will participate.

6. John, WB6UHF, reported he is asking the deadline for submissions to our newsletter be changed to one week after the Board Meeting so

that copies can be passed out at the Saturday breakfast. The Board Minutes were discussed and it was agreed to include them in the newsletter rather than read them at the General Meeting.

7. Willie, N8WP, reported he is planning to run 3A for Field Day. Willie to set up committee to decide various issues. Currently Willie has 3 band captains: Nick, KK6TV, Gene, K6EEB, and John, WB6UHF. John, WB6UHF, suggested that we have a program for the May General Meeting instead of Field Day planning. Art, KC6UQH, suggested a program on CT, our Field Day logging program to prepare us for Field Day and expose the membership to a logging program for all types of contesting.

8. Willie, N8WP, reported that SANDARC is unhappy with our Club's support of the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in Escondido this summer. Willie asked us to push attendance / sell pre-registration. Willie also reported that ROARS is looking for a site for an APRS repeater. Harry announced that they are looking for 50 minute presentations on Amateur Radio related topics to be delivered at the Convention. Those interested should contact Harry.

9. John, KG6DVE, reported that 40 lbs of food was collected at the last General Meeting. Curt, KF6VHA, turned it over to the Food Bank.

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 it 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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.

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

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HAM RADIO OUTLET

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