

ALL EARS

146.880 - PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

May 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.

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 N1MM logging program for Field Day and for other contests.

JUNE 25
FIELD DAY WIND UP & DX VIDEO

A review of our Field prowess (we hope!). If you attended Field Day, you'll relive the action and find out who went home with that special wrench of yours. If you didn't go, you'll get the "fish story" first hand from those who were there.

Also, a video of the East Timor DXpedition will be shown. Field Day of a different sort, if you will.

JULY 23
AO-40

Art, KC6UQH, reminds everyone that the July meeting will be held at 1 a.m. so that we can see the nearest pass of AO-40. Actually, the stars are not aligned for our previously scheduled meeting, so stay tuned for the July program!

Bits 'n Pieces

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, at the home of John, KG6DVE...

EVENT CALENDAR

May 18	EARS Monthly Breakfast
May 19	Escondido Street Faire (see below)
May 28	EARS Monthly Meeting - APRS
Jun 15	EARS Monthly Breakfast
Jun 21-23	ARRL Field Day (see below)
Jun 25	EARS Monthly Meeting - FD Review
Aug 16-18	ARRL SW Div Convention (see below)
Aug 24	EARS Summer Picnic (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!

Aug 24 – EARS Summer Picnic. In lieu of our August meeting, we will have a picnic lunch at Felicita Park. Families invited, of course.

Bits 'n Pieces

EARS now has 78 members. Almost half of them receive the bulletin via e-mail, saving the club about \$300 per year! If you are not getting All EARS via e-mail, sign up today! Just e-mail the editor at wb6uhf@arrl.net

PRESIDENT'S KORNER

by Nick, KK6TV

When I was first liscensed, around 13 years ago, I immediately developed a deep respect for the people who conduct the VE sessions and all of the time and effort they put into testing just so I could get my Ham ticket. At that time, they did it all for free. Of course, in the olden days you had to go to the FCC office to take the test. If it was that way today, it would probably cost you around a \$150.00 fee to take your Tech test at an FCC office, it would probably take you all day and you would have to schedule it 6 months in advance.

My point is that all of us who have been tested through a Volunteer Examiner team should take the time to thank them for a job well done. Without all the time and effort they put into testing new and existing hams, there would be no new Hams. So, next time you see a volunteer examiner, thank them for the excellent job they are doing. Our Escondido VE team, which operates under SANDARC, consists of W6YOO, Harry A. Hodges, team leader, KB6NMK, Jo Ashley, administrative assistant, and the following examiners: W6JAC, Jerry Carter, N6FU, Jim Carmichael, KA6DUH, Dennis Peck, N6NNI, Mark Schlesinger, KO6BU, Georger Roos, K7YMG, Tom Stanford, KF6QGR, Marlene Scott, N8WP, Willie Peloquin, AD6ZJ, Loren Hunt, AD6LP, Jim Mastro, W6GDK, Larry Kent, KF6PRZ David Pais, KD6TB, Mark Sherbert, AC6JG, Bob Faulkner, N6TRF, Ted Medin, NB6R, Dick Beym, N6VMY, Merrill Hunt, and W6NYC, Dennis Stahr. All of the above examiners have assisited it the past with the Escondido Test sessions.

By now you all have had time to play with all the goodies you bought at the EARS Auction. This year's auction was a tremendous success, netting the club over \$279. I managed to pick up a Cushcraft Bumper mount for 5 bucks, something I almost bought new last week for much more than 5 bucks. I am not sure why but I also purchased 2 small equipment racks. Maybe its my subconscious mind telling me to build something to put in the racks.

Field Day is almost here. I have been rebuilding a Mosely Classic 33 tribander (10/15/20 meters), testing equipment, learning the logging program and taking inventory for field day. John, WB6UHF, Gene, W6EEB, Willie, N8WP and myself are in the process of setting up operating schedules. Maybe you are new to Field Day and just want to get your feet wet this year. Last year that was my plan, just get my feet wet. You can help us set up, we will be erecting two towers on Friday afternoon, help us take down and clean up on Sunday, that is the really

painful part. Sit in for a few hours and just log on the computer, let the operator concentrate on the contacts while you log, and learn the ropes. Operate the GOTA station. Sometimes it is very easy to overlook people who want to help out or operate. Please, if for some reason we missed you and you want to help out, come on up, let one of us know what you want to do an we WILL put you to work, 3 a.m. Sunday morning or ???!!!! Give us a call on 146.88 for talk-in. We plan on using the N1MM logging program. You can download it for free from the N1MM logger page at yahoo groups or, if you would like a copy, see me.

At our next meeting, while the program is on APRS and Field Day, we also expect to have some representatives from the ARRL SW Division Convention planning committee who will give a brief talk on the Convention and what needs to be done. I have been attending some of the meetings and am hoping EARS members all plan on helping out at this great event. If you volunteer, you will get access to the convention for free. I have assumed responsiblity as Exhibitor Services Chairman on behalf of EARS for the Convention. I will need your help. Also, EARS will have its own booth at the registration area of the convention. We will also need operators to monitor the talk-in frequency on the EARS repeater, the Ramona Outback Amateur Radio Society will be operating the Special Event Station and coordinating the talk-in frequency. If EARS can help out with just these three items it will be a great help.

I also still need a few volunteers for the Del Mar Fair on the 19th and 20th of June, so if you're interested, let me know. And stay tuned for info on the August 24th EARS family picnic at Felicita Park.

73,
Nick, kk6tv@arrrl.net

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@arrrl.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 June bulletin is Tuesday, June 11.

REFLECTIONS ON THE VISALIA DX CONVENTION

by Harry, W6YOO

Each spring for over a half-century the city of Visalia has witnessed the sight of hundreds of automobiles, motor homes, and motorcycles, all bristling with antennae, filling the parking of the Holiday Inn off Highway 99. The drivers and passengers disembark wearing strange jackets and hats festooned with patches and pins and speaking in tongues faintly resembling the English language. These folks are part of the international Amateur Radio fraternity of enthusiasts known as DXers. Their passion is making contacts with others in far off lands, exchanging QSL cards, to earn awards such as DXCC and being elevated to the "Honor Roll". What has brought them to this spot this year is the 53d Annual International DX Convention.

Six members of EARS drove north out of Escondido early on the morning of April 26, headed for Visalia. Sharing one vehicle were W6YOO, W6JAC, N6VS, and KA6PEG,, while following close behind were N8WP and KG6KTT. The drive is some five to six hours depending on speed and length of rest stops. Arriving at the Holiday Inn you find that the hotel had undergone considerable renovation since last year. Lines of folks in patch-covered jackets and pin-adorned hats formed for hotel registration, for registration for the convention, for the purchase of raffle tickets, for seating at the Saturday banquet, and, of course, to get in to the hall to see the vendor displays.

There was a long list of events planned for each of the three days. A golf tournament for Friday morning, attitude adjustment hour for early evening, followed by dinners in various venues for Contesters, Top-Banders, IOTA Chasers, and First Class CW Operators. Saturday morning starts with forums, technical presentations, DXpedition videos and slide shows, a local cultural tour for the ladies, QSL card checking, a meeting of the ARRL Division Directors, Vice Directors, and Section Managers, a contest forum and, of course, hourly prize drawings. During the day the hall is open and filled with vendor displays. New gee-whiz-bangs from Yaesu, Kenwood, and Icom, Force 12, and a whole host of others are there to tempt the weak. It's like being the proverbial kid in a candy store. The evening features a cocktail hour followed by a banquet for almost six hundred folks. At the banquet, you find the Master of Ceremonies is a well-known radio personality who introduces the ARRL President, DXer of the Year, and other notables. The banquet highlight is a video/slide presentation of the DXpedition of the Year. And the prizes, the prizes –

registration prize, banquet prize, and others – all worth hundreds of dollars and everyone is hoping that their raffle ticket will be pulled from the drum. Sunday begins with a breakfast buffet followed by more DXpedition presentations and the finals of a trivia game called "Who Wants To Be A DX Millionaire?" The morning winds up with the final prize drawings and the big prize this year was a Yaesu FT-1000MP with all the whistles and bells.

This madness all came to a close at noon on Sunday and the crowd dispersed to await next year's convention to be held in Visalia. The dates are May 2-4, 2003. The day for requesting hotel reservations is June 11, 2002. And yes, several of us won a prize or two.

73, Harry, W6YOO

FOR SALE

Kenwood Transceiver TS520
Heathkit Phone Patch
A Digital Frequency Display
Drake Low Pass Filter

My daughter has asked me to try to sell her radio equipment. It is old stuff, but someone might be interested. We also have a tower with a rotor and a 3-element beam. I think the rotor is in the garage, but the rest of it is lying outside on the ground, not in top condition as you can imagine. I would give it to anyone who would come and carry it off for us. I also have 15 issues of QST that I haven't put in recycling yet, 1999 and 2000.

I am N6CNO, Janice Kramar, telephone 760-735-6347. (I'll be leaving May 17 for a three week trip to the Midwest.) My daughter's call is presently living in Cusco, Peru, so I am handling this for her.

The Escondido Amateur Radio Society

is 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!

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, callsign, telephone, license class, etc. We want to keep our records up to date. Contact Marvin, WB6PKK, the keeper of the club database, or any club officer.

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.

MAY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Art, KC6UQH

1. Willy, N8WP, reported on the City Council Meeting. Our request for a \$500.00 donation was approved and we will also have a standing reservation to the Dixon Lake Field Day site.

2. The club will sell its two broken H.F. radios on E-Bay.

3. Nick, KK6TV, reported that SANDARC hasn't contacted him since he suggested conducting an ARRL VE session at the Convention. ROARS has asked to use our 146.880 repeater for talk in to the convention.

4. John, KG6DVE, reported that there was only a small amount of food collected at the last meeting.

5. John, KG6DVE, reported a good net. The nets have been lasting about 25 minutes.

6. John, WB6UHF, reported the newsletter went out as planned. We currently have 78 members. Marvin, WB6PKK, agreed to keep the official database for the club.

7. Willie, N8WP, will be hosting the next meeting for Field Day. The Fallbrook ARS has lost their Field Day site and may want to operate with us.

8. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported 62 items were offered for bid at the auction. There were 10 no bid items with 12 items donated to the Club. Total sales were \$665.50, with \$389.90 paid to sellers and \$279.60 went into the EARS treasury.

9. Konrad, N6UKO, reported on our treasury. Checking account \$1066.70. Savings account \$1323.31

10. A Club Picnic will be held in place of the August meeting on Saturday August 24, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Felicita Park. Marvin, WB6PKK, agreed to check with the Park Ranger about reserving an area.

11. Nick, KK6TV, reported that he now has the club gavel back.

Escondido Amateur Radio Society Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name _____

Call _____ Class _____

Address _____

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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 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.

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