

# ALL EARS

146.880 - PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

February 2003

## 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!

### **FEBRUARY 25 ANTENNAS 101**

What is better, a quad or a yagi? Coax or open-line feed? Learn the basics of Amateur Radio antennas from Willie, N8WP. Willie will cover basic antenna theory, types of antennas, SWR and more.

### **MARCH 25 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS / DX-LITE PART II**

Skip, KD7CBF will be giving a presentation on disaster preparedness.

Also, we will be showing Part II of the VP8GEO South Georgia Island, 2002, "Micro-Lite" DXpedition, written and filmed by James Brooks, 9V1YC. In Part II, the team fires up the stations once again, this time from the beautiful Antarctic paradise of South Georgia.

From Cook to Shackleton, discover the fascinating history and wildlife of the Antarctic's most beautiful and most exploited island. Get behind the pileups once again and uncover all the secrets of "Micro-Lite" DXpeditioning!

### **APRIL 22 ANNUAL EARS AUCTION**

One of our favorite events of the year. Attention all sailors, zoo trainers and junk dealers! Buy and sell boat anchors, white elephants and other quality merchandise. No item too old or too cheap to catch our attention. Plan on coming early.

## EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 22	VE Testing
Feb 25	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Mar 4	Board Meeting at Sam's, N6SD, 7 p.m.
Mar 11	Deadline for March Bulletin
Mar 15	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Mar 25	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Mar 29	VE Testing
Apr 1	EARS Board Meeting
Apr 15	Deadline for April Bulletin
Apr 22	EARS Yearly Auction 7:30 p.m.
Apr 26	VE Testing

## ALL EARS

The official bulletin of the  
Escondido Amateur Radio Society

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 February bulletin is Tuesday, March 11.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Challenger Special Event Photos - p. 4**

**FCC Insider Explains  
License Renewal - p. 5**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

by Willie, N8WP

EARS is a voting member of SANDARC, the San Diego Amateur Radio Council. We are allowed two delegates and two alternates to participate in their monthly meetings. SANDARC is an organization designed to unite all the Amateur Radio clubs in the San Diego ARRL section. As a large group we have a much greater ability to promote Amateur Radio. SANDARC only costs us time to be involved, but it provides us with a wealth of resources. SANDARC is the controlling agency behind the VE sessions held in the San Diego area. This includes the testing session that occurs at the end of every month in Escondido. SANDARC was also the guiding and financial force for the ARRL Southwest Division Convention held in the San Diego area. During 2002, the ARRL Convention was held in our town. Once a month the delegates from all the San Diego area Amateur Radio clubs meet to discuss what is going on in their world. We discuss issues that are relevant to the entire section and we share ideas. This meeting keeps our delegates informed of training classes, special events and local issues.

During January's meeting, we discussed changing the SANDARC constitution to allow their board of directors to have a \$300 spending cap. Any amount in excess of \$300 will need to be approved by the club delegates. I will bring this up at the next EARS General Meeting and vote according to our group's consensus. A second issue discussed was to have SANDARC allocate \$300 for the ARES cell phone. This cell phone is held by an ARES duty officer and is the main point of contact in case of a local emergency. The ARES duty officer is assigned on a monthly basis. The El Cajon club has provided the funds for this cell phone until this year. They chose to stop providing this funding and SANDARC will provide funding with our approval. The San Diego ARRL section will be hosting a convention September of 2006. A chairman is needed to spearhead this effort. Would we like to be more involved with the 2006 convention? Do we want it in Escondido again?

Aside from the business conducted by SANDARC, I learned of the activities sponsored by our neighboring organizations. There will be technician classes held in Ramona, Corona and El Cajon coming up in the near future. There is a new 6-meter repeater available on 53.58 MHz that reaches into the LA area. ROARS is sponsoring an APRS weather station. ROARS also holds a yearly campout. Is this an activity that we could do at EARS?

EARS will be represented at SANDARC. I will be reporting on the activities and business conducted in the county on a monthly basis. Please be certain to let me know what your thoughts are. What activities interest you? What can YOUR club do for you? What can you do for YOUR club?

73,

Willie, N8WP

### EARS Club Officers for 2003

#### President

Willie Peloquin, N8WP, 858-663-0525  
n8wp@arrrl.net

#### Vice President

Skip Smith, KD7CBF, 443-6063  
smittyway@yahoo.com

#### Secretary

Sam Bradsher, N6SD, 747-9096  
n6sd@arrrl.net

#### Treasurer

Konrad Wallenda, N6UKO, 743-8826  
n6uko@aol.com

#### Emergency Services Coordinator

\*Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, 741-2560  
kb6nmk@amsat.org

#### Newsletter Editor

\*John Musselman, WB6UHF, 747-5303  
wb6uhf@arrrl.net

#### Officers at Large\*

All Officers with an asterisk (\*) plus:  
\*Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, 743-5839  
darcpa@att.net

#### Past President

Nick Uran, KK6TV, 749-8734  
kk6tv@arrrl.net

#### Historian

\*Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 743-4212  
w6yoo@amsat.org

#### Membership

\*John Magnone, KG6DVE, 745-6819  
kg6dve@amsat.org

#### Property Manager

\*Marvin Munster, WB6PKK, 747-2223  
wb6pkk@amsat.org

## SATERN NETS

by Larry, WA6UTQ

SATERN is the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network. The below nets are known to be working as of November 22, 2002. Most equipment, radios and antennas are the property of the Amateur Radio operator furnishing their expertise to the Salvation Army's Disaster Response. Very few SATERN locations have radio equipment. However, some do have pre-installed antennas which should be made use of as much as possible as they are usually high on the roof.

### Weekly Nets:

Sierra del Mar Division, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino and Imperial counties. 145.320 minus offset, PL 107.2. Net control Paul Cook, the Sierra Del Mar Division Co-Ordinator / N6RPF, held every Thursday evening at 8:30 p.m. local.

Riverside and San Bernardino Nets. 146.985 minus offset, PL 146.2. This net has rotating net controls

and has many members who check in. This is the Keller Peak repeater at around 8000 feet elevation. It covers a very wide area of Southern California. Every effort should be made for a San Diego County station to check in every Sunday at 8:00 p.m. local. This repeater is quite easy to break in San Diego County because of its high elevation.

HF Net, Monday thru Saturday is 14.265khz on 20 meters. Checkins may start as early as 6:30 a.m. local. Please indicate "short time" if you are not able to stay on the net until closing at 7:30 a.m.

The goal of SATERN is to provide a pool of trained Amateur Radio Operators during times of disaster to the Salvation Army Disaster Response. Usually, training is offered around once a year and the nets should be monitored for the dates.

For questions, please call (760) 758-5820 and leave your name, phone number and SATERN interest within 30 seconds on the answering machine. I will attempt to answer your call as soon as possible. The Salvation Army is very appreciative of all efforts made by the Ham Community.

## 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 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.



## CHALLENGER SPECIAL EVENT STATION FORESHADOWS REAL EVENTS



EARS members Harry, W6YOO, and John, WB6UHF, help put on the 16th annual special event station at Challenger Middle School in Mira Mesa January 28th. The event commemorated the anniversary of the space shuttle Challenger accident. Here, students of Science and Technology teacher Frank Forrester, KI6YG, make contacts with hams across the U.S. and around the world and takes turns asking them to recall their memories of that tragic day. Little did they know that just days later they would have the same experience when the space shuttle Columbia disintegrated on re-entry. The school event was broadcast live on local TV station KUSI and included a special award to Harry for his help with the annual event through the years.

-- picture courtesy Frank Forrester, KI6YG

### WANTED

I'm looking for a good handie-talkie.

I have a (mostly) brand new Yaesu FT-2600M 2-Meter radio I would be willing to trade and some services I would be willing to trade. Service can include web design, home networking, and computer troubleshooting/consulting.

I am looking for a good, relatively new dual-band handheld.

Thomas Hinson, KG6INL

### FOOD DRIVE NEWS from Curt, KF6VHA

We are no longer collecting food donations at each club meeting.

Now that we have switched to Salvation Army donations from North County Food Bank, the Salvation Army only has 30 gallon drums for collection.

We will do food drives and clothing, toys etc, at given times of the year in connection with club events. Everyone will be notified in advance.

# The Rules Say ...

By John B. Johnston, W3BE  
Former Chief, FCC Personal Radio  
Branch, Special Services Division  
17701 Bowie Mill Road  
Derwood, MD 20855-1608  
john@johnston.net

---

*Renewing a license grant*

*Editor's note - this article first appeared in the Quarter Century Wireless Association Quarterly Journal and is reprinted by permission of the author.*

## Part I of II

### **Q. My license is about to expire. How do I have it renewed? I can't find the information in Part 97.**

A. The rules regarding licensing procedures for the various wireless telecommunications services, including our amateur services, have been collected together way over in Part 1, PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE, Subpart F.

We are now all lumped together in the Universal Licensing System consolidated database. The detailed information that we need to renew our licenses, therefore, is no longer given in our amateur service rules, Part 97. It is in Section 1.913, Application forms, electronic and manual filing. It is a lot more complex than it was only a few years ago, but you now have several options as to the way you file your application for renewal of your license grant.

**W3BE-O-GRAM: Mercifully, we only have to renew every ten years.**

There is a helpful information page on renewing your license grant at [wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/licensing/renewal.html](http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/licensing/renewal.html). Note that it advises that you may receive a license expiration notification from one or more of our volunteer-examiner coordinators. It may be accompanied with a solicitation to use its services to file with the FCC for your renewal application. You are not required to use this type of filing service.

**W3BE-O-GRAM: Providing these**

**services is not included in VECs' agreements with the FCC. Quite frankly, however, it might be advisable for you to have one of our VECs process your application. They electronically file license applications routinely and know where most of the potholes are located. This would be my first choice and, apparently the choice of many other hams. Some of our VECs will do the renewal processing for you if you show up at one of their exam sessions. Expect to reimburse the VECs at their exam fee rate.**

**At least one VEC also offers its renewal assistance services through arrangements with still other entities. The W5YI-VEC, for example, offers a license update and renewal service at [www.grz.com](http://www.grz.com).**

**No part of any fee collected from you for helping you file your application for renewal goes the FCC. Some of it, if not all, goes to worthy activities that benefit us all. For instance, it helps fund our National Conference of VECs.**

You may also renew your amateur operator/primary station license grant using the FCC's on-line Universal Licensing System ("ULS"), if you have at hand an Internet capability, your FCC Registration Number ("FRN"), your password and a lot of patience. I've heard mixed reviews on this. Some report that the process is a snap. Others have experienced problems. This would be my second choice.

Lastly, you may renew by postal mail using paper Form 605.

**W3BE-O-GRAM Because of the current uncertainty of the delivery of mail to government agencies, it is probably not advisable to go that route at the present time.**

### **Q. When should I file for renewal?**

A. You can renew within a 90-day window prior to the expiration date of your license grant. It is good idea for you to review your license grant information as it currently appears on the FCC licensee database. If it is correct, apply for renewal only. If it is not completely correct, see *Modifying a license grant*, below.

### **Q. How do I use the electronic filing system to renew my license?**

A. You use the Internet and your FCC-issued password. The FCC information page advises to go to Universal Licensing System, from

[wireless.fcc.gov](http://wireless.fcc.gov). Then, select Online filing and do the following:

1. For the Application Purpose, choose Renewal Only ("RO").
2. Find the appropriate call sign and click Select for Renewal.
3. Type the information at the bottom and click the Continue button.

**W3BE-O-GRAM: Do not enter RO for the application purpose when you also need to modify your mailing address or name. For the renewal only transaction, using your station call sign, the system will pull in your former address or name as it appears on the database. For this reason, when your name or address shown on the database is incorrect, and you need the combined transaction, be certain to enter "RM" (Renewal/Modification). Only then will the correct information you supply replace that shown on the official record.**

### **Q. How do I renew my license by mail?**

A. You will need a copy of the document:

FCC Form 605 Quick-Form Application in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services

You can request FCC Form 605 by calling 1-800-418-FORM or you can download it from the FCC website.

**W3BE-O-GRAM: Caution! The entire package is some 24 pages long. Print out only the two pages you will use. They are the Main Form Page 1 and Page 2, located in the package at pages 9 and 10.**

After making your entries on the form, sign, date, and mail it to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. Sign your name exactly as it appears on your license grant.

The FCC Form 605, in the item 2) Application Purpose, uses the same transaction codes as described in the previous question for the ULS. Select one, and only one, of these codes:

---

**RO** for renewal only

**RM** for renewal/modification

---

*Next month - club stations, vanity calls, changes of address and expired licenses.*

## FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Willie, N8WP, said that he wanted the club to be better prepared for Field Day by holding training sessions during some of the meetings. Field Day is scheduled to be held on the weekend of June 28 and 29, which is after our June meeting. The topics would include how to use logging software, the use of a computer with a rig, a PSK-31 demo, an APRS demo, and operating procedures during a contest. These sessions will be integrated into the meeting before or after the program.

2. John, KG6DVE, reported that the net is going well. John wants to see the net become less formal and have each member share some news with the rest of the net. He also wants to allow break-ins for questions and comments. Trivia questions may be asked. ARRL bulletins may be read. The goal is to get more members interested and involved in the net.

3. John, KG6DVE, pointed out that many prospective members want to know what they get by joining the club. After discussion, he was authorized to offer a first year membership at \$20 which would include a badge, a membership card with the phone patch codes on the back and 50 eye-ball cards. If family members join, it will cost them \$3 each but no package.

4. Jo, KB6NMK, reported on the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) training session which took place at the EMC on Saturday, Feb 8. All emergency service organizations recognize this training and it is required in order for volunteers to participate in an emergency situation.

5. Willie reported on the latest SANDARC meeting. The full report will be published in the President's column in the newsletter. Willie and Konrad are the principal delegates to SANDARC and Skip and Nick are alternate delegates.

6. A repeater technical committee was formed with Marvin as chairman. The following people were proposed as members; Roger, K6EQ, Art, KC6UQH, Roger, KB6DQO, and Konrad, N6UKO.

7. A meeting of the By-Laws Committee will be announced in the near future to discuss any possible changes that may be required.

8. Cheryl, KG6KTT, reported that the audit of the club books revealed that everything was in order

except for a three dollar overage in the checking account.

9. Willie and Konrad will set up a Quicken based chart of club expenditures that can be published in the newsletter.

10. The club will set up code and theory classes for new hams and for upgrading purposes. There are three possibilities for a class room, the city training facilities, the Chamber of Commerce or the Mormon church on Felicita. Sam, N6SD, was appointed the chairman of the training committee with Harry, W6YOO, as a code instructor and John, WB6UHF, as a theory instructor and Willie as an instructor and advisor. There will be a committee meeting soon to plan which classes will be offered and where and when.

11. Willie will put together a questionnaire for club members to fill out at a club meeting. He will distribute copies of the questionnaire to board members for comments.

12. Past President Nick, KK6TV, turned over the past meeting rosters to the Secretary for safe keeping.

13. A new printer is needed for printing the newsletter. January's newsletter was not printed and mailed out and at least one member complained. About 35 members are requesting hard copies and expect them for paying their dues. Marvin will contact a local printer as a possibility for printing the newsletter.

14. Five or so operators are needed for the Lawrence Welk July 4th Parade. Volunteers will attend a concert and banquet. Contact Nick or Konrad.

15. KG6X needs help erecting a 50 ft tower and 6 element beam.

### The Escondido Amateur Radio Society

is a non-profit organization of educational and social benefit to Amateur Radio operators and others interested in Amateur Radio in the Escondido area.

Dues are very affordable. Come join the fun! See page 3 for an application form.



## 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](http://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](mailto: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 Harry, W6YOO, to obtain a badge.

**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. 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 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.

**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.

**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 Website, [www.arrl.org/members](http://www.arrl.org/members). The ARRL Letter is also available to all, free of charge, at [www.arrl.org/arrlletter](http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter), where it is posted each Friday after it is distributed via e-mail.

**HAM RADIO LICENSE PLATES** - All California hams may receive their call sign on their license plate. Use DMV Form REG17A. The cost is \$21.00 and is a one-time fee.

**VE TESTING** - is conducted in Escondido under the auspices of SANDARC on the last Saturday of every month at the Chamber of Commerce building, 720 N Broadway. Contact Harry Hodges, W6YOO, to schedule an appointment.

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

**FIRST CLASS POSTAGE**

***HAM***  
***RADIO***  
***OUTLET***

*Open 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Monday through Saturday*

5375 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego  
**560-4900 or Toll Free 1-800-854-6046**

Equipment  
Tech Support  
Repairs  
Books  
HF  
VHF  
UHF  
All Mode  
Packet  
GPS  
Scanners  
Antennas

**K & S CAFE**

KATHLEEN J. ROBINSON

743-2233  
662 ENTERPRISE STREET  
ESCONDIDO, CA 92029

**REPAIRING & REWINDING  
SALES**

**ENTERPRISE**  
**ELECTRIC MOTOR REPAIR**  
**COMPLETE ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE**  
**(760) 745-6011**  
**COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL PUMPS & FANS**

DIANE CROSBY  
OWNER  
JACK PASTOR

676 ENTERPRISE ST.  
ESCONDIDO, CA 92029

***Top Flight Software***  
**Willie Peloquin**

**Networking and Software Solutions**

[n8wp@arrl.net](mailto:n8wp@arrl.net)

(858) 663-0525