

ALL EARS

146.880 - PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

July 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!

JULY 22 AMATEUR SATELLITES

Paul Williamson, KB5MU, will be giving a talk on amateur satellite operation.

AUGUST 24 ANNUAL PICNIC

In place of the regular meeting, the annual picnic will be held at Rod McCleod Park. The picnic starts at 11:00 a.m. Bring your HT to participate in the Fox Hunt.

SEPTEMBER 23 DIVISION DIRECTOR

A talk by Art Goddard, ARRL Southwest Division Director.

OTHER HAM RADIO NEWS...

Governor Gray Davis has signed **AB1228** into law. This officially recognizes the Federal PRB-1 Amateur Radio antenna preemption in California.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has agreed to move international broadcasters off of **7100-7200 kHz** by 2009, after which the band segment will be available to amateurs worldwide.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has also dropped the international requirement that amateurs operating below 30 MHz must first pass a **Morse code exam**. In the U.S., the FCC is now empowered to drop the 5 WPM code test if it wishes.

EVENT CALENDAR

July 19	EARS Monthly Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
July 22	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
July 26	VE Testing
Aug 5	Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Harry's
Aug 16	EARS Monthly Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Aug 24	EARS Picnic
Aug 30	VE Testing
Sept 2	Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Sept 6	Grape Day Parade
Sept 20	EARS Monthly Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Sept 23	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.



Sam Bradsher, N6SD, and Steve Alborn, KE6PY, prepare the 15 meter Yagi for Field Day at Dixon Lake. For more Field Day pictures and story, see page 3.

-- Photo by Marvin, WB6PKK

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

by Willie, N8WP

Welcome to the July edition of the *All EARS* newsletter.

Field Day 2003 has come and gone. The Escondido Amateur Radio Society gave an impressive effort. The club gave a fine example of teamwork and skill in adaptation. The timely setup of 3 towers with 3 large yagi array antennas. Around the clock manning of the two main radio stations. Meals were timely, well-prepared and enjoyable social events. Many new club members jumped right into the event. They tried new modes of communication. I watched as some new amateurs faced large pileups and were guided by more experienced members.

Teamwork surmounted our power crisis situation. In spite of the fact that we had the city's blessing, Ranger "I have no last name" James decided to exercise his authority and forced us to shut down our generators at 1 a.m. The EARS Field Day team was quick to adapt and improvise by reconfiguring our power grid and continuing on deep cycle batteries until morning. We were allowed to continue the use of generators when the misinformed ranger's boss arrived at the scene.

Summer is certainly here and we have more activities to look forward to. A discussion on satellite operation is scheduled for the July general meeting. Our August meeting will take the form of a weekend picnic. Be prepared for a Fox hunt!

73,

Willie N8WP

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@arrrl.net

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The deadline to submit material for the July bulletin is Tuesday, August 5.

NEW VEEP

by John, WB6UHF

At the June 24th regular Club meeting, Nick Uran, KK6TV, was elected to replace Skip Smith, KD7CBF, as the Club's Vice President.

Congratulations, Nick!

EARS Club Officers for 2003

President

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

Vice President

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

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
wb6ppk@amsat.org

EARS FIELD DAY 2003 A HUGE SUCCESS

by John, WB6UHF

The Escondido Amateur Radio Society participated in the 2003 annual Field Day June 28 and 29 at the Dixon Lake campground. As with last year's outing, the exercise was a huge success and tremendous fun was had by all who attended.

Using the club call sign, N6WB, EARS operated 2A with a additional VHF/UHF station and a GOTA station (call N8WP). Contacts were made on both phone and CW.

Altogether, more than 30 club members visited the site during the weekend, either to operate or to help with the setup or takedown. I even spotted Gary Lockard, WD6BRV, in his bright red jalopy, who came up just to say hi. Escondido City Council member Marie Waldron was also a visitor, although it was rumored she was attracted more by Gary's red car than the radio fun.

One of the stories to emerge from this Field Day, undoubtedly to be retold many times around future Field Day campfires, came in the middle of the night when one of the rangers ordered all generators shut down. Apparently, Ranger James hadn't gotten the memo about EARS and mistakenly pulled the plug on the entire emergency preparedness operation.



*Harry Hodges, W6YOO, and Nick Uran, KK6TV, rack 'em up on 15 meters before the band decided to tank.
-- Photo by John Biggs*

EARS 2003 FIELD DAY RESULTS

1,965 QSOs 5,920 points
68 Participants



*Konrad, N6UKO, gets the 20 meter beam ready to go.
With lots of helpers, all three Yagis were in place well
before sundown on Friday.
-- Photo by John Biggs*

Fortunately, ham ingenuity prevailed and the stations were kept on the air by battery until the morning when the generators were restarted, James or no James.

Special thanks go John, KG6DVE, who provided the meals (great steak dinner on Friday night for all the setup helpers!); Dennis, WA6IQY, and Dirk, N6SUN, the two band captains who organized the stations; Willie, N8WP, who provided his motorhome and ran the GOTA station; Gene, W6EEB, and his son John, who set up and ran the VHF/UHF station.

Also worth mentioning are three newcomers: Cheryl, KG6KTT, who ended up sounding like a seasoned veteran operator by the end; Thomas, KG6INL, who

NOTICE

Your newsletter editor will be taking a hard-earned vacation next month. As a result, the August issue of All EARS will be coming out earlier than usual.

FIELD DAY PHOTO CD AVAILABLE

Nick, KK6TV, has compiled a collection of Field Day photos onto a CD which is available for \$5.00. The CD includes not only this year's operation, but includes photos from previous year's Field Days as well. Proceeds go to the club.

FIELD DAY 2003 A HUGE SUCCESS (contd)

attempted a satellite QSO on his first Field Day, and Danny, AE6MB, who also gave his first ever try at operating Field Day.

With all the excitement, I've probably forgotten someone and I apologize in advance. Everyone who helped was greatly appreciated. Thanks for making this another great EARS Field Day.

MORE FIELD DAY REPORTS AND PHOTOS

Visit the ARRL's "brag page" at www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/?con_id=49 to read Nick, KK6TV's, report on N6WB.

You can also find tons more photos online at our Yahoo groups site. Go to www.yahogroups.com and log into the "earsca" group. Look under "Photos" and "Files"



Thomas Hinson, KG6INL, and Danny McAllaster, AE6MB, get their first taste of Field Day.

-- Photo by Dennis, W6NYC.

UPGRADE CLASSES CANCELLED

The upcoming General class license upgrade course has been cancelled. We expect to reschedule the class at a later date.

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.

AC6V's GUIDE TO FM REPEATERS

by Rod, AC6V

This guide is intended for new Amateur Radio Licens-ees. It is one Chapter of a 12 Chapter book on FM Repeaters. The entire book outline can be seen at URL: <http://ac6v.com/FM101.htm>

Continued from last month...

Many have entered into emergency communications, PR events and NTS service. Be careful when talking to the newer callsigns, they may know a heck of lot more than you do in certain areas.

But on the other side of the coin, OT's pioneered Amateur Radio., made many important technical contributions (and still do), and we owe a debt of gratitude to those who kept Amateur Radio alive and well for almost 100 years. So a salute to those who served Amateur Radio so well and still do. Yeah the OT's are a little old and a little overweight but you will be too! Some of these old timers put man on the moon and possess a vast wealth of experience and knowledge that we can all benefit from.

MULTIPLE CONVERSATIONS

Not all conversations are strictly two-way. Three, four or five or more Hams can be part of a "roundtable" conversation (five or more can be pretty unwieldy). A roundtable is a lot of fun, but it poses a problem: when the person transmitting is finished, who transmits next? Too often, the answer is everybody transmits next, and the result is a mess (doubling). You'll hear this often.

The solution is simple — when you finish your transmission in the roundtable, specify who is to transmit next. "... Over to you, Fred." This takes some concentration as to who all is in the round table, try and keep track or write it down for reference. If you lose track — turn it over to someone you know always keeps track — "help me with the rotation Ted". Also try "over to whoever is next" and hope for the best. Jump ball sez you don't know who is next— hope for the best. Examples — "over to Fred, then Charlie". Or by implication, if it is Dave's turn — blah blah Dave are you still on I-15?".

Another style is 3 or 4 in the conversation where strict rotation isn't used, some one asks a question or makes a comment and another with the answer or comment comes in after the beep, but careful not to double with someone.

Usually these are very short transmissions and comments — sometimes called quick key QSO's. A technique to prevent doubling is to double clutch — that is key up, immediately drop it and listen to see if no one else is transmitting, then go ahead.

LONG CONVERSATIONS

Repeaters are a great place to get information, SWR, Antennas, Radios, Computer stuff and just about anything

else and some of these can get quite lengthy.

Many clubs have several repeaters and when a long conversation is forming - especially during repeater busy times (commute time), maybe it is best to go to a less used channel or to a simplex frequency. This is especially true if the conversation is of interest to just a few folks, such as butterfly collecting. So if the "prime" repeater is in use, try a secondary one.

PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS

Believe me there is no such thing on the VHF/UHF airways! If you change frequencies to a simplex frequency or another repeater for a private QSO, chances are someone will follow you and someone always seems to be listening. Scanners can find you very quickly. Even if you went to 1.2 GHz simplex, 2M SSB, or HF! Be careful with gossip on a "private" channel or frequency, it can come back to haunt you. Enough sed.

BREAKING IN

Repeaters are shared resources — one big party-line. There are many times and reasons that a conversation in progress might be interrupted. You might break in to join the group and add your comments to the subject at hand. Someone else might break in to reach a party who is listening to the repeater. The breaker might have to report an emergency, traffic advisory, or make an urgent contact.

If you have a two-way conversation going, even somewhat of a private nature, expect that someone will break in. If this bothers you, choose a less often used repeater, or go simplex. Also the less used bands, 220, 440 or SSB portions will allow some degree of "privacy"

For breaking in - here are some suggestions: Pick a good time. If you have an emergency, a good time is NOW. That's why there's a pause between transmissions. Otherwise, listen a bit. Read the ebb and flow of the conversation. One of the fastest ways to establish a reputation as a jerk is to frequently butt your way onto the air without regard for the people already talking, and say — just saying hello, or just letting you know I'm here. Give your call, and say what you want.

When you've listened and decided it's OK to break in, transmit before the beep and say something like this: "AC6V, I have an emergency," "AC6V, can I make a call?" or "AC6V joining in." "AC6V comment" "AC6V question" "AC6V info". But some common sense is in order, if a ham is giving his/her out-of-state buddy directions - why would you break in and start a QSO on hiking?? Wait until they finish, of course.

To be continued next month...

JUNE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported that there is \$1329.92 in the savings account and \$779.26 in the checking account.
2. Nick, KK6TV, announced the upcoming programs through November.
3. It was decided to put photos from all recent Field Days and all the issues of All EARS on a CD and sell them for \$5 a copy.
4. John, KG6DVE, reported that the net is improving. By linking with the 220 repeaters, we cover a larger area and more people are participating.
5. John, KG6DVE, reported that there weren't as many Field Day visitors from the public this year. The sign-up sheet will be checked for non-member hams who will be contacted to see if they are interested in joining the club.
6. Jo, KB6NMK, reported that ARES leadership is eroding and no one is taking their place. It was suggested that the club concentrate more on city and local events and emergencies. Jo will see if we can coordinate with the Salvation Army's Satern. The next RACES general meeting is Monday, 7 July.
7. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported he is about ready to load the program for the new repeater.
8. Harry, W6YOO, reported that he located past versions of the By Laws and is reviewing them.
9. Sam, N6SD, reported that he is unable to teach the upcoming General class license course due to health reasons. The class will be cancelled and rescheduled at a later date.
10. All agreed that the Amateur Radio booth at the County Fair is poorly designed and to some extent poorly staffed and operated. Suggestions for

improvement were discussed.

11. The DX pedition to Catalina Island has been postponed due to lack of interest.
12. Konrad reports that the Lawrence Welk Parade has been covered with four operators volunteering.
13. Kirk is no longer requesting a special event station for the San Pasqual Battlefield celebration since the park will be closed due to budget cuts.
14. The Grape Day Parade float is still planned but inquiries need to be made on rules and regulations. Konrad will check on this. It was suggested we also set up a special event station in the Park to get more exposure.
15. Willie suggested we recognize outstanding field day rookies.
16. Marvin suggested that we no longer distribute the hard copy rosters due to the expense. It was suggested that we make them available as a PDF file.
17. Marvin presented a receipt for connectors that were required for Field Day and the Board approved paying them.

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 the application form on Page 4.

EARS WEBSITE CHANGE

The EARS website can now be found at either of these two web addresses:

www.earsclub.org
www.EscondidoARS.org

NEW ROSTER AVAILABLE

The new club roster is available and was mailed to all members. If you did not get yours, please contact Marvin, WB6PKK.

Great job, Marvin!

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.earsclub.org or www.EscondidoARS.org.

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 www.earsclub.org 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 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.

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

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 the Spice House restaurant, 9035 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. The training session follows breakfast at the County Office of Emergency Services (formerly called the “EOC”), 5550 Overland Avenue, at 9 a.m. If not attending breakfast, be sure to arrive at the back gate (Complex Street), not later than 0845 for access.

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. 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.

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
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