

ALL EARS

146.880 - PL 107.2

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

January 2004

GENERAL MEETINGS

EARS meets at the Emmanuel Faith Community Church, 639 East Felicita Avenue, Escondido, at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Come early and chat!

Tuesday, January 27th Echolink and IRLP

You've heard the new Echolink node working on the 146.88 repeater. Now, find out the details of how to use it and how it works. John, W9EN, will discuss the underlying technology of both Echolink and IRLP, with some brief comparison and contrast.

Tuesday, February 24th Spread Spectrum and CDMA

Jason Hunzinger, Director of Advanced Technology at DENSO LA Labs in Vista, will present the state of the art in radio communications.

Spread Spectrum technology was first developed by the military and is now widely used in commercial cellular networks. This presentation will discuss the spreading techniques of FHSS (Frequency Hop Spread Spectrum) and DSSS (Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum) as well as the multiple access technique commonly known as CDMA.

Tuesday, March 23rd GPS (Global Positioning System)

Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, will explain what's inside the black box called GPS. This presentation takes the mystery out of GPS, and presents some of the more exciting applications of the technology.

Tuesday, April 27th Annual EARS Auction

This is the big yearly event you've waited for. Don't miss it!

EVENT CALENDAR

Jan 27	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Jan 31	VE Testing 9 a.m.
Feb 3	Board Meeting at Marvin's 7:00 p.m.
Feb 21	EARS Monthly Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Feb 24	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Feb 28	VE Testing 9 a.m.
Mar 2	Board Meeting 7 p.m.
Mar 9	EARS Birthday Field Day Planning
Mar 23	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Mar 27	VE Testing 9 a.m.

Can You Find Your EARS???

Starting in January, EARS will meet at a new location due to renovation of the Chamber of Commerce building. Our new meeting place is:

Emmanuel Faith Community Church
639 East Felicita Avenue
Escondido

Come early if you not familiar with the area and we will guide you in on 146.880.

Note that VE testing will also move to a new location at Fire Station One. See page 7 for details.

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PRESIDENT'S KORNER

by Nick, KK6TV

What if, in the early 1900's, when Marconi was pioneering the first transoceanic RF communications, by some twist of fate, instead of using low frequency spark gap CW they had instead communicated in the microwave band using spread spectrum? All of those first RF communications were on, say, 24 GHz? And all these years all communications had been in the microwave band.

Now, imagine that the FCC wants to encourage use of the seldom used HF band. Maybe we could create a no code Tech license to encourage people to use this new HF band. Yes, eliminate the code and that would encourage people to experiment. Heck, we could schedule the ARRL Convention on the day of the 80 Meter contest since no one uses that band anyway! You could be one of those modern day geniuses devolving High Tech 160 Meter CW communications!

Anyway, I must say its great to be the EARS President again. Judging from our first Board meeting of 2004, we have a lot going on with a lot of individuals contributing and making this a great club! The Technical Committee is hard at work in the process of getting our new 440 repeater working. Marvin, WB6PKK, Konrad, N6UKO, Roger, K6EQ, John, WB6UHF, and John, W9EN, are working hard and give them a pat on the back and a thank you if you see them!

We had 30 volunteers for the Christmas parade, a club record I think. Everyone who helped out did an outstanding job. For some weird reason, there seemed to be a lot more problems this year than usual: a few vehicles stalled and needed to be pushed, among other things. Mike, W3IJD, and I discovered that it is not easy to push a stalled fire engine.

Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, did an excellent job coordinating First Night. Thanks to all who volunteered on New Year's Eve to help out.

OK, now did I mention FIELD DAY! John, WB6UHF, has volunteered to once again be our Field Day chairman. We will have a Field Day planning meeting and EARS 31st Birthday party on March 9th. Stay tuned for details. I also want to thank Thomas, KG6INL, who has donated web space for the new EARS Web site. Thomas has also set up the new software on the web site. Hopefully by the time you read this it should be on line. And, our new VP John, W9EN, has done a really outstanding job setting up our club programs for 2004. I seri-

ously doubt if you can find a club with more interesting and diverse Ham radio presentations than EARS for 2004! Thanks John!

As you can see, having all these really great people to work with makes being President easy! Thanks, everyone!

73,
Nick

EARS Club Officers for 2004

President

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

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All Officers with an asterisk (*) plus:
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Historian

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*Marvin Munster, WB6PKK, 747-2223
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ALL EARS

The official bulletin of the
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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 next bulletin is Tuesday, February 10.

UPCOMING LICENSE CLASSES

by Tony, KG6SXY

No-Code Technician Classes

Penasquitos

Saturday, January 3, 2004, for eight Saturdays.

From 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

\$3.00 materials fee per person.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

12835 Black Mountain Road, San Diego

Call Richard Henry, (858) 780-0810, for info.

El Cajon - ARCEC

January 13th, 2004, at 7:00 p.m., for 6 weeks.

El Cajon Fire Station, 160 E. Lexington Ave, in basement (cross street: Magnolia).

Text: "Now you're Talking", 5th Ed, by the ARRL

Contact Mike Maston, 619-296-9067 or at

mastroleo@mindspring.com

Bonita

Saturday, January 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

3737 Valley Vista Way, Bonita,

Contact Steve Early, 619 461-2818

General Theory and 5WPM Code Class

Saturday Feb 28, Mar 6, Mar 13 and Mar 20

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

M.S. O-311

5555 Overland Avenue

San Diego, CA 92123

Contact Steve Early, 619 461-2818

EARL CHICO, K6MXM, SK

reported by Harry, W6YOO

Earl Chico, K6MXM, has become a Silent Key.

According to the San Diego Union and the North County Times, Earl perhaps suffered a heart attack while driving and collided with another vehicle in mid-December. He was, according to the paper, 92. Earl was a longtime member of EARS, a member of the Escondido VE team and a longtime volunteer at the Escondido Public Library.

He is survived by his wife Sarah, N6XKK. Cards may be sent to: 525-126 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido, CA 92026

440 REPEATER NOW RUN BY EARS

by John, WB6UHF

Operation of the local 440 repeater on 449.250 MHz has been transferred to EARS through an agreement with its previous operator, Glen Peterson, WB6BOD. The repeater, which is co-located on Hubbard Hill with the EARS 146.880 machine, is now undergoing modifications to bring it into conformance with current 440 channel spacing (the new frequency will be 449.240 MHz) and to update its IDer.

CHALLENGER SPECIAL EVENT

by John, WB6UHF

Frank Forrester, KI6YG, needs operators for the annual Special Event at Challenger Middle School in Mira Mesa commemorating the loss of the Space Shuttle Challenger. Middle School students in Frank's Science classes talk on ham radio with others who remember that day.

The date is the morning of Jan 28. Last year, EARS provided two operators. Anybody interested??

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 6.

NO CODE HF PROPOSED from the ARRL

ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 19, 2004—The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would include HF phone privileges without requiring a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement—now 5 WPM—only for the highest class. The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals—developed by the ARRL Executive Committee following a Board instruction last July—are in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international *Radio Regulations* at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). They would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in the Amateur Service license restructuring *Report and Order* (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

“Change in the Amateur Radio Service in the US, especially license requirements and even more so when Morse is involved, has always been emotional,” said ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in presenting the Executive Committee’s recommendations. “In fact, without a doubt, Morse is Amateur Radio’s ‘religious debate.’” The plan adopted by the Board departs only slightly from the Executive Committee’s recommendations.

The “New” Novice

The entry-level license class—being called “Novice” for now—would require a 25-question written exam. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as VHF and UHF privileges on 6 and 2 meters and on 222-225 and 430-450 MHz. Power output would be restricted to 100 W on 80, 40, and 15 meters and to 50 W on 10 meters and up, thus avoiding the need for the more complex RF safety questions in the Novice question pool.

“The Board sought to achieve balance in giving new Novice licensees the opportunity to sample a wider range of Amateur Radio activity than is available to current Technicians while retaining a motivation to upgrade,” said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. “It was also seen as important to limit the scope of privileges so the exam would not have to include material that is inappropriate at the entry level.”

As an introduction to Amateur Radio, the Novice license

served successfully for most of its 50-year history. The FCC has not issued new Novice licenses since the 2000 license restructuring, however. Under the ARRL plan, current Novice licensees—now the smallest and least active group of radio amateurs—would be grandfathered to the new entry-level class without further testing.

Anticipating assertions that the new plan would “dumb down” Amateur Radio licensing, Harrison said those currently holding a ticket often perceive the level of complexity to have been greater when they were first licensed than it actually was. “Quite frankly,” he said, “if you review the questions presented in our license manuals throughout the years, you will be surprised how they compare to those of today.”

Technicians and Generals

The middle group of licensees—Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General—would be consolidated into a new General license that no longer would require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus license holders automatically would gain current General class privileges without additional testing. The current Element 3 General examination would remain in place for new applicants. ARRL already has proposed additional phone privileges for Generals in its “Novice refarming” petition, [RM-10413](#), but the FCC has not yet acted on that petition.

Morse Code Testing Retained for Extra

At the top rung, the Board indicated that it saw no compelling reason to change the Amateur Extra class license requirements. The ARRL plan calls on the FCC to combine the current Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees into Amateur Extra, because the technical level of the exams passed by these licensees is very similar. New applicants for Extra would have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, but the written exam would stay the same. The League’s plan calls for current Novice, Tech Plus and General class licensees to receive lifetime Element 1 (5 WPM Morse) credit.

“This structure provides a true entry-level license with HF privileges to promote growth in the Amateur Service,” Harrison said. “It also simplifies the FCC database by conforming to the current Universal Licensing System (ULS) structure and does not mandate any modifications to it.”

Sumner concurred. “The Board started out by recognizing that three license classes was the right number when looking down the road 10 or 15 years,” he said. “We need a new entry-level license.”

“On the other hand, there’s nothing particularly wrong with the existing Extra class license,” he continued. “The change in the international regulations notwithstanding, the Board felt that the highest level of accomplishment in

New License Structure Proposed (cont)

the FCC's amateur licensing structure should include basic Morse capability."

Sumner and Harrison say the current Technician entry-level ticket provides little opportunity to experience facets of ham radio beyond repeater operation. "The quality of that experience," Sumner said, "often depends on the operator's location."

Among other advantages, Sumner said the plan would allow new Novices to participate in HF SSB emergency nets on 75 and 40 meters as well as on the top 100 kHz of 15 meters. The new license also could get another name, Sumner said. "We're trying to recapture the magic of the old Novice license, but in a manner that's appropriate for the 21st century."

Proposal Includes "Novice Refarming" Plan

The overall proposed ARRL license restructuring plan would more smoothly integrate HF spectrum privileges across the three license classes and would incorporate the "Novice refarming" plan the League put forth nearly two years ago in a *Petition for Rule Making (RM-10413)*. The FCC has not yet acted on the ARRL plan, which would alter the current HF subbands. The Novice refarming proposal would eliminate the 80, 40 and 15-meter Novice/Technician Plus CW subbands as such and reuse that spectrum in part to expand phone/image subbands on 80 and 40 meters.

The ARRL license restructuring design calls for no changes in privileges for Extra and General class licensees on 160, 60, 30, 20, 17 or 12 meters. Novice licensees would have no access to those bands.

Proposed Phone/Image HF Subbands (Includes Novice Refarming Proposal)

80 Meters

Extra: 3.725-4.000 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)
General: 3.800-4.000 MHz (gain of 50 kHz)
Novice: 3.900-4.000 MHz (new)

40 meters

Extra: 7.125-7.300 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)
General: 7.175-7.300 MHz (gain of 50 kHz)
Novice: 7.200-7.300 MHz (new)

15 meters

Extra: 21.200-21.450 MHz (no change)
General: 21.275-21.450 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)
Novice: 21.350-21.450 MHz (new)

10 meters

Extra and General: 28.300-29.700 MHz (no change)
Novice: 28.300-28.500 MHz (no change)

Proposed CW/Data-Exclusive HF Subbands (Includes Novice Refarming Proposal)

80 meters

Extra: 3.500-3.725 MHz
General: 3.525-3.725 MHz
Novice: 3.550-3.700 MHz

40 meters

Extra: 7.000-7.125 MHz
General: 7.025-7.125 MHz
Novice: 7.050-7.125 MHz

15 meters

Extra: 21.000-21.200 MHz
General: 21.025-21.200 MHz
Novice: 21.050-21.200 MHz

10 meters

Extra/General: 28.000-28.300 MHz
Novice: 28.050-28.300 MHz

FIRST NIGHT ROUNDUP by Jo, KB6NMK

I want to thank all sixteen hams who braved the cold and spent all or part of their New Years Eve at First Night Escondido.

We were instrumental in getting a drunk off the street and in finding a lost severely autistic young man. We were also part of the network looking for a lost parent and another lost boy, as well as passing logistical messages to and from the police department and event organizers. Some of us had the best view of both fireworks displays.

Many thanks to Curt, K6LEM for doing both shifts. Thanks Danny, AE6MB; Tony, KG6SXY; Jim, KF6RWF; Norm, KF6GOF; John, WB6UHF; and Mark, KF6WTN for doing the late shift. Thanks Harry, W6YOO; Konrad, N6UKO; John, W9EN; Mike, W3IJD; Rob, WA3IHV; Jacob, KG6SDT; Carol, KF6EFN; and Leon, N6VS for doing the early shift.

Thanks also to all their spouses and families for allowing us to play radio on New Years Eve.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported \$692.96 in the checking account and \$1331.54 in the savings account. Members who haven't yet renewed will be contacted.

2. John, W9EN, reported that Echolink is now working in all I/O modes. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported that he and Konrad, N6UKO, changed out some connectors on the Coronado Hills repeater which improved the SWR and noise level.

3. It was decided to dump the autopatch and phone line at the repeater site to save about \$17 a month.

4. The 440 repeater has been transferred to N6WB.

5. Jo, KB6NMK, reported there will be a SATERN Seminar in San Bernardino on January 31. 16 people volunteered and contributed 72 hours for First Night.

6. John, KG6DVE, is soliciting ideas for making the Sunday net more interesting.

7. This year's Field Day will be at the same site and

the same category. The first planning meeting will be held on March 9 at My Father's Pizza. This will include a celebration of the Club's 31st birthday.

8. Marvin, WB6PKK, submitted a list of club equipment. He pointed out that our insurance policy covers some equipment we no longer have and some newer equipment isn't on the policy.

9. Konrad, N6UKO reported the food for the Christmas Party came to \$240 and \$189 was donated.

10. Konrad, N6UKO, reported 30 people volunteered and contributed 180 hours for the Christmas Parade.

11. Nick, KK6TV would like to have hats available with the club logo. He will investigate prices.

12. Willie, N8WP, transferred the club's website registration to Nick, KK6TV.

13. Operators are needed for the Challenger anniversary, Wednesday January 28 at Challenger Middle School.

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.

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.

SECTION NEWS – The latest happenings around San Diego, as well as the monthly *ARES Alert* is available at www.sanarrl.org, the official website of the ARRL San Diego Section.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS - To renew your license or supply the FCC with a change of address, use NCVEC Form 605 (obtainable from Harry, W6YOO). Attach a photocopy 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 at 9 a.m. on the last Saturday of every month at Fire Station One, 310 N Quince Street. Contact Harry Hodges, W6YOO, to schedule an appointment.

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

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