

ALL EARS

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Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

May 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, May 25th
DXing 101

EARS own, Harry Hodges, W6YOO, will present his popular introduction to DXing.

How to find 'em, how to work 'em, how to QSL 'em and what to do to get the awards you deserve after all that.

Tuesday, June 22nd
History of Two Meters

The history of the two meter band will be presented by San Diego Section Manager Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ.

Also, John, WB6UHF, 2004 Field Day chairman, will answer your questions about the impending EARS Field Day operation at Dixon Lake.

Tuesday, July 27th
Model Rockets and Amateur Radio

Here are two hobbies which go great together. Imagine the possibilities... then come hear Jim Sullins, KE6MRX, tell you how to get into this exciting endeavor.

Saturday, August 21st
Annual Club Picnic

Mark your calendars now for the annual Club picnic at Rod McLeod Park.

Details to follow in future issues.

EVENT CALENDAR

May 25	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
May 29	Valley Center Western Days Parade
May 29	VE Testing 9 a.m.
Jun 1	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. at Nick's
Jun 8	Field Day Planning Meeting 7 p.m.
Jun 19	EARS Monthly Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Jun 22	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Jun 25-27	FIELD DAY
Jun 26	VE Testing 9 a.m.
Jul 6	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. at John's
Jul 17	EARS Monthly Breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Jul 27	EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Jul 31	VE Testing 9 a.m.
Aug 21	Annual Club Picnic
Aug 21	Midnight Madness Bicycle Run

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

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The deadline to submit material for the next bulletin is Tuesday, June 8.

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PRESIDENT'S KORNER

by Nick, KK6TV

Well, by now you have probably had time to play with all the goodies you picked up at the auction. This year I brought home more than I sold. I guess that is a sign of broadening interests. Special thanks to Konrad, N6UKO, our runner, Marvin, WB6PKK, the coordinator, and Art, KC6UQH, our auctioneer. Of course it was a huge success!

Emanuel Faith has been a great host for our recent meetings. Unfortunately, our May meeting will be the last meeting there. The Chamber of Commerce has just begun demolition on their building, so most likely we need to find another meeting location for the next 4 to 6 months. If you know of a location, let me know as we are exploring all possibilities.

As of our last board meeting, not one member has voiced a negative opinion to our board concerning discontinuing the mailing of the newsletter. We are considering only publishing the electronic version to keep our dues low. If you feel you must get a printed newsletter as part of your club membership please let myself or a board member know. We will also discuss this briefly at the next meeting.

Valley Center Western Days and Rodeo is May 29, 30 and 31st! EARS will be supporting the parade on Saturday, May 29th. If you would like to come out and help, be sure to give me a call or drop me an e-mail! Cowboy hat and boots are optional.

Field Day is upon us. As GOTA captain, my intent is to let everyone operate who wishes to. If you have never done Field Day, tried HF, or contested, let me know and I'll try to Get you On The Air! This is my fourth Field Day with EARS. Each year we have more and more capable operators (and setup helpers). Four years ago we had less than a handful, now we have 20 or 30! But we need more, so if you want some experience with little or no pressure, see me and get on the GOTA Station. Then be ready next year to work on the other stations. Also, consider making a donation to the Field Day Fund. Field Day is one of our most expensive activities. If you haven't tasted the fine Field Day cuisine of Chef John, KG6DVE, BAM, you haven't tasted the best Field Day cuisine anywhere!

I am looking forward to Harry's presentation on DX 101 at our next meeting. I was fortunate enough to catch his presentation at the ARRL Convention in Long Beach last year. It was standing room only and well worth the time.

73 Nick, kk6tv@kk6tv.com, 760.749-8734

EARS Club Officers for 2004

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kk6tv@arrl.net

Vice President

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w9en@amsat.org

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wb6uhf@arrl.net

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All Officers with an asterisk (*) plus:
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darcpa@att.net

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n8wp@arrl.net

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*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

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.



*Auctioneer Art, KC6UQH, hypes an item while bidders anxiously await the "best" stuff.
-- photo by Nick, KK6TV.*



*Potential buyers check out the merchandise before the start of bidding at the Annual EARS auction.
-- photo by Nick, KK6TV.*

AUCTION SUMMARY

by Marvin, WB6PKK

The auction was a success for the EARS club. We raised \$327.20 for the club. Items sold raised a total of \$1166.00 and paid back \$838.80 to the sellers.

There were 108 items auctioned of which 16 items were no bid. There were 25 items donated to the club which raised \$234.00

There were 2 SASEs turned in.

	2003	2004
Items Auctioned	142	108
Donated items	55	25
Total Sales	\$1165.00	\$1166.00
Non-donated sales	\$85.10	\$93.20
Donations	\$314.00	\$234.00
Paid to Sellers	\$765.90	\$838.80
Total Club Profit	\$399.10	\$327.20

Submitted by:

Marvin Munster, WB6PKK
Auction Coordinator



*Marvin, WB6PKK, keeps the paperwork in order.
-- photo by Nick, KK6TV.*



*Art, KC6UQH, and assistant Konrad, N6UKO.
-- photo by Nick, KK6TV.*

AWARDS AND QSLING - PART III

by Harry Hodges, W6YOO

This month we are going to look at a couple of similar awards, one from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and one from the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). The ARRL award I refer to is the DX Century Club (DXCC) and from jolly old England, the Islands on the Air Award (abbreviated IOTA).

To achieve DXCC one must work at least 100 DXCC entities (formerly called countries) and have them confirmed by QSL cards (this will be changing soon as the Log Book Of The World is fully implemented) which you submit to ARRL along with the appropriate application form and necessary fees. There are 335 active DXCC entities at present and include "proper" countries such as the US, Canada, and Mexico, islands such as Hawaii, Clipperton, and the Marquessas, and odd fellows such as the UN Headquarters in New York, the Vatican, and ITU Headquarters in Geneva. Depending on your bent, you can work for the award in mixed mode, all SSB, CW, or RTTY, via Satellite or with low power, i.e. QRP, or all on one band such as 10 meters. When you have less than ten entities to go to have them all, you make honor roll. DXCC in all its forms comes with an appropriate certificate to frame and put on the wall.

IOTA, or Islands on the Air, administered by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) is similar to DXCC in that you contact and confirm contacts with stations on one of 1200 islands (or island groups) on the IOTA list. Now we all know that there are more than 1200 islands in the world (the Philippines can count about 7,000 alone). The RSGB has limited "qualifying" islands/island groups to 1200. For example, if you work someone in the Hawaiian Islands, it counts as OC-019 regardless of which specific island the station was on. Likewise, NA-066 includes Santa Catalina, San Clemente, San Nicolas, and Santa Barbara as the California State South Group. Awards begin with 100 Islands through 700 islands, a Plaque of Excellence at 750 islands, a trophy at 1000 islands, and Honor Roll begins with 650 islands. Rather than mail your QSL cards to England, there are "check points" within the U.S. The rules are VERY strict and if the card does not conform it will be rejected. Complete rules for DXCC and IOTA can be found at the ARRL and RSGB URLs.

Next we will look at QSLing. There are a number of

ways to exchange QSL cards with the station you have worked. You can hand carry them which is impractical (unless you live only across town), you can mail them by snail mail, or you can exchange them via the bureau (or "buro"). The ARRL maintains an Outgoing QSL Bureau for members and for a small fee you can mail your cards to them and they will surface ship them to the Incoming Bureaus in the various countries worked. ARRL also manages a number of volunteer incoming bureaus (you only have to have some SASEs on file) in the U.S. The W6 Incoming Bureau is located in Northern California.

With respect to QSL cards, if you possess only one virtue, it must be that of PATIENCE. Cards do not return overnight. Expect a minimum of 10 days for domestic cards and 4 weeks for overseas cards. In the case of a major DXpedition, expect months for a return since most of the time (and there are exceptions) cards are not printed until after the DXpedition returns and managers literally have tens of thousands of QSLs to check. For bureau cards, expect a minimum of one year. Two years is not uncommon. Your author has experienced some returns in the six- to ten-year time frame!

Next month we'll look at some of the more exotic awards such as the "Catch 22 Award" and "How do I find out where to send my QSL?"

73, Harry

ARES TRAINING SESSIONS MOVE

by Harry Hodges, W6YOO

The location has changed for the monthly ARES training sessions.

The San Diego Section ARES meets on the second Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Giovanni's Restaurant, southwest corner of Clairmont Mesa Blvd and Ruffin Road.

The monthly training session follows the breakfast meeting and now takes place at the Kearney Mesa Recreation Center, 3170 Armstrong Street (near Mesa College). Training begins at 10:00 a.m. and lasts approximately one hour.

PENDING HAM CLASS

information provided by Tony May, KG6SXY

Dates September 18, 25, October 2 and 9, 2004.

Registration is on September 18, 2004, at Scripps Memorial Hospital, 9888 Genesee Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037, at 1p.m. in the Schaetzel Center, Noble Room. A question and answer session will be held at this time. This registration is a must-attend meeting and will last approximately two hours. Schedules will be given out, with times.

We will be using "Now You're Talking, 5th Edition". Bring pen and pencil and highlighters.

Class meeting days September 25, October 2 and 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch break is one hour.

The FCC test will be given on site.

Cost of the class is \$13.00. This covers the book, six practice tests, and taking the FCC test through the Volunteer Examiner. Bring cash, please.

Directions to Scripps Memorial Hospital campus are (Thomas Guide, 2002, page 1228, B-1):

Take I-5 to the Genesee Avenue exit. Proceed east on Genesee Avenue one block to the signal. Turn right at the signal, which is Scripps. Continue straight ahead, take a parking ticket, and proceed through the parking gate. (Bring the ticket with you, it will be validated.) Once through the parking gate, take the first right turn to the underground parking entrance. Be very careful for all antennas.

Send an e-mail with your name, daytime phone, nighttime phone, and which is best to call you. You will receive a reply for registration and any other information.

Class contact :

Skip Cline
760-757-5424
kd6rfq@ixpres.com
(E-mail is best)

FEILD DAY IS FOOD DAY!

by John, KG6DVE

Here is the proposed Field Day menu.

Friday setup helpers need to contact me so that I know how many to prepare for. Call or e-mail me with your comments or suggestions.

6/25/04 *Friday Set Up approx. 7 p.m.
Burgundy Peppered Marinated Tri-Tip Steak (if available)
B.B.Q Baked Beans
Salad w/dressing
2 Buck Chuck
Beer

6/26/04 **Saturday Breakfast approx. 7:30-8 a.m.
Scrambled Eggs
Sausage
Pancakes
Toast & Jelly
Coffee & Orange Juice

6/26/04 **Saturday Lunch approx. 12 noon
Hot Dogs
(Crock-Pot) Self-Serve
Chips (assorted)

6/26/04 ***Saturday Club Pot-Luck approx. 5:30 pm
EARS Club Provides:
B.B.Q. Hamburgers w/cheese
B.B.Q. Chicken Legs
Potato Salad
*** All other dishes provided Pot-Luck

6/27/04 **Sunday Breakfast time TBD
See Saturday Breakfast
(or donuts and coffee if available)

* Friday dinner is for setup helpers only (all others BYO)
** Saturday breakfast & lunch is for operators and helpers only (all others BYO)
*** Saturday dinner is for all Club members and immediate family (bring your favorite pot-luck dish)

EARS will provide water & coffee at all times as well as a limited amount of sodas and ? (suggested to BYO). EARS will also provide condiments

73,
KG6DVE@Amsat.Org
or 760-908-6863 / 760-745-6819

MAY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported that there is \$904.92 in the checking account and \$1177.50 in the savings account. There is one more a new life member, Tom, KG6RCW.
2. John, W9EN, submitted a new program schedule with each month planned except for November. The club picnic will be the 3rd Saturday of August at Rod McCloud Park.
3. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported that the repeaters are working and the linkage is in the works.
4. Jo, KB6NMK, reported that ARES would like to have a display table at the VC Western Days Celebration. Nick, KK6TV will pass the request on.
5. John, KG6DVE, reported that last Sunday's net was run by Danny, AE6MB, who did a great job as net control.
6. John, WB6UHF, reported that the last newsletter went out on time. It was decided that Nick, KK6TV, will continue to discuss the termination of sending

the newsletter by snail mail.

7. \$300 was authorized for expenditure for Field Day. Nick, KK6TV, needs everyone's Field Day T-shirt orders and money so the order can be placed.
8. Sam, N6SD, reported that Sybil Albright is in poor health and has retired from the SANDARC executive Board. There was an attempt to get an Amateur Radio station on the Midway carrier but the request was turned down.
9. Konrad, N6UKO, reported that so far we haven't been requested to participate in the May 16th Street Faire. Harry, W6YOO, will check with the Chamber of Commerce to see if they want us.
10. Sam, N6SD, reported that we have the library entry display case for the month of March 2005.
11. John, KG6DVE, reported that our four months are up and we may have to move our meeting location. Harry, W6YOO, and Jo, KB6NMK, will check alternate locations.

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

CLUB REPEATERS - EARS operates two repeaters in Escondido. The two meter EARS repeater is on 146.88 MHz with a PL of 107.2. The 440 EARS repeater is on 449.240 MHz with a PL of 127.13. Both repeaters are local in nature and primarily serve the immediate Escondido area.

ECHO-LINK - The two meter repeater is tied to the Echo-Link system as node 2846. See the Club website, www.earsclub.org, for information on Echo-Link. There is also a listing of local Echo-Link codes in the members section of the website.

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 Yahoo Groups in the site map. Or, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com> and follow the directions. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, email Nick, kk6tv@arrrl.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, e-mail, etc. We want to keep our records up to date. Contact Marvin, WB6PKK, the keeper of the club database, or any club officer.

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.arrrl.org/members. The ARRL Letter is also available to all, free of charge, at www.arrrl.org/arrrlletter, where it is posted each Friday after it is distributed via e-mail.

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 8:00 a.m. at Giovanni’s Restaurant, southwest corner of Clairmont Mesa Blvd and Ruffin Road. Order your breakfast at the counter and it will be brought to your table in the meeting area. The monthly ARES training session follows the breakfast meeting and takes place at the Kearney Mesa Recreation Center, 3170 Armstrong Street (near Mesa College). Training begins at 10:00 a.m. and lasts approximately one hour.

SECTION NEWS – The latest happenings around San Diego, as well as the monthly *ARES Alert* is available at www.sanarrrl.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.

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.

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 HF regardless of license, now’s the time. See Harry Hodges, W6YOO/AAR9LX for details.

ESCONDIDO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
P.O. Box 3243
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