

# ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

December 2005

## GENERAL MEETINGS

EARS meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Salvation Army building at 1303 Las Villas Way, in Escondido. Come early and chat!

### **Saturday, December 10th EARS Annual Christmas Party**

You and a guest (and friends, too) are invited to the EARS Annual Christmas Party to be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the QTH of John Belstner, W9EN, in Valley Center. **See the announcement on page 5 and directions on page 3.**

### **Thursday, January 12th MonstIR Antenna**

Dr. Howard White, KY6LA, will be speaking to us in January about his MonstIR antenna he installed in La Jolla.

## EVENT CALENDAR

<b>Dec 10</b>	<b>Escondido Christmas Parade</b>
<b>Dec 10</b>	<b>EARS Annual Xmas Party 4:00 p.m.</b>
Dec 17	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 27	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. at Filippi's
Dec 31	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
<b>Jan 12</b>	<b>EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.</b>
Jan 21	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Jan 24	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. at N6UKO
Jan 28	VE Testing, 9 a.m.

### 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.

### **That's why they call them Dues!**

All memberships paid through 2005 will expire on December 31 and are now DUE!

Please send in your renewal now to ensure your continued membership in EARS. Use the form on Page 6 or just drop off cash or check (check preferred!) at the Christmas Party.

While you're at it, why not renew for multiple years and save our Treasurer (and yourself) some work!

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### **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 bulletin is by the previous month's Board meeting.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Dirk, N6SUN, Acting President

Hello All,

I can hardly believe what I'm about to write... It's time for the Annual EARS Christmas Party. There, I wrote it. Is it just me or did this year go by quickly? What a year it's been too. As I think back, I realize I have done a lot of things, as you probably have, but still, it surprised me the other day staring at the calendar and it said December... As my dad always says, the busier you are, the more you get done.

That said I have a short list of suggested "To Do's"...

Attend the EARS Christmas Party on Dec. 10th at John's house. These are always fun events. See [www.earsclub.org](http://www.earsclub.org) or call me for more info.

Find a new calendar and write "EARS Meeting" on the second Thursday of each month (with the exception of August and December). Set a goal to attend most of those meetings. Steve Venner is the new program chair and I think he will bring some great programs to the club. Dr. Howard White will be speaking to us in January about his MonstIR antenna he installed in La Jolla (how did he do that?).

Renew your membership in EARS. Be sure to let Konrad know if anything about you has changed (license class, address, etc).

GOTAR: Get On The Air Regularly. Every time I'm in my truck, I turn on the mobile radio. Whenever I'm in my office, the HF radio is on. If I'm outside doing yard work, I have a handie with me. While there are so many new ways to communicate with people, don't forget about the many friends we have on the ham bands.

Field Day: Lend a hand at Field Day. Help set up or help tear down and definitely think about operating. If all goes as we plan, we should be in the semi-circle this year!

Well, I could probably think of a few additional "To Do's", but I know you have your own and I don't want to push those off of the existing list... I do hope you will consider these modest goals as we wind down 2005 and begin planning for 2006.

I hope you all have a wonderful Holiday Season and a safe New Year's. See you at the Christmas Party and in this space next year!

Dirk, N6SUN

## EARS Club Officers for 2006

### President

Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, 743-5839  
[darcpa@att.net](mailto:darcpa@att.net)

### Vice President

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 737-0755  
[sbvenner@cox.net](mailto:sbvenner@cox.net)

### Secretary

Sam Bradsher, N6SD, 747-9096  
[n6sd@arrl.net](mailto:n6sd@arrl.net)

### Treasurer

Konrad Wallenda, N6UKO, 743-8826  
[n6uko@aol.com](mailto:n6uko@aol.com)

### Emergency Services Coordinator

Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 743-4212  
[w6yoo@amsat.org](mailto:w6yoo@amsat.org)

### Officers at Large\*

All persons with an asterisk (\*) plus:  
Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, 741-2560  
[kb6nmk@amsat.org](mailto:kb6nmk@amsat.org)  
Roger Hicks, KB6DQO, 741-3375  
[hicks@cox.net](mailto:hicks@cox.net)  
Ron Rosson, N6XT, 749-1239  
[n6xt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:n6xt@sbcglobal.net)

### Newsletter Editor

\*John Musselman, WB6UHF, 747-5303  
[wb6uhf@arrl.net](mailto:wb6uhf@arrl.net)

### Past President

John Belstner, W9EN, 751-0326  
[w9en@amsat.org](mailto:w9en@amsat.org)

### Historian

Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 743-4212  
[w6yoo@amsat.org](mailto:w6yoo@amsat.org)

### Membership

*position is vacant*

### Property Manager

\*Marvin Munster, WB6PKK, 747-2223  
[wb6pkk@amsat.org](mailto:wb6pkk@amsat.org)

*Happy Holidays  
and  
Good Luck in the New Year  
from  
All EARS!*

## Awards and QSLing, Part XIX

by Harry Hodges, W6YOO

The exchange of QSL cards to confirm contacts over Amateur Radio is as old as Amateur Radio itself. Submitting Short Wave Listener (SWL) cards to stations heard, both Amateur and commercial, also has a long history. However straightforward the practice seems, it can sometimes be a bit quirky.

An example: A number of years ago I was hot on the trail of DXCC on the digital modes. One day as I was turning around the RTTY part of the band, there came a call sign that I had not "printed" before: ZC4xx, a station counting for the UK Sovereign Bases on Cyprus. His signal was strong and when he sent QRZ? I sent my call. Lo and behold! Here came my call sign printing across the computer screen and we exchanged signal reports and I thought I was home free. Not!

I mailed off my QSL card to the ZC4 in the normal manner and sat back to wait what for many of us is an interminable amount of time for the card to arrive. Then one day the envelope arrived and I opened it only to find not his card but mine marked in red "Not In Log".

How could that happen? I saw my call printing on the screen. Oh woe is me! Oh well, perhaps he failed to log my call. Who knows? Anyway, it would not be the first time I would be recorded as "Not In Log".

Now here is where it gets quirky. A few months later

## Just What You Want For Christmas

from Steve, W6TAN

"Japanese watch store TokyoFlash offers now the first Morse Code LED wristwatch.

The Morse Code Watch actually can beep the current time in Morse Code. The watch displays the digits either in morse code or in standard notation.

You already know the cryptic LED watches from TokyoFlash. Our Gadget models Melany and Ashlee have featured them as well. The old Morse Code somehow still has its appeal in our digital multimedia world. The Morse Code Watch pays a nice tribute to this classic communications form.

The Morse Code by Morse watch sells for \$116.74 from TokyoFlash (Ships international)."

an SWL's card comes through the bureau saying in essence: "I printed you and ZC4xx on RTTY at this time and on this date". That was the information that I had in my log. Maybe, just maybe, if I resend my card to ZC4xx along with the SWL card to show that at least one other listener "printed" us in QSO I would get my contact confirmed.

So, off went the envelope and the wait began. Finally, after a couple of months the cards were returned. Did they confirm our contact? No such luck. In fact the ZC4 explained that he was not on Cyprus at the time of the alleged contact but was on home leave in the UK. Mmmmmmm. I guess it was a "pirate" I worked. I truly believe that there must be a special place in Hell for folks who pretend to be an Amateur station somewhere in some rare place using someone else's call (pirate) or completely fabricating a call (slim) as has happened to me more than once.

Pirates and Slims are sort of like the folks who email you alleging that there are millions of dollars of Nigerian oil revenue to be shared and who will clean out your bank account if given the chance. However, in Amateur Radio all you would be out is a little time and postage and you will always have the memory of the adrenalin rush when you thought you had worked a really rare one.

73, Harry

## Directions to the Christmas Party

by John, W9EN

*Here are the directions to my house in Valley Center where the Christmas Party will be held:*

Go north on Valley Center Rd. to Woods Valley Rd. There is a stop light at the intersection.

Go east (right) on Woods Valley Rd. for exactly one mile to the *Woods Valley* entrance.

Go north (left) through the gates to Saint Andrews Lane.

Go west (left) on St. Andrews Lane to 27364 (on left).

Call on 146.55 if you are stuck at the gate or need other help.

## The Poway Massacre

by Howard White, KY6LA

First... it is easy to criticize when I am on the outside looking in. So please take this as my observations about the Poway Council Meeting and not a criticism of those hams who had worked so hard on this only to see it come crashing down on their heads... At best it was a disaster,... and at worst it was a Massacre...

Background: Poway has a very restrictive 35' height limit which is illegal under PRB-1.... So Charlie, NN3V, and Gary, W6GDK, spent 5 years trying to get the City of Poway to draft more lenient and legal legislation. Working with the City Staff and legal department, they came up with a new ordinance which was supposed to have gone through first reading tonite at City Council. They asked all the hams in San Diego to come to the meeting to support them.

While they had done a great deal of work on the City Staff side, clearly they were totally unprepared for the meeting and the strength and vehemence of the opposition... but more on that later...

The Meeting: The first speaker was a ham who talked about his "passion" for the hobby... which unfortunately set the wrong tone for our side...as it clearly came across as a hobby... and not a vital public safety communications tool....EMCOMM.

The meeting went downhill from there... Speaker after speaker came out in opposition to the ordinance... They complained about Red Herrings such as RFI, RF and Cancer, Towers Falling and Lost Property Values... and they were heard by the city councillors...Mostly they complained about aesthetics... and that really hit the mark...

The only bright spot on our side was a lady whose husband, a fire fighter, was saved by Hams in the 2003 Fires... We have 3 or 4 speakers to their 20... we had hardly any hams (10 -15) to their 40 -50 in opposition... Conspicuous by their absence was any official ARRL representative.

It was a textbook case of how not to run a political meeting..and is a very good lesson for us in San Diego.. if we want to lose all antennas ...

The Result: Fortunately while Poway almost banned antennas before being told by their lawyer that they could not... they told their staff to redraft the proposed bylaws to make it even more difficult to put up antennas in Poway...

So instead of a new ordinance that complied with PRB-1, Poway is likely to get one that is even more illegal... which will likely now have to be overturned

by the courts when someone next tries to get a tower in Poway...if they have the \$\$\$ to fight City Hall.

### Lessons Learned:

1. Do not underestimate the strength of the opposition
2. We need to have at least 100+ hams show up at the meeting..., we need to dominantly outnumber the opposition.
3. The following organizations as a minimum need to be at the meeting and speak on behalf of hams

1. Red Cross
2. RACES in Uniform
3. Salvation Army
4. CERT
5. ARRL Section Manager or Division Director
6. ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator
7. US Bureau of Forestry
8. CDF
9. Hospitals
10. Marine Corp - Miramar
11. ARES
12. OES

4. The emphasis should be on Emergency Communications ...over and over and over again... During the meeting.. the Green Valley Association totally debunked Ham EMMCOMM...and we did not rebut them...

5. We need to be represented by a lawyer who knows what he is doing...especially about PRB-1
6. We need to have prepared each of the City Councillors well before meeting so that they understood about EMMCOMM and forget about Hobby...
7. We need expert witnesses on the Heights of Towers and the Laws of Physics...
8. We need expert witnesses to debunk the junk science such as HF and Cancer...
9. We need expert witnesses to debunk towers falling over and setbacks...

Mostly we need a broad organization committed to doing the work to preserve our rights to antennas or we will lose them like the Poway Massacre.. I would appreciate it if anyone else had some observations or ideas from the Poway Massacre.. if they could write me...as I am sure that there are more lessons to be learned...

Finally I know Charlie and Gary worked very long and hard hours on this with very little outside support. I wish it had gone better for them... and if they get another kick at the can... I would like to be the first one to offer my time to helping them.....

# **ESCONDIDO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**



**Saturday, December 10, 2005  
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Come Join Us for  
an Evening of Fun and Fellowship**

**at the Home of John, W9EN, and Lynn Belstner  
27364 St Andrews Lane, Valley Center, CA 92082**

**Raffle Drawing For Cash  
and HRO Gift Certificates**



**Please Participate in our Gift Exchange  
Bring One Wrapped Gift Valued at \$5.00 to \$10.00**

**Food and Beverages Provided  
(A \$7.50 donation per person is suggested to cover the cost)**

**Families Invited  
Dress is Casual**



**COME ONE, COME ALL  
THE MORE THE MERRIER**

## OCTOBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported there is \$1237.81 in the checking account, \$538.57 in the savings account and \$1011.84 in the CD. Konrad will see if he can find a better rate for the CD.
2. The next ARES training will be the same time as the Christmas parade and will be a debriefing of the recent emergency drills.
3. The \$20 membership (for membership with badge), was voted to be discontinued.
4. Paul, WN6K, has held three classes at Heritage Charter School with a poor turnout. He may cancel the class if it doesn't improve.
5. Sam, N6SD, passed around the club events notebook for comments. It is about 70% finished.
6. The new officers for 2006 were presented. (See page 2)

7. Nick, KK6TV is stepping down as Webmaster so the board is searching for a replacement.
8. \$250 was authorized for the Christmas party along with two \$25 checks for prizes for the ladies. We will ask for a donation of \$7.50 each.
9. Jo, KB6NMK reported that the First Night is on and needs 6 communicators per shift. The shifts will be from 6 to 9:15 and 9 to 12:30.
10. Sam, N6SD suggested that we hold the board meetings at the Salvation Army building if they had a room available. John, WB6UHF will enquire but until we find out Konrad, N6UKO volunteered for January and Harry, W6YOO volunteered for February.
11. The December Board Meeting will be held at Filippi's Pizza Grotto at 114 W Grand at 7pm on the 27<sup>th</sup> of December.

## 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, 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 127.3. 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](http://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](http://www.earsclub.org).

**EARS REFLECTOR** – is a free service that keeps members up-to-date via e-mail. To get on the reflector, go to the EARS website and click on Yahoo Groups in the site map. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, e-mail 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, 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.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.

**SANDARC** - EARS is a member of the San Diego Amateur Radio Council, an association of San Diego area Amateur Radio clubs. Among other things, SANDARC runs the local Volunteer Examiner program (SANDARC-VEC), and manages the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention when held in San Diego every fourth year. See [www.qsl.net/n6oph](http://www.qsl.net/n6oph).

**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 are available at [www.arrl.org/sections/SDG.html](http://www.arrl.org/sections/SDG.html), 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  
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ESCONDIDO, CA 92033

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