

# ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

September 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!

### Thursday, September 8th Batteries and Charging

The speaker will be Mark Raptis, KF6WTN. He will be discussing the various types of batteries and proper techniques for charging and discharging them to maximize their useful life. Mark is an electrical engineer and designs and builds his own circuits.

If you own a handheld, cell phone, or a digital camera (or anything else that uses batteries) you should find this to be an interesting program.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hunting Those T's - p. 3

Peanut Butter Preparedness - p. 4

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

## EVENT CALENDAR

<b>Sept 8</b>	<b>EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept 9-11</b>	<b>SW Division Convention, Riverside</b>
Sept 17	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Sept 24	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Sept 27	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m.
<b>Oct 13</b>	<b>EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m.</b>
Oct 15	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Oct 25	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m.
Oct 29	VE Testing, 9 a.m.



Dirk, N6SUN, serves as Chef at the annual EARS picnic which took place on August 20. More photos of the picnic are available on the EARS website.  
*photo courtesy of Nick, KK6TV*

## WHAT'S NEW AT earsclub.org

There are lots of new items on the EARS website. If you haven't been lately, here's what you're missing:

- ➡ News on SDG&E BPL tests.
- ➡ Harry, W6YOO is interviewed on Channel 8.
- ➡ Latest SANDARC report from Sam, N6SD.
- ➡ Links to news, downloads, more...

Check out this and more now at [www.earsclub.org](http://www.earsclub.org)!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by John, W9EN

In my observation of the events following Hurricane Katrina, I have noticed the absolute worst that the human race has to offer as well the absolute best. It's amazing how disasters such as this have the tendency to do that. In one news report, you hear about the tenacity of volunteer rescue workers (some of whom are survivors themselves) who go for days without sleep in order to continue their efforts to save the lives of others. And in another report, from a police officer whose friend was sent to the area to assist with security, you hear that the various security details are comparing their kill counts (five by this particular one).

Mixed in with all the horror and heroics, is the opportunity to learn from these events in an effort to enhance our preparedness for the next such tragedy. From a CNN News broadcast just last evening, the American Red Cross reported that the Hurricane Katrina incident is the largest scale tragedy that they have responded to ever. Of interest to us in particular, a major problem that has hampered the relief efforts (according to interviewed rescue workers) are communications in and out of the affected areas. In many cases, the volunteer services and equipment of the RACES, ARES and SATERN organizations have been the only communications available to certain affected areas. Those of you who serve one of these groups locally can be proud of that fact.

When the pieces have all been picked up, I look forward to reviewing the lessons learned. For now, our prayers and support go to the victims and rescuers of the devastation left behind by Hurricane Katrina.

73, John

## READY FOR THE NEXT BIG ONE?

by John, WB6UHF

Rod Dinkins, AC6V, has added a new Emergency Preparedness Page to his website. In view of Hurricane Katrina, all members are urged to learn what they can do to be prepared for an emergency.

Start by visiting Rod's Emergency Preparedness page at:

<http://ac6v.com/EP.htm>

## 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.

## EARS Club Officers for 2005

### President

John Belstner, W9EN, 751-0326  
w9en@amsat.org

### Vice President

Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, 743-5839  
darcpa@att.net

### Secretary

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

### Treasurer

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

### Emergency Services Coordinator

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

### Officers at Large\*

All persons with an asterisk (\*) plus:  
Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, 741-2560  
kb6nmk@amsat.org  
Tony May, KG6SXY  
kg6sxy@arrrl.net

### Newsletter Editor

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

## THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE

by John, WB6UHF

EARS member Curt Lawrence, K6LEM, works for the State of California, and among his duties is administering the San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park. For those of you unfamiliar with it, this is a small museum in the San Pasqual Valley commemorating the Battle of San Pasqual which took place December 6, 1846, as part of the Mexican-American War.



These two old elementary classrooms are located immediately behind the San Diego Archaeological Center on San Pasqual Rd.  
*photo courtesy of John, W9EN*

Immediately adjacent to the site are a few old school buildings which used to be part of San Pasqual Elementary School. Because a new school has been built in a different location, the old buildings are now unused and unoccupied.

Curt has encouraged EARS to get in touch with the



The inside of the building on the left in the previous photo.  
*photo courtesy of John, W9EN*

powers that be within the State about the possibility of taking care of one of the buildings in return for its use.

The EARS Board has decided to explore such an arrangement, with the idea of building a Club station in the building. While it is too early to tell whether this will turn out to be a possibility and under what terms, some members of the Board did visit the site and looked inside one of the old elementary classrooms.

Members are encouraged to let the Board know how they feel about the possibility of a Club station and whether this would be a worthwhile club endeavor.

## T-HUNTING

by Tom, K6VCR

Are you aware of the T-Hunts that are sponsored by the El Cajon club on the first and third Saturdays each month? For more information visit [www.qsl.net/wa6bgs/thunt](http://www.qsl.net/wa6bgs/thunt)

There is also a more serious hunt that takes place on the 5th Saturday of the month (two or three times a year) that starts from Montgomery Field in Kearny Mesa at 12 noon. This hunt's boundaries are San Diego County. It is usually a mileage hunt with the primary rules being that the main hidden transmitter will be detectable on 146.565 simplex at the start point and will transmit for 15 seconds per minute. Standard T-Hunt rules of engagement apply. Private roads and NO TRESPASSING signs must be obeyed. This hunt usually encounters dirt roads. This hunt ends by mutual agreement of the hider and hunters but not before 6:00 p.m.

T-Hunting is my passion in ham radio. I am always eager to help others become involved with it. Feel free to forward this message including my email address and phone number to anyone who might be interested.

73, Tom Sneden, K6VCR  
[k6vcr@cox.net](mailto:k6vcr@cox.net)  
619/843-7550 cell

## AUGUST BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

Due to vacations, there were insufficient Board members present to make a quorum. The next Board meeting will be on September 27, 2005.

## Thoughts On Emergency Preparedness by Harry Hodges, W6YOO

With all that is going on in the southeastern part of our country, I think there are certain things that must be said.

First of all, if you live in a part of the country that is prone to hurricanes, you must be prepared, if at all possible, to leave the area BEFORE the storm strikes. My stepmother and father lived in New Orleans, LA, and Pearlinton and Pass Christian, MS, for a half-century and whenever a storm was predicted, they boarded up their home, packed up their car and headed out for an area outside of the storm's path. Dad always kept a stock of non-perishable food, water, and other emergency supplies in the garage. He never understood people who would risk their lives by staying put and "riding out the storm".

Somehow, we hams need to impress upon the general public that "the only really fail safe means of communication is Amateur Radio" as stated by Walter Cronkite, the famous TV anchor. To confirm this assessment all one needs to do is listen to the various emergency traffic nets on 80, 40, and 20

meters that have been running 24/7 assisting in the search and rescue effort and when the time is appropriate to pass health and welfare traffic into and out of the affected area. Tom, N9AL, and Russ, W7LXR, have been singled out by the ARRL as operators of note on the SATERN net. The operators on the SHARES National Coordination Stations have been doing a bang up job. Ham radio was recognized by the Wall Street Journal in a September 1<sup>st</sup> editorial that where conventional communications have failed, Amateur Radio is filling the gap.

Lastly, you as an individual must recognize that in a disaster help is unlikely to arrive for at least 72 hours and maybe longer. If nothing else, keep a couple of super size jars of peanut butter and a few gallon jugs of water on hand. Peanut butter is high calorie and loaded with protein and can keep you going for quite a while and it won't spoil. Also don't forget to organize a telephone calling system so that points of contact are established around the country where family and friends can call to find out how you are doing. Keep a stack of quarters on hand because generally one can call out of the disaster area on a public phone. The American Red Cross and other agencies have published disaster preparedness guides to assist you in "being ready for the big one!"

## 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  
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

743-2255  
662 ENTERPRISE STREET  
ESCONDIDO, CA 92029

## ***IMPULSE* Electronics**

**Your San Diego County Supplier**  
**(760) 747-5277 – (866) 747-5277**

Escondido [www.ImpulseElectronics.com](http://www.ImpulseElectronics.com)

**Your San Diego County Supplier - \$ Less than the Internet**  
**Power Products:**

Power Pole; Power Wire; Crimpers; AGM Batteries

**West Mountain Products:**

RIGrunner; RIGblaster; Accessories

**Coax Assemblies - Adapters - Coax Cable - Terminals**

**Harald Brandner, KE6JE**  
**Call me to buy or sell: 1-800-456-0188**



**Check the value of your home:**  
**[www.valueferret.com](http://www.valueferret.com)**

**Search the entire San Diego MLS:**  
**[www.homeferret.com](http://www.homeferret.com)**

**One Source Realty** 