

# ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

Dec 2006

## GENERAL MEETINGS

EARS meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Salvation Army building at 1301 Las Villas Way, in Escondido. Come early and chat!

### **Saturday, December 9th EARS Christmas Party**

At the home of John Belstner, W9EN, and his wife Lynn, 27364 St Andrews Lane, Valley Center 92082.

See the announcement on page 5.

## 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, N6EP, Editor  
n6ep@arrl.net

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The deadline to submit material for the bulletin is by the previous month's Board meeting.

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## That's why they call them Dues!

All memberships paid through 2006 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!

## EVENT CALENDAR

<b>Dec 9</b>	<b>Christmas Parade, 9 a.m.</b>
<b>Dec 9</b>	<b>Christmas Party, 4:00 p.m.</b>
Dec 16	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 26	EARS Board Meeting, 6 p.m. at Filippi's
Dec 30	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
<b>Jan 11</b>	<b>EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.</b>
Jan 20	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Jan 23	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Jan 27	VE Testing, 9 a.m.

## READY FOR THE NEW BANDS?

--by John, N6EP

Get ready, the new frequency band limits take effect Friday, December 15, 2006 at 12:01 a.m. EST. That's Friday the 15th at 9:01 p.m. our time!

Go to the ARRL website and download the complete band chart at:

[www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3\\_color.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf)

and you'll be ready to go. See p. 4 for details.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Dirk, N6SUN, President

Hi All,

Last month I mentioned that band conditions were maybe improving... This month I can't tell due to the dry windy conditions which produce an S-9 noise level on the HF bands at my QTH. At least we know that Santa Ana conditions are a temporary condition.

December will be a busy month for most of us. Folks will be shopping, visiting with friends and family, exchanging gifts, etc. At least most of the EARS events are early in the month - with two on one day!... On December 9th, we will be providing radio communications for the 56th Annual Escondido Christmas Parade in the morning then having our Annual Christmas Party in the afternoon.

Whether you participate in the parade or not, please join us at John's house in Valley Center beginning at 4:00 pm. We will have a white elephant gift exchange just like last year. Come and join the fun! The last event will take place on December 31st, the last day of the year. If you would like to help support the First Night Celebration, then volunteer to help the club provide backup communications. I did this two years in a row and had a great time. You even get in free! Do dress warm though...

The last item I want to share is an observation. I was in Palm Springs last week for a continuing education seminar. In the evening as I was sitting in the jacuzzi, I tuned across the 220 band (with my waterproof VX-7, of course). I brought up the 224.92 repeater. It still sounded good after all these years.

The next morning, I turned on the radio, but said to my friend, you probably won't hear anything on this frequency since no one uses 220 anymore. It wasn't but a few minutes later and two folks began chatting on this repeater. It continues to surprise me how little activity we have on the 220 band in San Diego. If you have a 220 radio around your shack, dust it off and check out the band. There are still some great 220 repeaters in this area.

See you all soon!

73,

Dirk  
N6SUN

## EARS Club Officers for 2007

### President

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

### Vice President

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 737-0755  
sbvenner@cox.net

### Secretary

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

### Treasurer

Konrad Wallenda, N6UKO, 743-8826  
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### Emergency Services Coordinator

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w6yoo@amsat.org

### Officers at Large\*

All persons with an asterisk (\*) plus:  
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n6ep@arrl.net

### Past President

John Belstner, W9EN, 751-0326  
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### Historian

Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 743-4212  
w6yoo@cox.net

### Membership

open

### 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.

## AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XXX

by Harry, W6YOO

Santa Claus is coming to town! Well maybe not just to our town but to Hams all over the world, and in a big way! How about a humongous DXpedition, operating during the entire month of December, on all bands and all modes, from one of the rarest DX spots on the planet? Just thinking about it makes my fingers twitch and my ears ring. Tell me more you ask? Read what follows, check out your rigs and antennas, polish up the key and the TNC and be ready when "they" show up on the air.

The location of the DXpedition is the Lakshadweep Islands, which belong to India. A tropical paradise that is located at about 80 degrees North latitude and 73 degrees East longitude. There are some 36 islands in the group. For complete information please visit the URL: <http://lakshadweep.nic.in>. The first element of operators set sail from the mainland on November 29<sup>th</sup> and hope to have the first stations up and running December 1<sup>st</sup>. They will operate SSB, CW, RTTY, SSTV, and PSK. Following on their heels, a second group of operators will arrive mid-month with a third group following to provide sufficient operators for round-the-clock operation during the whole month of December. The call sign to be used is VU7LD and you can find out more at <http://arsi.info/vu7>.

The last DXpedition to VU7 occurred in January 1993, almost fourteen years ago. So, as one can imagine, the demand for this DXCC and IOTA entity has risen to the top of the charts to sit in the top five most wanted depending on what geographical area of the world was being surveyed. I managed a single 20 meter SSB contact during the last operation from there, so this time I hope for at least one CW and RTTY QSO. Of course if Santa thinks I have behaved, maybe QSOs on a number of other bands and modes will come my way.

Now, if you really believe in old Saint Nick you won't be surprised when I tell you that a second DXpedition to the same location is scheduled for the period December 1 to 15 along with a mini-Hamfest. Wow! My cup is running over. The call sign of this other group will be VU7RG and is being sponsored by the National Institute for Amateur Radio (NIAR) while the first above mentioned is being sponsored by the Amateur Radio Society of India (ARSI). The international DX community has expressed concern hoping the two groups can share the airwaves amicably.

So, beginning this Friday, aim your beams at 350 degrees and watch the packet clusters for signs that

VU7LD or VY7RG is on the air. Keep your fingers crossed for decent propagation. May you work them on all bands and modes and that one of their QSL cards will soon adorn your wall.

OBTW, I have just surpassed the magic number of 750 IOTA Islands confirmed and am eligible for the next award up the line, the Plaque of Excellence. It has only taken some 20 years. See [www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/26/2/?nc=1](http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/26/2/?nc=1) for more info.

73, Harry

### Contest Calendar for December, 2006

Dec 2 ARRL 160 Meter Contest\*  
Dec 3 TARA RTTY Melee  
Dec 3 Wake-Up! QRP Sprint  
Dec 10 ARRL 10-Meter Contest\*  
Dec 11 CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run  
Dec 16 Russian 160-Meter Contest  
Dec 17 MDXA PSK Deathmarch  
Dec 17 OK DX RTTY Contest  
Dec 17 RAC Winter Contest\*  
Dec 17 Croatian CW Contest  
Dec 17 Stew Perry Topband Challenge\*  
Dec 26 DARC Christmas Contest  
Dec 31 Original QRP Contest

Although there are not a great many contests in the month of December, one finds CW, RTTY, PSK, SSB, and 10-Meters through 160-Meters. What more could one ask? Complete rules can be found in CQ, QST, NCJ and Worldradio magazines. Enjoy the Holidays and CU in the contest.

73, Harry, W6YOO

## CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY RESULTS

by Steve, W6TAN

### 2006 CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY (CQP) - N6WB

#### QSOs

<u>BAND</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
40	72	95
20	334	287
15	26	0
Total	432	382

<u>POINTS</u>	1296	764
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Total points	2,060
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Total Multipliers	55
Final Score	<b><u>113,300</u></b>

## **“Omnibus” R & O Takes Effect**

—from the ARRL

### **“Omnibus” Amateur Radio Report and Order Takes Effect December 15**

With publication in the Federal Register November 15, the long-awaited changes to the amateur rules are set to take effect 30 days later, at 12:01 AM EST December 15. The so-called “Omnibus” Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, includes a significant expansion of the 75 meter phone band and a variety of other changes.

The highlights:

- \* For Amateur Extra class licensees, the 75 meter phone band will start at 3600 kHz, while Advanced class licensees start at 3700 kHz and Generals at 3800 kHz. The high end of the CW/RTTY/Digital band is now 3600 kHz (although CW is allowed on the entire band).

- \* On 40 meters, Amateur Extra and Advanced licensees will be able to operate phone beginning at 7125 kHz, while Generals start at 7175 kHz. The top end of the CW/RTTY/Digital band will be 7125 kHz (although CW is allowed on the entire band).

- \* There are no changes to the 20 meter band.

- \* On 15 meters, the General class phone band now starts at 21275 kHz.

- \* On 10 meters, Novice and Technician Plus licensees can now operate CW/RTTY/Digital from 28000 kHz to 28300 kHz.

- \* In addition, Novices and Tech Plus licensees can use CW only on the same frequencies as General and Advanced licensees on the 80, 40 and 15 meter bands: 3525 kHz-3600 kHz; 7025 kHz-7125 kHz and 21025 kHz-21200 kHz.

The Report&Order as published in the Federal Register clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released October 10: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use RTTY/ data emissions in the 7075-7100 kHz band.

Several controversial aspects of the proceeding are still to be resolved, although the FCC is working on an erratum for the inadvertent elimination of J2D emissions of more than 500 Hz bandwidth. The Commission intends to release the erratum by the December 15 effective date.

The FCC also took several other miscellaneous actions.

## **2007 Emergency Events Planning**

by Mitch, K6BK

Here is a DRAFT of the SDGARES 2007 Calendar.

Should we have 2-hour training sessions follow the general meeting? Or separate weekday evening training meetings? Lets start with “Net Basics” training in Jan.

All general meetings are on the 2nd Sat (there are no problem holidays) except for Oct 6 due to Miramar Air Show on Oct 12-14

General meetings (with breakfast) at Green Hospital:  
1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14, 8/11, 9/8, 10/6, 11/10, 12/8.

Events:  
1/13-15 Borrego Springs Orienteering

2/2-4 Special Olympics Floor Hockey? (Convention Ctr)

3/17-18 Special Olympics Basketball (USD)

3/31 Lake Hodges 50K Trail Run

5/15? EMS drill on a weekday

5/28 Memorial Day Beach Patrol?

6/1-3 Special Olympics Greater Games (SDSU)

7/4 CDF Red Flag Patrol  
7/4 July 4th Beach Patrol?

8/18 ARRL Simulated Emerg. Test

9/3 Labor Day Beach Patrol

10/12-14 Miramar Air Show

11/15? EMS drill on a weekday

December - no field event.

I have not included any additional Ultra-Runs (other than Orienteering and Hodges) because leadership is not in place now. I will not move the general meeting up for the Orienteering event, because it is a 3 day campout with limited participation. Do we need to create a CDF drill... maybe in April?

Your comments please on the calendar and the events.

Tnx, Mitch

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

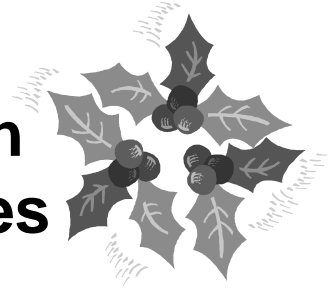


**Saturday, December 9, 2006  
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**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**

## NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Steve, W6TAN, reported the Christmas Party will be hosted again this year by John, W9EN and his wife Lynn.

2. Steve, W6TAN, is asking for ideas to improve the turnout at the general meetings. A number of ideas were offered by board members.

3. Steve, W6TAN, reported the website is still in work and progressing.

4. Konrad, N6UKO, reported there is \$750.85 in the checking account, \$541.25 in the saving account and \$1229.62 in a CD. He wishes to remind everyone that membership dues are due.

5. Harry, W6YOO, reported that there aren't enough trained responders in ARES to staff area hospitals in an emergency. He urged everyone who is available during the day to become trained.

6. Konrad, N6UKO, will pick up the keys to our room in the Salvation Army building Friday 1 Dec.

Steve, W6TAN, may have a nice work bench for the room.

7. Steve, W6TAN, reported we took top honors in our category in the California QSO Party. He suggested we have a Contest Chairman to announce future contests the club may want to participate in.

8. Steve, W6TAN, suggested we summarize all the action items from board meetings and attach them to the minutes. Beginning next month, the meeting chairman will summarize and forward to the secretary a list of action items each month.

9. Jo, KB6NMK, reported that First Night is a go and they need as many communicators as they can get. She also reported there will be a CERT class in Escondido some time in January. Contact Leon, N6VS, for details. Jo also reported there will be a SATERN training class in Escondido in January and that communicators are required for an orienteering competition in Borrego Springs for 3 days in January.

## 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 any club officer.

**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 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. There is a breakfast buffet for the low price of \$7.00. The monthly ARES training session follows the breakfast meeting and takes place at the Emergency Operations Center in Kearney Mesa. Training begins at 10:00 a.m. and lasts approximately one hour. Donations of cash or equipment to San Diego ARES are now tax deductible.

**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.

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