

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

February 2006

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, February 10th DXpedition to Kerguelen Islands, FT5XO

Sail with the famous R/V Braveheart to new extremes in the South Indian Ocean and join the Microlite Penguins DXpedition team as they battle through the seas and the pileups from yet another remote Antarctic destination!

Video courtesy Harry, W6YOO

EVENT CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Feb 10 | EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m. |
| Feb 17-19 | Yuma Hamfest |
| Feb 18 | EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. |
| Feb 25 | VE Testing, 9 a.m. |
| Feb 28 | EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. at Sam's |
| Mar 9 | EARS Monthly Meeting 7:30 p.m. |
| Mar 11 | Lake Hodges 50K run |
| Mar 18 | EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. |
| Mar 25 | VE Testing, 9 a.m. |
| Mar 28 | EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. |
| Apr 13 | EARS Yearly Auction |
| Apr 15 | EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. |
| Apr 26 | EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m. |
| Apr 29 | 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 4.



Marvin, WB6PKK, attending last year's first annual Yuma Hamfest. This year's event takes place February 17-19. For more information, visit www.yumahamfest.com.

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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

Hi All,

In case you haven't heard, January was a very busy month for me. My father peacefully became a silent key on January 28th after a valiant five month fight against cancer. Ed operated a tax and accounting practice in Escondido for 33 years and lived in Escondido for 28 years. He earned his Amateur license in 1991 in a pact with Theresa (my wife). They studied together and were focused on passing the exam. They even tested on the same day which is why Ed was KD6BFM and Theresa is KD6BFJ.

Now it is true that both of these stations are like rare DX... The reason this is so is because both of them earned their license with the intention of speaking only to me or each other... I sure will miss him... In case you're interested, the Memorial Service for my Dad will be on February 10th at 1:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Escondido.

The club has some great events coming up in the next two months:

This Thursday, February 9th, compliments of Harry, W6YOO, we have a brand new video from the DXpedition to the Kerguelen Islands.

It's the perfect time to start planning for April's meeting! This is the annual club auction. Start looking now through your garage and/or ham shack for items that have sat around too long. This has always been a great fundraising event for our club and there are always plenty of bargains for buyers.

On the technical side, be watching for improvements to the 2 meter repeater soon. Marvin is working on a new antenna right now and looking into a better controller.

Lastly, there are plenty of emergency services activities to participate in. For starters, the next ARES training session will be on February 11th. The subject is Auxiliary Power. There is a 50km run on March 11th at Lake Hodgers, then the Pacific Crest Trail run on March 13th. And finally, the I Love A Clean San Diego event on April 29th. Contact Harry or Jo for information on volunteering for these events.

73,
Dirk

EARS Club Officers for 2006

President

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

Vice President

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

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

Treasurer

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

Emergency Services Coordinator

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

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All persons with an asterisk (*) plus:
Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, 741-2560
kb6nmk@amsat.org
Roger Hicks, KB6DQO, 741-3375
hicks@cox.net
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*John Musselman, WB6UHF, 747-5303
wb6uhf@arrl.net

Past President

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

Historian

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

Membership

position is vacant

Property Manager

*Marvin Munster, WB6PKK, 747-2223
wb6pkk@amsat.org

AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XX

by Harry, W6YOO

Each year, I am amazed at the number of awards that are available to the average "paper chaser". Recently arriving in the mail was the 2006 Edition of the K1BV Awards Directory. This is a worldwide listing of over 3,180 different Amateur awards from 124 DXCC countries. Wow! Most of us don't have sufficient wall space in our shacks to hang just a fraction of this number; however, you can always keep the excess in a file cabinet and pull them out every once in a while as I do so as to "relive the past" so to speak.

One that I have is from "La Junta Directiva de Expopar 73 de la Union Industrial Paraguaya" that dates back thirty-three years. All that was required was a single contact with the Special Event Station ZP5AA that was set up on the grounds of the exposition. Not much effort was required as my station, ZP5HZ, was only a few miles away and I could do it on ground wave.

There is another award from about the same period of time that was far more difficult to qualify for. This was the "Worked All Okinawa" award, which required confirmed contact with ten Okinawa stations. When you consider that Okinawa was half a world away from Paraguay, that the few Okinawa stations were on at different times on different bands and.....in those days there was no "packet cluster" to announce who was being heard.....well, it took a lot of listening and knowing when a band opening might occur and about two and a half years to collect number ten.

One of the more recent that I have received is a certificate from Special Event Station K9P, celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Masters (no, not connected with golf), an international pistol shooting event limited to only 100 pro/am competitors from around the world. A nice certificate for making the contact includes the usual QSL information, patriotic symbols such as the flag and American eagle, and more information about the competition. Neat!

Saturday, I worked W5P, a Special Event Station in Lubbock, Texas, commemorating the 47th anniversary of the death of Buddy Holly, an early rock-and-roller. I even got to speak to "Peggy Sue".

Paper chasing is only one small part of Amateur Radio but fun. Give it a try. If you don't want to buy the Awards Directory, an awards column is featured each month in CQ Magazine and Special Events are listed in QST. If your XYL collects "knick knacks", go her one better and collect operating awards and

certificates.

Remember, when you send your QSL, please send the appropriate size return envelope and sufficient postage. More on awards and QSLing next month. See you on the bands.

73, Harry

SUITSAT-1 LAUNCHED FROM ISS from the ARRL Newsletter

"SuitSat-1" is orbiting Earth! ISS Expedition 13 flight engineer Valery Tokarev released the unique and enthusiastically anticipated satellite into orbit February 3 at 2303 UTC as he and ISS Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, began a six-hour space walk. SuitSat-1 consists of a discarded Russian Orlan spacesuit reconfigured to function as a free-floating Amateur Radio transmit-only satellite. Activated at 2259 UTC, the satellite was programmed to come to life some 16 minutes later on 145.99 MHz. The 16-minute delay is said to be a crew safety measure. SuitSat-1's deployment over the south-central Pacific Ocean was the first task of the space walk.

"Dosvidanya! Good-bye, Mr Smith!" Tokarev said in Russian as SuitSat, unhooked from its tether and pushed away from the space station, tumbled slowly away into the void. "It's moving at the specified acceleration." A project of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program (www.rac.ca/ariss), SuitSat drifted off until it appeared as a mere speck silhouetted against brightly illuminated Earth below.

The NASA trajectory operations officer at Mission Control called it "a good deploy within the cone for safety to ensure no re-contact with the International Space Station." NASA-TV provided live coverage of the space walk and SuitSat-1's release.

The Amateur Radio community, students, scanner enthusiasts, space fans and others have been eagerly awaiting the launch of the most novel satellite ever to orbit Earth. SuitSat-1 will transmit its voice message "This is SuitSat-1 RS0RS!" in several languages plus telemetry and an SSTV image on an eight-minute cycle as it orbits Earth. The three batteries powering the satellite are expected to last about a week, and SuitSat-1 should re-enter Earth's atmosphere after several weeks of circling the globe.

Real-time reception reports can be seen on the SuitSat Web site, www.suitsat.org.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Steve, W6TAN, has taken over club website duties from Nick, KK6TV. He can work on it only on the weekends so it will take time to get it updated.

2. Konrad, N6UKO, reported \$1369.81 in the checking account, \$539.02 in the savings account, \$1014.44 in the CD and \$302 in cash to be deposited. Konrad will check to see if we can get a better interest rate on the CD for next year.

3. Marvin, WB6PKK, proposed buying a new repeater controller for about \$350 that would provide much better control of both the 2M and 440 repeaters. He will present a proposal.

4. Harry, W6YOO, reported the next ARES training session will be February 11th. The subject is Auxiliary Power.

5. Roger, KB6DQO, volunteered to contact new Hams in our area to join our club.

6. Jo, KB6NMK, reported the Technician Class at

Heritage Charter School is about over with two kids in attendance.

7. John, WB6UHF, reported the vendors have started signing up for the Convention so we may start having some duties to perform as our club is responsible for Vendor Services.

8. Sam, N6SD, reported there are added items and replacement costs that increase the club insurance fees by about \$18. He will submit an updated list of equipment to the insurer.

9. Sam, N6SD reported the Library Display items are required to be delivered to him at the next board meeting since the display will be set up the 1st of March.

10. Roger, KB6DQO reported he has reserved the Field day site at Dixon Lake for this year for the club at no charge.

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, 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.

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

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. 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.

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.

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, 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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