

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

June 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!

Thursday, June 8th Field Day Past and Present

A DVD of last year's Field Day, shot by Ted, KD6AKT, will be presented. This shows both the EARS and the PARC Field Day operations.

There will be a brief discussion of this year's operation as well.

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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@arri.net

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

EVENT CALENDAR

June 8	EARS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.
June 17	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
June 20	Field Day Planning Meeting 7 p.m.
June 24	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Jun 24-25	ARRL Field Day
June 27	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m.
July 13	EARS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.
July 15	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
July 25	EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m.
July 29	VE Testing, 9 a.m.



Order your Field Day T-Shirt and Pins at the next meeting.

Details on page 2.

- photo courtesy ARRL

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.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Dirk, N6SUN, President

Hi All,

Can you feel the excitement in the air?

That's right, Field Day is almost upon us. We have one more planning meeting scheduled on Tuesday the week before the event. It appears that we're ready for another great year under the steady stewardship of our Field Day Chairman, John, WB6UHF.

To help generate even more excitement, this month the club program will be about Field Day... Specifically last year's Field Day. Come and watch as we view the video taken by a member of the Palomar Club. He filmed our group as well as the Palomar group. I have been told that this video recording of the Field Day sites is very interesting. No matter what, it should help you start thinking about Field Day!

We will be operating in the 2A category, have a GOTA station, a VHF/UHF station, and hopefully we will make our satellite contacts again. With all this going on, there are plenty of opportunities for operators. Come participate and be part of the FUN! Don't worry if you haven't contested for some time or you feel "rusty"... Participation and training is what we are focused on!

I hope everyone has been enjoying the nice weather. This nice weather reminds me... Before too long, it will be time for our Annual Picnic.

73, Dirk

GET COOL FIELD DAY STUFF

by Roger, KB6DQO

2006 ARRL Field Day is June 24-25. Show off your support for with official T-shirts and Pins.

The T-shirts and pins are a great way to recognize your involvement in this popular, annual operating event. Distinctive pins are also available to help identify GOTA (GET ON THE AIR) operators.

2006 Field Day Pin — \$5/ea
GOTA (Get On the Air) Pin — \$5/ea

2006 Field Day T-Shirts. Soft, heavy weight cotton. \$12.95 each. Unisex sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, 2X-Large, 3X-Large

EARS Club Officers for 2006

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
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
Roger Hicks, KB6DQO, 741-3375
hicks@cox.net
Ron Rosson, N6XT, 749-1239
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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

If you would like to order any of the above items please let me know by June 10th. All orders MUST be pre-paid. Please make checks payable to:

Roger Hicks - KB6DQO
1452 Marjorie Ave
Escondido, CA 92027

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 760-803-6582 or email at kb6dqp@amsat.org

AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XXIV

by Harry, W6YOO

Sometime back, I talked about three new awards offered by CQ Magazine. The magazine was hoping to stimulate renewed interest in DXing during the low of the sun spot cycle.

One of these awards has to do with working and confirming by QSL a station in each of the 10 by 20 degree Maidenhead Grid Fields into which the world is divided. As some of you may know, we here in North County are in Grid Field DM. There are a total of 324 Grid Fields; however, many of them contain no land mass and therefore the contact would have to be with a maritime mobile.

I wondered how well this new challenge would take off amongst the "deserving". Well, it seems to be moving along quite nicely. I observe in this month's CQ magazine that a goodly number of DXers have been awarded the basic certificate for 50 Grid Fields and there are a substantial number who have attained Honor Roll status with 175 or more different Grid Fields confirmed. So, I suppose it's time for me to get off my rear and start checking my stash of QSL cards to see whether I qualify, at least at the entry level.

In the past, many DXpeditions have produced very attractive QSL cards with photographs of the operating site, the operators, the flags of the various countries represented or a combination of all of these and more. When I started chasing DX, the ugliest cards were those of Soviet Block countries during the existence of the USSR and other Iron Curtain countries. Well now, since the breakdown of the soviet system and the resulting improving economy, Russian cards are becoming more attractive with glossy card stock and excellent photography. My cards are beginning to look shabby by comparison.

When sending for a DX QSL direct, in addition to a self-addressed return envelope, remember to send along an International Reply Coupon (IRC) or United States dollar(s) or "greenstamp(s)" as they are known, for return postage. Some folks insist on putting US stamps on their return envelopes. This will work only in the US or its possessions. The newer IRCs now have expiration dates so be sure to file your older ones on top of the pile. Although QSLs will continue to be popular for years to come, many Hams are participating in ARRL's Logbook of the World where one submits logbook data and if the station you work does the same, you can get DXCC and WAS credit. For more information go to: <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotw/default>. Although the system is a

bit cumbersome for those who are "computer challenged" such as me, there are sufficient "Elmers" out there to give you a hand. Good luck on your pursuit of WAC, WAS, DXCC, and IOTA or any other of the thousands of awards that you feel worthwhile to hang on the walls of your "shack".

73, Harry, W6YOO

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR - GO FREE!

by Sam, N6SD

SANDARC sponsors a booth each year at the San Diego Fair and they need volunteers to man the booth.

The fair runs from June 10th through July 4th but is closed the first three Mondays. There are two shifts per day, 10am to 2pm and 2pm to 6pm. Two people per shift are ideal but one person can operate the booth. There are paid Fair personnel who can relieve you for short periods.

Volunteers have signed up for the first week but the last two weeks are open which means that the SANDARC Fair Chairman will have to operate the booth for the unassigned times.

A ticket is available to get you into the Fair free of charge and free parking is available. The ticket is good for all day so you can enjoy the Fair before and after your shift.

The booth has HF and VHF equipment so you can operate with any class of license.

Six members have signed up and I thank you. If others can help with one or more shifts please contact me and we will sign you up for a day and time that works for you.

Sam Bradsher, 760-747-9096
N6SD@amsat.org

TUCK MILLER IN HOSPITAL

from Harry, W6YOO

Tuck Miller, NZ6T, our San Diego Section Manager, went into the Hospital June 6 after suffering a very serious heart attack. He is at Kaiser Zion but is being transferred to Scripps Memorial where they have better facilities to do an Angioplasty.

Tuck, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

MAY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Steve, W6TAN, reported that the database is in the works. John, WB6UHF, suggested that the database should be a top priority since the old one is 6 months old and he is getting e-mail bounces.

2. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported the clamps to mount the 8 bay antenna will cost about \$120 and the antenna change should not make a big difference in field pattern or signal strength. Up to \$150 for mounting clamps was authorized.

3. Marvin will correct the club brochures and have 1000 copies printed ASAP.

3. Harry, W6YOO, reported he and Jo, KB6NMK spent the day providing communications for a local EMS drill and exercise.

4. Roger, KB6DQO, reported he sent out a bunch of letters to new hams and has another list of new hams to send letters to. So far he has had no response. It was suggested that in the next batch of letters he include an invitation to our Field Day site

at Dixon Lake.

5. John, WB6UHF, reported that the last Field Day meeting will be June 20th. \$300 was authorized for food and gas.

6. Sam, N6SD, reported we have the club day at the Fair covered plus another half a day and the assignments have been made.

7. John, WB6UHF, reported he talked to Jim at the Salvation Army and Jim will find out when we can take over the operating room.

8. Dirk, N6SUN, reported he has 11 operators signed up for the VC parade and needs about 5 more. The operating frequency will be on the PARC repeater at 147.075 with a PL of 107.2.

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. 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 Kearney Mesa Recreation Center, 3170 Armstrong Street (near Mesa College). 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, 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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One Source Realty 