

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

May 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, May 11th Journey to Peter I Island

"Journey to Peter I Island - Close to the Edge". This is a video from the 1994 DXpedition, though a group was there recently operating as 3Y0X. See what kind of conditions the 1994 group encountered.

Thursday, June 8th To Be Announced

EVENT CALENDAR

May 11 **EARS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.**
May 13 Pacific Crest Trail 50 Mile Run
May 16 Field Day Planning Meeting 7 p.m.
May 20 EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
May 23 EARS Board Meeting 7 p.m.
May 27 VE Testing, 9 a.m.

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.

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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.

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, President

I want to share with you something that I heard at a recent Kiwanis Meeting. I was the Kiwanian of the Day, which means that it was my turn to arrange a speaker. I decided to call the MS Society and ask them to provide a speaker so that they can tell the club (who supports my fundraising efforts) about MS and what they do with the money. Nancy Palo, the MS ride director, was a great speaker and talked about MS and explained that the money we raise goes to research as well as people afflicted by MS in the Southern California area.

While she was talking about the ride and all of the preparation that goes into making it happen, I asked about the ham radio operators that support the route. The amateur club that supports the MS150 bike ride is MARA, the Motorcycle Amateur Radio Association. They are a club of ham operators who also own motorcycles. They patrol specific areas and communicate any problems that may arise on the course during the ride. Her answer was very enlightening!

She spoke glowingly of how an individual ham operator shadows her and through the repeater audio she is able to hear all of the communications traffic that is happening during the two day event. She added the MARA group is so important to the MS effort that they don't lock in the date for the ride until they find out if the MARA group is available. There's something cell phones can't do!

Being that it is May, we as a club have the opportunity to provide similar services! Yes, that's right, it is time for Valley Center Western Days. I think this will be the fourth year that the club will be supporting the parade. I have volunteered to be the contact person for the club and all we need are operators.

The parade organizer is very interested in having us back and it is good experience for us. Please get in touch with me to sign up (e-mail, phone, etc). The parade this year is on May 27th, and starts at 10:00am. The parade is over at 12:00, and we usually have pizza afterward.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Talk to you soon,

Dirk, N6SUN

EARS Club Officers for 2006

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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 XXII

by Harry, W6YOO

Well, Visalia is history and what a Convention it was. Something like seven hundred or so at the Saturday night banquet. Would you believe that some \$20,000.00 worth of raffle tickets were sold and some lucky folks won some very expensive toys. This is one of the very few years that your author came home empty handed. Oh well, better luck next time.

Friday night, we attended the IOTA dinner where a number of IOTA DXpeditions were presented. Of particular interest was the recent expedition to the Farallon Islands. This is U.S. territory off the coast by San Francisco. The red tape that the team had to go through to get permission to go there and operate was ridiculous! It seems that the bureaucrats treat these spots as if they owned them.

The main attraction was the presentation at the Saturday banquet about the 3Y0X trip to Peter I Island. Wow! What an adventure. Cost? How about over \$500,000. Was it dangerous? You bet! Just so DXers around the world could get a QSL card. The 3Y0X experience will be presented again at the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in San Diego, September 22-24, 2006. Don't miss it! One of the services provided at Visalia is QSL card checking.

I was part of a team checking cards on Saturday afternoon. Almost 6,000 cards were checked. This year, not only were the cards checked for DXCC credits but Worked All States (WAS) as well. As a checker, every once in a while you see a card from a station that you have in your own collection which is kind of neat.

The other day I received not a card, but a certificate for working a Special Event station, N4S, commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Space Shuttle. The certificate also contained historical data about the space program. It occurred to me that here was an opportunity to get kids involved in the excitement of Ham Radio. You get your son or daughter to speak to the event station operator, work together to send for the QSL or Certificate, and when it arrives the youngster can haul it in to school for "show and tell". You can incorporate in a little geography, history, you name it and who knows, maybe it will generate enough interest for the young person to acquire an Amateur Radio in his/her own right.

Last month we talked about the Hamvention at Port Blair, Andaman Island. How many of you were able

to work one of the many VU4AN/homecall stations that were on the air from this rare DX spot? I managed to snag a RTTY contact which was exciting. If you have any questions about DXing, IOTA chasing, QSLing, drop me an email to w6yoo@cox.net

See you all next month.

73,
Harry, W6YOO

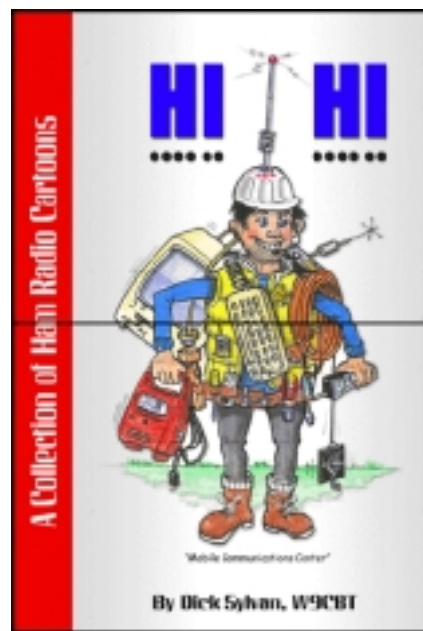
NEW BOOK OF HAM CARTOONS

from Dick Sylvan, W9CBT

Hi Hi—Ham on Wry.

Bouncing off the E-layer and spiraling out of the pen of veteran Amateur Radio operator Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, *Hi Hi* provides solid 5 and 9 laughter.

Drawing on six decades of on-air adventures, Dick offers an insider's view of the bliss and twists of Ham Radio. *Hi Hi* makes a great gift for any Ham—to give or get. Each of the book's three sections: Ham Lingo,



Ham Quips and Morse Quips & Tips, looks Ham Radio square in the eye and finds it—hilarious—and so will you. So, drop that key, put down that microphone, stow that keyboard and order your copy of *Hi Hi — A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons*.

Available at www.k9ya.org/w9cbt, this collection of Dick's cartoons includes and greatly expands his body of work originally published in the *K9YA Telegraph*, a monthly, general interest, Amateur Radio e-Zine.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported that there is \$2190.47 in checking, \$1200 in the CD and savings has not changed except for interest. The checking account total includes about \$350 from the auction which needs to be sent to sellers.

2. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported that Echolink is working. He will need to spend about \$50 for hardware to mount the 8-bay antenna.

3. Roger, KB6DQO, has mailed 20 letters to new hams in the area and has 5 more to mail. So far there has been no response.

4. John, WB6UHF, reported that Field Day planning is on track. The next Field Day meeting will be on May 16th at 7p.m. in classroom A at the Salvation Army Bldg.

5. Sam, N6SD, reported that most of the SANDARC meeting was consumed by discussion of the budget to be submitted for approval at the next

meeting. It was suggested that SANDARC purchase Technician level books for each library in the county. The number and cost will be researched and presented at the next meeting.

6. Konrad, N6UKO, reported he submitted our insurance policy renewal and also requested that the Salvation Army be included on the policy.

7. The auction was poorly attended and the club's share of the sales was about \$75. John, WB6UHF, suggested next year we offer sellers the opportunity to list larger items beforehand so we can advertise what will be for sale.

8. Sam, N6SD, reported that we are low on brochures and we will need more soon.

9. We would like to participate in Valley Center Western Days Parade if we can coordinate with them over the phone rather than attend their meetings.

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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