

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

Nov 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, November 9th "Hollow State" Technology

Thermionic devices - past present & future, presented by Rod, AC6V. Also, election of officers for 2007!

Saturday, December 9th EARS Christmas Party

Mark your calendar now! - 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the home of John, W9EN, and Lynn Belstner, 27364 St Andrews Lane, Valley Center, CA 92082. Bring one wrapped gift valued at \$5.00 to \$10.00. A \$7.50 donation per person is suggested to cover the cost.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Awards and QSLing, Part XXIX - p. 3

Larry Ruegseger, WA6UTQ SK - p. 3

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

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

Nov 9	EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Nov 18	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Nov 25	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Nov 28	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec 9	Christmas Parade, 9 a.m.
Dec 9	Christmas Party, 4:00 p.m.
Dec 16	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 26	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec 30	VE Testing, 9 a.m.

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!

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
---------------	------	-----

Total points	2,060
Total Multipliers	55
Final Score	<u>113,300</u>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Dirk, N6SUN, President

Hi All,

Well it appears that the HF bands may be beginning to improve. During the last two weekends, I've been able to hear most of the folks on the swap net on 7.240. Hopefully, better conditions are on the way. I have an HF vertical ready to go up, though I need to find a good location. I also have some wire antennas in mind. However, very recently, I've also discovered a new mode of communications.

For those of you who don't know, there is a new D-STAR repeater in the county. D-STAR is an open standard digital protocol produced by JARL and is currently only found in Icom radios. The owner of the system is the D-STAR San Diego Group using the repeater call sign of KE6YRU. The repeater is located on Mt. Woodson on the frequency of 446.40. If you listen with an analog transceiver, all you will hear is digital scrambled noise. Nothing intelligible will be heard unless you own an Icom D-STAR equipped radio.

The Icom U-82, a mono-band 440 radio, is a great starting point. For \$329 at HRO, you get a solid 5 watt hand-held, a NiCd battery, a charging stand, and the digital board. I picked up a U-82 and have been having a lot of fun with it. The digital operation is very different from analog repeaters. You're either making the repeater, or your signal breaks up into unintelligible digital tones (sounds like R2D2 from Star Wars). However, because it is a more narrow bandwidth than traditional FM, you can actually talk into the repeater from further distances. It is not uncommon at all to hear stations from Orange County and beyond checking into the system. Future plans include providing 2m and 1.2 GHz access via D-STAR. More information is available here: http://n6six-hamshack.50megs.com/custom_1.html.

I also discovered a great net to listen to on Friday nights. Friday at 8:00pm, the San Diego Six Shooters' Club holds an open net over the N6LXX linked 6m repeater system. Multiple repeaters include: 53.580 -, tone 103.5 (San Diego area), 53.580 -, tone 107.2 (high desert area), and 53.620-, tone 107.2 (greater LA area). The net control is Joe, N6SIX. They play the ARRL weekly broadcast during the net.

See you all soon!

73,

Dirk, N6SUN

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

Ron Rosson, N6XT, 749-1239
n6xt@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

*John Musselman, N6EP, 747-5303
n6ep@arrl.net

Past President

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

Historian

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

Membership

Roger Hicks, KB6DQO, 741-3375
hicks@cox.net

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 4.

AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XXIX

by Harry, W6YOO

One of the most frequent questions I am asked is: "How long should I wait for a QSL before I send off for it again?". My answer always is: "It all depends." I know that is not a satisfactory answer for most folks as we are an impatient lot and most humans seem to seek instant gratification. Well it depends on a number of things such as whether the station you worked does in fact QSL. Now wait a dogbone minute, isn't the sending of a QSL the "final courtesy of a QSO"? Maybe at one time in the history of ham radio, but not now, unfortunately.

Some hams are satisfied in just chatting on the bands, either in CW, SSB, or RTTY in its various forms. They do not care about QSLing and may not even have printed cards available. At the other extreme there are folks who hope to confirm each and every QSO with a card to use for any of the numerous award programs. The Colvins, Lloyd and Iris, sent out literally thousands of cards during their lifetimes as part of the Yasme Foundation's DXpeditions.

Anyway, back to the original question: "How long should one wait?" If the station you worked does in fact send out QSLs, it depends on the circumstances. If, for example you work me, W6YOO, in the California QSO party and send me a QSL with a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) you can expect my card to go out in the next day's mail. If you happened to work Vlad, UX5ABC (made up call) on one of his many DXpeditions to the South Pacific you may have to wait. First of all he may be visiting a number of islands, spending a week or so on each one before finally returning home to Moscow. Once he gets home he looks at his photographs, designs a suitable card which includes the selected photo of a tropical paradise and orders a number which will be sufficient to meet the expected demand and then waits six weeks or more for delivery. Now, as Vlad is employed and back to work and he has accumulated quite a number of QSL requests it may take another six weeks or longer before your card rises to the top of the pile. So, we are looking at a three month waiting period from the end of the DXpedition at least.

One suggestion I would make is that you subscribe to a DX or contest reflector on the internet (they are free) because individuals usually post when they receive a DXpedition card and that will let you know that the cards are coming out and that you might expect yours in a reasonable amount of time. However, if you sent your card via the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau, all bets are off. There are too many

variables and a one year wait is not unreasonable and ten years is not unheard of.

If you are serious about award chasing, direct QSL requests is the way to go.

73, Harry, W6YOO

LARRY RUEGSEGER, WA6UTQ,SK

Larry R Ruegseger, WA6UTQ, passed away at 4:00 p.m., October 22, at Scripps Chula Vista after a long bout with congestive heart failure and cancer. He knew he was terminal and had a good time until he was unable.

- AC6TS

I will miss Larry. I joined him along with the Friday morning Bunker crew while I lived in Escondido. He was a wise man with a great sense of humor. Any public service function I attended, I knew that I would see Larry and his wife. I know he will be missed by many.

Willie - N8WP

I remember seeing Larry probably 15 years ago at one of the Ham Radio Roundups at Missile Park (now gone with General Dynamics). Larry was off by himself with a small Yagi (I believe) trying to work the Space Shuttle with a HT. I am not sure if he was successful but as a new Ham he impressed the heck out of me! He was also very active with several Mexican Charities, the Salvation Army and SATERN, I believe he was also involved with the Vista Blind Center, as well as teaching Ham Classes for the Blind.

Nick - KK6TV

Larry was a great supporter of PARC and was instrumental in getting LOTS of surplus batteries for the club .. our first set of LARGE plastic 1,600 AH cells came through Larry and his contacts with the phone company. Before that, he was always picking up 12v cells which were used for various purposes at the repeater site. They came from an installation over in Oceanside. He also arranged for the big truck that took them to the repeater site.

Larry was also active in ARES. I know he will be missed by many!

Harry - W6YOO

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported there is \$980.25 in the checking account, \$540.59 in the savings account and he rolled over the CD in the amount of \$1229.62 for 5% for 9 months. Steve, W6TAN presented bills totaling \$231.20 for picnic and domain name expenses which subtracts from the previous totals.
2. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported that he intends to build or buy a matching network and test the antenna on 2 meters to see if it will work before extending the elements.
3. Harry, W6YOO, reported the Miramar Air Show went without mishap and the 100 mile run was also without mishap. He pointed out that to participate in a disaster or training and be covered by ARES insurance, you must be a member of ARES.
4. Roger, KB6DQO, reported he has contacted all new amateurs he knows of. Harry, W6YOO has a list he will forward to Roger. There is an average of 3 to 4 new hams in our area each month.

5. Sam, N6SD, reported the convention was a success. There was no negative feedback and SANDARC made a profit of about \$3,500. The Tijuana amateur radio club has requested to become a member of SANDARC and steps are under way to make this happen.
6. Steve, W6TAN, and John, N6EP, inspected the future radio room at the Salvation Army Building and reported it is a shared room and we will have a space of about 3' by 6'. We will need a desk with shelves and cabinets above it to mount and store equipment.
7. Dirk, N6SUN, reported the California QSO Party was a success except for an accident leaving Steve, KE6PY, with a broken finger. The trailer tower needs to be worked on to make it safer to operate.
8. Sam, N6SD, reported we have all the documentation we need for the 1023 application except for the write up in part IV.

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 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. 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 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, 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

**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

Search the entire San Diego MLS:
www.homeferret.com

One Source Realty 