

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

Oct 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, October 12th
Amateur Radio and Radio Astronomy
presented by Kathy Boyd, KA6OYD

Thursday, November 9th
"Hollow State" Technology
presented by Rod, AC6V

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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, 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.

EVENT CALENDAR

Oct 12	EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Oct 13-15	Miramar Air Show
Oct 21	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Oct 24	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Oct 28	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
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.



Steve, KE6PY, operates 20m CW for the EARS entry in the California QSO Party. The operation took place at the Dixon Lake campground (at a site with AC hookup!)
-- photo courtesy N6EP

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,

Well another MS ride is behind me. For the fourth year in a row, I rode 150 miles over the two day event and raised \$1,500 that will make local MS related programs available and provide continued funding for research to hopefully someday find a cure. We had perfect weather for the event and I visited with a lot of folks I haven't seen since last year. At last check, the Pacific MS chapter was closing in on their goal of raising \$2.4 million dollars.

One of the highlights of the MS ride for me was to see ham radio in action! This year, the SAG crew used the WIN System (www.winsystem.org) to communicate with each other (a fleet of about 15 support vehicles plus stations at each rest stop). MARC (the Motorcycle Amateur Radio Club) was also on hand to provide safety assistance though I'm not sure what frequencies they used. My Yaesu VX-7 rode in the center rear pocket of my jersey and I monitored the SAG traffic throughout the ride. The net control operator was very experienced in handling traffic and was very organized. During the ride, several riders went down and a few had serious injuries (dislocated shoulder). A few had minor scrapes and yet others had equipment failures such as a broken spoke or flat tire. This type of event is a perfect showcase for amateur radio. No cell phone or Nextel service could have matched the rapid and simultaneous communication of information that these volunteers provided this weekend.

Lastly, I would like to say a big thank you to Steve Alborn, KE6PY, who organized a CA QSO party contest club station. A lot of time and effort goes into the planning and execution of this type of activity. I don't think we had a large turn out, but I know the folks who did come up to either operate or visit had a great time. And, even though I was away most of the weekend on the MS ride, I did make sure to get some time in at the club station at Dixon Lake before the end of the contest. I really appreciate Steve stepping up to lead this effort.

Looking ahead as we enter fall, we have two more regular club meetings then it will be time for the Annual Christmas Party. More details on that soon.

73,

Dirk

EARS Club Officers for 2006

President

Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, 743-5839
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*Marvin Munster, WB6PKK, 747-2223
wb6pkk@amsat.org

SIGN UP FOR MIRAMAR AIR SHOW

from Harry, W6YOO

If you are going to be in town October 13-15 and want to help at the Miramar Air Show, go to this website and fill out the form.

www.sdgarrrl.org/Miramarapp.asp

AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XXVIII

by Harry, W6YOO

Well, the 2006 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention is over. It was highly successful, everyone seemed satisfied with the quality, and....it made money - money which will provide seed for the next one here in San Diego in the year 2010.

On the subject of awards: Our own Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, received the Southwestern Division Volunteer Award, presented by the Division Director, Dick Norton, N6AA. It was well deserved and long overdue!

At the DX Breakfast on Sunday morning, Bob Grimmick, N6OX, of Fallbrook, gave a presentation about the Peter I Island DXpedition, 3Y0X, which took place in February this year. The talk was very well received by those in attendance. An interesting happening was in the news just a few days ago: The ship which carried this group of intrepid operators, the Chilean owned DAP Mares was seen listing in the Chilean harbor of Punta Arenas, later sinking to the bottom. See the story at www.mercoPress.com/Detail.asp?NUM=8807. Can you imagine this happening while the team was on the island and the ship was standing by off shore?

There has been considerable discussion of late about a recent IOTA expedition to the Venezuelan island of La Tortuga using the call YX5IOTA. The expedition went well with their call sign being posted on the DX Clusters at various times and frequencies throughout their stay on the island. The controversy stems not from the operation itself but from the posted demands of the QSL Manager, IT9DAA wherein he lists in QRZ.com his requirements for one to get a QSL card: i.e. SAE with two US dollars or two IRC's. Cards received with insufficient funds or IRC's will be returned via the bureau. SASEs received, even with the proper Italian postage stamps affixed, will still be returned via the bureau. Go to the QRZ.com site and judge for yourself. Is the manager trying to make money, break even, or was something lost in the translation? As a QSL manager, I expect the requesters to provide a self-addressed envelope of sufficient size to accommodate the card, an IRC which can be exchanged for an 84 cent airmail stamp or, a "green stamp" otherwise known as a dollar bill, or a U.S. airmail stamp on the envelope. For U.S. requesters, an SASE with a U.S. first class stamp will do it. In the case of the green stamp, the sixteen cent excess goes into the kitty to buy more QSL cards.

There are rumors that another DXCC entity will soon be announced. It seems that the Caribbean island paradises of Saint Martin and Saint Barts, now

counting as only one DXCC entity, may come to the parting of the political ways, which may generate a new entity. When this might happen is anyone's guess, but probably not until next year sometime, if then. That would bring the DXCC total to 338 entities. All this is further evidence that the DXCC program is not static as evidenced by the fact that over time there have been over 380 different entities.

Stay tuned, news at 11 p.m. 73, Harry, W6YOO

SW DIV CONVENTION ROUNDUP

by Jo, KB6NMK, and Mike, N6OPH



The 2006 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention is history. Early reviews are that the show was a success and a good time was had by all.

-- photo courtesy N6EP

Thanks a bunch to everyone who gave up all or most of their afternoon at the Convention to help with the VE Testing. A special thanks to Tony, KG6SXY, who checked in people and wrote all the certificates. And Harry, W6YOO, who loaned me the code equipment and paperwork etc. Also, Sam, N6SD, Gary, N6GDK, Ron, N6XT, Leon, N6VS. Thanks everyone! -- 73, Jo, KB6NMK

The convention has been completed and was successful. The overwhelming response was very positive. All of the exhibitors were happy. That makes SANDARC happy too. The figures are still raw and unaudited but it looks like we cleared around \$7K before we repay SANDARC for the start up costs. After that, we should still have earned about \$3500. Yes, our show was indeed a success. EVERYBODY ON THE COMMITTEE WORKED HARD AND DESERVES CREDIT FOR EVERY SUCCESS THAT WE ENJOYED.

-- Mike Maston, N6OPH, Convention Chair

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Konrad, N6UKO, reported there is \$1295 in the checking account, \$540.59 in the savings account and \$1200 in a CD. A donation box will be displayed at meetings labeled "Repeater Fund".

2. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported that each of the elements for the new antenna but has to be extended by 1" for it to work on 2m. It has to be done with a heliarc welder.

3. Harry, W6YOO, reported the Miramar Air Show is coming up on the 13, 14, 15th of October and that communicators are needed.

4. Steve, W6TAN, reported the Radio Room at the Salvation Army Bldg is available for our use. He and John, N6EP, will check it out.

5. Jo, WB6NMK, reported we now have a radio room at the Heritage Charter School. She will start placing equipment and posters in it and make sure the kids are supervised when in the room.

6. Sam, N6SD, reported he is unable to provide all the documents required for the 501(c)(3) since he

has no historical documents. Konrad, N6UKO, reported he has a box of stuff, contents unknown, which he will turn over to Sam.

7. Steve, W6TAN, volunteered to head the nominating committee for 2007. All board members agreed to stay on for another year. Anyone interested in serving is encouraged to contact Steve.

8. Dirk, N6SUN, reported a proposal to for an MOU with ARES but there were a lot of questions, so Dirk will find out more before action is taken.

9. Ron, N6XT, reported the CERT team in Valley Center wants an attended Amateur Radio booth for next year's Western Days Celebration for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

10. Dirk, N6SUN, reported he met with Jack Anderson and asked about ownership of the 440 repeater. Jack agreed it made sense for us to own it so he will write something up.

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.

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