

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

Mar 2007

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, March 8th Radio Astronomy

Presented by Dr. Hugh Chivers. He will cover the topic of "Radionoise, Radioastronomy and Riometers".

Come early! Before the meeting, at 7:00 p.m. sharp, Harry, W6YOO, will be showing and telling his new 897D!

Thursday, April 12th EARS Annual Auction

Here comes the big one! Dust off your (semi) valuables and save up your pennies. This year's auctioneer will once again be the master of things electronic, Art McBride, KC6UQH.

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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 6.

EVENT CALENDAR

Mar 8 EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Mar 17 Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Mar 20 Field Day Planning, 7 p.m.
Mar 27 EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Mar 31 VE Testing, 9 a.m.

Apr 12 Annual Club Auction
Apr 14 Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Apr 17 Field Day Planning, 7 p.m.
Apr 24 EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Apr 28 VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Apr 27-29 Visalia DX Convention

May 10 EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
May 15 Field Day Planning, 7 p.m.
May 19 Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
May 22 EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
May 26 VE Testing, 9 a.m.



EARS members discuss the February program on microcontrollers with presenter Steve Venner, W6TAN, (in back) after the meeting.
-- photo courtesy John, N6EP

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Dirk, N6SUN, President

Hi All,

Here is some very exciting news. Our March meeting will have a presenter who will be telling us about a very exciting topic - Radio Astronomy. Instead of arriving in time for the 7:30 p.m. start, plan on arriving by 7:00 p.m. for some social time prior to the start of the meeting. Harry, W6YOO, will have a demonstration of his new 897D for folks to discuss and comment on.

The upcoming Annual Auction will be in April. Now is the perfect time to start looking through your garage and/or ham shack for items that have sat around too long. Remember, the auction is always fun and is an important fundraiser for our club. Monies from this event help us keep the club repeaters operating properly and provide funding for our social meetings. I hope to see you at the meeting this Thursday.

73,
Dirk / N6SUN

READY, SAN DIEGO? -- forwarded by Harry, W6YOO

California Volunteers invites you to attend
READY SAN DIEGO
Disaster Preparedness for Small Business,
Non-Profits and Faith-Based Organizations

Tuesday, March 20, 2007
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps
Community Center
6845 University Ave, San Diego, CA
Multi-Purpose Room

This FREE workshop will be facilitated by
trainers from the
California Specialized Training Institute

Special guest speaker
Mr. Ron Lane
Director of Office of Emergency Services
County of San Diego, CA

Registration and \$6 luncheon fee is required and
space is limited. Please RSVP by March 6th to SD/I
VOAD 619-446-0404

EARS Club Officers for 2007

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AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XXXIII

by Harry, W6YOO

No More Code! No More Code! No More Code!

That's the drum beat we have heard for the past several years. Well, it has finally happened. As of now, knowledge of Morse code is no longer a requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license; however, that does not mean that CW has gone away. All one has to do is listen on the CW portion of the bands on a contest weekend to find wall to wall CW signals of contesters sending "QRZ?"

No, CW has not, and will not go away in our lifetimes. Why is that? Well for one reason it is a lot of fun and secondly it gets through when nothing else will.

As this column is also about awards, let us now consider the person of Belgian nationality, John Devoldere, ON4UN. He is the author of "Low Band DXing" and a phenomenal collector of awards for operating. I had the pleasure of doing a "virtual" tour of his shack, antenna farm, and beverage antenna field at a recent club meeting. In a word, WOW!

Most Hams would trade their first born for such a facility. Two Orion II radios on the operating position, numerous towers with stacks of beams, a four-square on 40 and a quarter-wave vertical on 160! That is 130 feet tall. Beverages were laid out in all directions and were in most cases 1000 feet long. It pays to have lots of farm land surrounding your station.

Now as to his awards: Five Band DXCC (that's 100 plus countries on each of the principal bands, Five Band Worked All Zones (a confirmed contact with each of the 40 CQ Zones that divide the world of Ham radio. And the frosting on the cake: Worked All Zones on 160 meters. Plus plaques, plaques, and more plaques and trophies, trophies, and more trophies for winning many, many contests. And QSLs? Several filing cabinets filled with thousands, upon thousands, of them. John is, or should be, in everyone's Amateur Radio Hall of Fame!

We have mentioned the ARRL Log Book of the World where you can electronically file your log and others can do the same. When an entry in your log matches the entry in someone else's log, you get credit and eventually you may accumulate enough to qualify and to be awarded "Worked All States" or DXCC. So how about this one from the ARRL Website: Feb 23, 2007: GM3POI 9 Band DXCC — Another stellar achievement was reached by Clive Penna, GM3POI, who achieved a 9-band DXCC in

June of 2006 using only LoTW confirmations! Congrats Clive. This is phenomenal!

I do hope that the influx of more Hams in the ranks of General and Extra class will mean more QSL and award chasers. I also hope that they will also consider joining the ranks of weekend contesters. There are short contests of only a few hours and long contests lasting up to 48 hours for you to choose from. Personally, I prefer the California QSO Party in October, some Ten Meter Contests, and the ARRL DX contests in March.

73,
Harry, W6YOO

FIELD DAY PLANS

--by John, N6EP

Hey, everyone!

It's that time again. Time to think about warm weather, outdoor activities and sunny days. Oh, and did I mention the annual Ham ritual of Field Day?

All EARS members are invited to participate in this granddaddy of all ham events. And if you'd like to help in the planning (which is half the fun), then meet with us the third Tuesday of March, April, May and June at 7 p.m. at the Salvation Army building.

Field Day is June 23 and 24 at Dixon Lake. Mark your calendar now.

Dont miss out!

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.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Steve, W6TAN, was unable to attend but sent an e-mail reporting that the March meeting will be presented by Dr. Hugh Chivers. He will cover the topics of Radionoise, radioastronomy, and riometer.

2. The April program will be the annual auction. Dirk, N6SUN, reported that Art, KC6UQH will be the auctioneer. John, N6EP, will coordinate the auction.

3. Konrad, N6UKO, reported \$541.52 in checking, \$1091.19 in savings and \$1229.62 in the CD. There are 30 life members and 55 paid up members. He also proposed that the club ask the City for money to update our repeaters. Sam, N6SD, will write the letter. Glen Peterson will send the paperwork for the 440 repeater to Konrad. There has been no progress on the tower trailer.

4. Marvin, WB6PKK, reported a new controller will cost about \$550 and will independently control up to three repeaters. Also a phasing harness for the 8-bay antenna is available from the manufacturer for \$100.

5. Harry, W6YOO, reported there will be an EMS drill on March 8th and 9th with at least 5 hospitals involved. The next ARES meeting will be the 2nd Saturday of March. For more information on this and other activities go to www.sdgares.org. Jo, KB6NMK, reported the local SATERN net is being reactivated on 2m.

6. John, N6EP, reported the first Field Day meeting will be March 20th at the Salvation Army Church.

7. Sam, N6SD, reported the display cabinet at the Library has been reserved for the Club for Mar 2008.

8. Marvin, WB6PKK, found an emergency installation at Kaiser Hospital on Zion that the Club can use as a guide for the SATERN station. Sam, N6SD, will inquire if Club members can visit the site to get a better idea of what will be required to build ours.

9. Dirk, N6SUN, will contact Jim at the Salvation Army to reserve the All Purpose Room for the Auction.

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 Scripps Green Hospital, 10666 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. An all you can eat breakfast buffet is served for \$7.00. The monthly ARES training session follows the breakfast meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the hospital's auditorium and normally lasts approximately one hour. Join ARES by visiting www.sdgares.org. There are no dues. San Diego ARES is an IRS 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax deductible. Volunteer responders are always needed.

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 - A SANDARC Volunteer Examiner team administers license examinations on the last Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the LDS Church, 1917 East Washington Avenue, Escondido, 92025. Contact Harry, W6YOO, at (760) 743-4212 or w6yoo@amsat.org 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.

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