

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

Nov 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, November 8
To Be Announced**

Come out early to visit. Program starts at 7:30 p.m.

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MOTOROLA BUYS YAESU from the ARRL

QST de W1AW
Special Bulletin 7 ARLX007
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT November 5, 2007
To all radio amateurs

SB SPCLARL ARLX007
ARLX007 Motorola buys Yaesu

Motorola USA has announced its intention to launch a tender offer to acquire a controlling interest in Vertex Standard Co, Ltd. Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. Motorola will own 80 percent of Vertex Standard; Tokogiken, a privately held Japanese company, controlled by current president and CEO of Vertex Standard Jun Hasegawa, will retain 20 percent, forming a joint venture. The total purchase price for 80 percent of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis will be approximately US \$108 million.

EVENT CALENDAR

Nov 8	EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Nov 17	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Nov 24	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Nov 27	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec 8	Christmas Parade
Dec 8	EARS Christmas Party, p.m.
Dec 15	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 29	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
TBA	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

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 5.

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.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Dirk, N6SUN, President

Hi All,

As my second year as the president of EARS begins to wind down, I find myself reflecting on my tenure. It has been a very exciting and rewarding two years and I want to take a moment right now to thank everyone who has helped to keep the club going. This includes the officers, board members, and most importantly, the membership for stepping up to help at the various events we participate in.

Consider all that we do... We as a club participate in Field Day, CQP, provide important communication services to street fairs, parades, First Night, sports events, and any number of emergency events. Harry did a great job running the information net while the fires were raging. And lastly, we help each other in times of need. I'm very proud of the club's accomplishments and the way that the membership supports each other. Many times, we receive new members into the club because of the way they are welcomed into our group. We have a strong and vibrant club with members that have very diverse interests. I see this all continuing under Steve's Venner's tenure.

Something else I want to discuss with you is the current perception of amateur radio. Recently, I attended a funeral service and I got to talking to an individual who lived up on Coronado Hills. I told this gentleman, who was approximately 55 years old, that I had done some VHF contesting up there and his wife looked at me and said, "I didn't think anyone did amateur radio any more. His father is into amateur radio." So I debunked the myth and told her that it is my favorite hobby. I described the very small and high tech portable radios that are available today.

I ask you to consider ways to inform and educate others about our hobby. Maybe they aren't interested in operating radio equipment themselves, but share with them that amateur radio is alive and well and the importance of it. When I tell people I use it to keep in touch with friends and family and I communicate with operators in Barbados, Tonga, and Galapagos Island, they are fascinated to hear what I am telling them. This is exciting stuff! Some of the ideas I've seen include leaving your CQ or QST magazines in the waiting room at doctor's offices. I'm getting my kids involved and doing everything I can. I told Theresa we should have more children so that we can add to the hobby, but she

(contd on page 4)

EARS Club Officers for 2007

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darcpa@sbcglobal.net

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Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 760-743-4212
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Membership

open

Property Manager

*Marvin Munster, W6MJM, 760-747-2223
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HAM RADIO OUTLET

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AWARDS AND QSLING, PART XLI

by Harry, W6YOO

Most of you probably know that I act as QSL Manager for N6WB, the EARS Club call. This is the call sign used on Field Day, on the fourth full weekend in June and the California QSO Party, on the first full weekend in October. To get the EARS QSL you would send me your QSL along with a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope or SASE and if I find you in the EARS log, I would fill out a N6WB QSL, stick it in your SASE and drop it in the mail.

In addition to N6WB I am QSL Manager for W6PT, W6NWG, and N5XX in his various disguises such as 3D2XX, YJ0XX, and FO/N5XX, and many others. It is a job that I take very seriously.

Now, what happens when I receive a card for a contact with one of the calls I manage and I can't find it in the log? This happened just the other day. W6?? listed on his QSL card a contact with 3D2XX or May 24, 2004 at 0825 UTC on 40-Meter CW. I brought up the appropriate log on the computer, entered W6??, and up it popped; however, not for the QSO claimed but for a different day, different time, and for YJ0XX at a different DX entity. What to do?

Just send the card back marked "Not in Log"? Nope! You make a more detailed log search. You start looking at the day, time, band, and so on. You look for calls that are close where the operator may have blown the call and entered an "I" rather than an "S" or something similar. Only after you have exhausted all possibilities do you send back a not in log report. It is very disappointing to get your card back in that manner but surely not the end of the world.

How does such a thing happen? Well, one thing to remember is to "Listen" and very closely at that. In the excitement of a contest or DX pileup it is not uncommon to hear "what you want to hear". Sometimes the call being sent sounds a lot like yours, e.g. he is coming back to JA6YOO not W6YOO. That would be an extreme case but you get the idea. In situations of weak signals and heavy QRM I have a little trick that I use. If I am not 100% sure that it is my call I am hearing, I wait, and let the other operator send it again which gives me an opportunity to listen very carefully to make sure that it is indeed my call I am hearing. Nothing is more frustrating than to get your card back with it marked "Not in Log" or NIL. Stay tuned for other "tricks of the trade" in future articles

In the meantime, pray for sunspots. The surface of the sun has been free of spots for many, many days which might indicate that we have finally reached the bottom of the cycle and are due for an improvement in propagation on 10 through 20 meters; however,

only time will tell. Nothing is more exciting that to have 10 meters wide open to the world and you can work just about everything you hear on relatively low power and a dipole.

See you in the pileups!

73, Harry

UPCOMING LICENSE CLASS

from Steve Early, AD6VI

Chula Vista

One-Day Amateur Radio "Technician" License Class

Saturday, November 10th, 2007

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (with breaks and one hour lunch)

At the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1590 E H St, Chula Vista, CA 91913

Everyone is welcome

Please RSVP with Steve Early at ad6vi@cox.net or 619-461-2818, more information and exam registration.

Cost of Class: Free

SANDARC VEC Testing, if available at 5:00 PM, will be \$5

In deference to facility policy, please do not bring coffee or tobacco into the building.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER (contd)

by Dirk, N6SUN, President

(contd from page 2)

didn't think that was such a good idea...(just kidding). Seriously though, do all that you can to spur interest and awareness in our hobby. New licensees are the lifeblood of this hobby.

The last item I want to share with you is that after some discussion at the last board meeting, we decided that the club should increase the annual renewal fee effective January 1, 2008. It has been many years since the last change (no one could remember how long it had been) and we are only increasing them by \$2.00 to \$15.00 for an annual renewal. We noted how the P.O. Box fees have increased as have the costs of food and gasoline. However, **because this change will take affect on January 1, 2008**, if you mail your renewal before the end of the year, you may renew at the old rate of \$13.00.

Which got me thinking... This is a great opportunity to become a life member before the renewal rate changes. The life member rate is the annual amount times 10 or \$130. Because of this increase, the new life member rate will become \$150 after 2007. So if you renew before the end of the year you will save \$20. Think about it for you, but this is the year for me!

By the way, the Annual Christmas Party will on December 8th, at the home of John and Lynn Belstner in Valley Center. Watch for more details soon at www.earsclub.org.

Thanks for all you do!

73,
Dirk, N6SUN

FIRE LOSS

from Steve, KE6PY

I am very saddened to report that Dennis Hergert, WA6IQY, lost his home in Rancho Bernardo to the fire. He and Judy are doing fine and are staying with his mother in Escondido.

I'm sure it goes without saying to remember them in prayers and thoughts and offer them help wherever possible. He can be reached at hergert1@aol.com.

MILITARY COMMUNICATORS EXHIBIT

from Joe Garza, AB6RM

VETERANS MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL CENTER (VMMC) OPENING CEREMONY SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2007 AT 2 P.M.

For the past two years, a group of former military communicators and friends (Military Old Timer Communicators) in the San Diego area have been involved in coordinating and developing a Military Communicators Exhibit at the VMMC, located at 2115 Park Blvd. at the South East corner of Balboa Park. The VMMC building was the Naval Chapel at the former Naval Hospital Balboa facilities near downtown San Diego.

The purpose of the Military Communicators Exhibit is to highlight an overview history of U. S. Military Communications and the importance of communications to military commanders. It features a sampling of military communications equipment, explains the connection between local military commands and corporations to the military communications industry, and most importantly, to honor the contributions of former military communicators with story posters and photographs of their experiences in military communications during the last six decades.

We will be operating an amateur radio special event on that day from VMMC starting at about 9 a.m. Pacific time. The amateur radio community is highly encouraged to make contact with station AB6RM. Vintage military communications equipment will be used at the VMMC station. The operating frequencies will be 3870 kHz (AM) and 3850 (CW) on the 75 Meter band and 7293 kHz (AM) and 7050 (CW) on the 40 Meter band. Due to equipment limitations at VMMC, only one frequency can be on the air at a time. We expect privately owned radio-equipped military vehicles will be on VMMC premises, and if they can operate on the other frequencies, it's possible we can use these assets to augment the base station.

Old Timer Communicators, amateur radio operators and friends, especially those who are military veterans and military radio enthusiasts, are invited to view the Military Communicators Exhibit and attend the opening ceremony at 2 p.m. on 10 November at the VMMC. Attendance is free and is open to the public.

73,
Joe Garza, AB6RM, jgarza@san.rr.com
Chairman OTC SOCAL & Coordinator, Military Communicators Exhibit, VMMC San Diego

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Sam, N6SD

1. Steve, W6TAN, reported the website has been updated and the board members should be able to access the data base which is still in work. The program for the November meeting is in work.

2. Konrad, N6UKO, reported there is \$1806.52 in the checking account and \$860.34 in the savings account. The CD (approximate value of \$1229.62) was rolled over without notification to Konrad, N6UKO. He will contact the bank about why he wasn't notified and the new rate and current balance. If the new rate is substandard he will research moving the CD when it next matures. The rental rate for our PO Box went from \$80 to \$92 annually and has been paid.

3. Harry, W6YOO, reported that ARES can no longer use Scripps Hospital for their meetings due to background check requirements and is looking for a meeting place. There will be no meeting this month.

The ARRL Section Manager resigned and Pat, WA6MHZ has taken the job. The website address for ARES is www.sdgares.net.

4. Dirk, N6SUN, reported Doug Ferris, K6DAF will run for Vice President and the search for Secretary is continuing. Also he reported the Form 1023 is in work.

5. It was decided to recommend to the membership to increase the yearly dues to \$15 with other dues adjusted accordingly.

6. Up to \$300 was authorized for the Christmas party food as well as two \$25 checks for ladies only for prizes. Steve, W6TAN, reported he will approach Tom at HRO for gift certificate(s) for the Christmas party.

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. The price is \$8.00

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.sandarc.org.

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 \$8.00. 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, 5511 Maryland Drive, La Mesa, CA 91942-1519. You must include your FRN 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. See Harry, W6YOO/AAR9LX for details.