

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

December 2008

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!

Saturday, December 13 EARS Annual Christmas Party

(There is no Club meeting in December).

Once again John, W9EN, and Lynn Belstner have offered their house at 27364 St. Andrews Lane, Valley Center, CA 92082. For a map, see <http://tinyurl.com/58bgfg>. The party starts at 4:00 p.m., and continues until about 7:00 p.m. To help offset the cost of the food, a donation of \$7.50 is much appreciated (\$15.00 per couple). As always, we will also be holding the gift exchange, so please bring a gift of between \$5.00 and \$10.00 in value if you wish to participate

Please also bring items for the Salvation Army toy and food drive.

More details (including the rules of the gift exchange) can be found on the EARS website.

Thursday, January 8 Escondido CERT

Chuck Milks, the Emergency Services Coordinator for the City of Escondido and a former Escondido Police Lt., will outline the city's disaster preparedness programs and will touch on the CERT program in Escondido.

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EVENT CALENDAR

Dec 13	Escondido Christmas Parade
Dec 13	EARS Christmas Party, 4 p.m.
Dec 20	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 23	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec 29	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Jan 8	EARS Monthly meeting, 7 p.m.
Jan 17	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Jan 27	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Jan 31	VE Testing, 9 a.m.

THAT'S WHY THEY CALL THEM DUES

-- reminder from Steve, W6TAN

Just a little reminder that it's time to dig deep into your pockets, and pay us some dosh - assuming you want to join again! The renewal form is on p. 5.

Cheers, Steve W6TAN.

PS: Dosh = English slang for money...

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 Steve, W6TAN, President

Hello every one,

This is my last letter as president for 2008, and what a year it's been...

We've had some great club meetings, and some great turn-outs too. Hopefully, you have enjoyed what we put together. As always, if there's something that you would like to see - just let one of the Board members know and we'll do our best to arrange something suitable.

As far as the club's activities are concerned, both Field Day & the California QSO Party were great successes (at least as far as band conditions would allow). As always - they were a lot of fun... I can't wait for next year! I was hoping to arrange some other 'non-ham' activities, but unfortunately work got in the way, so we'll see what 2009 brings. Watch this space.

Another thing that happened, which some of you may be aware of, is that we now have our radio room set up at the Salvation Army building in Escondido. We've haven't worked out the access & operating details fully yet, but we're working on them. Again - watch this space.

Talking of the Salvation Army, hopefully you saw the posting from the EARSCA Yahoo group requesting turkeys for Thanksgiving. Thanks to all of you who donated. For your information, the Salvation Army requested 25 turkeys to help feed the homeless, and those in need. They were hoping for around 50. They ended up with 110!!!

You may have also seen that the Salvation Army has also requested our help in providing food and toys for their 'Blessing Baskets' which they distribute to the needy for Christmas. Unfortunately, they have had a drop in donations of around 40% this year, and at the same time seen an increase in the number of needy families - hence the reason for the request.

If you can make a small donation to the Salvation Army (either toys, food or money) - that would be great. If you are coming to the EARS Christmas party, we will also be collecting donations.

Talking of the EARS Christmas party... Once again it is going to be held at John, W9EN, and Lynn's house in Valley Center. It's the one event not to be missed! See the EARS website for more details.

One thing that didn't go as planned this year was the election of officers for 2009. This was due again in part to work priorities, and some much needed vacation. I apologize for any issues this may have

caused. Next year we'll get it right!

Fortunately, most of the Board members are willing to stand again for 2009, and we'll be holding a five minute voting session at the beginning of the Christmas party, so hope to see you all there.

The only person who will not be standing for 2009 is our secretary Jane Hull, W6YAK. Vivian, W6NWF, has offered to take over. A big thanks to Jane for her help this past year, and another big thanks to Viv for offering to take over.

Finally, I'd like to say another big thanks to all of you who have once again made this the great club it is.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to you all.
See you in 2009,

Steve, W6TAN.

K6DAF'S RAMBLIN'S

by Doug, K6DAF

Well here we are the last month of December 2008 and I think you all can agree with me WHERE DID THE YEAR GO? Then in the next breathe we can say what a year we had.

Your EARS club was very involved all year in many activities that really brought the group together and I think I can speak for all that we had a great time. With the passing of 2008 we still have a few activities to participate in.

First, the 57th Annual Escondido Jaycees Christmas parade will be held on the 13th of December. We have participated in the event for many years and Konrad, N6UKO, is still the driving hammer behind this event. As most of you know the parade was in question for many months and we did not know if it was going to happen. With budget cuts, the City of Escondido was not going to be able to fund the event. The Rincon Indian Tribe stepped up with \$15,000 to allow the parade to continue.

With the parade back on, your EARS radio club now needs your participation in the event. At our last Board meeting, Konrad expressed the need for 10 additional radio operators to adequately cover the parade route. Please check your schedule and let Konrad know your availability. Konrad will let us know the time and place for the meeting the day of the event when it is available and will use the yahoo group reflector.

Second, our annual Christmas Party will be held on the 13th of December hosted by John, W9EN, and Lynn Belstner at their home at 27364 St Andrews

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EARS Club Officers for 2008

President

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 760-737-0755
sbvenner@cox.net

Vice President

Doug Ferris, K6DAF
k6daf@yahoo.com

Secretary

Jane Hull, W6YAK
jhullsmhs@aol.com

Treasurer

Konrad Wallenda, N6UKO, 760-743-8826
n6uko@aol.com

Emergency Services Coordinator

Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 760-743-4212
w6yoo@amsat.org

Officers at Large*

All persons with an asterisk (*) plus:
Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, 760-741-2560
kb6nmk@amsat.org
Ron Rosson, N6XT, 760-749-1239
n6xt@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

*John Musselman, N6EP, 760-747-5303
n6ep@arrl.net

Past President

Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, 760-743-5839
darcpa@sbcglobal.net

Historian

Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 760-743-4212
w6yoo@cox.net

Membership

*Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, 760-730-3657
cozy765@pacbell.net

Property Manager

*Marvin Munster, W6MJM, 760-747-2223
w6mjm@amsat.org

Board Slate for 2009

President

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 760-737-0755
sbvenner@cox.net

Vice President

Doug Ferris, K6DAF
k6daf@yahoo.com

Secretary

Vivian Wentworth, W6NWF

Treasurer

Konrad Wallenda, N6UKO, 760-743-8826
n6uko@aol.com

Emergency Services Coordinator

Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO, 760-743-4212
w6yoo@amsat.org

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cozy765@pacbell.net

Property Manager

*Marvin Munster, W6MJM, 760-747-2223
w6mjm@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 6.

HAM RADIO OUTLET

Open 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Monday through Saturday

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YOSEMITE REVISITED

-- by Steve, W6TAN

Howdy y'all,

Well, Gina and I finally made it back to the cabin in Yosemite. This time, it was just the two of us... No family members to worry about.

We had a great time hiking and just relaxing around the cabin (see photo).

Once again, I took some radio gear with me - basically to see if I could repeat the success of the last trip.



The Yosemite cabin QTH.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

Although the antenna went up like a dream, for some reason there was very little activity throughout the weekend - at least not on 40/20.

I don't know if it was because I positioned the antenna differently (North-South instead of East-West), but I only made one contact on 20 meters, and that was to a guy in GA operating in a Bulgarian DX contest.

The antenna itself seemed ok with a good SWR etc., so I guess it was just the band conditions.

Having said that, 80 meters was alive and well after dark, along with the ubiquitous tones of Gary, KA6OCA. He and his buddies were as strong as ever. Unfortunately, I was unable to work him on 80 because I couldn't tune the antenna that low.

Next time - I'll take my Windom!

All-in-all, although the trip itself was great, the operating / band conditions were a little dissappointing. The only good thing that happened was that I managed to check-in to the Sunday evening EARS net via Echolink!

One last thing... if you want to know what to do with a BBQ when it's not being used - take a peek at the photo.

Cheers,
Steve (W6TAN).



W6TAN/BBQ.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

2009 JULIAN APPLE FESTIVAL - K6A by Kurt, N6MD

October, 2009, is the 100th anniversary of the Julian Apple Days Festival, and we'd like take advantage of this large public gathering to demonstrate both the rich history and modern public service capabilities of Amateur Radio. We're reviewing the FCC rules for special event stations, but we believe we can operate multiple stations around Julian at the same time on Saturday and Sunday October 3-4 and 10-12, 2009.

We'd like to have one or two very OLD stations operating in Julian on two consecutive Saturdays and Sundays, maybe in or near the historic Julian town hall. We know we won't find a functional 100-year-old station or a 100-year-old operator, but let's try to get as close as we can. If you know people who own and operate very old vintage stations, please invite them to contact me within the next few months. If they can wear vintage clothing (green telegraph visors, etc.) or something similar, that may add to the educational value.

In addition to the OLD vintage stations, we also propose to demonstrate one or more modern stations to show the contrast between the oldest and the newest. The NEW stations will probably be in a large, open grass field or paved parking lot near Julian, and might include temporary towers and possibly small, quiet generators, Field Day style. I do believe that overnight camping might also be possible, if you are interested.

We'll want the NEWEST 2009 gear for these stations — satellites, APRS, digital — whatever demonstrates the NEWEST technology. Please use your imagination and send me your suggestions on this.

Please write me with you ideas, suggestions, etc, to —>> N6MD@arrl.net

We hope that you will join us for this public demonstration in October, 2009.

73,

— Kurt Barnhart, N6MD
P.O. Box 701
Julian, CA 92036
N6MD@arrl.net

K6DAF'S RAMBLIN'S by Doug, K6DAF

continued from page 2

Lane, Valley Center, CA 92082 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. We will be having a White Elephant gift exchange so bring one wrapped gift valued at less than \$10.00.

Food and beverages will be provided and a \$7.50 donation per person is suggested to cover the cost. Families are invited and the dress is casual.

Well I think that kind of shoots the 13th of December with the parade and Christmas Party. It should be a fun filled day and a chance to wish your fellow Amateur radio operator friends a Happy Holiday.

Now moving into 2009. We will be having Chuck Milks as our guest speaker at the January meeting. Chuck is the Emergency Services Coordinator for the City of Escondido and a former Escondido Police Lt. Chuck will outline the city's disaster preparedness programs and will touch on the CERT program in Escondido.

We already have 7 months of 2009 planned for meetings and events. I still need to fill 5 months so if you have some ideas or know of some folks that would be able to be a presenter please let me or someone on the board know. Please watch the meeting schedule button on our web site for future events for 2009.

With that I will close for 2008 and wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Doug, K6DAF

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NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Steve, W6TAN

1. Doug, K6DAF, reported that the last club presentation by Steve, W6TAN, was a great success and that we had about 30 members in attendance. The next 'meeting' will be the EARS Christmas party.
2. Konrad, N6UKO, reported that he had received a renewal invoice for our equipment insurance. Konrad stated that the current balances are as follows: Checking \$1792.55, Savings \$914.17, CD \$2116.87.
3. Jeff, AE6GM, stated that he had been working on the 200ms delay between the two repeaters. So far, the reports have sounded good. Konrad, N6UKO, reported that he had a 220 mobile PA to replace the faulty unit at the repeater site.
4. Harry, W6YOO, reported that the statewide earthquake drill had been a disappointment. Since it was not 'talked-up' on radio and TV.
5. Steve, W6TAN, reported that he had been working in conjunction with Don Reed to ensure that the Club station met with his requirements. A working party will be set up next year to work on the tower/antenna installation. John, N6EP, volunteered

to investigate the permits required.

6. Ron, N6XT, re-iterated that there is not going to be a Convention in 2009, only a one day 'roundup'.
7. Konrad, N6UKO, confirmed that the JCs Christmas parade will be going on as originally planned. He is still looking for a few EARS members to help.
8. Doug, K6DAF, reiterated the need for better organization and commitment for next year's Cruisin' Grand, and that we should get together with the DBA to confirm the role of EARS members.
9. Steve, W6TAN, reminded us that Jane Hull would be standing down as secretary. Harry suggested that Vivian, W6NWF, be contacted to see if she would be willing to take up the position.
10. \$300.00 was allocated for the Christmas party, as well as two \$25.00 gift checks for spouses.
11. Doug, K6DAF, suggested that we have a food drive at the club meetings to support the Salvation Army. All those in attendance thought we should start this at the first club meeting of next year.

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 \$15.00
Family membership \$4.00
Lifetime membership \$150.00
Lifetime membership (family) \$38.00

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 Memorial Hospital, Nobel Room, Schaetzel Building, 9890 Genesee Ave, La Jolla, CA 92037. Park in the first lot to the right after the guard shack. Parking is \$2.00 and is antenna friendly. If interested, go to www.sdgares.net or contact Steve Early, Section Manager, 619-461-2818, or ad6vi@arrl.org.

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.