

# ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

July 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!

### **Thursday, July 10 Ham Radio in the 1950's**

Ron Pollack, K2RP, will discuss the momentous technical and regulatory changes during this decade. If names like Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, National, Johnson, Heathkit, Drake, and Collins bring a tear of nostalgia to your eye, come and take a look at items from Ron's collection of "boat anchors" from these manufacturers and more!

### **Sunday, August 17 Annual Club Picnic**

Mark your calendar now for the annual picnic at Rod McLeod Park! The Club will provide the main dish (hamburgers and brats). Members should bring their own drinks and a side dish to share, if so inclined.

More details next month.

## 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

### **Jul 10**

Jul 19

Jul 22

Jul 26

### **EARS Monthly Meeting**

Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

VE Testing, 9 a.m.

Aug 6

Aug 16

### **Aug 17**

Aug 26

Aug 30

PARC Monthly Meeting

Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

### **EARS Annual Picnic**

EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

VE Testing, 9 a.m.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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EARS members prepare to put up the 15 meter antenna at this year's Field Day at Dixon Lake. See the full report on page 3.

For more photos, visit the EARS website

- photo courtesy W6TAN

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Steve, W6TAN, President

Hi all,

Well - there goes another month... It only seems a few days since I was sitting here writing my last entry for the newsletter! This month has been extremely busy for me - not so much for work, but rather preparing the quiz for the last club meeting, and getting prepared for Field Day.

The quiz night was once again a great success - so much-so, that I've been asked to do the same for the Ramona club! FYI, we had about 15 members and guests in attendance, including a team of two from Palomar club.

The turnout was a little dissapointing, but those who did turn up had a good laugh.

The teams & results were as follows:

"Two Extras & A Nothing" - John (N6EP), Vivian (W6NWF), Robert (NoCall): 24 points.

"Optimized Tomfoolery" - Paul (KB5MU), Michelle (W5NYV): 19 points.

"The K3's" - Ron, George & Sam: 19 points.

"The Old Guys" - Harry (W6YOO), another: 17 points.

"Hodges Hogs" - Kurt, John: 14 1/4 points.

"QRM" - Jeff (AE6GM), Matt (N6EAJ): 13 1/2 points.

I haven't verified the results yet - but I'm sure no one was cheating ;-)

As far as July's club meeting is concerned - we have a guest from Palomar club giving a practical demonstration of vintage radios. Doug will give more details. I'm really looking forward to seeing how we did things in the past... It should be very interesting, and I hope to see you all there.

That just leaves me to say a few words about Field Day. I was hoping to write a little more than a paragraph, but to be honest - I'm still recovering from lack of sleep, etc! Needless to say - every one who turned up either as operators, helpers, cooks, bottle washers, guests, visitors etc., had a wonderful time.

A special mention goes to John, N6EP, and Steve, KE6PY - as they were the lone CW operators for the whole 24 hours. I'll update the website with some photos and text as soon as I have a spare few minutes. In the mean-time, that's all from me for now.

Best wishes, Steve (W6TAN).

## EARS Club Officers for 2008

### President

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 760-737-0755  
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### Vice President

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## HAM RADIO OUTLET

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## FIELD DAY WRAPUP

by Jeff, AE6GM

Another Field Day is behind us. I hope that everyone that was able to make it out to the Field Day site had a great time or at least some great food. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped this year; the event went off without a hitch.

We were able to start on time and we were off the site by 2:00 (check out time). The logs are still being reviewed and all the bonus points added up, so I do not yet have EARS final score for Field Day 2008. However the initial results appear to be slightly better than last year.

I'm sure that the challenge put forth by the CW team helped. For those that don't know, the CW team challenged the Phone team to see which team could get the most contacts (not points). This was quite a challenge from the CW team since there were only two CW operators for the entire event (24 hours). While the phone team was consistently at least 40 contacts ahead of the CW team, the CW team deserves a lot of credit for keeping the pressure on with only two operators. I believe that both teams made over 1000 contacts each!

And the conditions were not that good. There was a little hope Friday night that the conditions might be better than expected, when Dirk, N6SUN, made a contact with Italy on 20 meters. Unfortunately, that was the only non-North American contact of the weekend and it didn't count. As expected, 40 and 80 meters was open in the evening but the pickings were pretty slim. I think I made 100 contacts in 5 hours.

15 meters never really opened up the whole weekend and that left the GOTA station with only some sporadic 10 meter openings during the day. GOTA eventually went down to 40 meters later in the afternoon and started having some real fun.

I would like to extend my thanks to all who helped with this year's Field Day. Especially, the band captains, Steve, KE6PY, (CW), Dirk, N6SUN, (Phone), Steve, W6TAN, (VHF/UHF) and especially thanks to Vince, W6CD, for stepping up and running the GOTA station.

Thank you to Marvin, W6MJM, for the outstanding meal on Friday night and to Gina, W6TAN's XYL, for organizing lunch, the potluck Saturday evening and the breakfast on Sunday morning. Without Gina I would have gone hungry for 36 hours!

My thanks to Harry, W6YOO, for submitting all the press releases and obtaining all the ARRL handouts and John, N6EP, for ordering the pins and t-shirts.

Thank you to Kurt, N6MD, for arranging for a North County Times photographer to come to the event. Steve, W6TAN, got his picture in the paper and you can view the video of my interview at <http://videos.nctimes.com/p/video?id=1966755>. Can't forget John, W9EN, for our satellite contact.

Finally, I couldn't forget to thank Doug, K6DAF, and Vince, W6CD, for the use of their motor homes and letting us run their generators all night. My special thanks to Konrad, N6UKO. At the end of Field Day, after everything is loaded onto Konrad's truck and everyone is exhausted, he hauls it all to his place and puts everything away for safe keeping until next year.

So with great weather, great hams and good food, how could it not be a great weekend.

73, Jeff AE6GM

## END OF THE HOLLINGSWORTH ERA from the ARRL

On Thursday, July 3, Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH -- the man who has come to embody Amateur Radio Enforcement - said goodbye to the FCC as he retired and began his life as a private citizen. In May, Hollingsworth announced he would definitely retire; he had contemplated retiring in January 2008, but cited "several issues on the table that I want[ed] to continue to work through with the amateur community." While his successor has not yet been named, he was quick to point out that the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program will continue.

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## K6DAF'S RAMBLIN'S

by Doug, K6DAF, Vice-President

### FIELD DAY - FIELD DAY - FIELD DAY

Can you say FUN? Wow, what a great time we had at Field Day. Since this was my first Field Day I was not prepared for what the event had to offer. I am now counting the days to Field Day 2009 and making the reservations.

I want to give my thanks to everyone who came up and helped with the event. Jeff, AE6GM, the chairman for the event, put together such a great event from planning to execution that it went flawlessly. I think he even had a hand in the weather as it was beyond great. But as every good chairman will tell you it's the members that make it happen and we had the best. From Konrad, N6UKO, bringing up the antennas to Marvin, W6MJM, cooking some of the best Tri-tip roast that I have had, to all the folks who showed up to help with the setup, operating and to take-down here's a big THANKS - you all made it happen. I do not know the number of QSOs that the club made but beyond that it was the camaraderie and fellowship that made the event the success it was.

Now, on to July's meeting. If you have some old radios gathering dust in the shack and want to know what they are, you need to come to the July meeting. Ron Pollack, K2RP, will be giving us a talk on Vintage Radios and I understand he will be bringing some of his Vintage Radios to share with us. So don't miss an opportunity to see where the hobby started from and compare that to where it is today.

Stay tuned for info on our Picnic coming in August and hope to see you all there.

'Til I hear you on the air...

73,  
Doug  
K6DAF

### 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.

## VIRTUAL HAM RADIO

by John, N6EP

With the sunspot cycle at minimum and band conditions lousy, you may be discouraged from much ham activity. Or maybe you're new to this hobby and haven't become completely comfortable with the microphone. Or maybe you haven't got your license yet but would like to take a crack at transmitting. All valid reasons to try Hamsphere, a virtual set of amateur frequency bands.

Huh!?

That's right, check this out from hamsphere.com:

"Kelly Lindman, the founder of DxTuners has created an artificial radio world based on the same natural laws of shortwave radio propagation.

Skip, fading, QRM, QRN, multipath phase effects etc are all factors and rules in this simulation. The system follows the ionospheric laws of radio wave deflection, but the rules can be bent - just a little.

Any operator can use this system, licensed or not. (There is no RF emitted on a real shortwave band) This is the perfect companion for the starving HAM when the signals fade out on the real bands.

- \* DSB modulation
- \* QRP - 1 kW power
- \* 10,15, 20, 40, 80 and 160m bands
- \* Full band spectrum analyzer
- \* Built in DX Cluster
- \* Mic compressor
- \* Yagi and vertical antennas (optional)
- \* 360 rotator controls (optional)
- \* I.T.U Zone and Region compatible
- \* Requires 128kbit/s Internet up/down
- \* Requires microphone and speakers
- \* NAT firewall compatible TCP/UDP
- \* Runs in Windows, Mac or Linux
- \* HamSphere is 100% free of charge"

In other words, your computer, running the hamsphere application becomes the radio and the internet, working through the hamsphere server, becomes the radio ham bands.

I'm sure you'll like that last feature, can't beat the price. Check this one out...



## JUNE BOARD METING MINUTES

information provided by Jane, W6YAK

1. Doug, K6DAF, reported that Ron Pollack, K2RP, will give a presentation in July including a practical demonstration on vintage/antique radios.

2. The picnic will take place on August 17 instead of the August club meeting. The club will provide Brats and hamburgers, and condiments. Attendees should bring their own drinks and a sidedish. Location: Rod McLeod park.

3. Konrad, N6UKO, reported slightly less than \$2000 in the checking account, \$861 in savings, \$82 in checks to be deposited.

4. Marvin, W6MJM, reported that ECHOLINK is now operating at Steve, W6TAN's, house. Jeff will contact 220 SMA about coordination. Marvin will contact SCRBBA regarding 440.

5. John, N6EP, would like earlier submittals for the newsletter. New deadline should be a week before the meeting.

6. Doug reminded us of the discussion at the last board meeting regarding the purchase of Club jackets. He found a deal at a shop in San Marcos. We can purchase 12 jackets for \$40 per jacket...logo on back and front, yellow/black, nylon fleece lined, drawstring on bottom, snaps, embroidered.

7. Steve reminded us that due to a scheduling conflict at the church the next Board meeting is at Steve's house, July 22.

8. Steve reported he got a phone call from Salvation Army Major David Ebel who will relieve Capt. Strickland on July 17. Both Major Ebel, KG6QDS, and wife are Hams. Major Ebel is interested in helping EARS set up the SATERN station.

9. Steve presented Jane's draft letter to the City Council. Members made recommendations for changes. Jane will redistribute the modified draft for further comments.

## Escondido Amateur Radio Society Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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### 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.arrl.org/members). The ARRL Letter is also available to all, free of charge, at [www.arrl.org/arrlletter](http://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](http://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](http://www.sdgares.net) or contact Steve Early, Section Manager, 619-461-2818, or [ad6vi@arrl.org](mailto:ad6vi@arrl.org).

**SECTION NEWS** – The latest happenings around San Diego are available at [www.arrl.org/sections/SDG.html](http://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](mailto: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.