

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

November 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, November 13 The Internet and How It Works

Steve, W6TAN, will be giving an overview of what the internet is, why it was developed, and what it means for you as Amateur Radio operators. He will briefly discuss such things as TCP/IP, HTTP, FTP, VoIP and several other MLAs (Multi-Lettered Acronyms).

Steve will also talk about web servers and web browsers, and the languages that they speak (HTML, XHTML, XML, DHTML, JavaScript, CSS, PHP etc.) There will also be an interactive practical demonstration which will highlight / clarify the subject matter.

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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

Nov 13	EARS Monthly Meeting
Nov 15	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Nov 25	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Nov 29	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Dec 13	Escondido Christmas Parade
Dec 13	EARS Christmas Party
Dec 20	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 23	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.



Look who showed up at the last EARS Monthly breakfast:
Left to right: Gina Venner, Steve, KE6PY, Tony, KG6SXY,
Harry, W6YOO, and Ben, N6MUF.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

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

Hi all,

Some people say "Time flies when you're having fun", so I guess I must be having lots of it! From a Ham radio perspective, last month has been very busy for me.

First, there was the California QSO party at Dixon lake. All those who participated had a great time. We were just one contact shy of 700, which wasn't quite as good as last year's total, but we had a lot of fun trying (as always). Also this year, we had two new operators - Vivian, W6NWF, and Vince, W6CD - both of whom did a splendid job first time out (see Steve Alborn's comments for more details). For those who didn't make it up the hill, have a peek at some of the photos in this issue of All EARS to see what you missed. Also take a look at some of Vince's photos at <http://tinyurl.com/3m4k7y>.

Next up was October's club meeting where Marvin, W6MJM, gave a great presentation on emergency power. We had about 30 members and guests in attendance, and from what I heard - everyone enjoyed it. One thing that did come out of Marvin's presentation was that only a few people knew that that's what he did for a living (despite his advert in AllEARS)!

It was suggested at the last board meeting that it would be a good idea to introduce a club member each month - to learn more about them, and what it is they do. This could be done either in All EARS, or at the monthly club meeting. So watch out... You could be under the spotlight!

At October's EARS monthly breakfast we had a couple of special guests turn up: Tony May, KG6SXY, and Ben Pyfer, N6MUF. It was good to see them, and be able to chat with these guys to see what they've been up to. If you've never been an EARS breakfast before you should really try to go along... The food is most excellent, and the camaraderie is second to none!

As far as my ham activities are concerned, as I said earlier I've been quite busy. I've been spending quite a lot of time at the Salvation Army building - setting up our radio room with some donated HF equipment, and installing a 'temporary' HF wire antenna.

This is in preparation for the "Golden Guardian" exercise which will be taking place on November 12th to the 14th. I'll be saying a little more about this in the next All EARS, so in the mean time, if you've not heard about Golden Guardian before, take a peek at www.goldenguardian.org

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

Finally, I'm currently preparing the presentation for the club meeting (13th Nov). As you are probably aware, I'm going to be giving a presentation about the Internet, the World Wide Web, how it all works, and what it means to you as ham radio operators. If all goes according to plan, it should be good. I'll also be giving a practical demonstration so as not to bore you to tears! Hope to see you all there.

Well, that's all from me for this month... Cheers for now, Steve, W6TAN.

CQP RECAP

-- by Steve, KE6PY

I would like to thank all those who participated in the California QSO Party up at Dixon Lake last month.

During setup we found we were trying to use a roll of coax with some bad connectors on it. After a trip home to get some of mine, the antennas went up flawlessly by dusk and we were ready to rock for 9 a.m. Saturday. Unfortunately, band conditions weren't as good this year so we had 200 fewer contacts. The preliminary count was 699 contacts and 56 multipliers, with North Dakota and Saskatchewan coming up bust. Still, we all had a



Steve, KE6PY, makes adjustments to the tower before it goes up at CQP.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

great time. Vince, W6CD, and Vivian, W6NWF, tried operating for the first time and certainly sharpened their skills in the battle. Vince, thanks for sharing your motorhome again and the pickup for pulling the trailer. Vince also quickly posted some pictures on the reflector, so take a look if you haven't seen them. Special thanks go to Susan Sheetz and Gina Venner for making some great meals for us! The deadline for ordering T-Shirts is Nov. 15th. For



Jeff, AE6GM, racks 'em up.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

those who still want one, just do so directly. Here's the information on ordering.

T-Shirts - Like the wine, each year's T-shirt is a special vintage. Entries with 100 or more QSOs (waived for DX entries) qualify for the special CQP T-shirt. Place your order for a T-shirt by sending an email to info@cqp.org stating the sizes and quantities for each size (M/L/XL/XXL), the call sign of the CQP operation (N6WB), the call sign of the person placing the order, and the address to ship to. All orders are due by Nov 15th. Send payment, \$12



Steve, KE6PY, searches in vain for Saskatchewan.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

(\$17 for DX entries), either as PayPal to ncccpay@contesting.com, or a check to NCCC, 21906 Monte Court, Cupertino, CA 95014

Thanks again to all!
Steve
KE6PY

NEW CW PRACTICE NET

by Bob, NC6Q

There is a new Slow Speed CW Practice Net on HF to encourage the use of Morse code and to provide an opportunity to practice CW operating skills for hams in the greater Long Beach area.

It meets Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. (except on the 1st Friday of the month). This Net meets on 28.130 MHz (plus or minus QRM)—open to all class licenses. It is a slow speed net of around 12 wpm with lots of extra space between characters and words. All stations are welcomed no matter what (slow) speed. We are happy to slow down to accommodate you. There is no membership requirement, no dues, no club affiliation, no meetings, no problems. Check in when your schedule permits.

This net has been structured to provide practice for operators with a wide range of CW abilities from the raw beginner to the more accomplished operator. It can be used only for copying practice (a script outline is provided) or as an active net to which stations check in to share news and comments and even hook up with other operators for separate QSOs after the net.

This net is sponsored by the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach (ARALB). Please become familiar with the net rules before checking in. Those rules and procedures can be found on the club website at www.aralb.org in pdf format and www.nc6q.com for easy download and printing. They have been adapted and modified from several other CW nets whose websites can be found in an ample list of references. Many thanks to all of them and to those who contributed via email.

The format of the net is as follows: Preamble, Check in, Out-Stations' News/Comments, Announcement, Closing. Possible options for after the net are: to QSY to a 440 repeater (449.78 - PL 131.9) or 2 meter simplex frequency (145.52) to chat or ask questions about the net (this would be indicated during the Closing), or for a station to call another station and QSY up or down in frequency to hold their own QSO at whatever speed they choose.

So, dust off your key, put up a 10 meter dipole, and check it out.

Please direct questions or comments to Bob Grubic, NC6Q, nc6q@arrl.net.

FIELD DAY RESULTS

-- compiled by Nick, KK6TV

The results are in at www.arrl.org/contests/results. As I see it...

For the San Diego Section, EARS is 3rd overall out of 23 and first as 2A out of 4 entries.

For the Southwest Division, 5th overall out of 161 entries, first as a 2A out of 27 entries.

Nationwide, 94th out of 2410 entries and, as a 2A, 26th out of 442 entries.

Congratulations Guys and Gals, you did good!!!

HAM RADIO OUTLET

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

5375 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego
560-4900 or Toll Free 1-800-854-6046

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OCTOBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Jane, W6YAK

1. Doug, K6DAF, praised Marvin, W6MJM, for his demonstration at the last club meeting. November's presentation will be by Steve Venner.
2. The Christmas Party will be on December 13.
3. Jeff, AE6GM, reported that the new controller is up and running on the 220 repeater. He is investigating the reason why the first 200 ms of audio from the 2 meter link is sometimes missing.
4. Doug, K6DAF, reported SATERN would like EARS to call Don Read to coordinate a test of the EARS radio station. Steve agreed to call Don to arrange a test.
5. Steve, W6TAN, is updating the website. He will incorporate new functionality as requested by Jeff by the next board meeting.
6. Dirk, N6SUN, reported on his progress on the 1023 application. He needs a 'gifts, grants, fees' financial form completed by Konrad.

7. Steve, W6TAN, opened the Club station at the last club meeting for members to view. Currently it houses two HF radios, and his own Yaesu 857 for VHF/UHF work. The station still needs a permanent VHF/UHF radio. Doug suggested the need for a statement of purpose regarding the station.
8. Dirk, N6SUN, reported EARS received a \$300 donation from the Downtown Business Association for our work at Cruisin' Grand. DBA would like EARS back next year. Doug suggested we need 4 or 5 operators each week.
9. Three members will be chosen by the Board to serve as a nominating committee.
10. Jo, KB6NMK, asked whether or not EARS would like to volunteer at First Night. We need a coordinator for the event. Steve will put out a request for a coordinator and volunteers on the Yahoo groups message board.

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.