

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

Sept 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, September 11 Global Hawk

Bob Fritz, WD6S, will give us a talk on the Global Hawk which is the only High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) in operation today.

Bob, in addition to being a member of EARS, is a senior systems architect for the Northrop Grumman Global Hawk HALE Enterprise located in Rancho Bernardo.

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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

Sept 11	EARS Monthly Meeting
Sept 20	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Sept 23	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Sept 27	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Oct 9	EARS Monthly Meeting
Oct 18	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Oct 25	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Oct 28	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.



EARS members help with Cruisin Grand. See the complete story in Doug's "K6DAF's Ramblin's" on page 4.
- photo courtesy 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.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Steve, W6TAN, President

Hi all,

Just a few words this month...

First of all, I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of you who turned up for the annual EARS picnic at Rod McLeod park.

It was a great fun day, with excellent food and excellent weather. We had about 40 people in attendance, and from what I've heard - everybody enjoyed themselves.

The radio station setup was also a great deal of fun, although band conditions didn't really allow for much activity or many contacts (just one!).

Ron Pollack (K2RP) brought along some 'vintage' radios to try to compare against some of the more modern stuff... It was very interesting to see how things were like in ham radio 20 years ago (what would we do without the likes of DSP ;-)



Doug, K6DAF, and Mrs. Doug, sling burgers at the annual Club picnic. In the background, Jo, KB6NMK, gets a whiff.
- photo courtesy W6TAN

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@arll.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

HAM RADIO OUTLET

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

cont'd

I would like to say a personal thanks to 'chef' Doug (K6DAF) - who slaved over a hot BBQ for hours, and did a stellar job.

However, I really think that for next year - we should try to get some additional help to give Doug chance to take a 'breather'.

I would also like to say a big thanks to Sam (N6SD) - who once again did his magic with the treasure hunt. Dirk (N6SUN) was again the champion, and I think for next year - we should try hard to get some more participants to try and take away his crown!

For those of you who didn't make it to the picnic - take a look at the pictures in this edition of All EARS, and also see the EARS website for some of what you missed.



Ron Pollack, K2RP, operates in front of an avid crowd at the picnic.

- photo courtesy W6TAN

As for September's club meeting - we have Bob Fritz, who will giving a briefing on the Global Hawk Unmanned Aircraft System. It should be very very interesting, and as always - I hope to see you all there.

As for me, well... Things have been once again been very busy at work, but I've finally managed to take a short break. Currently, I'm writing this from a hotel room in Las Vegas.

Actually, Gina's brother is currently visiting from the UK, and we're on a mini road trip. From Las Vegas, we're going on to Death Valley, and then on to Yosemite NP for a few days. I've taken some radio gear with us, and While we're in Yosemite, I hope to set up to work on 40/20 mtrs.



EARS members fervently relax in the shade at Rod McLeod Park.

- photo courtesy W6TAN

If anyone is around next Friday/Saturday (5th & 6th) - keep an ear open in the evenings for me calling around about 7.200 MHz, or 14.200MHz (depending on conditions).

I'm also going to try to work the EARS repeater via Echolink... So again, keep your EARS on!

Well, that's it from me for this month.

Everyone have a great month, and see you at the club meeting on Sept 11th.

73,

Steve (W6TAN).

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K6DAF'S RAMBLIN'S

by Doug, K6DAF

Where do the months go?? Here it is September already and what a great summer we had.

Annual Picnic

We just had our annual EARS picnic at the Rod McCloud Park and it could not have been a better one. Steve, W6TAN, and I arrived early to save the spots and we were lucky enough to get the ones we wanted. Steve set out to set up his radio station and before long we were stringing antennas through the trees. After about an hour and a half it was all set up and ready to start. Everyone started arriving around 11 a.m. and by noon we had about 40 people there and starting to get hungry. We fired up the BBQ's and before long everyone was enjoying a great hamburger, hot dog or bratwurst all provided by your EARS club. We were blessed with outstanding weather and great fellowship was had by all. By 4 p.m. we were packed up and on the way home. I want to thank those who attended and thank you for bringing all the side dishes. I don't think anyone went home hungry. So if you were not able to attend this year, mark your calendars for next year and don't miss it as it was a lot of fun.

Cruisin Grand

Through the efforts of Konrad, N6UKO, and Dirk, N6SUN, we were invited to the Friday event called Cruisin Grand. Our role is simple: we provide vital communications for the event host, the Downtown Business Association. We have seven assigned posts throughout the downtown area and provide information on parking availability, traffic flow and event happenings. We have a central location we call the EOC which monitors radio traffic and relays information to the Downtown Business Association. Our first night went so well they have invited us back for the remainder of the year. We just completed our second evening and it went as well as our first night.

Why do we do it??

1. To give back to the community that has supported us over the years
2. To have a forum for spreading the word on ham radio.
3. To be able to work with our fellow hams and to meet and greet them.
4. And because it's fun

You know number four above is what it's all about and that's having fun. We all sit in our radio shacks

and play with our radios, but to be able to put our hobby to a real situation and use it does not get any better. We need your support in the coming weeks to make this a success and to showcase our EARS club. Please make yourself available to participate as we need 10 members each week to really make it successful. Any less makes it difficult to man the required posts. So please watch your emails as we will be sending out requests for the event and who to contact for that evening. I want to take a quick moment to thank those who have participated over the past two weeks:

KD6BFR BILL, K3PXX TERRY, K6LEM CURT, KI6SBL ROB, KB6NMK JO, KE6MRX JIM, N6UKO KONRAD, AE6GM JEFF, N6SUN DIRK, W6NWF VIVIAN, KI6GJB DWAYNE, N6MD KURT, KF6GOF JIM, KB6DQO ROGER, KK6TV NICK, KI6HFK JENTRY

September Meeting

Please plan on attending our September meeting as we will be having Bob Fritz, WD6S, give us a talk on the Global Hawk which is the only High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) in operation today. It is operated by the U.S. Air Force and was selected this year by the U.S. Navy for its long range maritime patrol needs. The RQ-4B model now in production has a wing span of 130 feet, weight 32,500 lbs with a 3,000 lb payload. It can fly at up to 60,000 feet for over 35 hours. Global Hawk uses a variety of communications links for command and control of the aircraft, and to transfer data from the payloads to the ground. This brief will provide a general description of the Global Hawk, its operation, and its communications links.

Bob Fritz is a senior systems architect for the Northrop Grumman Global Hawk HALE Enterprise located in Rancho Bernardo. He has over 30 years experience in aerospace software and systems, including over ten with Global Hawk. He was the software manager for the first flight of Global Hawk in 1998, and has gone on to adapt the Global Hawk software architecture to the Navy/Army Fire Scout helicopter UAS, and defined the BAMS ground system architecture and designed the Head Start payload and communications demonstration that was a key to the BAMS win.

Bob's first amateur license was earned in 1994 as a Technician. He became an Extra in May 2007.

'Til I hear you on the air

73,

Doug K6DAF

AUGUST BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

information provided by Jane, W6YAK

1. Doug, K6DAF, reported the August picnic at Rod McLeod Park was attended by over 40 people with perfect weather. Doug submitted copies of the expense sheet totaling \$130.55.

2. Doug reported on future club programs. Sept: Bob Fritz, WD6S, on Missile Hawk Program; Oct: Ron, N6XT; Nov: Steve, W6TAN, on how the internet works. Chuck Milks will attend in November.

3. Konrad, N6UKO, reported it is time to renew the EARS post office box. Cost is \$96/yr. The CD is still at Escondido Federal Credit Union.

4. Jeff, AE6GM, reported that he, Marvin, W6MJM, and Konrad, N6UKO, went to Hubbard Hill. The new 220 controller will be installed late September/early October. John Belstner, W9EN, purchased a new 3 channel delay board for Hubbard Hill.

5. Harry, W6YOO, reported that Steve Early is still looking for a volunteer to assume the role of Section Emergency Coordinator.

6. Doug, K6DAF, attended the last SANDARC meeting. He reported that North Shores Amateur Radio Club is disbanding. The next SW Div Convention will be Sept 17-19, 2010, at the Sheraton Four Points. John, N6EP, will act as liaison to the Tijuana Club. Ron, N6XT, is doing vendor services. A new club, Six Shooters, joined SANDARC

7. Doug, K6DAF, reported the California QSO Party will be the first full week in October. EARS will pay the \$110 for the site.

8. Konrad, N6UKO, indicated there was some discussion taking place regarding the Christmas Parade and a possible change in the location. Konrad also reported the Grape Day Parade is Sept 6, 8:00 to 11:00. There is a need for 15 operators.

9. Doug, K6DAF, reported about 12 to 15 operators volunteered at our first Cruisin' Grand. Dirk, N6SUN, reported on changes being made by DBA regarding Cruisin' Grand. Jo, KB6NMK, has about 8-10 orange vests that could be used for the event.

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.