

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

December 2010

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. **No meeting this month!**

Saturday, December 11 Christmas Parade

Once again, EARS will be assisting the Jaycees with their Christmas Parade. We meet at Spires Restaurant at 5:30 a.m. Konrad N6UKO is in charge of our effort. If you haven't been contacted by him and you wish to help, please give him a call.

Also, again this year, EARS will have an entry in the Parade. We'll be way at the end, right in front of Santa. As the end of the Parade passes you, please feel free to join us. Those who would like to volunteer to enter their vehicles, let Konrad know.

Saturday, December 11 EARS Annual Christmas Party, 4 p.m.

Bring a gift (in the \$10 range) for the gift exchange. Entry is \$7.50 per person. More details on page 4.

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 end of the previous month.

EVENT CALENDAR

Dec 11	Escondido Christmas Parade
Dec 11	EARS Annual Christmas Party
Dec 16	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Dec 18	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Dec 25	Merry Christmas, no VE Testing
Jan 13	EARS Monthly Meeting
Jan 20	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Jan 15	EARS Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Jan 29	VE Testing
Jan 29	Palm Springs Hamfest

THAT'S WHY THEY CALL THEM DUES

-- by John, N6EP

Yes, it's that time of year again. All of our hallowed traditions - pumpkin pie, gift-giving, family and friends and of course, the EARS thong.

Oh yes, and it's time to renew your membership in your favorite Club devoted to your favorite hobby.

It's either that or be shunned in the New Year as a scurrilous deadbeat. Don't let such a horrible fate befall you. Renew now! Just fork over to any Club officer, mail it in or bring it to the Christmas Party.

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EARS Club Officers for 2010

President

Robert Kitson, KI6SBL, 760-715-2876
rkitson2001@yahoo.com

Vice President

Doug Ferris, K6DAF
k6daf@yahoo.com

Secretary

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

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:
Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, 760-730-3657
cozy765@pacbell.net
Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, 760-743-5839
darcpa@sbcglobal.net
Vivian Wentworth-Kitson, W6NWF
w6nwf@arrl.net
Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, 760-741-2560
kb6nmk@amsat.org

Newsletter Editor

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

Past President (non-elective)

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 760-737-0755
w6tan@earsclub.org

Historian (non-elective)

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

Membership

Vivian Wentworth-Kitson, W6NWF
w6nwf@arrl.net

Property Manager

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

New Club Officers for 2011

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

Vice President

John Belstner, W9EN
w9en@arrl.net

Secretary

Teri Bloom, W6TRB
feisty5ft@dslextrême.com

Treasurer

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

Emergency Services Coordinator

Fred McDavitt, W6PBR, (760) 737-6837
mcdavitt_fred@cox.net

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w6yoo@cox.net

Webmaster

Steve Venner, G0TAN
w6tan@earsclub.org

Property Manager

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Robert, KI6SBL

As I write this, I am sitting in the middle of the San Diego DX Club 2010 Christmas Party. I am reminded how fun and cordial hams across San Diego and America truly are.

Upon reflection of 2010, I realize what an amazing role EARS plays in the Escondido community. One DXer told me how EARS' Field Day GOTA station got his son (11 at the time) interested in amateur radio to the point he was a Tech before he was a teenager. At 18 the boy put the community service of ham radio on his college applications.

That story is emblematic of what EARS does every year and is why I am so proud and honored to be your President these past 12 months. You're all great people and because of each of you I am a better man, better husband, and better employee. Thank you all. It was a blast!

73's

Rob
KI6SBL

YUMA HAMFEST

--from YARHO

2011 Arizona State Convention
7th Annual Yuma Hamfest
& Emergency Preparedness Show
Yuma, Arizona
Feb. 18 & 19, 2011
Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona
www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information
and a Current Schedule of Activities and Seminars
Amateur Radio Equipment Disaster Preparedness
Information

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm
Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon
Event Hours Fri, Noon - 5 pm, Sat, 8 am - 5 pm
Buzzard BBQ & Grand Prize Drawing
Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Email Contact: info@yumahamfest.org

Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest
Organization (YARHO)

LOOKING BACK

by John, N6EP

As you may know, this issue of All EARS is the last which will see me as your editor. As part of a deal brokered behind closed doors in smoke-filled rooms, I agreed to be the EARS President next year if someone else took on the duties of newsletter editor. Who got the better of that deal remains to be seen.

Has it really been TEN years? My records show the first newsletter I wrote in the modern era as the April 2001 issue. (Yes, the modern era - a few of you may remember me doing the EARS newsletter in the 1980's.) That 2001 issue was written in Word, printed, copied, collated, stapled and mailed. Today, of course, I just press 'Send' to get it to you.

Most all of the newsletters I've done over those ten years are posted on our website. Many of you may have had some fun perusing those old issues. If you haven't, I recommend it as a great way to look back over the growing history of EARS.

From the April, 2001 issue (not on the website) are these gems:

This was the first issue called "All EARS". As to the name: "I thought of it on the spur of the moment when I made the masthead".

"Thanks to Nick Uran, KK6TV, for putting EARS on the Internet. You can update your call and address information and read about upcoming activities. Check it out at: www.qsl.net/earsca"

"As announced in the last EARS newsletter, the 2002 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention will be held in Escondido at the Center for the Arts."

Beyond those provocative announcements, the Club activities look pretty much the same then as they do now: The Grape Day Parade, the Christmas Parade, Field Day, the auction (with Art McBride KC6UQH as auctioneer), the monthly breakfast, the monthly VE sessions, and the list goes on.

Well, it has been a fun run. I wish all the best to our new newsletter co-editors Rob KI6SBL and Viv W6NWF. I certainly recognize that my work could use a face lift and some new ideas. And that my only real claim to fame is that I got each of those nearly 120 issues out on time. I hope the new editors will have as much fun with it as I did.

John N6EP

EARS CHRISTMAS PARTY

-- by Steve W6TAN

It's that time again folks... time once again for the EARS Christmas party!

As in recent years, we have been most generously welcomed back into the Belstners' home in Valley Center.

If you've not been to the 'B's before, this is where it's at:

* Address.
27364 Saint Andrews Lane
Valley Center
CA 92082

* Phone.
(760) 828-0560

If you need directions, there's a map on the website.

The gathering starts at 4:00 p.m., and continues until around 7:00 p.m. (or later, depending on when we get kicked out!)

As usual, there will be various door-prizes to be had, prizes for the ladies, as well as the enormously fun 'White Elephant' gift exchange - the rules of which can be viewed on our website.

Food and drink will be provided, although donations to the 'alcohol fund' are always welcome!

Entry to this wonderful event is only \$7.50 per person, or \$15.00 per couple (collected at the door).

Of course, the question on everybody's lips is: "Who will end up with the EARS thong?!"

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.

KIT BUILDING PRESENTATION

-- by Steve W6TAN

Thanks to the splendid effort of our new Vice President elect, John Belstner W9EN, and a few others - we have our 2011 program schedule already arranged!

You can already view the planned programs for next year by clicking on the '2011 Schedule' button on the EARS website. To give you a little taste of what we have planned for you for next year, here's January's program details:

The Lost Art of Kit Building - by Joe Eisenberg
K0NEB.

At our meeting on January 13, Joe, will be giving us a presentation on the lost art of kit building...

On Saturday the 15th, immediately following Thursday's presentation, Joe will be here again to follow up with a practical demonstration of how to build a fox-hunting receiver kit.

Children are welcome!

This will be a great opportunity to introduce your children or grandchildren to ham radio, and the skills involved with kit building. It can also be part of your holiday gift giving.

After the kits are built, we will be having a practical demonstration of fox-hunting, using the kits which have just been built.

We need a head count of adults and children that will be attending so that we may order the kits in time for the event.

The kits are \$27 each (less if we can order more).

For more details, please contact:

* Teri Bloom, W6TRB - feisty5ft@dslextrreme.com
* John Belstner, W9EN - w9en@arrl.net

Joe's bio:

Joe Eisenberg is a software/hardware/database specialist in the Lincoln, NB area. He holds an Extra Class Amateur Radio license and is also a writer for CQ Magazine.

He is also one of the most sought after speakers on the topic of ham radio home construction and kit building with his seminars bringing standing room only crowds.

SUMMARY OF EARS BOARD MEETING FOR OCTOBER

—information provided by John N6EP

1. Rob KI6SBL reported that the October meeting was well attended and enjoyed. The slate of officers for 2011 was elected unanimously.

2. It was reported that the California QSO Party operation at Dixon Lake was cancelled.

3. Konrad N6UKO reported \$1,126.57 in the checking account, \$932.56 in savings and \$2,211.61 in the CD.

4. Although not a Club function, it was reported that EARS members donated \$67 to the Salvation Army mission to Haiti.

5. Jeff AE6GM reported that a repeater is being tested on 220, co-channel to the EARS 220 repeater. He would appreciate any member reports of reception of the other repeater.

6. Jeff also reported that plans to move our antenna were postponed due to rain. A new amplifier for the

220 repeater was discussed.

7. Harry W6YOO reported on the 2010 Great Shakeout earthquake preparedness drill.

8. There was a discussion regarding whether EARS should continue as a member of SANDARC. It was decided to remain in the organization.

9. Steve W6TAN reported on website updates.

10. The Annual Christmas Party will be on December 11 at the home of John W9EN and Lynne Belstner in Valley Center. The format will be the same as in past years.

11. Teri W6TRB and John W9EN discussed the January program which will be a kit-building demonstration.

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 three repeaters in the Escondido area. The two meter EARS repeater is on 146.88 MHz with a PL of 107.2. The 220 MHz repeater is on 224.14 MHz (AE6GM repeater), minus offset, PL 156.7. The 440 EARS repeater is on 449.240 MHz with a PL of 127.3. The two meter and 440 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. Get your Club Badge from Glaser Bailey, 2015 South Escondido Blvd, 760-743-5551.

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.

EARS HATS, SHIRTS AND JACKETS - Hats, shirts and jackets are available with the EARS logo. Order them directly from Print World, 107 S. Andreasen Dr., Escondido, Ca. 92029 (Tel 760-747-6443). Just let them know you are part of the EARS club.

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.

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.