

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

Official Newsletter of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society - N6WB

January 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.

Thursday, January 14 Section Manager Report

January's meeting will be a presentation by Steve Early, AD6VI, who is the ARRL San Diego Section Manager. Steve's presentation will be about the trends in the San Diego Amateur Radio Community, and what we can do to help.

Thursday, February 11 GPS, Geocaching and Amateur Radio

presented by Jeff, AE6GM, and Robert, KI6SBL

Thursday, March 11 EARS Quiz Night

presented by Steve Venner, W6TAN

Thursday, April 8 EARS Annual Auction

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

Jan 14	EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Jan 16	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Jan 21	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Jan 30	VE Testing, 9 a.m.
Feb 11	EARS Monthly Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Feb 18	EARS Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Feb 20	Ears Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Feb 27	VE Testing, 9 a.m.



The first annual Hamster Hike took place on Sunday, January 3, at Daley Ranch. From left to right: Teresa, Mrs. N6EP; John, N6EP; Steve, W6TAN; Gina, KI6UQP; John, AF6UA; Carolee, KI6ZEK and (kneeling) John, KG6YYG. Taking the photo was Larry, Mr. KI6ZEK. -- photo courtesy W6TAN

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Robert, KI6SBL, President

This Could Be the Start of Something Big

For those who may not have seen my December, 2009, All EARS article I discussed the three goals I want to accomplish as EARS 2010 President. The goals are:

- o Increase membership by 25%
- o Promote higher attendance at club meetings
- o Create strong public awareness of EARS activity.

I described what these goals represent and how I was going to meet these goals. Today I am going to delve a little deeper into higher attendance at club meetings.

We EARS members do many great things, but we do three things right – Field Day, Community Service, and talk on our radios. While improving in these items is our optimal objective as a club, we can only do the first two items through preparation. We do most preparation for our Field Day and community service through Board and Field Day meetings.

However, without the Board or Field Day chair being able to present their activity and plans to the members at our regular meetings, the preparation could fall short. To me, this is why our monthly club is critical. Only your attendance at these club meetings makes it all happen the best way possible.

I hear some of you EARS members chuckling to yourself saying, "This will be an easy year at EARS, the president only wants me to show up at club meetings." Yes, I would like you all to show up at club meetings, but that is the minimum I expect from each of you. Today, I am asking all EARS members to do the best they can to attend monthly meetings. Not only because Doug has put a lot of work into making sure the presentations are fun and informative; but because without attending monthly meetings you will miss hearing the important reports and seeing the enthusiasm people are putting into making all our functions the best they can be.

A great leader once wrote, "There are two ways to get people to do what is needed for your association. The first thing is show them the importance of the function you need them to perform, and the second is to bribe them." Well, I hope I just explained to you well enough as to why attending EARS meetings is important.

However, if that did not work, here is some blatant bribery. I am going to continue recording those names of people who check into the Net each Sunday night and at the 2010 Christmas Party I will hand everyone a ticket for each time you check in. In addition to that I will be maintaining a list of all EARS members who attend our regular club meetings and handing you a ticket for each meeting you attend. That means you have the opportunity to earn over 60 tickets at the EARS 2010 Christmas Party to win a fabulous prize.

On a business note, we need some volunteers for the following jobs: SANDARC Representative and Alternatives; Field Day Chair; Contest Chair; and, meeting presenters. Please contact me if you're interested in any of the above mentioned except meeting presenter. If you have an idea for a meeting presentation, please contact our Vice President, Doug Ferris, K6DAF.

As I finish writing this article, I have been EARS President a little over 24 hours. I do not feel any different; however, I do know the importance of the task you all have laid before me. I am both honored and humbled. I am honored because you have faith in me. I am humbled because I know I cannot do it alone. With your support and a little luck, this could be the start of something big.

Robert J. Kitson, 2010 EARS President

CALL FOR PAPERS

by Robert, KI6SBL

All EARS is your newsletter so let's start hearing from you. Today I am going to help you be a part of the discussion by challenging you to write one or two paragraphs on one or both of the following titles:

How I Operate.
Why I Operate.

My goal here is to have different perspectives from as many EARS members as possible. Let's learn from our fellow EARS friends new tricks on how we all operate our gear. And let's all rekindle our love for Amateur Radio as we read "why" we all operate our radios.

Please send your submissions to John, n6ep@arrl.net, and he will add these short articles in All EARS through-out the year.

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ALL EARS

Advertising Policy

All EARS accepts ads free of charge at the Editor's discretion. Ads should be of interest to Ham Radio operators in the Escondido area. This includes personal ads, ads for Ham Radio related businesses and for member's businesses.

All ads are accepted at the Editor's discretion and on run on a space-available basis.

EARS Club Officers for 2010

President

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

Vice President

Doug Ferris, K6DAF
k6daf@yahoo.com

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

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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
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w6nwf@arrl.net

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w6mjm@amsat.org

THAT'S WHY THEY CALL THEM DUES

EARS memberships all run through the end of the calendar year. If you haven't paid yet - you're not a member of EARS anymore! Avoid this utter disgrace and pony up now.

FIRST NIGHT

by Dirk, N6SUN

Is it possible to spend the waning hours and minutes of the year operating Amateur Radio and spending time with your friends! Of course you can... You already know by now that I'm talking about First Night.

Escondido's First Night was another great success on many levels. The event was well organized and thankfully, the weather cooperated. There was good family participation with visibly excited young children and many teenagers present. There were many interesting activities, plenty of food to sample, and a wide variety of music to enjoy. This is an important event as it provides a safe location for folks to see in the New Year. Providing support for this event is not only appreciated but is an important and worthy cause.

Participation on our behalf was better than last year. We had a total of 17 operators over two shifts who did a great job of roaming the grounds. In fact, even



before walking through the gate, Tom Martin, KG6RCW, identified a potential tripping hazard. Once pointed out, the gate volunteers agreed with the hazard and we moved the gate to the left about two feet. Other highlights included looking for "six women wrapped in blankets" who were spotted by the sharp eyed John McNelly, KI6QBA. We were also asked to be on the lookout for a 14 year old who had run away the day before and whose parents thought she might be at First Night. We heard she was located, but no one knows where. I'm glad she was located though.

I believe the general public's attendance was lower than prior years, but there were still plenty of people there. We didn't encounter any trouble as attendees were well behaved (lack of alcohol helps in that regard). Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, did a great job

shadowing the committee chairperson, Debbie Stanley. She was so impressed by us last year, she had a banner made thanking us for our support. The two net control operators, Harry Hodges, W6YOO, and Robert Kitson, KI6SBL, managed traffic handily and conducted hourly roll calls. Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, Jeff Murdock, John McNelly, Doug Ferris, K6DAF, and myself worked both shifts. Fred McDavitt, KI6VBQ, out for the first time, did a great job. Bruce Woods and Doug Ferris brought along assistants to help them! Finally, John Belstner, W9EN, was on hand for the second shift and was seen helping someone lower a large canopy about 10 minutes before midnight.

I hope the operators had a great time. I sure did. The best part about this event, is that the more operators we have the better. As I mentioned, this is an excellent community event to rally behind and one where our participation is greatly appreciated. So next year, consider operating one shift. No matter which shift you operate, you will see fireworks. Of course, the best fireworks are launched at midnight... As a volunteer, your admission is covered, there are snacks in volunteer check-in, and you can generally bring a spouse or friend to roam around with.

A big thank you once again to everyone who participated in this year's First Night event. I was very impressed with our support of this event. I know the organizers were as well. Thank you for your community service and supporting this worthy and important event.

Dirk Reschly, N6SUN

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.

SUMMARY OF EARS BOARD MEETING FOR DECEMBER

--information provided by Jeff, AE6GM

1. Doug, K6DAF, reported that the Christmas Party at the Beltsner's was a great time with great food. 36 people attended. The opportunity drawing took in \$20 at the party for a total of \$208.
2. Konrad, N6UKO, reported the Club checking account balance as \$1578.68. Konrad will provide Robert and Doug a year-end report so that they can develop a 2010 budget.
3. Marvin is waiting for the 501(c)(3) to be approved before doing any additional antenna work.
4. There has been new firmware released for the controllers. Jeff, AE6GM, is waiting to see if any problems are found before loading it into the controllers.
5. Robert, KI6SBL, reported that 32 membership letters were sent out.
6. GT, K6TXT, has volunteered to be a SANDARC representative and Doug believes he planned to be a

primary. Doug will confirm. We still need another primary and two alternates.

7. Steve, W6TAN, has made the following updates to the website: You can edit/delete your personal for sale and/or wanted ads; Ads can be on the website for 3 months; Ads marked "sold" will remain on the site for one month.

8. Konrad has the new EARS banner.

9. Konrad has been making calls to those who still need to renew their EARS membership.

10. John, N6EP, suggested that we need to improve the sound quality in the chapel. Initial plan is to use the portable sound system. If that doesn't work we will investigate other alternatives.

11. Harry will no longer take orders for club badges. They can be ordered directly from Glaser Bailey. The information will be put in the newsletter.

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.