

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

The official bulletin of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society – N6WB

April 2011

April's meeting details

April is the month for our annual club auction.



See the program director's report on page 2 for more details.

EARS will meet at 7:30 pm, Thursday, April 14th, 2011 at:

The Salvation Army building
1301 Las Villas Way,
Escondido.

EARS Event Calendar

- April 14 Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- April 16 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- April 21 Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- **April 28 Field Day meeting**
- April 30 VE Testing
- May 12 Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- May 19 Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- May 21 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- **May 26 Field Day meeting**
- May 28 VE Testing

Inside this issue

Welcome to April's ALL EARS – p.1
President's Corner – p. 2
Program Director's Report – p. 2
Membership – p.3
EchoLink Status – p.3
Field day preparation meetings – p.4
Emergency Services – p.5
Opportunity Drawing Update – p.5
Summary of board meeting minutes – p.6

Welcome to April's ALL EARS

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



First – please let me apologize for the lateness of this issue...

Gina's father was unexpectedly taken into hospital three weeks ago, and has only just returned

home. Also, our new jobs are taking more of our time than we were led to believe!

Consequently, some of the articles which I had hoped to get into this issue will have to wait until next month.

As far as last month's issue is concerned, a couple of mistakes crept in...

First, there were mistakes regarding the dates of the field-day planning meetings for April & May.

The correct dates are as given on the left, and in Robert Kitson's, report elsewhere in this issue.

The other mistake was regarding the page number of the Program directors' report referred to on the front page. It should have read page 2 rather page 4.

Sorry about that!

Anyway, as always, if you have contributions for future editions, they will be gratefully received.

President's Corner

By John Musselman, N6EP



Well it's April and a young man's thoughts turn to, well, you know...

But what about us old guys?

Yeah, I know, April is tax time (right Dirk?), Time for spring cleaning, Time to consider our responsibilities and plod along with our obligations.

Or is it?

After all, April brings the EARS auction also. Could you imagine an accountant trying to understand it?

"You buy all this junk then turn around and sell it for maybe the same amount next year? What kind of economics is that?"

What would a young techie say?

"It's all too big and heavy, it's outdated, it can't do but a tiny bit of what today's new stuff can - why don't you just retire it?"

For that matter, if she were still here, looking over your shoulder, what would your mom have said about all that clutter? And I'll bet your grandkids just give you a blank stare.

Well, to heck with 'em all. It's our hobby. And what is a hobby except an excuse for having fun. And our hobby, that radio thing, is full of opportunities to forget all the seriousness out there in the world and get together with like-minded individuals for some plain old goofing off.

We've spent our whole life being way too serious about work and raising the kids and driving with our hands on the wheel and all that stuff. Now it's our turn to have some plain old fun.

That's the real reason we have that auction...

- To laugh at Art's in-jokes about items that you can only appreciate if you were around when they were new.

- To amaze the rest of the world with our knowledge of those old dinosaurs.

- To hang out with others in the know.

Yes, I'll see you at the EARS auction. For that one moment, I'm leaving the serious world behind and sharing so much fun with my buddies.

73,
N6EP

Program Director's Report

By John Belstner, W9EN



April 14th Presentation:

April is Club Auction month and our auctioneer this year will be none other than Art McBride KC6UQH. Trust me, when it comes to surprises this event

never ceases to disappoint. I know I'm looking forward to cleaning out my garage.

May 12th Presentation:

Our May presentation will be a tag team between Jim KI6ZUM and Kerry N6IZW.

Jim organized the ARISS - Adobe Bluffs Elementary School contact this past January. I had the distinct pleasure of providing the primary station for that contact.

Kerry is the area ARISS NASA mentor and was key in making sure all of Jim's "i's" were dotted and "t's" were crossed when it came to organizing the contact.

Jim and Kerry will introduce the ARISS program and walk us through the process of organizing this school contact with the astronauts on-board the International Space Station.

Jim is organizing another such event at a local San Diego area Middle School later this year. I'm looking forward to participating in that one as well.

June 9th Presentation:

The topic of our June presentation will be Antenna Design and Optimization with particular focus on Field Day. Dr. Frank Parks, NB1Z will be our presenter.

Frank is a colleague of mine and whiz when it comes to antenna theory.

If you have ever had any burning questions regarding the black magic of antennas, June 9th will be your opportunity to ask.

Membership

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



The Escondido Amateur Radio Society would like to offer a very warm welcome to the following new members:

- Scott Morrison, K1RVR
- Jonathan Smith, KJ6IKX
- Jonathan Hall, KJ6IKZ

WELCOME ABOARD!

Current EARS membership status as of 16th April 2011:

- Life: 50
- Paid: 58
- Total: 108

NOTE: There are still 30 members from 2010 who have not yet paid their dues for this year. So don't be shunned as a scurrilous deadbeat, just fork over your \$15 to any club officer, or better still, mail it in now - Teri is waiting to hear from you!

EchoLink Status

By John Belstner, W9EN

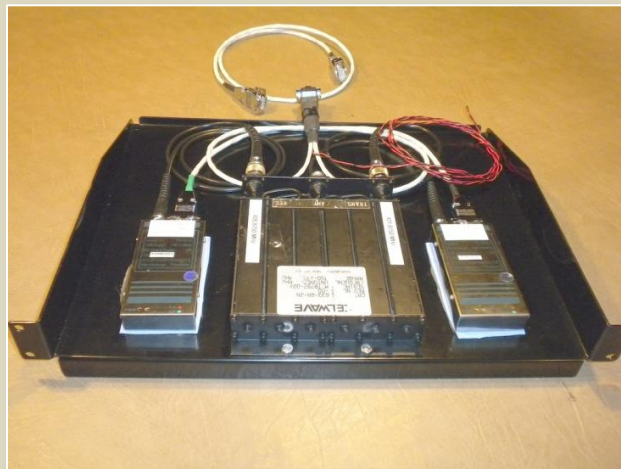


I know this may sound like a rerun, but the new EchoLink hardware will be on the air soon.

The server is currently connected to the Internet and

you can connect to it from your PC, but repeater connectivity is currently disabled.

Launch will coincide with the linking of our 440 MHz Repeater to the Hubbard Hill "Hub" along with a new 420 MHz link to the AE6GM Repeater on Coronado Hills.



A new EARS EchoLink User Manual will also soon be available for download on the club website.

Be aware that access codes are changing in order to be compatible with the new repeater controllers.

Once complete, EchoLink will be accessible by any of the three repeaters. Stay tuned for more info...



Field Day Preparation Meetings

By Robert Kitson, KI6SBL



Our first meeting for this year's Field Day was a great success!

We had over 20 members show up, and each were given attendance tickets to win a \$25.00 HRO Gift Certificate at

the Field Day Saturday night Pot Luck Dinner.

To clarify, people will get 1 attendance ticket to win the \$25.00 certificate for each Field Day meeting they attend and 2 tickets for attending the Antenna Party.

Last year, except for my YL and Konrad (N6UKO) no one attended the Antenna Party. This year I would like to see a huge turn-out at the Antenna Party and my Momma taught me "bribery works."

Field Day Meetings Schedule:

Thursday April 28 and May 26. Each meeting will be at the Escondido Salvation Army facility at 6:30pm.

Band Captains:

The Band Captains have been determined. Please support these men as they each will need volunteers to work their bands (or the GOTA table) for the entire 24 hours. Here is their contact information:

SSB

Captain - Vince Sheetz (W6CD)
vsheetz@email.com

CW

Captain - Steve Alborn (KE6YP)
scalborn@cox.net

VHF/UHF

Captain 1 - John Belstner (W9EN)
w9en@arrl.net
Captain 2 - Fred McDavitt (W6PRB)
mcdavitt_fred@cox.net

GOTA

Captain - John McNelly (AF6UA)
ears@mcnelly.org

Marvin Munster (W6MJM) will be organizing our Friday night meal for those who help set-up and the

Saturday Night Pot Luck Dinner for all EARS members.

I will be handling the publicity and make sure we have an organized information table.

John Musselman (N6EP) will be our Antenna Manager. He will create the Antenna Party agenda and be responsible for all Antenna decisions during the weekend.

Please support this annual event as best you can. We had a great Field Day Weekend in 2010 because we had highly attended and productive planning meetings before it.

Let's make 2011 even better by attending all three 2011 planning meetings and the 2011 Field Day Antenna Party.

See you then,

Rob Kitson, KI6SBL
2011 Field Day Chair
(760) 715-2876

About ALL EARS

ALL EARS is 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:
allears@earsclub.org

Permission is given to copy any article contained in ALL EARS when not otherwise copyrighted, and provided proper credit is given.

The deadline to submit material for the bulletin is by the 1st Thursday of the month.

Opportunity Drawing Update

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



The next opportunity drawing is planned to take place at the club meeting on May.

As for the next prizes – we have 5 to be offered:

- Model 400-047 20AMP Digital Multi-meter by Eclipse Enterprises Inc.
www.eclipsetools.com
- Model 902-092 Professional Tools Pro's Kit Soldering station
www.prokits.com.tw
- A Quarrow MT 13 handi-tool
<http://www.quarrow.com/QuarrowMT13.htm>
- Nifty! Ham Accessories \$25 Gift Certificate
<http://niftyaccessories.com>
- Handi-Finder Experimenter's Kit
<http://www.noard.com/noardhdf.htm>

Emergency Services

By Fred McDavitt, W6PBR



Tuesday, April 5, 2011, members of EARS participated in the test and evaluation of the new Escondido Emergency Operations Center (EOC) CERT communications capability.

Roger - KB6DQO engineered, over saw installation and initial testing of the system.

Kurt - N6MD established communications from the CERT staging area at North County Fair, and Fred - W6PBR established communications from the CERT staging area at Escondido High School.

At 7:30 PM, John - AF6UA (net control) established the weekly Escondido CERT HAM Net on the EARS repeater and then switched over the Escondido simplex frequency from the new EOC CERT desk with outstanding results.

The Escondido CERT Coordinator, Chief Randy Licata, witnessed all of the initial testing and the weekly CERT Net from the EOC and was very

pleased with the performance of the new EOC CERT communications suite.

EARS Club Officers for 2011

President

John Musselman, N6EP, (760) 747-5303
n6ep@arrrl.net

Vice President

John Belstner, W9EN
w9en@arrrl.net

Secretary and Treasurer

Teri Bloom, W6TRB
feisty5ft@dslexxtreme.com

Emergency Services Coordinator

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

Officers at Large:

Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, (760) 730-3657
cozy765@pacbell.net

Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, (760) 743-5839
darcpa@sbcglobal.net

Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, (760) 741-2560
kb6nmk@amsat.org

Viv Wentworth-Kitson, W6NWF (760) 715-2876
w6nwf@arrrl.net

Marvin Munster, W6MJM, (760) 747-2223
+Property Manager
w6mjm@amsat.org

Past President (non-elective)

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

Historian (non-elective)

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

Webmaster and Newsletter Editor

Steve Venner, W6TAN, 011 44 1483 473232
w6tan@earsclub.org

Summary of February's board meeting minutes:

By Teri Bloom, W6TRB



Program Director's Report

The March presentation by Patrick WD9EWK went very well. The April meeting will be our Club Auction.

Treasurer's Report

Konrad, N6UKO, was not present. He spoke to John, N6EP, and stated that due to health reasons he needs to resign as EARS Club Treasurer.

Technical Committee Report

John, W9EN has been researching Echo Radio.

The EchoLink server is not on the air yet, but it is connected to the Internet. Steve, W6TAN has created a new email address for EchoLink: Echolink@earsclub.org.

Jeff, AE6GM has sent a final letter to 220SMA, John Forley concerning the W6CPA Repeater.

Emergency Services Report

John McNelly was appointed as a Leader for CERT Team 5. Fred McDavitt was appointed the leader for CERT Team number 3.

A SD North County group has assumed the unofficial role of frequency coordinator. Its name is the Citizens Emergency Radio Team (CERT).

Jeff, AE6GM noted that if you are a CERT member and plan to go to the 24 hour earthquake drill you need your Program Managers approval to attend as this is not a sanctioned event and could have liability insurance issues.

SANDARC Report

EARS President needs to submit a letter to the SANDARC Secretary announcing the EARS current delegates and alternates.

Del Mar Fair Booth - EARS is requested to submit date(s) we are willing and able to man the booth.

PARC is having an Outdoor Function on April 10. More details at PARC website.

Nominations were held for April's election meeting. Robert Kitson was nominated for Secretary.

Membership Report

Current paid-up members to 2011 and beyond

- 99 (63 confirmed ARRL members)

Past members:

- 2010 - 37 (21 confirmed ARRL members)

Silent Key: We have received news of our member, George Peek, W6KXB is now a silent key.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Newsletter articles for April's edition required by 7th April:

Webmaster's Report

Monthly updates:

- April's program details added (annual auction)
- Rob's Field-day meeting info

Planned features for next month:

- Add Emergency Services section to the EARS database
- Continue with EARS event photos

PR Director Report

Robert, KI6SBL is requesting the officers to send bios.

FIELD DAY Chairman Report

Robert, KI6SBL is the Field Day Chairman this year. He will start sending emails to everyone to attend the first Field Day planning meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

John, N6EP presented the correspondence from our Liability Insurance agent.

Last month the Board decided to auction the campsite reservations we had purchased but not used. John, N6EP has since found the reservations have already expired and we cannot auction them.

An invoice was presented by Impulse Electronics for items in the current opportunity drawing.

NEW BUSINESS

Robert, KI6SBL amended his request for bios from the officers to request a bio from all board members. He will send a list of questions to all board members.

General Information

CLUB REPEATERS

EARS operates three repeaters in the Escondido area.

- 146.88 MHz, minus offset, PL 107.2
- 224.14 MHz (AE6GM repeater), minus offset, PL 156.7
- 449.24 MHz, minus offset, PL 127.3

The 2m and 70cm repeaters are local in nature and primarily serve the immediate Escondido area.

ECHOLINK

The 2m repeater is tied to the EchoLink system as node 2846.

See the Club website, www.earsclub.org for information on EchoLink.

There is also a listing of local EchoLink 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

These are free services that keep members up-to-date via e-mail.

To subscribe to either one of the reflectors, go to the EARS website and click on the Yahoo or Google Group links at the bottom of the main page.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR CALLSIGN

Please let us know if you change your address, call-sign, telephone, license class, e-mail, etc.

We want to keep our records up to date, so please contact any club officer with the updated information.

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 S. Escondido Blvd,
Escondido,
CA 92027
(760) 743-5551

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
(760) 747-6443

Just let them know you are a member of EARS.

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.

General Information cont'd

SUNDAY EVENING NET

EARS Sunday evening net is every Sunday at 8 p.m. local time. You can get the latest information on club activities there.

Just tune in to the club's 2m 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.

Parking is available in the first lot to the right after the guard shack. The parking fee is \$4.00 and is antenna friendly.

If interested, go to www.sdqares.net or contact Steve Early, Section Manager, (619) 461-2818, or via e-mail at ad6vi@arrl.org.

SECTION NEWS

The latest happenings around San Diego are available at www.arrl.org/sections/SDG.htm, the official website of the ARRL San Diego Section.

EARS PINS

EARS 2010 Board had EARS lapel pins made. They are yellow 1" circles with the EARS Logo in the middle.

They are only \$5.00 each.

Get yours today by contacting Rob Kitson;
KI6SBL@earsclub.org.

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.

Note: 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,
CA 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.

Escondido Amateur Radio Society

Membership Application and Renewal Form

*Call _____

*Last Name _____

*First Name _____

*Street Address _____

*City _____ *State _____ *Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

*Email _____

License Expires _____

EARS Family Members _____

License Class _____

First Licensed _____

Old Calls _____

Date of Birth _____

ARRL Member (Y/N) _____ Life Member (Y/N) _____

Amateur Related Interests _____

ARRL, RACES, ARES, SATERN, Red Flag, HF, VHF, UHF, Packet, EchoLink, D-Star, T-Hunt, ATV, Field - Day, Contests, Antenna Design, Equipment Building

Are you willing to run for a club office (Y/N)? _____

Note: Fields marked with a (*) are required.

A Telephone number is requested, but may be unlisted in the roster if you prefer.

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.

Checks please, it is safer than cash and you have a record.

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.