

# ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

The official bulletin of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society – N6WB April 2012

## April's meeting details



As always, April's meeting is the EARS annual auction.

It's that time when you get the chance to clear out your garages of all of the stuff that you bought at last year's auction!

We hope to see you all there!

## EARS Event Calendar - 2012

- Apr 12 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Apr 19 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Apr 21 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- **Apr 26 Field Day Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
- Apr 28 VE Testing
- May 10 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- May 17 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 19 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- **May 24 Field Day Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
- May 26 VE Testing
- **Jun 12 Field Day Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
- Jun 14 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Jun 16 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- Jun 21 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Jun 30 VE Testing

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## Welcome to April's ALL EARS

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



Hi everyone,

Sorry to say this month is a little lacking in articles.

Only three people were kind enough to take the time to submit anything.

Having said that, one of the articles contains links to a very interesting article in ARRL's QEX magazine – written by our very own Mike Hightower, KF6SJ!

Also, there are updates on Field Day, and the EARS Elmer program.

Hopefully next month we'll see a bit more content.

In the mean time, I hope you enjoy this edition of ALL EARS.

Best wishes,  
Steve, W6TAN.

## President's Corner (encore)

By Robert Kitson, KI6SBL



Hi all,

We had another great month. I am surprised each month by the number of volunteers we have.

I want to thank those who participated in our events. We keep moving forward, reaching new heights, and serving our community more and more each week.

If you want to volunteer for anything, need help in your HAM goals, or have a suggestion or question on how things are done - I can be reached at the following contacts:

E-mail: [ki6sbl@earsclub.org](mailto:ki6sbl@earsclub.org)

Phone: (760) 715-2876

Text: (760) 715-2876

73,

Robert J. Kitson, KI6SBL

2012 EARS President

## Program Director's Report

By John Belstner, W9EN



### April's Presentation:

April is Club Auction month and our auctioneer this year will be none other than Art McBride KC6UQH.

I know I'm looking forward to cleaning out my garage.

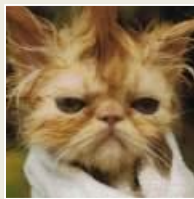
Our auction will again be held in the gymnasium at the Salvation Army Building in Escondido.

The times are as follows:

- Seller check-in starts at 6:00
- Buyer check-in starts at 6:30
- Auction starts at 7:00
- **Helpers please show up at 5:30**

## Field-day is-a-coming

By Viv, W6NWF



Ladies and Gentlemen of EARS:

The time for Field Day 2012 will soon be upon us.

### The Schedule for the Field Day Planning Meetings is as follows:

- 26 April 2012, Thursday
- 24 May 2012, Thursday
- 12 June 2012, Tuesday (Note DATE change)

The meetings will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the Salvation Army Building in Escondido.

### The Current Band Captains are as follows:

- SSB: Vince, W6CD  
[W6CD@earsclub.org](mailto:W6CD@earsclub.org)
- CW (+Tower Manager): Steve, KE6PY  
[scalborn@cox.net](mailto:scalborn@cox.net)
- VHF/UHF: Fred, W6PBR  
[mcdavitt\\_fred@cox.net](mailto:mcdavitt_fred@cox.net)
- GOTA: Tom, N6TFL  
[N6TFL@n6tfl.net](mailto:N6TFL@n6tfl.net)

Please see the attached flyer on the next page for more details.

### Alternatively, I can be reached at:

E-mail: [EARSFieldDay@gmail.com](mailto:EARSFieldDay@gmail.com)

Cell/text: (760) 715-2876

We also have a Twitter feed: EARSFieldDay

If you have any questions, or want to volunteer to help early, please contact me.

I hope to see you at the Planning Meetings!!!

Viv, W6NWF

EARS Field Day Chairman 2012

[EARSFieldDay@gmail.com](mailto:EARSFieldDay@gmail.com)

Cell/text (760) 715-2876

Twitter: EARSFieldDay



<http://www.escondido.org/dixon-lake.aspx>

Escondido "hams" will join with thousands of Amateur Radio operators who will be showing off their emergency capabilities this weekend. Over the past year, the news has been full of reports of ham radio operators providing critical communications during unexpected emergencies in towns across America including the California wildfires, winter storms, tornadoes and other events world-wide. During Hurricane Katrina, Amateur Radio – often called "Ham Radio" – was often the ONLY way people could communicate, and hundreds of volunteer "hams" traveled south to save lives and property. When trouble is brewing, Amateur Radio's people are often the first to provide rescuers with critical information and communications.

From 11:00 am Saturday 23 June 2012 to 11:00 am Sunday 24 June 2012, the public will have a chance to meet and talk with EARS (Escondido Amateur Radio Society, [www.earsclub.org](http://www.earsclub.org)) ham radio operators and see for themselves what the Amateur Radio Service is about. Showing the newest digital and satellite capabilities, voice communications and even historical Morse code, hams from across the USA will be holding public demonstrations of emergency communications abilities.

This annual event, called "Field Day" is the climax of the week long "Amateur Radio Week" sponsored by the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. Using only emergency power supplies, ham operators will construct emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and back yards around the country. Their slogan, "Ham radio works when other systems don't!" is more than just words to the hams as they prove they can send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, internet or any other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis.

For more information contact Rob Kitson at [KI6SBL@earsclub.org](mailto:KI6SBL@earsclub.org) or 760-715-2876 (cell/text).





## OzarkCon 2012

Information provided by Teri Bloom, W6TRB



OzarkKon 2012 is now on our radar screen.

It will be held April 13 & 14 in Branson, MO at the Stonecastle Hotel and Conference Center, the same

location as last year.

This will be the ninth consecutive year for the conference and the fourth year in the Branson venue.

Online pre-registration will open February 1<sup>st</sup>, look for an announcement from Webmaster Dave Martin, K5DCM.

Please visit our website for many many more details: <http://www.ozarkcon.com>

## International DX Convention

Information provided by Steve Venner, W6TAN



The 63rd Annual International DX Convention sponsored by the Southern California DX Club will be held at [The Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center Visalia](#) April 20, 21, 22, 2012.

The International DX Convention is the world's foremost DX convention.

If you are a DXer or interested in any aspect of ham radio you need to be at Visalia.

Top DX operators from around the world will be there. Meet the big guns from the US, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania. Meet the people on the other side of the mic or key. Shake hands with the person you have had that 'sked' with for the past 10 years. Renew friendships. Don't forget your YL! We have planned another great [Saturday Tour](#).

Bring the kids; there is even a prize for the youngest ham at the convention.

Please see our website for more details: <http://www.dxconvention.org>

## San Diego Area T-Hunt

Information provided by Robert Kitson, KI6SBL

Sponsored by the San Diego T-Hunt Group in conjunction with CQ Magazine World Wide Fox Hunting Weekend

**SATURDAY MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

**SAN DIEGUITO COUNTY PARK, SOLANA BEACH, CA.**

### DIRECTIONS:

From San Diego north on I-5 just past Via De La Valle (the race track exit) to Lomas Santa Fe exit.

From LA/OC area south on I-5 just past Manchester exit to Lomas Santa Fe exit.

Then, from both directions, go east 1.5 miles to Highland Dr. and turn left.

The main Park entrance is just after you turn onto Highland Dr. **DO NOT TURN INTO MAIN PARK ENTRANCE!**

Go down the hill on Highland about .5 miles to stop sign and turn right onto El Camino Real. Make a right turn on El Camino Real and go .1 miles to park entrance on your right.

There is a \$3.00/vehicle Park entrance fee or you can park right outside of the entrance on El Camino Real and walk into park with your equipment. Look for "T-Hunt" signs as you enter the park to locate registration area. Talk in simplex frequency will be 146.520

Starting times will be 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM with 5 minute start intervals. If you start at 1:00 you will have until 3:00 to complete the course. There are no registration fees! Maps provided by San Diego Orienteering.

This is not a True International Style Hunt other than using 2-M FM, having 5 T's and using the MOE-MOI-MOS-MOH-MO5 format.

Antennas may be any polarization and T's will not be identical in radiated power.

We intend to use punch card verification for the hidden T's.

There will be red and white flagging tape within 6 feet of the T's which will be concealed along with the punches.

There will not be an 80 Meter course.

This is a short course with lots of hills and good practice for beginners. We will have some equipment to loan and experienced Hams to demonstrate techniques for those that want to experiment with ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding).

A Pot Luck BBQ is planned for 3:00 PM for anyone interested? Bring your own burgers/dogs & buns and we will provide condiments....

For more information contact:

Joe Corones, N6SZO @ H-858.484.3582, C-858.603.5545, [jcorones@gmail.com](mailto:jcorones@gmail.com)

Joe Laughlin, KE6PHB @ H-619.461.7854, C-619.403.3149, [ke6phb@cox.net](mailto:ke6phb@cox.net)

Also note that there will be a 2-M tape-measure beam antenna kit building class scheduled for May 12, 2012. Kits are \$60 and include a 2 or 4 MHz offset attenuator.

Contact N6SZO above to reserve your kit and for information and/or directions. Practice course will be set up after class.

**COME ON OUT AND EXPERIENCE A DIFFERENT ASPECT OF HAM RADIO!**

**ED: For those of you who are interested, it is planned that July's program will be about Transmitter-Hunting, and will be given by Jo Corones, N6SZO, and Joe Laughlin, KE6PHB.]**

## Current EARS Membership

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



There were two new members joining EARS this month:

Loren Mitchell, K6BK  
Jack M Hopkins, KG6SOH

**Welcome aboard!**

The current EARS membership as of 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2012 is:

- Life: 51
- Paid: 56
- Total: 107

## Tales from the Treasurer

By Teri Bloom, W6TRB



Greetings everyone...

I am happy to report the informal audit by the officers of EARS club is over and all is well!

When there is a change of Treasurers, according to the EARS By-Laws, an audit is to be performed.

This protects the EARS accounts and also the new Treasurer, making sure no errors are carried forward and that good accounting practices are followed.

At the last officers meeting, we took time to review the account transactions and all were approved!

Also, let's all think about attending the upcoming EARS event, the annual auction.

There are lots of good opportunities to both sell and buy equipment, supplies, and fun stuff.

You can sell items from your shack that you aren't using and donate the proceeds to your EARS club!

And, because we are a 501 (c) (3) organization, you get a deduction for the donation that can be used for next year's taxes!

We will have the donation forms at the auction this year.

## EARS Elmer Update

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



Since last month, I've had a few more volunteers for the EARS Elmer program, but at the moment, there's really not enough to warrant carrying out any form of database work.

So in the meantime, I've decided to list them here in ALL EARS:

### 1. Harry Hodges, W6YOO

- *Award programs such as WAC, WAS, DXCC, VUCC, IOTA, etc. to include card checking.*

### 2. Dick Kalkofen, K6KAL

- *Software development and hardware interfacing.*
- *Radio to PC communications.*
- *Logging Software: WinTest, Writelog, DX4Win, N1MM, Ham Radio Deluxe and many others.*
- *Digital mode software, link FLdigi, MMTTY for PSK, RTTY, WISPR, JT65 etc.*
- *Kit building (WinKeyer USB, FA-SM CW/Voice Keyer, Idiom Press Voice Keyer.*
- *Antenna setup and tuning.*

### 3. Matt Tucker, N6EAJ

- *General electronics (analog), power supplies, audio, batteries.*
- *PSK31 and similar digital modes.*
- *Operating and setting up the computer/radio interfaces.*
- *Basic antennas (VHF for home or car), HF dipoles and multi-band doublets / antenna tuners.*

### 4. Mike Hightower, KF6SJ

- *HF and in particular, digital modes of PSK31 and JT65.*

### 5. John Musselman, N6EP

- *HF, electronics, contesting, "other"...*

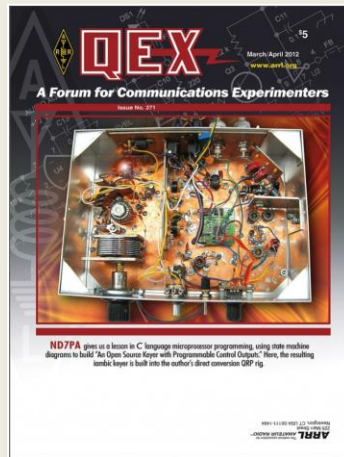
## Hightower's Technical Topic

Information provided by Matt Tucker, N6EAJ

As you probably know, ham radio operators are sometimes known for being a little bit technical.

One of our club officers - Mike Hightower, KF6SJ is no exception to this fact, and has had an article published in the ARRL QEX magazine this month:

<http://www.arrl.org/this-month-in-qex>



The article is about a Simple SDR Receiver, so if you've ever considered looking for some hardware to learn about SDR - This project may be just what you need to explore this hot topic!

Here's a link to the full article:

[http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QEX\\_Next\\_Issue/Mar-Apr\\_2012/Hightower.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QEX_Next_Issue/Mar-Apr_2012/Hightower.pdf)



*Michael L. Hightower, KF6SJ, has been continuously licensed since 1970, and currently holds an Amateur Extra class license.*

*Active on the HF bands, his interests include homebrew radio design and construction, and experimental communications techniques.*

*Michael earned BSEE and MSEE degrees from the University of Illinois. He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corporation (TAPR) and is an ARRL Life Member.*

## General Information

### EARS Club Officers for 2012:



**President**  
Robert Kitson, KI6SBL  
(760) 715-2876  
[ki6sbl@earsclub.org](mailto:ki6sbl@earsclub.org)



**Vice President**  
John Belstner, W9EN  
[w9en@arrl.net](mailto:w9en@arrl.net)



**Secretary**  
Vince Sheetz, W6CD  
[w6cd@earsclub.org](mailto:w6cd@earsclub.org)



**Treasurer**  
Teri Bloom, W6TRB  
[w6trb@earsclub.org](mailto:w6trb@earsclub.org)



**Emergency Services Coordinator**  
Fred McDavitt, W6PBR  
(760) 737-6837  
[mcdavitt\\_fred@cox.net](mailto:mcdavitt_fred@cox.net)

### Officers at Large:



Jeff Murdock, AE6GM  
(760) 730-3657  
[cozy765@pacbell.net](mailto:cozy765@pacbell.net)



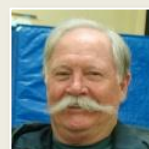
Michael Hightower, KF6SJ  
(858) 613-9240  
[mike@hightower.com](mailto:mike@hightower.com)



Jo Ashley, KB6NMK  
(760) 741-2560  
[kb6nmk@amsat.org](mailto:kb6nmk@amsat.org)

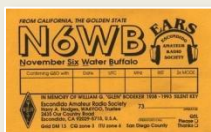


John McNelly, AF6UA  
(858) 449-3326  
[ears@mcnelly.org](mailto:ears@mcnelly.org)



Marvin Munster, W6MJM  
(760) 747-2223  
[w6mjm@amsat.org](mailto:w6mjm@amsat.org)  
+ *Property Manager*

### About ALL EARS:



**ALL EARS** is the official bulletin of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society.

An e-mail subscription to **ALL EARS** is FREE!

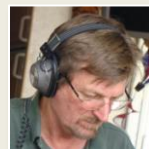
You don't need to be a member. Just drop a note to:

[allears@earsclub.org](mailto:allears@earsclub.org)

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

**Note:** The deadline to submit material for the bulletin is by the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month.

### Non-elective:



**Past President**  
John Musselman, N6EP  
(760) 747-5303  
[n6ep@arrl.net](mailto:n6ep@arrl.net)



**Historian**  
Harry A. Hodges, W6YOO  
(760) 743-4212  
[w6yoo@cox.net](mailto:w6yoo@cox.net)



**Webmaster and Newsletter Editor**  
Steve Venner, W6TAN  
+44 1895 636099  
[w6tan@earsclub.org](mailto:w6tan@earsclub.org)

## 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!".

### SECTION NEWS

The latest happenings around San Diego are available at the official website of the ARRL San Diego Section:

<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/san-diego>

### 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, so get yours today by contacting: Robert Kitson; [ki6sbl@earsclub.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.net](http://www.sandarc.net)

### 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](http://www.earsclub.org) for information on EchoLink.

There is also a listing of local EchoLink codes in the members section of the website.



## General Information cont'd

### 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](http://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

### MONTHLY BREAKFAST

EARS members meet socially the third Saturday of each month at 08:30, at:

Spires Restaurant,  
1215 East Valley Parkway.  
CA 92027-2309

### 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](http://www.arrl.org/members).

The ARRL Letter is also available to all, free of charge, at [www.arrl.org/arrlletter](http://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.

## Emergency Services

### 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.sdgares.net](http://www.sdgares.net) or contact Steve Early, Section Manager, (619) 461-2818, or via e-mail at [ad6vi@arrl.org](mailto:ad6vi@arrl.org).

### EMERGENCY SERVICE NETS

#### Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) San Diego

Sunday, 08:30 146.730 (-) 107.2

#### Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Escondido

Tuesday, 19:00 146.880 (-) 107.2

Followed by 146.445 SIMPLEX, as directed

#### Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) North County and Back Country

Wednesday, 19:00 147.030 (+) 103.5

Followed by 146.445 SIMPLEX, as directed (on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays)

#### Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) San Diego County

Monday, 7:30 PM 147.195 (+) 114.8

## 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.