

# ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

The official bulletin of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society – N6WB May 2013

## May's meeting details



The next meeting will be a presentation given by our very own Dr. Henry Richter, W6VZA.

The presentation will be about his involvement in

NASA's 1958 launch of the satellite Explorer 1.

See Matt's VP article for more details...

Hopefully, we'll see you **ALL** there!

## EARS Event Calendar - 2013

- May 09 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- May 16 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 18 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- May 23 Field-day Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 25 VE Testing
- Jun 13 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Jun 15 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- Jun 20 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Jun 29 VE Testing
- Jul 11 Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Jul 18 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Jul 20 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- Jul 27 VE Testing

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## Welcome to May's ALL EARS

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



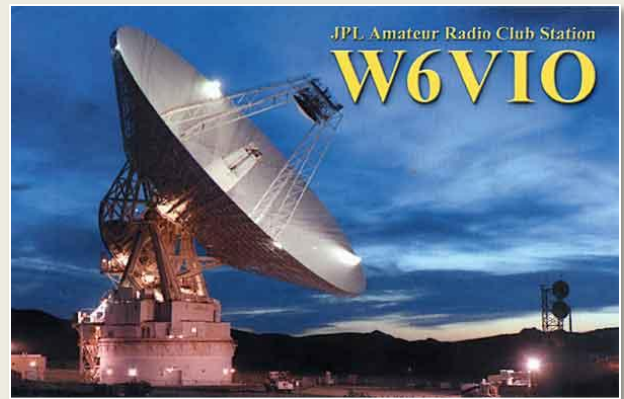
Hello everyone, and welcome to May's ALL EARS!

This month is very frustrating for me. The reason is that I'm on the other side of the 'pond' and May's presentation looks to be very interesting.

**Unfortunately, I can't be there to see it - Doh!!!**

With any luck, someone will be video-taping the meeting, so those of you who can't make tonight's meeting should have an opportunity to see it at a later date. I'll post details here when they're available.

Also, while searching for some images on Dr Richter, I found out that he was one of the founding members of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Amateur Radio Club, W6VIO.



"The club was first formed in 1958 as the JPL Amateur Radio Society largely through the efforts of Dr. Henry L. Richter, W6VZA, with the intent of furthering interest in Amateur Radio at the Laboratory."

An interesting guy eh?

73,  
Steve, W6TAN.

## The Presidential Prose

By John Musselman, N6EP



Hello All,

Well I hope you all had a chance to come to the Auction last month. It was a great time and Art, KC6UQH, was in top form.

I admit that I learned a few things about "radio stuff".

I also learned that hams claim to be cheap but that cheap is relative. Some of the bidding was a bit ferocious, much to the entertainment of non-bidders.

### **If you missed it, we'll see you next year!**

Yes it's time to start thinking about Field Day. We will have a big presence at Dixon Lake again this year. If you haven't yet made plans for the weekend of June 22 and 23, then now is the time to do so. Be sure to get hold of the appropriate band captain and let them know that you want to operate.

John McNelly, AF6UA, is the Field Day Chairman this year and he can help you get in touch with the right person or figure out what opportunities are available to you. Yours truly will be in charge of CW this year. Also, consider coming to the Field Day Planning Meeting on Thursday, May 23, to help finalize plans.

This week's meeting looks to be really interesting. If you don't remember or never heard of Explorer 1, this bit of space exploration history should be a fascinating look back. Dr. Henry Richter, W6VZA, is our presenter. Henry was the Explorer 1 project manager.

Well, ham activities abound in the summertime and we are at a sunspot peak, so hope to hear you on the air and hope you have the chance to enjoy our hobby in the coming months.

73,

John  
N6EP

## Verbal from the VP

By Matt Tucker, N6EAJ



Thanks to those that attended the EARS auction.

As usual, we had a wide spread of items from a FT-7900 to 100 feet of phone cable.

Special thanks go out to Art McBride KC6UQH for being the auctioneer and his seemingly infinite knowledge of auction items.

Also big thanks to Major David KG6QDS for use of the Salvation Army facility and organizing food for hungry auction goers that didn't have time for dinner beforehand.

The chicken plate and the chili dog plate were both delicious. It isn't every night that I have two dinners, but I thought it was my duty to give them both a try..... for the good of the club!



## Our May monthly meeting is Thursday May 9th.

Dr. Henry L. Richter joined EARS this year and will be presenting about his involvement (and amateur radio's involvement) in the 1958 launch of satellite Explorer 1.



The summary is:

In 1958 the U.S. launched its first earth satellite – Explorer 1. Our speaker was Project Manager for Explorer, and will give a brief overview of the satellite and in particular the radio telemetry and tracking program.

Ham radio played a large part in the tracking of this satellite and the San Gabriel Valley Radio Club was part of the tracking network, and was the first to acquire the signal proving that Explorer was in orbit as it passed over California after launch.

**This was part of the confirmation sent to President Eisenhower who then announced the successful launch!**

Matt.

## Current EARS Membership

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



This past month, there was one new member joining:

Ken Stone, N4CEI

**Welcome aboard Ken!**

The current EARS membership as of 7<sup>th</sup> of May, 2013 is:

- Life: 55
- Paid: 66
- Total: 121

Note that the above membership figures represent the EARS members who are either life members, or who have paid to the end of 2013 or beyond.

## Field-Day Frivolity

By John McNelly, AF6UA



Field-Fay is the largest EMCOMM event in North America.

As you should know by now, Field-Day is always the fourth full weekend in June, so this year it will be the weekend of June 21st-23rd.

We'll start setting up at Dixon Lake on Friday afternoon, and Field Day runs from 11:00 AM on Saturday - 11:00 AM Sunday.

Please feel free to join us for the Field-day planning meetings.

The meetings will be held the fourth Thursday of every month (until Field Day), at 7:00 PM, at the Salvation Army Community Center (same place as the EARS members meetings).

**Note - There is only one meeting left:**

Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We have band captains selected for:

VHF:	Fred McDavitt, W6PBR
GOTA:	Zac Petersen, KJ6MLT
CW:	John Musselman, N6EP

**We still need an SSB band captain...**

If you'd like to volunteer, please let me know:

[ears@mcnelly.org](mailto:ears@mcnelly.org)  
858-449-3326 (cell)

Please contact me or the Band Captains directly to get on the Band Station schedule. Each slot is 2 hours long. If desired, we can get a logger for you. Even if you want to just log, let us know that too.

Contact the Band Captains early - so you can get the slot you want... they go fast!

## Cutting the Cord

By Matt Tucker, N6EAJ



To hams, cord cutting may sound like getting off the grid (solar power, emergency communications, ...), but the more typical definition is getting rid of cable or satellite

TV providers and replacing them with over-the-air (OTA) antennas and/or a streaming video service using internet.

I will focus on getting content OTA.

The most obvious benefit to cutting the cord is saving money. Gone is the monthly bill.

A lesser known benefit is picture quality. The cable and satellite companies take a video feed from a network station (CBS, NBC....) and compress the video further so they can fit all those TV stations on their system. The better picture via OTA can be very noticeable.

My dual TV antenna setup in North Escondido picks up the major network stations reliably and is 'set and forget':



The most common reasons people stick with cable/satellite are:

### 1. Program material.

Maybe there are a few channels that you really like that you can't get OTA. There are other options out there though. Many shows are available over the internet (legally) or through a streaming service like Hulu or Netflix.

### 2. Putting up a TV antenna takes effort.

This probably doesn't deter too many hams from getting OTA since UHF and VHF TV antennas are small and very similar in size to 2m and 70cm ham antennas.

### 3. Homeowner associations (HOAs) and Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs).

You may be out of luck when it comes to putting up a non-stealth ham radio antenna if you have CC&Rs, but you can most likely put up a visible / roof mount TV antenna even if your CC&R says you can't.

Part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was the Over-the-Air Reception Devices (OTARD) rule "concerning governmental and nongovernmental restrictions on viewers' ability to receive video programming signals..." For those interested, here is the link to the entire document:

<http://www.fcc.gov/guides/over-air-reception-devices-rule>

Unlike ham radios PRB-1, the OTARD rule has teeth and specifically states it covers HOAs as well as state and local governments.

### 4. Location.

If you are in North County and have a hill very close to you in the direction of the transmitters (South), you may be out of luck for OTA. The two main transmitter sites for San Diego are on Mount Soledad (La Jolla) (CBS and ABC) and Mount San Miguel (east county) (NBC, KPBS, and KSWB).





## EARS Elmer List

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



Here is the current list of those kind soles who have volunteered their Elmer services:

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"...*

6. Marvin Munster, W6MJM

- *Emergency Power Sources, Batteries, Solar, etc.*
- *DC Cables and Hook-Up*
- *Coax Cables and Connector Assembly*
- *DC Power Distribution*

6. Ron Pollack, K2RP

*Antique and tube equipment (boat anchors)*

## AMGEN Bike Race

By John McNelly, AF6UA

**Save the Date: May 11-12, 2013**



Escondido is hosting the starting leg of the AMGEN Tour of California bike race on May 12th, 2013:

<http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com/Route/cities/escondido.html>

[o.html](http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com/Route/cities/escondido.html)

EARS is currently working with the Police Dept to fulfil their needs for ham volunteers.

We will certainly need hams on race day (Sunday May 12), and "might" need hams for the day before (Saturday May 11). So If you're interested in providing radio communications support for the AMGEN race, let me know:

[john@mcnelly.org](mailto:john@mcnelly.org)

Escondido is also looking for volunteers to be course marshals (and for other race-related duties). So if you're interested in one of those non-ham positions, see this URL for more info:

<http://www.escondido.org/amgen-volunteer.aspx>



## General Information

### EARS Club Officers for 2013:



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



**Vice President**  
Matt Tucker, N6EAJ  
(760) 839-1205  
[mail4tucker@gmail.com](mailto:mail4tucker@gmail.com)



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



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



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

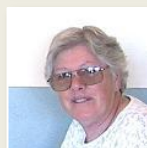
### Officers at Large:



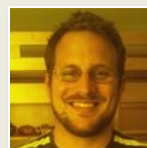
Dirk Reschly, N6SUN  
(760) 743-5839  
[n6sun@earsclub.org](mailto:n6sun@earsclub.org)



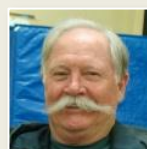
John Belstner, W9EN  
[w9en@arrl.net](mailto:w9en@arrl.net)



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

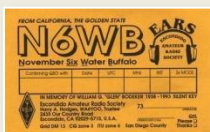


Zac Petersen, KJ6MLT  
(858) 888-6090  
[kj6mlt@earsclub.org](mailto:kj6mlt@earsclub.org)



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



**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:

Due to the fire at Spires, until further notice, EARS breakfast will be at the old venue:

Westside Cafe,  
9th and Redwood.

### 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.