

ALL EARS

www.earsclub.org

The official bulletin of the Escondido Amateur Radio Society – N6WB April 2014

April's Meeting Details



Our April 10th meeting will be the EARS annual auction.

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

EARS Event Calendar - 2014

- Apr 10 EARS meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Apr 17 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Apr 19 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- Apr 24 Field-day meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Apr 26 VE Testing
- May 08 EARS meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- May 15 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 17 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- May 22 Field-day meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 31 VE Testing
- Jun 12 EARS meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Jun 19 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Jun 21 Monthly Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- Jun 26 Field-day meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Jun 28 VE Testing

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Welcome to April's All EARS

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



Welcome to April's ALL EARS...

We have another bumper issue this month, and it's on time!

As usual, I'd like to say many thanks to all of you who

provided the articles – especially to Matt, whose VP article could have easily been split into 4 individual items.

Also, big thanks to Teri, who did a great job on her travel article, along with all of the great photos.

Some time ago, I also had the opportunity to go to Anza Borrego with Fred.

All I would say is that if you ever get the chance to go out to the dessert, don't think twice... It's an amazing place. Just remember to make sure the batteries in your camera are fully charged!

The Auction

This coming Thursday is the EARS annual auction.

If you've never been before, then you're in for a real treat. Once again Art 'McBribe' is our auctioneer extraordinaire.

Even if you don't intend buying anything, it's worth going along just for the fun of it.

73,
Steve, W6TAN.

The Presidential Prose

By Mike Hightower, KF6SJ



The month of April means the annual EARS auction is here.

So, dig out your old, unused radios, dust them off and bring them to our auction on April 10th. It is a great way to clean

out some cabinets and put a few dollars into your pocket.

Like many hams, I accumulate radios and radio accessories. Some radios I have bought through the years and some I inherited from relatives or other ham friends that are no longer with us.

I seldom ever use the old radios. I have my favorite radios that are modern designs that offer great performance.

It is hard to want to use a radio that doesn't have the selectivity or noise performance of the new ones, but keep the old radios because they rekindle memories.

The memories are of people that gave me the radios, or people that I worked on the air with the radios.

The auction is also a time to buy new (at least new to you) toys and parts...

Sometimes, the new purchases do get used. Sometimes you just have them in case you need it later.

It is funny how you don't know you need it until you see it.

I bought a really useful piece of test equipment at our auction a couple of years ago. One piece was an audio generator.

I wasn't looking for anything in particular, but when I saw this Wavetek model 148, I bid on it and won the bid for what seems like a small amount of money.



I often use this generator on my bench at home when I work on my home brew rigs. It works as good as a generator that I use at work and that cost me thirty times as much! There are gems waiting to be found at auctions.

73,
Mike KF6SJ

Verbal from the VP

By Matt Tucker, N6EAJ



Our April meeting will be the annual EARS auction.

See below for more details...

- What:** EARS Ham radio related auction
- Cost:** Sellers \$2 for first tag, \$1 each additional tag, buyers free (new rules)
- When:** April 10th 2014, Seller check-in 6PM, Buyer check-in 6:30PM, Auction begins 7PM
- Where:** Escondido Salvation Army Community Center 1301 Las Villas Way Escondido (in the gym)
- Payment:** Cash, Check, PayPal, Credit card.

This year we are going computerized to help speed up check-in and checkout.

Art McBride KC6UQH has volunteered to be the auctioneer again (thanks Art).

We also have new rules this year...

The main change is to the seller fees. We were getting too many junk items (things that people didn't want to buy even for \$1) and that made the auction run too long.

Sellers will now buy selling tags at \$2 for the first tag and \$1 for each additional tag.

If you have a lot of little items that won't sell for much individually, you can combine them and sell them as a lot. That way you make some money and we don't have to sit through 50 individual items selling for \$1 (or less).

We are hoping this will be a good compromise between getting too much junk and scaring off sellers with big fees.

For a complete list of rules:

http://www.earsclub.org/documents/pdf/ears_auction_rules_2014.pdf

You can also find a few of the items that will be at the auction here:

<http://www.earsclub.org/auction.html>

Come hungry!

The Salvation Army Youth group will be selling dinner before/during the auction to raise money for a trip.

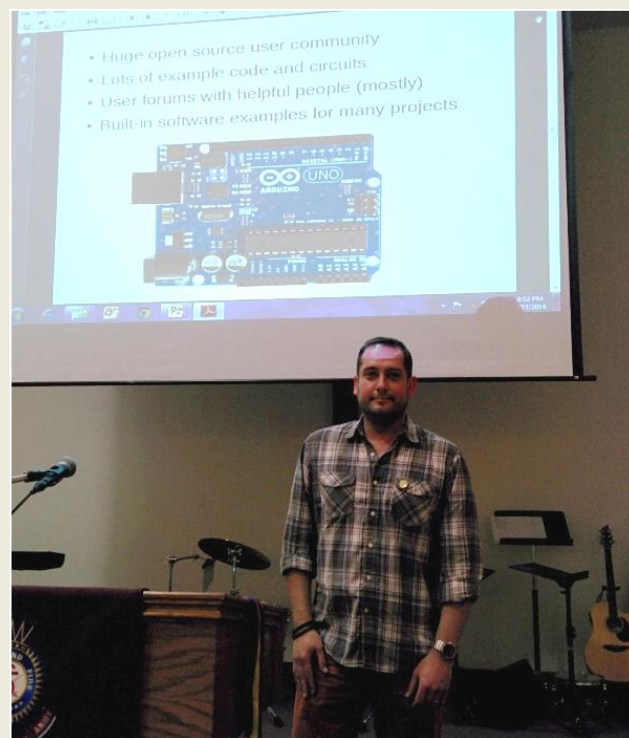
I will be sending out an auction e-mail reminder a few days before the auction and I will include dinner options and prices if the SA gives me the information in advance.



The poster features the EARS logo at the top, which consists of the word "EARS" in a stylized font with "ESCONDIDO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY" written below it. Below the logo, the word "AUCTION" is written in large, bold, red letters. Underneath, the following text is provided: "What: EARS Ham radio related auction", "Cost: Sellers \$2 for first tag, \$1 each additional tag, buyers free (new rules)", "When: April 10th 2014, Seller check-in 6PM, Buyer check-in 6:30PM, Auction begins 7PM", "Where: Escondido Salvation Army Community Center 1301 Las Villas Way Escondido, CA 92026", "More Info: <http://www.earsclub.org/auction>", and "Payment: Cash, Check, Paypal, Credit card." At the bottom right of the poster is a small cartoon illustration of a man in a red suit and white hat standing next to a piece of electronic equipment.

March's meeting:

Thanks to Mark McComb, W6MCO for talking to EARS about Arduino micro controllers during our March EARS meeting.



Mark's presentation on Arduino micro controllers peaked my interest, and I purchased an Arduino Uno board and the 2x16 LCD shield.



In Mark's presentation, he listed the code he used to blink the on-board LED. That showed me that even though technically the

code is "C", it is very similar to a BASIC language that is easily read and written by people without programming experience.

All I had to do was download the software from the Arduino website, plug a USB cable into the board, plug the LCD onto the board, and I was off and running with some sample code for the LCD display.

I also came across a nice Arduino application (remote display for a Ham radio) while watching the Amateur Radio Logic video podcast. Check out Episode 64 (Vegemite or Die!) at about 39 minutes into it. They make great ham videos:

<http://www.amateurlogic.tv/blog/>

Palm Spring Hamfest

I saw several EARS members (besides the ones I rode with) at the Palm Springs Hamfest.

Attendance was good:



Two familiar faces – Marvin, W6MJM and Konrad, N6UKO work the event:



Gordon West, WB6NOA working the crowd:



More Tower Troubles

In the February All EARS, Teri W6TRB wrote about A Tale of a Troublesome Tower (the taking down of the tower).

The tower was later bought by Bud AE6BH.

On 3/22 a small group got together to move the tower from the SK's house to Bud's house.

The tower sits at the end of the driveway waiting for the truck.



From left to right: Brian AG6CF, Bud AE6BH, Dave AK6DD, Zac KJ6MLT, and Matt (non-ham).



Bud secures his new treasure to the flat bed truck.

Thanks to Zac who called in a favor to get the flat bed truck there that day.

I Hope to see you at the auction!

Matt
N6EAJ

Opportunity Drawing Update

By Teri Bloom, W6TRB



The next opportunity drawing will have the Fox Delta Antenna Analyzer as the main prize:

This item has been donated to us by EARS member - Bud

AE6BH. He has also offered to build the Antenna

Analyzer for the lucky opportunity drawing winner!



As well as the antenna analyzer, another great kit will also be offered:

The TenTec QRP transceiver kit (13xx series)

Features include:

- Available for 20, 30, 40 or 80 meters.
- 3 watts power output.
- Easy to build and simple to operate.
- Each unit covers a 50 kHz segment determined by you at the time of construction.
- Kit includes all required components and professional silkscreened and painted enclosure.



The single conversion superhet receiver performance is superlative, and QSK is just what you expect from the hams at

TEN-TEC.

The kit will be ordered for the winner once they decide they want the 20, 30, 40 or 80 meter kit.

Please note that there will be NO opportunity drawing tickets sold at the EARS auction.

73
Teri, W6TRB

EARS are everywhere

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



It seems that every month, there is some sort of Hamfest / convention going on.

This weekend is no exception in that it is (or was) the Visalia DX convention and looking at the visitor list, there are several members of EARS who will be in attendance.

Hopefully, we'll have a report with photos for next month's All EARS.

We've also had the Palm Springs Hamfest recently, and again – there were quite a few EARS members visiting as can be seen in Matt's VP article.

Here's a picture of several EARS members pigging out at yet another Hamfest back in February...



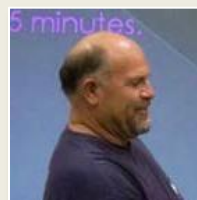
This was the Yuma Hamfest (maybe it should be called the 'Yum'a Hamfest!)

Dennis, N6KI of the San Diego DX Club took the picture. Apparently, the weather was in the upper 80's warm and sunny with a little bit of wind. It was really a nice turn out. They had a lot of fun and did a lot of walking. The seminars were interesting but the chairs were murder on the butt!

Information provided by Rusty Kalkofen, AF6WF (pictured closest to the camera on the right).

PARC Operating Day Returns

By Dennis Baca, KD6TUJ



Palomar will again host an Operating Day at Fry's in San Marcos SATURDAY April 26, 2014.

This will be another opportunity to demonstrate to the public what Amateur Radio does, can do, and how it helps the community.

Come join the fun with demonstrations...

We are hoping to have Red Cross, Skywarn, SATERN, D-Star, CERT, and other served groups represented, as well as demonstrations of different modes.

Plagiarizing of the info is encouraged!

OPERATING DAY

Saturday, April 26, 2014



FRY'S ELECTRONICS

150 South Barn Street

SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA 92069

9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

HOSTED BY PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.palomararc.org

contact: Dennis KD6TUJ (760) 673-0013

Come operate on the 12m bands at Fry's
70cm, 2m, 5m, 10m, 15m, 20m



Dennis
KD6TUJ

Current EARS Membership

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



This past month, there were no new members joining, only one renewal.

Therefore, the current EARS membership as of the 6th of April, 2014 is:

- Life: 56
- Paid (2014+): 49
- Total: 105

Items for Sale

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



The following list of 'For Sale' items has been copied from the EARS web site.

Click on the links for more details of each item.

Item	Price
Yaesu VX5 Battery. FNB-41	\$ Free
M² 2element 80M Beam	\$1800 (obo)
Fiberglass poles	\$0.50 ea
SDR1000 with 2m transverter receive	\$200 (obo)
Alpha Delta 4 position coax switch	\$50
Comet HF/vhf duplexor	20
Kenwood TR-7400A #2 2M 25W Vintage (For Packet)	\$55
MFJ-945D 300W Mobile Tuner	\$60

Teri's Travels

By Teri Bloom, W6TRB



A while back, our Webmaster & Newsletter editor - Steve Venner, W6TAN used to publish articles in All EARS called 'TAN's Travels'.

As he hasn't done one of these for a while, I thought I'd have a go...

Although it's not specifically Ham Radio related, it does highlight the usefulness of amateur radio communications in potentially dangerous situations where there is no cell phone coverage.

I hope you enjoy it!

On Jan 04, 2014 a small group of hams and non-hams got together in Anza Borrego Desert for a day of exploring.

There were a total of 4 Jeeps:

- In Jeep 1 were Fred W6PBR, Teri W6TRB and Jo KB6NMK.
- In Jeep 2 was Dirk N6SUN, his daughter Megan KI6LFA, and Megan's boyfriend Zach.
- In Jeep 3 was the non-ham jeep, there was Mike, and his kids Bryan & Breezy.
- In Jeep 4 was John AF6UA, his wife Diane, Zac KJ6MLT, his wife Theresa and their daughter Kiara.

Jeep 1, 2 and 4 all had 2m ht's for communications. Jeep 2 also had a CB radio and one was also in Jeep 3. If we needed to communicate with Jeep 3 we would contact Jeep 2 who would send/receive info by CB and then let us know by the 2m ht.

Fred W6PBR set up the Trip Plan.

We were headed to Fish Creek Wash, Font's Point and then to view the steel statues outside of Borrego Springs.

Fish Creek Wash is the home of the Split Mountain. Split Mountain has two distinctive sides. One side is horizontal sedimentary rock layering.



The opposite side of split Mountain has extreme 45 degree angles. The geography in the Anza Borrego Desert is very distinct and stark



We spotted a wild herd of Big Horn Sheep. This herd is untagged. This yearling female took off to join her herd on the cliff face.



We saw three Big Horn Sheep females. Very hard to spot, very hard to photograph!

This is a special geographical area named The Anticline.



People from around the world come here to study this phenomenal area. There are many theories as to how this was formed, including tectonic pressure, sedimentary layering or both.

The wash surface we are driving on is approx 100 foot deep. It was formed by flash floods, rocks, sand and plant life accumulating over a million years



This geological formation was formed by millions of years of wind and water erosion. The geologists have named it Elephant Knees.



Real elephant knees.



That formation in the desert doesn't look like the Elephant Knees to me. Oh well.

This section of the cliff wall has mud covering the sedimentary layering and now has the appearance of corrugated cardboard.



We spotted a Fault line. It was re-exposed due to the Monday (12-30-13) 3.6 earthquake. The epicenter was 8 mi north of Borrego Springs.



This is called the Layer Cake. Its layers contain volcanic ash from volcanoes in Mexico (dark layers) and also Yellowstone (grayish layer).



Font's Point

In addition to the beautiful vistas, waiting for us at Font's Point was Matt N6EJ and his daughter Ellie.



A view of the Borrego Badlands from Font's Point.

This dirt came from the erosion from the Grand Canyon, hundreds of thousands of years ago. Salton Sea can be seen in the far distance.



We next headed down Font's Point back toward Borrego Springs for lunch and then to look at the sculptures.



They were donated by the Avery Office Supplies family, and all of the animal sculptures are based on animals that used to inhabit this area.

A giant Sloth



A Chinese Dragon



Note the rattlesnake rattler on the end of the Chinese Dragon. This statue is over 320' long and is on both sides of the road.



After viewing some of the wonderful statues it was time to head back to Escondido.

I hope you enjoyed my story. All that's left for me to say is a very big thanks to Fred W6PBR for a fun and informative trip!

EARS Elmer List

By Steve Venner, W6TAN



Here is the current list of those kind souls 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*
7. Ron Pollack, K2RP
 - *Antique and tube equipment (boat anchors)*

General Information

EARS Club Officers for 2014:



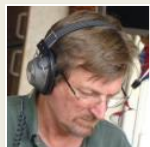
President

Michael Hightower, KF6SJ
(858) 382-4041
mike@hightower.com



Vice President

Matt Tucker, N6EAJ
(760) 839-1205
mail4tucker@gmail.com



Secretary

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



Treasurer

Teri Bloom, W6TRB
(949) 874-9250
w6trb@earsclub.org



Emergency Services Coordinator

John McNelly, AF6UA
(858) 449-3326
ears@mcnelly.org

Officers at Large:



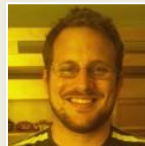
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Steven Richards, KI6SBQ
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ki6sbq@yahoo.com



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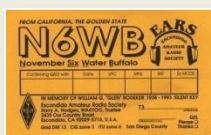


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About ALL EARS:



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.

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

Non-elective:



Past President

Jeff Murdock, AE6GM
(760) 622-5346
cozy765@pacbell.net



Historian

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



Webmaster and Newsletter Editor

Steve Venner, W6TAN
+44 1895 636099
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

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:

LDS Church
2255 Felicita Road
Escondido,
CA 92026

For more details, see:

http://www.earsclub.org/ears_ve_sessions.html

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.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 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

EARS REFLECTORS

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.

We are also on Facebook!

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 on the third Saturday of each month at 08:30, at:

J and M's Family Restaurant,

1215 East Valley Parkway
CA 92027

(760) 745-3710
www.jandmsrestaurant.com

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.

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 or contact Steve Early, Section Manager, (619) 461-2818, or via e-mail at 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 2nd & 4th 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.