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# ALL EARS

The Official Bulletin of the

**Escondido Amateur Radio Society—N6WB**



February, 2015

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## February, 2015 EARS Events

**Thursday, February 12, 2015 (7:00pm)**

EARS Monthly Regular Meeting

- Broadband Ham Network (BBHN)  
Gene, WB9COY

**Tuesday, February 19, 2015 (6:00pm)**

EARS Board Meeting

**Saturday, February 21, 2015 (8:30am)**

EARS Monthly Breakfast

## From the Club President

Happy Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, and Presidents Day.

Our February meeting will have the first opportunity drawing for the year, a new Alinco DJ-500 Dual Band VHF/UHF FM Transceiver.

Our next opportunity drawing will be for a Yaesu FT1D System Fusion Dual Band VHF/UHF HT in the silver case. As well as being a solid FM transceiver it has the C4FM digital mode and APRS beaconing. It is a great radio for hiking, off road trips, or just running up and down the freeways.

Speaking of System Fusion, as of this writing, our 440 MHz repeater was just returned to us after being repaired by Yaesu. It should be back on the air within the next few days. The transmitter had failed.

### Upcoming Events:

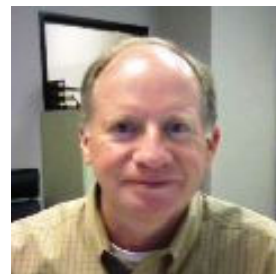
The Yuma Hamfest is coming up on February 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. This event is also the Arizona Section Convention. A one day hamfest is in Palm Springs on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

For the testers in our club, February brings us a couple of interesting RTTY contests:

February 14-15, CQ WPX RTTY Contest

February 28-March 1, North American QSO Party, RTTY

If you have a 160 meter antenna, there is the CQ WW 160 meter SSB Contest on February 27-March 1.



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

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



## From the Club President *(continued)*

And, there is the ARRL International DX CW Contest on the weekend of February 21-22.

If you need states or countries for various awards, contests is a method of making those contacts.

The club has started preparing for our annual auction. In the past, the auction has been held on Thursday nights in the Salvation Army. Tentatively, we are considering a Saturday morning event, outside in parking lot, on a weekend other than the Visalia DX Convention. We are trying to put this together, so stay tuned for details.

Happy operating and 73's,

Mike KF6SJ

## March Opportunity Drawing



Not Shown in  
Actual Size

### 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 and will be sold at EARS functions.

See Rob Kitson

## CQ Field Day

Plans for Field Day this year are in full swing already.

I have the SSB, CW/Digital, VHF/UHF Band Captains, as well as the GOTA Captain. Thank you Matt N6EJ who is our SSB Captain, Mike KF6SJ, who is our CW/Digital Band Captain, Fred W6PBR and Zac KJ6MLT who are our VHF/UHF Band Co-Captains, and Bud AE6BH who is our GOTA Captain. Thank you for stepping up and helping this year.

A big thank you to John W9EN who will be doing our Satellite/ISS operations at the VHF/UHF Station !!

The Field Day Planning Meetings will be held at the same place as our regular meetings, immediately after the Board Meetings (third Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm), in the months of March, April, May, and June 2015.

I would like to urge everyone in EARS to attend these important Field Day Planning Meetings.

I still need a Tower Manager, who is in charge of making sure the antennas and towers get to the site and get up in the air. I also need a Food Captain, who is in charge of organizing the Friday night dinner, the Saturday and Sunday breakfasts, the Saturday lunch, and the members dinner Saturday night—this is not as hard as it sounds...

We will also need operators and loggers for both the CW and SSB stations. If you would like to operate, log, or both, please let me know. If you are new to ham radio, logging is a great way get the hang of it. We will have a short logging and operating class the Saturday of Field Day weekend before all the fun begins.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

**Vivian W6NWF**

FieldDay@earsclub.org

Cell/text anytime:

760-715-2876



## February Board Talk

Each month All EARS will be asking a question to be answered by our Board Members in hopes to start a conversation. This month we asked:

**Please share an experience you had with your ELMER.**

My Elmer was my high school electronics instructor, Mr. Pickering. I was in the right place at the right time. When I was in high school, my rural Illinois school district started a set of vocational classes, including a two year electronics program. The instructor taught us radio theory, Morse code, and kept us motivated enough to get our novice licenses. We even had a club ham station. I can't believe how lucky I was to have that opportunity and have such a great instructor. Thanks, Mike KF6SJ

My elmer is Roger K6EQ. I've only been a ham since 2008, but like many EARS members, he's been a ham since literally before I was born. Not only does he answer my radio-related questions, he humors my other requests. Once I dropped by his house with a package of hot dogs (*and buns*), a pair of forks, and a length of power cord. We stripped the insulation off the tips of the power cord, wired one end to each fork, and stuck the forks into the ends of the hot dogs. Roger graciously loaned me the use of his Variac and his Kill A Watt, and we cooked several hot dogs in the name of science. A hot dog will draw about 1 amp at first, and draws about 2 amps when it's done cooking. Let it cook too long and the amps go way up -- we tripped the GFCI once. Good thing it was at his house, not mine. John, AF6UA

My Elmer would have to be my Dad (Craig Tucker N6ATQ). I grew up with EARS Sunday evening net check-ins and Saturday afternoon T-hunts. Many of my Dad's friends were hams from the EARS club and they too encouraged me to get my ham license. Matt, N6EAI

Matt Tucker was my Elmer and he helped me get an old FT-7 on the air and got me my first contact with Mike Hightower. Since then its been a good friendship with both Mike Hightower & Matt Tucker. Zachary, KJ6MLT

My father-in-law, Joe, KK6FZ, introduced me to amateur radio. He had a Panasonic RF-4900 in his bedroom that I would listen to. He told me to tune in 14.250 and move the BFO to the usb side. He said that would be an area of the band with a lot of activity. He was right. He gave me that receiver a few years later and I still own it today. Joe taught me a lot about electronics over the years.

When it came time to taking the test, Joe couldn't help me with that. I connected up with EARS president, Tom Clark, N6CLO. I remember being at his house listening to his HF station and I would ask why some stations were louder than others and why we couldn't hear the other station at times. He taught me to be a courteous operator and always listen before transmitting. When I sat for the exam, he administered the code test. I was SO nervous. Somehow, I copied the code for a minimum requisite period of time and passed the written portion of the test and thus I was licensed.

Thanks, Dirk, N6SUN

Never really had an Elmer per se, so I can't lay any claims to experience in that regard. I will say however, that being a member of EARS, PARC and SD-DXC has provided many learning opportunities (via good technical presentations) and answers to questions by other members at meetings and other functions like club auctions, VE sessions, and Field Day. So mine is more of a 'raised by a village' experience for me with lots of input from lots of people. Bud AE6BH

My Elmer was Jim Wood, K6BXW (SK) who owned "Woody's Ham Swap Shop" in North Hollywood. He gave me my Novice exam and sold me my Globe Chief 90 transmitter to go with the Heathkit AR-3 my folks had given me for graduation from the 9th grade. I used to ride my bike over to the store almost every Saturday to hang out and operate 2M AM on the Gonset Communicators in the store. One time in 1957 my bicycle was stolen from outside the store; I know Woody felt bad over that, but it obviously was my fault. Roger, K6EQ

**Now it's your turn. Share with us an experience with your Elmer  
and we will place it in the March, 2015 issue. Email: [AllEARS@earsclub.org](mailto:AllEARS@earsclub.org)**

## 2015 EARS Field Day T-Shirts

Order your 2015 EARS Field Day t-shirt **TODAY!**

Email Your Size to: [KI6SBL@earsclub.org](mailto:KI6SBL@earsclub.org)

Price will be determined by quantity ordered. They will not be more than \$25.00.

## 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](http://www.earsclub.org/ears_ve_sessions.html)

Contact Harry, W6YOO, at (760) 743-4212 or [w6yoo@amsat.org](mailto:w6yoo@amsat.org) to schedule an appointment.

## 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.

**FIELD DAY 2015**  
**June 26, 27, 28**



## EARS Elmer List

*Compiled 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. 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.
3. Mike Hightower, KF6SJ
  - HF and in particular, digital modes of PSK31 and JT65.
4. John Musselman, N6EP
  - HF, electronics, contesting, "other"...
5. 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)

The next meeting of the **Palomar Amateur Radio Club**, meeting the first Wednesday of the month, March 4, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Carlsbad Safety Center, 2650 Orion, Carlsbad CA will be:

**Modern Radios SDR-101** The talk will begin with a history of radio and the 6 major radio architectures used in radios. Modern Radios (Software Defined Radios) will be explained to show how they work and how they differ from Legacy Radios that most hams currently use. The benefits of modern radios will be demonstrated with practical examples of how modern radios perform substantially better than legacy radios. Finally, time and Internet permitting, we will have a real world demonstration of Remote HF operation using a modern radio located in La Jolla.

**Presentation by:** Howard S. White KY6LA

*Information Provided by:* Dennis Bacca, KD6TUL

# EARS Membership Application

## EARS Membership Application and Renewal Form

\*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, Con-tests, 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 on 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.



## EARS 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](http://www.jandmsrestaurant.com)