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# ALL EARS

The Official Bulletin of the

Escondido Amateur Radio Society—N6WB



May, 2015

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## May, 2015 EARS Events

**Thursday, May 14, 2015 (7:00pm)**

EARS Monthly members Meeting

**Saturday, May 16, 2015 (8:30am)**

EARS Monthly Breakfast

**Thursday, May 21, 2015 (6:00pm)**

EARS Board Meeting

## From the Club Vice President

The EARS May presentation has been changed to accommodate the Escondido Charter High School. They will be making a presentation on **The Daedalus Project -Team 2839** and hopefully making a demonstration as well.

Team 2389 is a part of a larger robotics group from Heritage K-8 Charter School and Escondido Charter High School. Our robotics program includes teams in FIRST LEGO League (FLL), FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC), and FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). By engaging students early and offering opportunities to stay involved over time, we are getting students excited about science and engineering and leading them to careers in science and engineering. More information is available at <http://team2839.org/>



### The Daedalus Project



*More Daedalus Project details on Page 7.*

It's been suggested that the Robotics presentation may only last 30 minutes. I've asked the mentors of the Mount Carmel High School Amateur Radio Club if they might be prepared to give a brief presentation on their most recent high altitude balloon launch. I have not heard back yet on that prospect.

The originally scheduled AMSAT presentation by Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK has been rescheduled for July. The originally scheduled RFID presentation for July has not yet been rescheduled.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Beltsner, W9EN



**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

We just completed another successful EARS Auction and I would like to personally thank Bob Brehm AK6R for being our auctioneer and the Escondido First United Methodist Church for the use of their fine facility. I hope those attending were pleased with the event. We experimented this year by moving the auction from a Thursday night to a Saturday morning. We didn't know if we would have more or fewer attendees, but ended up having about the same as past years.

Below: Bob AK6R as he auctions a radio.



On April 30<sup>th</sup>, **SANDARC** held its officers' elections. The officers were elected to two year terms. The results were:



**SANDARC**

### CHAIRMAN:

Joe Acevedo, N6SIX

### VICE CHAIRMAN:

Bill Metzger, W6RGS

### SECRETARY:

John Trites, NO5X

### TREASURER:

Bruce Rosenblatt, K6JU

Our current club opportunity drawing is for a **Yaesu FT1D System Fusion Dual Band VHF/UHF HT** in the silver case. It has the C4FM digital mode and APRS beaconing in a small hand held footprint.



Our 440 MHz repeater is back on the air after two different repair trips to Yaesu. We are running the unit at the mid power setting of 20 watts.

Our next club meeting will be on May 14<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't purchased any opportunity drawing tickets, there is still time. The drawing is for a Yaesu FT1D System Fusion Dual Band VHF/UHF HT in the silver case.



Some upcoming May Events:

The granddaddy of all hamfests, the **Dayton Hamvention** is the weekend of May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Happy operating and 73's,

**Mike Hightower KF6SJ**

**EARS** operates 3 voice radio repeaters in the Escondido area as well as a Voice-over-IP Echo Link node 2846:

- 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 repeaters are open to all licensed Amateurs for general use, and on Sunday evenings there is the **EARS** net at 8:00 p.m. local time on the 146.88 MHz repeater... Come along and say "**Hello!**"



## 2015 EARS Annual Auction

*Photos provided by: Dirk Reschley*

It appears we have had another successful auction.

We had a total of \$725.00 sold at the auction with \$141.00 in total donation.



## A Visit with the Venners

Article and Photos provided by: John Musselman, N6EP

I was fortunate to take a London vacation this March with my wife Teresa. I was doubly fortunate that when I told Steve Venner, GOTAN, that I would be in his area, he promptly put in for a week off at work and he and his wife, Gina, graciously volunteered to show us around.

So there were Steve and Gina to meet us at Heathrow airport after the 10-1/2 hour flight. Since we had some time before we could check into our hotel, Steve drove us to their house. Boy, was I glad that after that long flight, I didn't have to suddenly learn to drive on the wrong (*I mean opposite!*) side of the road. And to maneuver through roundabouts. I also learned that there is a lot of traffic and not a lot of parking in that area, so many of the side roads have parking on one side, forcing one-lane traffic flow. As if it wasn't hard enough to figure out which side you're supposed to be on! Steve had also given me advance information that most cars there are stick shift. (*Hmm, so which side is the stick on?*) Anyway, we made it in one piece to the Venner household in Ruislip, a residential area of northwest London. We had tea while we waited.

I noted Gina's sideways glance when I declined milk in my tea, so I tried not to make that mistake again during the trip. I actually did not have that many more opportunities for tea as we mostly frequented the local pubs and sampled the local ales instead. Steve



seemed to be familiar with every pub we passed on the road and knew which were the best. How nice to have a local guide!

We did a bunch of cool tourist things during our week in the UK: downtown London, Stonehenge, Windsor Castle, Winchester Cathedral. It must have been a great excuse for Steve and Gina as they continually told us that they hadn't been here or there in 40 years or not at all. I hope they had as much fun as someone from the colonies did!

One of the best stories we brought back with us concerns the restaurant Teresa and I found around the corner from Trafalgar square in downtown London. It is part of a chain called Tortilla which serves Mexican food. Only they call it real California burritos and tacos. Our server was from Spain and had never been to California or, presumably, Mexico. Coriander rice anyone? It looked like cilantro to me.

At one point, Steve took us to The Royal Standard, the oldest freehouse in England. (*We learned that a freehouse is a pub not owned by a brewery.*) While there, one of the patrons spotted the Escondido sweatshirts we had presented our hosts and proceeded to explain that, though Australian, he had lived for a time in Escondido. The usual small world comment applies.

Steve and Gina also took us to Bletchley Park. This is the formerly top-secret compound from World War II where the codes for the German Enigma machines were decoded. It has recently been made into a museum open to the public, and also its story appears prominently in the movie *The Imitation Game* which was just in theaters (*I watched it on the flight back*).

*Continued on Page 5*



## A Visit with the Venners, Continued

Bletchley Park is also home to GB3RS, the official station of the Radio Society of Great Britain much like our ARRL and W1AW. The station is in an exhibit open to the public which presents the history of radio communications, past to present.

Next door to Bletchley Park, we visited the National Museum of Computing, which features a reproduction of the Colossus computer which was used to crack the Enigma codes and which is claimed to be the first electronic digital computer.

Steve and I had a great chat with one of the engineers who is helping in the restoration. This visit is highly recommended if you ever get the chance!

Oh, and we snuck in a good deal of ham radio also. First, we had a chance to stop by Steve's workplace Martin Lynch and Sons the major retailer of ham radio in the UK. I was introduced to all Steve's co-workers and to his boss. Nice bunch!

We also got on the radio my last weekend there and I got a chance to hear what ten meters sounds like from Europe. Not surprisingly, there were lots of Europeans, especially from Greece, Italy and Russia. I made a contact back to South America with a Uruguay station who commented that he was familiar with London but had never been to California. And Steve contacted a station in Lithuania except that he was operating remote from the UK. Again, the usual small world comment applies!

When it finally came time to leave, we were sad to say goodbye to Steve and Gina,



Photo 5: Steve and Gina outside The Royal Standard



Photo 2: Steve at the Martin Lynch and Sons

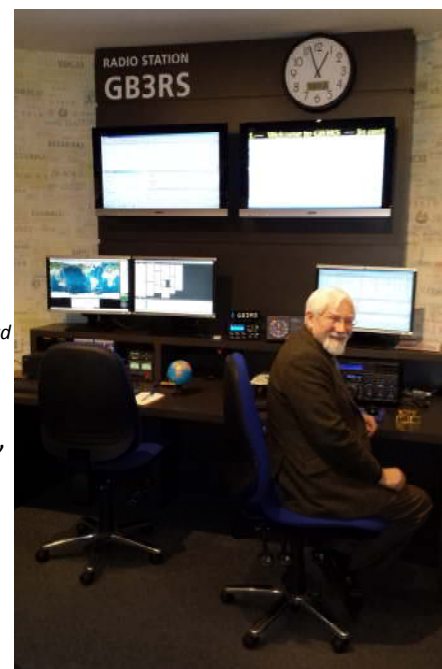


Photo3: GB3RS, the official station of the RSGB, located at Bletchley Park.

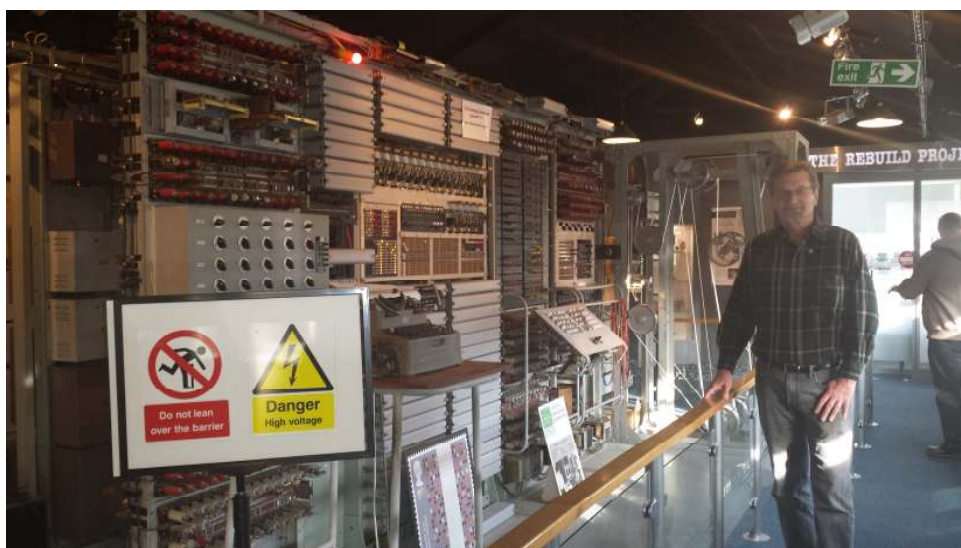


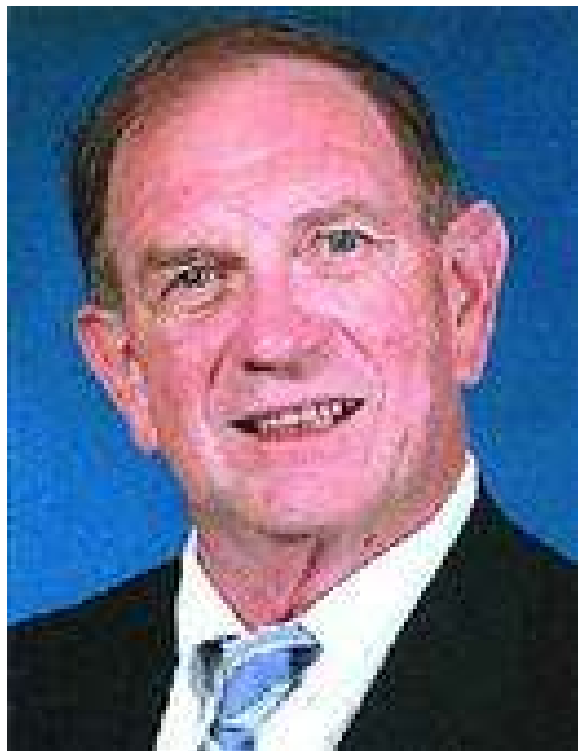
Photo 4: The author with the reproduction of Colossus, the first digital electronic computer.

but glad to get back home. The Venners send a hello to everyone in **EARS** and hope to get back to Escondido some day in the future. In the meantime, look for Steve on ham radio and the internet and give him a shout.

**Remember:**

*It's a small world.*

## **EARS Board Members Remember Arthur C. Mc Bride, III, KC6UQH SK April 16, 2015**



I have two strong memories of Art. The first is going to his house in Vista for a certain unique RF component and walking through the aisles of parts in his garage. He may have been better stocked than Digikey for certain items.

The second is our annual satellite contacts that we would make prior to and during Field Day. One or two weeks prior, I would catch him on almost every pass as he was testing his equipment for the PARC Field Day. I was doing the same thing in preparation for the **EARS** Field Day. Many times we were the only two operators on the satellite. What always gets a few chuckles is that the **EARS** 100 point Field Day Satellite contact for several of the past years has been Art from the PARC Field Day site. 200+ miles up and 200+ miles back only to talk about 6 miles down the road.

*John Beltsner, W9EN*

I communicated with Art a few times while helping organize some of the **EARS** auctions. Art was always willing to be the auctioneer. I was amazed by his off the cuff knowledge of radio related items during the auction. He had a description and sometimes a story for most of the auction items.

*Matt Tucker, N6EAJ*

I knew Art as the Auctioneer. He seemed to know something about every piece of equipment that was at the auction which I found very impressive.

*Zac Peterson, KJ6MLT*

I have many fond memories of Art. Among them are hearing him in QSO with others on the PARC repeaters. Always kind and ready to lend a hand. He helped support the ham help net and ran a microwave net. However, my best memories are seeing him describe items for sale at our auctions. He would provide the background, history and usefulness of the equipment being auctioned. The man was an encyclopedia of information.

*Dirk Reschly, N6SUN*

Although I didn't know Art well personally, it is clear from what contact I did have as well as the many comments of others over the years that he was very knowledgeable in the communications field and, more important, was always ready to share and help others. One comment I heard was that if you brought him a problem, he made it his own. High praise, for sure, and he definitely will be missed!

*Roger Gagos, K6EQ*

I first met Art only a few years ago at the **EARS** auctions. About 2 years ago, I was asked to help a couple of engineers at a company in Vista that makes radios. It turned out that one of the engineers was Art. He had me write radio test software to exercise their radios so that he could complete the design and perform FCC testing. It was much fun working with Art. As we sat together on his bench, our discussions often turned to ham radio and particularly microwave. We finished the work just before our club auction a year ago. The auction was the last time I saw Art.

*Mike Hightower, KF6SJ*

## More Daedalus Project Data

### EARS May 2015 Meeting Presentation

American Heritage Robotics consists of 3 levels of FIRST competition. We have 4 FIRST Lego League (FLL) teams, 1 FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) team and 1 FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC) team. The FLL teams: Poseidon, Spartans, Telemachus and Cyclops, are made up of 4th - 6th grade students at Heritage K-8 Charter School. The FTC team: Kronos, is made up of 7th and 8th grade students from Heritage K-8 Charter School and Heritage Digital Academy. The FRC team: The Daedalus Project, is made up of 9th - 12th grade students from various programs at Escondido Charter High School.

The teams did very well in competition this year. The Spartans were a winning team from the FLL Qualifying Tournament that is sponsored by the FTC and FRC teams at our school. They went on to represent our program at the FLL Championships held at LEGOLand in December.

This year Kronos won an award at "The Rock" Qualifying Tournament in San Diego and their robot performed well enough to qualify them to go to the San Diego Regional Championship where they placed 8th.

The Daedalus Project spent 6 weeks building their robot after the release of the challenge in early January. They went to 2 regional competitions this year. They placed 7th out of 49 teams at the Central Valley Regional in Madera, CA and they placed 6th out of 66 teams at the Los Angeles Regional in Long Beach, CA. They also received a Creativity Award at Los Angeles for the engineering of their robot. They have an arm on a turntable on the robot that allows them to grab a trash can from behind them and bring it around to the front of the robot to place on the stacked totes that are part of the challenge this year.

<http://team2839.org/donate/>

## 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 N6EAJ 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 May 21st Board Meetings.

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

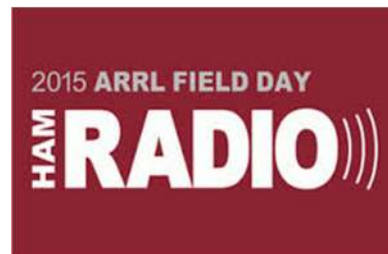
We are looking for volunteers to help set up and tear down. While it is always helpful, you do not need HAM experience or knowledge, only a willingness to help is required. Setup is Friday Noon to done. Clean up is Sunday 11am until clean.

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 to get the hang of it. We will have a short logging and operating class at 10:00am on that Saturday.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

### Vivian W6NWF

FieldDay@earsclub.org  
Cell/text anytime:  
760-715-2876





# EARS Membership Application

## EARS Membership Application

☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Life

\*Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_

\*First Name

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_

\*City \*State \*Zip

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone

\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Email

\_\_\_\_\_

License Expires

\_\_\_\_\_

EARS Family Members

\_\_\_\_\_

License Class

\_\_\_\_\_

First Licensed

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Call Sign / Former Call Signs

\_\_\_\_\_

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 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)