



ESCONDIDO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 3243 - Escondido, CA 92033  
<http://www.earsclub.org>  
146.88 PL107.2 (EchoLink Node 2846), 449.24 PL127.3, 224.14 PL 156.7  
ESCN Net Rom Node 145.07  
An ARRL Affiliated Club



## EARS Board Meeting Agenda

January 19, 2012

### I. Call to Order



Present



Not Present

- ☒ Robert Kitson, KI6SBL, President
- ☐ Vacant, Vice President
- ☒ Vince Sheetz, W6CD, Secretary
- ☒ Teri Bloom, W6TRB, Treasurer
- ☒ Fred McDavitt, W6PBR, Emergency Services Coordinator
- ☒ Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, Officer at Large
- ☐ Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, Officer at Large
- ☒ Marvin Munster, W6MJM, Officer at Large, Property Manager
- ☒ Michael Hightower, KF6SJ, Officer at Large
- ☒ John McNelly, AF6UA, Officer at Large
- ☐ John Musselman, N6EP, Immediate Past President

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM

### II. Approval of Minutes

### III. OFFICER & COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

#### a) Program Director's Report

A big thank you to Joe - K0NEB for his presentation at January's membership meeting and also to Teri - W6TRB for arranging the presentation.

The remaining months are currently scheduled as follows...

- February's presentation will be given by Rusty - AF6WF and Ellen - N6UWW. The topic will be "A YL DX-pedition to Curacao PJ2 Land". Rusty, Ellen and four other YL's operated PJ2T in the Caribbean in 2011. I'm certain there will be more than few interesting stories to be shared. I'm still waiting on Bio's for the ALL EARS article.
- March's presentation will tentatively be an encore presentation of "Lithium Batteries" given by Michele - W5NYV. There is rumor of shenanigans. Michelle has agreed to give the presentation but the March 8 date is still tentative.
- April 12 will be the Annual Club Auction. I've asked Art - KC6UQH to be our auctioneer again this year. I've not heard back from Art yet, but I'm hopeful he will respond positively.
- May's presentation will be given by Ken Cohen on the topic of "EmComm Go Kits". Ken was originally scheduled to present last year but due to schedule conflicts had to postpone. Ken has confirmed the May 10 date.
- June's presentation will be "Field Day Preparation" as presented by our very own Vivian - W6NWF and Vince - W6CD. Vivian and Vince have both confirmed the June 14 date.
- July's presentation will tentatively be given by Phil - KA9Q. Phil has folders full of excellent and very educational ham radio material and has agreed to give a presentation for EARS. The exact topic is still TBD as is the July 12 date.

- August 12 will be the Annual EARS Picnic @ Rod McLeod Park. We are looking forward to hunting T's again.
- September's presentation will be on the PAPA System D-Star Network, tentatively given by Cecil - WD6FZA. There have been lots of technology improvements on the PAPA System network since we last heard from Cecil. He was originally scheduled to present last year but due to schedule conflicts had to postpone.
- October and November presentations have yet to be scheduled.

John feels strongly that the membership presentations should be educational in nature and definitely Ham Radio related. I would like to solicit the membership for their input on what they would like to learn about. Whatever the topic might be, I'll do my best to find an "expert" in that field to give the presentation.

## **b) Treasurer's Report**

The checking account balance did not fluctuate much these past two months:

Checks:

purchase of gifts for the Christmas party: \$37.86  
 check to Major David for Salvation Army \$100.00  
 ck to Impulse Electronics to replace lost check: \$30.99

Deposit of \$200.00, \$162.00 membership for 2012, \$38.00 opportunity drawing  
 Deposit of \$299.00, \$237.00 membership for 2012, \$62.00 opportunity drawing

Ending Balance for checking account: \$1,541.16  
 Ending Balance for savings account: \$1,934.13  
 Ending Balance for CD: \$2,231.23

New Business:

- Received another request from new member for an Elmer. We need to consider setting up a database with members willing to Elmer with a list of members wanting an Elmer. Or maybe an occasional Saturday class at the Salvation Army using the clubs radios.
- We have an invoice from March Insurance for Property insurance for coverage of \$7,709.00 in insurance at a cost of \$110.00. Shall we continue having this type on insurance? Should I get a quote from our new ARRL-recommended insurance?

Teri W6TRB

## **c) Technical Committee Report**

Jeff - AE6GM, Marvin - W6MJM and I spent January 2 at the club repeater sites (Hubbard Hill and Coronado Hills). The following was accomplished...

- FriendCom Link Radios changed from narrow band (12.5 kHz) to wide band (25 kHz) in hopes of better audio quality.
- Adjusted RC-210 controller audio levels at both repeater sites. Audio quality between N6WB 2m and AE6GM 1.25m repeaters is pretty good now.
- Port forwarding settings restored on the Salvation Army Building wireless router to restore EchoLink connectivity.

Pending work.

- Connecting the N6WB 70cm into the RC-210 controller.
- Replacing the SignalLink USB Audio interface with a RigBlaster Nomic to improve EchoLink audio quality.
- Investigate a new home for the EchoLink PC and radio due to unusually low MTBF.
- Adding a preamp to the N6WB 2m repeater receiver to improve sensitivity.
- Replacing the N6WB 2m repeater antenna with the 8-bay dipole antenna.

Respectfully submitted,  
 John Belstner, W9EN

**d) Emergency Services Report**

As we start a new EARS year, I would like to expand the scope of Emergency Services by encouraging Jo - KB6NMK and Harry - W6YOO to place more information on ARES, RACES, SATURN and any other EmComm organizations in which they participate before the EARS membership. This can be accomplished by sending the data to me to include in ALL EARS, or by sending it directly to Steve to include in ALL EARS. I don't care how we do it, I just want to keep the membership up to date on all EmComm activities taking place in SD County and to encourage our members to select an EmComm organization and support it.

I spend about 30 minutes a day reading about EmComm background and current issues. The one that has caught my eye, because everyone says nothing can be done about it, is Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP). The current thinking about the HAM community's role during an EMP emergency is to do absolutely nothing but take care of your family and prepare everyone to die. I'm not buying into this approach. Does anyone know if there is a 2m kit radio that does not contain a microprocessor? That's sort of a starting point.

Fred - W6PBR

**e) SANDARC Report**

No report

**f) Membership Report**

- Current membership stands at 119. The breakdown is as follows:
  - Regular members - 38 (29 ARRL members).
  - Life members - 51 (30 ARRL members).
  - Total - 89 (59 ARRL members).
- ARRL membership currently stands at 66% (so OK for ARRL affiliation).
- The following members' ARRL status is unknown:
  - Donald Daubman, K0MOX (no phone# or e-mail address)
  - Stephen Kerrin, W6CDU
  - Ron Miller, K7OPA
  - Teresa Reschly, KD6BFJ
  - Megan Reschly, KI6LFA
  - Jim Sullins, KE6MRX
  - Christiana Wilson, KE6LBY

**g) Newsletter Editor's Report**

- Due to cut-n-paste problem (finger trouble) - the time of the EARS Christmas party published in October's, November's & December's ALL EARS was wrong. It has been corrected in December's ALL EARS and uploaded to the EARS website.
- Items for inclusion in February's newsletter need to be submitted by Thursday, February 2nd at the latest.

**h) Webmaster Report**

Monthly updates completed:

- December's ALL EARS added.
- January's ALL EARS added.
- Updated Program schedule for February's meeting. Will update program schedule & website now that I have proposed programs for 2012 - Thanks JB.
- October's approved board meeting minutes added.

General updates:

- Re-instated member map functionality.
- Updated form input field validation for:

1. EARS VE test application.
  2. Add Members.
  3. Create 'For Sale' ad.
  4. Create 'Wanted' ad.
  5. E-mail membership.
  6. E-mail club Officers.
- Updated 'Licensed To' field in database to accept full date format: YYYY-MM-DD
  - Created 'Cron' Job to automatically check for expired/expiring licenses, and send out e-mail reminder. Need to update current membership licence expiry details in database to reflect new format - awaiting input from Teri.
- The following information is required:
- November's approved board meeting minutes.
  - Opportunity drawing update.
- Other:
- Updated EARS details on ARRL website (x2).

i) **PR Director's Report**

No Report

j) **Field Day Report**

I have begun asking people to do various tasks for Field Day already.

I have all band captains lined up:

Vince Sheetz W6CD – SSBSteve Alborn KE6PY – CW

Tom Lettington N6TFL – GOTA

John Bestner W9EN/Fred McDavitt W6PBR – VHF/UHF/Satellite

The Field Day Meetings Schedule:

22 March 2012, 7 PM. Thursday

26 April 2012, 7 PM. Thursday

24 May 2012, 7 PM. Thursday

12 June 2012, 7 PM. Tuesday

All meetings are at the Salvation Army Building.

The June meeting is the week before Field Day in case there are any last minute changes or equipment problems so they can be handled in sufficient time.

There most likely will be no Antenna Party this year.

Field Day 2012 will be from Saturday 23 June 2012 through 24 June 2012.

Friday 22 June 2012 is Set Up Day.

If there are any questions, or you would like to volunteer to help, please contact me.

Vivian Wentworth-Kitson W6NWF  
EARS 2012 Field Day Chairman

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

Treasurer's Audit Update: Teri to speak with Dirk about accomplishing the Audit

Echo Link: discussion on obtaining a UPS

**NEW BUSINESS**

2012 Budget: Approval motion by John McNelly, second by Marvin Munster, with vote pass unanimously.

Equipment update grant: Marvin to talk to Conrad during Yumafest.

Radio room activity, Elmer requests: discussion of remote access, keys for repair access, cables labeled, one new cable needs to be installed, creation of Elmer database. Work party of Tom, John, and Rob to ensure radio room equipment operational. Rob and Marvin to plan: who, what and when.  
CA QSO Party: discussion to reserve Dixon Lake camping spaces at 90 days, establish a go/no-go checkpoint, cancel at 30 days if no-go to be able to obtain refund.

Motion for meeting adjournment was made by            and seconded by            . Motion Passed at