

Squelch Tales

A Publication of The San Diego Repeater Association, Inc.
May / June 2015

Ahead in Squelch Tales

The 4th Fry's Ham Operating Day was held May 2, 2015 in the parking lots of the Fry's Murphy Canyon and San Marcos stores. This was the biggest FHOD event yet with good weather, prizes and great attendance.

Don't forget to set your clocks, June 30, 2015 will be 86,401 seconds long instead of 86,400 seconds long, requiring all the clocks around the world to be set back one second. Actually, many groups are implementing the leap second differently, almost guaranteeing a computer problem will occur somewhere.

SANDRA BOD minutes resume in this issue.

Errata, mistakes, updates and shorts to previous issues of *Squelch Tales* are included as *SQ* receives input from the members and officers of SANDRA.

Fry's Ham Operating Day

May 2, 2015

May 2nd 2015 was another beautiful day in San Diego which played host to another great Fry's Ham Operating Day in the parking lots of Fry's Murphy Canyon and San Marcos stores. SANDRA participated in the event by sharing space generously offered by San Diego ARES to meet and greet many in the amateur radio community. The event was again sponsored by The San Diego Six Shooters and Palomar Amateur Radio Club and featured booths for many of the local amateur radio organizations. *Squelch Tales* attended the event at the Fry's Murphy Canyon location.

This was the fourth successive Fry's Ham Radio Operating event to take place in the past 2 years. The goals of the event are to expose the public to the benefits of amateur radio activities, to potentially stir interest in increasing public participation in amateur radio and to expose newly licensed amateurs to the various clubs and activities available in the area. The event is envisioned to take place semi-annually in the spring and late fall. *Squelch Tales* was fortunate to talk to many new hams looking for amateur radio related activities in which they could participate. There were also a number of budding but not yet licensed future hams that were interested in what activities were available and how they could become licensed. While there was a lot of information on local clubs and events, there was not a lot of information on training programs and VE testing – something to be considered for the next event.



Radio Row at Fry's Murphy Canyon.

New this year was a demonstration of the proper installation of amateur radio equipment in vehicles for

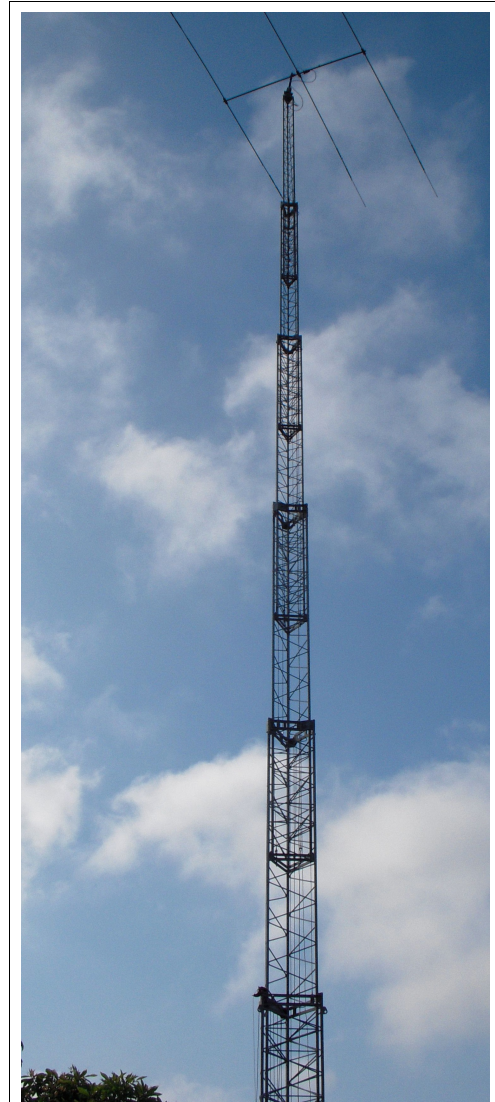
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mobile operation including discussion of all the issues that need to be addressed, such as, proper power attachment, grounding, antennas and noise suppression. Judging by the number of people attending, this seems to be an area of particular interest to new hams.

In past reports of Fry's Ham Operating Days, SQ profiled a number of the organizations and clubs attending, including The San Diego Six Shooters, San Diego ARES and the 440 Club. This issue attempts to profile the remaining organizations not previously profiled that were in attendance at this spring event.

South Bay Amateur Radio Society (SOBARS) - Based in Chula Vista, SOBARS has more than 60 active members of which 25 – 35 will show up at any monthly meeting. SOBARS meets at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month in the meeting hall of the Chula Vista RV Resort, 460 Sandpiper Way, Chula Vista, CA 91910. Meetings conduct club business and feature technical speakers. The focus of the club is to foster/support new hams and support the Emergency Communications needs the the City of Chula Vista. The club does inspection and maintenance on Chula Vista's emergency communications trailer. The trailer is a box trailer with communications equipment for police, Fire and amateur radio. SOBARS operates a Fusion repeater on 146.085 MHz (plus 600 KHz with PL 100). The club has five weekly nets each Tuesday evening/night:

Time (Local)	Frequency	Offset or Sideband	PL
1830	449.980 MHz	(-)	88.5
	223.840 MHz	(-)	107.2
1900	146.085 MHz	(+)	100.0
1930	28.480 Khz	(USB)	
	7.183 KHz	(LSB)	
2000 (CERT Net)	146.085 MHz	(+)	100.0



The El Cajon club's portable antenna.

SOBARS supports ARES, RACES and CERT and its members volunteer for the many events supported by these organizations.

SOBARS operates field day stations each year at the J street Marina. For more information see: <http://sobars.org/> .

Mountain Empire Amateur Radio Club (MEARC) - The Mountain Empire Amateur Radio Club serves the inland area extending from Julian to the Mexico Border with an emphasis on support for back country fire prevention and emergency fire support. MEARC supports Campo Fire, CERT, RACES and the American Red Cross for the many back country events that take place during the year.

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The club also provides support for maintenance of SANDRA repeaters, most recently the painting of SANDRA's Hi Pass site. Thank you MEARC! The club meets quarterly on the fourth Saturday of February, May, August and November at Major's Diner in Pine Valley, CA. Meetings begin at 5:30 pm and consist of club business, educational speakers and planning for supported community events.

The club is interested in providing training and testing of new amateur radio operators but needs one more VE to offer testing (two VE's currently available). The supported area has a population interested in becoming amateur radio operators, they just need the local support for testing. For more information see: <http://craigwilliams.com/mearc/>.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC) – The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is one of the oldest clubs in San Diego County. The mission of the club as presented on their web site (<http://www.wa6bgs.us>)

The objectives of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc. (ARCEC) are to encourage the furtherance of amateur radio and allied interests; to foster public service by the amateur radio community; the development of acquaintances; to



South Bay ARC booth.



Mountain Empire's Communication Trailer.

increase our technical skills and knowledge of electronics as well as good operating practices for the increased enjoyment of amateur radio as a hobby. After all what you put into Ham Radio is what you get out of it.

Volunteer as much as you can. It is a lot of fun to see all the smiles.

ARCEC is an Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) special services club and we are a member of the San Diego Amateur Radio Council, Inc. (SANDARC). Club members are encouraged to be members of the ARRL as well as the Amateur

Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Many of our members also participate in the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and VIP Red Flag Patrol (CAL Fire).

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The club holds meetings on the second thursday of each month at the First Lutheran Church, 867 South Lincoln Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020. The Board of Directors meets between 6 – 7 pm and the general meeting starts at 7 pm. The meetings typically have speakers on technical and or operational subjects. There are approximately 50-80 attendees at meetings.

ARCEC operates three repeaters which are open to all amateur operators:

Band	Transmit Frequency	Receive Frequency	PL
2 Meters	146.475	147.420	107.2
220 MHz	222.480	224.080	107.2
440 MHz	440.900	445.900	107.2

ARCEC has Yeasu Fusion repeaters on order that will be implemented on both 2 meters and 440 MHz when they are delivered.

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon operates one general interest net on their 2 meter and 440 meter repeater at 7 pm on Mondays. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday they run CW practice nets on those same repeaters at 7 pm.

Coronado Emergency Radio Operators (CERO) – The Coronado Emergency Radio Operators has the specific mission of supporting the City of Coronado's emergency communications needs. They specifically support the Coronado CERT team, Coronado Fire



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon.

Department and SHARP Hospital. The group meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month for training in message handling, and effective radio operation. The meeting is at the City of Coronado Police Department EOC, 700 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118.

CERO operates a Fusion repeater (147.180, + 600KHz offset, PL 110.9) and a D-Star repeater (447.20, - 600 KHz). The group also operates an emergency van equipped with HF, VHF and UHF equipment with all modulation modes including the various flavors of digital modes and Winlink.

A weekly net is held on the the W6SH repeater (147.180, +600 KHz. Offset, PL 110.9) at 7:30 pm on Thursdays. For more informations see <http://site.ceroinc.org>.



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PAPA System – The PaPa System is a network of sixteen D-Star and thirteen analog repeaters, linked together and covering southern California. The system also has six Motorola DMR digital repeaters attached and can be accessed via IRLP and EchoLink.

PAPA is based out of Los Angeles with an active group of hams in San Diego that meet at Giovanni's Restaurant, 9353 Claremont Mesa Boulevard at 11 am on the third Saturday of each month. PAPA has about 300 members scattered around southern California.

The system hosts a weekly D-Star net at 8:00 pm each Thursday on the D-Star repeaters and a DMR net each Thursday at 7:00 pm on the DMR repeaters. They also host an ARRL NTS net at 8:30 pm Thursdays utilizing the analog repeaters and the D-Star ARES Pacific Division Net at 6:30 pm on Thursdays.

More information on the PAPA System and a complete list of the repeaters can be found at <http://www.papasys.com>.



Come one and come all – Joe Acevedo N6SIX calling everyone to the drawing.

The spring 2015 Fry's Ham Operating Day was definitely a success. This was the largest event yet at the Murphy Canyon location. The SANDRA team made many new contacts and renewed old contacts. There were a surprising number of new hams present which is representative of the growth that amateur radio is currently



A Ham Operator.



Did someone say prizes?

experiencing. Many of these new operators are not following in the footsteps of prior generations but utilizing the newer technologies and/or use amateur radio for a specific purpose. Events such as the Fry's Ham Operating Day give the organizations valuable input to steer future directions, besides, there was good fun, prizes, nice people and good information. Hopefully everyone that attended will be back for the fall event. -{SQ}-

SANDRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**San Diego Repeater Association, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2015 (Thursday) 7:00
San Diego County Office of Education Room 301
6401 Linda Vista Road - San Diego CA.**

Director	Present	Excused
President Barbie Flinn, WA6URS	X	
Vice President Stogie Panger, AJ6AX	X	
Treasurer Ken Decker, WA6OSB	X	
Secretary Alex Groza, WB6DTR	X	
Membership Chair Bob Boehme, W2IRI	X	
Meeting Chair Ben Concepcion, N6VVY		X
MAL-1 Year Chuck Wood, WD6APP	X	
MAL-2 Year David Andreoli, KI6VIA	X	
MAL-3 Year Bayard Rehkopf, K6GAO	X	
Past President John Austin, K6RLV	X	

Call to Order: The meeting convened at 7:00 PM, President Barbie Flinn presiding.

Members in attendance: Attendance Roster attached. (Thirteen attendees)

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from February and March 2015, by unanimous consent.

Board Reports / Presentations / Comments:

President: discussed upcoming amateur radio related events: Swap Meet and Breakfast, Operating Day at Fry's, Lost Boys 50 mile Run.

Treasurer: Submitted February and March 2015 Treasurer's reports. Discussed San Diego Gas and Electric pending rate structure and billing periods.

Membership Chair: 224 members. Discussion took place regarding generating interest in SANDRA. Nine reminders mailed out.

Member at Large 1, Wood: All site security features are operating properly.

Member at Large 3, Rehkopf: Hi-Pass site was painted. Container roof and inside doors still need to be painted.

Committee Reports:

Technical Committee: The Yaesu UHF repeater on Otay has being repaired and returned. It will be installed at Otay as time permits. Still waiting for the two upgraded Yaesu repeaters. BLM Otay inspection went well. BLM officials complimented SANDRA organization regarding a well organized and maintained site. Discussion took place regarding footpath improvements.

SANDRA Board of Directors Minute (page 2)

SANDARC: Chuck Wood stated the SANDARC meeting was March 26, 2015. Board nominations were officially close at this meeting. Election will be held April 30th. All but two offices are uncontested. Election will be for Chairman: Acevedo (incumbent) / Early and Vice Chairman Metzger (incumbent) / Maston.

Snquelch Tales, Radisch: Recommended uploading "Snquelch Tales" to the website. Webmaster Panger will coordinate this project.

Technology Committee, Krypton: Discussed possible Hamfest. There have been delays due to locating a satisfactory location for this event.

Unfinished Business:

Hi-Pass relocation, Boehme: No action taken yet. Will coordinate with Craig Williams.

Otay Telephone, Decker / Wood: New telephone system is operational. ATT account has been cancelled.

SANDRA Document Storage: .PDF scanning is approximately six to eight cents per page. Storage facility price structure was discussed. Further discussion to take place later.

New Business:

June Membership Meeting Speaker: Meeting Chairman (Concepcion) and Vice President (Panger) are responsible for arranging meeting presentations per policy manual.

President Flinn solicited input from the SANDRA Board regarding the upcoming SANDARC election. She also requested Board Members be proactive in recruiting people for meeting presentations.

Next Meeting Date: May 7, 2015, Room 301. Board Meeting

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM by Unanimous Consent.

Errata, Corrections, Amplifications and Shorts: This sections acknowledges errors and omissions or allows additions to previous *SQ* issues. We rely on feedback from the readers – please write.

Don't forget to set your clocks. Tuesday June 30th a leap second will be inserted into the day making it 86,401 seconds long instead of 86,400 seconds. This is the first leap second since June 30, 2012. At first blush it may not seem like a big deal but to computers it is a big deal. Computer networks, particularly where database transactions are involved, rely on everyone knowing what time it is to sequence transaction order and a host of other communications that are order specific. The last time a second was added, not all of the computers at Qantas Airlines got the message causing the entire network to crash for more than two hours which included reservations, flight management, operations, everything. Qantas came to a stop for two hours while the entire system was rebooted and synchronized with NTP (Network Time Protocol). The way NTP was designed was to insert the leap second at the end of the UTC day, thus time would flow as 11:59:59, 11:59:60, 00:00:00, where 11:59:60 represented the leap second. However, this year many companies around the world are going there own way. Google is going to add the second a little at a time over a 12 hour period. With large groups doing their own thing this year, the results could be quite unpredictable – but a great deal of fun to watch. Don't forget to set your clock and be prepared for the unexpected. -{*SQ*}-

Callsign	Location	Input	Output	Callsign	Location	Input	Output
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	146.040	146.640	WB6WLV	Mt. Laguna	444.500	449.500
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	222.460	224.060	K6GAO	Hi-Pass	144.680	145.280
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	444.200	449.200	W6SS	Lyon's Peak	146.865	146.265
WB6WLV	Mt. Otay	1270.300	1282.300	WA6AIL	Sharp Hospital	147.285	147.885
WB6WLV	Mt. Laguna	147.750	147.150	WB6WLV	San Diego	442.320	447.320
WB6WLV	Mt. Laguna	222.600	224.200				

All SANDRA repeaters use PL 107.2

SANDRA NETS

Sunday 8:00 P.M. Mt. Otay Repeater
 Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Mt. Laguna Repeater

GUIDELINES SUMMARY

SANDRA, Inc. operates their repeaters for service in the San Diego area. The policy of the organization is that the repeaters are available for all licensed amateur radio operators to use so long as applicable rules and regulation are observed, whether members of SANDRA or not.

SQUELCH TALES

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The SANDRA membership meets the first Thursday in the Months of March, June, September and December. Meetings start at 7:00 P.M. and are located at the San Diego County Education Center, 6401 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. Board meetings take place on the first Thursday of January, February, April, May, July, October and November. All SANDRA members are encouraged to attend.

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