

July Meeting

July 26, 2002 - 7 PM socializing, meeting starts at 7:30. Directions to the meeting are later in the newsletter.

Speaker: Brad Wyatt, K6WR

Topic: Internet Controlled Amateur Radio

Abstract: K6WR experiences working remotely controlled HF stations using the Internet including a few stations open to any licensed ham worldwide -- A ham radio public utility. Brad only has a computer with Internet connection at his QTH -- no radios, antennas. Brad was the ARRL Pacific Division Director from 1994 - 2000.

At the June meeting, the number for Joe Nguyen, KG6GRQ, was chosen for the "Wish You Were Here" prize. Joe collected \$45.



Wish You Were Here Winner, Joe – KG6GRQ

Secretary's Report

The FARS Board held its monthly meeting on the evening of July 2, 2002. Present were Mikel, KN6QI, Frank, K6FCW, Dick, N6ATD, Howard, KE6PWH, Omri, AA6TA, Dave, KE6PFF, Jack, WA6YJR, Steve, K6OIK, and Martin, KD6WJW. A \$100 donation was voted for Maryknoll for the use of their grounds for the Field Day site. There was a discussion of potential candidates for next year's officers and board members. A budget will be submitted to the membership in November. N6ATD will arrange a date for the January banquet. Thanks were given to N6ATD for organizing Field Day activities and to KD6WJW for scoring. (We need more operators, especially for the CW/digital station!)

- Martin, KD6WJW

President's Corner

Wow! What great Field Day we had this year. Everything came off well this year. We had beautiful weather, a great barbecue, and a lot of excitement on the air. This was a well-run event with a lot of help from many people in the club. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped in the setup and operation. I particularly want to thank: Richard, N6ADT for organizing the event; Jack WA6YJR for providing so much logistical support, Omri, AA6TA for taking care of the details for so many of the bonus points that we earned. In my role as the CW/Digital station captain I would like to thank Hans, KE6TGA for putting in many hours on CW and Mark, KG6GRR, for jumping right in and trying PSK31 for the first time on Field Day. If you missed Field Day this year, you better schedule ahead to be there next year!

This is a bit off topic, but there has been some discussion of virus problems on recent FARS nets. My own experience shows that the Klez virus and variants is one of the most popular viruses I've ever seen. I do some work for an Internet Service Provider and they are seeing lot of this virus passing around in email through their systems. This particular virus is more difficult to avoid since it launches simply by opening the email message. It takes advantage of a bug in Outlook that automatically opens sound attachments that are not really sound attachments, but programs. In addition this virus send copies of itself in email messages obtained from the Outlook address book. It uses those same addresses to forge the email senders making it more difficult to track the source of the infection. Protection against this particular virus is readily available from any virus scanner, or you may simply install the free patch from the Windows Update <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>. The patch prevents the virus from automatically launching. But apparently, many have not applied the fix or installed a current virus scanner. That's why we are seeing so much of this virus.

- de mikel, kn6qi

Field Day Manual

John L. Gaffey, WS1EA, has written a helpful Field Day primer at <http://www.qsl.net/ta1dx/afet/fieldnedir.htm>. This is a very complete "how to" manual that is aimed at organizers and new hams.

Please let us know if you change your address, email address, phone number, etc.

CLUB INFORMATION

President: Mikel Lechner, KN6QI
Vice President: Steve Stearns, K6OIK
Treasurer: Frank Weiss, K6FCW
Secretary: Martin Liberman, KD6WJW
Radio Officer: Omri Serlin, AA6TA
Training Officer: (open)
Relay Editor: Mark Hardy KG6GRR

Board Members: Jack Eddy WA6YJR, Dick Baldwinson N6ATD, David Cooper KE6PFF, Frank Weiss K6FCW, Herb Davidson KF6BKL, Howard Califf KE6PWH, Mark Hardy KG6GRR, Howard Takaoka KG6GRO.

Station Trustee: Stan Kuhl, K6MA
FARS Web Page: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org>

FARS announcement mailing list is moderated, so you cannot reply directly to the list: fars-announce@svpal.org

Also, note you can contact the FARS board of directors at fars-board@svpal.org

To subscribe/unsubscribe, send a message to: majordomo@svpal.org

In the e-mail message (in plain text) put one of:
unsubscribe fars-announce YOUR-EMAIL-ADDRESS
subscribe fars-announce YOUR-EMAIL-ADDRESS
(e.g. Subscribe fars-announce dwilkes@svpal.org)

Club meetings are held at 7 PM on the fourth Friday of each month except January (Winter Banquet); and sometimes there are changes for June, Nov. & Dec. Annual membership \$20, family \$25. Club badges are \$5.75. Visitors are always welcome! Directions on the back page. Talk-in: N6NFI (145.23-, 100 Hz) or W6ASH repeater (145.27 or 224.36).

The FARS *Relay* is the official monthly newsletter of the Foothills Amateur Radio Society. Contributions to the newsletter from members, family, and guests are earnestly solicited! Contributions subject to editing and/or compression. ASCII files via Internet or diskettes preferred; but all readable forms welcome.

Here is how to reach the editor: Mark Hardy, KG6GRR
Mail: 2998 Jerald Avenue Santa Clara, CA 95051
Voice: 408-243-0701 (Before 9 PM, preferred)
Fax: 408-243-0701
Email: kg6grr@arrl.net
At FARS meetings.

Upcoming Events

July 26 7:00 PM Club meeting, Loyola School
August 6 7:30 PM Board Meeting, Los Altos Town Crier
August 10 Dawn Flea Market, Foothill College
August 23 7:00 PM Club meeting, Loyola School
See more events, [FARS Calendar](#)

Field Day, 22-23 June 2002

The Foothills Amateur Radio Society participated in the [Amateur Radio Relay League's \(ARRL\) 2002 Field Day Event](#) on June 22nd & 23rd as 2A – SCV (Santa Clara Valley). See the FARS field day web page for more information www.fars.k6ya.org/events/fieldday.shtml.

This year FARS operated in the class 2A category, which means that we operated two emergency power stations as a club. We operated a Single Sideband (SSB) station, a CW (Morse Code) & PSK31/RTTY (keyboard) station, and a VHF station (not counted in category number). Our VHF captain made several satellite contacts as well.

We demonstrated other communication modes including packet, SSTV (Slow Scan TeleVision), and APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System). SSTV sends still pictures via HF radio over very long distances. APRS allows tracking the location of objects in a region.

Visitors were welcomed to our Field Day site where we had information just under the club banner.

Field Day Events

Field Day preparations started well in advance of the actual event. Dick, N6ATD, served as Field Day coordinator. There was much planning for the station equipment, the operators, the picnic, etc. Club equipment and other gear were gathered in the days preceding the event. Set up was done, for the most part, on Friday before Field Day. Jack, WA6YJR, brought a host of tools and experience and many club members were there to help set up the antennas, the towers, the canopies, and other gear.

Field day contacts started in earnest at the appointed hour (1800 UTC, 1100 local) on Saturday, June 22nd. Mikel, KN6QI, was digital band captain; Paul, AA6PZ, was the side band captain; and Phil, KA6MZE, was VHF (including satellite) band captain. Omri, AA6TA, helped garner a lot of bonus points. Operators had a lot of fun and excitement making digital and voice contacts. We had demonstrations of non-traditional modes and satellite contacts.

Saturday afternoon, Peter (WA6VAQ) coordinated the picnic. There were many people who enjoyed great food, great company, and wonderful desserts.

That evening, the moon lit the Field Day site and side band contacts were on in force.

Take down was on Sunday, June 23rd. The work was mostly complete by 1 PM. Again, many hands were there to help with the take down.

Field Day T-shirts were handed out to many who helped with the 2002 Field Day.

Thanks go to all involved in the FARS Club Field Day.

Field Day Reviews

Sitting back and relaxing after an outstanding Field Day I think it appropriate to CONGRATULATE all of you who participated for putting on a truly great Field Day. I think this is one of the best we have done in several years.

The bands were very cooperative. Paul Zander, AA6PZ, and I had the most amazing run on 20 meters that night for about four hours. We were able to control 14208 for over four hours. It seemed like everyone wanted us for some reason. What an experience! I worked the mike for a couple of hours, which I have never done before, and had a great time.

There was 15 meters Sunday morning when Peter Griffith, WA6VAQ, and Jim Koski, KT6W, had a wild time for over two hours. Phil, KA6MZE, had his satellite contacts last night. What a thrill for everyone following the Satellite operation.

There were all the young people who visited Saturday afternoon and stayed for the picnic. They sure added a lot of excitement. Of course, we ate very well. Peter, as executive chef, did an excellent job with the food operation. And did people bring food! What an amazing buffet we had. So many desserts. I don't know who was responsible for the pot of beans but they were sure delicious. I would like to know the recipe. This group likes to eat well. It seems like all our food-oriented activities are very successful, whether it's the Field Day picnic or our annual banquet.

Too bad as many people who came to the picnic didn't come out and operate. We need to work on this.

Thanks to all of you who worked hard to make this happen. It wouldn't have happened without you. Even with a lot of help it is still a lot of work.

See you next year. We'll try to make it even better.

Hopefully we will have a new, younger Field Day Chairman for next year so I can go back into retirement.

- Dick, N6ATD

Bravo to Dick! Great Field Day!

Dick deserves to sit back and relax a bit after all the hard work planning, coordinating and providing the leadership pulling everyone together for the three day long production. It was a total group effort -- from on-schedule arrival Friday for set-up to the terrific picnic Saturday (a hand for Peter!) and to the smooth, efficient take-down and pack-away on Sunday -- all with good member turnout to spread out all the hard physical work. A truly admirable job!

Well done, Dick.

- Howard, KG6GRO

Our leader, Mikel, KN6QI, deserves special recognition for his efforts during FDay, including:

- Demonstrating SSTV & APRS
- Copying the W1AW bulletin (on RTTY)
- Setting up and operating PSK31

Resulting in 300 bonus points plus 2 QSO points per PSK31 contact

While at it, I might mention the 500 bonus points I managed to obtain via:

- Section Manager message (via NTS/packet)
- 10 NTS messages originated
- Media publicity (Town Crier)
- Information booth
- Packet demonstration

And, let us not forget Andy, KR6DD, who earned us 100 bonus points for making 5 solar powered contacts on Sunday morning.

- 73 de Omri, AA6TA

I was a new Field Day person this year and it was fun. I was only monitoring for operators this year, but next year, after I get some more courage, I'm going to participate as an operator. I watched Peter and Jim this morning for a while. They were having a blast racking up points by the second. You could just tell they were enjoying themselves. I monitored Phil for 14 minutes when a satellite passed overhead. He was so excited, that it was infectious when we made 4 good contacts among all the noise and other hams inside that 14 minute window. Then I also logged for Mark KG6GRR when he made a bunch of contacts on PSK-31. What a kick! Hey, this is a GREAT hobby!

Thanks!

- Frank Weiss, K6FCW

This is my second field day. Last year I logged for Dennis, KC6PUN (?) and I decided to try operating this year. I have been interested in PSK-31 and decided to try it at Mikel's (KN6QI) suggestion. Just a little training and I was on my way. Frank, K6FCW, logged. What a lot of fun! For almost 2 hours I made contacts using Mikel's computer. The computer had a spectrum display and I could hunt for contacts. After a few of those, I found a frequency and set up for others to come to us. And they did come! Thanks go to Mikel for setting up the digital station. What a great experience and learning opportunity. The club sure provides a good service and helps the newer HAMS like me. I think I am about ready to go get the PSK-31 equipment and such.

- Mark, KG6GRR

Field Day Pictures



FARS Club



Setup Crew



Tower (w/Moon)



Digital Tower Setup



SSB Tower (w/Flag)



Digital Station



Digital Station



Picnic



Satellite Station



Satellite, Packet Stations



Sideband Station



Sideband Station



Nice Car

Field Day 2002 Scoring

QSOs

Band	CW QSOs	Digital QSOs	Phone QSOs
160 M	x	x	x
80 M	x	x	12
40 M	x	15	29
20 M	106	4	380
15 M	36	15	217
10 M	x	x	x
6 M	1	x	39
2 M	x	x	59
1.25 M	x	x	x
0.70 M	x	x	15
1.2 GHz	x	x	1
Solar (2 M)	x	x	5
Satellite	x	x	12
GOTA	x	x	x
Totals	143	34	769

Bonus

- 100% Emergency Power (200 points for 2A)
- Media Publicity
- Set-up in Public Place
- Information Booth
- NTS Message to ARRL SM/SEC
- W1AW Field Day Message
- Formal Messages Handled (#10)
- Satellite QSO Completed
- Natural Power QSOs completed
- Site visited by invited officials
- GOTA station maximum QSOs achieved
- Non-traditional Demonstrations (100 points each):

A. Packet

B. SSTV

C. APRS

Total Bonus Points Claimed: 1400

With the multiplier of 2 for CW and digital contacts, there were a total of 1123 points ($2 \times [143 + 34] + 769$). A power multiplier of 2 (less than 150 W) resulted in 2246 points from QSOs. There were also 1400 bonus points for a grand total of **3646** points.

PLEASE fill out the membership form whether you are a new or continuing member. Neatness counts.

FARS 2002 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Date _____

Name(s) & Callsign(s) & Class (E-A-G-T-N-None): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone _____

Fax (H or W?) _____

Packet BBS Address _____

Internet (e-mail) address _____

ARRL Member(s)? Yes/No (if yes, who?) _____

Preferred modes: HF-SSB/HF-CW/VHF/UHF/Packet/HF Digital/Satellites/ATV/QRP/Other: _____

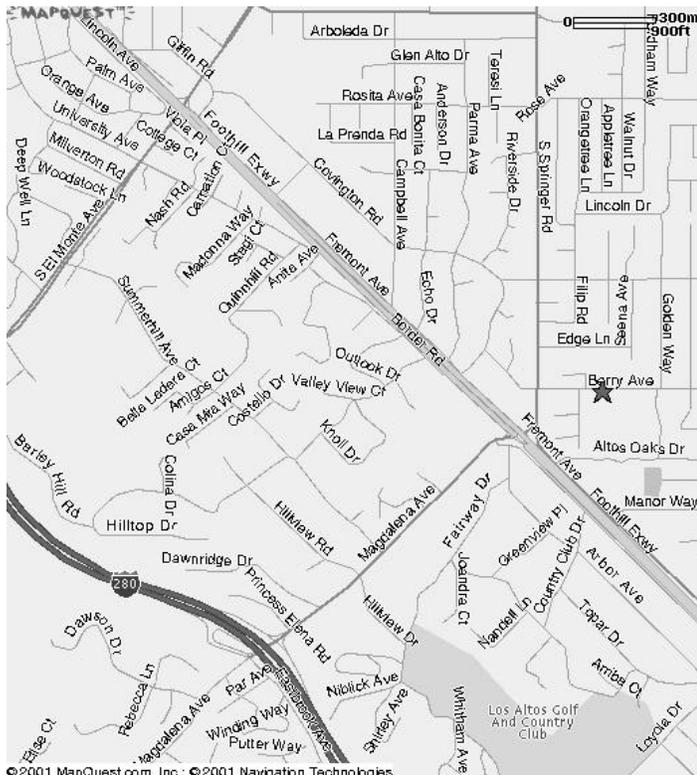
(Please indicate any areas in which you are willing to Elmer new hams)

Special topics of interest /Suggestions for club meeting speakers:

Dues: personal: \$20; family: \$25. Send check or Money Order payable to FARS to:

Frank Weiss, K6FCW 109 Stratford Court Mountain View, CA 94040

Please note: Membership runs from January 1 to December 31.



How to get to meetings:

(Visitors always welcome)

Our meetings usually will be held at the Loyola School gym room (directions below) on the fourth Friday at 7 PM for the code practice/socializing and 7:30 PM for the regular meeting. There may be changes in the meeting dates for June, November, and December.

DIRECTIONS:

Loyola School is at 770 Berry Avenue in Los Altos, between Springer Rd. and Miramonte Ave.

FROM FOOTHILL EXPWY take the Rancho shopping center exit and go east (toward El Camino Real) on Springer one short block; turn right onto Berry; watch for the school parking lot on your right. Walk past the office and turn right. The gym is the first building on your right.

FROM I-280 take the Magdalena Av. exit and go east (towards Foothill Expwy). Cross Foothill Expwy onto Springer; then follow directions as above.

FARS RELAY 7/02
C/O Mark Hardy
2998 Jerald Avenue
Santa Clara CA 95051-2928

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
PLEASE DO NOT FORWARD

MEETING
FRIDAY 7/26/02
At Loyola School in Los Altos