

December Meeting

Date: Friday, December 17, 2004.

Time: Socializing at 7 pm, Meeting at 7:30

Place: Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos

Speaker: Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE, FARS Board Member

Topic: Aircraft Radio Navigation. Phil, who is a small aircraft pilot, will explain how radio is used to navigate the skies. Be sure to bring your questions to submit to Dr. Know-It-All!

November Meeting Report



Pink Foster, W6PST

At the November meeting, Pink Foster, W6PST, Section Traffic Manager, spoke on "Radiograms and the NTS Message Traffic System." She spoke about sending messages and showed how to do the messages. The meeting was very informative.

During the meeting, club members voted on board members. Voting was in the affirmative for nominated board members: Rob Goodson, N2RAG, Steve Leander, KV6O, and Mark Hardy, KG6GRR.



Bob Golder, WA2CFN

Bob Golder, WA2CFN, carried away the raffle prize (VX-150 handheld) at the November meeting. The "Wish You Were Here" number for Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE, was chosen. Phil was at the meeting to receive the prize.

Presidents Corner

Program. This month's program is on aircraft radio navigation with Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE. Phil is a licensed small aircraft pilot and talks about how aircraft use radio systems for navigation.

New Directors. This month was our first meeting with our new Directors, Rob Goodson N2RAG (formerly KG6QQC) and Steve Leander, KV6O. Mark Hardy, KG6GRR was reelected for another term. These new Directors were elected at our November meeting. At this meeting, the board nominated and elected Ron Green, KG6RLG to fill the vacant seat on the board.

Winter Banquet. A reminder that it's time to sign up for the FARS/PAARA Winter Banquet to be held at Michael's at Shoreline on Friday, January 21, 2005. Don't wait until the last minute to sign up. FARS is again partnering with PAARA for a bigger event. Look for the signup sheet on the FARS web site and in this edition of the "FARS RELAY."

HAM DAY December 4 was a success by all accounts. We are planning another HAM DAY for January, pending an indoor location. Look for an email announcement when the details are finalized. Subscribe to the FARS Announcement list to make sure you get the notice at www.fars.k6ya.org/mail/.

- de Mikel, KN6QI

Upcoming Events

Dec 17 7:00 PM, Club meeting, Covington School
Jan 6, '05 7:30 PM, Board Mtg at the Los Altos Town Crier
Jan 21, '05 FARS/PAARA Banquet
Thursdays 8:00 PM, FARS net, 145.230(-), 100 Hz PL
See more events, [FARS Calendar](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar.shtml)
<<http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar.shtml>>

FARS / PAARA 2005 Winter Banquet

Mark your calendars. The FARS / PAARA annual banquet will take place on Friday evening, January 21, 2005. We are again teaming up with [PAARA](#) (Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association) to make this an even bigger event. By popular demand we are returning to Michael's at Shoreline:

Where:	Michael's at Shoreline 2960 No. Shoreline Blvd Mountain View, CA 650-962-1014
When:	6:00pm - Open Bar (No Host) 7:00pm - Dinner 8:00pm - Presentation

Our speaker is to be determined

Note that unlike regular meetings, attendance at the banquet is by reservation only. To attend this event, fill out a Banquet Signup form and include payment for the appropriate amount. You should renew your FARS membership if you have not already done so.

Raffle Prizes

We are planning to raffle nearly \$1,000 in amateur radio gear. The prizes are yet to be determined but will likely include a radio or two. Tickets may be purchased at the banquet, so be sure to bring some extra cash. No purchase is required to enter, but your donation is much appreciated to cover the cost of the prizes.

Menu

We have decided on the following menu choices:

Menu Choice	Price
Roast Prime Rib of Beef	\$37
Breast of Chicken Florentine	\$30
Broiled Salmon Lemon Beurre Blanc	\$32
Vegetarian Brochette	\$25

Each entree is served with seasonal greens, fresh vegetables, potato du jour, and French rolls. For dessert we have an ice cream parfait. Prices include all taxes and tips.

We will have a NO HOST BAR for soft drinks, wine, beer, etc.

Don't Miss it!

This is going to be a fun time for everyone, so let's make it a big turnout. See you there! For reference you might want to print out a copy of the [Banquet Flyer](#) (from the FARS website) which includes a map.

CLUB INFORMATION

President: Mikel Lechner, KN6QI
Vice President: Steve Stearns, K6OIK
Treasurer: David Cooper KE6PFF
Secretary: Ruth, KG6RZG
Radio Officer: Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE
Training Officer: Mike Zensius, KG6GUE
Relay Editor: Mark Hardy, KG6GRR
FARS Board: Dick Baldwinson N6ATD, Howard Takaoka KG6GRO, Robert Flemate KE6TFU, Rob Goodson N2RAG, Steve Leander KV6O, Ron Green KG6RLG.

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

Club members and non-members are encouraged to subscribe to the FARS Announcement list by browsing www.fars.k6ya.org/mail, clicking on Subscribe/Unsubscribe and following the instructions under "Subscribing to fars-announce."

You may also submit an announcement to the FARS Announcement at fars-announce@svpal.org. The list is moderated and messages will be posted as approved by the list moderator.

The FARS board of directors may be reached at fars-board@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 (for field day) and Nov. & Dec (for holidays).

Annual club membership is \$20. Club badges are \$6. Visitors are always welcome! Directions in this newsletter. Talk-in: N6NFI (145.23-, 100 Hz) or W6ASH repeater (145.27-, 100 Hz).

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:

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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.



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Club Member Featured

Club member Stan Kuhl, K6MA, is featured on the DMV website. Take a look at <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/plates/specialplates.htm>.

Milpitas W6MLP Ham Shack

Milpitas Amateur Radio & Electronics Society hosts all amateurs and radio enthusiasts EVERY SATURDAY at our Ham Shack at Fire Station One, 777 S. Main Street, Curtis and S. Main, in Milpitas.

The shack operates HF on 80-10 meters and VHF/UHF on 6 mt to 70 cm bands.

Please enter the Open North Gate and park along the fence near the street or to the RIGHT by the trees. We will be listening on W6MLP repeater 224.72Mhz-[100pl] and 147.525 simplex[100pl link.] Local net on these frequencies at 10 am local time Saturday.

William Dale - N2RHV - Milpitas Amateur Radio & Electronic Society (MARES) President

<http://w6mlp.org>

<mailto:president@w6mlp.org>

<mailto:william.dale.jr@lmco.com>

Interference Goes Both Ways

Don't panic, people. We've all been hearing how BPL causes interference to our service. Well, guess what, IT GOES BOTH WAYS!

Their big network of wires not only operates as a transmitting antenna, but it acts as a receiving antenna. The local radio club (Rochester, MN) got TOGETHER with the local power company to do co-operative testing. They taped signals off the air while the power company switched things on and off. Did it cause interference? Oh, yeah. It even totally blocked WWV. No surprises there.

What was very interesting, and what I had heard nothing about before, was the effect of ham radio on BPL:

A 25 watt 40m signal transmitted 2 blocks away into a mobile vertical caused a complete (100%) blockage of packet flow on the BPL network! A 10 watt 80 signal in a multiband dipole 65' away completely blocked BPL network traffic.

Think about that! A kw into a beam would probably block BPL for miles in whatever direction the beam is pointing.

You can see more details at:

http://www.io.com/~nielw/BPL/RF_susceptibility.htm

-- Bob Meyer, KBOGT



How to get to regular meetings:
(Visitors always welcome)

Our meetings will be held at the Covington Elementary School (directions below) on the fourth Friday. Socializing at 7 PM with the regular meeting at 7:30 PM. There may be changes in the meeting dates for January, June, November, and December.

DIRECTIONS:

From Interstate 280. take the El Monte exit (same as for the Flea Market) but go Northeast (rather than West to the college). Cross Foothill Expressway. (A) At the first traffic light turn right on Covington. (B) Immediately at the fork take the left street (Covington). Go about 1/10th of a mile. Turn left into the parking lot. The gym is the tall building to your right with red and white stripes.

From Foothill Expwy. From Foothill Expressway, take the El Monte exit and go Northeast; then follow directions as above at point (A).

From US101 or El Camino: take San Antonio Road west (to Foothill Expressway). Then follow directions as above at point (A).

TALK-IN via the [N6NFI](#) (145.230-; 100Hz PL) repeater or the [W6ASH](#) 145.27- (100Hz PL) repeater.