

May Club Meeting

Date: Friday, May 27, 2005.

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

Place: Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos

Speaker: Field Day Band Captains, Barbecue Chef

Topic: Field Day band captains and barbecue head chef will describe plans for this year's Field Day. Past Field Days have been a lot of fun and friendship and a lot of contacts. Come hear about the plans for Field Day and the famous barbecue.

Don't forget to bring your questions to Dr. Know-it-all.

March Meeting Report

At the April meeting, Andreas Junge, N6NU, spoke about the text messaging capabilities of APRS. The Advanced Packet Reporting System (APRS) permits sending packets that contain more than just GPS coordinates. In fact, GPS coordinates are optional; you can text message instead.

Ruth Lacey, KG6RZG, carried away the raffle prize and the "Wish You Were Here" prize. Congratulations to Ruth.



Ruth Lacey, KG6RZG

Upcoming Events

May 27 7:00 PM, Club meeting, Covington School
 Jun 2 7:30 PM, Board Mtg at the Los Altos Town Crier
 Jun 4 8 AM to 9 PM, [AM-Tech day](#), SLAC
 Jun 5 7-11:30 AM, [Livermore Flea Market](#) (Last one?)
 Jun 11 6 AM to noon, [Electronics Flea Market](#)
 Jun 17 7:00 PM, Club meeting, Covington School
 Jun 25-26 ARRL [Field Day](#)
 Thursdays 8:00 PM, FARS net, 145.230(-), 100 Hz PL
 See more events, [FARS Calendar](#)
<http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar.shtml>

Presidents Corner

Field Day. It's time to start thinking about Field Day on June 25th and 26th (Saturday and Sunday). FARS will be operating at the Maryknoll seminary again this year. We are planning to operate in the 2A category with a SSB HF Voice station, a combination CW/Digital station, and a VHF station. We need a lot of club participation to make it work so volunteer to help with setup and takedown. But don't forget to help operate as well. We usually have plenty of open time slots so don't be bashful. You can operate the HF stations with your Technician license in the presence of a General or Extra class licensee, so come and be a part of it.

Am-Tech DAY. June 4th is our next Am-Tech Day at SLAC, check the FARS web site (www.fars.k6ya.org/) for details on the location or subscribe to the FARS Announcement list (www.fars.k6ya.org/mail/) to make sure you get an email reminder.

Flea Market. The next Electronics Flea Market is scheduled for June 11, Check www.asvaro.org for details and directions. The South Peninsula Amateur Radio Klub is hosting this Flea Market.
 - de Mikel, KN6QI

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 7:30 p.m

Conf. Room, Los Altos Town Crier, 138 Main Street, Los Altos

Present: Richard Baldwinson, Dave Cooper, Ron Green, Phil Hawkins, Ruth Lacey, Steve Leander, Mikel Lechner, Steve Stearns, Howard Takaoka, Mike Zensius.

Absent: Robert Flemate, Rob Goodson, Mark Hardy

President Lechner called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The minutes were accepted as amended.

President Lechner presented invoice #136 from ASVARO in the amount of \$1400 for the Flea market fee for the year 2005. (Sept. for FARS) Dave Cooper moved to pay the bill. Steve Stearns seconded. The vote was 8 in favor with 2 members recusing themselves.

Steve Stearns announced that the program for the may meeting would have Andreas Junge (N6NU) as the speaker. Members offered several suggestions for future programs. There was a brief review of the sessions presented on AM-Tech Day, April 2.

Dave Cooper suggested that FARS set up a membership recruiting table at the next AM-Tech Day, May 7. Steve Leander volunteered to staff the table. Howard Takaoka suggested that we sell FARS t-shirts. Discussion followed. A t-shirt committee was formed consisting of Dave Cooper and Rob Green. Dave reported briefly on plans for the first anniversary of AM-Tech Day in September. Steve Leander is organizing an International Day.

Dave Cooper told the board that the final report on the January banquet will be presented at the next board meeting.

Phil Hawkins reported that the June Field Day was set for the Maryknoll site. Phil and Steve Leander agreed to check out the feasibility of using mainly wire antennas at the site. Phil will also check the FT 990 mic.

Steve Leander requested input from the board about the training class to be held during the summer. Steve Stearns will check Covington School about the possibility of using a classroom. Various members volunteered to teach a session.

Ron Green reported that Rich Stiebel is checking on a wireless mic for use at the FARS meetings.

There was a preliminary discussion of the 2005 budget.

The board reviewed the list of unpaid members and arranged to make reminder calls.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM

- de Ruth Lacey, Secretary

ARES/RACES

Information about some local ARES/RACES organizations may be found at the ARES/RACES web site www.scc-ares-races.org or at the RACES web site www.races.net. Information may also be found at the SPECS web site, www.specsnet.org, or at the SVECS web site, www.svecs.net.

The SPECS net is held Mondays at 8:00 PM local time on the W6ASH repeater: 145.270 MHz, negative offset, PL of 100 Hz. Instructions will be given during the net regarding frequencies for local, city check-ins.

The SVECS net is held Tuesdays at 8:00 PM local time on the AA6BT repeater: 146.115 MHz, positive offset, PL of 100 Hz. Local city nets are typically held before the main net at 7:30 or 7:45 PM. City check-in times and frequencies can be found at the ARES/RACES web site. Check-ins can also be done on the main net and contact made with the appropriate city emergency coordinator for further information.

Callsign Lookup Website

A very good callsign database server may be found at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's website. It is an award winning server found at <http://callsign.uarl.edu/callsign.shtml>. Test shows that it is able to find callsigns and such with minimal input.

Go Kit Information

It might be time to check out the contents of the go kit or prepare a go kit if you do not yet have one. A go kit will come in very handy in case of emergency or other situations when you need to be ready for HAM operations or need to be on the go or away from home. Check out the recommended list of contents at <http://home.comcast.net/~buck0/hamgear.htm> or check the list suggested by Peter, WA6VAQ, in the April 2003 Relay at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/relay/Relay0304.pdf>. Further suggestions may be found at <http://www.specsnet.org/go-pak.htm> or <http://scc-ares-races.org/go-pak.htm>.

CLUB INFORMATION

President:	Mikel Lechner, KN6QI
Vice President:	Steve Stearns, K6OIK
Treasurer:	David Cooper KE6PFF
Secretary:	Ruth Lacey, 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:
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.

FARS Membership Form

PLEASE fill out the form for all new/renewal memberships.

FARS 2005 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: _____

E-mail: _____ ARRL Member(s)? _____

Preferred modes: (e.g. HF-SSB/VHF/QRP/Other): _____

I'm willing to Elmer new hams with: _____

Special topics of interest / suggestions for club meeting speakers:

Dues: \$20 per year, new members add \$6 for badge fee. Please write one check for both banquet and membership.

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

Send your check payable to FARS, to:

David A. Cooper, KE6PFF
270 Redwood Shores Parkway
PMB 41
Redwood City, CA 94065-1173



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

Our meetings are 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 Northeast. 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 (A).

TALK-IN via the [N6NEI](#) (145.230-; 100Hz PL) repeater or the [W6ASH](#) 145.27- (100Hz PL) repeater