

## November Club Meeting

**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2005.

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

**Place:** Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos

**Speaker:** To be announced

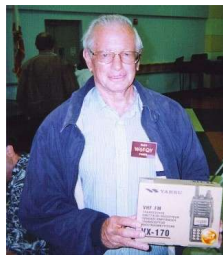
**Summary:** In addition to the featured speaker, we will hold the election of four directors to the club board.

The club also offers Anderson Power-pole crimping service, refreshments, and a raffle prize (*Garmin eTrex GPS or Yaesu Radio*) at the meeting. Come out for an enjoyable evening.

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

## October Meeting Report

Edison Fong, WB6IQN, spoke about his design of dual-band J-pole antennas for the 2-meter and 70-cm bands. The antenna, featured in *QST* in February 2003, has a coaxial trap that divides the radiator section of the antenna and gives an improved radiation pattern on 70 cm. The DBJ-1 is sheathed in a PVC tube, while the DBJ-2 is an unsheathed, roll-up version.



Edison Fong, WB6IQN    Ray Egan, W6FQY    Kevin Weiler, KG6YYW

Ray Egan, W6FQY, won the raffle and took home the Yaesu VX-170 radio. Kevin Weiler, KG6YYW, won the DBJ-2, donated by the Edison Fong. The Wish You Were Here number for Farrell Hamill, KG6UGZ, was chosen. Unfortunately, Farrell was not present to claim the prize.

## Upcoming Events

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Nov 16 | 7:30 PM, <a href="#">BPL talk at WVARA</a>                  |
| Nov 18 | 7:00 PM, <a href="#">Club meeting</a> , Covington School    |
| Dec 1  | 7:30 PM, Board Mtg at the Los Altos Town Crier              |
| Dec 3  | 8 AM to 9 PM, <a href="#">AM-Tech day</a> , SLAC            |
| Dec 16 | 7:00 PM, <a href="#">Club meeting</a> , Covington School    |
| Jan 11 | 6:30-9:30 PM, FARS General License <a href="#">training</a> |
| Jan 20 | 6:00 PM FARS/PAARA <a href="#">Winter Banquet</a>           |
- You can sign up for the banquet online at**  
<http://www.fars.k6ya.org/cgi-bin/banquet>.  
 Thursdays 8:00 PM, FARS net, 145.230(-), 100 Hz PL  
 See more events, [FARS Calendar](#) <<http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar>>

## Presidents Corner

**Club Meeting.** November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. This month's meeting is our Annual Member meeting and we are having elections for directors so members are encouraged to attend to cast their votes. This meeting is at our usual location at Covington School, 205 Covington Road in Los Altos.

**Am-Tech DAY.** The next Amateur Radio Technology Day is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at our usual location (Stanford Linear Accelerator Center). Check the FARS web site ([www.fars.k6ya.org/](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/)) for the latest details and changes. Subscribe to the FARS Announcement list ([www.fars.k6ya.org/mail/](mailto:www.fars.k6ya.org/mail/)) to make sure you get an email reminder.

- de Mikel, KN6QI

## FARS/PAARA Winter Banquet 2006

The FARS/PAARA Winter Banquet has been scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 6pm. Dinner will be served at 7pm and the program will begin around 8:30pm. We plan on having around \$1000 in raffle prizes, so bring a few extra dollars for the raffle.

We are again teaming up with [PAARA](#) (Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association). We have made reservations at Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View (same place as last year). A sign up sheet is available on line at the FARS web page (click on Banquet). We also have an on line sign up page where you can pay with PayPal or a credit card. As usual only FARS or PAARA members (and their guests) may attend the banquet.



**Speaker.** Robert Schmieder, KK6EK is our featured speaker for the banquet. Thanks to Jim Rice, K6AK for arranging for the banquet speaker. Bob is a physicist, with more than 80 technical publications, 2 patents, and numerous popular articles. He is the author of five books. He is the owner and operator of a

research vessel, the Cordell Explorer and Founder and Expedition Leader of Cordell Expeditions, a nonprofit research group begun in 1977. The group is responsible for the creation of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, which was designated entirely on the basis of results from Cordell Expeditions.

He is a Fellow of the Explorers Club and current Chairman of its Northern California Chapter. He has been listed in almost every Who's Who in the world.

Licensed since 1962, he now holds an Extra Class license. Bob is a phone man, and he likes to operate 10 through 80 meters.

He is active in Islands on the Air (IOTA), having activated five New Ones: Farallons, NA-178; Guadalupe, NA-179; Roqueta, NA-183; Northern California Group, NA-184; and Central California Group, NA-187.

- de Mikel, kn6qi via Jim, K6AK

## FARS Board of Directors Election

This month's meeting is our Annual Member meeting and we are having elections for four (4) director's seats on the FARS Board of Directors. Members are encouraged to attend and cast their votes. This will be an at-large election, which means that the four (4) nominees with the most votes are elected to the board.

The following candidates have been nominated for the FARS Board of Directors:

AE6RM	Barbara Neuhauser
KG6RZG	Ruth Lacey
N6ATD	Richard Baldwinson
KG6ZRK	Ron LeBlanc
K6WX	Kristen McIntyre

Susan Thomas, KG6RZI, has withdrawn her name from nomination. If you cannot attend the meeting you may use the enclosed ballot to vote your choices. Write your name and call sign on the ballot and mail to:

FARS DIRECTORS ELECTION  
436 Memphis Drive  
Campbell, CA 95008

**Ballots must be received by November 18<sup>th</sup>.**

### FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Official Election Ballot  
November 18, 2005

Vote for no more than four:

For	Name & Callsign
	Barbara Neuhauser, AE6RM
	Ruth Lacey, KG6RZG
	Richard Baldwinson, N6ATD
	Ron LeBlanc, KG6ZRK
	Kristen McIntyre, K6WX

Name & Call \_\_\_\_\_

### Candidate Statements

#### Barbara Neuhauser, AE6RM

Long ago a science fair judge suggested that I become an amateur radio operator. I did so, thanks to ARRL publications, and I greatly enjoyed building small homebrew projects. However, I had little confidence as an operator because there was no Elmer to demonstrate procedures. As an adult I let my license expire because I could not operate an amateur station from my apartment.

Recently students in my electronics class at SFSU asked how they could extend their knowledge of electronics. QRP projects seemed ideal, so we organized a club in which each student builds a SW20+ transceiver, a PAC-12 antenna, and a Tenna-dipper. Obviously I am not well qualified to teach operating techniques. FARS, however, offers a superb combination of high-quality technical training and friendly coaching on procedures. As a board member I would encourage FARS to mentor students, thereby increasing the participation of young people in our hobby.

#### Ruth Lacey, KG6RZG

I am a newcomer to the ham world. In 2003, I earned my tech license and got my first HT as a gift. I joined a ham club right away – FARS. Last year, I passed the code test in late summer and earned my general license that December. I feel that a club member should be an active participant in a club in some way. Attending the monthly meetings, taking part in Field Day, and/or joining the Board all help to make the club stronger and more valuable to its members. It also sends a message to hams outside a club, that FARS is the one to join.

Currently, I serve on the Board as Secretary, attend the meetings and help with Field Day. I'm still active in the 2-meter category but that hopefully will change.

I would like to continue on the Board because I feel I'm doing the club a useful service.

#### Richard Baldwinson, N6ATD

I am currently a member of the FARS Board and have been on the board for about 25 years. I have been a member of FARS (formerly EMARC) since 1977 when I took a novice class and got my first license. I currently hold an extra class license. I am a past president, treasurer and radio officer. I have been field day chairman numerous times and was banquet chairman for several years including the starting of the current round of banquets at Michael's at Shoreline.

I have been nominated by the leadership of FARS and am prepared to serve another three year term on the board of directors if re-elected.

#### Ron LeBlanc, KG6ZRK

No statement had been submitted at time of press.

#### Kristen McIntyre, K6WX

Thank you for your nomination to be a candidate for board member of the Foothills Amateur Radio Society. I am honored. Most of my involvement with FARS thus far has been through Am-Tech day, even prior to my recent membership, and I intend to continue that support. I believe this activity to be a very important part of promoting the Amateur Service. I am a very active ham both on the air and within our community as a participant in many local clubs and serving as East Bay section ARRL Technical Coordinator. My QRZ biography provides more information about me. If you believe that FARS would benefit from my participation in its governance then please consider me.

## 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: Steve Leander KV6O  
Relay Editor: Mark Hardy, KG6GRR

FARS Board: Dick Baldwinson N6ATD, Howard Takaoka KG6GRO, Robert Flemate KE6TFU, Rob Goodson N2RAG, , Ron Green KG6RLG, Mike Zensius, KG6GUE.

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](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/mail), clicking on Subscribe/Unsubscribe and following the instructions under "Subscribing to fars-announce."

You may submit announcements to the FARS Announcement at [fars-announce@svpal.org](mailto: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](mailto: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).

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 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](mailto:kg6grr@arrl.net), At FARS meetings.

### Stolen Radio

Phil Siepert, KG6SPS, reported on the FARS net that his handheld radio was stolen October 30<sup>th</sup>. It is a Yaesu VX-150 with a silver case and serial number 4J34080. If this radio is seen, please report it to the local authorities and to Phil.

## Morse Code Practice

Students learning Morse need more practice than weekly on a repeater. Here are some resources that can help with daily practice.

The W5YI/Gordon West's "0-to-5 wpm" code lessons are available in 8-CD and 6-cassette formats priced at \$30. Either set is recommended for beginners. Gordo's 2-CD or 2-cassette \$15 abbreviated "refresher" course, and ARRL similar offering don't offer enough practice.

ARRL's "Your Introduction to Morse Code" (0-to-5 wpm) is available in 2-CD and 2-cassette formats. Both sets have 2-1/2 hours of practice and cost \$15. Same comment as above.

W1AW code practice MP3 files are at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html>

William Sizemore W6ADO in Los Angeles offered Morse practice 24 hours a day on 7.100 MHz. However, he received warning letters in April and June 2005 from the FCC concerning his control operators for 24-hour operation. He may have reduced his schedule or stopped.

Excellent freeware programs for learning Morse code are:

- Ray Goff G4FON's Koch CW Trainer. Download version 8 from <http://www.g4fon.net/CW%20Trainer.htm>

- Martin Minow K6MAM's Morse Practice. Download from <http://www.merrymeet.com:16080/minow/>. You must have Java run time environment (JRE) installed to run the .jar file. Alternatively, it can run in a browser as an applet.

- For advanced CW contesters, there's Alex Shovkoplyas VE3NEA's Morse Runner. Download from <http://www.dxatlas.com/MorseRunner/>

- Simon Twigger AA9PW offers Morse practice on his web page at <http://www.aa9pw.com/radio/morse.html>

A good book is William G. Pierpont N0HFF's "The Art and Skill of Radio Telegraphy." Download pdf (3rd ed.) from <http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/n0hff.htm>

The ARRL's "Learn Morse Code" resource page is <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/learncw/>

- Steve. K6OIK

### Silent Key

FARS is saddened by the announcement of the passing of club member Charles Alexander Walter, N6CAW. More information about Chuck, memorial services (Nov. 12, 11am), and a guest book that may be signed may be found at <http://www.legacy.com/MercuryNews/LegacySubPage2.asp?Page=LifeStory&PersonId=15651677>.



Archive Photo of Chuck, N6CAW

**FARS/PAARA 2006 WINTER BANQUET SIGNUP – FARS Members and Guests**

January 20, 2006

Name & Call	Meal Choice (B, C, S, V)	Amount
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Membership Dues (see below)		_____
	Total	_____

<u>Menu Choice</u>	<u>Price</u>
Roast Prime Rib of <b>Beef</b>	\$38
Breast of <b>Chicken</b> Florentine	\$31
Broiled <b>Salmon</b> Lemon Beurre Blanc	\$33
<b>Vegetarian</b> Brochette	\$26

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**FARS Membership Form**

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

**FARS 2006 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 Exp Date(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 FARS Club meetings (Visitors always welcome)

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.,** 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 above at point (A).

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

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# FARS Meeting

## FRIDAY 11/18/05

### Covington School, Los Altos