



**Membership Meeting.** Our next membership meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Our speaker Eric Norris, WD6DBM talks about “**Magnetic Loop Antennas – The Best Kept Secret in Amateur Radio.**” Eric explains that everything

about a loop is different – its impedance, directivity pattern, how these depend on height above earth, earth’s conductivity and dielectric constant.

## March Club Meeting

**Date:** Friday, March 25th, 2011

**Time:** Socializing at 7 PM, Meeting starts at 7:30 PM

**Place:** Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos  
(near Foothill Expressway and El Monte Rd)

**Speaker:** **Eric Norris, WD6DBM**  
**Topic:** **“MAGNETIC LOOP ANTENNAS – The Best Kept Secret in Amateur Radio”**



Eric will discuss the magnetic loop antenna.

Magnetic loop antennas behave differently from dipoles and monopoles. Everything about a loop is different – its impedance, directivity pattern, how these depend on height above earth, earth’s conductivity and dielectric constant.

Also, the sensitivity of loops to nearfield noise pickup is different. Now for the good news. In nearly every aspect, the difference gives the advantage to the loop.

Magnetic loop antennas do not have to be as high or as big to perform great. Eric will explain the ins and outs of using magnetic loop antennas.

**Snacks:** Cookies and coffee will be served.

**Questions:** Bring your hardest radio questions. The mysterious Dr. Know-It-All reveals all answers.

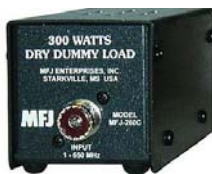
## March Raffle Prizes

The prizes for the raffle at the March meeting are:

**First Prize:** Powerwerx SS-30DV Power Supply, 13.8V, 6x5x2.5”, 25A Continuous, 30A Peak



**Second Prize:** MFJ 260C 300W Dry Dummy Load 0-600 Mhz



**Third Prize:** LF-01 PDK Light Flare Blinking LED

**Fourth Prize:** Four PL259 Coax Connectors with RG8X Adaptors

**Am-Tech Day.** The next Am-Tech Day is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Check the website ([k6ya.org/amtechday/](http://k6ya.org/amtechday/)) or the email list ([k6ya.org/mail/](mailto:k6ya.org/mail/)) for the latest news and information. At the March 19<sup>th</sup> Am-Tech Day Dr. Sarah Thompson, NQ6K described modeling a sloper antenna for 10-15-20 meter bands. In addition to working on multiple bands, the goal for this antenna is to be easily deployed in the field.

**Electronics Flea Market.** The next electronics flea market is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>. The host and beneficiary of this flea market is the South Peninsula Amateur Radio Klub (SPARK). For all of the details check out [www.electronicfleamarket.com](http://www.electronicfleamarket.com).

*Special note: the May flea market is on May 21<sup>st</sup> and not on the usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Make a note of this so you don’t show up on the wrong day.*

**Dues reduced for 2011.** The FARS board has reduced the membership dues for 2011 to \$15. Use your \$5 savings to purchase raffle tickets, or put it in your pocket and be \$5 richer. If you’ve already renewed for 2011 at \$20, you may request a refund. Or simply leave it as a donation.

**Disaster in Japan.** Our hearts go out to the people of Japan who have suffered a great earthquake, a major tsunami, and a still unfolding nuclear disaster. We are reminded that major disasters can happen here and we must lend aid when we can and be prepared should the worst happen.

**Email Notices.** Subscribe to the FARS Announcement list ([k6ya.org/mail/](mailto:k6ya.org/mail/)) to receive reminders of FARS activities and other news.

de Mikel, KN6QI

## Upcoming Events

[www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar)

|                |          |  |
|----------------|----------|--|
| Mar 25         | 7:00 PM  | <a href="#">Club Meeting</a> , Covington School          |
| Apr 2          | 9 – 6 PM | <a href="#">Am-Tech Day #76</a> , SLAC Natl Accelerator  |
| Apr 7          | 7:30 PM  | Board Mtg at the Los Altos Town Crier                    |
| Apr 9          | 5:00 AM  | <a href="#">Electronics Flea Market</a> , DeAnza College |
| Apr 15, 16, 17 |          | <a href="#">Intl DX Convention (IDXC)</a> , Visalia, CA  |
| Apr 22         | 7:00 PM  | <a href="#">Club Meeting</a> , Covington School          |
| Apr 23         | 8:00 AM  | <a href="#">Ham Cram</a> , Los Altos                     |
| May 5          | 7:30 PM  | Board Mtg at the Los Altos Town Crier                    |
| May 14         | 9 – 6 PM | <a href="#">Am-Tech Day #77</a> , SLAC Natl Accelerator  |
| May 21         | 5:00 AM  | <a href="#">Electronics Flea Market</a> , DeAnza College |
| May 21, 22     |          | <a href="#">Maker Faire</a> DIY Festival, San Mateo, CA  |
| May 20, 21, 22 |          | <a href="#">Hamvention 2011</a> Dayton, OH               |
| Jun 25, 26     |          | <a href="#">ARRL FIELD DAY</a> , FARS in Los Altos       |

## CLUB INFORMATION

[www.fars.k6ya.org](http://www.fars.k6ya.org)

President: Mikel Lechner KN6QI  
Vice President: Steve Stearns K6OIK  
Treasurer: Dick Baldwin N6ATD  
Secretary: (open)  
Radio Officer: Phil Hawkins KA6MZE  
Training Officer: Kevin Weiler K6XXX  
Relay Editor: Joanna Dilley K6YL  
FARS Board: Robert Flemate KE6TFU  
Mark Hardy K6MDH  
Barbara Neuhauser AE6RM  
Peter Chow AF6DS  
Charlie Morrin KI6FXY  
K6YA Trustee: Phil Hawkins KA6MZE

Contact the FARS Board of Directors at [fars-board@svpal.org](mailto:fars-board@svpal.org).

**Email Announcements:** 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.

**Meetings:** FARS 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 November & December (for holidays). **Visitors are always welcome!** Directions on the website as well as in this newsletter. Talk-in: N6NFI (145.23-/100Hz) or W6ASH repeater (145.27-/100Hz).

**Membership:** Annual FARS membership is \$15. A club badge is \$9.

**Newsletter:** 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! Photos, operating news, articles, etc. can be submitted to the editor at any time. Contributions are subject to editing and/or compression.

### Newsletter Editor:

Joanna Dilley K6YL  
PO Box 51985  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com  
Also available at FARS meetings.

## Amateur Radio Technology Day (#76)

**Saturday, April 2, 2011**

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory  
**\*Radio\* \*Food\* \*Friends\* \*Fun\***

*Am-Tech  
Day !!*

Volunteers are appreciated:  
Setup – 7:15AM  
Breakdown – 6:00 PM

*9:00 AM  
6:00 PM*



The **K6YA** Get-On-The-Air Station, ready for some QSO's during Am-Tech Day

Photo © Joanna K6YL

## FARS Weekly Net

FARS members meet at **8:00 PM each Thursday evening** on the N6NFI repeater, 145.23-/100Hz. The 100Hz PL is off for the net. Non-members are welcome to check in. The purpose of the net is to keep club members informed about club activities; to exchange other club-related info; and to socialize. **This net is open to all interested hams.**

## 9AM Talk Net

This is an informal net which meets at **9:00 AM weekdays** on the N6NFI repeater, 145.23-/100Hz. [www.9amtalk.net](http://www.9amtalk.net)  
**All guests are welcome.**

## Ready to Upgrade Your License?

What is a Passing Score you might ask?  
Technician & General exams – 26 out of 35 (74.2%)  
Amateur Extra exam – 37/50 (74%)

**You can do it!**

[www.baears.com](http://www.baears.com) – This group holds "Ham Crams" 4 times a year, with the next ones scheduled for **4/23 in Los Altos** and 6/4 in Fremont. Pre-registration required.

[www.amateur-radio.org](http://www.amateur-radio.org) – The Sunnyvale VEC has upcoming test sessions on 4/9 in Sunnyvale and 4/16 in Redwood City. Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations.

<http://www.pdarri.org/vec/vecscv/> – The Silicon Valley ARRL VE holds test sessions on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month from 8 AM to 11 AM at the Saratoga Fire Station (must arrive before 11 AM). Upcoming sessions are 4/2, 4/16, 5/7 and 5/21. Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations.

<http://www.sbara.org/> – The Tri-City VE Group holds test sessions at Hurricane Electric in Fremont each month, alternating between a Saturday morning at 9 AM and a Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM. Upcoming sessions include 4/12, 5/14, 6/14 and 7/9. Walk-ins welcome.

## *FARS Member Badges Seeking Owners*

Sean Fritz KI6UNZ *your new badge is ready!*

John Bahun N6API \* Michael, KG6CHX \* Randy Cook KI6EAA \* Russell Lait AF6EQ \* Alex Tudor KI6EQG \* Gary Pedro KF6FPU \* Mark Yvanovich K6FTF \* Frank Ingle AF6GU \* Margie Rauch KJ6GVY \* Joe Mallon AF6HM \* Joani Yvanovich N6JCY \* Tim Connelly KI6LC Don Steinbach AE6PM \* Steven Elliott W9RAL Roger Wildensten K7RCW \* John Williams KD6RW \* Bob Van Tuyll K6RWY \* Rob Lupo KG6SKA \* George Savage K6TSR \* Bob Bynum WB2URF \* Curt Hutchings KG6WLO \* Gwendolyn, *no call*

*Available for pick up at the next club mtg*

## FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

February's fascinating presentation sparked interest in T-hunting in the Bay Area.

Additional information for the Northern California Transmitter Hunting Group can be found at [www.thunt.org](http://www.thunt.org)

**February Speaker: Don Ferguson, KD6IRE**  
**Topic: "Tools and Tips for Transmitter Hunting"**

\* \* \* \* \*

At the February meeting Don Ferguson KD6IRE described the tools and techniques used by amateur T-hunters to locate RF emission sources. Don showed and demonstrated antennas and other tricks such as the use of beams, loops, body fade, attenuators, waveguide tubes, Doppler DF, phase interferometers, TOA (time of arrival), antennas and special receivers – all to locate a hidden "Fox Box", a low power transmitter.



**Don  
Ferguson  
KD6IRE**

*All photos  
© K6YL*



*Congrats to the February raffle prize winners!*



**Left to right: Prize winners Jerry, Mikel and John**

**Jerry K6GAC** won First Prize: Tigertronics SignaLink USB Interface with 6 Pin Cable

**Mikel KN6QI** won Second Prize: Powerwerx Battery Tender Junior

**John K6JK** won Third Prize: Comet SMA 2M/440 Flexible 17" Antenna

**Dave Cooper K6WA** was the FARS member chosen for the Wish-You-Were-Here drawing... but unfortunately wasn't present to collect the cash prize



## FARS OPERATING REPORT: 2011 CQ World Wide 160 Meter DX Phone Contest

For the third year in a row FARS participated in the CQWW 160 meter phone contest with great success.

**WHEN:** Sat 2/26 SUNSET to Sun 2/27 SUNRISE

**QTH:** Maryknoll Residence, Los Altos

Thanks to the Maryknoll Residence in Los Altos (our usual Field Day site), we had the space to set up a 300 foot receive Beverage antenna and a vertical transmit antenna.



Both antennas highlighted in red for visibility – the vertical antenna (for transmit) on the left shot up into the tree (radials at base of antenna) and the 300 foot Beverage antenna (for receive) atop the PVC posts on the right. The canopy at the far end of the soccer field is the shack for our K6YA portable operations, with the generator located just off to the left.

Since this was a 160 meter contest, operation for this event was held all night from sunset to sunrise. The shack was fully staffed for the event, thanks to a few radio enthusiasts who braved the freezing temperatures to make QSO's on this "top band".



Phil KA6MZE, Byron KG6UOB, and Joanna K6YL  
All photos © K6YL

Phil and Byron managed to pull an all-nighter! Amongst their contacts was FARS friend Dave Wolfe AA6XV working from up at W6YX (Stanford).

### FARS STATS

Claimed Score: 10,101

Power: Low

QSO's: 119

States worked: 33

DX entities worked: 3

    KP4 Puerto Rico

    UA9 Asiatic Russia

    XE Mexico

( vs. 2010 Score: 7,544 )



Phil KA6MZE

Help in setting up and tearing down is always appreciated, and several pitched in to help before, during and after the contest. Thank you to all who put time and energy into this event to make it successful and fun!

Thanks also to the Maryknoll Residence for the use of their soccer field.

**WHO:** Phil Hawkins KA6MZE  
Mikel Lechner KN6QI  
Byron Beck KG6UOB →  
Joanna Dilley K6YL  
Clark Murphy KE6KXO  
Ned (Clark's friend)  
Gregg Lane KF6FNA  
Peter Chow AF6DS  
Jerry Horn K6TXD



*I apologize to anyone I left off the list*

73,

Joanna Dilley, K6YL

On behalf of Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE

FARS Radio Officer

Amateur Radio Station Trustee, K6YA



A beautiful view from Maryknoll Residence

Note: 160m will be back for Field Day 2011 in June!

## REPORT: Electronics Flea Market DeAnza College

February's Electronics Flea Market was the first of 2011, with tons of goodies down every aisle. Where to begin?

Great finds, sweet bargains, and an easy QTH to strike up conversations with numerous hams.

Just don't forget to put your dollar bills into the yellow box or you'll soon end up with a parking ticket that will cost you much more!



Mikel KN6QI



The Flea Market is operated by ASVARO, and each month is hosted by a different group.

FARS will host the Electronics Flea Market on **July 9<sup>th</sup>**, so **SAVE THE DATE!** This is a great opportunity for the club to make money. Volunteers and donations are appreciated.



**REPORT:**  
**Am-Tech Day**  
**January, February, March**

**January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Amateur Radio – Technology Day #73**

**Presentation By: Michael Pordes, KF6NHH**  
**Hearing Safety, Custom Radio Headsets & Hearing Protection Products**

Michael works at Superior Sound Technology and presented on protection of hearing and ways to mitigate hearing loss. He then reviewed and demonstrated equipment available to assist hearing, based on purpose, types and applications. Many people do not realize that the effects of noise are cumulative – and that hearing loss in the US is on the rise – by a staggering 21% in the last 10 years. [www.superiorsoundtechnology.com](http://www.superiorsoundtechnology.com)



**February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Amateur Radio – Technology Day #74**

**Celebrating the start of our SEVENTH Year at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory! Special Event Station N6T was in operation instead of our usual “GOTA” stn.**

**Presentation By: Kristin McIntyre, K6WX**  
**PSK-31 on an iPad: A Personal Journey**

Out of frustration came invention. In many ways, iPad is an ideal platform for digital modes. While Kristin’s code is still incomplete, she shared her fascinating journey through the PSK-31 specification and protocol, signal processing theory, other people’s code, and sleepless, coding-impassioned airplane flights through Asia. This culminated in the first six QSOs that we know of using iPad being done in late January 2011 at Amateur Radio Technology Day.



**March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Amateur Radio – Technology Day #75**

**Presentation By: Sarah Thompson, NQ6K**  
**Designing a 20-15-10m Tri-band Sloper Antenna Using 4NEC2 Antenna Design Software**

Sarah presented a complete overview of all phases of the design and development of a sloper antenna that features no requirement for a counterpoise or radials. The antenna design software was also discussed as it pertained to the development of the project.



## On The Air:

We all know our local repeaters, so what else is out there?

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The [CQ World-Wide WPX Contest for SSB](#) is this weekend, March 26-27. Even if you don't care to contest this is an incredible opportunity to make international QSO's!! Have some fun and see who's out there. The bands will be alive!

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### Licensed in 2008, 2009 or 2010?

Consider getting on the air in the [Rookie Round-Up](#) on phone on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC (11AM to 5PM local).

The exchange is easy – “CALL SIGN + FIRST NAME + YEAR FIRST LICENSED (2 digits, called your “check”) + STATE”.

Example: K6YL Joanna 09 California

You can make QSO's with both Rookie's and non-Rookie's for points. Rookies are encouraged to call “CQ Rookie Roundup” and non-rookies should call “CQ Rookies”.

Note you do NOT have to submit your log if you don't want to. Just enjoy yourself! Though you will get a nice certificate if you submit your log... I'm just sayin'!

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Also see [Museum Ships Weekend](#) on page 10 of this Relay.

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**Got DX?** Finding a new DXpedition on the air always looks good in the log, and it can be a challenge as well as a joy to break through the pile ups.

**Revillagigedo 2011 DXpedition -- 4A4A** recently activated Socorro Island on all HF bands 160m through 10m using numerous modes (SSB, CW and RTTY). They logged over 73,000 QSO's during their 2-1/2 week trip to this small island 600 km off of Mexico's western coast. Are you in their log?

**NA6YL**, a new **YL DXpedition Club** based out of Southern California, recently traveled on their first DXpedition. Enjoying the island of Curacao (PJ2) and operating an incredibly impressive station and antenna farm at PJ2T, I couldn't help but be jealous. I have personally been tracking them as they were one of my competition for my new call sign K6YL. :-) Next year I hope to join them on their DXpedition. And yes they're in my log! Yours?

And the list goes on!

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## MakerFaire 2011 is coming!

World's Largest DIY Festival

May 21st & 22nd, 2011

San Mateo, CA

**Maker Faire**

*Come celebrate MAKE magazine's 10th Maker Faire and sixth anniversary in the Bay Area, showcasing creative and resourceful people in the areas of science and technology, engineering, food, and arts and crafts.*

We have multiple radio-related opportunities to volunteer your time in exchange for free admission to this large exciting event!

**FARS is sponsoring a booth at the Maker Faire** again. Each year we try something new. This year we will be demonstrating RF Modulation. We will have one station sending psk31 over the computer speakers and another receiving the signal through the computer microphone. We will also fake some Radio by using dummy loads as antennas for other modes. We'll have monitors using Fldigi and other applications to show what various modes look like. We have participation from ARRL, PAARA and SBARA as well.

The Maker Faire is May 21 & 22. Yes, that is the same weekend as Dayton. But if you can't make it to Ham Radio Mecca, attend the Maker Faire at the San Mateo Event Center. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://makerfaire.com/>. If you would like to volunteer, send me an email at [mikey@mikey.com](mailto:mikey@mikey.com).

At Maker Faire, **Blackberry REACT sponsors a mobile/portable HF amateur radio station** staffed by volunteer hams. We welcome licensed volunteers to operate Special Event Station K6M on 20M (and other bands, as the case may be). A schedule for volunteers and more information is on our Web page at <http://www.philipstripling.com/makerFaireVols.html>

You get free admission to Maker Faire in exchange for as many hours of volunteering as you care to give. Visit the Maker Faire website at <http://makerfaire.com/> for more information on this great event. Contact Phil Stripling at [af6wi@arrl.net](mailto:af6wi@arrl.net) if you are interested in volunteering. If you have a technician license, you still can operate HF with Phil or Louise (KG6IMA) as control operator. We will also monitor U/VHF frequencies for talk-in of all amateurs at the event. Stop by and sign our 73s poster even if you can't volunteer.



**GENERAL CLASS**



**FARS will be hosting another General License class**, similar to last year's 6 week course. Tentative dates are from mid-May to mid-June. Stay tuned....

## PARACHUTE MOBILE:

In the Air, On the Air

### Next Jump in Byron – Saturday March 26th

**Author:** parachutemobile

**Posted:** March 5, 2011

Parachute Mobile is a unique way of combining two great hobbies; skydiving and amateur radio. Our skydivers will jump from 14,000 feet and once they have deployed their parachutes they will make contacts (QSOs) with as many hams as possible. The Drop Zone will be at Byron Airport where we have had great success in the past. This will be our 7th mission. A Net Control will be set up on Mount Diablo to assist with this event.

**Time:** Parachute Control will be setup at approximately 1100 hrs. on [Saturday, March 26th](#)

**Jump Times:** The first jump is scheduled for approximately [1200 hrs](#) and approximately each hour thereafter. We don't have control over the aircraft so times may change. Listen for updates. We hope to make [4 jumps](#).

**Frequency:** [146.460 MHz simplex](#)

“Jumper 1” and “Jumper 2” will be fitted with APRS that will transmit location and altitude as well as biotelemetry data which includes SpO2 (blood oxygen saturation) and heart rate. Look for AF6IM, Jumper 1 and KF6WRW, Jumper 2 on your favorite APRS web site.

QSTs and updates will be made on the W6CX Repeater (Mount Diablo), [147.060+](#), [100Hz](#). If you know of other repeaters that we can make announcements on and can be reached from Mount Diablo, let us know.

**Event specific QSL cards will be available.**

*Hear the action, make a QSO!*

#### About Parachute Mobile

Ham radio operators Mark Meltzer, AF6IM, and Michael Gregg, KF6WRW, were chatting on a repeater in 2008 and learned that they shared skydiving as a second hobby. They talked further about combining the two hobbies and the Parachute Mobile Project was born.

We operate amateur (ham) radio gear while skydiving. Radio jumps are usually HAHO types (high altitude high opening) to give maximum hang time for radio communications. The jumpers are supported by a team of experienced hams, one team at the drop zone and the other at mission control which is usually sited on a mountain peak overlooking the drop zone. Our jumps, or missions, as we refer to them, are great opportunities to make a contact and receive a special QSL card.

The jumpers carry a variety of gear depending on the mission profile: FM and SSB transceivers, 20 meter PSK beacon, APRS transceivers with GPS and physiological telemetry, data and voice recorders, batteries, DF locator beacons, and trailing wire antennas with cutaway releases. APRS I-Gates and other specialized airborne and ground equipment are also deployed.

Higher jumps are planned, up to as high as 24,000 feet (with oxygen) subject to FAA clearance. AF6IM made two freefall jumps from 24,000 feet, but sustained parachute flight starting from those altitudes raises all sorts of life support and safety issues that must be fully addressed before we take this next step. Our team made HAHO radio jumps from 18,000 feet for Radiofest 2010 in Seaside, California, without oxygen gear, but that is as high as we can go without masks and tanks. HF SSB comms, PSK 31 comms, and additional telemetry data are all on the menu for future missions.

We welcome new members. There are no dues and no stuffy formalities, but you are expected to work diligently on mission preparation and execution and show up on time and prepared. We are an inclusive not exclusive group. Our experienced team members can train you to help at the drop zone or at mission control. If you are a proficient and safe ham skydiver, talk to us about joining our jump team.

Learn more about us at [parachutemobile.org](#).

**LATE UPDATE -- CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER**





## BAEARS Ham Cram

Next Session: Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
8 AM  
Los Altos, CA  
[www.baears.com](http://www.baears.com)

Local  
QTH!

## Electronics Flea Markets 2011

Saturday 5 AM to 12 Noon

3/12 hosted by PAARA 7/9 hosted by FARS !!  
4/9 hosted by SPARK 8/13 hosted by SVECS  
5/21 hosted by SCCARA 9/10 hosted by WVARA  
6/11 hosted by SPECS 10/8 hosted by SVCARC

[www.electronicfleamarket.com](http://www.electronicfleamarket.com)

## WEDNESDAY Amateur Radio LUNCHES

11:30 AM  
Fresh Choice on El Camino Real  
in Mountain View, CA

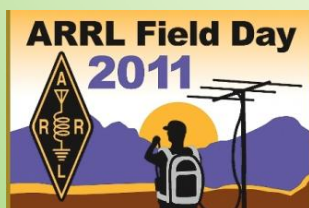
## Weekly FARS Net

Thursdays @ 8 PM  
N6NFI Repeater 145.230(-), 100 Hz PL

## Field Day 2011

June 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

[www.arrl.org/field-day](http://www.arrl.org/field-day)



The single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather to operate.

*Save the date !!*

FARS will again come together to operate this exciting event. We'll soon be looking for licensed operators!.

Mikey NE6RD will be the Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) captain again. This is a great opportunity for new hams (licensed since June 2010), guest hams (no license), and even HF-inactive hams (talk to Mikey about the definition) to get on the air, have fun, as well as earn some points for the club. [mikey@mikey.com](mailto:mikey@mikey.com)

## 62nd Intl. DX Convention

REGISTER NOW!

April 15-16-17, 2011

Visalia, CA

[www.dxconvention.org](http://www.dxconvention.org)

548  
already  
registered!



*The online pre-registration discount ends 4/4!, after which only walk-in registrations will be accepted (late reg fee will apply).*

**\$45,000.00+ in RAFFLE PRIZES !!**

[Click here for the incredible list.](#)

Exhibitors include Alpha Amplifiers, Elecraft, Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, M2, SteppIR, FlexRadio, WaveNode, CQ Magazine, Hi-Q Antennas, Ham4Less, Hamation, and much more...

### Where is Visalia?

It's a 3-1/2 hour drive from HRO in Sunnyvale. A bit south of Fresno. The drive will be worth it!

## Dayton Hamvention 2011

May 20-22, 2011

Dayton, OH

[www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)



Since 1952

"For many years it has been the world's largest amateur radio gathering, attracting hams from throughout the globe."

## MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND

**June 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2011** 0000Z June 4, through 2359Z June 5, 2011  
(1700 PDT Friday, June 3 through 1659 PDT Sunday, June 5)

While operation on any amateur frequency is allowed, most ships will be operating in the General portion of the bands.

CW Freq (KHz): 3,539, 7,039, 10,109, 14,039, 18,079,  
21,039, 24,899, 28,039, 50,109

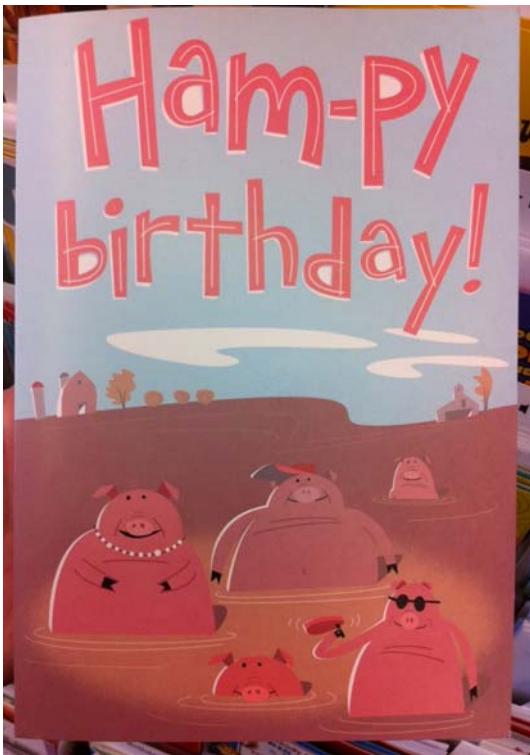
SSB Freq. (KHz): 3,860, 7,260, 14,260, 18,160, 21,360,  
24,960, 28,360, 50,160

PSK 31 Freq. (MHz): 14.070, 10.142, 18.100, 21.070,  
28.120

For a list of ships and rules, see: [www.nj2bb.org/museum/](http://www.nj2bb.org/museum/)

## MORE GOODIES

Yet another way radio affects our every day lives! We've got to love a "ham" birthday card! Or no? Personally I was happy to see the YL's represented here. hi hi! Thanks to a FARS member who wishes to remain anonymous, we have received a fun submission to the newsletter. Keep 'em coming!



Artwork © the card's artist

### FARS Relay

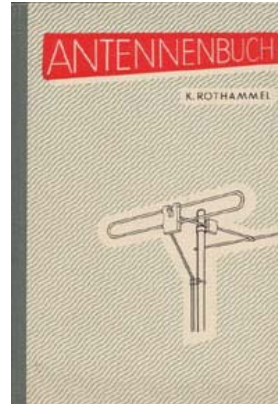
*Have a photo, article, or operating  
news to share?*

*Please contact [Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com](mailto:Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com)*

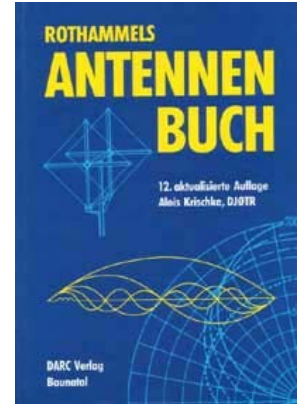
## QST QST QST QST QST

Radio Amateurs in Germany have a huge encyclopedic antenna book as big or bigger than the ARRL Antenna Book. It is *Rothammel's Antennenbuch*, first published in 1959 and now in its 12<sup>th</sup> edition.

Its 997 pages contain much that is different or not in other antenna books. It is published in German, not English, and is available only from the publisher DARC Verlag GmbH in Germany.



**First edition, 1959**



**12th edition, 2001**

The book costs 48.60 EUR, or about \$65 USD. However, shipping and handling from Germany are expensive, about \$40 per book when ordered individually. So we are considering a group purchase that would enable FARS members to obtain copies at a reduced shipping rate per book.

If you are interested in joining the group purchase and obtaining a personal copy of *Antennenbuch*, please send your name, phone number, email address, and a deposit of \$40 to Steve Stearns, K6OIK, P.O. Box 4917, Mountain View, CA 94040-0917. After all signups are in, Steve will send out a confirmation with the final price, which will be between \$65 and \$105 per book depending on the number of people who sign up.

Your book should arrive approximately three weeks after the order is placed. In addition to discovering new antennas, this opportunity is an excellent motivation to learn German.

My name is Matt Caliri, and I work for the television show **HOARDERS**. We are working on finding someone hoarding a large amount of ham radios that remain intact, and in perfect condition. Once we've found that person we would also like a ham radio expert to appear on our show. We're targeting the Southern California area, as that's where our potential Hoarder resides, and we are wondering if you feel you'd qualify as a ham radio expert, or know someone who would in the southern California area. If so, give me a call at 207-763-3383 ex. 218.

**! ? \* & !**

Thanks for your time,  
Matt Caliri  
Screaming Flea Productions  
206-763-3383 ex. 218



**Note: Email received at the  
beginning of March.**

## FARS Membership Renewal Form

Note that the dues for 2011 have been reduced to \$15. You may also renew online by logging onto the FARS website, then using PayPal to pay.

<https://www.fars.k6ya.org/membership> Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE fill out the form for all new/renewal members.

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

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Modes (e.g. HF-SSB/CW/VHF/QRP/Other): \_\_\_\_\_

I'm willing to Elmer new hams with: \_\_\_\_\_

Special topics of interest / suggestions for club meeting speakers: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$15 per year. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31. New membership applications accepted later in the year may have their dues prorated (see dues schedule). Please include \$9 for a club badge if desired. Your call sign and first name as it appears above will appear on the badge. Renewing members should provide at least their name, call, and the date. Also include any info that may have changed. Put "N/A" where you wish to remove (or not provide) info.

Send your check payable to FARS, to:

FARS c/o Michael Lechner, 436 Memphis Drive, Campbell, CA 95008



### **How to get to FARS meetings** *(Visitors are 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 [N6NFI](#) (145.230-; 100Hz PL) repeater or the [W6ASH](#) 145.27- (100Hz PL) repeater.