



The FARS RELAY

President's Corner

October 2012 Volume 42, Number 10
Have fun at Pacificon? www.fars.k6ya.org

October Club Meeting

- Date:** Friday, October 26th, 2012
- Time:** Socializing at 7PM
Meeting starts at 7:30PM
- Place:** Covington School, 205 Covington Rd, Los Altos
(near Foothill Expressway and El Monte Rd)

**To
Be
Announced**

Membership Meeting. Our next membership meeting is at 7PM on October 26th. This month's program is to be announced. We are back at our usual meeting place at Covington School this month.



For our November meeting we plan to have HRO visit with a show and tell of the latest ham gear, just in time for the shopping season. The November meeting will be on the 16th which is the 3rd Friday instead of the usual 4th Friday (due to the Thanksgiving holiday).

Board Elections are coming up in November and FARS needs new people to join our Board of Directors. The October meeting is an opportunity for members to nominate people for the board. We've been running light on directors for the past year and could use an influx of new directors to help run the club. The board develops our priorities and sets the direction for FARS. Directors serve a critical role in running the organization and providing leadership for activities. Please consider making a contribution to FARS and the local amateur radio community by becoming a director.

Winter Banquet 2013 is scheduled for Friday, January 18th, 2013 at Michael's at Shoreline. Put the date on your calendar! We are teaming up with PAARA again to make this a bigger event. We plan to have over \$1000 in raffle prizes for the banquet, so many attendees will go home with a prize. The banquet is always fun and well attended, so don't miss out. We will begin taking signups very soon.

- Snacks:** Cookies and coffee will be served.
- Questions:** Bring your hardest radio questions. The mysterious Dr. Know-It-All reveals all answers.
- Post-Meeting Snacks:** Denny's on Mathilda in Sunnyvale.

Time to Renew Your Membership. It's that time of year to renew your membership for 2013. Please don't wait until the last minute to renew. In addition we have approved a discount of \$10 for our youth members. Anyone under 18 who is signing up or renewing their membership may apply for a \$10 reduction of dues. New memberships starting October 1st get up to three extra months of membership at no extra charge, since the remainder of 2012 is included with your membership for 2013! Sign up now!

FARS is a California 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, so donations and membership dues are tax deductible with the California Franchise Tax Board and the IRS.



Raffle Prizes

There will be
4 Raffle Prizes
in addition
to the
Ca\$h Wish-You-Were-Here prize.



See page 3 for all the details!

de Mikel KN6QI

CLUB INFORMATION

www.fars.k6ya.org

President: Mikel Lechner KN6QI
Vice President: Steve Stearns K6OIK
Treasurer: Dick Baldwinson N6ATD
Secretary: (open)
Radio Officer: Phil Hawkins KA6MZE
Training Officer: Kevin Weiler K6XXX
Relay Editor: Joanna Dilley K6YL
FARS Board: Robert Flemate KE6TFU
Charlie Morrin KI6FXV
K6YA Trustee: Phil Hawkins KA6MZE

Contact the FARS Board of Directors at fars-board@svpal.org.

Membership: An annual FARS membership is \$20* and provides much needed support for your club activities, qualifies you for the CASH Wish-You-Were-Here prize drawn at each membership meeting, plus you'll receive a FARS Relay to your email each month! An optional club badge is \$9.

* New memberships starting October 1st get up to three extra months of membership at no extra charge, since the remainder of 2012 is included with your membership for 2013!

FARS is a California 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, so donations and membership dues are tax deductible with the CA Franchise Tax Board and the Internal Revenue Service.

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).

Email Announcements: Members and non-members are encouraged to subscribe to the FARS Announcement list to receive reminders of FARS activities and other news. Browse www.fars.k6ya.org/mail, click on Subscribe/Unsubscribe and follow the instructions under "Subscribing to fars-announce". You may submit announcements to the FARS Announcement at fars-announce@svpal.org. The list is moderated and messages will require approval by the moderator.

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 Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com (also Yahoo)
PO Box 5153 Also available at FARS meetings.
Redwood City, CA 94063 Photos © K6YL unless noted otherwise.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar

Visitors are welcome at all events!

OCTOBER

26 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM

NOVEMBER

1 Board Meeting, Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM

11 [BARC Meeting](#), Los Altos Public Library, 6-9PM

16 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
Third Friday of the month (not 4th Friday)
It's time to vote in the FARS elections!

DECEMBER

6 Board Meeting, Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM

tbd [BARC Meeting](#), Location tbd

16 [ARRL Rookie Roundup CW](#) – Try to get on!

21 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
Ham Radio Gifts for the Holidays – by HRO
Third Friday of the month (not 4th Friday)
It's time to renew your membership!

UPCOMING

1/18 [FARS / PAARA Winter Banquet](#)
Friday 6PM
Michael's at Shoreline, Mountain View
*Save the date!**Over \$1000 in raffle prizes!*

FARS Membership Renewals

Renewing your membership to FARS provides much needed support for your club activities, qualifies you for the **CASH** Wish-You-Were-Here prize awarded at each membership meeting, plus you'll receive a **FARS Relay** to your email each month!

*Have a photo or news to share?
Email your FARS newsletter editor at
Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com.*

RAFFLE PRIZES Upcoming October Meeting

We will have a great selection of Raffle Prizes as well as the CA\$H Wish You Were Here Prize.

1st Prize: Yaesu FT-1900R 2 meter 55w Mobile Rig

2nd Prize: ARRL 2012 Handbook for Radio Amateurs

3rd Prize: ARRL 2012-2013 Repeater Directory

4th Prize: ARRL 2012-2013 Repeater Directory



Wish-You-Were-Here Prize: A CA\$H prize awarded to a member who is present and has paid their 2012 dues. At the October meeting the WYWH prize will be \$5.

PHOTO TIME: September Meeting Raffle Prize Winners

Congratulations to last month's raffle prize winners!

From left to right –

Steve K6OIK was present to collect the \$15 ca\$h Wish-You-Were-Here prize!

Jeff AK6TG won an ARRL Repeater Directory.

Don AE6PM took home the ARRL Handbook.

Babbette K6BWC won the NARCC Repeater Directory.

Estelle AG6FJ smiles at having won the Tigertronics Signalink.

Michael KJ6ZOM was pleased to take home the Hendrick's Scout Regen Receiver Kit (www.qrpkits.com) .



RESULTS

September's Homebrew Contest

Thank you to all of the entries in last month's annual FARS Homebrew Contest. We had an impressive range of projects.

Congratulations to the 4 WINNERS who took home cash prizes! (well, actually they took home checks)

FIRST PLACE **Nimit K6XOX** with his Geiger Counter APRS Robot (*see photo, second from right*)

SECOND PLACE **Rohan KJ6LXV** with his 20 meter Removable Inverted V Antenna that includes an Ed Fong J-Pole in the mast (*see photo, second from left*)

THIRD PLACE **Wilko AG6DK** with both a 40 meter Magnetic Loop Antenna (double loop actually) and a 12 volt Uninterruptable Power Supply for the trunk of his car (*see photo, right*)

FOURTH PLACE **Bob KF6ABC** with 3 projects – a WWV 10 mHz Receiver built from only 28 parts, a Hendrick's Bit X20 Kit, and a DigiKey AVR Butterfly (*see photo, left*)



The countdown begins until next year's Homebrew Contest!

**PHOTO TIME:
Pacificon 2012**

I hope everyone made it out to Pacificon and had a great time. I have several more photos to share but I hope you don't mind that they wait until next month's newsletter when I'm less busy (I just got married last weekend!).

Next month I'll also have some great pics to share from our California QSO Party adventure up to Trinity County. Thanks to numerous FARS members for your q's in this incredible event!

Tower from Pacificon Special Event Station W1AW/6 :



FARS Member Badges

We're ready to take your order online or at the mtg.
Available for pick up at the next club mtg

FARS Relay

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

Please contact Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com

FARS Weekly Net

Thursdays @ 8 PM

N6NFI repeater, 145.23-/100Hz

This net is open to all interested hams.

The purpose of the net is to keep club members informed about club activities; to exchange other club-related info; and to socialize.

9AM Talk Net

Weekdays @ 9 AM

N6NFI repeater, 145.23-/100Hz

This net is open to all interested hams.

This is an informal net that is very popular.

www.9amtalk.net

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%)

www.baears.com – This group holds “Ham Crams” 4 times a year. Pre-registration required, sign up on the website. \$30

- Saturday 1/26, 8 AM @ San Francisco

www.amateur-radio.org – The Sunnyvale VEC holds test sessions on Saturdays often alternating between Sunnyvale and Redwood City. Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations. \$15

- Saturday 11/10, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale
- Saturday 11/17, 10:30 AM @ Redwood City

www.svve.org – The Silicon Valley ARRL VE holds test sessions on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Arrive between 8 AM and 10:30 AM to the Saratoga Fire Station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue. Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations. \$15

- Saturday 11/3
- Saturday 11/17

www.sbara.org – The Tri-City VE Group holds test sessions at Hurricane Electric in Fremont each month, alternating between Saturday morning and Tuesday evening. The address is 48233 Warm Springs Blvd. Walk-ins welcome. \$15

- Saturday 11/10, 9:00 AM
- Tuesday 12/11, 6:30 PM

BAEARS Ham Cram

Next Quarterly Session: Saturday, [Jan. 26th](#)
8 AM
San Francisco, CA
www.baears.com

FARS Elections in November.

Consider being a board member!

FARS Email Notices

Easy to subscribe!
www.k6ya.org/mail

Receive reminders of activities and other news.

Weekly FARS Net

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

Special Event Station

K6H

“Ham Radio Celebrates Hollywood”

Sunday, October 28th

9:00 am to 1:00 pm (1600Z – 2000Z)

**from Stage 9 of the CBS Studio Center facility
in Studio City, California.**

Historic Stage 9 is the home of ABC TV's
“Last Man Standing”, starring Tim Allen.

“Seinfeld”, “Spin City”, “According To Jim”,
“Cane”, “The Cleaner” and “The Defenders”
are also among the shows that have been
shot on the stage.

Detailed Schedule:

<http://www.papasys.com/index.php?pageid=Events>

A special, limited edition QSL card will be issued.

Bay Area Radio Builders Club

“BARC”

A FARS Special Interest Group

Upcoming Meeting:

November 11th
6-9pm

Location:

Los Altos Public Library
13 San Antonio Road, Los Altos

*We are a group of mostly
Amateur Radio operators
who want to gain a
better understanding
of the topics covered in the
General and Extra class tests.
We want to learn electronics,
antenna theory,
kit building, and kit design.*

For more information
on club discussions
and meeting details,
join the Yahoo Group:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ba_radio_builders/

FARS New Membership / Renewal Form

The annual dues for 2013 is \$20. You may renew with this form or online by logging onto the FARS website and then using PayPal. New memberships starting October 1st get up to three extra months of membership at no extra charge, since the remainder of 2012 is included with your membership for 2013.

<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: _____ Cell 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: \$20 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.