

November 2012 Volume 42, Number 11
See you down the log! www.fars.k6ya.org

November Club Meeting

Date: Friday, November 16th, 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)
*We will meet in classroom 31 or 32 this month,
around the corner from the usual gym location.*

Membership Meeting. Our next membership meeting is at 7PM on November 16th. This month's program is **Ham Gifts for the Holidays** presented by our friends of the Sunnyvale Ham Radio Outlet. The HRO staff will update us on the latest gadgets and special deals just in time for the holiday gifting season.



Board Elections will be held during the November 16th membership meeting and FARS members are encouraged to attend this meeting to vote for directors. Our slate of nominations to be elected to the board of directors include:

Mikel Lechner KN6QI → Current President and Chairman
Steve Stearns K6OIK → Current Vice President
Phil Hawkins KA6MZE → Current Radio Officer

Robert Flemate KE6TFU is leaving the board at the end of his term in 2012. Robert is suffering difficulty with his vision, which makes it difficult for him to attend meetings and continue his work on the board. We thank Robert for his many years of service to FARS and wish him the best.

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 \$1400 in raffle prizes for the banquet, so many attendees will go home with a prize. The top prize is an [Elecraft KX3](#). This is a well-respected, full-featured, all-mode HF transceiver covering 160-6 meters. At only 1.5 pounds it features 10W PEP, and has a current draw as low as 150mA. A great rig for portable operation, but still big enough on capability for a home station. Other prizes will be announced on the banquet page as they are determined.

The banquet is always fun and well attended, so don't miss out. We are now taking sign-ups for the banquet in person, by mail (see the form in this newsletter), or online on our website at www.fars.k6ya.org/events/banquet.

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 November 1st get up to two extra months of membership at no extra charge, since the remainder of 2012 is included with your membership for 2013! Sign up now!

Ham Radio Gifts for the Holidays

Presented by Jon K6WV and the Staff of
the "Candy Store"

Oh, I mean
the Sunnyvale Ham Radio Outlet. :-)

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.

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 November 1st get up to two 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!

NOVEMBER

- 16 [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 vote in the FARS elections!

DECEMBER

- 12 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
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!**\$1400 in raffle prizes incl an Elecraft KX3!*
- 2/22 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
3/22 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
4/26 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM

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 November 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-60R 2m/440 HT

2nd Prize: Powerwerx BT-Junior Battery Tender

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 November meeting the WYWH prize will be \$10.

PHOTO TIME: October Meeting Raffle Prize Winners

Congratulations to last month's raffle prize winners!

From left to right –

Peter AF6DS took home the Clamping System with Magnification.

Don KG6GLU and **Ray W6FQY** won new ARRL Repeater Directories.

Clark KE6KXO won the ARRL 2012 Handbook for Radio Amateurs.

Dave W6DLF scored a new radio! Congrats on winning a Yaesu FT-1900R 2m 55w mobile rig.

Unfortunately **Scott Overstreet N6NXI** was not present to collect the \$5 CA\$H Wish-You-Were-Here prize. Therefore next month this WYWH prize will increase to \$10.

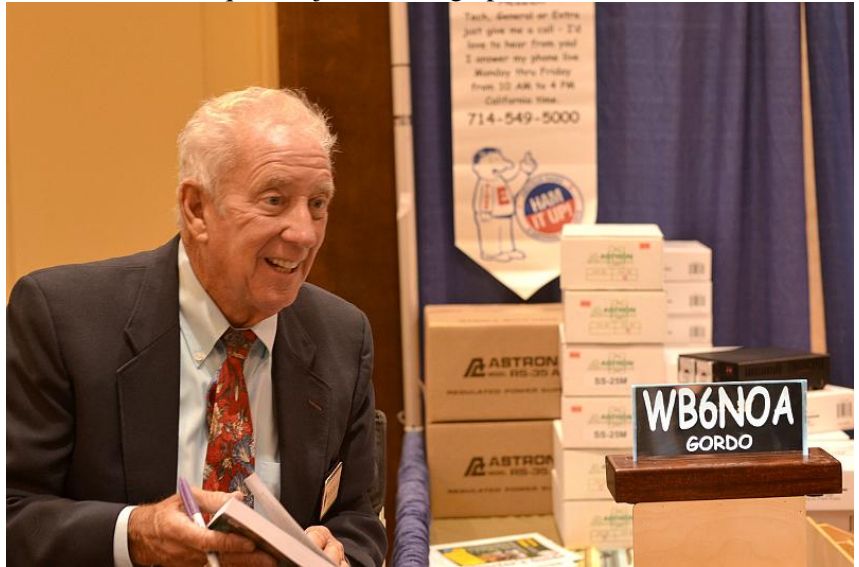


REPORT: Pacificon 2012

We are incredibly lucky to have such an amazing amateur radio convention so close to home. I hope everyone was able to enjoy it, whether it was the swap meet, seminars, vendor tables, banquet, or just catching up with friends.



Astronaut Lee Morin KF5DDB (photo © AF6DS)

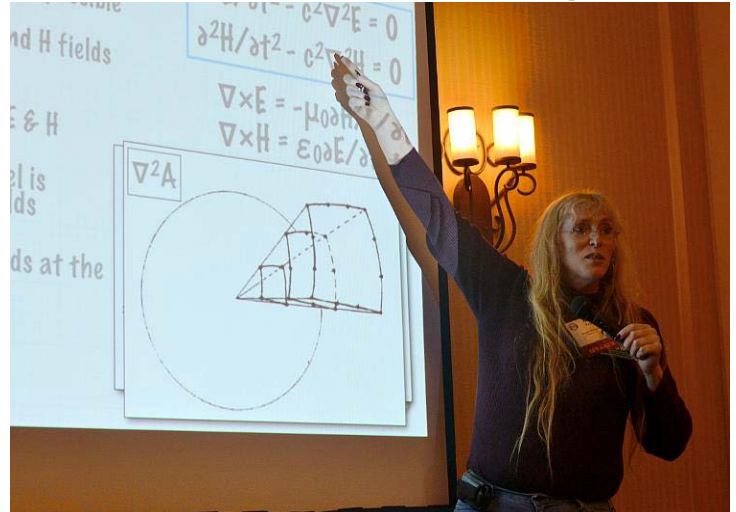


Well known ham Gordon West WB6NOA.

(photo © AF6DS)



Dave AA6XV at the Marine Radio Historical Society stn.



Kristen K6WX teaches Maxwell's equations. (photo © AF6DS)



Pacificon Special Event Station W1AW/6 draws a crowd.



Late Saturday evening soldering fun with the QRP club.

Pacificon 2012 continued:

The Santa Clara Marriott Hotel was bursting with amateur radio on this second weekend in October, intermingled with only the occasional business meeting and group of tourists who initially had no idea what was going on. I overheard a few conversations in the hotel restaurant where hams were working on possible future converts!



An impressive setup for satellite tracking.



AMSAT had a significant presence, and the ISS was a confirmed qso.



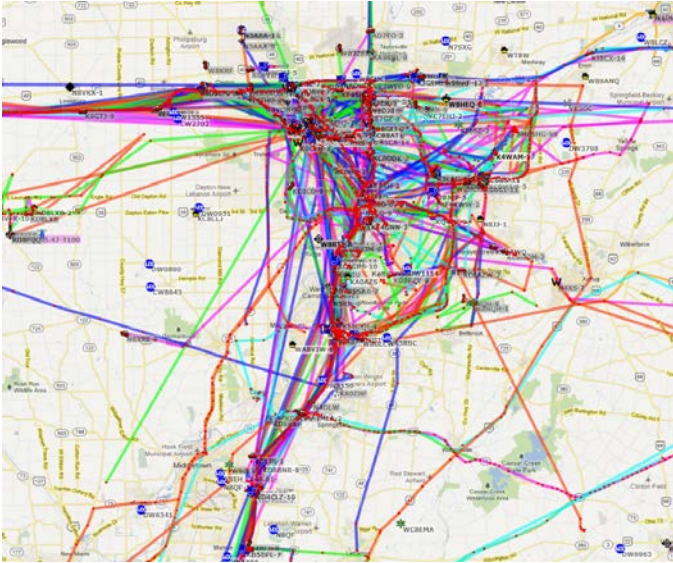
Friday night of Pacificon was the ½ hour QRP “Pacificon Sprint” on 10m, and the goal was to make as many contacts as possible on both phone and cw. Rick N6DQ and I brought an Icom IC-746 Pro with us, and used an Emtech ZM-2 QRP antenna tuner (photo above) out on the balcony with 8-1/2 foot wires on each side hanging over the railing (dipole configuration). Contacts were made with people in other hotel rooms, out in the parking lot, at the W1AW/6 special event station, mobile, and also at home. What a fun little event. Throughout the rest of the weekend we also enjoyed working W1AW/6 on 20m and 40m using the same configuration but adding additional wire.



U never know what you’ll find at the swap meet. Rick N6DQ and I bought these tubes! Look where the tubes ended up!

**PHOTO TIME:
APRS**

In 2012 Dayton was no longer an ARRL National Convention as it was switched to Pacificon, but Dayton still drew a huge crowd. I took the following APRS screen shot at 1:10pm on May 18th, which was 4:10pm the Friday afternoon of the big Dayton convention weekend. It shows 24 hours of data. Wow!



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 11/17, 10:30 AM @ Redwood City
- Saturday 12/8, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale

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 11/17
- Saturday 12/1

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

- Tuesday 12/11, 6:30 PM
- Saturday 1/12, 9:00 AM

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

Bay Area Radio Builders Club

“BARC”

A FARS Special Interest Group

*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 / PAARA *Winter Banquet 2013*

Friday, January 18th, 6PM

Save the date!

Location:
Michael's at Shoreline
Mountain View

Open to members and guests.

\$1400 of **Raffle Prizes**,
including an Elecraft KX3!



Sign ups are open now!

By mail (form on page 9).

In person at the Nov. or Dec. meeting.

Or on the FARS website.

www.fars.k6ya.org/events/banquet

That KX3 is calling your name!

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 November 1st get up to two 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.

FARS / PAARA 2013 WINTER BANQUET SIGNUP FORM

January 18th, 2013 at Michaels Restaurant at Shoreline

2960 North Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, CA

6pm Open Bar (no host) * 7pm Dinner * 8pm Presentation * 9pm Announcements & Raffle

Deadline for signups for the banquet is 12 noon on January 14th, 2013. Mail no later than January 10th.

Please note you do not need to be a member of FARS or PAARA to attend this event.

<u>Name & Call Sign</u>	<u>Meal Choice</u>	<u>\$ Amount \$</u>
You _____	_____	_____
Email _____		
Guest1 _____	_____	_____
Guest2 _____	_____	_____
Guest3 _____	_____	_____
Guest4 _____	_____	_____
	Membership Dues	_____
	Total	_____

You may renew your FARS membership for 2013 or become a FARS member at the same time you sign up for the banquet by including a [membership form](#) and \$20 dues [\$10 for youth] with your banquet sign up.

Send your check payable to FARS, to:

FARS
PO Box 112551
Campbell, CA 95011-2551

Dinner Selections:

Roast Prime Rib of Beef \$45
Broiled Salmon, Lemon Beurre Blanc \$38
Breast of Chicken, Florentine \$32
Vegetarian Brochette w/ Wild Rice \$29

\$1400 in Raffle Prizes!

*Including an Elecraft KX3 160-6m transceiver -
Well-respected, full-featured, all-mode, 10W PEP, weighing only 1.5 lbs.*

Banquet Sign-Up – *Must be received by noon on Jan. 14th*

Paper Sign-up – You may print and complete the above form, and mail along with your check for payment. All mailed sign-ups should be posted by Thursday, January 10th to arrive in time. Last minute sign-ups should use the online form. You may also bring your form and payment to the November or December FARS meetings.

On-line Sign-up – You must logon to the FARS website and have a credit card or PayPal account to make your payment. It's easy to register for a logon to the FARS website if you have an email address. All online payments are handled by PayPal. Online sign-ups must be completed and paid by noon on Monday, January 14th, 2013.

WEBSITE: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/banquet>