

MARCH CLUB MEETING

When & Where

Date: Friday, March 22nd, 2013

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

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

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



We will have a great selection of Raffle Prizes as well as the CASH Wish-You-Were-Here Prize.

1st Prize: Diamond NR 770HB 2 meter 440 Mobile Antenna with MFJ-335BS 5" Hiflux Mag Mount

2nd Prize: Powerwerx HY4300 Digital Multimeter

3rd Prize: Daiwa CS-201 Two Position Coax Switch

4th Prize: MFJ-700B 4 Snap-on RFI Chokes

5th Prize: ARRL 2012-2013 Repeater Directory

Wish-You-Were-Here Prize: A **CASH prize** awarded to a member who is present and has paid their 2013 dues.



Presentation

**Introduction to
Microwave Amateur Radio:
DXing on the One-Inch Band (10 GHz)**

Mike Lavelle, K6ML

Mike will speak about propagation, local activity, building your own rig, contesting, mountain topping and roving on our microwave bands. He will also bring in a 10 GHz "rover" rig for show and tell. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about microwave communications and equipment.

Mike K6ML is currently VP of a local microwave ham club, which meets on the first Thursday of the month in Santa Clara. The club is starting a series of workshops to help newcomers and veteran microwave operators to build 10 and 24 GHz radios. If you are interested, you can find more info on the Home, Meeting and Membership pages of this website: www.50mhzandup.org.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

www.fars.k6va.org/events/calendar

Visitors are welcome at all FARS events!

MARCH

- 22 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
Introduction to Microwave Amateur Radio – by Mike Lavelle K6ML
- 23 [Radiofest Monterey Bay 2013](#), Del Rey Oaks, CA, 8AM to 5PM
ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention
See page 4 for details

APRIL

- 10 Board Meeting, Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM
- 13 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA, 5AM
- 14 [BARC Meeting](#)
Bay Area Radio Builders Club
- 19-21 [International DX Convention](#), Visalia, CA
See page 6 for details
- 21 [ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB](#) – Try to get on the air!
See page 5 for details
- 26 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
My First DXpedition: 3D2C Conway Reef 2012 – by George N6NK



MAY

- 8 Board Meeting, Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM
- 11 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA, 5AM
- 12 [BARC Meeting](#)
Bay Area Radio Builders Club
- 17-19 [Dayton Hamvention](#), Dayton, Ohio
Nearly 25,000 attended last year!
- 24 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM

UPCOMING

- 6/22 [Amateur Radio Field Day 2013](#), Los Altos, CA, 11AM
Details to come soon!

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, article, or operating news to share?

Email your FARS newsletter editor at Joanna.K6YL@gmail.com or K6YL@ARRL.net.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Mikel KN6QI

Membership Meeting. Our next membership meeting on March 22nd and our program is "Introduction to Microwave Amateur Radio: DXing on the One-Inch Band (10 GHz)" with Mike Lavelle, K6ML. Mr. Lavelle speaks about propagation, local activity, building your own rig, contesting, mountain topping and roving on our microwave bands. He will also bring in a 10 GHz "rover" rig for show and tell. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about microwave communications and equipment.

Next month's program on April 26th is "My First DXpedition: 3D2C Conway Reef 2012" with George Williams, N6NK.



Board of Directors. We still have a couple of openings on the FARS Board of Directors. If you are interested in getting more involved in the activities of FARS you might consider joining our board. The board has the important functions of directing and organizing the activities of the organization. This is your chance to develop leadership skills and influence how things are run. If you are interested, talk to me or any board member to find out more.

Field Day is coming up the weekend of June 22-23 and we need volunteers to plan, organize and operate Field Day. This is a big even for FARS and we need a big showing from the membership to make it happen. So mark your calendars, and volunteer to helpout with one of our stations at Field Day this year. It's always a great event, a lot of fun, and don't forget the BBQ on Saturday.

Time to Renew Your Membership. We are into March, so it's past time for you to renew you membership if you have not already done so.

de Mikel KN6QI

PHOTO TIME: February Meeting Raffle Prize Winners

Congratulations to last month's raffle prize winners!

From left to right in the photo— Mikel KN6QI, Joanna K6YL, Steve K6OIK



RADIOFEST MONTEREY BAY 2013

**Saturday, March 23rd
8 AM to 5 PM**

An ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention

Sponsored by the Naval Postgraduate School Amateur Radio club



LOCATION:

Monterey Moose Family Center
555 Canyon Del Rey (HWY 218)
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940

Talk-in: 146.970- pl 94.8

ADMISSION IS FREE!

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH AT A GREAT PRICE

COMMERCIAL VENDOR BOOTHS

HAM RADIO DEMOS

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SWAP MEET

PARACHUTE MOBILE – INCLUDING CONTACTS WITH THE JUMPERS

LICENSE EXAMS (3 PM)

FANTASTIC SPEAKERS

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

EMERGENCY VEHICLE DEMONSTRATIONS

RAFFLE PRIZES

ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP 2013:

Let's Get On The Air!

The objective of a [Rookie Roundup](#) is for newly licensed operators to experience competitive Amateur Radio. Experienced operators are also strongly encouraged to participate in order to help new operators – either on the air or in person.

This six-hour event is held three times per year – once each in Phone, RTTY and CW.

Phone is up next on Sunday, April 21st!
1800 – 2359 UTC

During this event a “Rookie” will be defined as a ham first licensed any time in 2013, 2012 or 2011.

Full Details: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Work as many stations as you can in as many different states, Canadian provinces, and Mexican districts as possible using the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter HF bands.
(Rookies can contact both Rookies and non-Rookies for points)

Suggested Frequencies for Phone: 3.850, 7.225, 14.240, 21.325, and 28.400 MHz
Maximum Power: 100 watts transmitter power out

INITIATING A CONTACT:

Call “[CQ Rookie Roundup](#)” or answer someone else calling “CQ Rookie Roundup”

THE EXCHANGE:

Call sign of station worked
Your call sign
Your first name

Two-digit number of the year first licensed (also called a “check”)
State / Canadian Province / Mexican Call Area / DX

Example:
KK6XXX de K6YL Joanna 09 CA

SCORING:

2 points for a completed QSO between Rookie stations.
1 point for a completed QSO between a Rookie and a Non-Rookie station.

There are **70 POSSIBLE MULTIPLIERS** for your score:

US States (50) + District of Columbia + Canadian Provinces (13) + Mexican Call Areas (5) + One Generic DX

Good luck!

Contesting is one of the great activities of Amateur Radio. It boosts your technical knowledge and improves your radio operating skills – helping make you a better Amateur.

IDXC 2013 64TH Annual International DX Convention

**April 19-21, 2013
Visalia, CA**



If you've never made it to this convention you're missing out!

Website: <http://www.dxconvention.com/>

Program Schedule: <http://www.dxconvention.com/pages/program.html>

Location: *Bigger & better!* The convention has moved from the Visalia Holiday Inn to the [Visalia Convention Center](#).

The 64th Annual International DX Convention sponsored by the Northern California DX Club will be held at the Visalia Conference Center in downtown Visalia, California from April 19-21, 2013. We are excited about this change. The beautiful Visalia Convention Center, will provide us with many advantages for the 2013 meeting. The Convention Center has 17 meeting rooms and 2 Board Rooms, which will allow us to put together several concurrent presentations. The Center can easily handle 80 to 100 Vendors in their Exhibit Hall, as well as a banquet for 1,000 attendees.

- Exhibitors
- Technical Sessions
- DX Academy
- Contest Academy
- Friday Night Dinners
- Special Event Station N6V
- Saturday BBQ Lunch
- Saturday Night Banquet
- Sunday Breakfast



***** Over \$50,000 in Major Prizes! *****

Complete Elecraft K-Line: K3 + P3 + KPA500 (Grand Prize)

Yaesu FT-950D

Alpha 4040 Auto-Tuner

Kenwood TS-590S

Icom IC-7000 (qty 2)

Yaesu FT-450D (qty 2)

Yaesu VX3R

Icom IC-7600

Flex Radio 6700 SmartSDR Transceiver

Yaesu FT-950D

Yaesu FTDX-3000

Kenwood TS-480HX

US Tower MA-40 Tubular Tower

Icom IC-2300

Icom IC-718



FARS Member Badges

Place your order online or at the meeting.
Available for pick up at the next club mtg

The next **Electronics Flea Market:**
April 13th @ DeAnza College
www.electronicfleamarket.com

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/

Amateur Radio Field Day 2013

Saturday, June 22nd
to
Sunday, June 23rd

*FARS will once again be set up
operation on the Maryknoll
Residence soccer field in the
hills of Los Altos, so
SAVE THE DATE!*

WANTED

**Captain
for the
Field Day
VHF / Satellite
Station**

*Just one satellite QSO earns FARS
a bonus of 100 points!*

Email Phil KA6MZE
at sputnik@pacbell.net

HAM RADIO NETS – Getting On The Air

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. Check out www.9amtalk.net for more information.

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%)

BAEARS (Bay Area Educational Radio Society) Crams & Exams, www.baears.com –

This group holds “Ham Crams” 4 times a year for Tech and General licenses (Amateur Extra test available but no cram). A guided study consisting of six 45-minute reading periods, with breaks and lunch. They have a high success rate!
Pre-registration required, sign up on the website. \$30

- Saturday 4/20, 8 AM @ Los Altos Hills (exam starts at 4 PM)

Sunnyvale VEC Exams, www.amateur-radio.org –

Holds test sessions on Saturdays often alternating between Sunnyvale and Redwood City.
Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations. \$15

- Saturday 4/13, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale
- Saturday 4/20, 10:30 AM @ Redwood City
- Saturday 5/11, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale
- Saturday 5/18, 10:30 AM @ Redwood City



Silicon Valley ARRL VE Exams, www.svve.org –

Holds test sessions on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Arrive between 8 AM and 10:00 AM to the Saratoga Fire Station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue (in downtown Saratoga).

Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations. \$15

- Saturday 4/6
- Saturday 4/20
- Saturday 5/4
- Saturday 5/18

Tri-City VE Group Exams, www.sbara.org – 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 4/9, 6:30 PM
- Saturday 5/11, 9 AM
- Tuesday 6/11, 6:30 PM
- Saturday 7/13, 9 AM

CURRENT US AMATEUR RADIO BAND PLAN: http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Hambands_color.pdf

Effective March 5, 2012

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:	(open)
Relay Newsletter Editor:	Joanna Dilley K6YL
FARS Board:	Charlie Morrin KI6FX Y
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 CA\$H 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.

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.

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)

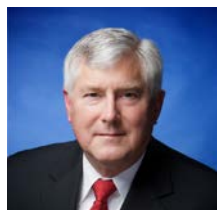
PO Box 5153, Redwood City, CA 94063

Also available at FARS meetings.

Photos © K6YL unless noted otherwise.



Mikel KN6QI



Steve K6OIK



Dick N6ATD



Phil KA6MZE



Joanna K6YL



Charlie KI6FX Y

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. <https://www.fars.k6ya.org/membership> Membership runs from January 1 to December 31. New membership applications accepted later in the year may have their dues prorated (see dues schedule).

Date: _____

Name: _____

Callsign: _____ Class: _____

Class (eg Technician, General): _____ ARRL Member? _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Ph: _____

Special topics of interest / suggestions for club meeting speakers:

Optional FARS Badge -- Please include \$9 if desired.

First Name for Badge: _____ Select: Clip / Magnet / Pin

Send your check payable to FARS, to:

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



DIRECTIONS TO FARS MEETINGS:

Visitors are always welcome.

Meetings are held at the Covington Elementary School 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.

From Interstate 280 – Take the El Monte exit Northeast. Cross Foothill Expressway. * At the first traffic light turn right on Covington. 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 – Turn Northeast onto El Monte, then follow directions as above at the *.

From US101 or El Camino – Take San Antonio Road west (to Foothill Expressway), then follow directions as above at the *.

TALK-IN via the [N6NFI](#) repeater (145.230-; 100Hz PL) or the [W6ASH](#) repeater (145.27-; 100Hz PL).