

JUNE CLUB MEETING

When & Where

Date: Friday, June 14th, 2013

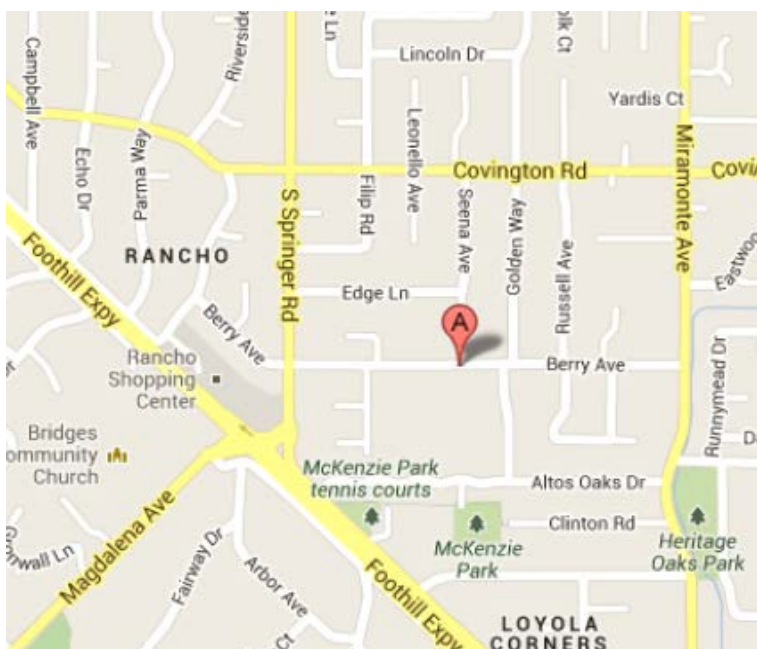
Time: Socializing at 7PM
Meeting starts at 7:30PM

Place: Loyola School, 770 Berry Ave, Los Altos
(near Foothill Expressway and Springer / Magdalena)
**** NEW LOCATION FOR THIS MONTH ONLY ****
See enlarged map on the next page...

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.



Presentation

Ham Radio Meets Mother Nature

Dave Flack, W6DLF

Dave will show and tell how he and his FARS pals, Dave W6VYC and Hiro AH6CY, go on QRPeditions around the Bay, including Death Valley and the California Coast.



Dave will also talk about radio communication support at the recent Henry Coe Backcountry Weekend event in April where he was ably assisted by Steve K6OIK, Mikel KN6QI, Daniel KJ6SEE, and Dave W6VYC.

Raffle Prizes



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

1st Prize: Yaesu FT-1900R
2 Meter 55 Watt Mobile Radio

2nd Prize: MFJ-1724B
2M/440 Duo-Band Mobile Antenna

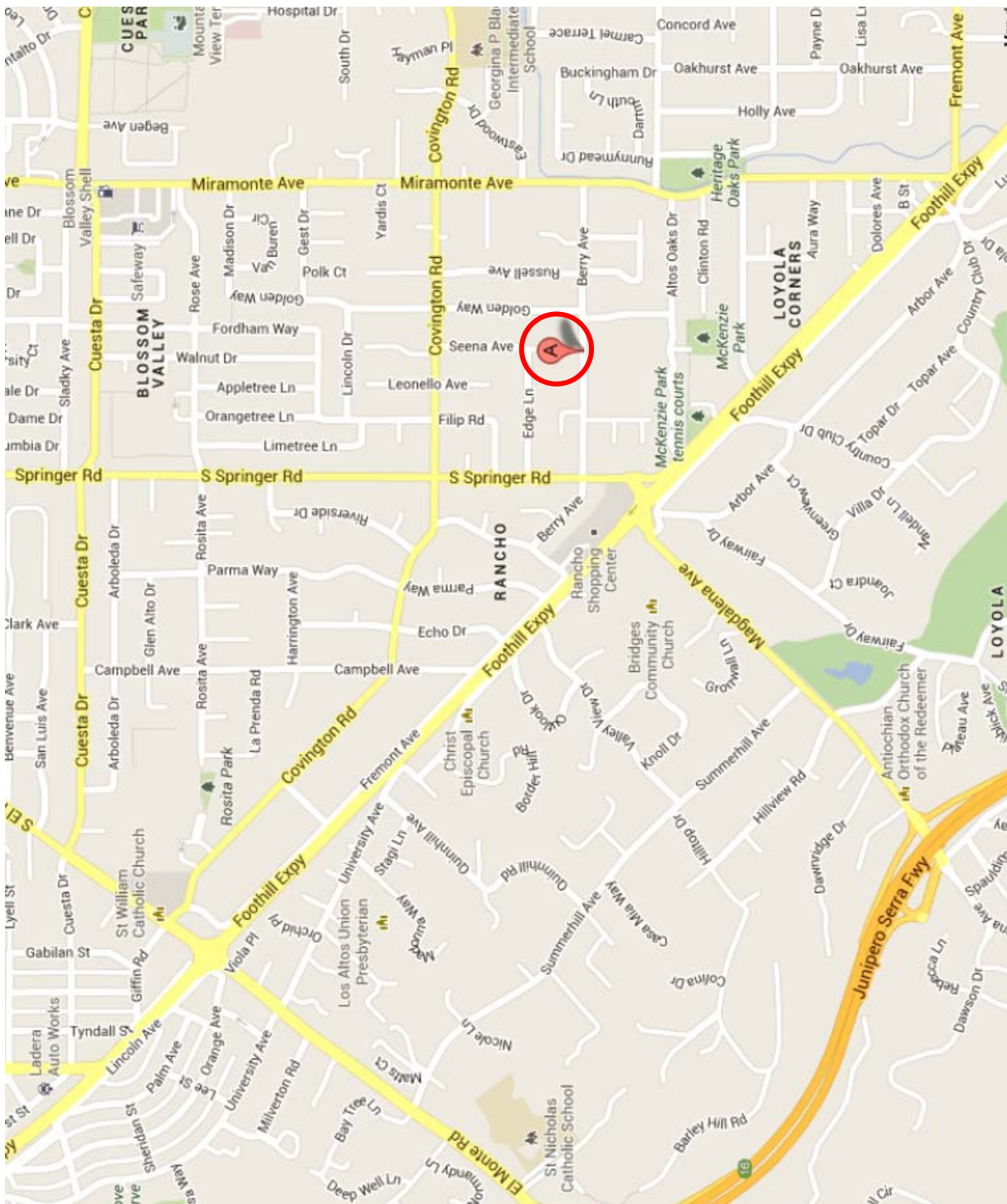
3rd Prize: 2013 ARRL Repeater Directory

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

JUNE MEETING LOCATION

IMPORTANT – For this month only the location has moved from Covington School to Loyola School.

Loyola School, 770 Berry Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024



From I-280: Take Magdalena Avenue exist and head north.
Cross Foothill Expressway then take Springer Road north.
Make a right turn on Berry Avenue.
Look for the school on the right about ¼ mile down Berry.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

www.fars.k6va.org/events/calendar

Visitors are welcome at all FARS events!

JUNE

- 14 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 21-23 ***** FIELD DAY 2013 *****, Maryknoll Soccer Field, Los Altos, CA
This is the big annual event!
It's Amateur Radio Field Day across the country!
Setup Friday the 21st
Operating Saturday 11AM to Sunday 11AM
Potluck dinner Saturday evening
You're invited to JOIN US!
Details on pages 5-8

JULY

- 10 FARS Board Meeting, Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM
- 13 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA, 5AM
- 14 [BARC Meeting](#), Los Altos Public Library, 6PM
Bay Area Radio Builders Club
- 26 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
Don Anastasia AA6W presents SATELLITE TRACKING

UPCOMING

- 8/10 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA, 5AM
- 8/23 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 9/14 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA, 5AM
SPONSORED BY FARS – SAVE THE DATE
- 9/27 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 10/5 [California QSO Party 2013](#), Los Altos, CA, 11AM
An excellent opportunity to get on the air! *Details at www.cqp.org*
- 10/12 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA, 5AM
- 10/25 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 11/22 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 12/20 [FARS Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM

FARS Membership

Joining FARS
and
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!

Join us!

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 is on June 14th and our program is "Ham Radio in Nature" with Dave Flack, W6DLC. Dave will talk about taking amateur radio with you when you go camping. Note this meeting is earlier in the month due to Field Day on the 22nd and 23rd of June. Also note the meeting location has moved to Loyola Elementary School, 770 Berry Avenue, Los Altos. This is about one mile from the usual meeting location at 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. Directions to be posted on the FARS website meeting page (and they're also included on page 2 of this newsletter).



Field Day is coming up the weekend of June 21-23 and we need volunteers to plan, organize and operate Field Day. This is a big event for FARS and we need a big showing from the membership to make it happen.

We are now signing up operators and volunteers for Field Day. You can sign up at the next meeting or you have the ability to sign up online at the FARS website at www.k6ya.org/events/fieldday. We need help setting up the site Friday morning and afternoon on June 21st, and then takedown on Sunday afternoon June 23rd. Of course there will be plenty of opportunities to operate one or more of the stations, so be sure to sign up for that.

Field Day is always a great event, a lot of fun, and don't forget the BBQ on Saturday. Sign up so we know how much food to bring, and also try to bring a side dish to share. Mark your calendar!

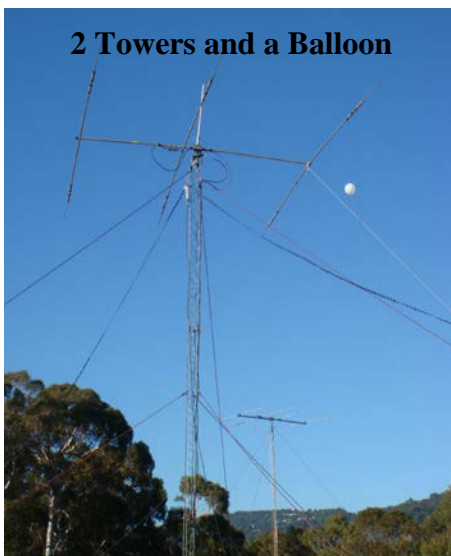
Volunteers Needed. We need a couple of people to help out on the board of directors for FARS. It only requires one evening a month to participate, so it's not hard to do. No experience is required, just a willingness to help out. Contact myself if you are interested. (kn6qi at arrl.net)

Tax Deductible! 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 Internal Revenue Service. Note that donations to our raffle are also considered gifts, so they are generally deductible as well. Consult your tax advisor for details.

Email Notices. Subscribe to the FARS Announcement list (www.k6ya.org/mail) to receive reminders of FARS activities and other news.

de Mikel KN6QI

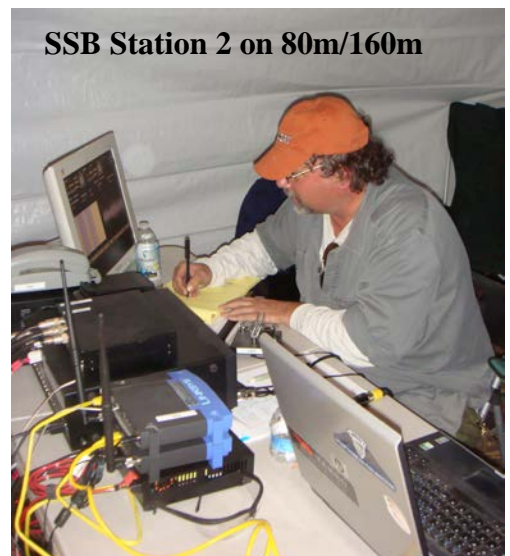
PHOTO TIME: FARS FIELD DAY 2012



2 Towers and a Balloon



SSB Station 1 on 15/20m



SSB Station 2 on 80m/160m

FIELD DAY IS HERE!

You're invited to join:

FARS Field Day 2013

June 21st to 23rd

What better way to spend Field Day than on an actual field! :-)

The soccer field at the Maryknoll Residence in Los Altos will become our operation headquarters for this annual event. **Located only minutes from the intersection of 280 and Foothill**, the site has a nice bit of elevation and a spectacular view looking down over the Bay Area.

We'll meet at Maryknoll at 11am on Friday, June 21st to start putting the stations together. ***Your help on Friday would be greatly appreciated for setup!*** Directions on the next couple pages. It's quite a sight to see the towers being raised! Especially when you get to do the little dance while holding one of the guy lines as each tower is brought vertical, ha! Come on out!

Operating will be a blast this year. The qso's will continue for 24 hours starting Saturday at 11am. FARS will be entered in the **3A category**, with "3" representing the number of counted transmitters (we get freebie transmitters as well) and "A" representing our power class. For power FARS will be pulling from multiple generators, and we're also hoping for a stint on solar panel. This will be a true test of operating "out in the field" as is one of the primary goals of this event.

What: Amateur Radio Field Day 2013
Who: FARS & Guests, plus hams all over the USA and Canada
When: **Friday June 21st through Sunday June 23rd**
Setup: Friday 11am
Operate: **Saturday 11am to Sunday 11am**
BBQ: Saturday around **5:30pm**
Takedown: Sunday 10am to approx. 2pm



Signing up online is easy!

Link: www.fars.k6ya.org/events/fieldday

You can also sign up at the FARS meeting on Friday, June 14th.

Our goal is to have fun!

It does not matter how many qso's you make.

FARS STATION LIST FOR FIELD DAY

• GOTA Get-On-The-Air Station

- For non-hams (*bring your friends and family!*), for newly licensed hams with no HF experience (*this is a great opportunity!*), as well as for hams who have only a little HF experience (*check with Dave W6DLF to see if you qualify*)
- A coach / control operator will be available at all times
- HF bands

• HF 20/40m SSB Station

- HF bands, primarily 20m and 40m

• CW / Digital Station

- HF bands from 10-80m
- Morse code, RTTY and PSK

• HF 80/160m SSB Station

- HF bands 80m and 160m
- Transmit via a high-flying vertical antenna lifted by a large helium balloon!
- Receive via an awesome you've got-to-see-this 300 foot Beverage antenna!

• VHF / Satellite Station

- Operation on 6m, 2m and 70cm

WHAT IS FIELD DAY?

From the ARRL

www.arrl.org/field-day



Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

***** Interested In Operating at FARS? *****

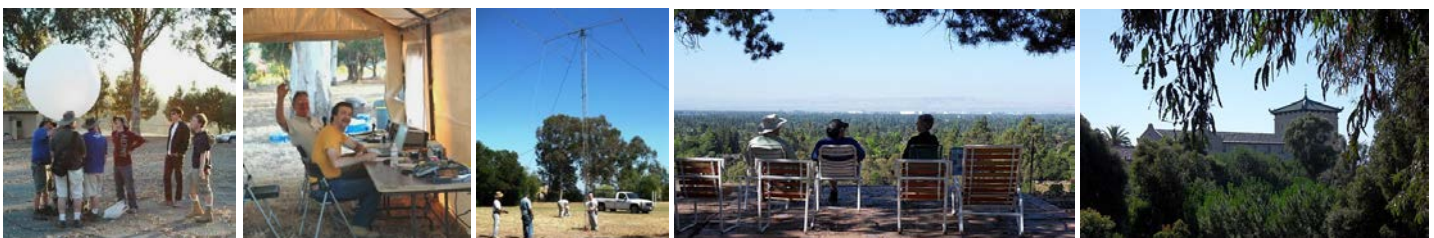
FARS has open operating positions for phone, CW, and digital (RTTY, PSK31).

Sign up to gain experience and have fun working the radios, picking out call signs, and logging the contacts!

The exchange is fairly easy:

“K6YA 3 Alpha Santa Clara Valley”

(where 3 Alpha is our entry category – 3 for # of counted transmitters and A for power)



WHAT IS THE FIELD DAY “GOTA STATION” ?

A BIT OF CLARIFICATION

We have a station for every type of operator!
It doesn't even matter if you're not licensed!

“GOTA” = Get On The Air

Calling out to the following to
come operate the GOTA
Station at FARS!

Any person
licensed since the
previous year's
Field Day,
regardless of
license class!

Any person
who is **non-licensed**
(you'll be trained and
supervised by a
control operator)

A ham who is
generally inactive on HF,
regardless of license
class or year of license.

Questions? Feel free to contact the
GOTA Station Captain –
Dave Flack W6DLF – W6DLF@arrl.net

The GOTA station will be using an Icom IC-756PRO3
(picture at right).

With a useful spectrum scope display, and buttons instead of menus,
you'll find this is a very friendly radio to operate.



ADDITIONAL FIELD DAY DETAILS

Field Day 2013 is almost upon us. Take this opportunity to get on the air in a huge event without the pressure of a contest. Bring your friends and introduce them to Amateur Radio and a chance to experience it first-hand.

OBJECTIVE:

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions... and to have fun!

OFFICIAL START TIME:

Saturday, June 22nd at 11 AM

FARS LOCATION:

The Maryknoll Residence in Los Altos (on the soccer field)
23000 Cristo Rey Drive, Los Altos, CA
(near Rancho San Antonio Park).

This is the same Field Day site that FARS has used in years past.
GPS coordinates 37°19.962' N by 122°04.919' W



DIRECTIONS:

- Take Interstate 280 towards the Los Altos / Mountain View border.
- Exit onto Foothill Expressway and head south (~1/4 mile) following signs to Rancho San Antonio.
- Turn RIGHT onto Cristo Rey Drive (first light).
- Follow Cristo Rey Drive until you reach a traffic circle (~3/4 mile).
- Take the SECOND EXIT from the circle marked with a small brown sign that says Park.
This is the continuation of Cristo Rey Drive
- Go shortly past Rancho San Antonio Park entrance (on the left) and then turn RIGHT into the Maryknoll (private) driveway.
- Pass through the gate, take an immediate RIGHT into the paved area, and park next to the Eucalyptus trees



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:**

July 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.*

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month, 6pm

Location: Los Altos Public Library

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*

JOIN US!



Interested in volunteering
and/or operating?

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 7/13, 8 AM @ Redwood City (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 6/15, 10:30 AM @ Redwood City
- Saturday 7/13, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale
- Saturday 7/20, 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 6/15
- Saturday 7/6
- Saturday 7/20

Tri-City VE Group Exams, http://www.sbara.org/tricity_ve.html –

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 6/11, 6:30 PM
- Saturday 7/13, 9 AM
- Tuesday 8/13, 6:30 PM
- Saturday 9/14, 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 KI6FXY (open) ←
K6YA Trustee:	Phil Hawkins KA6MZE

**One more
volunteer
would be
much
appreciated!**

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 KI6FXY

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).

Prorated Dues for New Members April to June: \$15

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).