

## May Club Meeting

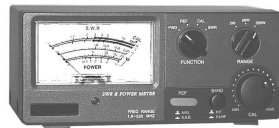
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2009

**Time:** Socializing at 7 pm, Meeting at 7:30

**Place:** Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos

**Topic:** To Be Announced

**Raffle Prizes:** FARS will have two raffle prizes at this meeting. First Prize: MFJ-872 SWR- Power Meter covers 1.8 to 200 MHz, Average and Peak Power up to 200



Watts. Second Prize: Maha-MH-C800S 8 cell SmartCharger. It includes 8 Imedion 2100 mAh long hold time (85% charge for a year)

batteries. Pictures from Manufacturers' websites (<http://www.mfjenterprises.com/> and [www.mahaenergy.com](http://www.mahaenergy.com/)).

The club offers refreshments (great coffee, great cookies) and technical advice at the meeting: Bring your questions for Dr. Know-It-All and get great answers. Be sure to attend for an enjoyable evening.

**Pre-Meeting Dinner:** There is a pre-meeting dinner at 6:00 pm for those who would like to attend. We meet at the Beausejour Restaurant, 170 State St., Los Altos. There are Great Early Bird specials.

## April Meeting Report

Mikel Lechner, KN6QI, talked about "Keyboarding in HF" (posted at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/docs/digital>). There are many keyboarding modes: PSK31, PSK63, PSK125, MFSK16/8/32, RTTY and more. You need a SSB HF transceiver, an interface cable, a computer with a sound card, and software (which can be found for free on the internet). Mikel built his own interface cable that can work with most any computer. The interface components were placed in the connector housing. There are two circuits: the sound interface and the radio PTT control. Mikel uses the Hamscope software. Check [www.fars.k6ya.org/docs/links](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/docs/links) for useful links.



**Mikel Lechner, KN6QI**  
**April Speaker**



**Jeff, Keith, Doña**  
**Raffle Winners**

There were four prizes at the April meeting. The first prize was a Yaesu VX-150/83B 2-meter 5 watt handheld, which was won by Keith Remillong, KG6ZJI. Jeff Shimbo, AK6TG, took home the two tickets to the Maker Faire. Doña Kerns, KI6DAR, won the MFJ-392B Headphones. The 2009 NARCC Northern California Repeater Directory was also won by Keith, KG6ZJI. The Wish You Were Here number for Don, KC6QVT, was chosen. Unfortunately, Don was not present to claim the prize.

## President's Corner



**Membership Meeting.** Our next regular membership meeting is Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm. More details and directions to the meeting are available at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/meeting>.

**Flea Market & Volunteers.** The next Electronics Flea Market is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> and hosted by Silicon Valley Emergency Communications.

Thank go to Gerry K6TXD for running the flea market for FARS last month. He stepped up to take on this important fundraising event. Thanks also to all members who volunteered their time to organize and work the market.

**Am-Tech Day.** The next Amateur Radio Technology Day is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>. We are into our fifth year of Am-Tech Day at SLAC. There is always a lot of activity and interesting programs, so be sure to check it out.

At the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Am-Tech, Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG, talked about "Demystifying Radio Control Interfaces." Don't miss the June program. Check the web site ([www.fars.k6ya.org/amtechday/](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/amtechday/)) or the email list ([www.fars.k6ya.org/mail/](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/mail/)) for the date and program information.

**Maker Faire** (<http://www.fars.k6ya.org/makerfaire>): FARS and other HAM clubs are scheduled to be at Maker Faire at the San Mateo County Expo Center on May 30 & 31. Maker Faire is for "makers" – people make things from sublime to amazing. This is a great crowd to get interested in amateur radio. We have a booth and will present different aspects of amateur radio.

Contact Michael Pechner, [KI6QNZ](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/makerfaire) ([ki6qnz@arrl.net](mailto:ki6qnz@arrl.net)) for more information about ham radio at Maker Faire. Even if you are not working the show, come on down to check it out.

**Amateur Radio Field Day** is just a month away on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers for this event and will have sign up sheets at the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Field Day is our biggest operating day of the year. We will have 5 radio stations set up to operate over weekend, so we need operators to keep those stations on the air. We will also need volunteers to set up and take down the stations. Members are encouraged to participate in all aspects of Field Day. This is also a good opportunity to bring your friends to experience ham radio and get a chance to operate our GOTA station.

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

- de Mikel, KN6QI

## Upcoming Events

- May 22 7:00 PM, [Club meeting](#), Covington School
- May 30 Ham Radio [Maker Faire](#)
- Jun 4 7:30 PM, Board Mtg at the Los Altos Town Crier
- Jun 6 8 AM to 9 PM, [Am-Tech Day](#), SLAC NAL
- Jun 13 [Electronics Flea Market](#) hosted by [SVECS](#)
- Jun 19 7:00 PM, [Club meeting](#), Covington School
- Jun 27-28 ARRL Field Day
- Thursdays 8:00 PM, FARS net, 145.230(-), 100 Hz PL

See more events, [FARS Calendar](http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar) <<http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar>>

## CLUB INFORMATION

President:	Mikel Lechner, KN6QI
Vice President:	Steve Stearns, K6OIK
Treasurer:	David Cooper K6WA
Secretary:	
Radio Officer:	Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE
Training Officer:	Kevin Weiler, K6XXX
Relay Editor:	Mark Hardy, K6MDH
FARS Board: Dick Baldwinson N6ATD, Peter Chow AF6DS, Robert Flemate KE6TFU, Nimit Hongyim K6XOX, Gerry Horn K6TXD, Charlie Morrin KI6FXY, Barbara Neuhauser AE6RM.	
K6YA Trustee:	Phil Hawkins, KA6MZE
FARS Web Page:	<a href="http://www.fars.k6ya.org">http://www.fars.k6ya.org</a>
Download Relay:	<a href="http://www.fars.k6ya.org/relay">http://www.fars.k6ya.org/relay</a>
Club members and non-members are encouraged to subscribe to the FARS Announcement list by browsing <a href="http://www.fars.k6ya.org/mail">www.fars.k6ya.org/mail</a> , clicking on Subscribe/Unsubscribe and following the instructions under "Subscribing to fars-announce."	
You may submit announcements to the FARS Announcement at <a href="mailto:fars-announce@svpal.org">fars-announce@svpal.org</a> . The list is moderated and messages will be posted as approved by the list moderator.	
Contact the FARS board of directors at <a href="mailto:fars-board@svpal.org">fars-board@svpal.org</a>	
Club 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 Nov. & Dec (for holidays).	
Annual club membership is \$20. Club badges are \$9. Visitors are always welcome! Directions in this newsletter. Talk-in: N6NFI (145.23-, 100 Hz) or W6ASH repeater (145.27-, 100 Hz).	
FARS <i>Relay</i> is the official monthly newsletter of the Foothills Amateur Radio Society. Contributions to the newsletter from members, family, and guests are earnestly solicited! Contributions are subject to editing and/or compression. All readable forms welcome.	
Here is how to reach the editor:	
Mark Hardy, K6MDH	
Mail: P.O. Box 2248	
Santa Clara, CA 95055	
Voice: 408-243-0701 (Before 9 PM, preferred)	
Email: <a href="mailto:mark.af6do@gmail.com">mark.af6do@gmail.com</a> , At FARS meetings.	

### Maker Faire

(From the FARS Website, [www.fars.k6ya.org](http://www.fars.k6ya.org))

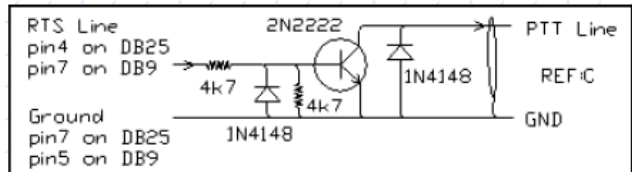
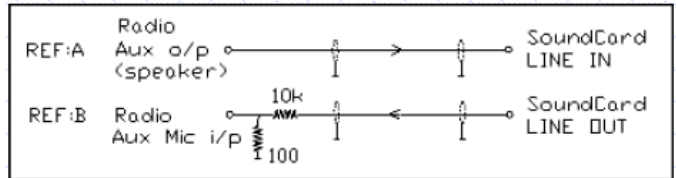
FARS will be at the [Maker Faire](#) in San Mateo on Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>. We are the primary sponsor of the Ham Radio booth at the faire, so be sure to look for us. Prospective volunteers should contact Michael [KI6QNZ](mailto:KI6QNZ).

FARS is operating [K6YA on-site at Make Faire](#) in San Mateo on May 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition we are using the Mad Scientists Amateur Radio Club cross linked repeaters for call-in (listed below):

Mode	Freq.	Notes
HF/PSK31	14.068 MHz	Primary operating mode
HF/SSB	14.320 MHz	Secondary operating mode
VHF/FM	147.300 MHz	2m San Mateo repeater: shift +600KHz, PL 100 (linked to 441.950)
UHF/FM	441.950 MHz	70cm San Jose repeater: shift +5MHz, PL 100 (linked to 147.300)

## Keyboarding on HF

The April FARS meeting featured Mikel, KN6QI, FARS President, presenting Keyboarding on HF. Mikel has posted this presentation at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/docs/digital>. Mikel's PSK interface circuit (computer to Radio) and cable (with circuit built in the connector) are shown below:



Circuits from [www.w5bbr.com/soundbd.html](http://www.w5bbr.com/soundbd.html).

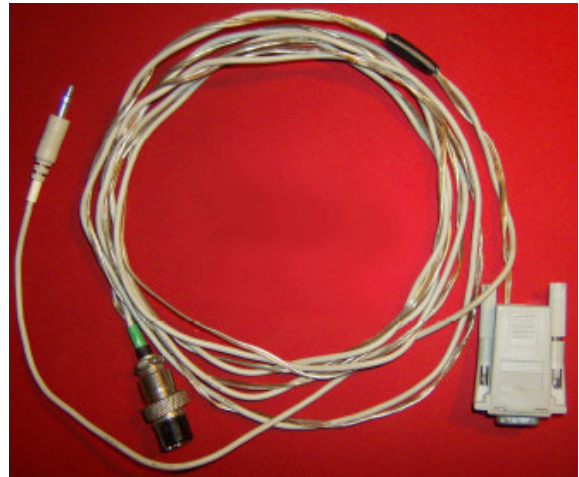


Photo by Mikel, KN6QI

## Flea Market Hosted by FARS

FARS hosted the Flea Market in the Month of April. Below are some pictures taken at the Flea Market by Nimit, K6XOX



**FARS 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE fill out the form for all new/renewal memberships.

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

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

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (H or W?) \_\_\_\_\_ Packet BBS Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Exp Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Special topics of interest / suggestions for club meeting speakers:

Dues: \$20 per year, new members add \$9 for badge fee. **Please note:** Membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

Send your check payable to FARS, to:

David A. Cooper  
PMB 41  
270 Redwood Shores Parkway  
Redwood City, CA 94065-1173



**How to get to FARS Club meetings (Visitors 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 [N6NEI](#) (145.230-; 100Hz PL) repeater or the [W6ASH](#) 145.27- (100Hz PL) repeater.

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FARS RELAY 5/09  
C/O Mark Hardy  
P.O. Box 2248  
Santa Clara, CA 95055-2248

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
PLEASE DO NOT FORWARD

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FARS Meeting  
FRIDAY 22 May 2009  
Covington School