



FARS

FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The FARS RELAY President's Corner

October 2011 Volume 41, Number 10

See you down the log

www.fars.k6ya.org

October Club Meeting

Date: Friday, October 28th, 2011

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

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

October Speakers:
Joanna K6YL & Kristen K6WX

"Expedition to Trinity County for CQP 2011"

From a cabin in beautiful Lewiston, California, Joanna and her teammates N6DQ, K6WX and K6RHO activated Trinity County for the California QSO Party (CQP).

Learn how they prepared for this exciting adventure, avoided interference between their 3 stations, and had a great time making thousands of contacts during this annual event. Lewiston is a beautiful historical gold mining community on the Trinity River by Lewiston Lake, and a fantastic location to operate from.

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.

October Raffle Prizes

The prizes for the raffle will be:

First Prize: Wouxun KG-UV3D
2m/70cm 5W/4W (.5W audio)

Second Prize: BaoFeng UV-3R
Dual Band VHF/UHF HT

Third Prize: Northern California Repeater
Directory

Fouth Prize: Yaesu Hat from Pacificon



Membership Meeting. Our next membership meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 28th at 7 PM. The program this month is the **CQP Expedition to Trinity County** with Joanna Dille K6YL and Kristen McIntyre K6WX. They'll talk about their trip north to activate a station for the California QSO Party.



FARS CQP. FARS operated a radio station in the California QSO Party on October 1st. We had a nice turnout of nearly 20 people who participated throughout the day. With our modest setup we worked over 100 contacts for K6YA.

We had a number of other club members who also set up their personal portable stations and worked the contest. Peter AF6DS used his 9:1 un-un to drive a long-wire antenna to work qso's. Umesh K6VUG brought up his portable satellite setup and worked several contacts over a few passes using just a pair of small beams and two HT's. Phil KA6MZE worked contacts from the HF rig in his truck. Nimit K6XOX also operated his station at the end of the field.

I want to thank Kevin K6XXX for handling the BBQ. I especially want to thank Michael Pechner NE6RD for organizing this event, as well as everyone who helped with all the work necessary to make the event a success.

Electronics Flea Market. The next electronics flea market is scheduled for March 2012. For details check out www.electronicfleamarket.com.

Winter Banquet 2012 is scheduled for January 20, 2012, so put it on your calendar. More details to come in the near future.

Dues Reduced for 2012. The FARS board has voted to extend the \$15 reduced membership through 2012.

New Memberships. New memberships paid through October are prorated to \$5 for the rest of 2011.

de Mikel, KN6QI

The Wish-You-Were-Here prize is a **CASH** prize awarded each meeting to a member who is present and has paid their 2011 dues. Are you on the list for the drawing?

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
Mark Hardy K6MDH
Peter Chow AF6DS
Charlie Morrin KI6FXV
K6YA Trustee: Phil Hawkins KA6MZE

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

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.

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).

Membership: Annual FARS membership is \$15. A club badge is \$9. With membership you'll receive the monthly FARS Relay, and you'll also qualify for the monthly CA\$H Wish-You-Were-Here drawing at each membership meeting.

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
PO Box 51985 Also available at FARS meetings.
Palo Alto, CA 94303 Photos © K6YL unless noted otherwise.

**What can YOU do
to help protect and preserve
spectrum and privileges
for all amateur radio operators?**

SUPPORT YOUR NATIONAL SOCIETY →



**The Amateur Radio Relay League
(ARRL)**

www.arrl.org

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

www.fars.k6ya.org/events/calendar

Visitors are welcome at all events!

OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

3 Board Mtg, Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM

18 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
(The third Friday instead of the fourth Friday)

DECEMBER

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

16 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
(The third Friday instead of the fourth Friday)

JANUARY

20 [Winter Banquet 2012](#), Michael's at Shoreline
This annual event brings together FARS and PAARA and features a special speaker and a grand raffle.

FEBRUARY

26-27 [CQ World Wide 160m Contest](#), Maryknoll
(same location at Field Day and CQP)
FARS will again participate in this annual event, w/
a full operation including a 160m Beverage antenna
for receive and a vertical antenna for transmit.

FARS Membership Dues Reduced for 2011 & 2012

Payment of dues for 2011 and 2012 supports the club and provides you with current membership status – you'll qualify for the CA\$H Wish-You-Were-Here prize awarded at each membership meeting, and you'll also receive the FARS Relay in your email each month.

The FARS board has reduced the annual membership dues for 2011 and 2012 to \$15. Use your \$5 savings to purchase raffle tickets, or put it in your pocket and be \$5 richer. If you've already renewed for 2011 at \$20, you may request a refund or simply leave it as a donation.

UPDATE – New memberships are now prorated to \$5 for the remainder of 2011.

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.

SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

Congrats to the September raffle prize winners!

Joanna K6YL – Yaesu VX-3R

2m/440 HT Wideband (*fits in my purse woo hoo!*)

Rob KI6INR – Amidon AB200-10 Toroid Balun Kit

Ira K6GAP – 2011-2012 ARRL Repeater Directory

Phil KA6MZE – For the second month in a row the selected FARS member was present to collect the **ca\$h Wish-You-Were-Here prize**. Congratulations Phil!



Winners
Ira K6GAP,
Rob KI6INR,
Phil KA6MZE,
Joanna K6YL
(left to right)



Rohan KJ6LXV talks about construction of his interface cable, and then celebrates receiving a check for 1st place.



Peter AF6DS



Cliff K6CLS



Michael NE6RD

It was close to a full house as hams and guests turned out for this annual event in which show & tell is rewarded.

FARS Annual Homebrew Night

It was time to dig out those Ham projects
and show them off!

There were 6 entries covering multiple areas of
amateur radio... with cash prizes!

Homebrew Projects Presented (*in order of appearance*):

- **Rick N6DQ** – Stubs (design by K2TR) for limiting station interference. (www.K1TTT.com)
4th Place *Congratulations Rick!*
- **Cliff K6CLS** – 6m/2m Boxkite antenna (10ft x 7ft) from the ARRL Antenna Designers Notebook.
3rd Place *Congratulations Cliff!*
- **Rohan KJ6LXV** – Computer interface cable for PSK and packet using a Wouxun HT.
1st Place *Congratulations Rohan!*
- **Peter AF6DS** – Balun kits, including one for a 20m dipole and an impedance transformer for a long wire antenna. (www.balundesigns.com)
- **Michael NE6RD** – APRS data logger, including sending APRS packets to Google Earth during Parachute Mobile jumps.
2nd Place *Congratulations Mikey!*
- **Bob KF6ABC** – 80m AM “Retro85” kit radio from www.SmallWonderLabs.com.

Thanks to each of you for participating in the FARS Homebrew Night!



Rick N6DQ explains the usefulness of coax stubs.

REPORT:
FARS participates in CQP from Santa Clara
California QSO Party

Thanks to the organization of Michael Pechner, NE6RD, FARS participated under club call [K6YA](#) in the California QSO Party (CQP) on October 1st. With an HF station for 10m-40m, power, Port-a-Potty, food and drinks, what more could you need for some Ham Radio fun!

Held on the soccer field at Maryknoll Residence in Los Altos overlooking 280 and the south bay (the same location as Field Day), the FARS CQP Party was a lot of fun. We had almost 20 people attend and a lot of activity. For the main station we used the Yaesu FT-950 with a multi-band dipole. We worked 10, 15, and 20 meters, and all of the bands had a lot of activity. We even worked K6YL up in Trinity County. 15-meters was hot. We had at least 1/2 dozen operators work the K6YA station, making a lot of contacts in California and also reaching stations in Texas, Colorado, and the east coast. The station remained on air throughout most of the day.

Mike NE6RD reports that we claimed:

- **a score of 4784**
- **104 QSO's**
- **23 Multipliers**

Not bad for a casual operation!



Members were encouraged to bring their own gear up to the site and so we had four other stations on air during the day.

- **Umesh K6VUG** showed up with a very nice home-made 2M/440 yagi for satellite work, and made a good number of contacts during at least one pass.
- **Peter AF6DS** set up a random wire using a 9:1 un-un that he showed off at the FARS homebrew contest (unbalanced-unbalanced), and made about a dozen contacts.
- **Phil KA6MZE** operated from his truck all afternoon, and one of his contacts was K6YL in Trinity.
- **Nimit K6XOX** had a station setup by the back picnic area, using a random wire and an Icom tuner. He kept pretty busy making Q's the whole day.

Photos © Michael NE6RD



Rohan KJ6LXV, Mikel KN6QI



Umesh K6VUG's satellite setup

Thank you to Michael Pechner NE6RD who organized the event even while suffering from a bad cold, to Kevin K6XXX for a fine BBQ, and to all others who participated and helped out. We plan to do it again next year!

REPORT:
FARS participates in CQP from Santa Clara
California QSO Party

I arrived at Maryknoll in Los Altos just before 10AM. Gerry K6TXD was already there and helped me unload my truck. Everyone else showed up by a little after 10. We got the EZ-UP setup and then myself, Elise KI6PUO, and Nimit K6XOX tried to put up the antenna while Phil KA6MZE and Mikel KN6QI set up the station. First take had the dipole as more of an L, and it didn't tune well. In the end Phil and Mikel had to help us get the antenna up. We re-hung the antenna lines a few times to get everything working, and then we were making our first QSO about 11:30AM.

The operators during the day included Elise KI6PUO, Mikel KN6QI, Rohan KJ6LXV, Lee AG6GH, Rich W6APZ, Dave W6VYC, and Mike NE6RD.

About 4PM I jumped on and operated for an hour. At one point I made a mistake and messed up the serial numbers (part of the exchange). We all know that the correct sequence is 73, 74, 76 :D. Genlog (our logging software) did not understand that and we lost about 15 minutes while I sorted it all out. By this time it was almost 5:30PM and we had 84 Q's. I wanted us to get 100 Q's so that the club would receive a CQP certificate! Mikel operated and I logged. By the time we got the 100 QSO's it was 7PM. So it was a little dark by the time we had the cars packed but we had a great time.

-- Michael NE6RD



Peter AF6DS's setup for CQP made a dozen QSO's using a long wire antenna.

Photo © Peter AF6DS



CQP Take Down Crew: Phil KA6MZE, Peter AF6DS, Mikel KN6QI, Jeff AK6TG, Nimit K6XOX, and Michael NE6RD (holding camera) *Photo © Mikel KN6QI*



Nimit K6XOX, Phil KA6MZE

Photos © Michael NE6RD



Feeding the CQP crew



Face or cw, what do you see?

REPORT: Pacificon 2011 in Santa Clara



The 2011 Pacificon Amateur Radio Convention took place the third weekend of October. Previously held in San Ramon, this annual ham radio convention was even bigger and better at the new Santa Clara venue.

The weekend was jam-packed with activities for hams of all ages. A large crowd turned out for Friday's antenna seminars and got a jump start on the vendor tables.

Saturday's breakfast was sold out, and keynote speaker Gordon West WB6NOA piled on the humor.

Saturday and Sunday swap meets filled the back area of the parking lot, though pickings were slim by Sunday morning. Old radios, lots of electronics, and even a Heathkit "Cantenna" and Heathkit antenna tuner still brand new in their boxes!

Ham equipment exhibitors filled the large central hall, including Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood, FlexRadio, Elecraft, Buddipole, Comet, American Morse, and more. Ham Radio Outlet had a large presence along the back wall and seemed to be selling well. The tables for Parachute Mobile, ATV and KPH were all in great locations in the outer hallway, and activities could also be found for HFpack, QRP and transmitter hunts.

For the young amateurs and young family members there was a large selection of forums and projects, including a fantastic area in the middle of the exhibitors hall that offered soldering lessons and kit building. The tables were never empty!

Meanwhile throughout Saturday and Sunday you could select from outstanding technical forums and speakers in half a dozen rooms. You always had somewhere to go whether you were interested in HF, satellites, Summits On The Air (SOTA), emergency response, QRP, moon bounce, remote rig operation, DXpeditions, and so much more.

The keynote speaker at Saturday evening's banquet was well received. Joe Taylor, K1JT, is an American astrophysicist and Nobel Prize Laureate in Physics for his discovery of a new type of pulsar that opened up possibilities for the study of gravitation. Joe provided an incredible presentation that began by focusing on the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico (known for its role in one of the James Bond movies).

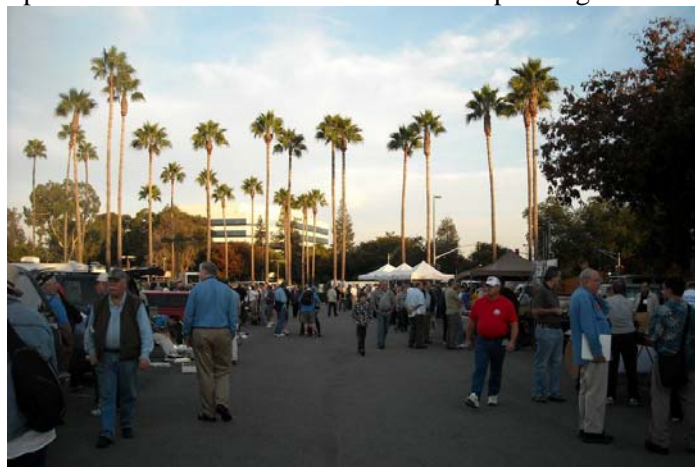
Raffle prizes were awarded throughout each day, and you'd never believe who won the Kenwood TS-480SAT Grand Prize... me! I'll put it to very good use. ☺

www.PACIFICON.org

Thank you to the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio club for sponsoring this event.



Speaker Steve K6OIK Dave AA6XV operating KPH



The swap meet draws a crowd both Saturday and Sunday



Nimit K6XOX at the Amateur Television (ATV) demo

REPORT continued: Pacificon 2011 in Santa Clara

Vendors represented every aspect of amateur radio, from transceivers to antennas and every associated fun gadget.



New Heathkit Cantenna!



KPH Historic Marine Radio



Byron KG6UOB demonstrates ATV



San Ramon Comm Vehicle



Lunch is served!



Youths learn to solder in the main hall



KPH Live from Pacificon



Saturday evening banquet



Banquet speaker Joe Taylor K1JT



Icom 7000 clear case



Leo Laporte W6TWT live broadcast for KGO



Parachute Mobile draws a crowd!

REPORT: Parachute Mobile Mission 9

Parachute Mobile had a jump, Mission 9, in coordination with Pacifcon on October 15. This was one of our biggest operations. We had a team in each of 3 locations -- The jump team at the Byron Airport, the comm ops team at Mount Diablo, and at Pacifcon we had both a booth and a dedicated station in the San Ramon communication vehicle. We were also virtual with Pink helping as a net control during our echolink QSO attempt, and at Andy KR6DD's QTH he had monitoring stations recording all he could for us he could receive.

The day went well, with nice weather, three excellent jumps, great air-to-ground video, lots of APRS packets, and a new weather station. The Byron drop zone did have internet issues for the first hour, which had us a bit worried but was shortly resolved. The video was sent to Pacifcon over the internet via Justin.TV and the APRS packets were sent to APRS-IS over the internet.

As for the fun, the three jumps went crazy well. Michael Gregg KF6WRW had been working on an air-to-ground video link for months. He used 2.4Ghz gear with a custom built helmet cam mount, running the video cable down to his foot where the 2.4Ghz transmitter is taped to his sneaker. The receiver is pair of panel antennas. The received signal was pumped into Mike's computer and over the internet. The video from the sky was great.

In the meanwhile Michael Wright K6MFW had a couple of cameras setup, and using a combination of ATV and cabled connections he did a great job of capturing video on the ground.

The first jump was Michael Greg KF6WRW and Jim Wilson. The second Jump was Mark AF6IM with Michael Gregg as videographer. Michael Gregg KF6WRW then did a third jump solo.

Daryl KI6LDM and Rodna KJ6GVQ were a huge help being net control for the frequency. Without them up there on Mount Diablo it would have been very hard to control the frequency.

Ray, Gordon, Lester, John and Robin at Pacifcon did a great job talking to everyone about what we are doing. Andy KR6DD's recordings provided us with an important backup for capturing APRS and audio. And Pink hung in there monitoring K6OJ's echolink station on N6NFI.

Along with Michael's new video gear, I too put new gear into action. Prior to Mission 9 we had one of the ground crew stand around with a wind meter providing reports to the jumpers, but for Mission 9 I set up a weather station that sent the weather data over bluetooth to my laptop. Arduino to the rescue again! So from the comfort of data central I was able to give wind speed and direction readings to the jumpers.

Parachute Mobile Mission 9 was a huge success.

— Michael NE6RD

Photos © Parachute Mobile



The Team

Byron:

Mark AF6IM – Jumper 1
Michael KF6WRW – Jumper 2
Michael K6MFW – ATV
Mikey NE6RD – Data Dude
Rob KC6TYD – Team Coordinator
Bernhard AE6YN – Ground Crew
Bonnie – Ground Crew
Capt Jim Wilson RCAF – Jump Videographer

Mt Diablo:

Daryl KI6LDM – Parachute Control
Rodna KJ6GVQ – Parachute Control

Pacifcon:

Ray W6RAR – Site Organizer
Gordon, KD6LHO
Lester KD6QQU
Robin KI6YTA
John KI6BEN – San Ramon Fire Comm Unit

Internet:

Pink operated the K6OJ echolink station

High in the sky:

Andy KR6DD – recorded APRS and audio

BAY AREA RADIO BUILDERS CLUB: A new FARS Special Interest Group

The Foothills Amateur Radio Society has a new Special Interest Group. We are still working on the official name, but at this point it is called the Bay Area Radio Builders Club, **BARC**, with a silent "B". :-D

We are a group of mostly Amateur Radio operators who want to gain a better understanding of the advanced topics covered in the General and Extra class tests. We want to learn electronics, antenna theory, kit building, and kit design. Seth Morabito, NF6Q, is the one who really started this idea. I assisted with setup of a Yahoo group, which can be found at:

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

We have 27 members already on the email list, some of whom are EE's and/or have been hams for many years and thus can act as Mentors.

The first BARC meeting is schedule for:

**Thursday, November 10, 7PM-9PM
at TechShop in Menlo Park**

We will decide on what book to use as a textbook, and come up with an interesting first homework assignment. We will also discuss if we'll run a "Google Hangout" at the same time as the meetings, which will allow up to 10 people to participate remotely. At some point we'll need to decide on how to split the group, as once we all reach a certain level of "competence" we will want to take on a group design project. We hope to figure out how to keep the group projects going while also bringing in additional members to learn electronics.

It will be an interesting process to develop this group and educate hams to be more than "appliance operators".

So, two things:

FIRST, please join the Yahoo group:

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

SECOND, we want rename this special interest group so that FARS is part of the name, and we need suggestions. Preferably something that will make a good acronym, with or without a silent "B". The current contenders are:

- FARS Electronics Special Interest Group, FESIG
- FARS Radio Builder Club
- FARS Bay Area Radio Builders Club, BARC

-- Michael NE6RD

REPORT: Final Electronics Flea Market for 2011

The final Electronics Flea Market of 2011 was held Saturday, October 8th in the parking lot at DeAnza college. The next one will be in March of 2012.



Photos © Nimit K6XOX

PROPAGATION UPDATES

De Tad Cook K7RA

10/27/11 – Our sun continues to be very active, with most days revealing more sunspots... The biggest news is the sunspot number yesterday, Thursday, October 20th. The daily sunspot number was **195**, a level not equalled or bettered since nearly eight years ago, on November 26th, 2003, when it was 209. The closest the daily sunspot number came to equalling Thursday's value was on July 4th, 2005 when it was 192.

10/21/11 – On Friday, October 21st the daily sunspot number broke another record for Solar Cycle 24 when it rose to **207**. You have to look back to November 26th, 2003 when it was 2 points higher – 209 – to find a number at least as high.

The bands have really come alive, with solid propagation on 15m throughout the day, and worldwide openings on 10m and 12m – conditions not seen since 2003.

PHOTO TIME: 10m is Alive!

Taken on October 22nd, the conditions on 10m were incredible. This view on the “fish finder” of an Icom 7600 gives an idea of what it was like, with tons of activity.



REPORT ON T32C: Kiritimati (Christmas Island)

Many of you are already familiar with the recent DXpedition to Kiritimati (Christmas Island) in the Northern Line Islands, a part of the Republic of Kiribati. Huge pile-ups in their first couple weeks receded to easy access in their final weeks before the DXpedition concluded. Many enjoyed boasting about working T32C on numerous bands/modes within a very short period of time. The group made a huge effort “to give every DXer, wherever based, a chance to contact” them. And their totals showed just that. 213,169 total qso’s, with 48,914 unique callsigns. They operated SSB, CW, FM, RTTY, PSK31 and PSK63, and they covered every band they could between 1.8M Hz and 50.0 MHz. Conditions were excellent in their latter weeks. In an attempt to get them on more than just SSB and RTTY, I switched to CW and tried to mentally prepare for this mode that is new to me. It was 10m and the operator was calling CQ with few responses. As I started to chicken out I turned the power all the way down to practice my call sign on the paddles. ☺ And I was shocked as the op came back to me! 5 watts, woo hoo! 10m can be incredible.

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

- Saturday 1/28/12, 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 11/12, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale
- Saturday 11/19, 10:30 AM @ Redwood City

www.pdarrrl.org/vec/vecscv – The Silicon Valley ARRL VE holds test sessions on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Arrive between 8 AM and 11 AM to the Saratoga Fire Station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue. Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations. \$15

- Saturday 11/5
- Saturday 11/19

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 11/12, 9:00 AM
- Tuesday 12/13, 6:30 PM

BAEARS Ham Cram

Next Session: Saturday, January 28th
8 AM
San Francisco, CA
www.baears.com

Electronics Flea Market

See you next year!

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

WRTC 2014 is coming to the USA

The [World Radiosport Team Championship](#) (WRTC) is held every four years and consists of approximately

50 two-person teams of amateur radio operators competing in a test of operating skill. Unlike most on-the-air competitions, all stations are required to use identical antennas from the

same geographic region, eliminating all variables except operating ability. The 2012 event will be held in New England! Previous WRTCs were held in Russia (2010), Brazil (2006), Finland (2002), Slovenia (2000), San Francisco (1996), and Seattle (1990).

Contesting (aka *radiosport*) is a competitive activity pursued by amateur radio operators. In a contest, an amateur radio station, which may be operated by an individual or a team, seeks to contact as many other amateur radio stations as possible in a given period of time and exchange information. Rules for each competition define the amateur radio bands, the mode of communication that may be used, and the kind of information that must be exchanged. The contacts made during the contest contribute to a score by which stations are ranked. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contesting>)

ARRL Rookie Roundup 2011 on CW!

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.

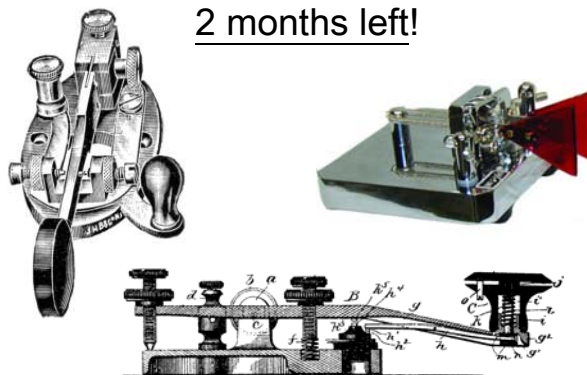
This event is held in SSB, RTTY and CW.

CW is up next on December 18th!

During this event a Rookie will be defined as a ham first licensed in 2009, 2010 or 2011.

Time to learn & practice CW:

2 months left!



Bay Area Radio Builders Club

“BARC” with a silent “B”

A new FARS Special Interest Group

First Meeting:

Thurs, Nov. 10, 7PM-9PM
TechShop in Menlo Park

We are a group of mostly Amateur Radio operators who want to gain a better understanding of the advanced topics covered in the General and Extra class tests.

We want to learn electronics, antenna theory, kit building, and kit design.

For more info join the Yahoo Group:

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

FARS Membership Renewal Form

Note that the annual dues for 2011 and 2012 have each been reduced to \$15. You may also renew online by logging onto the FARS website, then using PayPal to pay.

<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: _____ Work 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: \$15 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.