

May 2012

Volume 42, Number 5

1 month until Field Day!

www.fars.k6ya.org

May Club Meeting

Date: Friday, May 25th, 2012

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

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

"Stub Filter Design Beyond the Simple Trap" Steve Stearns K6OIK

Just in time for Field Day, Steve K6OIK shows how to design stub filters. Stub filters are easy to build from coax and T-connectors and are a great DIY project for Field Day operations. The filters are also well suited for stripline and microstrip implementations at UHF and above. Steve shows a simple way to design filters graphically on a Smith chart that is intuitive and easy to explain without math, by extending graphical principles for match network design. The resulting filters outperform the classic single stub trap.

Steve will show a synthesis procedure for "3-frequency, 2-stub filters." In this construction, two frequencies are designated as "pass" frequencies and one is designated as a "stop" frequency. The frequencies may be in any order, i.e. the stop frequency can be below, between, or above the pass frequencies. The construction is done graphically on the Smith chart - no math is required. Other combinations are also possible, e.g., two stop frequencies and one pass frequency.

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.

Membership Meeting. Our next membership meeting is at 7PM on May 25th. The program is "Stub Filter Design Beyond the Simple Trap" with our own Steve Stearns K6OIK. Just in time for Field Day, Steve K6OIK shows how to design stub filters. Steve shows a simple way to design filters graphically on a Smith chart that is intuitive and easy to explain without math.



Field Day Meeting. We are holding an antenna party on June 2nd up at Charlie KF6CUU's place, where we keep the antennas. We need volunteers to come up and sort out the equipment needed for Field Day. Contact Phil Hawkins KA6MZE to help out (sputnik@pacbell.net).

Remember that Field Day is June 23rd and 24th. We need volunteers and participants for all aspects of Field Day. There is setup on Friday June 22nd, operators are needed for Saturday morning through Sunday morning, then take down begins Sunday morning. You don't need to be a hot operator to participate, just willing to get on the air and work a few contacts and have fun! Sign up on the FARS website at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/fieldday>. Also don't forget to sign up for the BBQ on Saturday afternoon.

General Class License Course. The course is winding up this week with an exam session scheduled for 7pm - 9pm on Thursday, May 31st. The test venue is the Mountain View Fire Station at 1000 Villa Street, Mountain View, CA. This test session is open to anyone who would like to take a license test for Technician, General, or Amateur Extra. Drop-ins are fine, but please contact Mikel Lechner KN6QI if you plan to be there so we can inform the VE's on how many to expect (kn6qi@arrl.net).

Electronics Flea Market. The next electronics flea market is scheduled for June 9th from 5AM until 1PM. The sponsor for this flea market is the **Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association (SCCARA)**. Note that daily campus parking permits have increased to \$3 per vehicle, so bring an extra buck. The flea market is a great place to find a bargain and it supports your local ham clubs. For all the details check out www.electronicfleamarket.com.

Raffle Prizes

1st Prize: Yaesu FT2900R, 2 meter mobile/base transceiver, 75 watts

2nd Prize: Book "Bay Area Radio - Images of America"

3rd Prize: Yaesu Hats (2)

4th Prize: Icom Memory Stick Giveaway 500 MB

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



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 KI6FXY
K6YA Trustee: Phil Hawkins KA6MZE

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

Membership: An annual FARS membership is \$15 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.

FARS Membership Dues Reduced for 2012 -- The FARS board has voted to extend the \$15 reduced membership dues through 2012. Put your \$5 savings in your pocket or use it to purchase raffle tickets.

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!

MAY

- 25 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 31 [FARS General Class License Course](#) – Test session!

JUNE

- 2 [Antenna Party in prep for Field Day](#), 10AM
@ Charlie KF6CUU's place in Los Altos Hills
- 7 Board Mtg Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM
- 9 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, 5AM
- 14 [BARC Meeting](#), Tech Shop Menlo Park, 7PM
- 15 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM
- 22 Setup for [FARS ARRL Field Day](#) – 11 AM Fri.
- 23-24 [FARS ARRL Field Day](#) – 11AM Sat to 11AM Sun.
@ Marknoll Residences, Los Altos, a great QTH!
Open to the public! Come join us!

JULY

- 5 Board Mtg Los Altos Town Crier, 7:30PM
- 12 [BARC Meeting](#), Tech Shop Menlo Park, 7PM
- 14 [Electronics Flea Market](#), DeAnza College, 5AM
- 27 [Club Meeting](#), Covington School, Los Altos, 7PM

UPCOMING

- 8/11 [Electronics Flea Market](#), ***SPONSORED BY FARS***
- 8/19 [ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY](#) – Try to get on!
- 10/12-14 [Pacificon 2012](#), *ARRL National Convention*
- 10/6 [FARS California QSO Party \(CQP\)](#), Los Altos
@ Maryknoll Residence (same location as Field Day)
- 12/16 [ARRL Rookie Roundup CW](#) – Try to get on!

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!

This year's [Maker Faire](http://makerfaire.com) was held the weekend of May 19th and 20th. Thousands of people filled the San Mateo County Event Center to learn about everything DIY, from fire-filled-art to sewing to electronics and ham radio. FARS again sponsored a ham radio booth spearheaded by Michael Pechner, NE6RD, and co-sponsored by PAARA, SBARA and the ARRL. The focus this year was on "DIY with Ham Radio" and included everything arduino.

The Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth!

A two-day, family-friendly festival of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker movement.

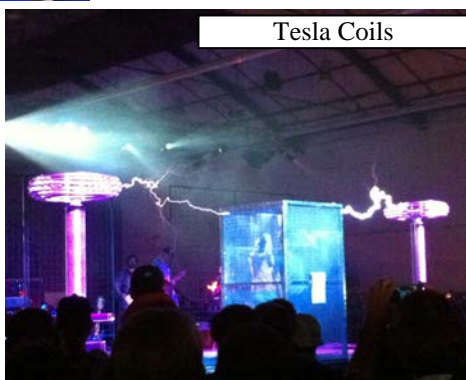
<http://makerfaire.com/bayarea/2012/>



**Amateur Radio DIY
with
Microprocessors**



Mikey and his creative team worked for months to develop an incredible collection of projects and demonstrations involving amateur radio and microprocessors. We got a taste of a couple of these projects at the April FARS meeting during presentations by Umesh Ghodke K6VUG and Nimi Hongyim K6XOX. Umesh K6VUG presented a light weight portable rotator for a satellite antenna, and Nimit K6XOX showed both a custom-made APRS Tiny Tracker from Opensource and a Geiger Counter interfaced for APRS packet transmission. Maker Faire included oh so much more! Thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted with the booth before, during and after the event!



REPORT: DAYTON HAMVENTION 2012

Dayton Hamvention 2012, May 18th-20th
By Peter AF6DS

Peter AF6DS and Bernard KI6TSF attended the Dayton Hamvention in Ohio for the first time, the same weekend as the Bay Area Maker Faire.

The first impression of the Hamvention is that it is fairly large in size. The indoor vendors covered several exhibit halls, as well as the outdoor flea market being quite large. For comparison, the indoor vendor area is about 20 times larger than Pacificon, and the outdoor flea market also about 20 times the size of the DeAnza electronics flea market. The weather was good, albeit a bit warm at times at the outdoor flea market.

In addition to Hamvention forum talks, the ARRL also had their own stage for presentations, which included topics covering DIY (Do-It-Yourself) projects. Bernard KI6TSF presented at the ARRL stage on the subject of “Hacking with Radios and Arduinos”, covering several of his own personal projects.

While in Dayton, it is also worth seeing the National Museum of the USAF at Wright-Patterson AFB, which has free admission. They had on display a SR-71, F-117, U2, and other interesting aircrafts and history. All were housed in 4 large hangers.

It was a good trip, and worth going to Dayton at least once. It's good that we have Pacificon in the Bay Area as an alternative to the Hamvention.

For more information see www.hamvention.org.

Top right to bottom left – Photos 1, 2 and 5 © Bernard KI6TSF, Photos 3 and 4 © Peter AF6DS



The ARRL's focus on project building and DIY.

Bernard KI6TSF takes the ARRL stage and presents on “Hacking with Radios and Arduinos”.



FARS
FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

YOUR FIELD DAY 2012 GUIDE

Field Day 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.

The ARRL Field Day 2012 is the biggest annual event for FARS as well as many other amateur radio clubs.

FARS will be participating in the 3-A category again this year, with stations setup for 24 hours of operating:

- **HF station** operating Single Sideband (SSB) voice on 10/15/20/40m
- **HF station** operating CW (Morse code) and other digital modes like PSK31 and RTTY (keyboard) on 10/15/20/40/80m.
- **HF station** SSB voice on 80/160m (Beverage antenna!)
- **VHF/Satellite station**
- **GOTA (Get On The Air) station**

SETUP: Friday, June 22nd at 11am

OFFICIAL START TIME: Saturday, June 23rd at 11am

POTLUCK DINNER & BBQ:

Saturday, June 23rd around 5:30pm

Always has lots of good food and good people

Bring a side dish to share with others

TAKEDOWN:

Sunday, June 24th at 11am

SIGN-UPS:

Sign-ups for all aspects of the FARS Field Day are available:

- 1.) At the upcoming FARS meetings (May or June)
- 2.) By emailing Phil KA6MZE at sputnik@pacbell.net
- 3.) On the FARS website (requires login) →

• Sign up for Friday Setup here:

<https://www.fars.k6ya.org/cgi-bin/fdcrew>

• Sign up for Sunday Takedown here:

<https://www.fars.k6ya.org/cgi-bin/fdcrew>

• Sign up for the Saturday Potluck & BBQ here:

<https://www.fars.k6ya.org/cgi-bin/fdbbq>

• Sign up to Operate here: We need operators!

<https://www.fars.k6ya.org/cgi-bin/fdop>

Elmers & Coaches Available!

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.

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.



GOTA Station

(Get On The Air) for non-hams, newly licensed hams, and even longer-term hams with no HF experience (ask Mikey NE6RD if you qualify in this last category – email ne6rd@arrl.net).

Photo © Peter AF6DS (2010)



Visitors are welcome to join us!

www.fars.k6ya.org



www.arrl.org

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, PSK, MFSK, Hellschreiber).

Elmers will be available for assistance picking out call signs, working the radios, logging the contacts, and understanding what to do!

(For example, Joanna K6YL will coach on the HF phone station for as many hours as needed on Saturday afternoon and evening, and even Sunday morning, just let her know!)

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)

For our **GOTA (Get On The Air) station**, which is for those with little or no HF experience (inquire with Mikey NE6RD if you qualify, ne6rd@arrl.net), the exchange will be under a different callsign. The GOTA station will be the only station under a different call sign. That call sign will be NE6RD and thus the exchange will be:

“NE6RD 3 Alpha Santa Clara Valley”

All stations on Field Day will be limited to 150 watts.

FARS will be running all operations off of generators.

REPORT: FIELD DAY PLANNING MEETING

Thanks to the volunteers who showed up to Covington School on Saturday, May 5th we were able to test all radios for Field Day as well as upgrade all computers to networked WriteLog for logging. The volunteers included Gerry K6TXD, Nimit K6XOX, Keith KJ6PUO, Peter KJ6PUN, Daniel KJ6SEE, Paul AA6PZ, Dick N6ATD, Phil KA6MZE, Mikel KN6QI, Joanna K6YL and Rick N6DQ.



Next Up:
***** ANTENNA PARTY *****
Saturday, June 2nd, 10:00am
Volunteers Needed

Location: Charlie KF6CUU's place (where we store the antennas).
12111 Foothill Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022.

We need volunteers to help sort out the equipment needed for Field Day.

Contact Phil Hawkins KA6MZE to volunteer (sputnik@pacbell.net).



REPORT: KPH FIELD TRIP

If you were at the April FARS meeting you knew that another local club, PAARA, was planning a field trip to the Marine Radio Historical Society station KPH/KSM on April 18th. This coast station was one of several marine communication transmitting and receiving stations located around the globe, and both the receiving and transmitting stations still exist today thanks to hard work by numerous volunteers from the Marine Radio Historical Society.



Transmitting site at Bolinas



“Other coast stations were bulldozed almost as soon as they went off the air. By great fortune the KPH transmit and receive sites are within the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS), part of the National Park Service.”

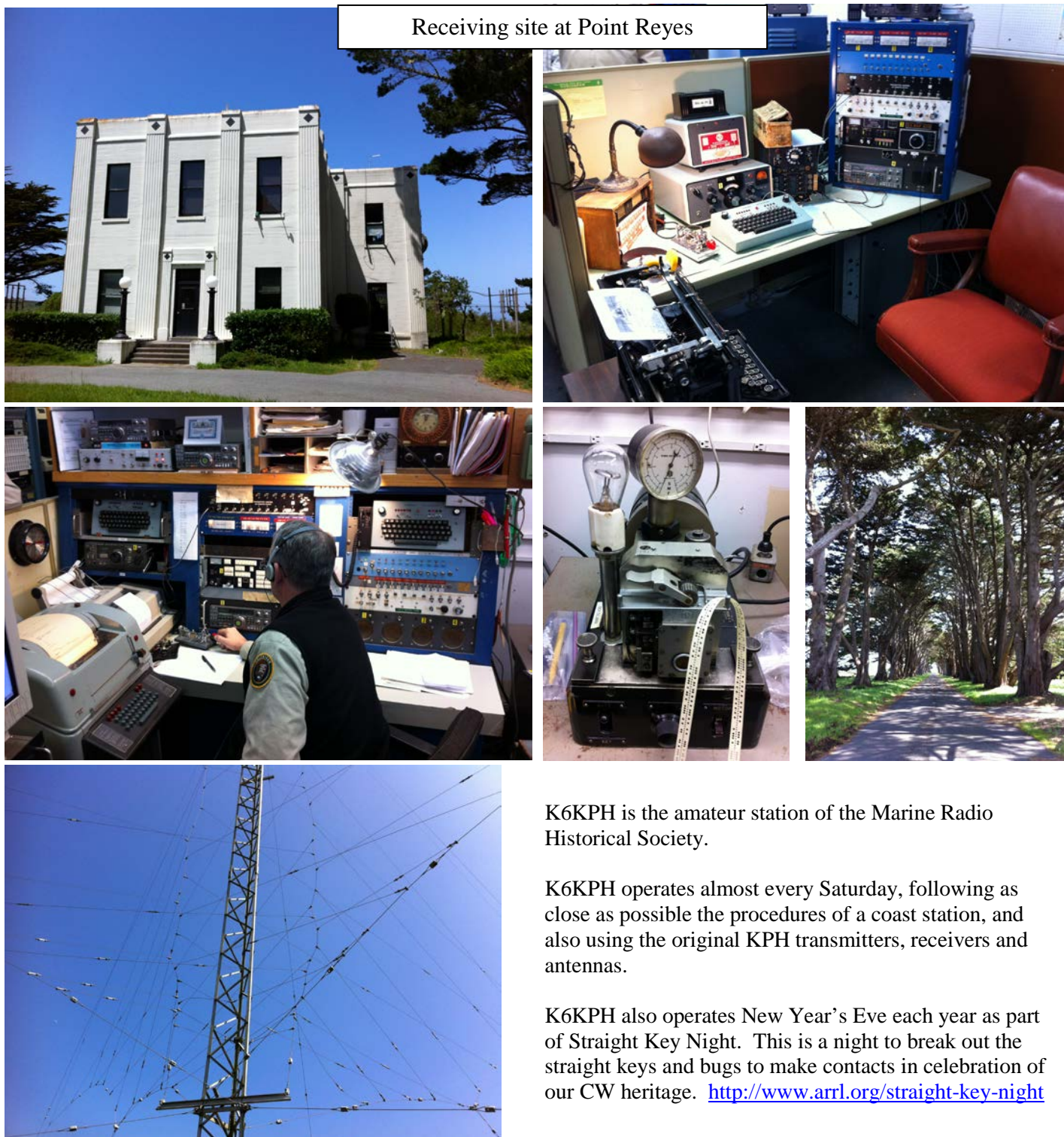
– www.radiomarine.org

KPH is usually open on Saturdays for walk-in visitors at both the transmit and receive sites. To check their schedule before you make the trip it's best to contact them at info@radiomarine.org.

REPORT cont.: KPH FIELD TRIP

Today the Point Reyes and Bolinas radio station complexes are managed by the National Park Service in cooperation with the Maritime Radio Historical Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to documenting, preserving and restoring artifacts of maritime history. The sites are nationally significant and are being placed on the National Register of Historic Places. To learn more about the station history and ongoing activities, visit their web pages:

- Maritime Radio Historical Society: www.radiomarine.org
- Point Reyes National Seashore: http://www.nps.gov/pore/historyculture/people_communications.htm



Receiving site at Point Reyes

K6KPH is the amateur station of the Marine Radio Historical Society.

K6KPH operates almost every Saturday, following as close as possible the procedures of a coast station, and also using the original KPH transmitters, receivers and antennas.

K6KPH also operates New Year's Eve each year as part of Straight Key Night. This is a night to break out the straight keys and bugs to make contacts in celebration of our CW heritage. <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

QUESTION: What's Next After Arduino?

The Arduino, a low-cost, open-source microcontroller board that lets novices program electronic devices, has spawned an international do-it-yourself revolution.

Lightning is about to strike a second time with the release of Raspberry Pi. For \$25, you get the guts of an entire computer—a microprocessor and inputs for video, USB, and an SD card—on a single board. Interest has been so intense that would-be purchasers briefly crashed the eponymous company's website on the day it launched in February.

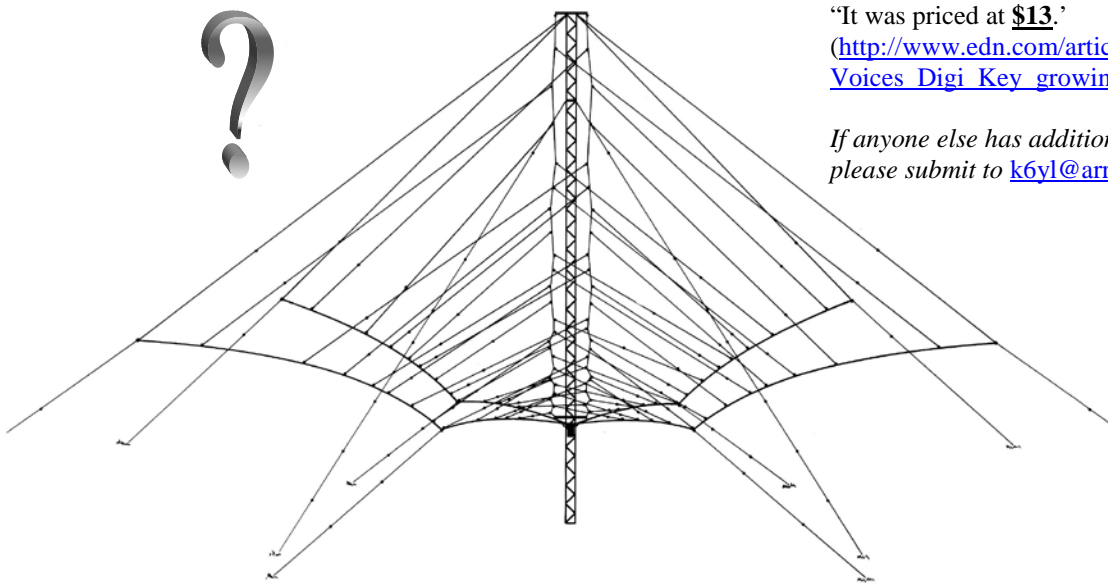
The web site below has a video interview with Raspberry Pi founder Eben Upton, a chip designer at Broadcom. Upton discusses what inspired the board's creation and his excitement over the creative uses that he and his cohorts never envisioned.

Full story: http://spectrum.ieee.org/podcast/geek-life/hands-on/arduinos-playmate/?utm_source=techalert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=042612

Steve K6OIK

MYSTERY ANTENNA CONTEST: Can You Identify This Antenna?

If you correctly name the antenna below or describe how it works and what it's for, then you win a prize. The prize is honorable mention in the important publication that you are now reading. Winners will be chosen by FARS antenna experts and will be announced in the June edition of FARS Relay. Send your best description to k6oik@arrl.net. The deadline for contest entries is midnight May 31. So don't delay, enter today!



QUESTION: Information on the Original Digi-Key

In the 1970's Ronald Stordahl was selling a kit for a digital keyer to hams. He discontinued the kit, but expanded the parts business. It has grown into Digi-Key, which is one of the largest distributors of electronic components.

<http://http://www.digikey.com/us/en/Info/company-history.html>

I was able to find that Ron was N5IN and is now AE5E. He has good scores in recent DX contests, but I have not been able to find any specifics about the keyer. **Does anyone have any information about the original digital key?** I am pretty sure that the FCC was not issuing N5 calls in 1970, so **did he have a call when he designed the keyer?**

Paul AA6PZ

Some information located by Joanna K6YL...

From www.radio-electronics.com article dated 23Aug11 – “The real beginning of Digi-Key was about 1969. Ron Stordahl was a Ham Radio enthusiast and, while a graduate student at the university, developed an electronic keying device for sending Morse code which utilized integrated circuits and other electronic components. He decided to sell this device in the form of a kit to other Ham Radio hobbyists. The kit included the components and an etched circuit board on which one could solder the components. He advertised this kit as the “Digi-Keyer”. Although he sold a reasonable number of kits, he sold far less “Digi-Keyers” than he had planned. He decided to stop selling this kit, but was committed for many components for kits that were never sold. In an effort to recover his cost for these excess parts, he decided that he would try to sell them by advertising in magazines. This marked the beginning of Digi-Key Corporation in 1972 as a distributor of electronic components. (<http://www.radio-electronics.com/articles/electronics-components/digi-key-ceo-mark-larson-talks-30>)

From www.edn.com interview dated 28Sept06 – “What did the original telegraph key kit sell for in 1972?” “It was priced at **\$13.**” (http://www.edn.com/article/463305-Voices_Digi_Key_growing_up_privately.php)

If anyone else has additional information on this subject please submit to k6yl@arrl.net.

Mystery Antenna

PHOTO TIME: FARS General License Course

Thank you to the teachers who have volunteered for this year's FARS General License Course! The teachers have included: Mikel Lechner KN6QI, Rick Huisman N6DQ, Paul Zander AA6PZ, Kristen McIntyre K6WX, Peter Chow AF6DS, and Steve Stearns K6OIK. Thank you also to Kevin Weiler K6XXX for organizing the course.

We wish all of the students (and walk-in test takers) the best of luck on their test(s) on May 31st!

Interested in this test session? This test session is open to anyone who would like to take a license test for Technician, General, or Amateur Extra. The exam session is scheduled for 7pm – 9pm on Thursday, May 31st at the Mountain View Fire Station – 1000 Villa Street, Mountain View. Drop-ins are fine, but please contact Mikel Lechner KN6QI if you plan to be there so we can inform the VE's on how many to expect (kn6qi@arrl.net).



Mikel KN6QI presented on Antennae and Feedlines (chapter 6) at the May 17th class.



Kristen K6WX presented on Propagation (chapter 7) with a bonus session on CW at the May 17th class.

REPORT: Bay Area Radio Builders Club (BARC)

The Bay Area Radio Builders Club continues to meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at The Tech Shop in Menlo Park. The club discusses numerous aspects of electronics, often in relation to ham radio, and covers all levels of experience.

Recently Bob KF6ABC presented on the BitX20A SSB Transceiver, a kit produced by Henderson QRP Kits. Bob carefully reviewed all aspects of this exciting kit construction including lessons learned.

An operating report recently posted by Bob KF6ABC regarding his BitX20A:

“20 meters was wide open last night. I listened to Mike in Calgary for 20 minutes chatting with hams all over California and the rest of the Southwest. My BitX didn't drift, was quieter than the TS-570, and I had to turn down the volume. My antenna is a dipole tied flat to the roof. Old time DIY radio had me grinning with pleasure.” (Note: Bob was still awaiting his microphone jack from Radio Shack)



Photos © the Henderson QRP Kits website

For more information on the BitX20A see <http://www.qrpkits.com/bitx20a.html>

**PHOTO TIME:
April Meeting Prize Winners**

Congratulations to all of the prize winners from the April meeting. Left to right – Keith KJ6ZJI was present to hear his name drawn for the Wish-You-Were-Here (WYWH) prize which was up to \$25 in April! Steve K6OIK won the Maker Faire tickets. Byron N6UOB (nice new call sign Byron!) won the K6XOX XTrax. Rob WB2URF took home the first place prize, a LDG Z100plus Memory Antenna Tuner. And finally Leigh WA5NZU will enjoy the Code Practice Oscillator Kit w/ CW Key by Hendricks QRP Kits, WA4MNT.



** At the May meeting the WYWH prize will be \$5. **

**FARS
General License Course
– in session**

**Think of the students on
Thursday, May 31st
as it'll be test night!**

www.fars.k6ya.org/classes

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

- Saturday 6/2, 8 AM @ Redwood City
- Saturday 9/29, 8 AM @ Fremont

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 6/9, 10:30 AM @ Sunnyvale
- Saturday 6/16, 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 10:30 AM to the Saratoga Fire Station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue. Walk-ins only, no pre-registrations. \$15

- Saturday 6/2
- Saturday 6/16

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 6/12, 6:30 PM
- Saturday 7/14, 9:00 AM

BAEARS Ham Cram

Next Quarterly Session: Saturday, June 2nd
8 AM
Redwood City, CA
www.baears.com

Coming up!

Electronics Flea Market

Saturday, June 9th
Host: Santa Clara County
Amateur Radio Association (SCCARA)
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

Museum Ships Weekend 2012

Sponsored by The Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station

June 2nd 0000Z – June 3rd 2359Z
Sat 5:00pm – Sun 4:59pm

*There is a record number of 92 ships
participating this year!*

A **nice certificate** is provided
to each operator who contacts
a min of 15 different participating ships.



SSB and CW primarily, along with PSK and AM

Full rules and list of ships:
www.nj2bb.org/museum/

*Aircraft Carriers, Battleships, Cruisers, Gunboats,
Destroyers, Icebreakers, Lightships, Minesweepers,
Passengerships, Submarines, and more!*

*Look out for the **USS Hornet** in Alameda
operated under NB6GC by the
[USS Hornet Amateur Radio Club](http://www.uss-hornet.org).*

A Special Event comes to San Francisco

Special Event Station W6G celebrates the 75th Anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge!

Sat. May 26th 2000Z – Sun. May 27th 2200Z

Frequencies: 28.375, 24.975, 21.275, 18.125,
14.275, 7.175, 3.750 SSB and also CW.

*"We are happy to QSL any contacts
during the event with a special card.
For stations contacting us on
5 bands we will issue a
special certificate of commemoration."*

Operators needed! Interested?
Email w6g.sfggb@gmail.com



Bay Area Radio Builders Club

"BARC"

A FARS Special Interest Group

Next Meeting: June 14th
(Second Thursday of each month)
at the TechShop in Menlo Park
(Corner of 101 and Marsh Rd)

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 info join the Yahoo Group:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ba_radio_builders/

FARS Membership Renewal Form

Note that the annual dues for 2012 has 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.