

## Packed attendance at BAEARS Ham Cram, Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 4/20/2013

Photos by Dru Anderson KG6LAD, Past President SPECS, Steven Olson KI6MYE, President SPECS

The Los Altos Hills Town Hall parking lot filled fast as more than 100 students, and volunteers arrived for the April 20 Ham Cram.

Local joggers stopped to ask: "Are they learning how to cook ham? What's a Ham Cram?"

The Ham Cram was sponsored by SPECS (Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System), and put on by BAEARS—Bay Area Educational Amateur Radio Society, a non-profit organization, headed by Ross Peterson WB6ZBU, who leads the guided study sessions.

The Los Altos Hills session, with a very high sign-up rate, had 96 students overall. Pass rate was 92% for new licensees - 71 received their Technician class license, 2 their General, and 1 Extra level. There were 13 upgrades to General; and one to Extra, for a total student pass of 88 out of the 96 who participated.

Study sessions for the Technical, General, and Extra elements are held once a quarter; the next one will be July 13, 2013 at **Oracle Conference Center**, 350 Oracle Parkway, Redwood City, CA. Signup is at [www.baears.com](http://www.baears.com). The session is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the license exams the last hour.

The Ham Cram was conducted in the Council Chambers of Los Altos Hills Town Hall, with thanks to Los Altos Hills Mayor Gary Waldeck K6AIR, and the town staff, and members of the LAH ECC (Emergency Communications Committee) and SPECS board members for help in the "table scramble" and set-up to accommodate the 120+ original signups.

Dru Anderson KG6LAD, SPECS Past President and Member/Past Chair of the LAH ECC, volunteered to help BAEARS with the venue planning and execution logistics with the town. Bjorn Lienres KN6IW, SPECS training officer, and Steven Olson KI6MYE, SPECS President, welcomed the students. LAH EC Ed Jones W7WPO, Ray Egan W6FQY, LAH ECC; Duncan MacMillan KI6VMY, LAH ECC Chair, and Bill Gibbons K6GH, LAH ECC, were on duty to guide traffic and parking at the Fremont Road site. Scott Overstreet N6NXI put up the SPECS banner for frequency information.





The Ham Cram check in line stretched across the site and into the parking lot—a‘new event’ for the Los Altos Hills town site that brought in FCC license hopefuls from throughout the SF Peninsula.



Los Altos Hills Emergency Communication Committee (ham) members Ray Egan W6FQY, Duncan MacMillan KI6VMY, and Ed Jones W7WPO, along with Bill Gibbons K6GH (not pictured), assisted Dru Anderson KG6LAD, Past Chair of SPECS with set-up, take down, traffic, and parking for the area-wide Ham Cram event.



Later, she passed her Technician Level! Cheng Cheng (Ferne) Ran, left now KK6EBF, gets encouragement during check-in from her mother-in-law, Dru Anderson KG6LAD. They live in Los Altos Hills.



BAEARS volunteers check in Patrick Muffler KG6TMI (on right), Palo Alto EC, who earned his General.



Dru Anderson KG6LAD, left, of LAH and SPECS, and Steven Olson KI6MYE, President of SPECS, sponsor of the Ham Cram session in Los Altos Hills.



A total of 96 students filled the LAH Council Chambers in an unusual array of volunteered tables.



David Edmonds KH6YHZ of Fremont, BAEARS volunteer, and Ross Peterson WB6ZBU, take a break.

<u>VOLUNTEER</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>
Dru	K6GLAD
Jim	KJ6POR
Daniel	K6DLC
Deborah	AG6HS
Richard	K6VJ
John	KØDYY
Josh	N6TEF
Dee	N6HWI
JUDY	KF6PFP
Ross	WB6ZBU
Bob	W6LOG
Alan	WB6PHE
Steve	KI6MVE
Ed	W7WPO
Duncan	KI6VMY
Bill	K6GH
Scott	KI6SEJ
Joe	N3CKF
SEAN	KF6HON
Ray	W6FQY
Stan	W6EGT
Joseph	AG6PW

It takes a "village" of volunteers to make it all happen for the students!!



"Thanks Everyone!!" Ross Peterson WB6ZBU, BAEARS President, left, and Los Altos Hills Mayor Gary Waldeck K6AIR share a happy moment as the Mayor prepares to welcome the attendees and thank the volunteers.