

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association

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George Maier, K1GXT will give a presentation on Collins and other vintage radio equipment

Submitting Material to the Circuit

Material may be submitted for publication by sending it directly to the editor. This can be done by US Mail, or via the Internet (preferred). The deadline for each issue is the **Wednesday**, one week before the monthly meeting.

by mail
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by internet
circuit@fara.org

President's Message

Hi gang! A great time was had by all at our traditional pizza party following the flea market. It's obvious that FARA members enjoy eating and socializing as much as doing the radio thing, if not more!

The two meter repeater has been getting a lot of attention by the membership recently, and will be addressed in the months to come. Thank you all for you inputs, and please continue to use the Reflector to express your views on any Ham Radio topic.

At the last meeting I mentioned the upcoming Emergency Preparedness Expo on Sept. 16. This is being sponsored by the Framingham Knox Trail Council of the Boy Scouts and they are expecting 700 to 1000 people for the event! We certainly would be remiss if we did not participate in the Expo; this is our golden opportunity to demonstrate and explain our vital role of EMCOMM to the public at large. If you have any ideas about what we should show and/or hand out, please let me know.

Our meeting this month features fellow FARA member George Maier, K1GXT who will give a presentation on Collins and vintage radio equipment. If you want to see and learn about radio gear of a bygone era, you will certainly enjoy this one!

73, Gordy K1GB

2006 New England QSO Party - May 6th and 7th.

By Tom, K1KI

NEQP is a lot of fun and encourage them to get on and make some QSOs! Last year we had hundreds of participants and 300 sent in logs. Full information is on the NEQP web site: <http://www.neqp.org/>

Basic NEQP rules information:

Object: NE stations make QSOs with anyone; non-New England stations work stations in New England

Times: May 6/7 - Saturday from 4pm until 1am Sunday, and again from 9am until 8pm on Sunday (20 hours)

Bands: 80-40-20-15-10 meters - activity concentrated near 3875 7280 14280 21380 28380 on SSB and 3540 7035 14040 21040 28040 on CW

Exchange: New England stations give signal report and county/state; others give signal report and state/province/country

Categories: QRP, low power, high power, multi-operator, mobile

Scoring for New England stations: One QSO point per SSB QSO; two points for CW/digital QSOs, multiple total QSO points by the number of states, Canadian provinces and DXCC countries worked.

Logs: send to logs@neqp.org or to NEQP, P O Box 3005, Framingham MA 01701

Full rules - see the NEQP web site: <http://www.neqp.org/rules.html>

Certificates will be sent to anyone making 25 QSOs or more, plus there are 30 plaques available to top scorers.

Repeater? What Repeater?

By Sumner, W1VIV

I think that FARA's 2 meter repeater, at 147150(+), must now hold the record for the most underutilized repeater in all of New England. I often listen on some of the other local repeaters, and hear some great discussions. Recently I've heard people talk about antennas, towers, transceivers, FCC rules, politics, club meetings, and many other things of interest to other hams. I tune to our repeater -- and it's silent! It only comes to life for fifteen minutes on Sunday nights for the FARA net, and then goes back to sleep for another week. What a waste of a wonderful resource.

Folks, the FARA repeater is working superbly! It has good sensitivity, and I can hit it from pretty far away with my mobile rig and mag-mount. Here is an opportunity to rag-chew with your fellow club members, on just about any subject. You can use it from your home or from your car. You only see other members when you attend a club meeting, and perhaps you don't know them very well. It's amazing how well you get to know people when you chat with them frequently. We have some great and knowledgeable people in our club. There are brains to be picked, equipment to be discussed, and much

to be learned.

Here is my plea --

Monitor 147150 when it is convenient for you -- in your car and home.

When you turn your radio on, identify yourself by your call letters. For example, "W1VIV listening." If you keep doing it and people are monitoring the frequency, someone will come back to you. Talk about whatever your interests are.

When you hear someone call in, answer them. Not only your friends, but strangers as well. The caller may be a brand new ham with little experience, or perhaps a visitor passing through our area. Be friendly!

If more of us get in the habit of monitoring our repeater, we can eventually have much greater enjoyment of one of the club's best but most underutilized and unappreciated resources. I'll be listening for you!

**READ THE CIRCUIT ONLINE...
SAVES PAPER AND POSTAGE**

Now available as an Adobe Acrobat file

email fara@fara.org and we'll set you up!

Upcoming FARA Meetings

Contact Gordy, K1GB if you have any meeting ideas.

May:

George Maier, K1GXT, on Collins Radio and collecting Collins gear.

June:

Dave Bernstein, AA6YQS

For Sale

Drake TR4C Transceiver

MS-4 Power Supply and Speaker

RV-3 Remote VFO.

Turner Antenna Tuner

Astatic D-104 Microphone.

Call Gordy at 781-891-5572 or email k1gb@arrl.net for more info. This gear is from an estate sale.

FARA Email Reflector

If you have email and aren't signed up for the FARA email reflector, you're missing out on the last-minute news and updates. To sign up, send an email to Sharon at kc1yr@kc1yr.com requesting her to add you to the reflector.

Shopping Online?

Use fara.org/amazon and help out the club. FARA receives a small percentage of your order.

Membership Dues

Annual membership dues are as follows: (Make checks payable to FARA)

Regular FARA \$15

Student / Retired \$10


Repeater (voluntary) \$10

FARA Horizons

- | | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| May 4: | Club Meeting |
| May 6-7: | New England QSO Party |
| May 22: | Board Meeting |

This month's Circuit sponsored by:

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Club Information 2006

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Meeting: Club meetings are normally held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30PM in the basement of the Danforth Museum, on Lexington St.

Club Nets: FARA Net: Sunday, 7:30PM, 147.75/147.15 - social/chat, ARES preparedness

Club Station: W1FY, the club station and shack, is open Saturday mornings from 8:30-12:00. Call the club number, 879-8097 to confirm.

Club Web Site: <http://www.fara.org>