

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association

September 2006, Vol. 73, No. 9

In This Issue

President's Message

Weston Observatory

Page 2-

Morse Code Class

Use Your Club Repeaters

Page 3-

QSL Card

FARA Horizons

and more...

President's Message

Hello everyone! I trust everyone had an enjoyable summer and is ready for another fun season at FARA! We have a lot of great activities planned, and I hope that you all participate. The list of upcoming events is listed elsewhere in the Circuit.

Our first meeting of the season will be held on Thursday, Sept. 7 at 7:30 PM. We will have Eric Falkof, K1NUN speak to us about QRP. Eric has been involved with QRP for a while, and he is an excellent speaker. The meeting will also be an opportunity for us to renew acquaintances since last season

Two other big events are coming our way. FARA will be holding bi-monthly VE sessions at the shack on the second Wednesday of the month. The first session is scheduled for Sept. 13. If you or someone you know is preparing for an exam, please make note of this. You **MUST** pre-register with Jim, W1EQW. Email Jim at testing@fara.org, or call him at 508-435-6487 before 9:00 PM. Also, FARA will be participating in the Emergency Preparedness Expo at Keefe Tech on Saturday Sept. 16. We will be making the public aware of Ham Radio's role in emergency communications, and have handouts and other activities for the kids. If you would like to join in, please let me know. For more info go to www.ktc-bsa.org.

In closing I wish to thank our repeater experts, Roger, WA1NVC Peter, KA1AXY and Rick, K1RJZ for all their hard work maintaining the repeaters this summer.

Lets have a fantastic turn out for our first meeting on Sept. 7!

Gordy K1GB

Weston Observatory—June 28, 2006

By Bev, N1LOO

The club visit to Weston Observatory on June 28, 2006, was on of the most interesting places I have been in a long time. For years, I have heard about Weston Observatory, especially after there is an earthquake, but I didn't know anything about the place or what really went on there. Believe it or not, I graduated from college in Boston with a degree in Geology and we never had a field trip there!!!

The Observatory is a smallish building built in a unique way. All the instruments

Thursday, Sept 7 This Month's Meeting

Eric, K1NUN will speak to us about QRP. Bring any QRP materials you may have to this meeting HF or VHF!

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

Robert Hess, N1UVA
1175 Farmington Ave 3-204
Bristol, CT
06010

by internet

circuit@fara.org



Continued on next page...

are on piers that are anchored directly into the bedrock below the building. Then the floor of the building is poured and it does not meet the piers. Therefore, the piers and thus the instruments are not affected by the movements of the people in the building or even from the movements directly outside.

Inside, there are several seismographs recording the earth's movement. For the most part, the interest of the Observatory is New England and the earthquakes we have, but all the earthquakes from around the world are recorded. The ongoing research is trying to find ways of predicting future earthquakes. They have a great program that is putting small seismographs in local schools and the students become a part of the local observing network.

The Observatory also hosts an interesting display of rocks from around the world. On all the walls are maps of the earthquakes around the world, clearly showing the areas of the world that are the most active geologically speaking. You can watch the recording drums, as they record all the movement the earth, pretty boring

the night we were there. However, they have a copy of the recording from the earthquake that caused the tsunami last year and that is far from boring!

In the classroom area, the kids were able to make their own earthquake by jumping on a board on the floor and seeing the results on a recording drum and on the computer monitor. It's neat to see how a small movement shows up as a big blip on the screen.

I would recommend the Weston Observatory to all not just the geology geeks in the group. Visit the Observatory web site:

<http://www.bc.edu/research/westonobservatory/>

or the US Geologic Survey web site:

<http://www.earthquake.usgs.gov/>

for more information.

Morse Code Class—Last Chance!

By Ed, W1NXC

Sign up now for a special Morse code class before the FCC deletes this requirement for obtaining a Ham license. Can you learn the Morse code in one day? Not really. But come to this class and find out why thousands of Ham operators worldwide use this communication method still. It uses less bandwidth, requires simpler equipment and is language transparent-no translation necessary!

Class will be held Sept 23, 2006 at the Club location in Framingham, 9 am to 12 noon. No experience required-no fee-no text.

Use Your Club Repeaters

By Sumner, W1VIV

Now that Labor Day is over and folks are back from vacation, I would like to remind you once again that FARA's 2 meter repeater at 147.150 (+) is still one of the most under-utilized repeaters in the area. In fact, our 440 repeater at 448.025 (-) also has lots of down time. People on some of the other area repeaters sure sound like they're having lots of fun -- having technical discussions, passing information, and just plain ragchewing. Put out your call now and then, and see what happens. If you hear someone else give their call, answer them. Don't just come back when it's a friend, be open to making new friends on the air. It may be a visitor passing through the area looking for directions, or a new ham trying to get a little experience. Ham Radio is all about Communication!



Gail, Gordy's daughter, making her own earthquake.

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

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!



TF/KC1YR
Reykjavik, Iceland



TF/N1LOO
Iceland

These cards are from our recent trip to Iceland with Sharon and Lee. Sharon and I were able to be on the air from TF3IRA for a short while on 20 July. We both had huge pileups and had a great time working all over the world. Now, I have operated from a country that I haven't worked!

Upcoming FARA Meetings

Contact Gordy, K1GB if you have any meeting ideas.

Sept. 7: General Meeting. Eric Falkof, K1NUN on QRP

Oct: Bill Ohm, W1OHM on DXing and contesting

Nov: Rich Kumf, WF1V on Digital Modes

Dec: Pizza party

Jan: Show and Tell Night and FIRST ANNUAL FARA QLF CONTEST!

Feb: Sumner, W1VIV, on using EBAY to sell ham gear.

March: OPEN

April: Pizza party following the Flea Market.

FARA Horizons

Sept 7: Club Meeting

Sept 13: VE session at 7:30 PM. Contact Jim W1EQW at testing@fara.org or call 508-435-6487

Sept 16: Emergency Preparedness Expo at Keefe Tech.

This month's Circuit sponsored by:

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

Peter Cantara
Assistant Manager
K11M

224 N. Broadway, Salem, NH 03079
(603) 898-3750, 1-800-444-0047
Fax (603) 898-1041
email: k11m@hamradio.com

ANAHEIM, CA • ATLANTA, GA • BURBANK, CA • DENVER, CO
NEW CASTLE, DE • OAKLAND, CA • PHOENIX, AZ • PORTLAND, OR
SALEM, NH • SAN DIEGO, CA • SUNNYVALE, CA • WOODBRIDGE, VA

First Class Postage

Post Office
Will Not
Deliver
Without
Proper
Postage

Framingham Amateur Radio Association
PO Box 3005
Framingham, MA 01705

Club Information 2006

President	Gordy Bello	K1GB	781-891-5572	president@fara.org
Vice President	Leo Cantin	WAIHAM	508-877-3319	vp@fara.org
Secretary	Tom Malloy	N1FTB	508-655-0392	secretary@fara.org
Treasurer	Peter Simpson	KA1AXY	508-429-7069	treasurer@fara.org
Director	Bev Lees	N1LOO	508-626-2012	director@fara.org
Director of Training	Ed Weiss	W1NXC	508-881-2301	
Director of Testing	Jim Weckback	W1EQW	508-435-6487	testing@fara.org
Publicity Coordinators	Sharon Gartenberg	KC1YR	508-877-6692	
Emergency Coordinator	Victor Anderson	K1VEA	508-877-8299	
Activities Director	Gordy Bello	K1GB	781-891-5572	vp@fara.org
Scholarship Comm. Ch.	Dick Cosma	KD1BF	508-877-8241	scholarships@fara.org
Public Service Coordinators	Bev Lees	N1LOO	508-626-2012	
	Jim Weckback	W1EQW	508-435-6487	
Newsletter Editor	Robert Hess	N1UVA	508-435-2055	circuit@fara.org
Webmaster	Sharon Gartenberg	KC1YR	508-877-6692	webmaster@fara.org

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>