

# The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association February 2002, Vol. 69, No. 2

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## Thursday, Feb 7

### This Month's Meeting

This Month Roger, W1NVC will give a talk and on-air demonstration of the Internet Radio Linking Project.

### Submitting Material to the Circuit

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

#### by phone

Home:

(508) 435-2055 (before 9:00PM please!)

#### by mail

Robert Hess, N1UVA  
1 Cold Spring Brook Road  
Hopkinton, MA 01748

#### by internet

[circuit@fara.org](mailto:circuit@fara.org)

### President's Message

Over the past few years, our tower crew, consisting of various FARA members, has taken down many towers and antennas. It is always kind of sad to see a nice tower go down because the Ham has lost interest in the hobby. In one case, a Ham left a beautiful 110 foot tower at his ex wife's house and we were asked to take this thing of beauty down. FARA usually gets the hardware so there is a bright side to these tower jobs. Well, this month we got to put an antenna UP for a Ham that has had her Advanced Class license for 10 years but has never been on the air. This time the crew consisted of Martin (AA1ON), Peter (KA1AXY), and myself. The antenna was for Katy (N1JDD), from Sudbury, who is a new FARA member. A couple of weeks ago, Katy and her husband, John, took a trip to HRO and came back with a brand new Icom IC-718 transceiver, a power supply, an antenna tuner and a key. Yes, I said Key! It seems that Katy wants to work some CW! Marc, W1AIR, donated a home made G5RV to the cause. With the help of Peter's slingshot contraption, we were able to get the G5RV 60 feet in the air between a couple of trees. Martin and Peter did a beautiful job routing the coax into the new N1JDD ham shack and the antenna plays real well. This was very fulfilling for all of us and we hope to do a few more of these jobs. Oh, by the way, the coax we used was recycled from a previous tower dismantling job so that also made us feel good. Katy, welcome to the world of Ham radio and to FARA!. It was our pleasure to do this job. Now, go work that DX!

While I'm on the subject of new members, I'd like to welcome Ken (KA1GFN) and Deb (N1NVJ) Horton back to FARA. Ken and Deb, who live in Bolton, were FARA members years ago when they lived in Framingham. They saw our web site and stopped by to visit on a Saturday morning.

Another husband/wife team has joined FARA. We welcome Dick (KB1HIW) and Nancy (KB1HIX) Stearns, from Franklin. Dick and Nancy came to one of our meetings and decided we were a pretty good group to belong to! Glad to have both of you aboard.

We have a real interesting meeting topic scheduled for February. W1NVC will give a talk and on-air demonstration of the Internet Radio Linking Project. This is way-cool stuff! Imagine talking to another Ham somewhere in the world on your 440 or 2 meter handy talky and hear him absolutely clear as day! Well, Roger will tell us all about it and will link his repeater to another repeater somewhere in the world during the meeting.

I hope to see you on Thursday.

Bob, W1RH

### Amateur Radio Communications at the Boston Marathon

By Stephen Schwarm, W3EVE

Radio operators are making preparations to support the 106th running of the Boston Athletic Association Boston Marathon on April 15, 2002. Amateur Radio plays a vital part in supporting runners before, during, and after the marathon. This year we have a combined organization handling all phases of radio support; start area, length of the course, and finish line. Positions are available starting early in the day in Hopkinton, along the route at aid and later stations, and later in the day at finish line operations in Boston. You can chose which activity you will be involved with, or work multiple locations. In Hopkinton, we will assist with coordinating the multiple parking areas and providing for start line safety. Along the 26-mile route, assisting the Red Cross at aid stations with supply requirements and ambulance dispatch. Runner pick up busses traveling the route will have hams on board. At the

finish line, working with the medical teams and shadowing officials.

You will need a two-meter or dual band HT, extended antenna, and extra batteries for participation. Training sessions and procedure sheets will be available before the event. We will try to accommodate your needs within the confines of the event set up.

An on line sign up form and more details are available at:

<http://cpsg.amateur-radio.net/>

You can mail in the BAA volunteer form available at the BAA web site:

<http://www.baa.org>

You can find the volunteer form by clicking 106th Boston Marathon and then click Volunteering. Fill it out and mail it in as instructed but put in the Race Day section: if you want to work the start check radio team; if you want to work the finish check ham radio (finish only); and if you want to work the course on the blank line with specify under it put "ham radio (course)". We will be doing a mailing at the end of Feb. with more details. You will be able to change your mind at that time as well. Or feel free to contact Steve Schwarm, W3EVE at (508) 384-7697, [w3eve@arrl.net](mailto:w3eve@arrl.net). Please no calls after 9PM or before 8AM.

### 2002 FARA Scholarship Rules

By Richard, AA1VI

As in previous years the rules are:

1. Must be a member of FARA.
2. Applications must be turned in or post marked by April 15, 2002.
3. Must be a license radio amateur.
4. Preference will be given to graduating high school seniors.

For applications contact Richard Cosma AA1VI 508 877 8241.

### Change of Address

If you would like to change the address on your Circuit label, please email [fara@fara.org](mailto:fara@fara.org). Or, you can call the Club at 508-879-8097

## Marlborough Flee!

Sat Feb 16  
9 am

At the Marlborough Middle School

Thresher Drive. ( Union and Bolton St.)

Marlborough, Ma. 01752

An exam session will also be held from 9 to 11 am  
Walk ins are welcome.

Talk in on 146.61/pl 146.2,  
223.94/pl 103.5, 449.925/pl 88.5

## Boxboro 2002

Save the date for Boxboro 2002, August 24 and 25th. For more information check the web site [www.boxboro.org](http://www.boxboro.org) A good place to get the best prices on new equipment!

### Useful FARA URLs

Main FARA Web site: <http://www.fara.org> (goes to [www.qsl.net/fara](http://www.qsl.net/fara))

Archives of the FARA mailing list: <http://list.fara.org>

Club info and officers: <http://info.fara.org>

Info on our WIFY packet cluster node: <http://packet.fara.org>

Other interesting ham-related links: <http://links.fara.org>

Shop at Amazon.com and help FARA: <http://amazon.fara.org>

Fara's online discussion forum: <http://forum.fara.org>

## Shop Online?

Use [amazon.fara.org](http://amazon.fara.org) and help out the club. FARA receives a small percentage of your order.

### FraminghamARA-L@qth.net

The FARA email reflector is working well. It provides us with an easy way to reach all our members who have email. You have to sign up so it will reach you, though.

To sign up, send a message to [majordomo@qth.net](mailto:majordomo@qth.net) with contents "subscribe FraminghamARA-L". (Without the quotes, of course). The subject can be left blank, the server only looks at the contents of the message. You'll get back a confirmation, follow its instructions exactly, then you're on the list!

*The Circuit is in need of QSL cards!!! If you would like to share your favorite QSL card, which could be your own, with the club, please send it my way! A caption or story would be appreciated also.*

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

Now available as an Adobe Acrobat file  
email [fara@fara.org](mailto:fara@fara.org) and we'll set you up!

### Membership Dues

Annual membership dues are as follows: (Make checks payable to FARA)  
Regular FARA \$15  
Student / Retired \$10  
Repeater (voluntary) \$10

### QSL Card

Card Submitted by Dick, K1RAW Write-up by Bob, W1RH

**BANGLADESH**

**S2/WZ6C**

TO STATION	CONFIRMING QSO						
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	2-WAY	RST
K1RAW	15	III	92	1403	28	SSB	55-

Verified by: W4FRU

73 *Erik*

**OP: ERIK BJÖRCK  
JAMALPUR**

A W4MPY QSL

This month's card came to us from Dick, K1RAW. The card is simple and sweet since Bangladesh is not exactly an easy DXCC entity to work. Dick worked S2/WZ6C in 1992 on 10 meter phone. Bangladesh is a region, that has been torn by squabbling religions over centuries. Prior to the the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Hinduism and Buddhism competed for dominance. By the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Islam became the dominant religion. The area, at the time, was referred to as Bengal. The Portugese came into the country in the 15<sup>th</sup> century but were ousted by local opposition. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the British were in solid control of the country. India, including the Bengal region achieved independence in 1947 with Bengal becoming part of India. Britain, however decided to make Bengal a part of East Pakistan when it be

came aware that self government of India would not work due to the continued religious conflicts involving the Bengal region.

In 1971, Bengal nationalism was at an all time high and the region declared its independence from Pakistan. Pakistan sent in troops and the result was one of the shortest and bloodiest wars in modern times - 11 days. With India's help, following the war, The People's Republic of Bangladesh became a new country, independent of Pakistan and India.

Since Bangladesh achieved independence, the country has gone through much internal strife and several governments. The economy has been a mess. The existing coalition government, at this time, appears stable. Bangladesh continues to be one of the rarest DXCC countries.

### FARA - The Early Years

Transcribed by Karen Hess

*The Framingham Amateur Radio Association, formerly called the Community Radio Association, is fortunate to have the notes dating back to the Club's first meeting. Karen Hess, W1RH's XYL, has transcribed the hand written notes, verbatim. They make for fascinating reading!*

May, 1934

The 26<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the C.A.R.A. was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by Pres. McLean. The Secretary's report was read and accepted. The treasurer was called upon for a report.

Herb Blanke gave a report of the Springfield Convention and made several suggestions as to associate membership in the club as given to him by the Conn. Valley Radio Club.

Motion made by Herb Blanke for club to purchase a combination broadcast and short-wave receiver to raffle off for the club. The suggestion was put before the executive committee. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to plans for the supper meeting.

Respectfully submitted  
A. L. Schaltenbrand

### FARA Horizons

- Feb 7: Club Meeting
- Feb 25: Board Meeting
- Mar 7: Club Meeting

### This month's Circuit sponsored by:

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