

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association January / February 2021 Vol. 88, No. 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Amateur Radio Year 2021, hope this one is better! We have learned that we are the original social distancers. Some of us have started getting vaccinated. I am almost six weeks past my second dose of the Pfizer vaccine. I hope you have received or are on your way to getting your vaccine.

- **December 3, 2020:** Brian Loverro, K1BML, President of the Central Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association (CMARA), and also active with the Worcester Emergency Communications Team, talked about and showed us some of his favorite HTs. We all saw his skyscraper arrangement of HTs, learned some tips on extending stored battery life (plastic strip over the contacts), that the FT-60R, old Yaesu workhouse, is one of his favorites. His energy and enthusiasm for HT's was infectious.
- **January 7, 2021:**
 - David Hoaglin, K1HT, talked us through a few DxPedition videos.
 - KH1/KH7Z, Baker Island, 2018 by 9V1YC (2:36) <https://vimeo.com/281933500>
 - VP6D, Ducie Island, 2018 (12:57)
 - 5X3C and 5X5E, Uganda, 2019 Can be seen on YouTube.
 - SHACK PRESENTATIONS
 - KC1DMM – Andy focused on SDR (Flex & Anon) in his attic shack.
 - W1VIV – Sumner, by contrast, focused on analog – old school - hardware for communications.
- January 9, 2021 Board Meeting. This was held to discuss changing the bylaws. The first order of business was to discuss how to interpret the first sentence of ARTICLE 7 on changing the bylaws:

ARTICLE 7 : Amendment of By-Laws.

“These By-Laws may only be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Membership at either a General Meeting or a Special Meeting, provided that proper notice is given.”

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the following interpretation of the first sentences as follows:

“These By-Laws may only be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at either a General Meeting or a Special Meeting, provided that proper notice is given.” This interpretation passed unanimously and is the interpretation we will use when we eventually vote on the bylaws changes.

- **February 4, 2021:** Lew Nyman, K1AZE, past FARA president (1976-1982) gave a presentation on the History of FARA. He included discussion of how we acquired the repeater, the original pizza parties, scholarships, past field days, and Dick Marshall's chili recipe (now on the FARA webpage). Also check out Lew's QRZ page for a copy of an article he had published in the July 2020 QST on his Novice station. Lew notes he got his Novice license in February 1957!

“This was clearly one of the most interesting presentations and has been recorded, available on our website. From our founding in 1933 to Lew's tenure starting in 1972 Lew shared many interesting stories and development. Most notable was the display we had at the Museum of Science in July, 1986

written up in QST. So many great accomplishments. Thank you, Lew.” From the minutes, Stephen M Babbitt – KC1LPZ Clerk/Secretary

Note: For those who may have missed a monthly meeting presentation, some of the presentations were recorded and can be viewed at <http://w1fy.org/past-meetings>

Repeater and Echolink appear to be working well overall.

Dues: Reminder - There is now a flat rate of \$20 per year per person or family, and no separate repeater fee. Paid members for the current year will be posted on the web page. Dues are due by the end of January. Members who are paid up for 2020 may vote on Association matters through January 2021, after that only members paid up for 2021 can vote for the remainder of this year. You can join/renew/pay online at <http://w1fy.org/membership-form>

Bylaws changes: We are in the process of revising the bylaws. Some minor inconsistencies and typos are being cleared up. We will clarify some of the ambiguous phrasing around voting. A new section regarding eligible voters will be added. We will mention video meetings such as the Zoom meetings we have been having. We will include mention of “501c3” in Article 8. The revised bylaws will be distributed by email to paid members before a well noticed meeting to vote on them. Members who do not have access to email could have access to the revised bylaws in other ways and should contact one of the officers to identify alternative notification methods.

Upcoming meetings:

- Board meeting will be scheduled to address scholarships.
- **March 4, 2021:** Bob Hess, W1RH will present on WBZ
- **April 1, 2021:** Possibly some ARRL videos.
- **May 6, 2021:** Nominations.
- **June 3, 2021:** Elections and field day discussion

Upcoming contests and radio events: selected from WA7BNM calendar

- South Carolina QSO Party 1500Z, Feb 27 to 0159Z, Feb 28
- NA Collegiate Championship, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 27 to 0559Z, Feb 28
- North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 27 to 0559Z, Feb 28
- North Carolina QSO Party 1500Z, Feb 28 to 0059Z, Mar 1

Field Day: June 26-27, 2021. ARRL has extend the rules from last year and made some modification to the power limits on Class D (Home Stations) and Class E (Home Stations-Emergency Power) participants. Also, Class D stations (Home Stations) may work *all other* Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points. This year, however, Class D and Class E stations will be limited to 150 W PEP output.

An *aggregate* club score will be published — just as it was done last year. The aggregate score will be a sum of all individual entries that attributed their score to that of a specific club. <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-to-extend-field-day-rule-waivers-from-2020-add-class-d-and-e-power-limit>

Officers: see <http://w1fy.org/fara-officers>:

- President: John Iwuc KB1VXY president@W1FY.org
- Vice president: Open position, nominations accepted
- Clerk/Secretary: Stephen Babbitt, KC1LPZ secretary@W1FY.org
- Treasurer /Webmaster: Steve Moro N1MH treasurer@W1FY.org webmaster@W1FY.org
- Director: Sumner Weisman W1VIV
- Director of Testing Jim Weckback W1EQW testing@fara.org
- Repeater Trustee, Dave Miscia, KB1YXL repeater@w1fy.org
- Traffic Coordinator: Fred Beihold, NV1N traffic@w1fy.org
- Scholarship coordinator, Richard Cosma AA1VI scholarship@w1fy.org
- Echolink coordinator: Andy Boughton, KC1DMM
- Sunday night net control manager: Steve Hewlett, N4NIV
- QSL manager/QRZ Account manager: Dave Miscia, KB1YXL
- Newsletter editor: John Iwuc, KB1VXY president@w1fy.org
- Field Day Manager: Dave Miscia, KB1YXL
- Publicity Manager Richard Cosma, AA1VI

Meetings: Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM. Due to COVID-19 and recommendations for social distancing and closing of town buildings, **meetings at the PD are on hold** and will be on ZOOM instead. Members will get an email invitation before the meeting. Non-members may request an invitation from president@w1fy.org

Club Nets:

- FARA Net: Sunday, 7:30PM, 147.75/147.15 - social/chat, emergency preparedness, Echolink enabled.
- Informal Wednesday 7:30 pm Health and Wellness check in net, Echolink enabled.

Club Web Site: W1FY.org

Social Media:

- <https://www.facebook.com/FARAW1FY/>
- https://twitter.com/fara_w1fy

Dues: Flat rate of \$20 per year per person or family, and no separate repeater fee. Paid members will be posted on the web page. You can join/renew/pay online at <http://w1fy.org/membership-form>

Testing: Exams on hold while town offices are unavailable.

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