

FramingHAM Circuit

ANNUAL OUTING PLANNED AT MAC'S QTH ***** LATE NEWS FLASH *****

Once again, Mac's, WA1IGL, QTH be the site of the annual FARA outing, the social highlight of the summer. It's scheduled for Aug. 5, which is earlier than we usually have it, so be sure to mark the on your calendar to remember it.

Strictly BYOF (Bring Your Own Food), the outing gives us all a chance to see friends, who we may not have seen for awhile, and to make new friends. The FARA outing is open to all area Amateur Radio operators, regardless of whether they're FARA members or not.

This event is a bangup time and is enjoyed by everyone who attends it. What could be nicer than spending a fine summer afternoon with good friends and acquaintances? Well, the club picnic gives us the chance.

It also gives our XYLs and YLs or OMs and YMs a chance to show their culinary hands, as they all prepare some of the finest barbecued fare around. We supply the grilles, all you do is bring the food. We also supply the liquid refreshments.

So, be sure to mark Aug. 5 on to-do list because that's the day of our annual summertime bash.

There will be plenty of food; and lots of time to spend with friends, both old and new. There will even be a game of skill or two -- horseshoes and volleyball, most years.

So, plan to come early -- the early bird gets the shade tree -- to Mac's QTH, off Central Street, Framingham, for the time of the summer.

(See map at right)

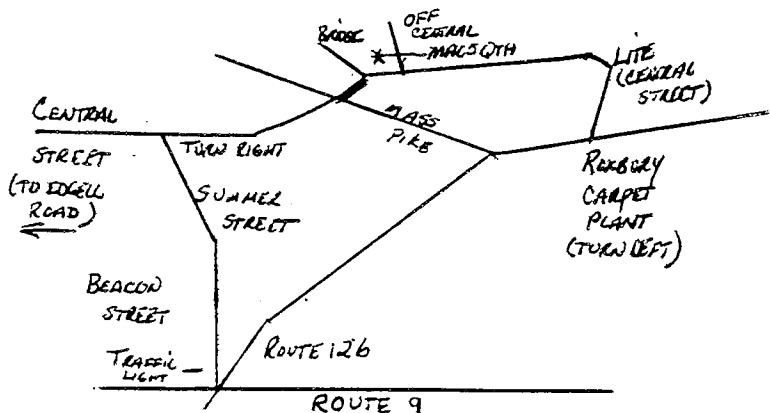
License Exams at Boxboro

In a late news development, we have learned Amateur Radio exams will be given at the Boxboro ARRL Convention. These are the first we know of under the FCC's newly instituted Volunteer Exam Program. All classes of license exams will be given.

For those who are interested in taking an exam to upgrade, a Form 610 must be filed no later than August 30. The 610 is the standard FCC exam application we've all used for years and hasn't been changed by the commission yet to reflect new exam procedures. So, we'll continue to use the 610 for the time being.

If you are planning to take the test at Boxboro, send your completed 610, A COPY OF YOUR LICENSE and a check for \$4 to cover expenses to:

North Shore Ham Services
P.O. Box 54
West Lynn, MA 01905



FIELD DAY'S FUN, BUT MURPHY STRIKES!

Fighting poor band conditions, the FARA Field Day crew did a very respectable job during the annual two-day June event.

With 10 meters virtually dead and 15 in rocky shape, the Field Day crew found 20, 40 and 80 meters to be their most profitable bands. Our novice station, run under the call of Bob Gettys, N1BRM, did quite well, too.

The Field Day weekend began, as it did last year, with setup starting on Friday. A crew consisting of Dick, WA1KUG, Field Day chairman and resident chef, Ken, KA1GFN, club secretary and Mac, WA1IGL, scurried around town picking up tower sections, antennas, generators, trailers, hardware and, most importantly, food. They spent the morning running these errands.

With the afternoon, the crew larger as others, including Lew, K1AZE, Marc, N1BLH, Henry Lee, WB3H10, Howard, WA1VFJ, Ed, KS1Y, Burt, N1DDO, vice president, who had just received his new call -- as did his XYL Toby, N1DDS -- George, N1GB, and others arrived at the site to help assembling the tower sections and antennas.

Work proceeded slowly and smoothly and the three beams that were to be used began to be assembled.

With nightfall came a halt to the work and Dick turned up his culinary talents and provided all

who were there with a sumptuous barbecue of steak. Karen, KA1BYP, provided the salad, while Marsha, KA1JIR, provided a delicious noodle pudding, and Toby and Marjie, KA1HIA, provided desert.

Saturday dawned fair and clear and saw the FARA Field Day crew assemble about 9 a.m. to finish putting everything together. Not only did all the operators in the Friday work crew arrive, but new faces joined in to help, including Jon, K1VVC, Ron, K1YHM and his partner in CW, Fran, Bob, N1BRM, Ed W1NXC, Skip, WA1QDY, Bob, WB1FXR, Sam, Ed, WB1GBU, and many, many others.

In a departure from previous years, Dick prepared breakfast for Saturday morning, another gastronom-

The Framingham Circuit is published monthly by the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn.

- President
- Bob Press, KB1EW, 655-1710
- Vice President
- Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, 872-0534
- Treasurer
- Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, 877-0563
- Secretary

Ken Horton, KA1GFN, 485-6542
Activities
John MacLeod, WA1IGL, 877-2721
Station Call Sign: W1FY

Meetings first Thursday of month from September to June. Held at club headquarters in the Danforth Museum Building on Lexington Street, Framingham.

success.

During the day, new faces appeared at the annual Field Day site on Badger Road, including, Jeff, the two Davids from our '81 class, Jeff, WB9PZD, Bob, W1ARR, Gordon, W1MEG, Lindsay, KA1EMQ, Arnie, K1BPM, Sue, KA1DUF and others. (Ed. note: I'm sorry if I missed anyone, but, as I'm writing this, more than a month has passed since Field Day, and it's also the end of a long workday. If I missed anyone, please let me know and I'll include your name in a future newsletter.)

Operations began at 2 p.m., as all the stations went on the air. But, even as the first fingers touched a keyer, Mr. Murphy, who must have ordered the poor band conditions, struck again. The generator of Gerry, K1AIU, which has served faithfully for so many Field Days began to act up, shutting itself down more than once. At the same time, its rock-steady voltage began swinging wildly. Fortunately, Burt brought his 2.5 KW generator to the site and it served admirably as a stand-in.

Mr. Murphy wasn't content to play tricks with just band conditions and the generator. Not about two hours into the contest the rig in the 10/40-meter station -- FARA operated in Class 3A -- bit the dust, a victim of the power swings. A filter cap in the power supply let go. Fortune was at hand, though, because Lew remembered to bring his trusty SB-102 and it was placed in service.

By now, it was nearing dinner-time and Dick had another trick up his sleeve, shishkabobs, which were delightful. Again, Marsha provided her noodle pudding, and Toby, Karen and Marjie provided homemade cakes

dessert.

Operations continued through the night as new operators arrived at the site and tired ones departed for some sleep. But, again, Mr. Murphy was a constant visitor. The quarter-wave 40-meter sloper wasn't working well and Bob, WB1FXR, made a midnight foray up a tower to free the grounded side of the antenna. (We used half a resonant 40-meter dipole, just in case the sloper didn't work out.) Bob's trip, by the way, was made during a rain shower.

Sunday dawned sunny, but the weatherman had other news for us, rain was predicted during the afternoon, and the decision was made to shut down two-hours early. You could see the hand of Mr. Murphy in this clearly and he still wasn't done with FARA.

Lowering the first two antennas, 10 meters and 15 meters went pretty smoothly. The 10-meter/40-meter antenna was mounted on a crankup 32-foot tower and the 15-meter/80-meter was mounted on a 40-foot tower. The 20-meter antenna, atop a 42-foot tower, was, by far, the heaviest. It was a full-sized 20-meter mono-bander with a 26-foot boom.

As the crew prepared to lower the 20-meter antenna, a crucial guy was loosened. It bore most of the weight of the antenna and when it was loosened, the antenna and tower crashed down with a thud, leaving KS1Y's antenna in pieces on the ground. Fortunately, the ground crew was well clear and no one was injured.

The crew finished up fairly quickly and by about 2:30 p.m. most traces of Field Day were gone.

One thing you can say about Field Day 1984, it was Mr. Murphy's

to shine. Yet, even though he plagued us all weekend, everyone will agree that it was one of the best in years.

A special tip of the Editor's cap to: Burt, N1DDO, who let us use his camper for the novice station; Dick, WA1KUG, for his cooking and his trailer; Karen, KA1BYP, Marsha, KA1JIR, Toby, N1DDS, and Marjie, KA1HIA, for their treats; Volkswagen, for lending us the camper for the 10/40-meter operation site; KB1EW for his Friday night flyby; Mac, WA1IGL, for acting as chief go-getter; Ed, KS1Y, for his antenna; K1YHM, for his transceiver; Lew, K1AZE, for his assistance; George, N1GB, for his tools and patience, and Jon, K1VVC, for his assist with the antennas, as well as Ed, W1NXC, for his work.

PERINI LOANS TRAILER FOR FIELD DAY

Framingham contractor Thomas Perini, as part of his continuing effort to support community activities, gave us use of a 35-foot trailer, which housed the 15/80-meter and 20-meter stations. And we didn't have to lift a finger to help.

Unlike most of the trailers at the site, which we haul in, Mr. Perini had one of his trucks haul the trailer to the site.

It arrived on time Friday afternoon and provided spacious operating positions. It had two large rooms, partially separated by a large wall and it allowed both operating teams a degree of quiet and privacy, so they didn't interfere with one another.

Club officials are looking into the possibility of a permanent loan of this trailer as an emergency communications center and for use in future club events. It does need some work, but we should be able to fix it up quite quickly, especially if we have enough willing hands to help with the task.

Again, thank you Mr. Perini.

Our new club year has gotten off to an exciting start. On Thursday, June 21, the Board of Directors of FARA represented the Amateur Radio operators of the Commonwealth at the issuing by Gov. Dukakis of a Proclamation commemorating Amateur Radio Week in Massachusetts. I presented the Governor with red and blue shields of FARA. We were also present for the signing of the bill to retain the 146.31/91 repeater atop Mt. Greylock under a rent-free lease.

Field day was once again a resounding success thanks to the Field Day Chairman and FARA cook, Dick Marshall, WA1KUG. All those who participated had a great time.

Arrangements have just been completed merging the Framingham Repeater Assn. into FARA. FARA will have custody and be responsible for the Framingham repeater, 147.75/15.

All current members of the repeater association are now members of FARA through 1984. We expect this merger to be beneficial to the club and to all our members. The repeater will operate as a separate entity in the club under the jurisdiction of the FARA Board of Directors. More details will be provided at the club picnic.

As a special service club, the ARRL now sends us lists of new amateurs in our local area. We will attempt to contact these new or transplanted hams to recruit them into the club.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the club picnic on Aug. 5th. The picnic is always one of the highlights of the summer. (Details and map elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Bob, KB1EW

FARA OPERATORS ASSIST SHRINERS

Once again, FARA's public spirit shown forth as several of our operators assisted with the big Shriners convention in Boston. Mac, WA1IGL, and local Emergency Coordinator, was one of the key participants in this event and he had some words of praise for the operators who assisted him in Boston. But, rather than stand on my soapbox, I'll reliquish it to Mac.

"I want to thank all of you who offered your services during Shrine Imperial Week.

"This was a large project and I am aware some of you were not used due to some communication gaps. K1FSU is well aware of the response of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association and thanks you all.

"The operators I know who were used were: Warren, W1KAN; Henry, WB3H10; Skip, WA1QDY; Myles, W2IRW; Bob, N1BRM, and myself.

"Most of us worked in the dispersal area, which meant we had to be sure personnel and material, such as floats, kept moving after passing the reviewing stand. This way they didn't hold up other units which were following.

"Everything worked out very smoothly, with minimum communication required.

"Again, thanks to all of you for responding in your usual form.

"73,

"Mac"

RED CROSS LAUDS AMATEUR AID

The Framingham Chapter of the American Red Cross recently dropped us a note thanking us for the many events in which we provided emergency communications. We have assisted them with communications backup many times during the last several years. Those events have included the Boston Marathon, as

well as the March of Dimes Walkathon and numerous road races and other events.

Again, rather than standing on my soapbox, here are the words of Carolyn Fuller, executive director of the local Red Cross chapter.

"Framingham Radio Club
"P.O. Box 3005
"Framingham, MA 01701

"On behalf of the Greater Framingham Chapter of the American Red Cross, I would like to thank the members of the Framingham Radio Club for their assistance with communications for first aid stations.

"We appreciate the time and efforts that you have given to help us. It is so important to maintain good communications both during events and in disaster situations. Your help is invaluable to us.

"Sincerely,"

(signed)

"Carolyn P. Fuller"
"Executive Director"

Best wishes to ...

... Sharon, N1CUJ, and her new husband Chris, following their July 22 wedding at the Sheraton-Tara, Framingham. Sharon, the daughter of Dick, WA1KUG, and Marsha, KA1JIR, Marshall, also completed her nursing education in June. Sharon and Chris have lent FARA a helping hand on more than one occasion.

... Steve Marshall, son of Dick and Marsha, who will be married Sept. 2. A policeman in Claremont, N.H., Steve has helped us out on many occasions. His bride's name is Karen.

... Neal Shaffer, son of Burt, N1DDO, and Toby, N1DDS, Shaffer. Neal will be busy this month.

First, he will be taking the state bar exam, early in the month, and, he will be marrying Esther Ann Pearlman Aug. 12. It will be a busy time for the Shaffer family.

...Marty, WA1WHU, and Resa, Green on the impending birth of their child.

...Recent upgrades: Burt, N1DDO, to technician; Toby, N1DDS, to general; Henry, WB3HIO, to technician. (If you recently upgraded and would like it mentioned here, please contact me. Please accept my apologies if I left anyone out. I know we recently had a group of graduates from our class at the FCC for exams, but I haven't received all your names yet. As soon as I do, I'll publish them.)

SWAP AND SHOP

FOR SALE: Hygain TH5DX tri-band antenna. 18-foot boom with four active elements on 10; three on 15, and three on 20. Two years old and works great. Includes balun. \$90. Call Ed KS1Y at 875-3433.

FOR SALE: ICOM IC25A, two-meter mini-mobile FM transceiver. Low/high power settings, 25 watts maximum output. Four months old. \$222.22. Call Joe K1GFH, 449-2540.

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-120S. Low-band transceiver. 80-10 meter coverage. CW/SSB. Runs off 13 VDC. Mint condition. \$333.33. Call Joe K1GFH, 449-2540.

FOR SALE: Heathkit SB102 transceiver with matching power supply. 80-10-meter coverage; CW/SSB; semi-QSK. Package includes: matching power supply; SB-600 speaker; HM-102 SWR/Power meter; outboard audio speech processor; desk mic.; spare set of 6146 finals; manuals. \$350. Call Lew, K1AZE, 879-7456.

FOR SALE: 10-amp, metered power supply. Call Lew, K1AZE, 879-7456.

WANTED: Six-meter halo antenna. Call Jonathan, KA1CKG, 653-4436, after 6:30 p.m.

June highlights

At the June meeting of the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn., Inc., it was voted to donate \$50 to the March of Dimes, as we do every year.

The new officers for the 1984-85 year were elected. They are:

- Bob Press, KB1EW, President
- Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, Vice Pres.
- Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, Treas.
- Ken Horton, KA1GFN, Secy.
- John MacLeod, WA1IGL, Activities

As was noted in the last newsletter of 1984, Jim Boates, WA1UEH, has stepped down as newsletter editor. He also withdrew his name from consideration as secretary.

Ken Horton accepted the nomination and was elected secretary. Marc Stern, N1BLH, also publicity coordinator, was named newsletter editor.

Field Day was discussed and a meeting was scheduled at Dick's, WA1KUG, QTH. We were to operate Class 3A, and breakfast will be served.

Again, the Framingham selectmen declared the week of June 17-23, "Amateur Radio Week" in this town.

Marc arranged to have FARA sponsor the declaration of this week across the state. A delegation from FARA, including, Bob, Burt, Dick, Ken and Lew, met with Gov. Michael Dukakis as he signed the proclamation. It is available to see, ask Bob.

Scholarship news: According to George, N1GB, chairman, three of students considered were former winners. Each year since 1982, we've had more applicants, whose qualifications are very good. They are so good, in fact, everything there was only one top prize and four tied for second place.

The winners were: WB1EYL, \$150; KA1KNA, \$100; WA1WFA, \$100; WB1FCT, \$100, and WB1FPF, \$100.

Ron was given a plaque honoring him for his years of work in FARA.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Aug. 11-12: The Burlington Vt. Amateur Radio Club will hold and International Hamfest and Flea Market at the Old Lantern Camp Grounds, Charlotte, Vt. Registration for two days is \$4; outdoor flea market space for two days is \$2. Indoor space is available for \$5. Camping is \$7 per day. Location is on Vermont Rt. 5, off Rt. 7 just south of Shelburne. Talk-in is 146.34/94 and 146.01/61. Contact Burlington Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Box 312, Burlington, VT. 05402.

Aug. 25: The Pilgrim, Massasoit and Whitman Radio Clubs will hold a flea market at the Taunton VFW Hall 82 Ingell St., Taunton, MA. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., setup at 10 a.m. Admission is \$1. Tables are \$8 for an 8-foot table, including admission fee. Ample parking, refreshments. Rain or shine. Talk-in is on 146.52 direct and 147.735/135. For more information, contact Gary L. DeCoster, WA1CIM, 42 South Drive, Bridgewater, Ma. 02324. Tel. 697-7141 in the evening. Make checks payable to Massasoit Amateur Radio Assn.

Dates to remember: Aug. 5, FARA outing.

Sept. 29-30, ARRL New England Convention in Boxboro.

Oct. 6, Hoss Traders Swapfest.

Oct. 29, FARA Flea Market.

DX news

Ed, KS1Y, had an interesting contribution to this month's newsletter, for which your editor thanks him, a list of 10-meter beacons for the DXers in the crowd.

So, without further ado, here's the list of 10-meter beacons. They are a good guide to band openings, especially now as we are nearing

bottom of the sunspot cycle.

- 28.200 DL0IGI .2025 9J2B
- 28.205 DL0IGI .2075 W4ESY
- 28.209 WA1IOB .210 3B8MS
- 28.2125 ZD9GI .215 GB3SX
- 28.2175 VE2TEN .220 5B4CY
- 28.224 HG2BHA .225 VE8AA
- 28.230 ZL2MHF .235 VP9BA
- 28.2375 LASTEN .240 OA4CK
- 28.2475 EA2HB .250 Z21ANB
- 28.251 ONSAV .2525 VE7TEN
- 28.255 LU1UG .575 DK0TE
- 28.260 VK5WI .2625 VK2WI
- 28.2725 VZABJ .275 VE3TEN
- 28.280 YVSAVY .284 VP8ADE
- 28.286 KA1YE/B .290 VS6TEN
- 28.295 VU2BCN .296 W3VD/B
- 28.299 PY2AMI .888 W6IRT
- 28.890 WD9GOE

EDITOR'S NOTE

As the new editor of the FramingHAM Circuit (I've changed the name slightly), I'd like to introduce myself. I am Marc, N1BLH, also the publicity coordinator for FARA. My XYL is Marjie, KA1HIA, and we have been active in FARA for more than four years.

I'm following a newsletter editor, Jim Boates, WA1UEH, who set a high standard and who has left me one big set of shoes to fill. It's a challenge to try and live up to the standards Jim set and I hope I do it well.

I am a professional writer and author and have spent my entire working life in journalism and writing. My career spans nearly 20 years and who knows how many articles.

I accept the challenge I've been given and I hope you will like my changes.

One thing I hope to stress is that this is YOUR newsletter. If you want to write something, please. No article is too small. Please give me your input because this is your forum, it's not mine. I'm merely putting it together for you. So if you have an idea, write, I'll print it.