

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association

September 2003, Vol. 70, No. 9

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Thursday, Sep. 4 This Month's Meeting

This Month's meeting will feature a video tour of a Ham shack on Fort Burnside, Rhode Island. A very interesting tour of military surplus equipment.

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

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President's Message

Thanks to Katy (N1JDD) for a great talk last month on PSK31. Katy's Power-Point presentation was first class. I hope she inspired some of the members in attendance to try this amazing mode. We will try to have Katy's notes posted on the web site.

There seems to be a lot of interest in resuming a kit or project building night at the FARA Shack. This is something that FARA has done in the past. Hopefully, we will announce something soon for the upcoming winter months.

By the time you read this, the FARA Picnic at Hopkinton State Park will be history. As of this writing, we have about 27 members signed up for the picnic, which should make for a fun time. Thanks to Marc (WA1R) for coordinating the event and to Bev (N1LOO) for taking care of the food.

Welcome to a new member of FARA. Lawrence Griffin (KB1GMU) joins us from Framingham.

Curt Kolovson (W6RQ) dropped by the FARA Shack during one of our Saturday morning openings. He is from California and was in FARA territory visiting his family. Curt belongs to seven ham clubs and brought be a newsletter from PARA, the Palo Alto Radio Club. We had a nice group at the Shack that day and it is always nice to have a surprise visitor.

The FARA DX Spotting node has been resurrected, thanks to Bill (KE1GF), Pete (KA1AXY), Charlie (NC1N), Jim (N1XAS) and Lee (K1GL). Bill has got the node running from the KE1GF/N1XAS home and it covers well. Bill and Jim live on top of the hill in Hopkinton, near AA1ON, so they enjoy a superb amateur radio location. The Node seems to be accessible anywhere from FARA territory. If you have a TNC or sound card and an available 2 meter radio, you can try it out. You'll find it making noise on 145.61.

FARA night out is scheduled for Thursday, September 11 at the Pacific Buffet in Framingham. Please RSVP to Marc (WA1R) if you are going to be there. This is the big night for Ed (W1NXC) where he will be formally presented the ARRL's Instructor of the Year Award. I hope we have a large turnout for the event to honor Ed. Watch the FARA web site for any last minute information or changes.

This month's meeting will feature a video, done by K1VV. It will be a tour of radio equipment at Fort Burnside, Rhode Island.. This is a well-done DVD. I have seen it. Very interesting, especially for those of us who have used military surplus equipment in the past. I hope to see you there.

Andrew Otto Receives FARA Scholarship

Letter by Andrew, N1ZWE

I want to thank those who were responsible for supporting me and awarding me the FARA scholarship this year. It comes as a great help as I head into an internship at Disney World this semester in Florida and the return to school in the spring. Many opportunities have opened up lately for me at WBZ and Disney. The scholarship will definitely help me take another step in pursuing my academic and career dreams in communications.

Andrew Otto receives the FARA Scholarship from FARA President Bob, W1RH.



More FARA Schwag!

Submitted by Lew, K1AZE

Remember the FARA medallions from last month's Circuit? Lew sent this tidbit along.

I, too, have one of the club medallions. Mine is the red one. These were actually made up by Jim Boates, WA1UEH (sk) who was the club vice president while I was president. I also have the official FARA wristwatch (see below) which I had ordered for myself and about two dozen FARA members. These were purchased sometime around 1980. Mine still is in good shape. I wonder how many are still around.



Change of Address

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

Fox Hunting

Submitted by Rick Zach, K1RJZ

South Shore fox hunters found themselves on the wrong side of the law recently when someone called the police to report two "suspicious" males sitting in a pickup truck at the end of a parking lot. Police investigated the call but concluded the men were not guilty of any wrong-doing. According to the police report in the newspaper, "it is a group of senior citizens using radio and locating devices." Thanks, Massasoit ARA "MARANews"

Don't Forget...

FARA Night Out September 11

Ed, W1NXC will be presented with the ARRL instructor of the year award

FraminghamARA-L@fara.org

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, contact webmaster@fara.org

Shopping Online?

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

Attention Codeless Techs

By Ed, W1NXC

How would you like to take away the LESS and add the PLUS to your Ham license?

Join the winners at W1NXC's six-week cw class this September. Six two-hour sessions will be held starting September 20 on successive Saturdays at the Club location. Codeless Techs are especially welcome but anyone wishing to learn Morse code or brush up on receiving skills is also invited to join the class.

Classes will begin promptly at 9 am, rain or shine. No text or previous experience is required. To register call 508-881-2301 or e-mail W1NXC@arrl.net.

Sunday Night Net

The FARA Net runs every Sunday at 7:30 pm

Net Control Schedule:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| WA1R - | 9/21 | 11/2 |
| W1EQW - | 9/28 | 11/9 |
| W1VIV - | 10/12 | 11/16 |
| W1RH - | 10/5 | 11/23 |
| KB1GMX—9/7 | 10/19 | 11/30 |
| W1NXC—9/14 | 10/26 | 12/7 |

Badges? You need one of these stinking badges!

The Club will issue one Name/Call badge to a member for free. If you have not received a badge, contact the Badge Team:

AA1IZ, Steve - vp@fara.org

N1LOO, Bev - 508-626-2012

Membership Dues

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

Regular FARA \$15

Student / Retired \$10

Repeater (voluntary) \$10

FARA Minutes

By Richard Stearns, KB1HIW, Secretary

Minutes of Meeting held August 7, 2003

The meeting began at 7:35 pm. There were 22 members and one guest in attendance.

Herb S. Brier Award

Our own Ed Weiss WINXC is this year's recipient of the ARRL Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award. Congratulations, Ed, and thanks for all your years of service to amateur radio. There was a cake (thanks to W1RH XYL Karen) for the occasion after the meeting. A formal presentation of the award by ARRL officials will be made at FARA Night Out.

Code Class

Ed WINXC (not resting on his well-deserved laurels) will be holding a six-week CW class on Saturdays beginning September 20.

Technical Sessions

The club is considering holding technical sessions on Wednesday nights. Some of the topics could be kit building, soldering tutorial, J-pole antenna construction, or computer interfaces. Please forward any ideas for topics to a club officer.

Best Wishes

Julie Hoffer W1DL is in the hospital. Sumner Weisman W1VIV reported that Julie appreciated the card members signed at the last meeting. Our best wishes to Julie for a speedy recovery.

FARA Picnic

Our activities Director, Marc Stern WA1R, is organizing a FARA picnic. It is tentatively scheduled for the weekend before Labor Day.

Program

Katy Sharko N1JDD gave a presentation

on setting up a PSK31 station. She included information on PSK31, the equipment required and how to connect it all together. There was also a demonstration of the software. Thanks, Katy - this was a great introduction to PSK31.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. Stearns KB1HIW, Secretary

Ride For Hunger Needs Your Help!

By Phil Temples, K9HI

Project Bread is again sponsoring the Ride for Hunger on Sunday, September 14. This ride raises funds to support feeding programs all across the Commonwealth. With the high level of unemployment, our efforts are needed more than ever. The Crocker Public Service Group was a vital part of raising over \$250,000 last year. Our team provides crucial safety links to the 1,000 cyclists in this tour.

The ride will start at Lake Cochituate in Natick. The MetroWest route goes through Sherborn and Millis, then returns. The TourWest route traverses towns including Holliston, Hopkinton, Grafton, Northborough, Hudson, and Wayland.

We will be supplying communications support along both the 25 and 70 mile routes. Positions include mobile operators, operators at critical intersections with marshals, and rest stop hams. Last year, an injured rider was aided over the noise of Speen Street to the great relief of the Project Bread staff. The 144, 222 and 440MHz bands will be used at different locations, courtesy of the Minuteman Repeater Association.

To sign up or to obtain more information, go to <http://cpg.amateur-radio.net/> or send mail to rfh2003@amateur-radio.net.

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!

April 26, 1935

The 44th regular meeting of the Framingham Radio Club was called to order at 8:35 P.M. by Pres. Dr. Crosby.

It was moved, seconded and voted upon that the President and secretary fill out the questionnaire sent the Club by L. Collett, W9DEA of Sioux City, Iowa; in regard to whether the ARRL is really of, for and by the amateur.

Mr. J. O'Neill reported the Mr. Bailey was able to have the newspaper cut made, without charge, and it was shown to all present at this meeting.

Pres. Dr. Crosby reported that the ERA building had the disadvantage as club headquarters, in that it is not a heated room. Also, that we could obtain a lot on the short of Learned's Pond, and it was discussed whether or not it would be a good idea to have a portable building placed on this lot. A metal one would cost about \$400.00 and Mr. A.W. Mandell was appointed as a committee of one, to obtain an approximate price on having a wooded construction built.

There being no further business before the club the meeting adjourned at 8:55 P. M. and the members passed the rest of the evening in social chatting.

Respectfully submitted

D. J. Giro, Sec.

FARA Horizons

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Sept 4: | Club Meeting |
| Sept 10: | FARA Night Out |
| Sept 13: | Milford Hospital "Monster" Field Day |
| Sept 22: | Board Meeting |

This month's Circuit sponsored by:



Peter Cantara
Assistant Manager
K1TM

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Club Information 2003

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-----------------------|
| President | Bob Hess | WIRH | 508-435-2055 | president@fara.org |
| Vice President | Steve Rosenthal | AA1IZ | 508-655-2442 | vp@fara.org |
| Secretary | Richard Stearns | KB1HIW | 508-528-9150 | secretary@fara.org |
| Treasurer | Peter Simpson | KA1AXY | 508-429-7069 | treasurer@fara.org |
| Director | Jim Weckback | W1EQW | 508-435-6487 | director@fara.org |
| Director of Training | Ed Weiss | WINXC | 508-881-2301 | |
| Director of Testing | Jim Weckback | W1EQW | 508-435-6487 | testing@fara.org |
| Publicity Coordinators | Sharon Gartenberg | KCIYR | 508-877-6692 | |
| Emergency Coordinator | Steve Rosenthal | AA1IZ | 508-655-2442 | |
| Activities Director | Marc Stern | WA1R | 508-879-2087 | |
| Scholarship Comm. Ch. | Dick Cosma | KD1BF | 508-877-8241 | scholarships@fara.org |
| Public Service Coordinators | Bev Lees | NILOO | 508-626-2012 | |
| | Jim Weckback | W1EQW | 508-435-6487 | |
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| Newsletter Editor | Robert Hess | NIUVA | 508-435-2055 | circuit@fara.org |
| Webmaster | Sharon Gartenberg | KCIYR | 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, 147.15/147.75 - social/chat, ARES preparedness

Club Station: WIFY, the club station and shack, is open Saturday mornings from 8:30-12:00 and Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:00. Call the club number, 879-8097 to confirm.

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

WIFY DX Spotting Node: 145.61