
FARA

Newsletter

The Framingham Amateur Radio Association

Framingham, Massachusetts

November, 1988

FARA & Repeater Dues

It's that time of year again, time to renew your FARA and repeater dues. Because of the success of our flea markets, dues will remain at \$10.00 for FARA and \$10.00 for repeater membership. This includes family membership for individuals living in the same household. Club dues for students and retirees are \$5.00. A reminder, you must be a member of FARA to be eligible for repeater membership. 147.75/15 is an open repeater and all properly licensed amateurs are welcome to use it. However, you must be a repeater contributor to have access to the autopatch. Dues will be accepted at the December 1st meeting or mail your check, payable to FARA, P.O. Box 3005 Framingham MA. 01701.

Repeater Autopatch Codes

Codes for the repeater autopatch have not been changed for many years. There was little need for a change because virtually all users of the "patch" were contributors. This year, a few past contributors did not pay their fair share but continued to use the autopatch. In fairness to all the autopatch codes will change the week of December 25, 1988. Paid up contributors will receive the new codes. Currently, the patch is restricted to the new area code 508. However, modifications to the logic will be made in the near future and it will then be possible to access both area codes 508 and 617.

October Flea Market

Our October Flea Market was a tremendous success. Our profit was the highest ever achieved from any of our previous flea markets. My thanks to the many club members who helped out, especially during set-up at 6:00 AM on that Sunday morning. I was dismayed, however, to hear one club member who happened to be on our repeater just 5 days prior to the flea market erroneously tell someone that the flea market would be held on October 30th (a week later).

Fortunately, the enquiring station was provided the correct information soon after by another member.

It is understandable that a club member may be unable to assist in some of our activities for various reasons, but I think each and every member should be aware of what our club is doing. In order for our flea markets to be successful, it must be promoted as well as supported. Certainly, a frequent user of our repeater is in a position to know what's going on and can pass this kind of information along to others.

Lew Nyman K1AZE

December Meeting Notice

Star Wars...Stealth..Particle Weapons! Everyday, we hear terms like these in the headlines. What do they really mean? What is the Star Wars program and what are some of its components? These are questions that are likely to cost billions to answer. They are important questions, keys to the future of our country.

With all the importance of Star Wars and the other defense programs that this area contributes so much to, it makes sense to hear about them from someone who has had a hand in developing some of the pieces. So, in December, none other than Nick Martin, our own "Badge Man" will discuss some aspects of the Star Wars program. Nick spent some time in the southwest working on SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative) and is now back in the area continuing his work. Nick will be the featured speaker at our December meeting on Thursday, December 1st at 7:30 p.m. As usual, this is our holiday meeting, so not only will we hear a good speaker, but we will also have our usual holiday goodies, homebaked by our club members. All this takes place at our usual meeting location, behind the Danforth Museum on Lexington Street. Hope to see you there.

Minutes Of The November Meeting

The November meeting of FARA convened at 7:36 PM in the Danfourth Museum basement in Framingham. The first order of business was the twice-yearly "Pizza Night" which always follows the Flea Market, where members made their preferences known. Member introductions followed. Lew Nyman, K1AZE, gave the Flea Market report: Table sales exceeded all expectations, quality of merchandise was good, there was an excellent turnout for set-up at 6:00 AM Sunday and attendance was very good at both the "Early Bird" and regular admission times. The exam session went well, and congratulations were extended to Volunteer Examiners who took part. Mark Weingart, N1FXE, was voted in as a new member. The treasurers report was presented by Bob Gettys, N1BRM: The Flea Market showed a good profit, and the club's bank account is in good shape. Ed Weiss, W1NXC, presented the Education Committee's report, mentioning that 2 individuals passed the code test. Dick Landau, W1IBN, related an incident where he received a traffic citation for wearing **one** headphone. He decided that he would contest same instead of paying the fine since he felt that the motor vehicle regulations only prohibit covering **both** ears while driving, but do not apply in this case. He also mentioned the continuing need for a FARA Newsletter publisher, which was also reinforced by Don Morse, KA1MLM. Bob Gettys, N1BRM, mentioned the need for an update of the list of dues paying members to receive the newsletter, which currently has a circulation of 141. Pete Simpson, KA1AXY, distributed Active Electronics catalogs. Ten Meter DX activity input was solicited by Dick Landau, W1IBN, and several interesting DX contacts were reported by members. Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, and Marc Stern, N1BLH, discussed the emergency vehicle which is to be funded by the town of Framingham. The business meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM for the pizza feast.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Lee, KB1PE,
Secretary.

Show Your Pride IN FARA Wear Your Club Jacket

Whether you're a long time FARA member or a newcomer to the club, there's one thing that makes us all proud, it's seeing the club recognized for the work it does. It's a great feeling to look at a sea of the club's blue and white jackets at various events. They show loud and clear who we are and give us high visibility and recognition. One of the aims of the jacket program has been to increase our visibility in the eyes of the public. With nearly two thirds of the club members sporting our jackets, it looks as if the program first thought up by Marjie Stern, KA1HIA, who also picked the color scheme and lettering, is certainly a success. Let's keep that success going! If you've been thinking about purchasing a club jacket, now is the time to do so. Beat any price increases; be the first on your block to wear one. Run, don't walk to your nearest N1BLH or KA1HIA and order yours now. Please have your size and call sign ready. That's all there is to it. It's all painless...well, maybe writing the check for \$31.89 hurts a bit, but you'll take pride when wearing your new FARA jacket.

This And That

Congratulations to Mark Shaffer, N1DOL, son of Burt, N1DDO and Toby, N1DDS. We just received the good news that Mark passed the Massachusetts Bar Exam with flying colors. Anyone have legal problems?? He can use the practice.

Club member Jeff Pearlstein, KA1IMW, was recently married. FARA wishes both he and his new bride Denise a long and happy marriage.

John Stacy, W1KIM, will undergo surgery in the near future. Our thoughts are with you John and we wish you a speedy recovery

10's A Blast

If you're a licensed ham of any class and you haven't experienced 10 meter phone, you're really missing Amateur Radio at its best. There's virtually a whole world out there to listen and talk to. Having been a ham for more years than I'd like to admit, I experienced the last "opening", about 8 years ago. I'll never forget it. At any time during the day or night you could talk to the world as if they were your next door neighbors.

As 10 meters started to open this year, I had fond memories of the last opening, only this time I decided to do it differently. No towers, beam antennas, kilowatt amplifiers, I was going to try low power MOBILE. I outfitted the car with a Uniden 2510 Tranceiver that puts out about 25 smoking watts of power and installed a Larsen trunk lip antenna on the rear deck of the car. (a cut down CB will work just as well) I recall the Saturday afternoon after I'd finished adjusting the SWR. I started the engine and pulled out of the driveway with 28.400 squawking in the background. There was a JA near Tokyo finishing a QSO with a W4. They signed and I gave him the last two letters of my call. "PAPA MEXICO MOBILE",... I screamed into the mike, not really expecting to hear anything that resembled my call in return. "THE PAPA MEXICO MOBILE GO AHEAD THIS IS JA3___. I couldn't believe it. It wasn't just an exchange of signal reports, we had a QSO that must have lasted for 5 or 6 minutes. Since that first mobile QSO I've worked everything from Texas to Timbucktoo. The Uniden HR2510 is probably one of the best values in Amateur Radio today. It's normally priced in the mid to upper \$200 range. Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, has some left over from the FARA Flea Market and he's offering to sell them off to club members at an unbeatable price. Give him a call at the "AUTO STEREO PLACE", 277 Worcester Rd. (Route 9) in Framingham. The phone # is 875-9171. Hope to hear you on 10.

Arnie Zunick, K1BPM

FARREN

Don't forget the FARREN net every Sunday Night at 7:30 PM. Alternate net controls are being sought.

For Sale

Robot 800C terminal Unit, Includes all cables and documentation. RTTY, ASCII, AMTOR, CW. In like new condition. A good value at \$180 or trade. Contact Arnie, K1BPM..Days (617) 577-2738

Framingham Amateur Radio Assoc.

P.O. Box 3005
Framingham, MA 01701

Officers

President: Don Morse, KA1MLM
Vice President: Dick Landau, W1IBN
Secretary: Henry Lee, KB1PE
Treasurer: Bob Gettys, N1BRM
Director: Lew Nyman, K1AZE

Club Station & Repeater Trustee
Lew Nyman, K1AZE

2 Meter Club Repeater
147.75/15 Mhz

Meetings Are Held The First Thursday Of
Each Month At The Danfourth Museum in
Framingham, Massachusetts

K1BPM, Guest Editor