



The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association, March 23, 2024 Vol. 91, No. 2 draft

President's Message: It is sad news that FARA has lost its former president, Gordy Bello, K1GB, who held the reins from about September 2005 to June 2012, including Vice President since 2004! I had just joined FARA around that time and remember well his high level of energy and enthusiasm for the hobby, from finding lots of great speakers, to Field Day and the Pizza Parties, to the nets, dinner night outs, and the visits to the shack on Saturdays. See two moving remembrances below. One is by Sumner Weisman, the other is by Andy Boughton, KC1DMM. I wanted to get this edition out fairly quickly so we can edit it later. If others can name some of the folks in the pictures, and when they were taken, please let me know. As usual, feel free to submit edits.

Recent activities since last Circuit Vol. 90, #3 in September, 2023

- February 1, 2024: Peter Morrison, AC1KY, did an excellent and well attended presentation on Aircraft Tracking with SDR. We had new member, Jonathan Slawsby, W5GI, from Medfield come to his first meeting. We had guests on Zoom: Jeff Marden, N1JCM and Samir Parikh, K1SIP. We had 13 Zoom check-ins, 10 library check-ins for a total of 23 which may be a record over past few years.
 - Note: **Letter from Samir, K1SIP:** "That was a great presentation by Peter! Thanks for letting me attend. I learned a lot."
- February Simulate Emergency Test, Operation Snow Globe. John, KB1VXY participated on VHF through MMRA repeater (Joe, W1HAI, was NCS), 60 meters channel 5, 75 meters 3930 Khz, and by NBEMS to MA RI Traffic net on 3582.5 KHz.
- March 7, 2024: Bruce Rusch, W1HNZ, presented a well-received talk on 160 and 80 meter receiving antennas. The Bidirectional Beverage at W1HNZ. 10 Zoom check-ins, 12 library check-ins for a total of 22.

Upcoming activities:

- April 4, 2024 Club Meeting: My Tarheel Screwdriver Dipole by Andy Boughton, KC1DMM.
- May 2, 2024 Club Meeting: Club Officer Nominations. Satellite Communications by Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC.
- May 4 and 5, 2024: New England QSO Party
- June 6, 2024 Club Meeting: Club Officer Elections and 2024 ARRL Field Day planning.
- June 22-23, 2024: ARRL Field Day
- August 22-25, 2024: NE HamXposition. Thursday, August 22, 2024 8 PM (Comedian Juston McKinney) through Sunday August 25, 2024. It will be at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center in Marlborough MA. <https://hamxposition.org/>
- Other: How about a Chinese Buffet lunch or dinner? Marlborough, Route 20 Super Buffet? All you can eat. Lunch: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 11:30 am to 3:30 pm \$12.95. Dinner: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 3:30 pm to 9:00 pm \$17.95. Saturday & Sunday All Day Dinner \$21.95

Gordy Bello, K1GB (SK)

Rest in Peace



Former President

2005 - 2011

**Framingham Amateur Radio
Association**

FARA has lost Gordy Bello, K1GB, a key member of our radio club, at age 70. He will be missed. Gordy had Parkinsons disease, and gradually got weaker while living in several nursing homes. He was very proud of his wife Ellen and his daughter Gail. His Dad is Bob Bello, WA1KTY.

Gordy was a ham's ham. He knew everybody, and seldom had a problem getting speakers for our monthly club meetings. For years he managed our annual FARA Flea at Keefe Tech. He was always right on top of all the many details – everything

from selling the vendor tables to remembering to tip the janitor at the end. As always, Gordy did a superb job.

Gordy was a "foodie." He always made sure that we had refreshments at our monthly club meetings. Neal, K1NDF, recently reminded me that he was the "donut guy," and it was his job to bring a dozen donuts to the meetings. Gordy also enjoyed having club outings at restaurants.

My Random Memories of Gordy...

- My wife and I went to the annual Boston Flower Show. There was Gordy, Ellen, and Gail, enjoying the displays.
- Gordy took Gail to ARRL Kids Day several times.
- After Gordy came down with Parkinsons, he once rode with me to ARRL Ham Expo, which was in Boxboro at that time. He had a wonderful time meeting his many friends.
- Gordy enjoyed my few visits after he developed Parkinsons. But he enjoyed constant visits from Andy Boughton, KC1DMM, much more. Andy visited Gordy regularly, right to the end.

By W1VIV

Remembrance by Andy Boughton, KC1DMM

I am grateful for Gordy's friendship over the last seven years.

I helped Gordy on the flea markets for a couple years. He was very organized, a trait that I do not have. He had everything down to a well-practiced routine. Our hosts at Keefe loved him since all their interactions with him went so smoothly. He took good care of all the regular volunteers. As a result they all came back year after year. Thanks to Gordy the flea markets went without a hitch.

Ham radio was important to Gordy. On several occasions he explained that the dropping of the code requirement was a true tragedy. He had a T-shirt with a picture of a key and, if I remember correctly, the date "the music died". I don't think I ever told him that I can only copy about 5 WPM. He had many other ham radio shirts which he enjoyed wearing. I was honored when Gordy and Ellen gave me a Field Day shirt last year.

One of Gordy's stories was about convincing a good friend to attend a ham course. He emphasized the free food that would be provided. Apparently the food turned out to be fairly minimal. His friend never let Gordy forget the misrepresentation. But the friend did continue and became a dedicated ham.

I maintained contact with Gordy as his health declined. He always did his best to entertain me and make me feel appreciated. He educated me on many Boston topics including the notable moments in Red Sox history.

Gordy made a warm contribution to my life and I miss him.

By Andy Boughton, KC1DMM



Picture of the gang at the shack, year unknown. From left, Sumner Weisman, W1VIV, Ed Weiss, W1XNC, unknown in dark shirt, unknown in blue shirt, Tom Malloy, N1FTB (SK) in green shirt, Eric Taylor, KB1PJN standing in back, Gordy in front of Eric, unknown sitting on right. Submit names to KB1VXY.



Gordy at work on Field Day, year unknown.



The [Framingham Amateur Radio Association](http://www.framingham-ara.org) has awarded its 2005 FARA Scholarship to a college-bound young amateur from Milford, MA, according to Framingham ARA Vice President Gordy Bello, K1GB and FARA Scholarship Committee Chairman Richard Cosma, AA1VI. <http://ema.arrl.org/2005/06/13/w1nau-receives-framingham-ara-scholarship/>. Also Circuit Sept 2005.



Gordy in front, in back > Nels Anderson K1UR, and Tom Malloy, N1FTB (SK) at ARRL headquarters.



Gordy checking out the Field (of hay) Day



Gordy resting before Field Day starts, this looks like Upton State Park, 2013 or 2014 or 2015?



Gordy Bello, K1GB



Gordy operating with Neal Lipson, K1NDF



Gordy with his father at the McAuliffe Library Field Day in 2019

Regular Meetings: Club meetings are held on Zoom on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM, and some meetings will also be hybrid, usually at the McAuliffe branch of the Framingham Library. Always check the webpage first. Members will get an email invitation before the meeting. **Members should be sure that they opted in for email notifications and that their email on record is accurate!** Non-members may request an invitation from president@w1fy.org.

Club Nets:

- FARA Net: Sunday, 7:30PM, output frequency 147.15 / input frequency 147.75, - PL tone 100. Social/chat, emergency preparedness, amateur radio questions, Echolink enabled. W1FY-R
- Wednesday 7:30 pm, Informal Health and Wellness Check-in Net: Echolink enabled, W1FY-R.
- Scanner listeners are invited to let us know you follow the nets by sending an email to contact@W1FY.org

Club Web Site: W1FY.org

Social Media:

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

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 city offices are unavailable.

Mail Address: Framingham Amateur Radio Association, 330 Cochituate Road, #5123 Framingham, MA 01701-9998

Edits and comments –