

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association

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and more...

April 5

Larry Banks, W1DYJ will be giving a presentation "One Ham's Journey with Antennas" about his experience with antennas he has built and used.

Please meet in the lobby due to the normal meeting room being under construction.

President's Message

I hope you've all managed to pull through this winter without too many difficulties – I know several of us, myself included, lost antennas during the blizzards of late March. It serves as a reminder that we should be designing in weak points, so that failures (when they occur) take place in a planned manner – i.e., it is better for a connector to be broken at the attachment point rather than have a balun ripped off the side of the house (taking the siding with it).

This month's speaker will be Larry Banks, W1DYJ, whose topic is "One Ham's Journey with Antennas" - sort of a historical survey of the antennas he has built/used/etc., ending with a quick look at FT8 and 160. Larry was licensed in 1962 as novice KN1VFX and then Technician, K1VFX. He received W1DYJ in 1966 while in college in Cambridge – which he kept when he settled here permanently in 1969. He developed hospital Cardiac Diagnostic Systems as an engineer and manager for Hewlett-Packard Medical in Waltham and Andover from 1969 to 1985. From 1985 to 1993 he was the Section Manager responsible for establishing the Cardiac R&D lab's Computer Aided Design environment, the SW Testing and Quality group, and ongoing Technical Education. Moving to HP Corporate Education in 1993, he became Agilent Technology's manager for their global LMS (Learning Management System) when Agilent split out of HP in 1999. He "retired" in 2005. From 2005 to 2012 he consulted for Avago Technologies (now Broadcom), serving as global manager for their corporate LMS. Larry holds three degrees in Electrical Engineering from MIT. When he is not experimenting with antennas, he spends his time chasing DX and contesting, both in Woburn and at his second home in Maine, and traveling with his wife Maren. He is also the Net Manager and Newsletter Editor for the MMRA.

Larry talked last year on getting DXCC on CW in 6 months from when he started using CW+

Next Sunday, 8 April, is our Flea Market. It runs from 9AM to noon at Keefe Tech - come early and help (more hands make light work). As usual, we will be holding an exam session - registration from 9:00 to 9:30 AM followed by the testing.

Shortly thereafter is the Spring NEAR-Fest - 4-5 May in Deerfield, NH (see <http://www.near-fest.com> for details).

Another upcoming event ... Field Day ... June 23-24, 2018. We'll be having a planning meeting on May 19th (10:00 at the McAuliffe Branch of the Framingham Public Library).

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FARA Horizons

April 5:	FARA Meeting ... Larry Banks, W1DYJ
April 8:	FARA Flea Market @ Keefe Tech
May 3:	PIZZA PARTY
May 4-5:	NEAR-Fest
May 5-6:	New England QSO Party
May 19:	Field Day Planning Meeting
June 7:	FARA Meeting ... OPEN, Field Day discussions
June 23-24:	ARRL Field Day

Don't forget - no regular meeting in May - there will be a Pizza Party (to thank all of our Flea Market volunteers) instead. Please RSVP by 26 April, so we can provide an accurate head count to the restaurant.

-Paul, N1VAM

FARA Scholarship Rules

Requirements for FARA scholarship:

Open to any high school senior who will be attending college the next academic year or anyone currently enrolled in a college program. Any applicant with an Amateur Radio license will receive preference. Non licensed relatives of FARA members will also receive consideration.

Membership in FARA is not required.

All applications must be postmarked by April

15, 2018. Please Contact Richard Cosma, AA1VI at

rcosma@rcn.com or call 508 877 8241.

New England QSO Party May 5-6

Tom, K1KI

The NEQP is a great time to check out antenna systems and offers a moderately paced opportunity to work new states and countries. You'll find a wide variety of participants, from newcomers to experienced testers, all interested in making contacts with New England stations.

We're working to make sure that all of the New England counties are active again this year and would appreciate your help. Get on for at least an hour or two and join in on the fun. Please let me know if you can put in any time at all so we can work on activity from the rarest counties. Will you be QRV? Let us know which county you'll be on from with a message to info@neqp.org

Oh yes, the NEQP is also lots of fun when mobile. Every time you cross a county line the action starts over again. It's amazing what a 100w radio and mobile whip can do.

The QSO Party is 20 hours long overall, in two sections with a civilized break for sleep Saturday night. It goes from 4pm Saturday until 1am Sunday, then 9am Sunday until 8pm Sunday. Operate on CW, SSB and digital modes on 80-40-20-15-10 meters. For each QSO you'll give your callsign, a signal report and your county/state. Top scorers can earn a plaque and everyone who makes 25 QSOs and sends in a log will get a certificate.

Last year we had logs from 177 New England stations and 460 more from around the country and world.

The full NEQP rules are here -> <http://www.neqp.org/rules.html>

The 2017 results are posted and the results since 2002 are also available -> <http://www.neqp.org/results.html>

It's just about a month until the 2018 NEQP. Please make some QSOs even if you don't want to send in a log.

Club Information 2018

President	Paul King	N1VAM		president@fara.org
Vice President	John Iwuc	KB1VXY		vp@fara.org
Clerk	Victor Anderson	K1VEA	508-877-8299	secretary@fara.org
Treasurer	Jim Houston	AB1YQ	508-303-0011	treasurer@fara.org
Director	Sumner Weisman	W1VIV		director@fara.org
Director of Training				
Director of Testing	Jim Weckback	W1EQW	508-435-6487	testing@fara.org
Publicity Coordinator	Joe Weisse	W1HAI	508-654-9999	franjo@verizon.net
Emergency Coordinator				
Activities Director	Gordy Bello	K1GB	781-891-5572	k1gb@arrl.net
Scholarship Comm. Ch.	Dick Cosma	AA1VI	508-877-8241	scholarships@fara.org
Newsletter Editor	Robert Hess	N1UVA	860-227-9188	circuit@fara.org
Webmaster	Eric Taylor	KB1PJN	508-653-7778	webmaster@fara.org

Meeting: Club meetings are normally held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30PM in the Framingham Police Station

Club Nets: FARA Net: Sunday, 7:30PM, 147.75/147.15 - social/chat, ARES preparedness

Club Station: FARA is actively looking for a new club station.

Club Web Site: fara.org

Social Media: [facebook.com/faraw1fy](https://www.facebook.com/faraw1fy)
twitter.com/fara_w1fy



Mail Address: PO Box 3005
Framingham, MA 01705