

# The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association

November 2005, Vol. 72, No. 11

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Thank You, FARA!!!

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## Thursday, Nov 3 This Month's Meeting

Bill McIninch, KA1MOM will talk about ham radio astronomy.

## Submitting Material to the Circuit

Material may be submitted for publication by sending it directly to the editor. This can be done by US Mail, or via the Internet (preferred). The deadline for each issue is the **Wednesday**, one week before the monthly meeting.

### by mail

Robert Hess, N1UVA  
1175 Farmington Ave 3-204  
Bristol, CT  
06010

### by internet

circuit@fara.org

## President's Message

We had another great turnout at last month's general meeting. I am sure you all enjoyed Ed, W1NXC's presentation on electrical safety. Also, the FARA coffee mugs were a big hit. I have even received several requests from FARA members now living out of the area who wanted one sent to them! If you didn't get yours yet, come to the November 3 meeting and pick one up for only five bucks.

Ed's Extra "Crash" course has been a success. Through Ed's efforts, we now have newly licensed Extra Class Hams! I also want to recognize Kevin, W1MEX who has stepped forward to become our flea market contact person! Thank you so much Kevin! Obviously, the entire flea market cannot be run by Kevin alone. We will need YOUR help in order to make this a successful venture. More on this to come, so QRX!

By now you are aware of the ARRL/United Way toy drive to brighten the holiday season for children who have been victimized by the devastation in the Gulf Coast. Please bring a toy with you to the meeting, and, if possible, attach a QSL card or index card with your name and address on it. Our guest speaker for the November meeting will be Bill McIninch, KA1MOM, who will talk on ham radio astronomy.

To quote Bill: "Hams have been in radio astronomy from the start, from discovering the Big Bang to building the Big Ear. Messages from Mars? From other planets? Jupiter just won't shut up. Anyone can listen to at least some part of the universe, and with a little specialized hardware maybe make a discovery."

Sounds fascinating! Come to the meeting on November 3 to find out more!

73, Gordy K1GB

## Thank You, FARA!!!

By Bob, W1RH

In late April, we received a package from Sumner. It was a plaque from FARA thanking the Hess family for "dedicated service to FARA." We barely had a chance to look at the plaque when it arrived. My Dad was seriously ill, in the hospital, and we were running back and forth between my mother's house, the hospital and our rental house. My Dad passed away a couple of weeks later. On April 29<sup>th</sup>, CBS took over ownership of the CBS affiliated station in Sacramento – the reason they moved me here. I have been absolutely buried with that project ever since. Last, but not least, we were frantically looking for the perfect ham QTH for me and a new house for Karen and had to have it before our lease expired.

It is now November and I finally have a chance to thank FARA for the terrific surprise we received last April. Things have calmed down somewhat. I am still buried in a project consolidating the facilities of KMAX-TV, the UPN station, and KOVR-TV, the CBS station. This is probably the most complicated project of my career but I am having fun doing it. We have purchased a brand new house, high on a hill, in an area called Gold Hill, overlooking Coloma, the place where gold was discovered in California. Our house is a typical California house on the side of a very steep hill. The view looks down 1000 feet to the Coloma valley. We can see several vineyards and wineries from the house. It is a nice area, about 40 miles east of Sacramento. No towers or antennas up yet, but I hope to put something up in the next few weeks.

Karen is doing great. She has been spending a lot of time taking care of my mother. Kerianne is going to college and playing basketball. Robert, as you know, is still in Bristol, CT, working for ESPN.

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## Upcoming FARA Meetings

Contact Gordy, K1GB if you have any meeting ideas.

December:

Pizza Party

January:

Show and Tell

February:

Eastern Mass. Section Manager Mike Neilson, W1MPN

March:

ARRL Media and Public Relations Manger Allen Pitts, W1AGP

April:

Pizza Party

May:

Open

June:

Dave Bernstein, AA6YQS



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I have joined the El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club and have been quietly sitting in the back row during the meetings. I just volunteered to be on the repeater advisory committee. Now the guys have figured out that I work for a television station and have asked me to do a talk at one of the meetings. Much the way things started out for me at FARA back in 1996!

We are truly honored to have received the plaque from FARA. All of us made many friends for life. The memories of our days with FARA will stay with us forever. Hopefully, we can come back to the Boston area this summer and see everyone.

Bob, W1RH; Karen and Kerianne, KB1DZM with the plaque.

**READ THE CIRCUIT ONLINE...  
SAVES PAPER AND POSTAGE**

Now available as an Adobe Acrobat file  
email [fara@fara.org](mailto:fara@fara.org) and we'll set you up!

### FARA Email Reflector

If you have email and aren't signed up for the FARA email reflector, you're missing out on the last-minute news and updates. To sign up, send an email to Sharon at [kc1yr@kc1yr.com](mailto:kc1yr@kc1yr.com) requesting her to add you to the reflector.

### Shopping Online?

Use [fara.org/amazon](http://fara.org/amazon) and help out the club. FARA receives a small percentage of your order.

### Membership Dues

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

Regular FARA \$15

Student / Retired \$10

Repeater (voluntary) \$10

### FARA Horizons

Nov 3:	Club Meeting
Nov 21:	Board Meeting
March 17-19:	License in a Weekend
March 26:	Flea Market

This month's Circuit sponsored by:

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**Club Information 2005**

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- 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, 147.75/147.15 - social/chat, ARES preparedness
- Club Station: W1FY, the club station and shack, is open Saturday mornings from 8:30-12:00. Call the club number, 879-8097 to confirm.
- Club Web Site: <http://www.fara.org>