

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association July 2000, Vol. 67, No. 7

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Thursday, July 6

This Month's Meeting

Member's from the MMRA will be here to talk about transmitter hunting. Some surprises are planned, so don't miss this meeting!

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

Home:

(508) 435-2055 (before 9:00PM please!)

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President's Message

We're busy preparing for Field Day as I write this. Actually, "we" consists of only a few, dedicated members. Some key people had other commitments this year, so FARA's Field Day effort has been moderated to a level we feel we can support.

If this concerns you, I encourage you to volunteer early for next year's Field Day. More than enthusiastic operators, we need enthusiastic organizers; people who will take charge of one part of FARA's Field Day preparations and make sure they happen.

This year's Field Day is only possible because a few members wanted it to happen so badly that they spent many hours down at the shack, many dollars on supplies and put many miles on their cars. But even this level of dedication doesn't lift towers and tents into trucks. For that, we need bodies. For set-up on Friday and for tear-down on Sunday. Field Day is all about doing actual work, not just planning for it. Please, if Field Day is important to you, help make it happen! The difference between a so-so and a great Field Day is in every one of our hands.

Peter, KA1AXY

FARA Awards Life Membership to Pete Burrel, W1VAB

By Peter, KA1AXY

The FARA board presented a Life Membership to Pete this past month, in recognition of his service to FARA and to the young people of Framingham.

For those who don't know, Pete was instrumental in starting up a student ham club at Framingham North High School, and acted as its advisor for several years, until his retirement.

Peter also assisted us in dealing with the town to rent the High School cafeteria for our semi-annual flea market.

Pete's old refrigerator serves as the enclosure for the FARA Packet Cluster node.

Make sure to congratulate him the next time you hear him on the repeater or on six meters.

An Evening with Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH

Submitted by Peter, KA1AXY

By Jerry Rogich, AA2T

At the year 2000 reunion ECARS dinner in Ocean City, Maryland we had a very special and rewarding time with Riley Hollingsworth as guest speaker. I was especially pleased to be there for the first time after joining ECARs in the early 70's when K2PJJ, K4BX, K3FEC and W1DKS were on daily and I was in High School. Now after getting back into the hobby, I was amazed to find ECARs still in operation and working just superbly! Meeting face to face with some of the present members was extremely enjoyable and shows what a great hobby this continues to be due to the dedication of many people.

The first impression of Riley's talk was that he is a very dedicated ham that enjoys ECARs. I was possibly expecting a mix of government bureaucrat and bouncer, however we were all very pleasantly surprised. He is very soft spoken and presents himself very professionally and his demeanor is unlike the unofficial title of the "enforcer." He honestly does care about the hobby very much as well as its public image.

On the enforcement front, he said the focus has been on 75 and 20 meters and there will be renewed enforcement in the 40M band. Next the FCC will be going

FARA June Activities



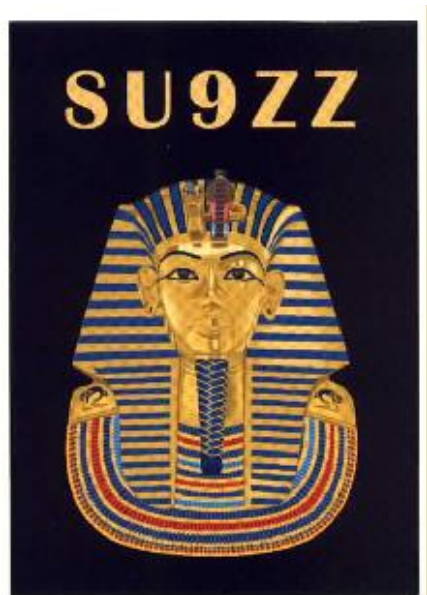
Bev, Dick and Nels meet with Flag Day Parade organizers. ~Photo by Sumner, W1VIV



The FARA volunteers before the Framingham 300th Road Race. ~Photo by KAIAXY

QSL Card

Submitted by Sumner, W1VIV



This card from Egypt is one of the prettiest and most colorful QSL cards I've received in a long time. This from the 1999 ARRL Ten Meter Contest. I like it when the operator sends a photo of himself.

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



Bev talks with race organizers after the Framingham 300th Road Race. ~Photo by KAIAXY



Bob, W1RH, answers questions on DXbase at the June meeting. ~Photo by KAIAXY

READ THE CIRCUIT ONLINE... SAVES PAPER AND POSTAGE

Now available as an Adobe Acrobat file email fara@fara.org and we'll set you up!

FARA Thanks Mrs. Janet Rugo

Mrs Rugo has again made a generous donation to FARA's scholarship fund. We thank her for helping us to award scholarships to club members attending college.

Field Day 2000

Field Day 2000 just finished up as this issue of the Circuit went to press. Look for scores and more next month. For now check out Sharon, KC1YR's pictures on the club web site.

FraminghamARA-L@qth.net

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, send a message to majordomo@qth.net with contents "subscribe FraminghamARA-L". (Without the quotes, of course). The subject can be left blank, the server only looks at the contents of the message. You'll get back a confirmation, follow its instructions exactly, then you're on the list!

Membership Dues

Annual membership dues are as follows: (Make checks payable to FARA)
Regular FARA \$15
Student / Retired \$10
Repeater (voluntary) \$10

...Continued from page 1

after unlicensed operators in the 10-meter band as well as illegal amplifiers. He gave a quick overview of several of the actions that are in progress such as Glenn Baxter case and he is off the air at present. Riley mentioned that 75% of all the hams recalled never show up for the retest. Support has been outpouring for continued enforcement. There were 5000 letters received at the FCC in support of his work and only 3 against. In the future there will be more on the air activities, net check ins and 3 to 5 years of further enforcement.

Technically, he said that Columbia can DF a signal in a second. However, they do not want to overload them with amateur issues since they have to also handle the commercial side of the house as well. There are 14 monitor stations as well and they are reporting to Riley when they happen to hear something going on in the amateur bands.

If there are repeated issues that you want to report, he recommends that a tape be sent to him with all supporting information, date, time, frequency, (if VHF/UHF include any local DF info). In some cases some hams might have an idea as to which person might be the offender. He asked to report this as well. Information can be sent to fccham@fcc.gov. Please do not send long .wav files, however short samples can be sent for reference but tapes are requested.

His guidelines for what is proper on the air language was stated that no ham with kids would be embarrassed to leave a radio on any time of the day or night listening to it. In fact a random sample of the FCC database several years ago showed 28% of the licenses were youngsters. Riley is especially concerned over the activities on 3950 and 14313. This is a major public relations issue for ham radio. At present, he stated that the FCC

wireless division wants to fight for more HF privileges in light of the roles we play in disasters and with the expect weather pattern changes coming we are ripe for more hurricanes. However, when they try to get Congressional support for it, all the opposition has to do is play some tapes of the above frequencies. So for Riley it's a major crusade to improve the public image of ham radio in light of the competition from other radio services that the congress is more familiar with.

Riley stated that there are four reasons for an exam recall:

1. Complaints from others in a test session.
2. Code exemption from a podiatrist
3. Extra Class on the air asking what a Dipole is
4. Hearing someone say that they bought a license in New York City

Overall, Riley said that ham radio is fundamentally sound. He feels it's in good shape and he said it has been tough for him not to get cynical when dealing with the few bad folks out there. He said that a lot of peer pressure from other hams has helped quit a bit. The FCC will be asking the OO's to be more active but pledged that the FCC will give them more resources to work cases. He believes that there will be more pressure for HF spectrum even though the experts do not believe it right now. Third world countries will be asking for additional broadcasting rights in the ham bands and gave the example using 75 meters for local coverage which is a request he is probably aware of at this point. It was mentioned that there is some dislike for the US amateur operators overseas due to the few bad apples we have stateside. He did say that at the next international conference, one of the items that the FCC will try to work is to move the broadcasters out of the 40-

meter band.

Overall, everyone at the meeting came away very impressed. We all feel that amateur radio is in good hands with Riley driving the enforcement side. Now it's up to use to make the best use of our resources and get the word out and sign up new hams!

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, WIRH's XYL, has transcribed the handwritten notes, verbatim, and they will appear in this and future issues of the Circuit. They make for fascinating reading!

March 27, 1933

The 5th regular meeting of the C.A.R.A. was called to order by Pres. LaBarr at 8:45 p.m.

Reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer read and accepted.

Announcement by the Secretary of Radiation Manuals for sale at \$0.05 each.

Request for names of those who wish to have code practice by Secretary. 6 names submitted.

A letter from A.R.R.L. acknowledging receipt of application for affiliation was read by the Secretary.

No further business coming before the club the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

Following the business meeting members of the club listened to a talk on elementary transmitter circuits by C. R. Crosby.

Resp. Submitted