

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association March 2000, Vol. 67, No. 3

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President's Message

The big event this month is the FARA Flea! We need everyone's help to make the first flea market of the millennium a success. We especially need to get flyers distributed to all the upcoming flea markets. If you're going to a flea market this month, please stop by the shack on Wednesday night, or Saturday morning, or call me or one of the officers. We will make sure you have a package of flyers to take with you.

The other big news this month is Ed's test prep classes. WINXC will be at the shack on Saturday mornings to help you study for and pass the "old" exams. Tech licensees, this is your chance to become a General! General and Advanced can study the Extra Class questions on our two W5YI computers. Remember, all you need is 5 wpm Morse for ALL the HF privileges!

OK, so the above paragraph sounds a bit like some of those emails you get. Here's some real ham stuff. Kitbuilding classes will (finally) get started on Wednesday nights in March. It's taken a bit longer than I had hoped, but I have come up with a way to make PC breadboards that is fairly quick and results in a pattern of isolated square pads. I'll demonstrate on Wednesday, March 1st, at the shack. This will be a "learn as we go" event. Everyone gets a turn, and we'll have PC boards to start building on.

Peter, KA1AXY

The VP Report - The FARA Flea and Other Stuff

By Bob, W1RH

Thursday, Mar 2

This Month's Meeting

Lou Tramontozzi, KA1HIH

Lou's talk starts with a review of radio theory from crystal sets through superhets then gets into the nuts and bolts of repairing old AM radios. The program includes handouts and show & tell.

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!)

College:

(508) 910-5296

by mail

Robert Hess, N1UVA

1 Cold Spring Brook Road

Hopkinton, MA 01748

by internet

n1uva@ultranet.com

The FARA Flea Market committee, consisting of Ed (KB1CQI), Bev (N1LOO), Peter (KA1AXY), Spencer (N1JWB), and myself, has been meeting every other week for the past several weeks. Our focus has been promotion. Over 2000 flyers have been printed and about half of those have already gone out. We have targeted nearly every New England flea market in February and March. Flyers have also been placed at You-Do-It Electronics and HRO. Peter took a bunch of flyers to Lentini Radio in Newington. Spencer spread the word at the Westford flea market and Bev and Brian (N1JFO) passed out flyers at the Marlboro flea market.

A 2 meter handy talky will be the FARA Flea grand prize. HRO and You-Do-It have donated other great door prizes. Ed has prepared special prize tickets to be given to the sellers and buyers.

Since FARA is all about radios and food, we could not ignore food at the Flea. We have a Framingham Boy Scout troop supplying coffee, donuts, hot dogs, etc. Sellers will get a ticket good for a free cup of coffee and a donut.

Our VE team will be giving amateur exams at the FARA Flea. This is a great chance to upgrade before the tests change in April.

Now that our Flea Team has almost everything in place, we need YOUR help on the day of the flea. We're looking for about 28 FARA members to assist. We also need VE's. You get free admission and a good excuse to put off those spring home projects! Call me or Bev if you can help, or sign up at the March meeting.

How about that Peter, K11M? Peter works for HRO and gave a great show-and-tell at the January meeting. He likes FARA and is supporting us by buying a spot for his business card in the Circuit. If you go to, or phone, HRO, ask for Peter and tell him you're from FARA.

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FARA sponsors the Massachusetts QSO Party, May 1-2. This is a great contest for beginners. We hope to have the Club station active during the contest. The Mass QSO is a fun slow paced contest that gives out-of-state hams a chance to work the Massachusetts counties. Steve, AA1IZ wants to win this one. Dust off your radio and give him some competition!

Check out Nels' (K1UR) new QSL card in this month's Circuit. Looks even better in color in the web version of the Circuit. Thanks, Nels.

Boxboro 2000

Boxboro 2000 is proceeding according to schedule. The dates for this year are Saturday August 26th and Sunday August 27th. As always there will be a VE session and of course seminars and Commercial exhibits with an outdoor flea market.

Sunday, March 26 FARA Flea Market

**Enter to win a
Free HT!**

**See the attached
flyer for more
information.**

Change of Address

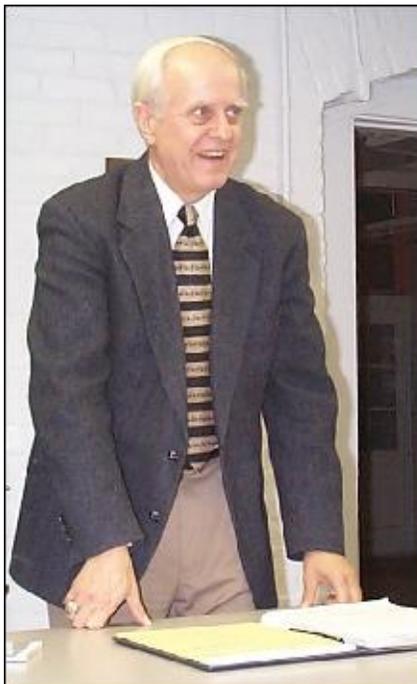
If you would like to change the address on your Circuit label, please email fara@fara.org. Or, you can call the Club at 508-879-8097

Don't Miss the March Meeting!

Our giveaway had to be postponed because of the power outage at the Danforth during the February meeting. Don't miss this second chance!

Our speaker from the January meeting, Peter Cantara, KI1M from Ham radio Outlet was so impressed with FARA that he has graciously donated two coupons for 5 percent *above cost* off anything at HRO. These will be offered as door prizes at the March meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to save a few bucks at HRO!

December Meeting



Vince Kajunski, District Director - FCC, at the December FARA meeting (picture by KA1AXY)

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!

For Sale

FARA has for sale:

**3 Rohn 25 "GA25GD" guy brackets
\$35 ea**

Telrex TB6EM

**6 element monster tribander
\$350**

**See picture in December Circuit and
Web Site**

Contact Peter, KA1AXY

**Ethernet Coax - Lower loss than RG-8,
but same size. Solid center,
UHF and N connectors fit perfectly. 3
750 foot reels, priced at
\$0.15/ft.**

Call or email KA1AXY

"Thin-net" RG-58. \$0.07/ft.

Call or email KA1AXY

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 it will reach you, though. See the instructions on the FARA web page, and remember that, once you sign up, anything you send must come from the address you signed up with. If you change email addresses, you won't be able to post until you repeat the signup process from your new address.

Membership Dues

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

Regular FARA \$15

Student / Retired \$10

Repeater (voluntary) \$10

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, W1RH's XYL, has transcribed the hand written notes, verbatim, and they will appear in this and future issues of the Circuit. They make for fascinating reading!

Jan. 27, 1933

The first regular meeting of the Community Amateur Radio Assoc. was called to order at 8:45 p.m. by Pres. LeBarr.

Nominations for office of Vice President were opened. Mark Strickland nominated by Norman Thompson. Nomination declined. J. D. McLean nominated by C. R. Crosby. Nominations closed. Elected by unanimous vote.

Nominations for office of Sargent at Arms opened. Earnest Ruland nominated by Strickland. Nominations closed. Elected by unanimous vote.

Open discussion of future meeting place. Suggestion of possible meeting place by Wm. Cunningham. Cunningham appointed committee of one to investigate. Voted to hold next meeting of Assoc. temporarily at least at Framingham Civic League.

J. D. McLean, Robt. Reid and Philip Ride appointed committee to write to A.R.R.L. for information regarding club constitutions and organization and requirements for affiliation. Discussion of affiliation by members.

Motion for adjournment by Norman Thompson. So voted.

After the business meeting Mr. J. P. Furrier (W1PZ) of Lynn was introduced and gave a short talk on experiences re: organization of the North Shore Radio Club.

Following Mr. Furrier's talk Mr. Earnest Ruland was introduced and gave a short talk and demonstration of low priced short wave receivers.

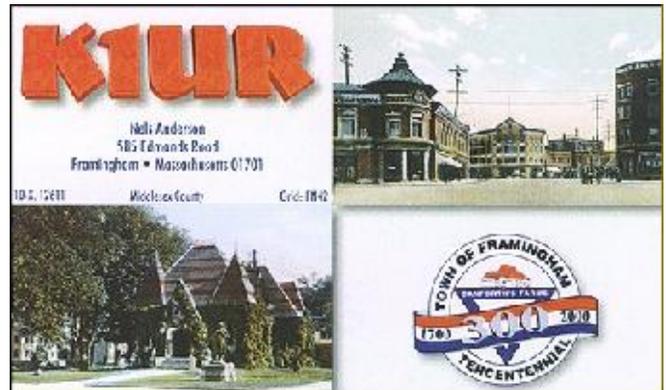
After formalities the meeting broke up and members spent the remainder of the evening getting acquainted and looking over various short wave receivers on exhibition.

Respectfully Submitted

C. R. Crosby

QSL Card

Submitted by Nels, K1UR



Year 2000 has an extra significance for Framingham residents as it's the 300th anniversary of our town. I thought this event warranted some extra Amateur Radio effort so last year I started thinking about a special 300th anniversary QSL card. I obtained a good copy of the official tercentennial logo, combined it with a couple of nearly hundred year old postcards of the town along with some nice lettering from the print shop and came up with a result that hopefully recipients will find pleasing. The creation process was really quite fun and I'm quite happy to now have a QSL card that doesn't look like the same old run of the mill thing that everyone has seen so many times.

The Circuit is in need of QSL cards!!!

If you would like to share your favorite QSL card, which could be your own, with the club, please send it my way! A caption or story would be appreciated also.

Don't let not having a scanner keep you from sending in your favorite card. Many FARA Members have access to scanners, including Bob, W1RH.

FARA Horizons

- Mar 1: Kit Building
- Mar 2: Club Meeting
- Mar 12-14: License in a Weekend
- Mar 26: FARA Flea Market
- Mar 27: Board Meeting

This month's Circuit sponsored by:

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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