

# The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association May 2000, Vol. 67, No. 5

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## Thursday, May 4

### This Month's Meeting

Ed Schwarm, NX1V, will be here to talk about Tesla Coils and Spark Transmitters.

He will be bringing along a 250 watt spark transmitter.

### 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](mailto:n1uva@ultranet.com)

### President's Message

After a very successful flea market (thanks to everyone's hard work) we are now starting to look forward to Field Day. If you are interested in helping to plan Field Day 2000, we need your help! Please contact Bev, N1LOO, or myself. We want to make FARA's first Field Day of the new millennium the best ever!

Much has been said about the license restructuring, but whether you agree or disagree with it, please welcome all the new Extras and Generals into our ranks. These hams now have more privileges, and they will need help in learning how to use them. That's what we're here for. Let's make them feel welcome, and Field Day is the perfect opportunity!

License in a Weekend is coming up this month, May 12-14. If you'd like to help teach, please contact Ed, W1NXC. He'll be glad to have your help, and you'll get the satisfaction of helping to create a new ham.

My final comments are not so upbeat. We learned this month, of the tragic death of Samir Durakovic, T99S, killed by a drunk driver. Sharon has written a wonderful piece about Samir for this issue, and has put additional material on the web page. Those of you who met him when he visited FARA know that Samir was an exceptional individual with a great sense of humor and love of ham radio. FARA is planning to make a donation in his memory to an appropriate charity. We'll be circulating a sympathy card and accepting donations at the May meeting.

Peter, KA1AXY

### FCC License Activity

By Ed, W1NXC

The new FCC restructuring rules generated a flurry of license applications and associated exam activity this spring. FARA held no less than three VE sessions. The 3-26-00 session was attended by 49 candidates, most of whom were hoping to qualify under the new revised code requirements (No more 13 and 20 WPM tests to qualify for the General and Extra licenses). At this session a total of 49 candidates participated and the VE team administered 62 exams.

On April 15, 2000 32 candidates attended a 'paper-work' only session and this resulted in 17 new General and 15 new Extra licenses. These hams can operate with their new privileges immediately, using the 'temporary' identifiers and when their license shows up in the FCC data base, this temp-AG/AE tag on their call sign can be dropped.

If you missed out on these exams, mark your calendar for the License-in a-Weekend scheduled for May 12, 13 and 14, 2000. Exams will be held on Sunday for the students and this VE session will be open to anyone interested in upgrading. Note that the new license classes are Technician, General and Extra. No more Novice or Advanced and 5 wpm ONLY necessary.

### Samir T99S, Silent Key

By Sharon, KC1YR

Honorary FARA member Samir Durakovic T99S (ex-T94ON) was killed in a car crash April 13 near Sarajevo along with his friend Riad T95MAW.

Samir exemplified the very best of ham radio. During the terrible siege of Sarajevo, he passed countless messages in and out of the city so that people trapped by the war could stay in touch with loved ones outside the city. During many months of the war, ham radio was the only option for people outside the war

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this difficult work in a QST article, Heroes Under Siege, published in October 1995.

Samir visited the States two years ago and spoke at a FARA meeting about ham radio in Bosnia with Danny T93M/N1ZPE.

Samir was a 160-meter enthusiast and, while still T94ON, set a world record in winning CQ WPX SSB 160m in 1996.

He was known for his wonderful sense of humor (which I'm told was even funnier in Bosnian than in English), warmth, generosity, and willingness to help his friends. He leaves his parents in Sarajevo, a brother in Australia, and many friends around the world who will miss him terribly.



Samir at the FARA Shack

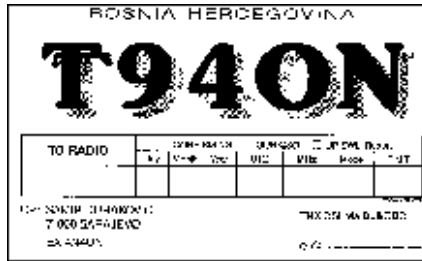


### Change of Address

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

### QSL Card

Submitted by Sharon, KC1YR



This is Samir's card that he used during the war in Bosnia. At this time he was licensed as T94ON. Later, as T93S Samir used the card shown below. The picture was taken by Sharon, KC1YR on a visit to Bosnia.



### Kitbuilding Continues



Rich Wiik, Steve Haynes, Mike Haynes, Nels Anderson. Working on their NA5N Desert Ratt regen receivers at Wednesday night kit building

### 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 T-Shirts For Sale



**FARA T-Shirts for sale pictured here at the FARA Flea Market. \$10, available in M, L, XL and XXL. Pick yours up today at the club shack or by calling an officer.**

### 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](mailto: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

## 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 hand written notes, verbatim, and they will appear in this and future issues of the Circuit. They make for fascinating reading!*

Feb. 24, 1933

The third regular meeting of the C.A.R.A. was called to order at 8:45 p.m. by Pres. LaBarr. 38 regular members being present.

The reports of Secty. and of the Treas. were read and accepted. Question of holding weekly meetings was discussed. Question put to a vote and voted down.

Motion by Mr. Tedford to send out notice cards for next regular meeting. Card to state definitely that meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month with no further preliminary notice. Seconded. So voted.

Question of affiliation with the A.R.R.L. opened for discussion. Benefits of affiliation explained by Secretary. Moved by Mr. Tedford that the C.A.R.A. apply for affiliation with the A.R.R.L. Seconded by McLean. So voted.

The Constitution Committee submitted a sample constitution which was circulated among the members for examination, pending vote on adoption of same at next regular meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Following the meeting an excellent talk on transmitting antennas was given by Mr. Mark T. McAdam.

Resp. Submitted

C. R. Crosby

## And the Winner is!

Photo by Sharon, KC1YR



Our Flea Market grand prize winner, pictured here with Peter, KA1AXY, sent FARA the following note.

FARA:

Although it was the "Luck of the Draw", I wish to thank the FARA for a great time and for the very nice "grand" door prize at last week's Flea Market.

I have already enjoyed many hours of 2 meter operating with the TH-22 AT.

I look forward to attending again next year!

73

Dave Doe  
K1HRV  
Walpole, MA

## At the Flea Market

Photos by Sharon, KC1YR, [more can be found on the FARA web page.](#)



There's still a line waiting to get in - after 9:15!

## FARA Scholarship 2000

By Dick, KD1BF

The rules for the FARA scholarship are as follows:

1. Must be a member of FARA
2. Applications must be turned in or post marked by June 15th.
3. Must be a licensed amateur.
4. Preference will be given to graduating high school seniors.

For applications contact Richard Cosma, KD1BF at (508) 877-8241.