

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association October 1997, Vol. 64, No. 10

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Thursday, Oct. 9

This Month's Meeting

Marjie, KA1HIA

It's that time again. Mario and Guido (I8PZA and I8MOR) will again give us their bi-annual update on DX doings from the isle of Pepperoni! Come and enjoy them. They've never failed to give a feast of an evening!

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 Thursday, one week before the monthly meeting.

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

President's Message

FARA's annual cookout at the YMCA Harrington Outdoor Center at the end of August was another rousing success. And of course the club upheld FARA's duality - the Food And Radio Association. Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, deserts, drinks were all to be had along with good conversation and eyeball-QSOs. A great ending to summer!

Have you looked at the new Novice and Tech question pools? They just went into effect in July. If you get the new book, put it next to the old, and the first thing you'll notice is that it's significantly thicker than the old one. No, it's not heavier paper, there are just more questions including a new section on rf safety. There are also more questions on the tests. Overall, I think the new question pool was reasonably well thought out and I don't agree with those (usually "old-timers") who maintain, and sometimes vehemently, that the tests these days are too simple. I consider myself an "old-timer" having passed my novice test over 35 years ago (KNØZHI). I'm also a pack-rat and have kept those license manuals from way back then and if you'd like to compare the novice question from back then to now, be my guest. How would we ever get new blood into the hobby if one has to complete a doctoral thesis to do it?

Be sure to read elsewhere in this newsletter about the rescheduling of the License-In-A-Weekend class now set for mid November pending sufficient interest in it and also check out the blurb on the club participating in the CQ World Wide DX Contest toward the end of October.

Don't forget that the October FARA monthly meeting will be postponed one week due to Rosh Hashanah. Happy New Year to all our club members who celebrate. Our annual guests from 8-land (I8PZA and I8MOR) will be there. 73.

Jim, W1EQW

License-In-A-Weekend Class Rescheduled for November

The License-In-A-Weekend class that was originally scheduled for September 19, 20, and 21 has been rescheduled for November 14, 15, and 16. The November class is contingent upon having at least 12 students enrolled by the next FARA board meeting. If you know someone you believe may be interested in getting her/his No-Code Tech, tell them about the class. They should contact FARA's Director of Testing, Ed Weiss, N1NXC at (508)881-2301.

FARA October Monthly Meeting Postponed One Week

Due to Rosh Hashanah, the regular FARA monthly meeting for October will be postponed one week.

The October meeting will be held at the regular time, at the regular place on **Thursday, October 9.**

**FARA to Participate in CQ
World Wide SSB Contest
Oct. 25 - 26**

Come on sunspots. Watching the solar flux index (SFI) trying to creep into the three digits is a lot like trying to watch coal being made. Anyway, if your looking for a little excitement and an occasional something to munch on, come on down to the club and participate in the CQ WW SSB Contest. We'll keep the club open for as long as there is interest in the contest from club members. Of course guests (licensed and unlicensed alike) are not only welcome but encouraged to come on down. It's a 48 hour contest that starts at 0000 GMT Saturday (Friday night) and ends 2400 GMT Sunday. See September CQ, page 110 for contest rules. If you plan on coming to the club late Friday or Saturday night, it would be good to call the club first to make sure someone is there. If the bands shut down, we will also.

From the Editor:

Over the summer I was blessed with many new and informative articles from FARA members. Unfortunately now that I am back in school I have not received any new articles. So keep those original articles coming!

and more...

**WHERE IN THE WORLD IS
THE 10 METER AND UP DX?**

From Society of Broadcast
Engineers, Portland, OR
newsletter

The 10-X International internet reflector has almost daily and sometimes even hourly reports of intra- and intercontinental DX on 10m. Send a message with "subscribe tenten-1 <your name>" in the body to: "listproc@Lehigh.edu" to get on

won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair, April 26. As part of his project he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical dihydrogen monoxide (DH). And for plenty of good reasons, since DH:

1. Can cause excessive sweating and vomiting,
2. Is a major component in acid rain,
3. Can cause severe burns in its gaseous state,
4. May kill you if accidentally inhaled,
5. Contributes to erosion,
6. Decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes and
7. Has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical dihydrogen monoxide. Forty-three said yes, six were undecided and only one realized that the chemical was water.

The title of his prize winning project was, "How Gullible Are We?"

**GATE 3 VANITY CALL SIGNS
BEING ISSUED**

Extract from ARRL Letter

Judging from the vanity call signs just now coming out of the FCC, some Advanced class hams took advantage of Gate 3 to obtain Group C call signs where the suffix comprised either a first name (we spotted a Joe, a Don, a Ken and a Bob, for example) or a set of initials. Perhaps apropos of his QTH, Gene Uliasz of Gun Barrel City, Texas, used Gate 3 to turn KC4WA into K5TNT. Formerly KF6CG, Georgia A. Lawrence of Manhattan Beach, California, obtained K6GAL.

Other applicants obtained new Group B call signs, sometimes trading one 2x2 in for another. For example, Karl Mortensen of Wakefield, RI, swapped

KE1FK for KA1RL. Still others went for the snappy suffix. Charles Pharis of Kagel Cyn, California, turned in KK6NE for KA6USA. Michael Amaral of Walpole, Massachusetts, gave up W1IDP to obtain WA1AW. Along the same lines, Michael Esposito of Germantown, Tennessee, swapped WA2VXV for WA2AW. Yvonne Lane of Kingwood, Texas, gave up KF5MY for W5XYL.

Hamerick by, W1VIV

Twice a year, when the flea market's done
We have a short meeting and run
To the place that makes pizza,
Where each member eats a-
bout three sixteenths of a ton.

FARA Horizons

- Oct 9: Monthly Meeting
- Oct 25-26: CQ World Wide SSB Contest
- Oct 27: Board Meeting
- Nov 14-16: License-In-A-Weekend

FARA Picnic Pictures

Dick, K1KTK explains to Pete and Martin the health hazards involved in making chile

For those of you who missed it, here are some pictures of the FARA Family Picnic. And of course you can always visit the FARA website at www.fara.org/~fara and follow the link to the "newsletter" section, for these pictures in full color and some bonus pictures.

Dick's chile is brewing once again



The Director Sleeps

The President preparing the FOOD part of FARA



1997 Nutmeg Hamfest and Computer Show ARRL Connecticut State Convention

Featured speaker: John Hennessee, N1KB ARRL Regulatory Specialist, "Are Amateur Radio rules hazardous to your health?"

- *Giant ham radio and computer flea market
 - *Official 1997 ARRL CT State Convention
 - *VEC exams
 - *Ample free parking
 - *Overnight camping on the grounds
- Located at the Fairgrounds in Durham, CT.

New England DXCC Convention and Dinner

October 12, 1997 at the Elks Hall, Rt 110 Chelmsford Mass. (near Jct I-495 and Rt 3) Talk-in: 147.12 +600hz. Doors open at 8:00 AM with a busy schedule through 5:00PM.

- *Coffee and Danish throughout the morning
 - *CY9AA by K7BV
 - *J3 A number of people join Paul and Charlotte for CQWW and Grenada holiday
 - *VK0IR Heard Island by N6EK
 - *Spratley 1997- K1XM and KQ1F do it again
 - *DXCC Card Checking with League rep, NC1L
 - *YCCC - Contesters! this is qualifying meeting
 - *DX quiz by K1MEM
 - *Prizes, Raffle, More
- For Tickets: \$25.00 at door \$22.50 advance (Order early-seating limited!)

Send SASE and check payable to:
Patriot DX Association
P.O. Box 8
Prides Crossing, MA 01965

Ticket info:
WZ1Q Mel Cole
508-927-1953