

The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association October 2000, Vol. 67, No. 10

In This Issue

President's Message

The VP Report

Page 2-

You Missed It?

Contest Corner

Page 3-

QSL Card

**FARA - The Early Years
and more...**

President's Message

It's time to start thinking about raising some more money. Sumner tells us that the treasury is running a bit low. We need all the help we can get at the flea market. We are looking for able-bodied people to help the vendors unload (a very popular service last time). We need plenty of ticket-takers and hand stampers. If you're planning to attend a flea market this month, please stop by the shack, pick up some flyers, and distribute them at the event.

In other "money matters", I'd like to announce that dues are now due. We are now collecting dues during the last quarter of the year, which should give everyone plenty of time to dig out and pry open their wallets. I think that FARA's a pretty good deal for \$15 a year, and even if you throw in the extra \$10 for the repeater, our dues are still a better deal than many organizations (and you get a great newsletter, too!)

Jamboree-on-the-Air, JOTA, is October 21. FARA has been invited to set up again at Nobscot, and introduce ham radio to hoards of little Cub Scouts. This was a lot of fun last time we did it, and I already have a couple of volunteers. We could use a couple more. If you are a scout or the parent of a scout, bring your scout and your radio for a day of fun. I'm coordinating the event, so either email me or call me if you are interested.

The tower crew has been at it again, and the club now owns a Yaesu rotator and a couple of sections of tower. We have already sold the Cushcraft A3S and hope to sell the rotator soon. Thanks to Brian and Sumner for climbing up on the roof with me a few weeks ago.

Also, we have a new VE Team Liaison person. Jim Weckback has taken over Dick Marshall's position as exam meister. We thank Dick for his many years of exam giving, and Jim, for his willingness to take up the job.

Thursday, Oct 5

This Month's Meeting

**IOTA 2000, the AA1IZ team
on Georges Island**

Peter, KA1AXY

The VP Report

By Bob, W1RH

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

It looks like we have some space to fill this month, so I have generated another VP Report to keep the editor of the Circuit happy!

If you live in an area covered by restrictive covenants, be sure to read page 15 of the October QST. If you own a house in a neighborhood built in the last 20 years or so, check your deed. It may say that antennas are restricted. Right now, that deed is the law and you lose if you are sued by a neighbor who does not want to see an antenna on your tower or roof. There have been some recent cracks in the power of the "deed", however. Federal law now supercedes restrictive covenants when it comes to television antennas and small dishes. The ARRL is seeking to extend this to Amateur antennas. If you live in an area with deed restrictions prohibiting you from installing antennas, the ARRL wants to hear from you. See the details in the October QST.

What would we do without Ed Weiss. Ed began a six week class to teach the code to our no-code members on September 23rd. The class ends with a 5 word per minute test at the November FARA Flea Market. Thanks, Ed, for dedicating your time to our no-code members.

Speaking of the Flea Market, the committee is hard at work planning the November Flea. Our committee consists of Pete (KA1AXY), Bev (N1LOO), Ed

(KB1CQI), Spencer (N1JWB), and myself. This time, we will feature an auction around Noon which will give table vendors a chance to sell off some remaining

...Continued from Page 1

goodies. We promise to make the auction fun and entertaining with two auctioneers going from table to table. We will also be assisting sellers with bringing their goods into the hall as we did in March. We promise good prizes and another great grand prize. The Boy Scouts did a great job with the food in March and they will be back. We need help promoting the Flea Market. If you plan on attending a flea market in October, please stop by the Shack and pick up some flyers to drop off.

October is the start of contest season. We plan on operating the station during the CQWW SSB contest, October 28 and 29. It should be fun working DX from around the world, especially with the rebuilt 3 element beam and the new solid state amplifier. If you have never operated in a contest, this is a good chance to get your feet wet. We're not trying to win, just have some fun. All FARA members are welcome to use the station.

PAY YOUR FARA DUES NOW!

It's that time again. FARA dues cover one full calendar year. Please pay NOW to help your club. Pay the treasurer (Summer Weisman, W1VIV) at the next meeting, or send a check to:

Framingham Amateur Radio Association
PO Box 3005
Framingham, MA 01705-3005

Regular membership -- \$15

Student or Senior (over 65) membership -- \$10

Repeater Membership -- \$10

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

You Missed It?

Photos by Peter, KA1AXY

Our speakers from the September meeting show their kite-cam.



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!

Contest Corner

ARRL International DX CW Contest -- Eastern Mass.
High Power -- K1HT, second place
Low Power -- W1VIV, second place
Quite a few FARA members are contesters and now there is a place to share your scores. If you would like to submit your reported score to be in the Contest Corner, please email it to me.

FraminghamARA-L@qth.net

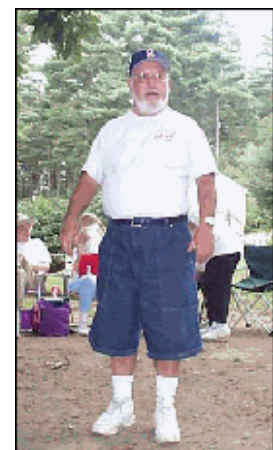
The FARA email reflector is working well. It provides us with an easy way to reach all our members who have email. You have to sign up so it will reach you, though.

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!

FARA Picnic

Photo by Sharon, KC1YR

The director poses for a picture at the annual FARA Picnic.



Membership Dues

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

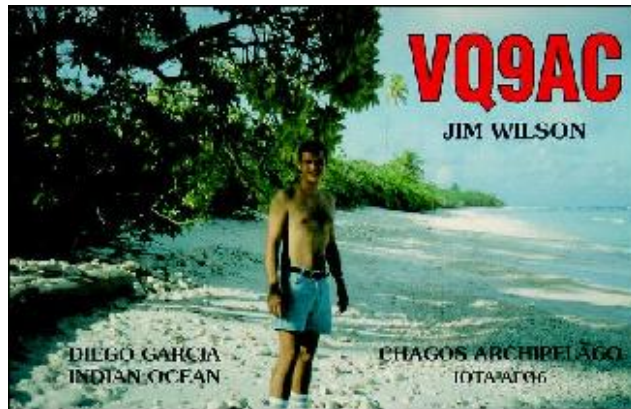
Regular FARA \$15

Student / Retired \$10

Repeater (voluntary) \$10

QSL Card

Write up by Bob, W1RH



This month's card features the island of Diego Garcia. The card comes from the WIFY Club collection. Martin, AA1ON, was at the controls of the Club station, WIFY, when he worked Jim, VQ9AC on May 23, 1992. As everyone knows, Martin is a great QSL'er. This card was in reply to the WIFY QSL sent by Martin. Jim notes on his QSL that he was running a TS-930 with 100 watts into a three element beam. Diego Garcia is part of the Chagos Archipelago. Chagos is a DXCC entity and IOTA AF-06.

Diego Garcia is part of the British Indian Ocean Territory formed in 1965. The island is one of 56 in the Chagos Archipelago which extends over an area of 22,000 square miles. The archipelago is located in the heart of the Indian Ocean, south of India and between Africa and Indonesia.

In December, 1966, the United Kingdom and the United States signed a bilateral agreement making the islands of the British Ocean Territory available for defense purposes to both governments. Both British and American flags fly over the island. The island is populated with many Royal

Navy and Royal Marine personnel and also houses the U.S. Navy Support Facility.

Mauritius has never given up its claim over the Chagos Archipelago. This area of the Indian Ocean, before Mauritius independence, was taken away by the British from Mauritius's jurisdiction and made part of the newly created British Indian Ocean Territory (B..I.O.T.). The British subsequently gave the island of Diego Garcia on a 40-year lease to the Americans for military purposes during the cold war era.

Chagos Island was one of the original post World War II countries on the DXCC list. At that time, the prefix was VQ8. It is now VQ9. Chagos is always a thrill to work because it is so far away. Propagation to the Northeast is good and you should be able to work it with an average antenna system. I also worked Diego Garcia from the Club shack. It was a good chance to check out the re-built beam!

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!

May 26, 1933

The 9th regular meeting of the C.A.R.A. was called to order at 8:45 p.m. by Pres. LaBarr.

The reports of the Secty. and Treas. were read and accepted.

Mr. Blanke moved that the Treasurer be authorized to pay the expenses of the previous meeting amounting to \$5.85. Seconded. So Voted.

Discussion of suspension of meetings during July and Aug. by Strickland and McLean. The matter was posted over until next meeting for settlement.

No further business being before the club the business meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to a talk and discussion by Fred Ruland on power supply design.

**FARA Flea Market
Sunday
November 5**