

MAR. 1985

FramingHAM Circuit

N1BRM To Explain Ins and Outs Of Packet Radio; Demo Planned

If there's one thing that's true about the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn. it is that we have a lot of homegrown talent. For example, most of the programs this year have been "homebrewed," so to speak and the April meeting is no exception.

Bob Gettys, N1BRM, and VHF/UHF enthusiast will be giving a talk and demonstration of one of Amateur Radio's newest modes, packet radio. We'll leave it to Bob to explain it in technical detail, but, suffice it to say, packet radio deals with computerizing information and sending out over the air in digital "packets." It is the kind of technology which has restored our service to the forefront of the "advancement of the radio art" and it is this type of technology which has other radio services looking to Amateur Radio again for leadership.

If you doubt this, then consider a recent symposium and demonstration of packet radio. It was attended not only by Amateur Radio operators, but also commercial interests. They were keenly interested in how we implemented packet radio; the protocols needed, and the equipment used. We have set the technical example as our service has many times in the past, and now others are following our lead.

This comes at a time when some people in the hobby have bemoaned the lack of technical innovation in the Amateur Radio service. These critics, with some justification, have pointed out that Amateur Radio has become a

hobby radio service, rather than one which contributes to the technical advancement of radio. But, packet radio should easily demonstrate that innovation is back.

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Packet radio is a relatively recent phenomenon. It's the development of the marriage of computers; modems; data transmission, and Amateur Radio. As recently as one of those things that would be developed sometime in the future. But, thanks to the pioneering work of the Tucson Amateur Packet Radio program, the development time was radically shortened. In fact, as recently as two years ago, there were only scattered experimenters working with packet. Now there are networks springing up all over the country.

But, rather than stealing all of Bob's thunder, come to the meeting Thursday April 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Danforth museum, where our club is

headquartered and hear all about it for yourself.

If you know of any event for which we might be able to provide communications, contact Marc.

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It's Flea Market Time Again

Believe it or not, it's already April and it's time again for our Flea Market, which will be on the agenda of the April meeting. As in past years, Flea Market Chairman Lew Nyman, K1AZE, will be looking for volunteers to assist in all phases of the fund-raising event. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

As usual, the meeting will be held in the club headquarters and home of our station W1FY in the Danforth Museum basement, Lexington Street, Framingham. To enter, use the Lexington Street entrance, between the Danforth and the Library Parking Garage. Parking is available at the garage and wheelchair access for the handicapped is available through the Callahan Senior Center entrance on the other side of the Museum. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

If you've worked in past Flea Markets, you know that Lew tries to spread the assignments around so that no one is tied up for the whole day and everyone can enjoy the Flea Market. Usually, we have enough help so that Lew is able to schedule everyone for a maximum two-hour shift the day of the event, Sunday April 14. We also need help with setup on Saturday, but Lew will have more about it at the meeting.

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The FramingHAM Circuit is published monthly by the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn., Inc., P.O. Box 3005, Framingham, MA 01701. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month from September to June at club headquarters in the Danforth Museum, Lexington Street, Framingham. Club activities include the Framingham Flea Markets, Field Day and the Crosby Scholarship. Club Station: W1FY. Repeater, W1FY/R, 147.75/15.

Since it is April, it's also time to start thinking about Field Day and Chairman Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, will probably have more to say about it. This year we're changing our operating site from the one on Badger Road at the town Conservation Area to Bowditch Field on Union Avenue in Framingham. This change is an effort to give the event more open access to the public and wider exposure. It should be a good time, as it always is.

Pres., Bob Press, KB1EW, 655-1710
V.P., Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, 872-0534
Trs., Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, 877-0563
Sec., Ken Horton, KA1GFN, 485-6542
Trustee, Lew Nyman, K1AZE, 879-7456.
Corp. Counsel, Arthur Marshall, Esq.
Ed., Marc Stern, N1BLH, club box.

Again, the Club Jacket Committee will be taking orders for jackets, so see Marc Stern, N1BLH, after the meeting. Marc will also have updates on the various spring events we provide communications for. These events include the Marathon, walkathons and various 10 km races.

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Station equipment committee thanked
The March meeting of the

Framingham Amateur Radio Assn., Inc., began at 7:50 with members of the Club Station Equipment Committee receiving thanks from President Bob Press, KB1EW. Bob noted that the committee members spent many hours getting the new equipment set up and working, so W1FY would be ready for the meeting. Lew Nyman, K1AZE, station and repeater trustee, headed the effort, assisted by Ken Horton, KA1GFN, Bob Gettys, N1BRM, who helped set up the VHF equipment, Marc Stern, N1BLH, and Dick Marshall, WA1KUG. Dick and Lew spent many evenings at the station assuring everything was in shape.

Moving to the Flea Market, Lew has asked for help at the upcoming event. A list was passed around to determine availability for each shift and postcards will be mailed indicating assignments. This card is also required for admission. A local deli will handle the food. Information on setup time will be available at the next meeting.

Committee Chairman, George Blakeslee, N1GB, gave a report of the scholarship committee. Applications have been sent to high schools and colleges in the area. The cutoff date has been extended to allow applications to be submitted at the flea market. George will be looking for anyone interested in helping review applications.

After the scholarship report, the club's attention turned to Education Committee Chairman Ed Weiss, W1NXC, who reported on the Amateur Radio exam planned during the Flea Market. Up to the meeting, there were about 10 applicants for exams and there are plans to allow for walk-ins with the number dependent on space available. (There are now 32 applicants -- as of the cutoff date

-- and we expect 40 or more taking the exam, when the walk-ins are counted, according to Ed.)

Public Relations Committee Chairman Marc Stern, N1BLH, received a some letters which he read at the meeting. One of these was from Civil Defense wanting to let the group know of an upcoming Simulated Emergency Drill and a number of seminars on emergency preparedness. The other letter was from 73 Magazine informing us of the upcoming Ham Day on March 24.

Marc also checked into club jackets and took orders after the meeting.

On another topic, Marc, also manager of the FAAREN net and Emergency Coordinator for this area, is looking for operators to assist the Red Cross at the Marathon on April 15. He also explained that FAAREN will become an ARES net.

The club also voted in and welcomed Richard Dixon, K1KMN, as a new member.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 for a demonstration of the new club station equipment and refreshments.

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W1FY/R Report

By Lew Nyman, K1AZE

I would like to welcome the newer members of our 147.15 repeater. You will find our repeater is on the air 24 hours a day and only on very rare occasions is it down for repairs. We do have a few technical problems to resolve but are making headway. Only two months ago, we changed over to one antenna for both

transmit and receive. Using one antenna not only gives us more balanced coverage, but can also substantially increase the level of rf desensing in the receiver. To aid in solving this problem we installed a new set of duplexers (or filters) which isolate the transmit and receive signals from each other.

~~As of last week, we have a new Station Master antenna installed at the repeater site. This should eliminate some of the static problems we have experienced in the past. For the past several weeks we had been operating with a temporary antenna loaned to us by Mass. Civil Defense.~~

You have undoubtedly noticed that the repeater signal has been stronger at some times than at other times. This is because our power amplifier has been turned off at times due to a spurious signal which is not present without the amplifier. We are running some tests with another amplifier as of this writing.

I am happy to report that most users of our repeater are demonstrating proper operating procedures. We do ask, however, that you reserve autopatch calling for necessary calls only, as we must pay for each call made, including local calls. Also, FCC and FTC regulations prohibit the use of autopatch calls when a telephone is available to the user. Thus, you should be making your calls when mobile and not from fixed locations, such as at home or at the local pizza parlor.

If you have any questions about the repeater and its usage feel free to contact me or the control operator, Marc Stern N1BLH.

New Harmonic Joins Blakeslee Family

A new harmonic has blessed the radio shack of Carolyn, KA1EAC, and George Blakeslee, N1GB, their second. The new arrival, Carrie Elizabeth, is the second for the Blakeslee family.

Carrie Elizabeth, who weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces, was born Feb. 24 and, although we don't know it for a fact, we suspect that her big sister, Marsha Lynn, 2, was more than a little excited about the event.

FARA's congratulations go to the Carolyn and George and their harmonics.

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Jackets available

There's nothing better than attending an event and showing how proud you are to be a member of FARA. The best way to do this and show your support of the club is with a jacket. If you would like one, contact Marc, N1BLH, or Marjie, KA1HIA, at the meeting. They're taking orders. Or, you can contact them via the club box or repeater.

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A Tip Of The Editor's Hat To . . .

. . . Lew, K1AZE, and Arnie Zunick, K1BPM, for the many hours they've put in at the repeater site getting everything shipshape.

. . . Ed, W1NXC, and Jim Boates, WA1UEH, for successfully bringing another class of Amateur Radio operators into the hobby.

. . . Hal Alman, WN1TKD, for

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setting up another successful banquet.

All you need to do is add a receiver and you can start copying W1AW bulletins and more. The price on this package is \$175. Contact Lew, K1AZE, at 879-7456.

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Swap & Shop

It's a moving sale!!!!!!! Joe Borrow, K1GFH, is moving to 4-Land and is selling his entire station at negotiable prices you won't believe. Joe is selling in three lots and they look like this:

For sale: Antenna package -- 50-foot Rohn 25 Tower with Ham-IV Rotor, TA-33 Beam, Super Ringo Ranger 2-meter antenna and coax runs and control cables.

For sale: Radio package -- Kenwood TS-820S with CW filter, external VFO -- VFO-820S -- great for working split; SP-820S external speaker, and D-104 microphone.

For sale: Accessories package -- SB-220 Heathkit amplifier with 10-meters (a DXer's dream); HF and VHF Heath Wattmeters, and a Heath phone patch.

Joe's flexible with all of this. For a good deal, call him at 449-2540.

For Sale: Mint condition Swan 350D transceiver with digital frequency display. This rig covers 80 to 10 meters. Package includes D-104 microphone. Call Ted, WB1ECE, at 881-3786.

For Sale: Commodore 1501 Dot Matrix Computer Printer. Asking \$125. Call Ted at 881-3786.

For Sale: Mint condition radio-teletype setup. This first-rate package includes a Model-15 teletype and HAL ST-6000 RTTY Terminal Unit.

For Sale: A Hammarlund HQ-180 receiver with an external speaker. This rig is in excellent condition and would make a good receiver for any Novice who is setting up a first station. It covers .54 to 30 MHz. The best offer takes it. Contact Hans Kunz, WB40EY, at 872-8549.

For Sale: Like-new MC-35 high-impedances hand mic for Kenwood transceivers. Noise-cancelling feature. \$25. Contact Marc, N1BLH, on repeater or drop a note to the club box.

For Sale: Heathkit Electronic Design Experimenter board. Features include a signal generator, variable 1-15 VDC power supply, two 60 Hz signal sources of 15-30 VAC, breadboard, 100 ohm/1Kohm potentiometers. Factory assembled and tested. \$40. Contact Marc, N1BLH.

For Sale: Mattel Intellivision video game, four cartridges, coax and RF modulator. \$50. Contact Marc, N1BLH.

For Sale: Digital voltmeter with documentation, mint condition. \$25. Contact Marc, N1BLH.

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Social Events

Sunday April 14: New England's biggest and best INDDOR flea market, The Framingham Amateur Radio Association spring flea market. It will be held at the Civic League Building at 214 Concord St. (Route 126) in Framingham. This is one block

north of downtown and one block south of the Dunkin Donuts. Tables are \$10.00 in advance (includes one admission) and admission for buyers is \$2.00. The doors open at 8:30 a.m. for sellers, and at 10:00 a.m. for buyers. Food will be available. Talk-in is on W1FY (the club repeater) 147.15 +600. For more info contact Jon Weiner at 617-877-7166.

Saturday April 20: The Great Bay Radio Association will hold a flea market at the Somersworth National Guard Armory, Black Water Road, Somersworth, N.H. Admission is \$1 and tables are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door for a 3 by 8-foot table. Contact Bob Ross W1HJT, or The Great Bay Radio Association, Box 911 Dover N.H. 03082.

Sunday April 21: The South Shore Amateur Radio Club will hold an indoor flea market at the Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave., Braintree, Mass. The event will run from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Eight foot tables are \$10, which includes 1 free admission. Admission is \$1.00. Doors open to sellers at 9:30 a.m. and to buyers at 11 a.m. Tables may be paid for in advance by sending the appropriate amount to Ed Doherty, W1MPT, at 236 Wildwood Ave., Braintree, Ma. 02184. Checks should be made payable to the South Shore Amateur Radio Club. Confirmation of check receipt will be sent. NO cancellation refund after April 17. Plenty of free parking. For information, call 617-843-4431 (Ed, W1MPT) in the evening.

Saturday April 27: The Montachusset Amateur Radio Association will hold a flea market at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Electric Ave., Fitchburg, Mass. The event will run from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m. Admission

is \$1 Tables will be \$8 each. Food is available. Plenty of free parking. Talk-in on 144.85/145.45 and 146.52. For table reservations send check, payable to M.A.R.A. c/o Jim Beauregard, 7 Mountain Ave., Fitchburg, Ma. 01424.

Sunday April 28: The Eastern Conn. Amateur Radio Assoc. will hold its annual flea market at the Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster Mass. just off Exit 1 of Route 395. For Further info contact Dick Spahl K1SYI at Lake Parkway, Webster or Don Amirault K1APE, Route 1, Box 10, Thompson, Ct. 06277, 203-923-2727. Talk-in on 147.225/.825 and .52 direct.

Sunday May 5: The Hampden County Radio Association will hold a flea market at the West Springfield Lodge of Elks on Morgan Road, West Springfield from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$1, tables \$3, or \$3 per vehicle for tailgaters. Food and refreshments available. Info contact Paul Kress WA1ZKT at 413-568-8291 or Steve Nelson WA1EYF at 413-596-8216. Talk-in 147.105. Mass Pike to Exit 4, Route 5 south 1/2 mile, right at Abdow's Restaurant onto Morgan road. Elks Lodge is about 1 mile on left.

Saturday May 11: New England's Biggest Ham Radio flea market, the Hoss Traders Swapfest. The 12th ANNUAL SPRING SWAFFEST will be held at the Deerfield fairgrounds in Deerfield N.H., rain or shine. Friday night camping opens at 4 p.m. Friday. The fees will be collected by the Fair Grounds Association. Admission \$2, tailgating included. Good food available. All profits benefit the Boston Burns unit of the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children. Talk-in on .52 direct or 146.40/147. Questions can be answered by sending an S.A.S.E. to Joe Demaso K1RQG, Star Route, Box 56, Bucksport, ME.

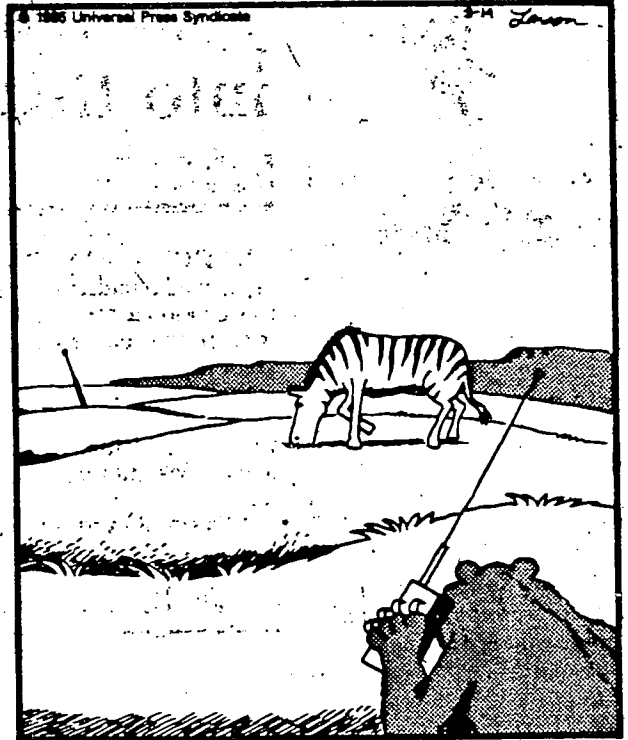
Saturday May 18: The 76 flea market and auction will be held at The Steers Beach Club Waterman Lake, Greenville, RI. from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The auction starts at noon. Use I-295 to exit 7B and then take route 44 west 3.4 miles, the beach club is on the left. Food available, free parking, talk-in on .16/.76 and 34/.94. Flea Market space is \$3. Auction has 10 percent commission on all sales, except 5 percent should the item sold bring in excess of \$50. Bank Americard purchases are 2 percent paid by the buyer.

Saturday June 29: Fly into N.H.'s 3rd largest electronic flea market at the Manchester Airport, Manchester, N.H. General admission is \$1. Sellers \$5 per space. Bring your umbrella and table or tailgate. The event is sponsored by the New Hampshire FM Association. Talk-in on 146.52 direct. For More info call 603-622-0831 or 603-668-8880. Rain Date is Sunday 30 June.

Saturday and Sunday July 20-21: The first Heavy Hitters Hamfest will be held at the Topsfield Fairgrounds on Route 1 in Topsfield, Mass. Events should include a large outdoor flea market, commercial exhibitors, ARRL/VEC exams, demos, foxhunts, C.W. contests, camping, food. We want to make this a big event! Help is needed from one and all to do this. Please contact Eliot Mayer W1MJ, 20 Driftwood Drive, Tewksbury, Ma. 01876. 617-851-0183

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



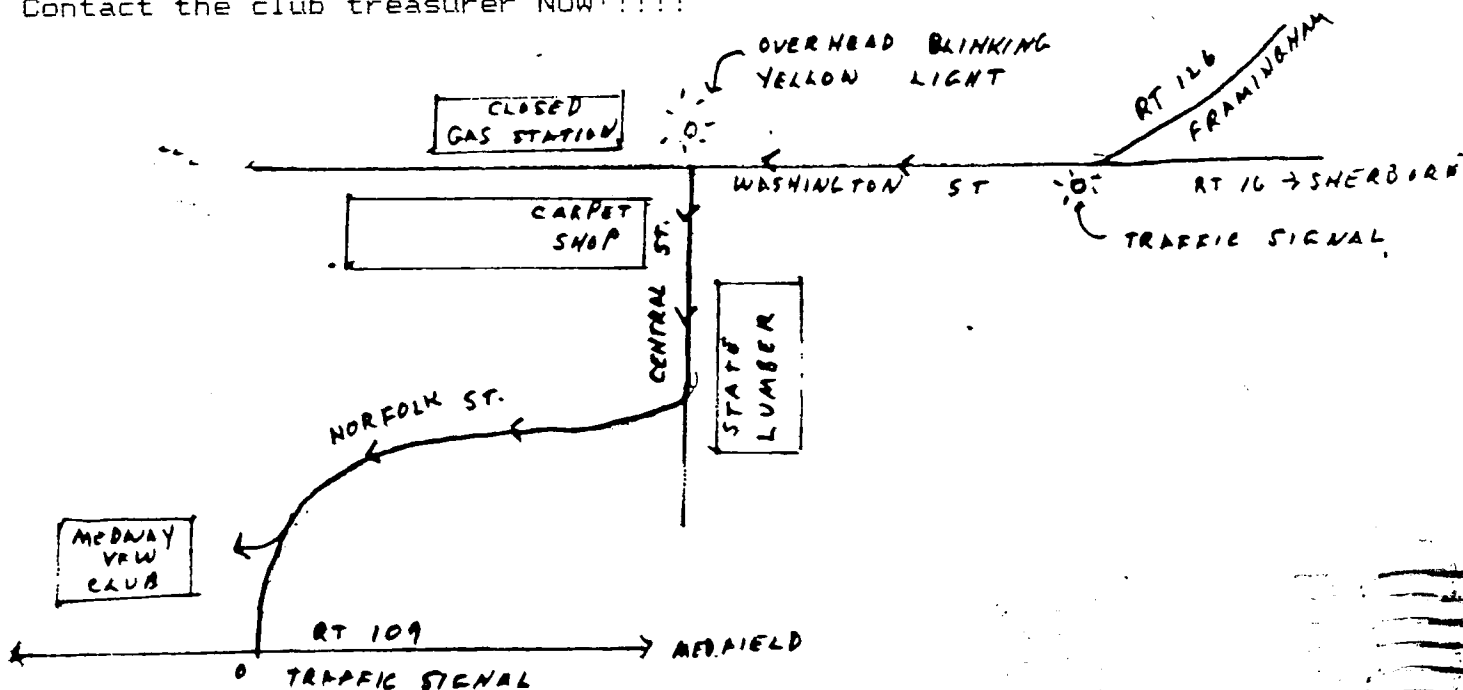
The modern lion

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FARA BENEFITS

AND THE HOBBY GAINS

FARA BANQUET -- SUNDAY MARCH 31, 1985. STILL TIME TO ATTEND!!!
Contact the club treasurer NOW!!!!



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