

FramingHAM Circuit

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ARRL division chief to talk
on subject you won't expect

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be an Amateur Radio operator in the Soviet Union? Our guest speaker for the evening, ARRL Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, will discuss the life of the average Russian ham and other Soviet Amateur Radio topics.

An avid DXer, Tom's contest and DX station is consistently among the leaders in the major yearly contests. He has gained his knowledge of the Soviet Amateur Radio scene from his numerous contacts with them.

Elected last year to head the New England Division of the ARRL, Tom will also be available to discuss other topics which may be of interest to you as ARRL members and he will also discuss his DX technique.

So, if you're looking for a way to spend an interesting evening, as well as a great way to kick off the new year of meetings, then come to the Danforth Museum Thursday Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. when FARA will kick off its new year of meetings. Entrance is through the Lexington Street door of the Danforth Museum and parking is available in the garage next door. It will be a very interesting evening.

Picnic A Huge Success; Committee Deserves Congrats

If you weren't one of the 61 people who turned out for the annual picnic Aug. 18, then you missed a great time. Held at Hopkinton State Park, the picnic was put together by Marjie Stern, K1HIA, and Barbara Eagle, K1KVVH, co-chairpeople. They deserve congratulations for a job well done.

What made this year's picnic different was a club vote last June. At that time, the club voted to provide the food for the event, but, little did we know the surprises Marjie and Barbara had in store as they planned this event.

Also, last June FARA decided to change picnic sites. The board was directed to find one with swimming and other facilities, which it did. President Bob Press, K1LEW, and Director-Station Trustee Lew Nyman, K1AZE, did the scouting and found that Hopkinton was just right for our needs.

With all this decided, the committee chairpeople went to work and they decided a catered picnic was the best way to proceed. Marjie and Barbara contacted several firms before settling on The Downtown Deli to provide the goodies.

About the only fly in the ointment might have been the weather, but the weather gods were good to us, as were the fates because the committee was worried the park would fill up before all the FARA people arrived. But, the day was splendid; it was hot in the sun and cool in the shade; and the park didn't fill up until after 1 p.m.

Some 61 members and guests turned out for the event, which was a huge success. The food was excellent; the company was good, and the surroundings were great. Barbara and Marjie deserve a large tip of the editor's hat and congratulations for a job well done.

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Officers

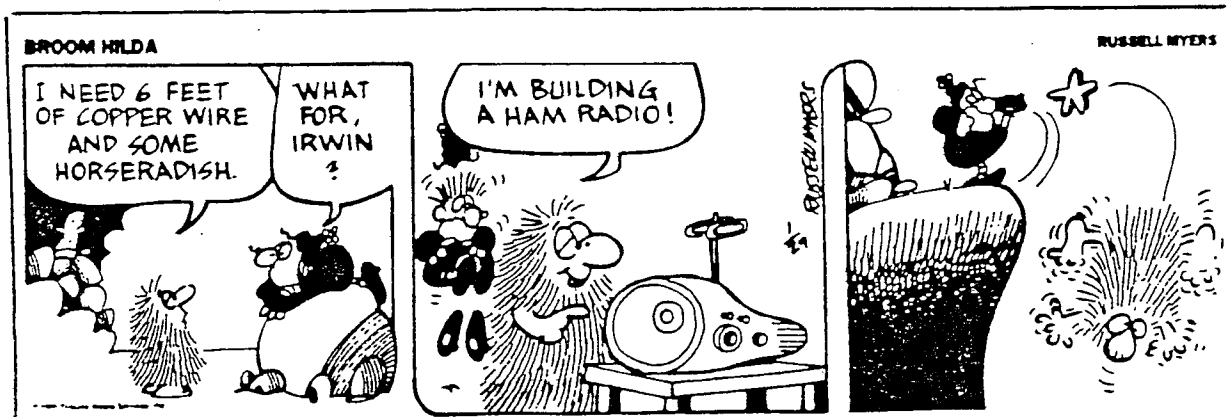
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- Counsel.....Arthur Marshall, Esq.

Club Station: W1FY. Repeater: W1FY/R, 147.75/15 FAAREN
 Net: Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Classes: Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

Instructors' meeting Sept. 7 will kick off busy year

Not only will Tom Frenaye's visit kick off our year in grand style, but a meeting of the crew of Novice instructors will also help get FARA's year underway. Planned by Ed Weiss, W1NXC, chairman of the education committee, for Saturday Sept. 7 at W1FY, the meeting will cover a great deal of ground.

First, Ed will discuss plans for this year's Novice class which will begin Sept. 14 at 9:30 a.m. At the same time, he will also discuss an offer from John MacLeod, WA1IGL, to lead a general class, concurrent with the Novice instruction.



For this second class we will need extra help. Normally Ed and Jim Boates, W1UEH, hold forth every Saturday morning at the classes. But, with the addition of a general module, we are going to need additional instructors for theory and CW. In fact, if we can push quickly enough, then we may have enough candidates ready for their General exam Oct. 27 at the Flea Market.

To do this, we need help and so if you'd like to give the teaching crew a hand, then come on over to the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 7.

Additionally, we will also be discussing some modifications to the Volunteer Exam program at the flea market. But, more about that at the meeting.

Although classes are one of our most visible activities, FARA has many exciting plans this year.

For example, the Framingham Area Amateur Radio Emergency Net (FAAREN) is now part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and some of its members are RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service)-certified. FAAREN Manager Marc Stern, N1BLH, also local Emergency Coordinator, is planning for the net's participation in the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Oct. 19 and 20. That drill will take place from W1FY and it will give us a chance to test our readiness.

According to the ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator, Barry Porter, K1LPA, this year's drill will involve a hurricane scenario and it will give the entire ARES for this section a chance to see how we handle not only emergency -- tactical -- but also routine -- health and welfare -- traffic. It should be interesting.

And, speaking of operating, W1FY's TS-430 will also be heard in various contests this year. At the moment, plans are being made to enter the Sweepstakes contest later in the fall and, if enough interest is shown, W1FY may enter several other contests during the year. This is in addition to our annual participation in Field Day.

Believe it or not, plans are now being made for that annual summertime event and more will be mentioned in later newsletters. At the moment, we are looking for operators, CW or phone or both.

Of course, FARA will be conducting its two Flea Markets, the Crosby Scholarship, exams, Surprise Nights and its annual dinner in the spring. Keep your eye on the Circuit for further information.

The Activities Committee has also been busy planning some interesting evenings during the year, which make the 1985-86 year look very, promising.

Lastly, there will be an operating schedule for WLFY for those members who would like to use the club's equipment. WLFY is available for use by any eligible club member and the board of directors is putting together an availability schedule of officers, who will also serve as control operators. More about this will appear in future newsletters.

Solar cycle puts damper on Field Day contacts

Falling levels in solar activity had their effect on Field Day this year as our 3A station scored a total of 3,174 points. Our hobby is still at least a year away from the solar minimum and this effectively cut our Field Day score. We did contact more than 900 stations on both CW and phone.

Our antennas consisted of a variety of arrays. On 10 meters, we used a fairly well matched vertical, while a vertical also handled 15 meters. The reason for the verticals was because we felt that the level of solar activity didn't warrant beams. On 20, we used the club's two-element beam, while, on 40, we used a Delta beam, which worked amazingly well -- we could work anything we heard and 6-land was open until well after sunrise. Jon Weiner's, K1VVC, Tennatope provided the inverted vee for 80 meters.

On the bands, the leading phone station was run by George Blakeslee, N1GB, with more than 380 contacts. The 40-meter station was next with more than 270 phone and CW contacts; while, 20-meters was close behind with nearly 210 phone and CW contacts. There were only 51 phone contacts on 15 and no CW contacts and there was no phone on 10 because the band was dead. Instead we had three CW contacts. Eighty-meter CW was disappointing with only four contacts.

On a brighter note our Novice station, K1MSC had 19 contacts and we had 21 contacts on packet. Both were free stations and counted as CW contacts. K1MSC, Adam, was ably assisted by his dad, K1VVC.

As usual, we had an excellent and almost continuous supply of some of the finest food we've ever tasted. It was provided by our chef extraordinaire, Dick Marshall, W1KUG. Many of our YL members assisted Dick by providing baked goodies.

Operators who assisted at Field Day included: George, N1GB; Lindsay Blake, K1EMT; Lew, K1AZE; Marc, N1BLH; Burt Shaffer, N1DDO; Marjie Stern, K1HIA; Marsha Marshall, K1JIR; Bob, K1LEW; Ron Egalka, K1YHM; Fran; Jeff, K1IMW; Ken Horton, K1GFN; Henry Lee, K1PE; Bob Gettys, N1BRM; Paul, N1DGT, and Ann, K1MSX, Bacchiocci; Toby Shaffer, N1DDS; Julie Hoffer, W1DL; Ed Edmands; W1GBU; Harry Platkow, K1FXK; Ted Gruber, W1ECE; Jon, K1VVC; Adam, K1MSC, and Jonathan Abrams, K1CKG. Others seen at the event included, Karen Nyman, K1BYP; Arnie Zunick, K1BPM; Debbie Weiner, and David and Sarah; Jeff Alper, W1PZD; Sharon, N1CUJ, and Chris Kronick, N1DOM; Mark Shaffer, N1DOL, and more. (Ed. note: I hope this covers everyone but Field Day was two months ago and I'm writing this from memory. If I left anyone else, it

wasn't intentional and just tell me about it and I'll be happy to list you in the next newsletter.)

WlFY/R Report

By Lew Nyman, KLAZE
Trustee, WlFY

Well, summer is just about over and our repeater has been performing quite well with our temporary low-power amplifier. Plans are being finalized to purchase a new, more reliable, higher-power amplifier. This will allow those distant mobile stations to hear the repeater better.

We must also fine tune the repeater duplexers which should eliminate some receiver desensing and, hopefully, allow us to eliminate the use of a crystal filter on the receiver.

Club membership dues and repeater dues are due by the end of the year, but, we ask that you pay as early as possible. We would like to use some of this year's repeater dues to help pay for the new amplifier. We prefer not to deplete our treasury as these funds may be needed for repeater emergencies.

Finally, I would like to remind you all again about our Sunday evening FAAREN nets at 7:30 p.m. Anyone may check in and quite often you will hear up-to-the-minute information about our club; Amateur Radio in general, and other topics.

A Tip of the Editor's hat to . . .

. . . Barbara Eagle, KALKVH, and Marjie Stern, KALHIA, for co-chairing the picnic and bringing off a successful event.

. . . Dick Marshall, WALKUG, for his dean's list performance at Central New England College.

. . . Ken Horton, KALGFN, for his purchase of a condominium in Marlboro. Good luck.

. . . Joshua Green, son of Marty, WALWHU, and Risa, WALZKZ, Green, on his first birthday. Joshua made headlines a year ago when he appeared in the Green household. He's still making them.

. . . The Field Day crew for their efforts.

. . . Toby, N1DDS, and Burt, N1DDO, Shaffer, whose son Mark, N1DOL, is a newlywed. His bride, Sharon, and he are making their home in Reading.

. . . Lew Nyman, KLAZE, and Bob Press, KB1EW, for finding the

picnic site.

. . . Ed Sawyer, KSly, for his first solo flight, under the guidance of flight instructor Dick Marshall, WAlKUG.

. . . Margie Keefe, KAlNFR, who passed her Novice exam last June. Her husband is Tom, KAlMOZ.

Swap & Shop

FOR SALE: Epson MX80-F/T Printer with friction and tractor feed options, Centronics parallel interface connector and installed 16K internal print buffer. Package includes two new black ink ribbons. A super deal for a computer hobbyist at \$300. Contact Bob Chin, WBlFHT, at Box 3132, Framingham, 01701, or call 877-0195.

WANTED: 2-meter transceiver, preferably synthesized. Contact Bob Zakon, WlnWV, at 877-5001.

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: Two Kenwood microphones: Like-new MC-35 high-impedance hand mic for Kenwood transceivers. Noise-cancelling feature. \$25. Contact Marc, N1BLH, on repeater or drop a note to the club box. Brand-new, MC-55 mobile boom mic for Kenwood series transceivers. Will work with TR-7850, 7950/7930, and other VHF rigs. \$35. Marc, N1BLH.

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: Mint condition radioteletype demodulator. This first-rate package is the HAL ST-6 RTTY Terminal Unit. Asking \$150. Call Lew, KlAZE, at 879-7456.

Club jacket sales booming; new order readied

Sales of club jackets are continuing hot and heavy and the committee has begun taking new requests as it gets another order ready and we already have commitments for four to six more jackets. This will push the number of jackets ordered since the April Flea Market to more than 30. You, too, can have your own royal blue -- with white lettering -- FARA jacket. Send a check to the club box for \$24.99 to the club box and indicate your size. If you have any further questions contact Marjie, KAlHIA, or Marc, N1BLH, on the repeater.

Social Events

Thursday, Sept. 5: First meeting.

Saturday, Sept. 7: Class instructor meeting.

Saturday, Sept. 14: Novice/general courses begin.

Sunday, Sept. 22: The Natchaug Amateur Radio Assn. will hold its giant flea market at the Elk's Home 198 Pleasant St., off Rte. 32 Willimantic, Ct. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advanced reserved tables inside or outside \$5 each, at the door \$7 Admission \$2. Children under 16 free, also free parking. Food and drinks avail. Talk-in on .52 direct and 147.30/.90. For more info contact Ed Sadeski, 49 Circle Drive, Willimantic, Ct. 06226. Tel 203-456-7029, after 4 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 29: The Conn. Valley F.M. Association will hold its 9th annual CVFM Hamfest at the King Ridge Ski Area from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$2 per person over 16 and \$3 per table or tailgate. Overnight camping for self-contained units only (from 5 p.m. Sept. 28th). There will be a giant indoor/outdoor flea market, a 2-meter fox hunt, packet radio demo, QCWA information. Refreshments available. Dealer exhibit and sales, ARRL representatives, and craft exhibit and contest. To get to King Ridge take Exit 11 of I-89 at Sutton N.H. and follow the signs off I-89. Talk-in on 146.16/.76 and .52 direct. For more information contact Cal Callahan at Box 173, East Wallingford, VT. 05742, or 802-259-2446.

Saturday, Oct. 5: New England's biggest ham radio flea market -- The Hoss Traders will holds its third annual fall swapfest at the Deerfield fairgrounds in Deerfield N.H. ***** Rain or Shine ***** Friday night camping opens at 4 p.m. The fees will be collected by the Fair Grounds Association. Admission \$2, tail-gating included. Good food available. All profits benefit the Boston Burns Unit of the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children. Talk-in on .52 direct or 146.40/147.00. Questions can be answered by sending an SASE to Joe Demaso K1RQG, Star Route Box 56 Bucksport Me.

Saturday, Oct. 5: The CQ Radio Club of Torrington Ct. will hold it's annual flea market at the East Albert Recreation Building. Go North on Route 8, take Hospital exit and follow signs to flea market. The doors open at 8 a.m. for dealers and at 9 a.m. for buyers. Tables are \$7 and tailgating is \$5. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Plenty of free parking. Admission is \$1. Refreshments available. Talk-in on 146.955.

Sunday, Oct. 27: New England's biggest and best indoor flea market. The Framingham amateur Radio Assn.. will hold a flea market and exams, at the Framingham Civic League Building, 214 Concord St. (Route 126) Framingham. Doors open for public at 10 a.m. Admission is \$2 per person; tables are \$10 in advance, table setup is from 8:30 to 10 a.m. For more information, contact Jon at 617-877-7166, or contact Framingham amateur Radio Assn., Inc. 37 Lyman Road, Framingham, Ma. 01701.