

The FramingHAM Circuit

Editor: Martin Bayes W1/G4DZC

January 1992

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The Monthly Newsletter of The Framingham Amateur Radio Association
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HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

FARA January Meeting

The next FARA meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday January 2nd, in the basement of the Danforth Museum, Framingham. Following the business meeting, during which several possible improvements to the W1FY set-up will be discussed, we will hold a "Show and Tell".

Bring along your interesting new Xmas presents, ZA1A QSL cards or just about anything else that you can think of.

Please bring goodies for the post meeting social. See you there.

WARC 1992

The latest World Administrative Radio Conference begins in one month, in Torremolinos, Spain (a town that Monty Python Aficionados will recognize as being a Mediterranean Tourist Trap!!).

There are high hopes that some realignment of the 40 meter band will reduce the Broadcast station QRM problem.

However, there are strong demands from mobile satellite services (wanting 5 MHz in the vicinity of 2 meters) and from FPLMTS (not a new DoD acronym, but actually Future Public Land Mobile Telephone Services) for space in the VHF UHF segments.

By the first week of March we will all know the outcome, and perhaps I will be able to use 40 meter phone after all. Ed.

10 METER CONTEST

The W1FY contest effort was hampered by somewhat poorer conditions than in 1990. However, the improved CT software (now able to handle this contest) and ample enthusiasm from a record crew of operators (over 20) made the contest effort memorable. Over 700 QSOs were made and the final score was over 600 K. Some nice DX was added to the FY log, including TZ, 5U, 5V, 5Z, VK9N, YN and V73. VK9NS on CW, through a massive pileup was most enjoyable. The "Best Hour of the Contest" award goes to Lew K1AZE with 55 QSOs (I still can't believe that 5Z4BI called Lew, after we had tried earlier to work him for 20 minutes without luck). Rick Hoyte KA1UTI managed to work KH6 on Saturday night after a prolonged struggle. Our thanks also go to the junior ops who helped with logging, often demonstrating the edge in computer literacy possessed by the younger generation.

The best antenna described during the contest belonged to WØUN from Colorado. Could he really have been using 8 over 8 over 8 over 8 ? (He was 59 + 40 Friday night, when I couldn't hear anyone else west of Pittsfield. I guess he was).

Martin W1/G4DZC

HOLIDAY SPELLCHECK QUIZ ANSWERS

1. K1RAW gives *Craw, crew, crow, cry*
2. KA1AXY gives *Kicks, kayaks, coax*
3. K1AZE gives *Keys, kiss, kiwis, kazoo*
4. WN1N gives *Anyone, anion, anon, inane, onion*
5. KA1USL gives *Casual, causal, cozily, choicely*

No correct answers being received by the contest deadline, the free ticket to Cancun will be returned to the Travel Agent for credit. (Spellcheck on ham newsletters is never boring!!)

Little known fact :

word that Spellcheck knows : **aficionados**

word Spellcheck does not know : **spellcheck**

Presidents Corner

Remember when you were a brand-new operator (No, but my parents have pictures of me in an album Ed.), eager to get on and ragchew with anyone; eager to use your new-found privileges? I know I was like that and I also know that I had lots of helpful advice from my Elmers and others who were kind enough to share their experiences with me. I think that I am a better operator for it.

That was a while ago and times have certainly changed. You no longer have to go through the agony of your first CW test --- unless you choose to. All it takes is a test session; passing a couple of written elements; a wait of a few weeks and you're an operator. That's it.

Sadly, it also seems to be it for Elmering, at least that's what some of the things I'm hearing tell me. For example, I was listening on a direct frequency the other day when I heard CB jargon being used and I've heard people popping up looking for "radio checks" (a brand of breakfast cereal?? Ed.) and all the other sorts of goodies that we used to associate with 11 meters.

That's okay in its place, but I don't think Amateur Radio is that place and it points to the need for us to Elmer. In fact, the need is greater now than it ever was. If you hear a new operator on the air, make contact. If you hear bad operating habits, try to correct them gently. If you hear the operator having trouble, offer to help; invite the newcomer over to your shack. Whatever you do, act as a guide or mentor. Let the new folks know they are wanted and help them become members of our community. If not, they will sit on the fringes and feel enormous amounts of rejection and frustration.

73

Marc Stern WA1R

NOTES

I am happy to report that Ed Edmunds WB1GBU is back on his feet again, after a mild heart attack. The rest that is recommended in such cases can always be taken while close to a radio, so I'm sure the DX will continue to fall Ed's way.

Opening of the Club Station has been expanded, due to the concerted efforts of Dick Cosma KD1BF and Dick Landau W1IBN, to include Sunday mornings. Hours are from 9 am until lack of DX or food forces participants to retreat (midday). Please make use of these extra station openings and hopefully the expansion of access will continue.

FOR SALE

Heathkit HD 5404 monitor scope and panadapter, in great shape. Lets you see you modulation, incoming signals and watch other signals. You can also use it to tune RTTY. Asking \$210

Radio Shack VOM in good shape; top close for protection. Asking \$20

Contact : Marc WA1R days (508) 467 6585

How To Repair a Two Meter Radio

Sooner or later, every ham is plagued with a two meter transceiver that won't work. the problem may be a loose connection, a defective part, misuse, or just plain old age. If you possess some basic technical skills, you may want to try the following techniques. These methods aren't guaranteed to bring results, but they will give you something to do before resorting to sending the rig back to the factory.

- Step 1: Approach the radio with a confident manner. This will give the radio the mistaken impression that you know something. It will also impress anyone who might be looking, and if it should suddenly start working you will be credited with the repair. If this fails, proceed to step 2.
- Step 2: Wave the service manual at the radio. This will make it assume you understand its circuitry and that you know how to read a schematic. If this fails, proceed to Step 3.
- Step 3: In a forceful manner, recite Ohm's Law. Before you take this step, be sure you know it. This will prove to the radio that you indeed know something. If the radio still isn't impressed, proceed to Step 4.
- Step 4: Jar the rig slightly. This may require anything from a 3 to a 6 pound hammer. However you must be careful not to damage the hammer. If this step does not bring results, proceed to the next step.
- Step 5: Wave a large screwdriver in a menacing manner. this will show the radio that you know the deadly short circuit technique.
- Step 6: If nothing else works, try taking some ohmmeter readings, assuming you own an ohmmeter (see For Sale above Ed.). This should confuse the radio and increase your advantage.
- Step 7: If the radio has no sentimental value and you're sick and tired of fooling with it, try bringing it to the next ham radio flea market in your area. People will always buy junk as well as good stuff.
- Step 8: If you wish to make a last ditch effort to save it, and you do not wish to display further ignorance, bring it to anyone of your ham radio buddies, since they are more knowledgeable than you and claim to be experts. If this Step fails, proceed to Step 9.
- Step 9: Return the radio to the factory. You should have done this in the first place.

Lew K1AZE

CLUB INFORMATION 1991-92

President	Marc Stern	WA1R	879 2087	Before 9 pm
Vice President	Martin Bayes	W1/G4DZC	435 1278	"
Secretary	Henry Lee III	KB1PE	881 7662	"
Treasurer	Bob Gettys	N1BRM	620 1836	"
Director	Lew Nyman	K1AZE	879 7456	"
Training Officer	Ed Weiss	W1NXC	881 2301	Before 6 pm
Director of Testing	Dick Marshall	WA1KUG	877 0563	Before 9 pm
Activities Coordinator	Marjie Stern	KA1HIA	879 2087	"
Publicity Officer	Sharon Machlis	KC1YR	877 6692	"
	Gartenberg			
Emergency Coordinator	Marc Stern	WA1R	879 2087	"
Scholarship Cte Chairman	Dick Cosma	KD1BF	879 1381	"
Newsletter Editor	Martin Bayes	W1/G4DZC	435 1278	"

Meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month, in the basement of the Danforth Museum, in downtown Framingham. Business meetings take place two Mondays before each regular meetings, at 7.30 pm, all are welcome. The Club Net meets on Sunday evenings at 7:30 pm, on the W1FY repeater, to practice emergency use of the repeater and to pass on news of the latest happenings. Club Repeater 147.15/147.75 MHz.

Framingham Amateur Radio Assn
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 Saxonville Station
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FIRST CLASS

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 ARRL Key ← → Straight Night	2 FARA Club Meeting	3 ←
4 ARRL RTTY Roundup	5 →	6	7	8	9	10
11 Mid Winter	12 → Contest	13	14	15	16	17
18 ← → VHF Sweepstakes ← → HA DX Contest + NA QSO Party	19 →	20 →	21	22	23	24 ←
25 CQ WW 160 ← → French CW Contest	26 → Contest	27 FARA Board Meeting	28 ← → Jan 25	29	30 Novice Roundup	31 → Feb 2

JANUARY