



ZERO BEAT

Southeastern Massachusetts
Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
54 Donald Street
South Dartmouth, MA 02748



Volume 44 Issue 5

SEMARA-W1AEC

May 2008

SEMARA Pictorial Update

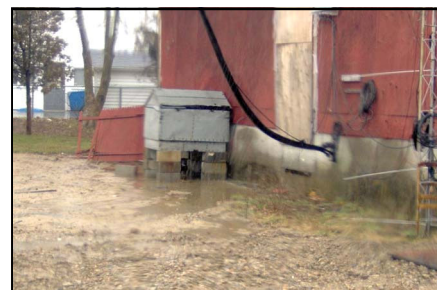
Progress has been happening - slowly, but surely - in a few areas: oil spill remediation and building maintenance. Here are some pictures contributed by various SEMARA members.



RAZING THE CINDER BLOCK
OIL FURNACE BUILDING



REGRAIDING THE BACK OF THE
CLUBHOUSE - PHASE 1



OOPS! WE HAD A MINI POND



NEW STORM DRAINS AND PAV-
ING FOR DONALD STREET



A DOUBLE RAINBOW
SURELY, A GOOD OMEN!



A LOAD OF SAND FILL



REGRADED - PHASE 2
BASE OF THE TOWER NEEDS
TO BE CAREFULLY FILLED



MORE SHINGLES ARE BEING
ADDED EACH SUNDAY

ZERO BEAT

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 Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
 54 Donald Street,
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 (508) 997-7070

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2008 SEMARA OFFICERS

President

Louis Mester - W1CH

Vice President

Bob Kelley - K1KVV

Secretary

Tim Smith - N1TI

Treasurer

Mike McDonald - KB1NB

Board of Directors:

Gerry Bergeron - W1AFD

Dave Dean - K1JGV

Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

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Mike Miller - N1ITQ (2009)

Charlie Days - WA1JFD (2010)

Tim Smith - N1TI (2011)

Henry Blanchett - W1GYL (2012)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds

Mike Miller - N1ITQ

Scholarship

Larry Houbre, Jr. - AA1FS

Technical

Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Activities

Scott Szala - W1EV

ARES/SKYWARN

Rob Macedo - KD1CY

Building Renovation

Dave Dean - K1JGV

QSL Manager

John Nery - WA1ESO

Radio Events

Bob Kelley - K1KVV

Repeater

Rick Cabral- W1RJC,

Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

Website

Tim Smith - N1TI



It seems to me ...

de Bob - K1KVV <editor@semara.org>

That SEMARA is ready to begin a new chapter in club operations! Soon the regarding of the rear of the clubhouse will be finished and we can convert the back entrance into a handicap accessible one with the addition of a ramp. I am very encouraged by the progress of the shingling of the north side of the clubhouse too. That should also provide an incentive to improve our *curb appeal* and repaint the trim, add some flowers and shrubs along the front. Once our *mini-alps* is removed from the side yard, we can start thinking about redesigning our parking to provide more on-site parking and be less dependent on parking on the street in our rapidly developing neighborhood.

I wonder how long it has been since SEMARA has offered Amateur Radio related classes? Now that Morse Code is no longer a requirement for a license, perhaps SEMARA could offer classes to school kids (and parents) during the summer vacation, after school, or on the weekend? Has SEMARA ever offered a concentrated Technician course such as our sister club across the Bay?

If you remember, the schedule of VE sessions that was published in the April **ZERO BEAT** effectively skips the next four months. In the past, VE exams have been available by request during this quiet period. A course-end exam might serve both the students and others who are ready before October.

While I am chewing on this bone, when was the last time SEMARA had a real field day? We could run it right out of the clubhouse but under 'emergency conditions: temporary wire antennas and beams with the rigs running from alternative power sources. Notice I didn't suggest that we give up the inside plumbing and the comfort of our radio room. We could even good on a grill. It would be different. It might even be fun!

Please mark you calendars – **Saturday, June 21, 2008** is **Kids Day**. Since I will be in Florida on this date, I'm looking for someone to host the visiting kids. The event runs from 1800-2400Z and all you need to do is be there to hand them the mike. Oh sure, there's a little bit more to it – you just need to look at the Dec. 2007 QST page or click on <http://www.arrl.org/qst/2007/12/kidsday.pdf>. Suggested frequencies include all HF bands, WARC too, and 2 meter repeaters.

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* T1D09 When may the FCC revoke or suspend a license if the mailing address of the holder is not current with the FCC?

- If mail is returned to the FCC as undeliverable
- When the licensee transmits without having updated the address
- When the licensee operates portable at a different address
- If the address is not updated within the 2 year grace period

*2006 Element 2 Technician Class Question Pool (good thru 2010-06-30) Answer on page 4



CLUB NOTES

May is a good time to get ready for Field Day. Can you deploy a creditable antenna? Set up a workable station? Operate for a four hour shift?

These are just a couple of the skills that can be honed for Field Day. Perhaps we need to have an NVIS antenna on 80/75-m and 40-m to be able to work close in stations, just to simulate emergency operations. Can we get a generator up and running (for how many hours)? Do we want to operate singly or have teams to share the logging and message copy?

It isn't necessary to do all these things at one time, just sometime before Field Day. Passing traffic and participating in a contest are ways to get valuable practice.

Three applications for life membership were received at the April 3, 2008 business meeting:

- Robert Gomes, N1SVR**—General;
- Ben Jackson, N1WBV**—General; and
- Matthew Paine, KB1OSV**—General.

Welcome to the club!

Two candidates successfully passed VE examinations were given at the April 5, 2008 session.

- Nicholas J. Biello, N1RHE**—General; and
- George R. Strassburger, KB1QGW**—Technician.

Welcome to the hobby!

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

Saturday, May 3, 2008
10:30 a.m.

Contact: Larry, AA1FS
LRHguy@earthlink.net
508-991-6055



LOCAL NET ACTIVITY

Everybody, check in to these local nets!



147.000+ (PL 67.0 Hz) (FM) — **Roundtable "Camel" Net** is held *every evening* at 7 p.m. on the SEMARA Repeater, WIAEC.

50.200 MHz (USB) — Net is held *Wednesdays* at 8:30 p.m. **Bob, N1HCW** (Acushnet) is net control.

28.490 MHz (USB) — Net is held *Tuesdays* at 8:30 p.m. **Bob, N1HCW** (Acushnet) is net control.

3868 kHz (LSB) — **SEMARA Morning Net** is held *weekdays* from 7:30-8 a.m. ET.



3547 kHz (CW) — **Southern New England "SNE" Net** on *Mondays* at 8:00 p.m. Code speed is 10-15 wpm, or slower as needed. **Don, WA1BXY** is net control. *SWLs welcome!*

SUDOKU

Here's more challenging puzzle to attack while waiting for the net to start. Solution is on page 6.

			5					
								8
	8			2				3
8	4			5			2	
	5		1	4				
	9	2				6		
					5		8	7
7		4		3	8			5
			7	6			9	

Meeting Minutes

APRIL 2008 BUSINESS MEETING

The April 3rd, 2008 business meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President **Louie, W1CH**. The salute to the flag was followed by a roll call. A quorum of 23 members and 1 guest (**K3ITG**, Mark from Pennsylvania).

Secretary's Report was accepted as published in the April 2008 Zerobeat newsletter.

Treasurer's Report (Mike, KB1NB): Total funds available in the checking and savings account is \$35,248. This balance reflects recent expenditures of \$10k for ongoing cleanup costs (professional and legal fees), \$3k for the legal retainer.

Mike also reported that the supplemental contaminated soil excavation sampling tests shows that we meet applicable standards. Mike also reports that the disposal of the stockpiled contaminated soil is moving along. He is waiting on a final determination as to when it can be removed. Mike also reported that Netcom is improving that the monthly checks are arriving on time. We still have not received their outstanding tax share.

A refer to audit *motion passed unanimously*.

Standing Committee Reports

Technical Committee (Dave, W1DJG): Dave reported that several SEMARA members attended the WBZ-TV tour recently. Dave also reported that everything is running fine. There are some "crunchies" that sometime appear on weak stations on the repeater. Dave will work with Al when the weather improves to look into replacing the jumper from the hardline over to the Station Master.

Special Committee Reports

Building/Renovation (Dave, K1JGV): Dave reports that the first shingling party will be held this

Sunday morning. He needs an extra ladder and planks for staging. **Don, KA1BXB** offered to bring a ladder.

Website (Tim, N1TI): Routine updates.

Events (Bob, K1KVV): Bob, K1KVV renewed his offer to help anyone wanting to operate the club station in an event or casually.

Communications (Bob, K1KVV): Bob submitted three new membership applications for ratification: **Robert Gomes, N1SVR; Ben Jackson, N1WBV; and Matt Paine, KB1OSV.**

A motion to accept these new members passed unanimously.

Old Business: None

New Business: Mike, KB1NB moved to allocate \$10.00 to recharge the QSL bureau postage account. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Mike, KB1NB moved to allocate fund not to exceed \$500 for a new club computer. **Tim, N1TI** offered to buy a Dell Vostro 200, when the next promotional price is offered. *Motion passed unanimously.*

For the Good of the Club: Dave, W1DJG suggested that the club resume it's 50/50 raffle. Dave collected over \$80 in ticket sales with the winner being **Mark, K3ITG** (our guest).

Motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Smith, N1TI
Secretary



POINT TO PONDER

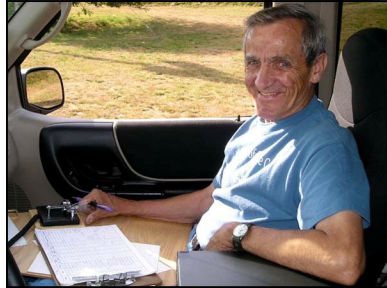
"Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment."

~Oprah Winfrey

A. If mail is returned to the FCC as undeliverable. Note, there seen to be a few SEMARA members who do not have good addresses on file with the FCC according to our records and failed attempts send them mail. They are courting either revocation or suspension of their licenses as well as losing SEMARA privileges.

Brass Pounders

DON, N1DT



DON, N1DT AT HIS OPERATING POSITION AS W1AA

Some of you who followed the Cape Crusaders around the band for past four years during our 66 lighthouse activations, some times just one, other times two or three at the same time, may be

wondering just what happened to us recently.

Last fall Whitey had some surgery, then I had medical problems. Then when we did feel well enough to start activating, the weather did not cooperate. Now that the weather is finally turning nice I'm sorry to say that, due to my medical problems, I will no longer be able to participate as half of the Cape Crusaders team.

All good things must come to an end. It looks like my time has come to call it a day as far as lighthouse activations are concerned. I just can no longer spend an hour or two driving to and from a light and an additional 6 or 8 hours operating from the cab of a pickup truck. It was a lot of fun and we enjoyed giving you a lot of lighthouses and in the process making many, many ARLHS friends along the way.

The best part was my partner. I will never forget and will really miss sitting side by side with Whitey on our way to our Dunking Donuts ritual on Saturday mornings and riding to various lighthouses in Rhode Island and Massachusetts to activate them. It was a pleasure.

A very special thanks to all of you die hard CW enthusiast who put down the mike and got on the key. Whitey will continue with lighthouse activations if he can find another CW operator as a partner, which has not been an easy task.

There are 89 lights in Massachusetts and 37 in Rhode Island and we had hardly scratched the surface so you can be sure that there are many more new lights to be activated in the future.

73 to all and Keep the Flame

Don, N1DT, ARLHS # 962



MARITIME RADIO DAY

11 APRIL 1200Z-12 APRIL 1200Z 2008

Two former ship and coast station operators fired up **W1AEC** on April 11 and spent a few hours doing what they knew so well – pounded brass.

Wayne, N1LZY and **John, WA1ESO** patiently searched for stations calling *CQ MRD*. They managed to work 11 MRD stations, including **K1VV/NJPJ**, mostly Europeans. Lots of stations around 14.050 calling Whitey!



WAYNE, N1LZY



WAYNE, N1LZY, AT THE STRAIGHT KEY, AND JOHN, WA1ESO

K1VV/NJPJ

We started on 80 CW at 3520khz hoping that the locals would show up that we could work on ground wave. Only worked 3.



W1AAX in Situate MA was the only local. Worked **W1WCC/WCC** on 20 CW at the Marconi Maritime Museum in Chatham, MA. We had 93 QSOs, most on 20 CW. Worked 57 MRD stations, 6 were former shore station operators (3 letters), 2 were former aircraft radio operators (4 letters and a number), and the rest were former ship operators (4 letters). Worked 28 countries in 6.89 hours total.

It was tough copy with the poor conditions and everyone bunched around the calling frequencies. Much QRM and QSB, but still fun digging out the weak ones.

Whitey K1VV/NJPJ

More SEMARA News

BODY BUILDER



GEORGE, KB1HJL, 2ND PLACE-OVER 60

This might inspire someone else to start exercising at any age. Two years ago I had a bad motorcycle accident that tore my left foot off only holding it on by the tendons. The Dr. operated on it and put it back in place with a metal plate, pins and screws. He said I probably wouldn't walk right again.

So, I didn't want to hear that and was determined to prove him wrong. I started going to the gym to strengthen my left leg and one thing led to another. Soon I was doing more and more exercises. I started to see changes in my body. At the time I started going to the gym I weighed a hefty 217 pounds, had high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and my thyroid was out of whack too. I also had a breathing problem. It was so bad I couldn't even climb the stairs in the gym without having to use my inhaler (Albuteral), never mind trying to pedal the bike.

Now after two years of complete dedication and determination, the day before the competition on April 12th, I weighed in at 160 pounds with 10% body fat. My doctor has been so impressed with my progress that she and her husband even came to watch me at the bodybuilding competition event.

Bob, I could not have done this by myself alone. I have to credit my darling little wife with preparing all of my diets. Diet is the whole key to my progress. Exercise alone will not work if you don't eat properly. My wife has been *"The Wind Beneath My Wings."* My daughter, Jessica, KB1JUW, also helped with my routine.

I was also inspired by an "old guy" I saw on a website that had just won a bodybuilding contest in Atlanta, GA. This guy was 62 years old at the time and I thought I looked better than he did without me even training for an event! So I said to my wife,

STRAY OSCILLATIONS

HEARD AROUND THE CLUB

John, WAILSH loves the old equipment that glows in the dark. We understand the romance and nostalgia that it provides for some of us old timers. We have to stop and think as to why he places the old Swan tube type transceiver at his feet, however. Must be mainly to keep his feet warm on some of these cold nights. ~Dave, KIJGV

EMERGENCY PRACTICE?

Nets need to ask their check-ins to keep transmissions short with pauses so someone could break in. If you're on SSB, using VOX allows break in between sentences. Likewise, using break-in on CW will make getting back in easy if a repeat is needed or something else needs to be said.

73 es DX de KOHLA, Avery (CW Forever)

"Look at this guy, if he can do it, why can't I?" So I started seriously training.

Since then I have been in contact with this gentleman from Atlanta. As a matter of fact, he has invited me to compete in the 2008 FAME World Championships in Toronto, Canada on June 14th. I'm still undecided about going up there because of the expense, but I will be doing the June 28th show in the Rhode Island Super-Natural contest in Warwick, RI.

So, that's where I am at 68 years old, healthy, (handsome ☺), tanned and slim. Too bad I don't have the money to go with it. ☺

George Kirkwood, KB1HJL

2	6	3	4	6	7	8	1	5
5	9	1	8	3	9	4	2	7
7	8	4	5	1	2	9	6	3
4	5	9	3	7	8	2	9	1
9	3	8	2	4	1	7	5	6
1	2	7	9	5	6	3	4	8
3	7	5	1	2	4	6	8	9
8	1	2	9	6	3	5	7	4
6	4	9	7	8	5	1	3	2

MAY VE SESSIONS

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| SEMARA – 10:30AM | 3rd |
| Larry Houbre-AA1FS | |
| LRHguy@earthlink.net | |
| 508-991-6055 | |
| Braintree, MA – 8:45AM | 10th |
| William Needham-K1WN | |
| K1WN@aol.com | |
| 781-843-4000 | |
| Canton, MA – 7:30PM | 15th |
| Lou Harris-N1UEC | |
| N1UEC@Norwood-ARC.org | |
| 508-668-0858 | |
| Cranston, RI – 9:00AM | — |
| Ken Carr-KB1AWV | |
| KB1AWV@arrl.net | |
| 401-828-1665 | |
| Fall River, MA – 7:00PM | 19th |
| Skip Denault-KB1CNB | |
| skip@NewTestamentSchool.org | |
| 774-644-3469 | |
| Falmouth, MA – 9:00AM | 10th |
| Ben Fleck-W2LYE | |
| BenFleck@cape.com | |
| 508-540-2583 | |
| Middletown, RI – 9:00AM | — |
| Jack Garforth-K1IG | |
| K1IG@verizon.net | |
| 401-683-2250 | |
| Providence, RI – 7:00PM | 8th |
| Lou Mester-W1CH | |
| W1CH@cox.net | |
| 401-263-6045 | |
| Slatersville, RI – 9:00AM | 31st |
| Robert Jones-WB1P | |
| WB1P@arrl.net | |
| 401-333-4787 | |
| Taunton, MA – 10:00AM | — |
| John Miller-N1UMJ | |
| N1UMJ@arrl.net | |
| 508-823-8837 | |

MAY FLEA/HAMFESTS

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 10 5th Annual Hamfest | Rensselaer, NY |
| E Greenbush ARA | Tom – 518-272-1494 |
| 16-18 Dayton Hamvention | Dayton, OH |
| Dayton ARA | http://www.hamvention.org |
| 18 Flea @ MIT | Cambridge, MA |
| MIT, Harvard et al. | Nick – 617-253-3776 |
| 24 Hartford Hamfest | Vernon, CT |
| Natchaug ARC | Wayne – 860-487-1921 |
| 31 BARA Spring Hamfest | Washington, NJ |
| Bergen ARA | Jim – 201-664-6725 |

SOME MAY CONTESTS

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 3 May 0001Z-4 May 2359Z | – 10-10 Spring CW & Digital Contests | – www.ten-ten.org |
| 3 May 1300Z-4 May 0700Z | – 7th Area QSO Party | – www.7qp.org |
| 3 May 1500Z-4 May 1500Z | – Portuguese Navy Day | – www.nra.pt |
| 3 May 1600Z-4 May 1400Z | – Indiana QSO Party | – www.hdxcc.org/inqp |
| 3 May 2000Z-4 May 0500Z + 4 May 1300Z-4 May 2400Z | – New England QSO Party | – www.neqp.org |
| 9 May 2300Z-10 May 2300Z | – Nevada QSO Party | – nv.arrl.org/NQP |
| 10 May 1200Z-11 May 1200Z | – CQ-M International Contest | – www.cq-m.andvs.ru |
| 10 May 1200Z-11 May 1200Z | – Alessandro Volta RTTY Dx Contest | – www.contestvolta.com |
| 17 May 1200Z-18 May 1200Z | – EU PSK DX Contest | – eu.srars.org |
| 10 May 1200Z-11 May 2400Z | – Armed Forces Comm'n Contest | – netcom.army.mil/mars |
| 17 May 1800Z-18 May 1800Z | – His Majesty King of Spain Contest | – www.ure.es |
| 31 May 1400Z-1 Jun 2200Z | – Kids Roundup | – www.ki3ds.org |



Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association, Inc., 54 Donald Street, South Dartmouth, MA 02748

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

See <http://www.semara.org/repeaters.htm>

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.110 -	67.0	KB1BWN	New Bedford
145.130 -	151.4	WF1A	W Greenwich, RI
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.450 -	100.0	W1SYE	Portsmouth, RI
145.490 -	67.0 ¹	W1SMA	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -	82.5	N1ZIZ	Plymouth
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI
146.730 -	67.0	W1SGL	Sandwich
146.760 -		W1HQV	Scituate, RI
146.805 -	67.0	NN1D	Fall River
146.835 -	192.8	WA1QCA	Johnston, RI
146.880 -	100.0	WC1R	Newport, RI
146.940 -		K1KYI	Lincoln, RI
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000+	67.0*	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.045+	141.3	W1HDN	W Warwick, RI
147.120+	173.8	K1WEW	Portsmouth, RI
147.135+	67.0	KA1GG	Taunton
147.165+	67.0	WA1HAH	Exeter, RI
147.180+	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
147.195+	127.3	K1SMH	Attleboro
147.315+	67.0	WG1U	Plymouth
147.330+	131.8 ²	W1AQ	E Prov., RI
147.345+	88.5	KB1QL	W Tisbury
147.375+	110.9	N1YHS	Falmouth

* IRLP-4347 & EchoLink-44347

¹IRLP-4617 & EchoLink-4611; ²173.8 required to use IRLP-4907

222			
223.760 -		K1KYI	Scituate, RI
223.780 -	88.5	N1PYN	Brockton
223.820 -	67.0	N1JBC	Newport, RI
223.900 -		KA1ABI	Coventry, RI
223.920 -		KA1LMX	Warwick, RI
223.960 -	127.3	KA1RCI	Johnston, RI
223.980 -		W1OP	Johnston, RI
224.040 -	67.0	KA1RCI	Lincoln, RI
224.060 -	103.5	N1ZZN	Norwell
224.200 -	100.0	KA1MYV	Lincoln, RI
224.320 -	118.8	W1ZSA	Walpole
224.400 -	103.5	N1KUG	Quincy
224.560 -	100.0	KA1NXS	Exeter, RI
224.620 -	88.5	N1TVZ	Attleboro
224.660 -		W1KG	Medway
224.760 -		KA1SOO	W Warwick, RI
224.920 -	67.0	N1JBC	N Prov., RI
224.960 -	88.5	W1VET	Warwick, RI

440 (within 25 miles of SEMARA)			
441.400+	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
441.750+	192.8	W1AQ	E Prov., RI
442.550+	67.0	WG1U	Assonet
443.150+	94.8	K1CW	Bristol, RI
444.350+	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
446.375 -	67.0	KA1RCI	Little Compton, RI
447.225 -	88.5	WP4US	Taunton
447.525 -	88.5	WA1TAQ	Portsmouth, RI
448.325 -	186.2	KC2GDF	Newport, RI
449.525 -		NN1D	Fall River

Check <http://www.nerepeaters.com/se.htm#440>

GPS Coordinates:
Lat. N 41° 36.795' Long. W 070° 56.550'

Grid Coordinates: FN41mo



FISTS CW no.10555

BUSINESS MEETING: 7 PM FIRST THURSDAYS
RAGCHEW AT THE CLUBHOUSE: 7-11 AM SUN

— MOST-OF-THE-TIME ACITIVITIES —

EARLY BIRD BREAKFAST: 6 AM TU & TH

West End Grill

1000 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford

CLUB COFFEE MEET: 1 PM WEEKDAYS

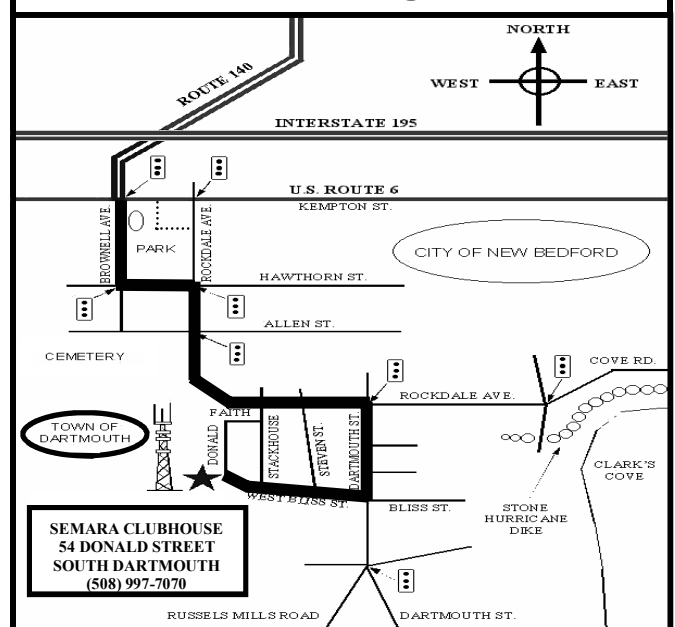
Boston Coffee & Bagel

122 Allen Street (corner of Dartmouth Street)
New Bedford

LUNCHEON: 11:30 AM FRIDAYS

Meet at the clubhouse at **11:15 AM** to decide which local restaurant is to have the honor of our presence that week

Directions to SEMARA



See <http://semara.org/directions.htm>