

ZERO BEAT

A Publication Of The
South Eastern Mass. Amateur Radio Ass'n.

52 Donald Street
South Dartmouth, Massachusetts

March 1982

50 TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

WIAEC/R

There's an old saying - no news is good news ! However, if you're trying to put out a publication such as this, it tends to make the task that much more difficult !!! Enough said ?? Let's make our paper interesting !!!

Activities Section

Tech Committee: Bob DeCosta KA1ALY
House & Grounds: Dick Hay W1LE
Repeater Committee: Bill Miller KI1ER
Larry Lygren WB1DHX
Librarian: Bill Mercier WB1ERS

Tax guys for filling in these slots.
We still need Novice instructors
A.S.A.P. !!!!!

K

Bits & Pieces

A copy of last month's Zero Beat was sent to the ARRL and they have acknowledged receiving it. The letter is on the bulletin board.

73's to W1FJI, Art Marshal, who has packed up lock, stock and coax to move to Arizona. On the way, Art is planning to swing through most of the Southern States so he'll have plenty to talk about once he is all set up out there.

Carl Thornhill, N1BGX has rejoined the club this year. (No doubt so that he will get a copy of this terrific paper !)

Gilly Medeiros, K1SMY, has offered the use of a 3 KW generator for Field Day this year. Tnx Gilly.

When Bob Petitpas said he'd make a clean sweep this year he really meant it! (The clubhouse needed it anyway !!)

K

Don't forget that some of the members are meeting on Sunday mornings at the club. Coffee is always on so why don't you drop by ??

Answer To ... to a Crossword Puzzle

FORES
 C M
 C COFFEE
 OK NOVICE
 F ONE P D H
 ID G ME A
 E R T I
 L MEETING R B
 D G T MURPHY
 D AS P Y A L
 A T A O N H
 Y I S FOUR S
 WHO U
 NAPPIN
 A DOES
 GILLY S

K

Would you believe that after three months of hassles, the ARRL has come to a determination on our theft insurance? They now say that the club doesn't even have any !!!

You would think that after all this time and all the correspondence that has flown back and forth that we would have had some good news, but that is as good as it gets !

Bill Mercier is now in the process of sending them a copy of the check to prove that the premium has been paid. However, don't get your hopes up about getting this problem solved in the near future. You know how Murphy is !!!

K

Last year's president, Randy Faber, WA1NSL, is in town for a few days. He is planning to come to the club on Thursday March 4th for the business meeting to have a chance to say hi to some of the guys so if you can make it, I'm sure he'll be glad to see all of you.

K

REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The flea Market held on Feb. 6 th has increased our treasury by \$ 339.59 . The event could have been much more successful had it received more support from the membership. Not that it was a dismal failure by any means but it didn't meet our expectations.

Once again, thanks to the tireless efforts of Dick Hay, Wile and Bill Mercier, WB1ERS. Don Mara, WA1PLT spent most of the day in the kitchen assisted by his wife, and their efforts were greatly appreciated. Roger Quintin, KA1FAT, or 'Fat Roger' as he is known to many of us, spent the afternoon playing guitar and singing country songs for those hearty souls who remained.

Part of the profit was due to the donations of food and money from some of the members. Their names will not be mentioned but their help is not something to be forgotten.

Thanks to all the guys who helped clean up also. Sonny Melle, KA1ESG, cleaned up also - he collected the money at the door!

K

On March 2nd the Phone Co. will be coming down to the clubhouse to make some equipment changes. These changes should lower our monthly bill by about \$ 10 or \$ 12 a month.

It took a lot of arguments to get the Phone Co. to come down and make these changes, but with great persistence and determination, Larry Lygren, WB1DEX, finally got through to them! Tnx Larry!

K

We no longer have a vacancy on the Board of Directors. Larry Lygren was elected to that post at the February buisness meeting. Congrats and gud luck!

K

Did U Know ??

That the Falmouth Repeater has moved to 146.055/.655 effective 1/31/82 .

That the Falmouth Amateur Radio Club will receive a certificate awarded by ARRL officials honoring its 50th Anniversary ?? (How 'bout us, guys ??)

That the Eastern Mass/Rhode Island Phone Net has moved from 3.898 to 3.949 Mhs.

That the Eastern Mass Two Meter Net now meets on the Boston repeater 144.63/145.23 as of 2/1/82 .

Tnx to Crossbander

K

EDITORIAL
BY KD1H

Years ago clubs were formed for a variety of reasons. Not the least of which was to promote the art of Amateur Radio. What often began as a small gathering of local enthusiasts ended up as a formally organized club.

What made these local clubs so valuable was that Amateur Radio was, for the most part, in its infancy. The local club was the place to go if you needed licensing instruction or the answer to a particular problem. After all, what better way to get an answer than to ask someone who had already experienced the same wisp of black smoke ?

Today there seems to be a decline in local clubs. One large factor is the availability of ready-made rigs. No construction problems there to tackle! And if it doesn't work - UPS is but a phone call away ! Simple !

Add to that the ease with which you can upgrade and who needs a local club ? Why, for 9.95 you can get a copy of The Final Exam by Dick Bash and be an overnight success !!

Ah ! Dick Bash ! Hell, he'll go down in history for helping all the down-trodden hams. After all, doesn't the FCC make the exams so tricky ? And that is not fair, is it ? And if he happens to take away the feeling of accomplishment from you, who cares ? You got your ticket didn't you ?? It only takes away from the traditions of Amateur Radio just a little, doesn't it ?

Well, then there's no harm done is there ? Or is there ? Well, if someone told you that life was fair then you are in for a very rude awakening, om ! Yes, he'll go down in history, but how ? Here or Goat ?

You don't have to be an electrical engineer to be a ham. If I had a dime for every time I was confused about electronics I'd be retired ! I just feel that a lot of the new hams are too insecure. Many of them are embarrassed to talk about electronics. And as a result they don't learn anything new.

How many of the ' Bash ' hams will volunteer to teach a Novice class ? I rest my case !

Well, it's a sign of the times I guess. Progress comes in many forms. It's just that I don't await the changes with baited breath. Perhaps clubs will survive and flourish. Perhaps they have outlived their usefulness.

The pot-bellied stoves and the spark gaps are gone now. And the hobby is that much poorer for it.