

# ZERO BEAT

Published Monthly by  
SEMARA, W1AEC  
P.O. BOX 0007, 54 Donald St.  
South Dartmouth, MA 02748

Editors  
Larry Houbre, KD1MM (@KA1THM)  
Dan Souza, N1HCV  
Mike Miller, N1ITQ

## Meeting Highlights

Here are the highlights from the February 4th, SEMARA business meeting:

Before the meeting the membership enjoyed popcorn, lead sinkers, soda and coffee, and chocolate bars!

After the pledge and roll call, a special visitor was recognized, Dave Dextrateur, KD1GH, the Public Information Coordinator from the ARRL for Eastern Massachusetts. The secretary's report was then read and accepted. The treasurer's report was read, and not accepted due to an error in the report which was due to a lack of communication.

Committee reports included a handout from the buildings and grounds committee about the proposed shed to be built behind the hut. The technical committee reported that the battery has been installed, and that the repeater should be sent to the factory for a thorough check-out and possible repair. It was reported that most of the materials for rebuilding the back stairs is ready, but waiting for the weather to break before beginning the outside construction.

Under old business, the proposal for this club endorsed newsletter was accepted. The radio station fund proposal was tabled. Polo shirt orders are still being taken, and International Food Night is on for February 27 at 6 pm. A motion was made and passed to purchase several cases of beer for that night. Bob, N1HCW, was given the honor of being designated drinker. Candy bars are now available. It was requested that each member sell 27.6 candy bars. The candy bar money is currently designated to pay for the shed.

Also under old business, Bill, K1IBR, donated two sets of padlocks and keys, each numbered and marked. The motion

was made and passed to accept the donation, and to lock the filing cabinet and boiler room. It was noted that the locks may inhibit rightful access by club members to these areas, but that simply contacting one of the key holders would provide access, although somewhat inconvenient.

Under new business, John, KA1TP, motioned to form a by-laws committee to review the constitution and by-laws. He volunteered to chair the committee if no one else would, and suggested that all interested persons join the committee. The motion was passed without opposition.

Continuing under new business, Don, WA1PLT, made a motion to direct the club officers to present an estimated operating budget by the April meeting. The motion passed.

Dan, N1HCV, noted that the building's door lock would be changed over the weekend, and that keys are now available. It was noted that changing the locks was last year's business, but a motion was made and passed to continue the process.

Peter, KA1WOJ, noted that the next business meeting was the deadline for paying dues.

Mike, N1ITQ, will post and maintain a calendar for the club in order to reduce scheduling conflicts. It was requested that all scheduling be cleared through Mike to prevent misunderstandings.

It was noted that the club's FCC license expires this year, and the renewal paperwork is underway. Dave, KD1GH, mentioned that members renewing their ARRL membership through the club may help the club financially, since the club gets a cut of the fee.

Larry, KD1MM, mentioned that a transmitter hunt will be held the last Saturday of each month until May, and that Kevin Keller, WB9MUP, would be coming down from the Boston Radio Club to speak about direction finding and transmitter hunting.

Pete, KA1WBE, made a motion to take the repeater to the factory for a repair estimate, to be submitted at the next meeting. The motion passed. The backup repeater will be installed while the primary is "out-of-town".

Linda, KA1QCO, made a motion that there be no more fund raisers "for a particular project" planned until the club has a budget and priority schedule. The motion passed.

After voting in a new conditional member, the meeting was adjourned.

## Next Meeting

The next SEMARA business meeting is March 4, 1993, 7:30 pm.

## By-Laws Committee

The committee to review SEMARA's constitution and by-laws will meet on February 23, 1993, at 7 pm, at the club building. All club members are encouraged to review their copies of the constitution and by-laws, attend the

## How to be rescued in California

If you get lost in the woods you can be rescued. Just dig a circle of ground, 50 feet in diameter, down to mineral earth, stand in the middle and light a match. When the park ranger comes to give you a ticket, follow him home.

meeting, and submit recommendations. The meeting is the primary forum for discussion on changes, NOT the monthly business meeting. The first business meeting following the completion of the review session(s) is the forum for final approval of the committee recommendations. Members unable to attend the review meetings who wish to participate may submit recommendations to any committee member, or to John Hadfield, KA1TP, the committee chairperson.

## International Night

Fun, Food and Games! Bring your favorite ethnic dish! February 27, at 6 pm, bring your spouse and dependants and have a good time. Admission: One dish that can feed at least six people.



## Membership Dues

Don't forget! Membership dues should be paid by March 4, 1993. See Pete Carreiro for your new card.

## Member Profile

This month, we profile Art Arutunian, KA1VGZ, this year's Vice-President. Art has been a HAM since March 1990, when he got his novice license. In March of 1991, he upgraded to General. Art has been member for 2 years.

His shack includes an ICOM-735, running 100 watts into a new Gap Eagle DX-V antenna. He also has a computer and a KAM TNC with Pactor and AMTOR modes. Art's favorite mode is CW on 15, 20 and 40 meters.

Art and his wife Aline have four children, and six grandchildren. None are currently HAMS, but he hasn't given up hope.

Art has been working at Plumbers Supply for the past 14 yrs, and is in total charge of heating department.

In the coming year, he would like to see club get into more radio related activities, having more fun in this wonderful hobby.

## Intruders

As you probably already know, on occasion we have problems with intruders and amateurs illegally operating in the amateur bands. In general, you should never acknowledge this kind of activity. It is usually just what the "jammer" or whoever wants you to do. Don't say, "I couldn't copy that, Joe, somebody is doubling with you," or the like. Just ask the other guy to repeat, or increase power; say he's "noisy" or that you got distracted.

If you hear intentional interference or illegal operations on a repeater from unknown persons, consider doing the following:

- 1 Listen for the person's signal directly. This means listening on the repeater's input frequency.
- 2 Note the date, time, your location, antenna, bearing (if any), and frequency.
- 3 Note any distinguishing characteristics of the signal.
- 4 Record the transmissions on a cassette. Be sure to label the tape!
- 5 At a convenient time to report, use your TELEPHONE to call and notify one of the repeater's control operators, or the repeater's trustee(s).

A machine will probably not be turned off because of jammers. A repeater WILL be turned off if amateurs make verbal attacks on these people. THAT is a clear violation of FCC rules, and we wouldn't want anyone to embarrass themselves in this way.

We sometimes have a situation where unlicensed people are using amateur and commercial repeaters illegally. They are suspected of interfering with police radio communications, and as such, many people are eager to be rid of them. If you are available to listen, please do. NEVER discuss it on ANY radio. Our guests are sophisticated and frequency-agile.

## Polo-Shirts

Polo-shirts are available as a joint effort between Mike Miller, N1ITQ, 995-3633, and Pete Carreiro, KA1WOJ, 993-6262.

Polo-shirts with the SEMARA logo will be \$14 each. An assortment of colors is planned including light blue, royal blue, black, white, beige, maroon, and kelly-green. Orders will be taken until March 4, 1993. The shirts must be prepaid, so get your order in soon. Larger size shirts will cost an additional \$3.



## Field Day



Mark your calendars! Field day is June 26 and 27! We'd like to encourage all Amateur Radio Operators in the area, especially SEMARA members to participate. Sign-up now for your hour or two turn at field day duties.

## Transmitter Hunt

Get your direction finding equipment tuned up! We're going hunting! On the last Saturday of each month from February to May, at 8:30am, the fox will hide, the hunters will hunt. The winners will gain points and prizes.

## DF Class

Kevin Keller, WB9MUP, came in on February 11th, from the Boston Radio Club to present a free class on direction finding and transmitter hunting. Kevin brought along a couple of other hams, John, WN9T, and Mike, N1EVH.

Lots of interesting direction finding gear was displayed, from simple attenuators, to beeps, to LED direction pointing gadgets. Many DF experiences (and strange stories) were told. The class will continue at the club, on February 18th, and 25th, at 7:30 pm for about an hour. Topics will include the "coat hanger antenna" and projects for less than \$5.

## Repeater Directory

145.150 - WA1DGW, Fall River  
145.490 - KA1WBF, Fairhaven  
146.700 - WA1RBT, Cranston  
146.655 - WA1GPO, Falmouth  
147.000+ W1AEC, South Dartmouth  
147.135+ Taunton

442.200 Fall River  
443.450/88.5 Westport  
444.350/88.5 W1ACT, Fall River

Know of any local repeater frequencies not listed here? Send them in to the editor!

## General License Class

A General License Class will begin on March 8 at the Club, and run for six weeks. To join the class, you must hold a Novice or Technician License, and be able to copy 5 words per minute of morse code. Contact Mike, WM1S, for more information.

## ARRL NTS Award

A new award, called the "Message Origination Award" will be given to new traffic handlers who qualify for it by showing proof of having originated at least four properly formatted NTS messages in a one month time period.

For more information, contact the Eastern Mass. Section Traffic Manager, Jim Hatherly, WA1TBY at 617-254-6042.

## Mystery Photo

Can you guess who's photo this is? He's been a member for years, and still likes to help out in the club's shack. He currently holds an advanced ticket, and occasionally wears a hat to meetings.



## New Members

New conditional members:

Scott Szala, AA1EV

## Call Sign Changes

The following members recently changed callsigns:

Larry Houbre, KD1MM, (was N1NTN)

If you've changed your call sign recently, please let us know!

## 20 Years Ago

Twenty years ago, the club president was Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM. Secretary was Lawrence Ferreria, WA1GXV, and Treasurer was Clarence Whitaker, W1LAZ. Also, Bob Chapman, then the

ARRL Director, visited the club to present and award to one of the members. (Care to guess who?) Even Bill Field was present!

## For-Sale/Wanted

**FOR SALE:** Cushcraft AR-10 10-Meter Vertical, 1 year old. \$35. Call Art, KA1VGGZ.

**WANTED:** Ideas on repairing a Quimax PX-II CGA monitor. The last time it was turned on it "popped, smoked and buzzed". Call Larry, KD1MM.

## The Packet Racket

Larry Houbre 2/93

CONNECT ZEROBEAT.W1AEC.SEMARA.MA  
SB ALL

Ok packet rats, this is going to be the Packet Radio corner of the newsletter.

First, if you are on packet, and have a home mailbox, or a mail drop, let me know what it is! I'd like to put together a packet address book for the club members. That might also make it easier for non-club members to QSO with us.

The best way to send me your address, is via packet! You can leave a message for me by "SP KD1MM@KA1THM". I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Second, here we are, the biggest club in Southeastern Massachusetts, and we don't even have our own full-service packet radio mailbox. How do you feel about the possibility of putting one together? Sure, it'll take some time and effort, and it probably won't be up for months. It will put us on the map, and be a convenient means of communications between the packet rats. Of course, such a system would come in REAL handy in emergencies. If no one else wants to, I'd be happy to "SysOp" it, and would even provide the use of my shack until a better location is prepared. Whadda'ya say?

Well, while you're thinking about it, check this out. Usually in the evenings, I have a "full-service" type board up on 145.710. It's not totally connected into the "backbone", but it's a start. It also gives us all a chance to "play and learn". Give it a whirl!

Third, what topics would you like to see covered in here? General mailbox use? Accessing servers? Digipeating? Downloading and uploading? Packet addressing? What?

Until next time, 73, Larry, KD1MM

/EX  
DISCONNECT

## Calendar

Feb 18, 7:30p, DF Class  
 Feb 25, 7:30p, DF Class  
 Feb 27, 8:30a, Transmitter hunt  
 Feb 27, 6:00p, International Food Night  
 Feb 28, Ham Fest/Exams, Mattapoisett

Mar 4, 7:30p, Business meeting  
 Mar 4, Polo-shirt orders deadline  
 Mar 4, Membership dues deadline  
 Mar 7, Ham Fest, Mt.Tom, Northampton  
 Mar 8, General Class  
 Mar 20, Ham Fest, Westboro  
 Mar 27, 8:30a, Transmitter hunt  
 Mar 27, 10a, Westport MS Walk  
 Mar 28, Ham Fest/Exams, Framingham

Apr 1, 7:30p, Business meeting  
 Apr 3, 11a-4p, GroupNet BBS Show  
 Apr 17, CEMARC Meeting  
 Apr 18, MIT Flea Market  
 Apr 24, 8:30a, Transmitter hunt

May 6, 7:30p, Business meeting  
 May 7-8, Hoss Traders, Rochester, NH  
 May 16, MIT Flea Market  
 May 29, 8:30a, Transmitter hunt

Jun 3, 7:30p, Business meeting  
 Jun 6, Flea Market, Newington, CT  
 Jun 20, MIT Flea Market  
 Jun 19 & 20, MS Bike Tour  
 Jun 26 & 27, Field Day

Jul 1, 7:30p, Business meeting  
 Jul 18, MIT Fleas Market  
 Jul 24, ARRL NE Div. Convention, NH

Aug 5, 7:30p, Business Meeting  
 Aug 15, MIT Flea Market

Sep 2, 7:30p, business Meeting  
 Sep 12, Ham Fest/Exams, Dartmouth  
 Sep 19, MIT Flea Market  
 Sep 26, Ham Fest/Exams, Framingham

Oct 7, 7:30p, Business Meeting  
 Oct 15-16, Hoss Traders, Rochester, NH  
 Oct 17, MIT Flea Market  
 Oct 30, National Exam Day

Nov 4, 7:30p, Business Meeting

Dec 2, 7:30p, Business Meeting

To schedule your event, contact Mike Miller, N1ITQ, at 995-3633.

## VE EXAMS

February:

20 Melrose, MA Scott, 617-322-7654  
 26 Holyoke, MA Jim, 413-245-3228  
 27 Slatersville, RI Bob, 401-333-2129  
 28 Athol, MA John, 508-249-5905

March:

1 Cambridge, MA Bob, 617-593-1955  
 7 Cranston, RI Jane, 401-725-8752  
 10 Billerica, MA Bruce, 508-851-2886  
 11 Providence, RI Judy, 401-231-9156  
 13 Falmouth, MA Geoffrey, 508-548-0969

## SEMARA OFFICERS

**President**

Dan Souza, N1HCV, 993-0678

**Vice-President**

Arthur Arutunian, KA1VGZ, 992-5222

**Secretary**

Mike Miller, N1ITQ, 995-3633

**Treasurer**

Pete Carreiro, KA1WOJ, 993-6262

**Board Members**

Dr. Norm Riley, W1ATI  
 Pete Jarosik, KA1WBE  
 Marc Jodoin, KA1WBF

**Trustees**

Dr. Norm Riley, W1ATI, Chairman  
 Bill Field, WA1FYF  
 Morris Fogaren, WB1GJO  
 Joe Midurski, W1EKW  
 Edward Blouin, KA1AW

**Activities Committee**

Art Arutunian, KA1VGZ, Chairman

**Technical Committee**

Pete Jarosik, KA1WBE, Chairman

**Ways & Means Committee**

Mike Miller, N1ITQ, Chairman

**Buildings & Grounds Committee**

Bill Field, WA1FYF, Chairman

ABCEl



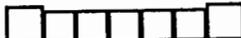
ABERTTY



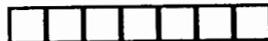
IMOPRTT



ALOPSSW



He's fine, but the glass isn't.



**FOR SALE: 50 Ft. Tower** (horizontal) in several convenient sections) Excellent workmanship (bounces like a rubber ball) Known to withstand 100 MPH winds (when on the ground).

Personal "For-Sale" and "Wanted" ads can be placed in the Zerobeat. A standard ad is no more than 40 words.

Members may have one free standard ad per issue. Additional ads, or ads placed by non-members are \$5.00 for a standard size, and \$.25 per word over 40 words.

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 54 Donald Street  
 South Dartmouth, MA 02748

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