

ZERO BEAT

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SEMARA, W1AEC
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South Dartmouth, MA 02748

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Meeting Highlights

Here are the highlights from the April 7th SEMARA business meeting, as reported by Karen, N1LIE:

The meeting was called to order with president Pete Carreiro, KA1WOJ, presiding. After the pledge of allegiance, a roll call revealed that 25 members were present. Pete then reported that Louie Macedo had passed away. There was then a moment of silence in his memory.

An updated membership list was passed out to all present.

The Secretary, Karen Peckham, N1LIE, read the minutes of the March 3, 1994 meeting. There was a motion by Chuck Pellitier, KD1DA, to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and the minutes were accepted.

The Treasurer, Pat Carreiro, KA1YUH, reported on the income and expenses from the previous month. The current checkbook balance is \$1,239.12. There was a motion by Steve Spulock, N1DSN, to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion was seconded and the report was accepted.

Bill Miller, K1IBR, reported that the repeater command for the lights has been fixed, a chip was blown. Also the guy wires for the tower have been tightened, and the points painted fluorescent orange. The base of the tower has also been painted.

Bill also reported that Mike Enos, WM1S, is preparing to set up a Packet Station at the club.

Building and Grounds. Bill Field, WA1FYF, reported that oil consumption has been about two gallons a day and that the oil has been clean.

Dirt Committee. Bill Miller reported that he and Pete were getting hourly rates. Bob Peckham, KA1YDG, said that Bob Bairos has a Bobcat and would charge the club \$30 an hour. Bill noted it was a good price and we should go with it.

There was discussion on the Yard Sale to help support the Newsletter. June 12th was decided upon as the date. Any officer can be contacted regarding donations for the club table. Individuals may also have their own table. It will be a good social event and also a chance to clean house.



Old Business: Pete urged members to try to get advertisers for the newsletter.

HamFest. Bill Miller will add to the flyers that the Wareham Club will be present. Chuck Pellitier reported that the letters to the magazines will be going out during the next week.

Test Sessions. Discussion on ways to get the testing session dates for SEMARA into the Zerobeat. There is a need to contact Larry Houbre, AA1FS with the dates. Current test sessions are being pulled from a packet Bulletin Board. There will be an effort made to get our dates on the Bulletin Board.

Ray Martin asked if there were any VE's available to help at the test sessions. He was short for the May 7th session. After discussion on various potential methods of getting VE's including polling our own membership of VE's, the session was postponed to Saturday, May 14th.

New Business: There was discussion on getting mailing labels from ARRL of new members in the area. These labels are free. We could send the August Issue of Zerobeat to various home, promoting the Club, pointing out the Hamfest, and highlighting club activities.

Bill Miller proposed to the Membership, that he would climb the tower and install a 2 meter antenna that he has built. He would at the same time take off the four Yagi antennas, and clean the tower. He wants the one antenna that is upside down on the tower to satisfy his curiosity. The four Yagi antennas will be tested and if good could be sold to the members first. Norm Riley, W1ATI, made a motion to accept the proposal, the motion was accepted.

Bill will be climbing the tower Saturday, April 9th at 8:00.

Bill reported that Steve Spulock donated a Hustler antenna to the Club.

Pete noted that the new lock has been installed. Old keys may be exchanged, or new ones purchased for \$1.00.



Sam Wagstaff, N1PGN, donated an outside American Flag to the Club that will be used for special event.

Bill Miller nominated Andy Reuter, WA1FNM, for the vacant Trustee position. The secretary cast one vote. The motion was accepted.

Chuck Pellitier made a motion to adjourn.

Next Meeting

The next SEMARA business meeting is May 5, 1994, 7:30 pm. The club meets Thursdays, with business meetings on the first Thursday of the month.

Pete's Corner

Bill Miller, K1IBR, designed and built an antenna over the winter months and on Saturday, April 9, Bill climbed the tower -- all 160 feet of it!

Rick KA1QQ was the ground chief, Bill WA1FYF, Pete KA1WOJ, Alan WB1FQP, John N1IQU, Marty KA1YFZ, Norm W1ATI, Chuck KD1DA, Len WA1CNO and Riley, Karen N1LIE, Bob KA1YDG, Katie and Kelly assisted from the ground.

Bill Miller kept showering us with gifts from above and Bill Field put his Government issue hardhat on. Bob paid for coffee for all and Karen made the run. We wanted to send a cat and Riley in the bucket up to Bill Miller but the cat would not cooperate.

The Glossary

Digipeater

A packet radio station used to specifically retransmit another station's signals.

Driven Element

The part of an antenna that connects directly to the feed line.

73

Ham language for "Best Regards". Since "73" is already plural, "73's" is incorrect.

Chuck got lots of exercise tracking Bill Miller's hat every time it blew off from the tower -- we weren't sure if the wind was responsible or Bill was angered from breaking hacksaw blades. All in all the day went well. It was very windy but warm. The repeater now has excellent coverage with the new antenna. Come to the May meeting to see the video.

Resolution Gains Majority

The Amateur Radio Server joint resolution, H.J.RES. 199, now has a majority of the US House of Representatives as co-sponsors. As of April 11th, the total sponsor count was 218 delegates, of the 434 representatives in the house.

The resolution seeks formal recognition of the value of Amateur Radio to the country, would support Amateur Radio as 'National Policy', and would encourage rules and regulations to facilitate Amateur Radio as a public benefit by encouraging new technologies.

The Wouff Hong

In an institution as old as Amateur Radio, traditions and symbols of the art appear and become part of it. Our traditions are many, among them our long record of self-policing, our dedication to public service in experimentation, our instant response to the call of our country in time of war. But of the symbols, only one has become a part and parcel of the framework of Amateur Radio, the symbol of its finest traditions, its long and glorious history.


That symbol is the Wouff Hong. Every ham should know its origin.

Visitors to the ARRL Headquarters and to W1AW seeing either the original or one of the many replicas in the buildings, ask what it means. New members of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, initiated during the midnight convocations of the Order at League Conventions, ask, "But

where did it come from, in the beginning?" It started back in 1917, in the very earliest days of the ARRL and QST, when an anonymous amateur, writing under the title "The Old Man", created a wonderful series of humorous stories in the magazine. In a pithy, irascible style he assailed all that struck him as criticizable about ham radio operation of the period in his famous "Rotten Radio" series, beloved to this day by all who read it. He pitilessly exposed the poor operating practices of the day, yet did it in a way which drew chuckles even from those recognizing themselves as the special targets of his ire.

In one story, "Rotten QRM", he launched forth with examples of some poor sending cluttering up the band in a particular QSO to which he was listening. The gibberish included the words "wouff hong" which, apparently, was being used by someone on somebody else.

It turned out to be one of those priceless pieces of spontaneous word invention. Instantly, it caught on with the gang. Although T.O.M. himself admitted at the time he didn't know exactly what a wouff hong was, it quickly became something with which both to attack bad operating practices and to discipline their perpetrators. Within three months, the editor of QST found it necessary to write an editorial on the growing demand from the membership for wouff hong. How rapidly this situation might have developed had not World War I intervened is a matter of speculation. But the tradition had been established, the Wouff Hong created in the minds of thousands of amateurs as some mythical instrument of torture to be used in enforcing good operating practice in Amateur Radio.

When QST resumed after the war, one of its first contributors was T.O.M. In an early 1919 issue he contributed an article "Rotten Starting" to work off steam on the slowness with which our government was getting around to let us operate again. At the conclusion of this article appeared the following: "In the meantime...I am sending you a specimen of a real live Wouff Hong" 

Packet Directory

144.990 N1KBT	145.090 KC1CE
144.990 NS1N	145.090 KD1NJ
145.010 Fara Digi	145.570 AA1FS
145.010 N1CSI	145.530 KQ1K
145.050 WA1ZJF	145.710 KA1THM
145.070 WQ1O	145.710 KC1KM
145.090 AA1FS	145.710 N1LDY
145.090 K1UGM	145.730 KC1UA

which came to light out here when we started to get our junk out of cold storage. Keep it in the Editorial sanctum where you can lay your hands on it quickly in an emergency. We will be allowed to transmit soon and then you will need it."

The object was duly received at the ARRL HQ. The Editor, fully mindful of the historic significance of the occasion, took the instrument to a Board meetings, in New York, on May 3, 1919, subsequently duly reporting in QST that "each face noticeably blanched when the awful Wouff Hong was...laid on the table". By an action still a part of the League's official records, that Board voted that the Wouff Hong be framed and placed on display in the offices of the League. There it remains to this day.

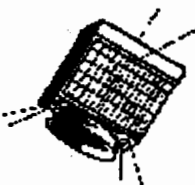
We know the significance of the Wouff Hong. We don't know the significance of its weird shape. Not even the beloved T.O.M. (revealed after his death, as none other than our first president Hiram Percy Maxim) ever explained that. Nor was the precise manner of its use ever prescribed, although it perhaps may be guessed with a little imagination. But as the years passed, it continued to grow in the affections of amateurs, old-timer and youngster alike. It became the inspiration of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, the amateur secret society of the ARRL convention. Today, it is thoroughly entrenched in the lore of Amateur Radio as its most sacred symbol.

Anniversary for AMSAT

The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT) celebrated its 25th Anniversary on March 3.

In January of 1969, a small group of interested amateurs began meeting with the idea of forming a group to carry on objectives of project OSCAR.

(Orbiting Satellite carrying Amateur Radio.)



On February 6, 1969, nearly two dozen amateurs attended the first general organizational meeting. On March 6, 1969, AMASAT was incorporated.

New Element Discovered

The heaviest element known to science was recently discovered by university physicists. The element, tentatively named administratium, has no protons or electrons and thus has an atomic number of 0. However, it does have one neutron, 15 assistant neutrons, 70 vice assistant neutrons, and 161 assistant vice neutrons. This gives it an atomic mass of 247. These 247 particles are held together in a nucleus by a force that involves the continuous exchange of meson-like particles called morons.

Since it has no electrons, Administratium is inert. However it can be detected chemically as it impedes every reaction it comes into contact with. According to the discoverers, a minute amount of Administratium added to one reaction caused it to take over four days to complete. Without Administratium, the reaction ordinarily occurred in less than one second.

Administratium has a normal half-life of approximately three years, at which time it does not actually decay but instead undergoes a reorganization in which assistant neutrons, vice neutrons, and assistant vice neutrons exchange places. Studies show the atomic number actually increases after each reorganization.

Research indicates that administratium occurs naturally in the atmosphere. It tends to concentrate in certain locations

'94 SEMARA OFFICERS

President

Pete Carreiro, KA1WQJ, 993-6262

Vice-President

Robert Peckham, KA1YDG, 995-9137

Secretary

Karen Peckham, N1LIE, 995-9137

Treasurer

Pat Carreiro, KA1YUH, 993-6262

Board Members

William M. Miller, Jr., K1IBR

Bill Field, WA1FYF

Linda Medeiros, KA1QCO

Trustees

Bill Field, WA1FYF

Morris Fogaren, WB1GJO

Joe Midurski, W1EKW

Edward Blouin, KA1AW

Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Bill Field, WA1FYF, Chairman

Technical Committee

William M. Miller, Jr., K1IBR, Chairman

Ways & Means Committee

Pat Carreiro, KA1YUH, Chairman

such as government agencies, large corporations and universities. It can usually be found in the newest, best-appointed and best-maintained buildings.

Scientists warn that Administratium is known to be toxic, and recommend plenty of fluids and bed rest after even low levels of exposure.

Repeater Directory

145.150 -	WA1DGW, Fall River
145.490 -	KA1WBF, Fairhaven
146.700 -	WA1RBT, Cranston
146.655 -	WA1GPO, Falmouth
146.685 -	N1OEG, Plymouth
147.000 +	W1AEC, South Dartmouth
147.045 +	WA1AIC, Yarmouth
147.135 +	ND1N, Taunton
147.180 +	WB1FLD, Bridgewater
147.315 +	N1BBT, Wareham
441.400 +	WG1U, Assonet
442.200 +	NY1D, Fall River
443.450 +	K1MYL, Westport
443.600 +	NS1N, Norwell
443.800 +	N1RFH, New Bedford
444.250 +	WA1GPO, Falmouth
444.350 +	W1ACT, Fall River
444.550 +	WA1ZUF, Bridgewater
446.325 -	KA1CLX, Plymouth
446.625 -	NC1K, Plymouth
447.075 -	N1DZD, Kingston
448.675 -	N1FPH, West Greenwich

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

CALENDAR

- April**
29,30: Dayton
- May**
1: Dayton
1: Computer Show, Taunton, MA
5: 7:30p, SEMARA Business Meeting
6, 7: Hoss Traders, Rochester, NH
10-12: Electronics Show, Hynes, Boston
14: National Exam Day
15: MIT Flea Market
21: Flea/Auction, Forestdale, RI
30: Ham Fest, Whitman, MA
- June**
2: 7:30p, SEMARA Business Meeting
5: Flea, Newington, CT
19: MIT Flea Market
- July**
7: 7:30p, SEMARA Business Meeting
17: MIT Flea Market
- August**
4: 7:30p, SEMARA Business Meeting
7: Flea, Wellesley
21: MIT Flea Market
27: Ham Fest, Gardner, MA
28: Ham Fest, Fall River, MA
- September**
1: 7:30p, SEMARA Business Meeting
11: Ham Fest, South Dartmouth
18: MIT Flea Market
25: Ham Fest, Framingham
- October**
1-2: ARRL NE Div. Convention, MA
6: 7:30p, SEMARA Business Meeting

VE EXAMS

- April**
30: Worcester, MA Bob, 508-831-5435
30: Slatersville, RI Bob, 401-333-2129
- May**
1: Shirley, MA Tom, 508-425-6672*
2: Cambridge, MA Bob, 617-593-1955
4: Acton, MA Dave, 508-263-3712*
8: Gloucester, MA Rick, 508-283-2278
10: Stoughton, MA Bob, 508-583-3639
11: Billerica, MA Bruce, 508-851-2886
11: Fall River, MA Carol, 508-679-8527
12: Providence, RI Judy, 401-231-9156
14: Marlboro, MA Bob, 508-485-7006*
14: Plymouth, MA Michael, 508-866-5775*
14: Falmouth, MA Geoffrey, 508-548-0969
14: Kingston, RI Dave, 401-792-5846
15: Shirley, MA Tom, 508-425-6672*
18: Cambridge, MA Nick, 617-253-3776
18: Lunenburg, MA Tom, 508-534-9377
21: Melrose, MA Scott, 617-322-7654
27: Holyoke, MA Jim, 413-245-3228
28: Slatersville, RI Bob, 401-333-2129
- June**
1: Acton, MA Dave, 508-263-3712*
4: Middletown, RI Jack, 401-683-2250
5: Shirley, MA Tom, 508-425-6672*
6: Cambridge, MA Bob, 617-593-1955
8: Billerica, MA Bruce, 508-851-2886
9: Providence, RI Judy, 401-231-9156
11: Marlboro, MA Bob, 508-485-7006*
11: Brewster, MA Henry, 508-255-2818
11: Falmouth, MA Geoffrey, 508-548-0969
12: Gloucester, MA Rick, 508-283-2278
15: Lunenburg, MA Tom, 508-534-9377



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18: Melrose, MA Scott, 617-322-7654
19: Shirley, MA Tom, 508-425-6672*
22: Cambridge, MA Nick, 617-253-3776

For Sale

Alinco DJ-160, with battery, pouch, mag mount and Concept RFC232. Call John, N11QU at 508-992-4440.

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