

ZERO



BEAT

S.E.M.A.R.A.

November 1996

440 REPEATER INSTALLED AT CLUB

On Saturday, October 12th, the Greater New Bedford UHF Repeater Group (GNBURG) relocated their 440 repeater to our site as approved at the October 3rd business meeting.

Manny, N1JVK, and Bill, K1IBR, spliced 32 feet of 1/2 inch hard-line coax onto the existing cable that went up the tower to the 440 Cushcraft Ringo Ranger antenna. This operation was required to get the cable into the boiler room where the 440 repeater was installed by Rick, N1RFI, and Rick, N1RFH (A Father and Son team). Their 12 volt battery was separately fused and put in parallel with our existing battery.

The rest of the day proved interesting as the range of the repeater was tested. Rick, N1RFH, drove to Somerset to test the range out. It can safely be said that all expectations were met, if not exceeded! The basic mobile coverage is to Fall River on the west, Lakeville to the north, and Mattapoisett to the east. Also, several base stations checked in from Martha's Vineyard.

The GNBURG repeater is an open machine on 443.800 Mhz (448.800 Mhz input) with a CTCSS frequency of 88.5 hertz. The machine has autopatch.

PLEASE NOTE

Our 2 meter repeater shares the phone line with the 440 machine. If you attempt an autopatch on either machine, and the phone line is in use by the other repeater, you will get "BUSY" sent back to you (Morse code on 2 meters, voice on 440). If this happens, wait a minute, then try the autopatch again.

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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The October business meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. There were 28 members and 1 guest present. Following the salute to the flag and roll call, the Secretary and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

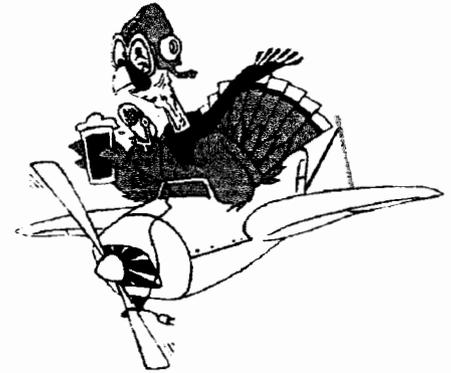
Committee reports followed: *Technical* - No activity to report. *Buildings and Grounds* - No activity to report. *Code and Theory Classes* - Classes will start on Tuesday, October 15th, and run for 10 weeks. *Fleamarket* - The final net tally (including donations and new "Fleamarket Special" members) was \$590.85! Imagine if it didn't rain! A folder with all information relative to this year's Fleamarket has been placed in the file cabinet for future reference. Bill, K1IBR, volunteered to handle advertising for the 1997 Fleamarket.

Next order of business was ratifications: Daniel Alves, N1VZN, was voted into full membership, and Gil Martin, N1MWG, and Glen Martin, N1MXY, were voted in as conditional members. Richard Cabral, N1RFI, and Manuel Cabral, N1JVK, were reinstated as full members.

The following motions were made and approved by the membership: 1.) To allow the Greater New Bedford UHF Repeater Group to install their 440 repeater in our boiler room and use the existing 440 antenna on the tower. 2.) To raise all dues by \$5.00 for the year 1997. (Full members will pay \$25.00, Associate members \$15.00, and family membership will be \$30.00). 3.) The 1997 Fleamarket date was set as September 14th. 4.) The SEMARA Scholarship Fund was approved as posted on the bulletin board.

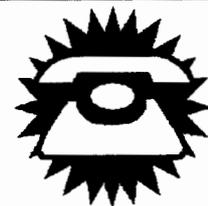
The membership elected not to have a nominating committee this year. Officers will be nominated from the floor during the November business meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.



TURKEY RAFFLE TO BE HELD AT NOVEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

The turkey in the above picture is in big trouble. The power cord from the mike amplifier is about to get wrapped up in the propeller. Don't get into big trouble yourself by not getting a ticket and missing out on a chance to win a Thanksgiving turkey at the next meeting. The winner of the raffle will receive a \$20.00 gift certificate redeemable at Shaw's. Surprise the young lady - bring home a turkey! (You've already brought home the bacon enough times.)



CLUB PHONE NUMBER

Several members have inquired about the club telephone number. It is (508) 992-0613. Please remember that the repeaters use this line and can cut in on your call if someone attempts an autopatch. Also, incoming calls are answered by the repeater after several rings for control purposes. Therefore, if you are in the club and the phone rings, answer it ASAP.

2 METER FOXHUNT



It was thumbs up according to all that took part in the 2 meter foxhunt held on October 17th. (Well, at least the winners felt that way!) A great time was had by all, even if they weren't a winner.

Actually, the event was a mobile foxhunt. The hunters paired up in teams of two - a driver and a radioman. There were five teams.

Bill, K1IBR, was the "fox". He took off and hid within one mile of the clubhouse. Next, attenuators (33dB total) were put on his transceiver's output until the signal at the clubhouse was weak. The hunt was on!

After 1/2 hour, Bill was found hiding in the Stop & Shop parking lot by **Brad, N1VUF**, and **Tony, N1XRS**. In addition to the grand prize (a pocket tape measure) the winners were treated to dinner and Tony got his Walkie aligned! What a deal!

The big question - when is the next hunt? How about one a month?

440 REPEATER

(continued from page 1)

To use the 440 machine autopatch, key your mike and enter star (K) followed by the phone number. When you release the mike key, the 440 repeater will send back "Autopatch". At this point momentarily key the mike and the 440 machine will dial the phone number. If you don't momentarily key your mike, the repeater will send the phone number back to you for verification. At this point either take no action and the repeater will dial the number, or enter "pound" (#) to terminate the autopatch (wrong number entered or you just changed your mind and no longer want to use the autopatch). To terminate the autopatch at any time, enter "pound" (#).

440 AUTOPATCH MADE SIMPLE

ON - K + (phone number)
OFF - #

BITS 'N' PIECES

Three well known hams will be honored at the November 22nd Radio Club of America's annual banquet held in New York city. The President's Award will be presented to **Fred M. Link, W2ALU**. The Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award will go to **Carole Perry, WB2MGP**. Finally, the Frank A. Gunther Award will go to **Frank A. Gunther, W2ALS**.

The 1996 Karl G. Jansky Lecture-ship award was presented to **Dr James M. Moran, K1AKE**. The award is made by Associated Universities, Inc. and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. Moran, a professor of astronomy at Harvard University, is best known for his application of very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) to the study of astronomical masers.



Did you know that the shuttle Atlantis on mission STS-79 carried three hams into space? The astronaut/hams are **Carl Waltz, KC5TIE**, **Jay Apt, N5QWL** and **John Blaha, KC5TZQ**. They participated in the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment (SAREX) by operating on two meters and talking with hams around the world.

Kenwood is posting equipment bulletins and service notes dating back to 1975 on it's FTP site which can be accessed from Kenwood's Web page: <http://www.kenwood.net/> (Click on "What's New at Kenwood". You may directly access the site via <ftp://ftp.kenwood.net>.

Speaking of the Internet, did you know that the ARRL has a site? To visit the Arrl Web page enter: <http://www.arrl.org>.

AMSAT plans to put the largest, most complex amateur radio satellite in orbit sometime during the first six months of 1997. The Phase 3D satellite will be launched on the Ariane 502 vehicle possibly as early as mid February.

(Compiled from The ARRL Newsletter and the Amateur Radio Newsline)

A DAY AT CUSHCRAFT

Ed Rovas, WA1VXY, bent the bottom trap on his Cushcraft R7000+ antenna while trying to raise it. To save time replacing it, he and his wife took a fall foliage trip up to New Hampshire and stopped by the Cushcraft facility in Manchester.

While in the parking lot at Cushcraft, a car pulls in next to Ed's car. The driver greets Ed with, "Wonderful day", and inquires if Ed has a problem. Ed explains his predicament, upon which the fellow leads Ed into the waiting room, asks Ed to have a seat, and takes off. Several minutes later he appears with a new trap. Ed also mentions he needs three new radials which are also secured. When Ed asks, "How much do I owe you?", the reply is, "Nothing, forget it."

Then, to Ed's surprise, the fellow treats Ed to a tour of the plant. Ed said you could eat off the floor it was so clean and spotless.

The next day, Ed calls Cushcraft for information on tuning the antenna. And during that call Ed learns that his "tour guide" the day before was **Glen Whitehouse, K1GW**, the President of Cushcraft!

Cushcraft - great antennas "up in the air", and Customer Service that is "down to earth". Ask Ed!

VANITY CALL SIGNS

Gate 2 of the Vanity Call Sign Program opened on September 23rd. According to FCC Fact Sheet PR-5000, amateurs may apply for call signs valid in any region. For example, a New England ham may apply for a W5XXX call. He is not restricted to the "1" call region.

Applications must be made on FCC Form 610V (Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign Request). Be sure to include FCC Form 159 (FCC Remittance Advice).

For more information and general application assistance, call the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Consumer Assistance staff at 800-322-1117.



CLUB NOTES

Where did summer go? Suddenly fall is upon us. But not without more than our share of rain this season. And speaking of rain, the Buildings & Grounds crew had to patch another leak in the Quonset hut. It was a sneaky leak between the hut and the walkway to the main club. However, it was nothing that a gallon of tar couldn't stop. Since the crew is mostly old Boy Scouts, they decided to "be prepared" for the next leak and have stored a gallon of tar in the boiler room where it will be warm and ready for use - just in case another "sneaky leak" appears (Thanks to Ray, KC1XW, for suggesting the tar be stored in the boiler room).



WOW! Has anyone seen the great job Rick, N1RFH, and Tony, N1XRS, did cleaning up the Quonset hut? Talk about busy beavers! We understand that Frade's Disposal had to make a special run to empty the trash hopper at the Little People's College next door. Gee, we wonder why.... All kidding aside, THANKS fellows for a job well done.

Just a reminder that the club call is WIAEC and all transmissions from the club should use that call. It is OK to say, "This is WIAEC with WA1XYZ at the mike" or something similar. Just be sure to use the club call WIAEC when identifying transmissions from the club. Also, be sure to log all transmissions in the log next to the Ten-Tec transceiver.

KEYS



Waiting for a key to the clubhouse? Well, your wait is finally over. Club Treasurer Larry Houbre, AA1FS, has a dozen brand-new keys ready to be issued. Button-hole him at the next meeting and get your key. It might be your key to the future!

The seats for the Christmas Party at Thad's Steakhouse are half gone. Don't miss out on this event. Final food selections and payment in full must be made by the December business meeting.

As a SEMARA member you get to place one free ad per year in Zero Beat. Bill Vincent took advantage of the offer and placed this ad!



When will your ad be seen here?

FOR SALE

AVTEK SWR/WATTMETER
1 - 30 Mhz (NEW) \$100 FIRM

POWER PLUS Model HL-35V
35 Watt 2 Meter Amplifier
with receiver preamp \$85

Contact Bill Vincent, N1LTY
(508) 992-1026

FLEAMARKET CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 1 HCRA Auction, 7:30 PM, Agawam
- 2 TCARC Auction, 10 AM, Waterford, CT
- 10 SCARA Flea, 9 AM, Branford, CT
- 30 WARA Auction, 11 AM, Newtonville

SEMARA 1997 VE SESSIONS

All sessions held on Saturday at 10:30 AM except for Fleamarket Sunday, September 14, when the session begins at 10 AM.

- January 4
- March 1
- April 26
- May 3
- July 5
- September 14
- September 27
- November 1



CALL FOR VE'S

The club is seeking VE's to help the present staff conduct VE sessions. Extra class VE's are especially needed. The club hosts about eight VE sessions each year. If you are interested in helping out or just seek further information, please call Larry, AA1FS, at (508) 991-6055.

ZERO BEAT is published monthly by SEMARA, Inc. 54 Donald Street, PO Box 80007, South Dartmouth, MA 02748

ADVERTISING Commercial ads the size of a business card will be accepted. Rates are \$5 for one insertion, \$20 for six insertions, and \$35 for twelve insertions. Non-commercial ads up to forty words will be accepted. Rate is \$3 for one or \$12 for six insertions. Club members have one free non-commercial ad per year.

EDITOR: Bill Miller, K1IBR
(508) 996-2969

REPEATER DIRECTORY

145.150	WA1DQW	Fall River	441.490	W02U	Assonet
147.490	K1IYFB	Falmouth	442.200	W11D	Fall River
146.700	W14BET	Capeon	442.330	W0QW	New Bedford
146.435	W14GPO	Falmouth	443.450	K14FT	Westport
146.485	N00RG	Provincetown	443.600	N00EN	Norwell
147.000	W14ZC	Dartmouth	443.800	J01BT	Dartmouth
147.045	W14JAC	Yarmouth	444.250	W14JG	Falmouth
147.135	N00EN	Taunton	444.350	W14ZC	Fall River
147.180	N00EX	Dedham	444.510	W14ZU	Dedham
147.315	N00BT	Wareham	444.555	K14CLX	Provincetown
224.540	N00BE	Chatham	444.625	N00EX	Provincetown
			447.075	N00ZD	Wareham

CLUB EVENT CALENDAR

All events held at 7:30 PM unless otherwise indicated

NOVEMBER

- 2 VE Session @ 10:30 AM
- 7 Business Meeting and nomination of officers
- 21 Tech Talk: "How to Solder" @ 7 PM (presentation change)

DECEMBER

- 5 Business Meeting and election of officers
- 19 Christmas Party @ Thad's Steakhouse @ 6 PM

JANUARY

- 2 Business Meeting
- 4 VE Session @ 10:30 AM
- 16 To Be Announced

FEBRUARY

- 6 Business Meeting
- 20 To Be Announced

NOQUOCHOKE ORCHARDS

594 Drift Road Westport, MA 02790

(508) 636-2237



Apples - Pears - Peaches
Sweet Apple Cider - Squash
Westport Macomber Turnips
Hay & Custom Work

1996 SEMARA OFFICERS

President William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR
Vice-President Marty Jordan, W1IYFV
Secretary William Field, W1IFYF
Treasurer Lawrence Houbre, AA1FS
Board of Directors:
Robert Peckham, K1IYDG
William Vincent, N1LTY
Scott Szala, AA1EV

SEMARA

Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
54 Donald Street PO Box 80007
South Dartmouth, MA 02748

FIRST CLASS

Scanned by N1TI
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