

# ZERO



# BEAT

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

March 1997

## ED HARRINGTON WINS STEREO SYSTEM

Ed Harrington, W1VF, won the Pioneer AM/FM tuner and amplifier raffled off to benefit the Quonset hut renovation fund. The prize also included a set of Toshiba bookshelf speakers.

The stereo system was donated by an anonymous club member to help support the Quonset hut renovation fund. Even though this member is unable to attend meetings, he still wanted to do something to help the club out.

Donating the stereo system was that something.



"Thank You", Mr. Anonymous Donor for your generous donation.

# THANKS

At the February business meeting, a total of \$104 was given in support of the Quonset hut renovation fund. \$70 was received in direct donations, while \$34 was generated by the stereo system raffle. As a result of this generous giving by the membership, the deficit is now only \$68. "Thank You" to all that gave to support this renovation effort, not only those that gave financially, but also those that donated supplies (light fixtures, plywood, etc.) and time to get the job done.

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



The February business meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Acting President Marty Jordan. Thirty members and one guest were 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 report. Buildings and Grounds - work in Quonset hut proceeding (see report on the ongoing saga elsewhere in this issue). Scholarship Fund - no report.

The following motions were passed:

- A.) A motion to change the meeting time from 7:30 to 7:00 PM.
- B.) A motion to buy a new oil tank to replace the old leaking tank, total price not to exceed \$300.
- C.) A motion to empower and authorize a three-man committee to negotiate with Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile and to further commit and bind the association to a 20 year lease of our property for a cellular tower site. The committee makeup shall consist of William Miller Jr. as chairman, and Lawrence Houbre Jr. and Scott Szala as members.
- D.) A motion to reimburse John Carreiro for a plaque listing the 1996 officers of the association.
- E.) A motion to lease some of our land for a cellular tower site.

Marty Jordan, KA1YFV, was elected President and Bill Miller, K1IBR, Vice President of the association in the special election held to fill the vacancies.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM. A raffle to benefit the Quonset hut restoration fund was held following adjournment.

## MEMBERSHIP SANCTIONS CELLULAR TOWER LEASE WITH BELL ATLANTIC NYNEX MOBILE

At the February business meeting, the membership approved a motion authorizing a three-man committee to negotiate with Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile a 20 year lease of our property for a cellular tower site. The committee members are: **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, Chairman; **Larry Houbre, AA1FS**, and **Scott Szala, W1EV**.

To date, Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile has taken pictures of our site, taken GPS coordinate readings of the existing tower location, and conducted an RF survey to assess the coverage area from our site.

Our preliminary discussions with Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile indicate that they are willing to purchase and install atop their tower, 2 meter and 440 antennas per our specifications (with hardline coaxial feedline) for our use. Furthermore, they will provide us with a heated/cooled building to house our repeater equipment. Additionally, the building will be supported with emergency power from their generator. Finally, they will pay the club a minimum of \$1,000 per month to lease the site.

An accountant was consulted relative to tax obligations the association would incur leasing property. First, we will unfortunately lose our 501(c)(7) exemption from Federal taxes. We will be obligated to pay a 15% Federal and 9.5% State tax on the lease income. However, dues and certain other income will still be exempt from taxation.

The committee has a lot of work ahead as they address the many facets of negotiating a 20 year lease. Some of the



**QUONSET HUT WORK COMPLETED!**

For the time being, that is. The transformation of the hut was as dramatic as a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. The inside was completely painted from ceiling to floor. The new radio room, on the south side towards the boiler room, is now a favorite meeting place to rag chew. The main part of the hut is a classroom with whiteboard and tables set up for training or test sessions. A small storage area on the north end of the hut is separated from the classroom by room dividers. The extra folding chairs and similar items are stored there. A set of shelves has been installed in the northeast dormer to hold our collection of QST magazines.



Take a peek the next time you're at the club. The project took well over three months to complete, but it was well worth the effort. Over the years, the hut had become a "junk" room with everything from lawn mowers to relay racks stored in it. Now, thanks to the efforts of several hard working members, the hut is no longer an eyesore. Indeed, it is now functional, usable space.

A few words about the new radio room. First, be sure to check it out. You will be pleasantly surprised. The room is about 12 X 16. The main operating position is an old wooden desk. A custom platform to support the transceiver and related equipment is mounted on the rear of the desk. The drawers are stocked with paper and pencils. A fancy swivel chair was donated to add a little class. The floor has a rug on it. On the walls are a 24 hour clock, world map with call prefixes, map of the United States with call areas, station license, QSL cards from around the world, and other goodies to complement the "shack". Maybe the "shack" is too good a place, for it has become quite a popular place to "hangout".



This spring, the dormer in the radio room will be rebuilt. Like the other two dormers on the hut, it too is the victim of wood rot. The other two dormers were rebuilt last fall. Also on the "to do" list is the installation of a new rear door. The existing door is on borrowed time. In fact, it is an inside door that has a large piece of exterior plywood attached to the outside - a poor mans outside door! Finally, the west dormer needs a new exterior of roofing paper.

A \$68 deficit still exists in the Quonset hut renovation fund. **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, is accepting donations to help eliminate this debt. Total cost of the project was \$319.

**TOWER**

(continued from page 1)

issues to be resolved include: town property tax obligations, sub-leasing on the tower, etc.

Effective February 4, 1997 the club is the holder of a one million dollar commercial general liability insurance certificate insuring the association for any interest Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile may have on our property. This policy protects the club should any problems arise when Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile is on our property, such as when the large crane was in our yard to conduct the RF survey.

As this issue of Zero Beat goes to press, we have no further information relative to the negotiations. Anything received in the next week will be shared with the membership at the next business meeting on March 6th. Be sure to attend the meeting to stay abreast of the events as they unfold during this important and exciting time for the association.



**NOTICE**  
**MEETING TIME CHANGE**  
 Effective with the  
**March business meeting,**  
**all meetings will start at**  
**7:00 PM**

*Cappuccino*  
*Gourmet Espresso*  
*Bagels*  
*Muffins*  
*Cream Cheeses*

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# CLUB NOTES

The winds are blowing; March has arrived. This year March should be called the month of religious holidays - Saint Patrick's Day on the 17th, Good Friday on the 28th, and Easter Sunday on the 30th! And let's not forget that Spring arrives on the 20th. Also,



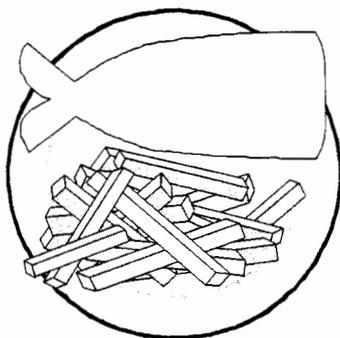
watch for comet Hale-Bopp which will peak in intensity by the end of the month. If you miss it, not to worry, it will come by again in 4,000 years.



The club retirees now meet for coffee at the Boston Coffee & Bagel shop at the corner of Allen and Dartmouth Streets in New Bedford. Usually they cruise in about 1:45 - 2 PM and stay for about an hour. This is standard routine Monday to Friday. Everyone is welcome, come on down and chew the rag. P.S. - They serve the best coffee in town! (Retirees no longer meet at Sunshine Donuts on Dartmouth Street.)



Friday is "Fish & Chips" day. Several club members now meet at Friendly's Pizza on the corner of Slocum and Russells Mills Roads in Dartmouth. The "early birds" arrive at 11:30 - 11:45 AM and secure a big booth. In addition to the great seafood, they also serve killer sandwiches. (This change came about when the Moose Hall stopped serving fish and chips.)



Thanks to the efforts of **Paul Bernard, WIZPE**, several members have nifty wooden holders that Paul made for them. They can be used to hold napkins or letters. "Thanks" Paul for your kind gesture.



Enjoy writing letters? Then get out your pen and paper (or computer!) and start writing. Life member **Richard Hay, WILE**, has moved from California to South Carolina. His new mailing address is: 217 Joseph Walter Drive, West Columbia, SC 29169. Drop him a line.



## FLEAMARKET CALENDAR

1997

April 6 - Framingham, MA

April 20 - MIT - Cambridge, MA

## 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.

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

## NET DIRECTORY

Sunday	8am	28.375	General
Sunday	8am	7.237	UFO
Sunday	3pm	28.470	UFO
Sunday	7pm	147.000+	Swap Net
4th Sun	9pm	449.575	EM-ARRL
Thursday	7pm	14.264	UFO
Thursday	8pm	147.180+	Trivia
Saturday	8am	7.237	UFO
Saturday	7:30pm	3.978	UFO
Saturday	1800G	14.300	Coast Guard
M-F	8am	14.262	General
M-F	8pm	145.490-	Weather
Daily	7pm	146.550	General
Daily	6:45pm	147.315+	NTS/Trivia
Daily	8pm	145.230-	EM-NTS

1st & 15th of month - ARES NET - 7:30 pm  
147.000+ on the 1st, 145.490- on the 15th.

**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 month.

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

# REPEATER DIRECTORY

145.150 -	WA1DGW	Fall River	441.400 +(192.8)	WG1U	Assonet
145.490 -	KAIWBF	Fairhaven	442.200 +	N1NRL	Fall River
146.700 -	K1CR	Cranston	442.350 +(141.3)	NIQWW	New Bedford
146.655 -(88.5)	WA1GPO	Falmouth	442.600+(100.0)	K1LIQ	Tiverton
146.685 -	N1OEG	Plymouth	443.450 +(88.5)	K1MYL	Westport
147.000 +	W1AEC	Dartmouth	443.600 +	NS1N	Norwell
147.045 +	WA1AIC	Yarmouth	443.800 +(88.5)	N1RFH	Dartmouth
147.135 +(67.0)	ND1N	Taunton	443.850 +(131.8)	WIARM	Chatham
147.180 +(67.0)	N1FDX	Bridgewater	444.250 +(141.3)	WA1GPO	Falmouth
147.315 +(156.7)	N1BBT	Wareham	444.550 +	N1FDX	Bridgewater
146.445+1Mhz(91.5)	KB1BWN	Dartmouth	447.075 -	N1DZD	Kingston
224.340 -	N1SGK	Dennis			

## CLUB EVENT CALENDAR

All events held at 7:00 PM unless otherwise indicated

### MARCH

- 1 VE Session @ 10:30 AM
- 6 Business meeting
- 19 Tech-Talk (Wednesday)
- "Op-Amps" by Ken Raposa
- 27 SAREX STS-83 launch

### APRIL

- 3 Business meeting
- 17 Tech-Talk
- 26 VE Session @ 10:30 AM
- National Exam Day
- 28 DIRECTOR'S MEETING

### MAY

- 1 Business meeting
- 3 VE Session
- 8 ARES Meeting

### JUNE

- 5 Business Meeting
- 22-29 Amateur Radio Week
- 19 Tech-Talk

## SEMARA OFFICERS 1997

**President** Marty Jordan, KA1YFV  
**Vice-President** William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR  
**Secretary** Richard J. Cabral, N1RFH  
**Treasurer** Lawrence Houbre, AA1FS

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# SEMARA

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## FIRST CLASS

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