



# ZERO BEAT

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



Volume 32, Issue 10

❖ SEMARA ❖

October 1997

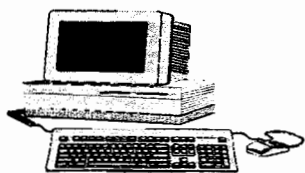
## FAIRHAVEN REPEATER WEATHER NET TO HOLD FALL MEETING

The Fairhaven Repeater Weather Net (FRWN) will hold it's fall meeting on Saturday, October 25th. The 12:30 P.M. meeting will be held at the Southworth Library on Dartmouth Street in South Dartmouth, MA.

The featured speaker is Walter Drag, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Taunton, MA. Walter will talk on two interesting phenomena, gravity waves and the weak tornadoes and funnel clouds that recently occurred in the Southeastern Massachusetts area.



Everyone is welcome to attend this open meeting and hear Walter's interesting presentation. Further information and directions to the library, including a map, are available on the FRWN website:



<http://www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/3161/frwn.htm>



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The September business meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Marty Jordan. Twenty-four members and three 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* - Seeking volunteers to cut the grass. *Scholarship* - None. *Tower Committee* - waiting for NYNEX's decision whether to lease or not. *Fleamarket* - Several items donated for club table, everything set for the event.

**Jerry Bergeron, N1OFD**, was voted a conditional member of the association.

*Old business* - Life members we haven't heard from in awhile were sent a postcard asking if they still wanted to remain a member. Of the five cards sent, only two elected to remain members. This mailing was done to update our membership list.

*New business* - Bill Miller is looking for the club's book on optoelectronics to use as a guide for his upcoming Tech-Talk. Anyone know its whereabouts?

**Mike, N1ZGX**, donated a set of ARRL tapes with the accompanying book comprising the "technician" class amateur radio licensing course.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM, and a large mystery box of "goodies" donated by **Sam, N1PGN**, was auctioned off to benefit the club's treasury.

## FLEAMARKET A GREAT SUCCESS!

The SEMARA fleamarket held on September 14th was a great success. The weather cooperated this year with an overcast sky.

Vendors came from as far away as New Hampshire to sell their wares. It was one of the biggest and best fleamarkets in recent years. Club members donated literally "tons" of used equipment for sale at the club's table. The club's treasury was jolted with the inflow of money. The frown on the treasurer's face is gone!

Sales at the food tent were out of sight. The cooks are to be commended for the fine job they did working over the hot grills preparing hamburgers, hot dogs, cheeseburgers, and linguica. It is a hot, thankless job under the worst of conditions at times. Hip, hip, hooray for the cooks!



Thanks to all the club members that worked so hard to make this years fleamarket the outstanding success it was. In fact, the grass got cut, not once, not twice, but **three times** in the week preceding the event! Such dedication!

# THANKS!

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 54 Donald Street, PO Box 80007  
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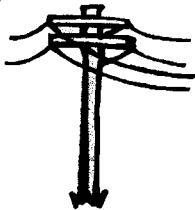
## ADVERTISING

Commercial ads the size of a business card will be accepted. Rates are \$5.00 for one insertion, \$20.00 for six insertions, and \$35.00 for twelve insertions.

Non-commercial ads up to forty words in length will be accepted. Rate is \$3.00 for one or \$12.00 for six insertions. Club members have one free non-commercial ad per month.

## ORIGIN OF 73

The use of numerical codes to send messages was first practiced by landline telegraph operators. The use of numerical codes to send common greetings permitted faster transmission of messages over the telegraph wires. By the early 1850's lists of the various codes used were common.



The first known record of 73 being used to indicate a message is found in the 1857 National Telegraphic Review and Operators' Guide wherein 73 is stated to mean "My love to you". Hold everything! That is not the meaning used today, is it?

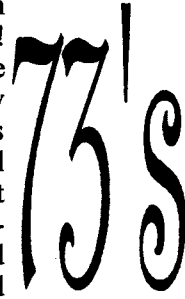
No, for soon other lists such as one put out by the National Telegraph Convention listed 73 as just a friendly greeting between operators of the telegraph systems. Sort of a fraternal handshake over the wires if you wish. Anyone that has sent 73 in Morse code appreciates the "rhythm" of the number.



In 1859, the Western Union Company published a book of "standard" codes called the "92 Code" wherein the numerals 1 to 92 were used to send common greetings over the telegraph lines. In this book, 73 is listed as "accept my compliments".



However, the meaning of 73 continued to change over time. Dodge's "The Telegraph Instructor" listed 73 as just "compliments". Some manuals even listed two meanings! For example, the "Twentieth Century Manual of Railways and Commercial Telegraphy" lists it as both "my compliments to you" and just plain old "compliments". Another version is found in Edison's "Telegraphy Self-Taught" which lists 73 as "accept my compliments".



By 1908, according to Dodge's Telegraph Instructor Manual, 73 meant "best regards". Finally a definition that stuck! And that is the meaning accorded 73 to this day.

(Adapted from an article by Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE)

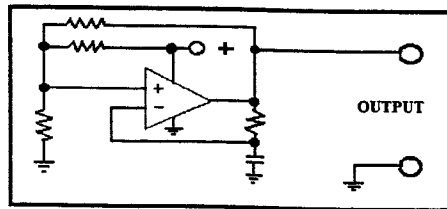
## FLEAMARKET CALENDAR

- October 3,4 - Rochester, NH
- October 12 - Durham, CT
- October 19 - MIT, Cambridge
- November 15 - Plymouth, MA
- November 22 - Newton, MA

## NET DIRECTORY

— Sunday —		
8am	28.375	General
9:30am	50.225	Yankee SSB
3pm	28.470	UFO
7pm	147.000+	Swap Net
— 4th Sunday —		
9pm	449.575	EM-ARRL
— Daily —		
5:30pm	3.915	EM/RI NTS ssb
7&10pm	3.658	EM/RI NTS cw
6:45pm	147.315+	NTS/Trivia
7pm	146.550	General
8pm	145.230-	EM-NTS
— Monday to Friday —		
8am	14.262	UFO
8pm	145.490-	Weather
— Saturday & Sunday —		
8am	7.237	UFO
— Thursday —		
7pm	14.264	UFO
8pm	147.180+	Trivia
— Saturday —		
7:30pm	3.978	UFO
1800G	14.300	Coast Guard
— ARES NET —		
1st & 15th of the month at 7:30 pm		
147.000+ on the 1st		
145.490- on the 15th		

## NAME THAT CIRCUIT



1. Sine Wave Oscillator
2. Triangular Wave Oscillator
3. Square Wave Oscillator
4. Sawtooth Wave Generator

ANSWER - See Page 4

## NEXT

# SEMARA VE SESSION

Saturday  
 November 1  
 10:30 AM



**GRASS CUTTERS  
HALL OF FAME**

Anyone is eligible for induction into the *Grass Cutters Hall of Fame*. All one need do is cut the grass at the club and BINGO! you are automatically listed in the *Grass Cutters Hall of Fame*. To date, the following members have been inducted into the fraternity (will you be next?):

- May 8 **John Carreiro, W1ZYV**  
**Bill Vincent, N1LTY**
- May 18 **Marty Jordan, KA1YFV**  
**Bill Miller, K1IBR**
- May 30 **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**  
**Bill Miller, K1IBR**
- June 7 **Rick J. Cabral, N1RFH**  
**Bill Miller, K1IBR**
- June 18 **Ed Rovas, WA1VXY**  
**Bill Miller, K1IBR**
- June 29 **Marty Jordan, WA1YFV**
- Aug 15 **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**
- Aug 19 **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**  
**Bill Miller, K1IBR**
- Sept 8 **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**
- Sept 10 **Bill Vincent, N1LTY**  
**Bill Miller, K1IBR**
- Sept 13 **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**

If you are interested in joining this elite group, cut some grass!

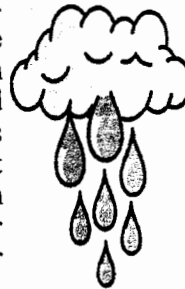
**TOWER UPDATE**

The tower lease counter-offer approved at the last meeting was presented to NYNEX. As we go to press we are still waiting for an answer from NYNEX.

When last contacted two weeks ago, Tara Rand of NYNEX said the offer was still being reviewed. A decision on our offer is expected before the next business meeting.

**CLUB ROOF REPAIRED**

The roof near the rear door in the Quonset hut recently sprung a leak. An investigation found a large crack in the roofing tar where the rear addition connects to the hut. The crack was filled with a wooden strip and tarred with a fibrous sealer. The next rain will confirm whether the repair was successful or not!



**CLUB MOWER REPAIRED**

The club's riding mower quit working just before the Club's fleamarket. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to **Bill Vincent, N1LTY**, for cutting the grass with his own riding mower and to **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**, for doing the trimming with the hand mower.

After the fleamarket, a new spark coil was purchased and installed in the club's mower. The mower is as good as new again!

**LOCAL VE SESSIONS  
IN OCTOBER**

- 09 **Providence, RI**  
Judy Nelson, KC1RI  
401-231-9156
- 11 **Braintree, MA**  
William J. Needham  
781-843-4400
- 22 **Cambridge, MA**  
Nick Alterndburnd  
617-253-3776
- 25 **Slatersville, RI**  
Robert Beaudet  
401-333-2129

**LOOK  
FREE!**

60 foot crank-up tower with Hi-Gain tribander. Must be taken down and removed.

contact:  
**Alex Johnson**  
18 Old Homestead Rd.  
Falmouth, MA  
(508) 548-1386

**CORRECTION**

It has been brought to the attention of the editor that **Jay Lewis, N1VUE**, was not listed as one who helped out at the "Relay For Life" event. We apologize for this oversight.

**NOQUOCHOKE ORCHARDS**

594 Drift Road, Westport, MA 02790  
(508) 636-2237



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



# BITS - N - PIECES



Compiled from The ARRL Letter, a publication of the American Radio League, and Ham Radio Online magazine, available free on the Internet at <http://www.hamradio-online.com>

## HR2369 MUST BE DEFEATED

**H**.R. 2369 proposes to make illegal the sale or use of broadband receivers and scanners. H.R. 2369 is the result of an illegal taping of a U.S. Congressman's cellular call last winter. Congress felt they had to do something. The result was hearings, followed by proposed restrictions on scanners.

However, H.R. 2369 goes too far. It not only places further restrictions on intercepting cellular calls, but also proposes to block access to various bands of frequencies from 30 MHz to 1 GHz.



All amateurs and interested scanner enthusiasts are strongly urged to write their Congressmen calling for the defeat of H.R. 2369.

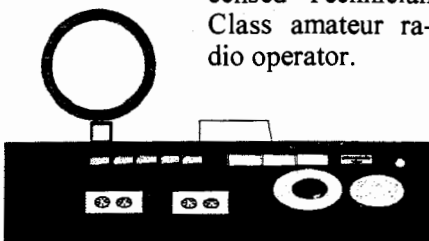
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## FCC FINES AMATEUR

**T**he FCC Compliance and Information Bureau has fined Robert J. Powers, KB7TQA, \$1600 for operating on an unauthorized frequency.

Using radio direction finding equipment, the FCC traced unauthorized transmissions on 27.455 MHz to Power's residence in Puyallup, Washington. When confronted with the evidence, Powers admitted to the offense.

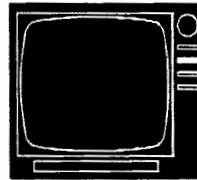
The illegal operation occurred two months before Powers became a licensed Technician Class amateur radio operator.



## WORLD'S FIRST ATV REPEATER CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**T**he Metrovision ATV Club in Eastern Ohio celebrated the 25th year anniversary of its amateur television repeater on September 19th.

When the ATV repeater was first put on the air, a Special Temporary Authority (STA) from the FCC was required since FCC rules at the time didn't provide for ATV repeaters. After the second STA, the FCC was reluctant to issue another, so members called Congress and put pressure on the FCC. As a result, the FCC eventually changed the rules to allow licensing of ATV repeaters.

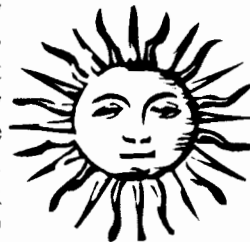


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## SOLAR CYCLE ON AN UPSWING!

**F**or the first time in three years, the sunspot number topped 100! On September 8th the sunspot count was 101 and the solar flux value peaked at 119.4. The last time the sunspot count was over 100 was on September 3, 1994.

This new sunspot activity means that DX is now possible on the higher bands. Openings on both 15 and 10 meters should become more common during the next several years as we proceed into Cycle 23.



## AMSAT PHASE 3D AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE LOOKING FOR A NEW RIDE

**T**he Phase 3D amateur radio satellite was not launched aboard Ariane 502 as originally planned. AMSAT is working with the European Space Agency (ESA) in an effort to secure another launch opportunity in the future.

The failure to be launched aboard Ariane 502 was a result of an upgrade in spaceframe mechanical standards mandated by ESA this July. There was not enough time to effect the upgrades on the Phase 3D satellite in time for launch aboard Ariane 502 as originally planned.



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## FCC REVISES RF EXPOSURE GUIDELINES

**T**he FCC revised its threshold power levels above which amateur radio operators must conduct a routine RF exposure evaluation. A year ago when the FCC first decreed RF exposure evaluations, the power level that triggered an evaluation was 50 watts for all amateur bands.

As a result of a request by the ARRL to establish a sliding scale of threshold power levels depending on frequency, the FCC revised the levels upwards for most amateur radio frequencies. The new levels are 500W for 160 through 40 meters, 425W on 30 meters, 225W on 20 meters, 125W on 17 meters, 100W on 15 meters, 75W on 12 meters, and 50W on 10 meters. See ARRL bulletin number 49 for complete details and VHF power levels.

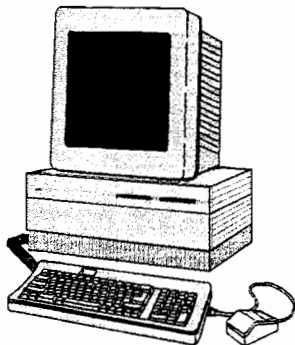


# CLUB NOTES

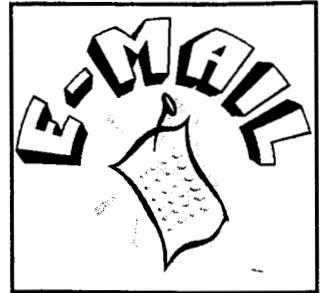
October has arrived! The crisp fall weather is finally here. Columbus Day will be observed on Monday the 13th. Halloween falls on Friday, the 31st (13 backwards!). Halloween will be real scary this year as the new moon falls on the 31st too (no moonlight!). Don't forget to move your clocks **BACK** one hour on the 26th when daylight savings time ends.



Computer buffs learned the various features of advanced DOS during the August 21st Tech-Talk. The interesting presentation was conducted by **John, WIZYV**, a former IBM employee. Attendees were dazzled with DOS as John demonstrated the power unleashed by the advanced DOS commands.



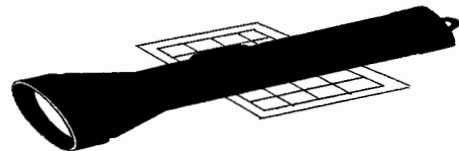
Do you have an E-Mail address? The club is putting together a list of club member's E-Mail addresses. If you would like to be included on the list, E-Mail your address to Larry, AA1FS, at: [aa1fs@lrh.net](mailto:aa1fs@lrh.net) and he will see that your E-Mail address is added to the list.



Bill Miller, K1IBR, is writing a history of the association. He is soliciting help in gathering information about the association from 1946 to 1958 in particular. Any information from that era is sought such as membership lists, secretary reports, officer lists, newspaper articles, and the like. Personal recollections of any club events or humorous happenings are also solicited. Bill can be reached at (508) 996-2969 or at [k1ibr@lrh.net](mailto:k1ibr@lrh.net)



**INVENTION THAT NEVER CAUGHT ON:  
THE SOLAR POWERED FLASHLIGHT!**



## SEMARA OFFICERS 1997



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

**Board of Directors:**  
 John Carreiro, W1ZYV  
 Robert Peckham, KA1YDG  
 William Vincent, N1LTY

**Trustees:**  
 Edward Blouin, KA1AW - Chairman  
 Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM  
 William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR  
 Norman Riley, W1ATI  
 Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD

## SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

### OCTOBER 1997

- 2 - Business Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 4,5 - Simulated Emergency Test
- 16 - Tech-Talk, Opto Electronics, by Bill, K1IBR 7:00 PM
- 18,19 - Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)



### NOVEMBER 1997

- 1 - VE Session, 10:30 AM
- 6 - Business Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 13 - ARES Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 20 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 PM




## LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>144</b>			
145.150 -		WA1DGW	Fall River
145.490 -		KA1WBF	Fairhaven
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		N1OEG	Plymouth
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI
147.000 +		W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.045 +		WA1AIC	Yarmouth
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton
147.180 +	77.0	N1FDX	Bridgewater
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham
<b>220</b>			
224.340 -		N1SGK	Dennis

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>440</b>			
441.400 +	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
442.200 +		N1NRL	Fall River
442.350 +	141.3	N1QWW	New Bedford
442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
443.850 +	131.8	W1ARM	Chatham
444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
444.550 +		N1FDX	Bridgewater
447.075 -		N1DZD	Kingston
NAME THAT CIRCUIT ANSWER: <span style="float: right;">3. Square Wave Oscillator</span>			


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FIRST CLASS

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