



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 66th YEAR

Volume 34, Issue 6

❖ SEMARA ❖

June 1998

Editor's Corner

CLUB HISTORY BOOK

(AN UPDATE)

As many of you know, I'm collecting information on the past history of the club in preparation to writing a history of the club from its beginning in 1932 up to 1997. That's the first 65 years of the club's existence!

To date, I've interviewed several "Old Timers" in their homes and photocopied any papers and photos they had concerning the club's early history. Some "Old Timers", such as Joe Gasper in California, were interviewed over the telephone. Joe was one of the original members of the club and sent the club a neat package of old photographs and memorabilia. (Thanks again, Joe!)

The last month was spent assembling old membership lists into some semblance of order. This is where you can help the club out. Any membership lists before 1968 are sought. Also missing are several lists between 1968 and 1990. Check your old files, and if you come across any membership lists please give me a call.

Also sought are old copies of Zero Beat and any other club material from the past, including news clippings. Maybe you have an interesting story about the club or its members. Please call or drop me a letter.

The more information we can gather, the more comprehensive the club history book will be. Check your files now!



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The April business meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Vice-President Andy Reuter. Eighteen members and one guest were present. Following the salute to the flag and roll call, the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Committee reports followed:
Technical - None. *Buildings and Grounds* - The club riding mower has been overhauled and is ready for service. *Scholarship* - None. *Tower Committee* - None. *Code Class* - Brad Anselmo stated that the class will start in January 1999, and instructors are needed.

Communications - None.

Ratifications - Former member **Jose Demedeiros, KA2CIK**, was reinstated as an associate member of the association.

Old business - None.

New business - Bill Miller will look into changing the locks to the boiler room and filing cabinet, with keys given to all officers. Motion made and passed to pay Bill Miller \$31.32 for a security light and a lamp for the club overhead projector.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm, at which time a 50/50 raffle was held. The winner of the raffle was **Henry Deslaurier, WA1CQJ**, who pocketed \$18. Finally, two boxes of radio parts were auctioned off to benefit the club treasury.



SEMCARES SOLICITS NEW MEMBERS

Dear Prospective Ham Radio Operator,

My name is Robert Macedo, Amateur Radio Call Sign, KD1CY, and I am the Emergency Coordinator for the group called SEMCARES, the Southeast Coastal Amateur Radio Emergency Services group. Our group, under the auspices of the American Radio Relay League, are asked to provide communications support for portions of Southeastern Massachusetts in public service events as well as in times of communications emergencies such as hurricanes, search and rescue, hazardous waste spills and other forms of disaster.

I am asking for you, as an amateur radio operator, whether you've been an amateur radio operator for years or have just gotten your Amateur Radio licenses, to join our SEMCARES group. We offer a wide range of public service events and activities to support and we can use all types of support for our ARES group. This is NOT confined to net control work, message handling, public service event and disaster

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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.

ARES - continued from page one
 communications support.

While these are some of the main activities that ARES will be doing, there are many other ways to get involved and assist at ARES functions.

We can use technical support to help put together portable emergency base stations as well as cross link simplex repeaters as well as other technical issues. We could use administrative support in getting ARES plans photocopied and sent out to our group members as well as the EMA directors across our coverage region. This administrative support can also come in the form of composing letters to recruit more amateur operators, like this letter has been composed to do, as well as, administrative support for obtaining equipment at reduced costs through the various Amateur Radio Companies that make radios and antennas for us.



These are just a few of the many ways that we can utilize assistance from new and older amateur radio op-

erators irregardless of their radio operating or technical skill level, Also an ARES group with various skill sets as well as various ages can be useful as older Amateur operators can help guide younger amateurs with their experience and younger amateurs with their enthusiasm can motivate older amateurs into doing new things to help ARES grow.

I invite you as an Amateur Radio operator to join our well respected SEMCARES group and thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Robert Macedo (KDICY)

ARES SKYWARN Coordinator
 SEMCARES Emergency Coordinator

Pager #: (508) 354-3142

Home Phone #: (508) 994-1875
 (After 6 pm)

Home/Data #: (508) 997-4503
 (After 6 pm)

Work #: 1-800-445-2588 x3411
 (8 am - 5 pm)

E-mail Address:
 rmacedo@ma.ultranet.com

Packet Address:
 KDICY@AAIFS

<http://www.ultranet.com/~rmacedo>



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

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

June 6, 1998
 Saturday, 10:30 AM

LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN JUNE

08 Brookline, MA
 Bob Wondolowski
 508-865-5822

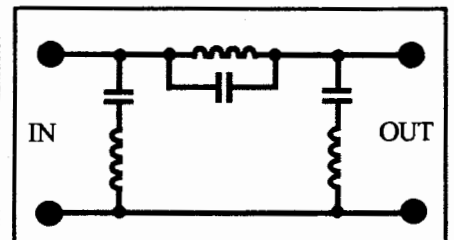
11 Providence, RI
 Judy Nelson
 401-231-9156

13 Falmouth, MA
 Joanne Reid
 508-548-1121

17 Cambridge, MA
 Nick Alterndburnd
 617-253-3776

20 Marlborough, MA
 William Wade
 781-891-9079

NAME THAT CIRCUIT



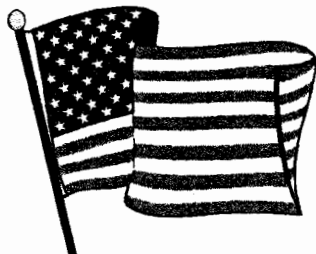
1. Band-Pass Filter
2. Low-Pass Filter
3. Band-Stop Filter
4. Hi-Pass Filter

ANSWER - See Page 6



CLUB NOTES

It's June! Summer has finally arrived. Proudly display your flag on Flag Day, Sunday the 14th. The following Sunday is Father's Day. What a coincidence! Both holidays start with an "F".



It is with deep regret that we report the passing of life member James Johnson, W1CGR, after a long illness. Jim was an active member of the club and he and his family played a major role in the construction of the new clubhouse in the mid-70s. Old timers will recall the Sunday morning "breakfast meetings" at the Mt. Pleasant drive-in that Jim presided over. Jim was admired by everyone that knew him for he was not only a good person but also a great friend. Rest in peace Jim.



With Sincere Sympathy

Hats off to the club's busy beavers Morris Fogaren, WB1GJO, and Andy Reuter, WA1FNM. In mid-April they removed sticks, leaves, and all sorts of debris from the club yard in preparation for grass cutting. Thanks men!



Bill Vincent, N1LTY, overhauled the club's riding mower in preparation for the summer grass cutting. He greased the wheels, changed the oil, put air in the tires, cleaned the deck, and sharpened the blade. Thanks Bill!



A big "welcome" goes out to old timer and former member Jose Demedeiros, KA2CIK, who was reinstated as an associate member at the last business meeting. Welcome back Joe!

KA2CIK
"Joe"

We won't mention any names, but a club member recently spent several minutes troubleshooting his mobile radio and taking voltage readings before he noticed the radio was SHUT OFF! (We understand the embarrassed club member works as an ENGINEER.)



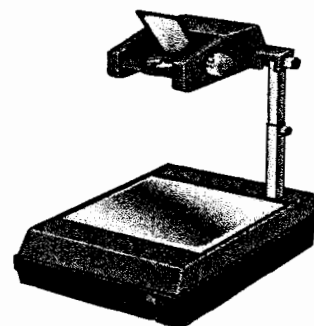
A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Joe Gaspar, W6UGK, and Sam Wagstaff, N1PGN, for donating boxes of electronic parts. The two boxes were auctioned off after the business meeting and netted the club treasury \$18.00. The boxes were bought by Jerry Lemos, N1ZYT, and Bill Miller, K1IBR.



Several members showed up and helped clean the club on May 3rd. (Brad, N1VUF, Jerry, N1OFD, and Marty, KA1YFV got into the act by cleaning the curtains.) We owe everyone involved a vote of appreciation for their efforts. Thanks Fellows!

THANK YOU

Thanks to Brad Anselmo, N1VUF, and Jerry Bergeron, N1OFD, the club now owns two overhead projectors. Brad and Jerry each donated a broken unit. One required a new diode, the other a bulb and glass plate. Thanks fellows!



TWO METER BALLOON LAUNCH SET FOR MAY 30TH

In conjunction with "Open House" at the National Weather Service (NWS) site in Taunton, a high altitude weather telemetry balloon will be launched Saturday in the early afternoon (1 to 2 pm) on May 30th, with a raindate of Sunday, May 31st.

SkyQuest is the brainchild of Hank Riley, N1LTV. Last fall Hank designed and built a 2 meter transmitter used on a balloon launch from Plymouth, MA. That unit was simply a beacon transmitter sending Morse code. The instrument package and transmitter on this latest launch from Taunton is much more sophisticated. It will be an FM transmitter modulated with audio tones to convey telemetry data to the ground stations. Hank is also hoping to conduct a local launch from the New Bedford area by November of this year.

The balloon launched from Taunton will transmit temperature and altitude readings via an onboard 150 milliwatt two meter FM transmitter. The signal will be transmitted at approximately 145.62 MHz. Temperature data will be off-loaded as an audio tone between 220 hertz (-60°F) and 3200 hertz (+85°F) in compliance with the "SkyQuest" diagram below. Altitude data shall be indicated by tone transitions

between 1000 hertz and 3000 hertz, with each transition equivalent to a fixed number of feet. The cumulative total of such transitions from launch will indicate the actual altitude. There are three data channels: 1) outside temperature, 2) inside temperature, and 3) altitude (pressure).

The telemetry package will identify itself every five minutes via Morse code during the second altitude segment beginning at 20 seconds. The transmission will include the call N1LTV. The tone transmitted will be the current altitude telemetry frequency

Although the transmitter only puts out 150 milliwatts, because of the high altitude the balloon will rise to and the line of sight characteristics of VHF signals, the signal will be heard all over New England (and beyond!). In Southeastern Massachusetts it will be very strong - scanners and handhelds will have no problem acquiring the signal.

Amateurs interested in this project can record the tones from the balloon for later analysis. This will help determine the ultimate height the balloon rises to, as well as provide a profile of the temperature gradient experienced in flight. A good tape recorder with a 60 minute tape will suffice. (Be sure to check out all your equipment before the launch date!)

Since the launch is from Taunton, the prevailing winds will take the balloon easterly south of Boston and out to sea. You should be able to track the flight using a beam antenna or (even better) with a tracking antenna designed for foxhunts. A tracking log consisting of time and bearing notations is highly desirable.

Anyone that is interested in collecting data on this flight should let Hank know of your intentions by E-Mail or snail mail. Following the launch, Hank will contact several participants for tape recordings and tracking logs in order that he may reconstruct the path and telemetry profiles. Who shall be contacted will be predicated by the actual flight path of the balloon.

More information on SkyQuest and the upcoming launch is available by E-Mail and also on the Internet. To get updates by E-Mail send a request to be placed on the E-Mail list to Hank at:

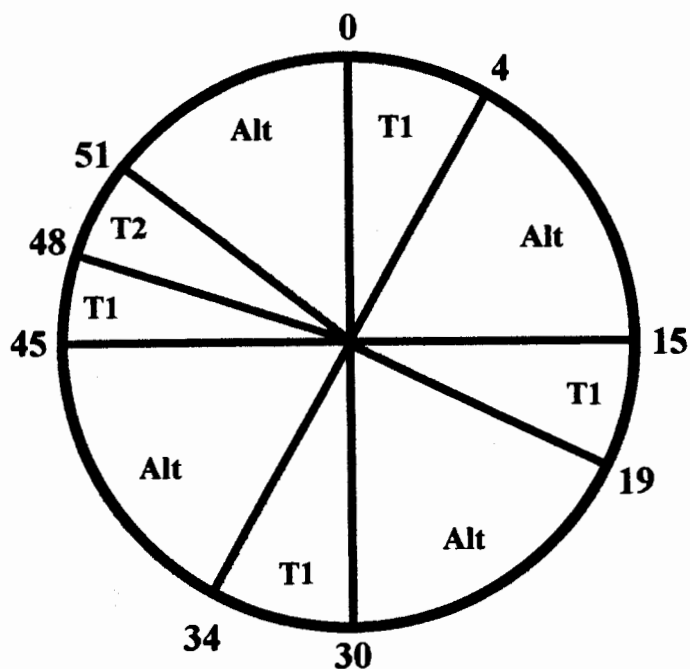
h1riley@umassd.edu

To get information off the Internet go to:

www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/3161/hablic.htm

Hank recommends the E-Mail route as the best way to go since it is updated more frequently and sends you the current status of SkyQuest projects.

SkyQuest 60 Second Telemetry Cycle



T1 Outside air temp.

T2 Inside temp.

Alt Altitude

TECHNICAL TIPS

Did you ever have a simple circuit that you needed to fabricate, but didn't want to go to all the effort of making a printed circuit board? Despair no more! I recently needed a single transistor amplifier for a project I was building. Not wanting to go through all the fuss of etching a PC board, I took out my dremel tool and with a sharp cutting burr cut lines in the copper cladding until several "lands" were created to mount the transistor and attach the input, output, and power leads. Bypass capacitors were soldered directly to the ground plane and served dual purpose as tie points too! The amplifier works great and was fun to make. Try this method next time you have a simple circuit to fabricate.

1998 FLEAMARKET CALENDAR

- June 6 - Goshen, CT
- June 7 - Newington, CT
- June 13 - Dennis, MA
- June 20 - Greenwich, RI
- June 21 - MIT
- July 11 - Union, ME
- July 18 - Wellesley, MA
- July 19 - MIT
- August 16 - MIT
- August 23 - Enfield, CT
- August 28,29,30 - Boxboro, MA
- September 13 - SEMARA!
- September 19 - Forestdale, RI
- September 20 - MIT
- October 2,3 - Rochester, NH
- October 11 - Wallingford, CT
- October 18 - MIT
- November 7 - Londonderry, NH
- November 21 - Newton, MA (auction)

NET DIRECTORY

- Sunday —
- 8am 28.375 SEMARA NET
- 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 SEMARA NET
- 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

VISIT THE SEMARA WEBSITES



WWW.LRH.NET/SEMARA/SEMARA.HTM

MEMBERS.AOL.COM/RICABRAL/HAM/SEMARA

— ARES NET —

1st & 15th of the month
at 7:30 pm
147.000+ on the 1st
145.490- on the 15th

SEMARA OFFICERS 1998



- President* Richard J. Cabral, N1RFH
- Vice-President* Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM
- Secretary* Henry Blanchett, W1GYL
- Treasurer* John Carreiro, W1ZYV

Board of Directors:

- Bradford Anselmo, N1VUF
- Lawrence R. Houbre Jr., AA1FS
- William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR

Trustees:

- Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM- Chairman
- William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR
- Norman Riley, W1ATI
- Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD
- Martin F. Jordan, KA1YFV

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

JUNE 1998

- 4 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 6 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 11 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 18 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - "AMSAT" by Ed Harrington, W1VF
- 27,28 - Field Day
- 29 - Instructor's Meeting, 7:30 pm

JULY 1998

- 2 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 9 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 11 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 16 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm "APRS Explained" by Rob, KD1CY & Tony, N1XRS
- 20 - SEMCARES meeting, 7:30 pm
- 27 - Board of Director's meeting, 7:00 pm

Coffee Hour at the clubhouse every Sunday at 9:00 am - Drop by and ragchew!


LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location	Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144				440			
145.150 -		WA1DGW	Fall River	441.400 +	192.8	WGIU	Assonet
145.490 -		KA1WBF	Fairhaven	442.200 +		N1NRL	Fall River
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth	442.350 +	141.3	N1QWW	New Bedford
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth	442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
146.685 -		N1OEG	Plymouth	443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI	443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
147.000 +		W1AEC	Dartmouth	443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
147.045 +		WA1AIC	Yarmouth	443.850 +	131.8	W1ARM	Chatham
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton	444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
147.180 +	77.0	N1FDX	Bridgewater	444.550 +		N1FDX	Bridgewater
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham	447.075 -		N1DZD	Kingston
220							
224.340 -		N1SGK	Dennis				

NAME THAT CIRCUIT ANSWER: 3. Band-Stop Filter


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FIRST CLASS

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