



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 66th YEAR

Volume 34, Issue 11 ❖

SEMARA ❖

November 1998

## ANDY REUTER, WA1FNM, RECEIVES AWARDS

Club Vice-President **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**, was honored last month for his handling of emergency traffic during the devastating ice storm that hit upper New York last winter on January 8th. Andy is very active on the traffic nets both locally and nationally, and thus was well prepared to assist during the onslaught of traffic generated as a byproduct of the ice storm.



New York Governor George E. Pataki sent Andy a letter of appreciation along with two ski lift passes to Whiteface Mountain.

Additionally, the Jefferson County, New York, Board of Legislation presented Andy with a "Certificate of Appreciation".

Congratulations, Andy, for a "job well done!"



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The October business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice-President Andy Reuter. Twenty members 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* - None. *Scholarship* - None. *Code Class* - None. *Tower* - None.

*Communications* - None.

*Ratifications* - **Mathew Vangel, KA1THM**, reinstated to full membership. **Gerald Lemos, N1ZYT**, voted to full membership. **Chris Smith, N1ZPI**, voted to full membership. **Ed Blouin, KA1AW**, voted a life member of the association.

*Old Business* - None.

*New Business* - A motion was made and passed to top off the oil tank in preparation for the coming winter. A discussion was held about getting the oil burner cleaned. It was pointed out that the oil burner had not been cleaned in three



DIGITAL CAMERA VIEW OF 1998 FLEAMARKET  
TAKEN BY PETE CARREIRO, KA1WOJ

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Published monthly by the  
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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.

**MEETING-** continued from page one

years. The member's consensus was to get pricing for consideration at next meeting.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Several days after the meeting, Bill Field, WA1FYF, offered to help Bill Miller, K1IBR, do the job. By the time you read this the furnace cleaning should be done.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. No 50/50 raffle or auction for the good of the club was held this evening.

**\$640,000 ought to be enough for anybody.**



Bill Gates, 1981

## NOQUOCHOKE ORCHARDS

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



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

## NO-CODE TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS STARTS SOON

The club sponsored No-Code Technician License class starts on Sunday, January 10, 1999. The class will be held every Sunday night from 6:30 to 8:30 pm for about four months. It is anticipated that all training will be completed in late April, 1999, just in time for the VE session in early May.

The course is based on the ARRL book "Now You're Talking!" (third edition). There is a \$5.00 fee for the course if you bring your own book, or for \$20.00 the club will provide both the book and training. (Having the club supply the book is more cost effective!)



Under the guidance of Brad Anselmo, N1VUF, the class instructors have been preparing to teach since early spring of this year. Lesson plans are being finalized, training aids have been fabricated, test equipment is ready, and a TV, VCR, and overhead projector are all set for use by the class.

The class will be limited to the first 25 that sign up. If you know anyone who is interested in attending, brochures with an application form are available at the club, or call Brad Anselmo at (508) 991-5466 for further information. Brad can also be reached by E-Mail at:

fragozo@aol.com

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

November 7, 1998

10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

## LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN NOVEMBER

09 Brookline, MA  
Bob Wondolowski  
508-865-5822

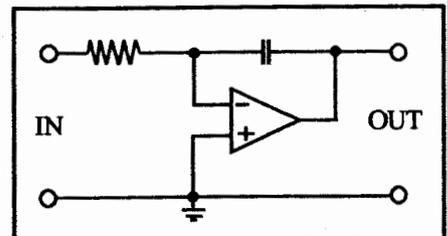
12 Providence, RI  
Judy Nelson  
401-231-9156

14 Falmouth, MA  
Joanne Reid  
508-548-11211

18 Cambridge, MA  
Nick Alterndburnd  
617-253-3776

21 Marlborough, MA  
William Wade  
781-891-9079

## NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Comparator
- 2.) DC Restorer
- 3.) Differentiator
- 4.) Precision Clipper
- 5.) Integrator

ANSWER - See Page 6



# CLUB NOTES

**T**urkey month is here! Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, the 3rd. Plan to celebrate Veteran's Day on Wednesday, the 11th. And the big one, Thanksgiving, falls on Thursday, the 26th. Eat well and give thanks for the good life!



**F**ormer member Matt Vangel, KA1THM, has rejoined the club. Matt signed up during the Flea-market held in September and was voted back in during the October business meeting. Welcome back!

*Welcome Back!*

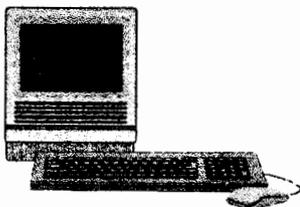
**T**im Smith, N1BTQ, and Matt Howland, K1DIY, responded to last month's call for paper towels in a BIG way. Tim covered the kitchen counter with them! He spotted them on sale and bought what amounts to a case of them. Matt donated a large package of 12. Thanks, Tim and Matt for your generosity!

*Thank You*



**T**he Norwood Amateur Radio Club recently added a "For Sale and Trade" section to its Internet site. Check it out at:

[www.kersur.net/~n1rby](http://www.kersur.net/~n1rby)



### REMINDER

When renewing your subscription to QST, do it through the club treasurer, John Carreiro, W1ZYV. The cost to you is the same, but the club makes a little money. Thanks!

*QST*

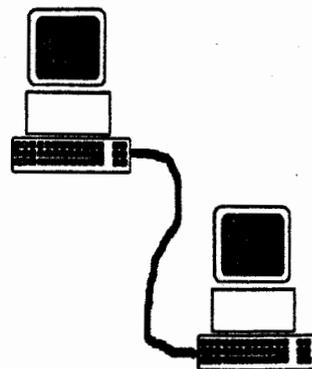


It is with deep sadness that we note the unexpected passing of life member Joseph A. Gaspar, W6UGK, (ex- W1IWJ). Joe was 83 and had lived in California since 1952. Joe was a member since the 1930's and recently sent the club several packages of old pictures and club memorabilia. Rest in peace, Joe.

*In Sympathy*

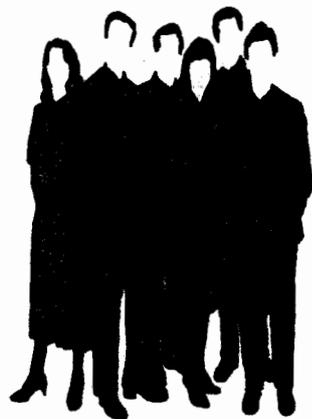


**B**y popular demand, Tim Smith, N1BTQ, will be back giving another Tech-Talk. On December 17th, Tim will reveal how you can network computers in your home. One feature of doing this is you can have one computer connect to the Internet, and all other computers on the home network can be "online"!



### NOMINATION OF CLUB OFFICERS

It's that time of the year again! Time to nominate next year's club officers. It is very important that any member wishing to run for an office make such an intention known. At the November business meeting the ballot for next year's officers will be finalized. Be there!



**A**t the October Tech-Talk, Bill Miller, K1IBR, described what baluns are and how they work. A paper was handed out describing the different types of baluns and typical applications.



Speaking of Tech-Talks, Sdon't miss this month's on SWR! An old Bell Telephone Laboratory film with a *mechanical* SWR device will be shown.

*SWR*

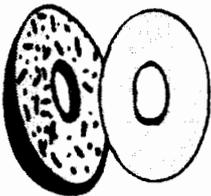
## BOSTON COFFEE & BAGEL OFFERS 10% OFF TO CLUB MEMBERS

The owners of the Boston Coffee & Bagel shops are offering a 10% discount to club members. The owners are making this offer in recognition of our steady patronage of their shop. When making your purchase mention you are a member of "the radio club" to get your discount.



Several club members have been meeting every afternoon (except weekends) between 1:15 and 2:00 pm at the coffee shop. They have been doing this for over a year. Why not drop by and join us? Ah, the joys of being retired...

It must be mentioned that the Boston Coffee & Bagel shop has excellent sandwiches and pastry in addition to their fine coffee and bagels (super with cream cheese!). On top of that they have the BEST clam chowder in town! In fact, they have something for everyone from stuffed quahogs to cappuccino.



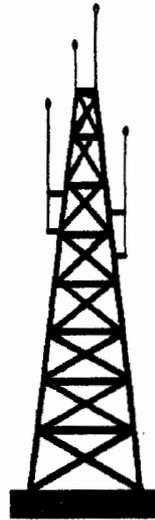
THANK YOU Boston Coffee & Bagel for your generous discount offer!

## NEW RADIO TOWER IN THE WORKS!

Al Costello of NETCOM has informed the club Tower Committee that he has secured the necessary commitments from cellular vendors required to make a new tower installation on our site feasible.

Final details of the leasing arrangement are being worked out and construction of the new tower should begin shortly.

This turn of events means work for the club. Arrangements must be made to relocate the repeaters to the new tower. A small building must be secured to house them. Conduit must be laid from the boiler room to the new site. Most importantly, a new antenna should be bought for installation on the new tower. We would be remiss if we bought anything less than the best - a Celwave heavy-duty Super Stationmaster.



Several important items relative to the new tower will be brought up at the next business meeting for approval by the membership. Please plan to attend the meeting and make your concerns known.

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ANTENNAS

- 1.) The center fed impedance of a half-wave dipole antenna is about?
- 2.) The center fed impedance of a folded half-wave dipole antenna is about?
- 3.) A center fed half-wave dipole antenna cut to frequency and fed with 50 ohm coaxial cable will have an SWR no lower than?
- 4.) A quarter-wave whip antenna (Marconi) has what polarization?
- 5.) What device is used to match a coaxial cable to a balanced antenna?
- 6.) In a yagi antenna, are the directors longer or shorter than the driven element?
- 7.) Stacking four yagi antennas with a matching harness will increase the system gain by how many decibels?
- 8.) Is the bandwidth of a discone antenna narrow or broad?
- 9.) A capacity "hat" atop a vertical antenna will raise or lower its resonant frequency?
- 10.) Increasing the diameter of the wire used to make a dipole antenna will raise or lower the bandwidth?

### ANSWERS

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1) 75 ohms  | 5) balun    |
| 2) 300 ohms | 4) Vertical |
| 3) 1.5/1    | 9) lower    |
| 4) 3 dB     | 8) broad    |
| 5) 2 dB     | 7) 6        |
| 6) shorter  | 10) raise   |



## KEN HOWLAND, N1AVA, WINS FOXHUNT!

It was a damp, dreary night as the fox Tim Smith, N1BTQ, went into hiding. Tim had such a nifty hiding spot in a parking lot at St. Lukes hospital that all three teams searching for him passed within 20 feet of Tim at least four times before spotting him! Talk about stealth. Tim had the reclining seat in his truck down so you couldn't see him. (Although the security guard at St. Lukes saw him and inquired as to what he was doing!) But Tim's cunning and stealth were no match for Ken Howland, N1AVA, who managed to flush the fox out in 24 minutes. Ken's driver that night was Bill Miller, K1IBR. Second place went to Chris Smith, N1ZPI, and Bill Field, WA1FYF, who finally routed out the fox after 52 minutes. (You might recall that Bill Field once held the record for finding the fox in 15 minutes. My, have times changed!) Closing in on the fox 4 minutes later were Henry Blanchette, W1GYL, and Bob Metivier, N1XZJ. As usual, everyone headed to Friendly's for food and frivolity following the hunt.

## TECHNICAL TIPS

### Working With Epoxy

Epoxy adhesives are great for mounting and mending things. There are epoxies made for every use conceivable. They also can be messy to work with. First, you need something disposable to mix the epoxy on. Try using stiff cardboard, especially the type that has a "slick" side with printing on it. Cut the cardboard into 6" squares for future use. Second, you need mixing sticks. Save Popsicle sticks for such use! You can also buy (a word not found in the "Yankee" lexicon) tongue depressors and large toothpicks to use with epoxy. If you really are "in to it", you can put together an epoxy "Kit" with all the above goodies. A small toolbox or carrying case will do. Go to it!

## 1998 FLEAMARKET CALENDAR

November 7 - Londonderry, NH  
 IRS @ Lotus, \$10 @ 6, \$2 @ 8  
 Paul - (603)432-1538

November 15 - Plymouth, MA  
 MRC @ Cordage Mall /  
 Wall Mart, \$2 @ 9  
 Talk-in: 146.685 Repeater

November 21 - Newton, MA  
 WARA / 1200 RC @  
 Masonic Hall, \$2 @ 11

## 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](http://WWW.LRH.NET/SEMARA/SEMARA.HTM)

[MEMBERS.AOL.COM/RICABRAL/HAM/SEMARA](http://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

### NOVEMBER 1998

5 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm  
 7 - VE Session, 10:30 am  
 12 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm  
 16 - Instructors Meeting, 7:00 pm  
 ARES Meeting, 7:30 pm  
 19 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - SWR Video

### DECEMBER 1998

3 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm  
 5 - VE Session, 10:30 am  
 10 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm  
 14 - Instructors Meeting, 7:00 pm  
 17 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - Networking  
 Computers, by Tim Smith, N1BTQ

**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	WG1U	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 +		NSIN	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: <span style="float: right;">5. Intergrator</span>			

Please support these fine sponsors of our newsletter

**Len's Dog Obedience School**

Tuesday evenings  
at New England Dog Training Center, 47 Mason Rd., East Freetown, MA

Do you walk your dog or does he walk you? Will your dog stay put when told or come when called? Solve your problems, come to class.

**Beginners: 6:30 PM, Advanced: 7:30 PM, Open & Utility 8:30 PM**  
**Len Godonski, Trainer** for more info: 508 995-0749

Directions: From Rte. 140 North take exit 8 and turn left or from Rte 140 South take exit 8 and turn right. After the first intersection, we're 1/2 mile down the road on the left.



*Cappuccino*  
*Journal*  
*Espresso*



*Bagels*  
*Muffins*  
*Cream Cheeses*

**Boston Coffee & Bagel**

122 Allen Street, New Bedford, MA 02740  
(508) 992-3064

Also serving fine deli lunches

SEMARA

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

FIRST CLASS

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January 2011