



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 67TH YEAR

Volume 35, Issue 5



SEMARA



May 1999

DONNA HALPER'S TALK ON THE HISTORY OF RADIO CAPTIVATES THE AUDIENCE

You could hear a pin drop! All eyes and ears were focused on the evening's speaker Donna Halper. Donna mesmerized the crowd with historical facts and interesting anecdotes about the early days of radio in the greater New Bedford area. Her impressive knowledge of the subject was eclipsed only by her enthusiasm.

Donna spoke not only about well known amateurs like Irving Vermilya, 1ZE (WIZE), but also about lesser known individuals like Eunice Randall, 1CDP (W1MPP), of Mattapoisett. Eunice was one

of the first women radio announcers in broadcast radio history. She worked for the AMRAD station 1XE in the early 1920s. Eunice also did engineering work for the station.



President Chris Smith congratulates Donna Halper for the interesting presentation as Tech-Talk coordinator Bill Miller looks on.

Donna brought along enough rare documents to fill a table! A 1921 amateur call book was among them. Also displayed was a stamp collection of radio-related first day covers, old AMRAD advertisements, and other radio related items. There was something for everybody. Yes, it was a night to remember!

TOWER REPORT

The digging has begun! The last week of March saw the trenches for the power and telephone conduits dug. All man-holes are in place, and electrical power conduits installed.

One thing is for sure. We have a good ground for vertical antennas since the water table is about three feet below grade! It took two pumps to keep the water at bay while the concrete was poured over the conduits on March 30th.

By April 6th all telephone and control conduits were installed and the yard was rough graded. The large willow tree stump in front of the club was also removed, but not

• TOWER Page 4



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The April business meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Chris Smith. Twenty-seven members and two guests 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* - Repeater will off the air for a few weeks for an overhaul and tune-up prior to the transfer to the new tower. *Activities* - None. *Buildings and Grounds* - No report. *Scholarship* - None. *Code Class* - Progressing well! About 16 students still at it. *Constitution* - Progressing well; should be completed by September. *Tower* - See report on this page for details.

Communications - None.

Ratifications - James R. Cahill, N1TZM, and Robert J. Dias, KA1QPR, were voted conditional members of the association.

Old Business - The following motions were passed:
1) Motion to transfer the Antenna Fund into the General Account.

• MEETING Page 2

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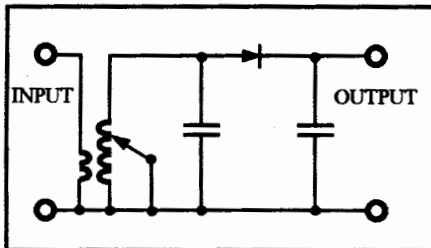
ADVERTISING

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.

**THE DEADLINE FOR
 SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR
 PUBLICATION IS THE 15TH
 OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.**

NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Crystal Radio
- 2.) Deviation Meter
- 3.) YIG Oscillator
- 4.) Parametric Amplifier
- 5.) SWR Bridge

ANSWER - See Page 8

MEETING- continued from page one

- 2) Motion to buy a new battery and protective container for the new repeater site.
- 3) Motion to purchase required parts to overhaul repeater, not to exceed \$50.

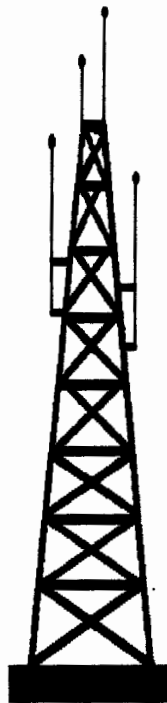
New Business - The following motion passed:

- 1) Motion to give Donna Halper a \$100 honorarium for the talk she will present, and for the information she provided for inclusion in the club history book.

A poll was taken to determine if the membership supported a weather station on the new tower with information relayed over the repeater. The membership supported the idea.

Hank Riley, N1LTV, gave a short talk on an upcoming Sky-Quest balloon launch from the Blue Hills Observatory.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm and many members headed off to the usual ragchewing at the "Second Meeting".



NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

May 1, 1999
10:30 am
SEMARA Clubhouse

LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN MAY

- 08 Falmouth, MA**
 Ben Fleck
 508-540-2583
- 10 Brookline, MA**
 Bob Wondolowski
 508-865-5822
- 13 Providence, RI**
 Judy Nelson
 401-231-9156
- 15 Marlborough, MA**
 William Wade
 781-891-9079
- 19 Cambridge, MA**
 Nick Alterndburnd
 617-253-3776

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*"I think there is a world market
 for maybe five computers."*



*Thomas Watson,
 Chairman of IBM, 1943*



CLUB NOTES

Is it May already? Where did winter go this year! Sunday, the 9th is Mother's Day. Armed Forces Day falls on Saturday the 15th, and Memorial Day is on Monday the 31st.



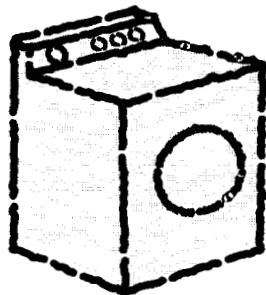
It is with deep sympathy that we report the passing of member Jose de Medeiros, KA1CIK, on Sunday, April 4, 1999. Joe was 85 years old at the time of his death following a brief illness. Joe worked 32 years for Western Union. Rest in peace Joe.



Studying for a license or Upgrade? Then check this site out! It provides simulated tests, access to all question pools, and lots more. The site address is: www.hamtest.com



A big "Thank You!" goes out to Andy Reuter's wife for cleaning the curtains in the clubhouse. What a super job she did. Now it looks like we have new curtains! (I bet Andy owes her big time for this one...)



The Internet address for the Old Old Timers Club (OOTC), where all members are 40 year plus hams:

www.ticnet.com/ootc



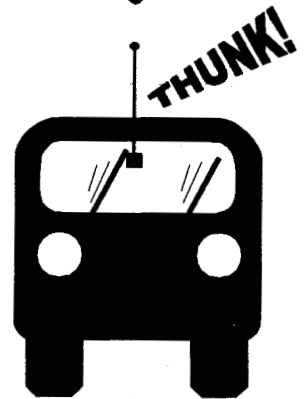
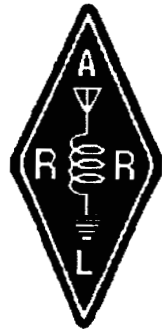
A big WELCOME! goes out to new members James Cahill, NITZM, and Robert Dias, KA1QPR. Both were voted into membership during the April business meeting.

Members are reminded to renew their ARRL membership through the club. The club gets a small percentage of the renewal fee. Contact the club Treasurer Brad Anselmo for details: (508) 991-5466 or at fragozo@aol.com

So, an unnamed club member mounts a Thru-The-Glass antenna on his pickup truck's windshield. It works great until the first rain-storm and he turns on the windshield wipers. "THUNK!" - the wiper jams against the antenna!

It was great to see Frank, WBIASD, at coffee on Monday, April 19th. Frank has been in and out of the hospital lately, so it was great to see him up and about again.

By now you've probably heard about the great presentation Donna Halper gave on the history of radio. The presentation was video-taped and a VHS format copy is available for loan. Full details will be announced at the May business meeting.



DRENCHED!

During the installation of the conduits for the new tower, the discharge hose from the diaphragm pump used to drain the trenches was situated such that the water was running back into the trench. Quickly **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, grabs the hose and swings it away from the trench. That's the good news. The bad news is that as the hose is swinging, the pump blows a pulse of muddy water out of the hose and drenches **Ed Blouin, KA1AW**, from head to toe.



"Next time I'll bring an umbrella and rain coat!"

TOWER- continued from page one

without great effort.

In late April, following the removal of a truckload of tree stumps, the footing for the new tower was constructed with 10 tons of rebar and 400 tons of concrete.

Actual construction of the tower and the concrete block control house will be done in May. We are in the homestretch now. It won't be long before the repeaters are transferred to the new tower. The range of the repeaters should increase nicely.

WANTED

Your collections of old, obsolete tubes, tube sockets (new or used), tube testers, radio and electronic books, student texts of radio theory, and old radio/electronic magazines.

Contact:

Charles A. Days, WA1JFD

30 Sagamore Drive

South Dartmouth, MA 02748

Telephone (508) 984-5599

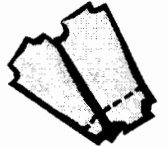
Radiodaz@ici.net

[Http://home.ici.net/~radiodaz/](http://home.ici.net/~radiodaz/)

SEMARA CHRISTMAS PARTY PLANNED

Janice Smith, Christmas Party Chairwomen, has booked the Executive Room at Thad's Steakhouse in New Bedford for our annual Christmas Party. The party will be held on December 11th starting with a cocktail hour at 6 pm followed by dinner at 7 pm.

The ticket price is \$16.00 per person. Only 48 tickets are available for the party. Ticket payments and menu selections must be in by November 4th.



Meal choices are as follows:

- 1) Roast Prime Rib of Beef
- 2) Baked Stuffed Shrimp
- 3) Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast

Included with the meal is soup de jour or chilled juice, garden salad, potato, vegetable, ice cream, and coffee or tea. Thad's famous Cheese Spread and Assorted Crackers will be at each table prior to the meal.

Tickets will be available later in the year, but to sign up now, contact either Janice or Chris Smith, 94 Seabury Street, Fall River, MA. Telephone (508) 324-6230. E-Mail: k1cjs@juno.com

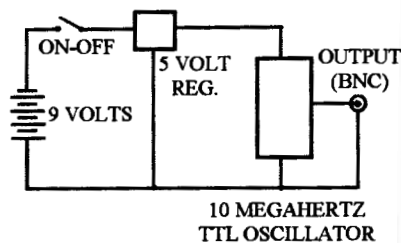
TIM SMITH, N1BTQ, WINS THE FOXHUNT (AGAIN!)



The first foxhunt within the recently extended boundaries (all of New Bedford south of Nash and Hathaway Roads) was held on April 8th. **Ken Howland, N1AVA**, was the fox. In no time flat, **Tim Smith, N1BTQ**, was at the fox's den! Next to zero in on the fox was the team of **Bob Metivier, N1XZJ**, and **Bill Miller, K1IBR**. (They offered the lame excuse that they took so long because they went up Route 18 to the north end of the city where the "virgin" territory was. Hah!) Finally, **Chris Smith, K1CJS**, came upon the fox. Foxy Ken had pulled a fast one. Suspecting the hunters would head north into the new territory, Ken elected to hide around the corner from the club near Buttonwood Park. Of course, before heading out from the club he mentioned it would take awhile for him to get to the hiding spot. Shrewd! Then he ran LOW power to simulate a great distance from the club. Only Tim outfoxed the fox. Congratulations Tim! (The night ended at Friendly's restaurant.)

TECHNICAL TIPS

A crystal oscillator on a standard frequency such as 1 or 10 megahertz is a neat thing to have around the shack. You can use it to spot check a receiver, or to check out a frequency counter. Such a unit can be readily made using a TTL oscillator module. TTL oscillator modules are rich in harmonics which is desired in this type of application. My 10 MHz unit is in a plastic case with a BNC output jack. The circuit used is drawn below:



1999 FLEAMARKETS

- May 7-8 - Stone Traders Rochester, NH
- May 15 - SEAFARMS Portsmouth, NH
- May 16 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 28 - Vermont, VT
- June 12 - FARA, Falmouth, MA
- June 18 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- July 18 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- August 17 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Sept 12 - SEMARA, Dartmouth, MA
- Sept 18 - SEAFARMS Portsmouth, NH
- Sept 18 - GARDN Marshfield, MA
- Sept 19 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Oct 8-9 - Stone Traders Rochester, NH
- Oct 17 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Nov 28 - W.A.R.A. Newton, MA

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

VISIT THE SEMARA WEBSITES



WWW.LRH.NET/SEMARA/SEMARA.HTM

MEMBERS.AOL.COM/RJCABRAL/HAM/SEMARA

SEMARA OFFICERS

1999



- President** Chris J. Smith, K1CJS
- Vice-President** Robert Metivier, N1XZJ
- Secretary** Henry Blanchett, W1GYL
- Treasurer** Bradford Anselmo, N1VUF

Board of Directors:

- Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM
- Martin Jordan, KA1YFV
- Scott Szala, W1EV

Trustees:

- William M. Miller Jr., K11BR- Chairman
- Norman Riley, W1ATI
- Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD
- Martin F. Jordan, KA1YFV
- William Vincent, N1LTY

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

MAY 1999

- 1 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 6 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 13 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ Clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 17 - SEMCARES Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 20 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - "Networking Computers" by Tim Smith, N1BTQ

JUNE 1999

- 3 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 5 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 10 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 17 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - "Filters" by Tony Oliveira, W1PWL



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 -		WAIDGW	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	N1OFD	Acushnet
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth	442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
146.685 -		N1OEG	Plymouth	443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
146.955 -	88.5	?	Dennis	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	444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham	444.550 +		N1FDX	Bridgewater
220				447.075 -		N1DZD	Kingston
224.340 -		N1SGK	Dennis				

NAME THAT CIRCUIT ANSWER: 1. Crystal Radio

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FIRST CLASS

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