



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 67TH YEAR

Volume 35, Issue 6



SEMARA



June 1999

◆ TOWER REPORT ◆



NETCOM CREW INSTALLING REBAR FOR TOWER BASE

Unexpected delays prevented the tower base completion in late April as anticipated. Among the problems causing delay was a collapse of the Sonotube forms around the tower anchor-bolt assemblies. Water seeping into the tower pit was the culprit. The anchor-bolt assemblies had to be removed and reinstalled. Wooden forms were used the second time around!

On May 12th the concrete base was poured after 10 tons of rebar were installed in the pit, and wooden forms were build around the pit. There were several tense moments when one of the forms

broke loose at the base as concrete was poured into the structure. Quick action by the NETCOM crew averted a disaster! They had the concrete truck quickly pull away, and then used a front-end loader to dump large rocks and fill behind the form.

Extra concrete left over from the tower base was used to make a pad outside the utility shed behind the club. We now have a nifty area to perform mower maintenance and repair. Additionally, a cement walkway was installed along the south side of the clubhouse from the stairs to the end of the building.

☛ TOWER Page 2



MEETING HIGHLITES

The May business meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by President Chris Smith. Twenty-seven 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* – Repeater will be transferred to a temporary antenna while new tower is put into service. *Activities* – No report. *Buildings and Grounds* – No report. *Scholarship* - No report. *Ham Class* - As we go to press, 5 out of 16 students have their license. *Constitution* – No report. *Tower* - See report on this page for details.

Communications - None.

Ratifications – **Ritchey L. Guild, KB1EAJ**, was voted a conditional member of the association.

Old Business - The following motion was passed:

1) Motion to install a transmit PL tone and a switchable receiver tone on the repeater.

New Business - The following motions passed:

☛ MEETING Page 2

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Published monthly by the
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EDITOR

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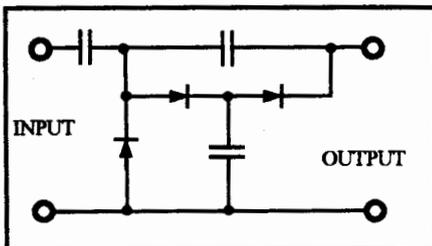
ADVERTISING

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.) Tri-Diode Clipper
- 2.) Transient Peak Limiter
- 3.) Diode Integrator
- 4.) Synchronous Detector
- 5.) Voltage Multiplier

ANSWER - See Page 6

MEETING- continued from page one

- 1) Motion making radio historian Donna Halper an honorary member of the club.
- 2) Motion approving payment of a \$50 deposit to Thad's Steakhouse to reserve a room for our Christmas party.

Steve Spulock, N1DSN, donated a "Mystery Box" to benefit the club via an auction after the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. The "Mystery Box" was raffled off for the \$9 bid made by Marty Jordan, KA1YFV. Marty found the box was full of meters and speakers, a great buy for \$9!

Following the auction, several members headed off to the usual ragchewing at the "Second Meeting".

TOWER- continued from page one

Pictures of the tower progress are posted on the SEMARA website. The index to the photos is listed at:

[Http://www.lrh.net/public/code/html-m/public/semara/tower.htm](http://www.lrh.net/public/code/html-m/public/semara/tower.htm)

The tower has been shipped from the manufacturer and should be on site by the time you read this. The actual erection of the 180 foot (55 meter) tower should take place in early June.

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

June 5, 1999

10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN JUNE

10 Providence, RI

Judy Nelson

401-231-9156

12 Falmouth, MA

Ben Fleck

508-540-2583

14 Brookline, MA

Bob Wondolowski

508-865-5822

19 Marlborough, MA

William Wade

781-891-9079

23 Cambridge, MA

Nick Alterndburnd

617-253-3776

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*"Everything that can be invented
 has been invented."*

*Charles H. Duell,
 Commissioner, US Office of Patents, 1899*



CLUB NOTES

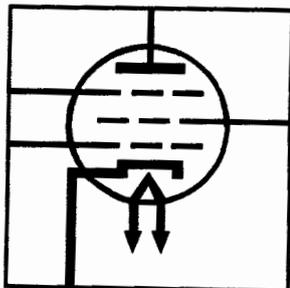
June marks the beginning of summer for most of us. Some of the best weather falls in June, unlike July with its real HOT days, and August with killer HOT and HUMID days. Enjoy June! Don't forget Flag Day on the 14th, and Father's Day on the 20th.



N1LTY
is now
W1POW

Bill Vincent is now BW1POW, a most appropriate call for him. Bill was held by the Germans as a prisoner of war during World War II. I wonder if Bill can get his new call on his special POW license plate?

Are you one of those rare hams – a homebrewer? If so, check this site out. It has TONS of circuits suitable for homebrew use. It also has a "message board" where you can post technical questions you want answered.

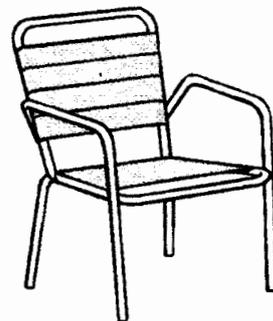


www.geocities.com/siliconvalley/3569/

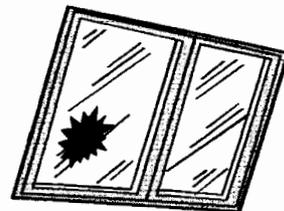
Two club members that attended the No-Code amateur radio class conducted by the club this spring got their ham radio licenses recently. Al Costello received the call KB1EAG, and Ritchey Guild was assigned KB1EAJ. *Congratulations Al and Ritchey, and welcome to amateur radio!*

WELCOME TO THE
WONDERFUL WORLD
OF AMATEUR RADIO!

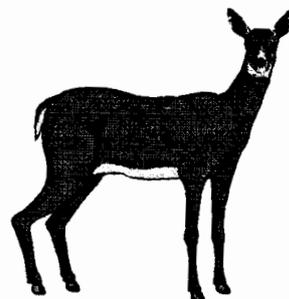
Several club members were standing around watching construction work at the tower site, when along comes Ed Blouin, KA1AW. Ed has three folding lawn chairs in tow! He sets them up in the shade for club members use. What a great guy. *Thanks, Ed!*



In mid May, vandals threw a rock through one of the large windows in the front of the club. Andy Reuter, WA1FNM, had the window repaired to the tune of \$80. Repairing dual pane windows doesn't come cheap!



It appears that wild deer are very curious animals. On several days they dropped by to check on the progress at the tower site. At least they didn't walk all over the cement base as it was curing.



No names mentioned, but a member was standing outside the club when who should drive by but his wife. Seems he told her he was going out for a haircut...



Ed Rovas, WA1VXY, went to the Dayton Hamfest again! This was the tenth time and the best one yet he claims. Of course, every year Ed says it's his last visit to Dayton. Sure, Ed!

I LOVE THE
DAYTON
HAMFEST

AMERICA'S #1 AMATEUR: IRVING VERMILYA, W1ZE

Irving was a member of our club (1947). Although his first call was "VN", and also used the call 1HAA, he was best known by the call W1ZE. He built his first rather strange and primitive station in December of 1901, after his trip to see Marconi. He became a member of the newly formed Radio Club of America in 1911

At the age of 16, he went to sea as a wireless operator. A few years later, he was given the important job of running the Marconi Wireless Station (station WCC) on Cape Cod, Mass. (Friends of his recall that many years later, he still loved to tell about how noisy the station was - with its 35 kW rotary spark gap...) During World War I, he served in the Navy, and returned to Massachusetts to run the RCA wireless station at Marion.

In late 1912, the government began to require that all wireless operators be licensed. Irv hurried to the Brooklyn Navy Yard to take the test, and was given Certificate of Skill #1. His engineering and wireless skills brought him into contact with such legendary figures as David Sarnoff, Lee DeForest, and Edwin Howard Armstrong, and his technical skills earned him the

praise of the radio editor of the Boston Post who referred to him as an "expert sending operator." For the rest of his life, he would be known as America's Number 1 Amateur-- which he truly was.

In 1921, he was named the New England Manager of the ARRL. Irv wrote columns on ham radio for QST and for various newspapers, and won virtually every award a ham could win-- it was impossible to read any magazine about ham radio without seeing another country or continent that W1ZE had received or been received by.

The Slocum and Kilburn company hired Irv to build and run their new radio station. The new radio station WDAU went on the air officially the last week of May 1922. WDAU was located at 23 N. Water St. in New Bedford and operated on a freq. of 360 meters.

Irv acquired the station in January of 1924 and moved it to his home in Mattapoisett Ma. He operated it under the call letters WBBG on a freq. of 240 meters. ("The Voice From Cape Cod") He operated it until mid-1925. He also put a mobile transmitter / receiver in his car, and in the early 1930s Irving is credited

with setting up the first police radio station for the New Bedford Police department. He was also the first American citizen ever given a permit to operate his mobile station in Canada. In later years, he was one of the founding members of the Old Old Timers Club, and served on its board.

Along with a business partner, he moved his radio station WBBG back to New Bedford, locating it in the New Bedford Hotel and requested the call letters WNBH. In May of 1934, he sold WNBH to the owners of the New Bedford Standard-Times newspaper, but he continued to work there, first as station manager and later as the chief engineer until he retired in 1955. Irving became a SK in January of 1964.

An article written by W1ZE which appeared in the February 1917 edition of QST can be seen at:

<http://www.ipass.net/~whitetho/1917verm.html>

Information Supplied by Donna Halper, [Contributing Editor] Boston Radio Archives, Boston, Ma., & the Internet. Compiled by W1FJI for this article.

WANTED

FAIRLY NEW HF RIG
Contact: Ed Baker, K1BKR
(508) 996-2013

WANTED

KENWOOD 450 POWER SUPPLY
Contact: Paul Bernard, W1ZPE
(508) 995-3812

FOR SALE

YAESU FT-990 TRANSCEIVER
MJF-1704 ANTENNA SWITCH
CUSHCRAFT R7 ANTENNA
DUMMY LOAD

Contact: Joseph Demers; N1MVY (508) 994-9570

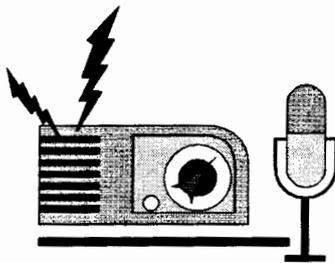
JOE RODRIQUES, N1BZZ, DONATES RADIO EQUIPMENT TO BENEFIT CLUB

Joe Rodriques, N1BZZ, recently donated several radios and test sets to the club. All the equipment is Heathkit, and consists of the following items:

HW-16 CW Transceiver (80, 40, and 15 meters)
 HG-10B VFO (for HW-16)
 HW-7 QRP Transceiver (40, 20, and 15 meters)
 HWA-7-1 power supply (for HW-7)
 HM-9 QRP Wattmeter
 HD-10 Electronic Keyer
 HD-1250 Dip Meter, complete with case and coils.
 IT-28 Capacitance Bridge
 IG-102 Signal Generator
 IM-18 VTVM
 IT-12 Signal Tracer

At the next business meeting, the membership shall vote to determine the disposition of this gift. It has been suggested that it be auctioned off to the membership, and anything not sold be held for the fleamarket this fall.

THANKS JOE, for your most generous donation to the club!



THE ORIGIN OF 73

Many stories exist concerning the origin of the term "73" as used by amateur radio operators at the end of a contact. It recently came to light that an article in the April 1935 issue of QST addressed that very question and the following is a condensed version of that article:

According to the December 1934 Bulletin issued by the Navy Department Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, the origin of "73" was originally ascribed to a dinner given to Andrew Carnegie on his 73rd birthday by the Order of Military Telegraphers. The event was held on November 27, 1908 and the signal "73" was played upon in connection with his 73rd birthday.

However, an investigation reveals that "73" actually originated in 1859 when telegraphers convened a committee to devise a system of 92 figure codes that could be used to send common expressions over the telegraph lines in an effort to save time. According to J. L. Bishop, Chief Telegrapher of the Navy Department Communication Office, in 1905 the term "73" meant "My Compliments" or "Best Regards".

TIM SMITH GIVES SUPER TECH-TALK ON NETWORKING COMPUTERS AT HOME

A great Tech-Talk on computer networking was presented by **Tim Smith, N1BTQ**, on May 20th. Tim demonstrated networking with a setup he brought to the club. You missed another "good one" if you didn't attend. As usual, Tim also revealed a few computer "secrets".



RITCHEY GUILD, KB1EAJ, WINS FOXHUNT ON FIRST ATTEMPT!



Ritchey Guild, KB1EAJ, won the SEMARA foxhunt on his first attempt! **Bob Metivier, N1XZJ**, was the fox, filling in for **Tim Smith, N1BTQ**, who was unable to attend. Ritchey used the equipment in **Bill Miller's, K1IBR**, car to find the fox. Bill was the driver, carefully executing Ritchey's directions as Ritchey zeroed in on the fox. Ritchey wasted no time smoking out the fox, and was able to bag him in about 10 minutes. The runner-up in the hunt was the team of **Henry Blanchett, W1GYL**, and **Ed Blouin, KA1AW**.

As the winner of this month's hunt, Ritchey will be the fox next month. That hunt should prove interesting, as Ritchey is from Sagamore down on Cape Cod, and unfamiliar with this area. Following the hunt, the group headed off to "Me & Ed's" restaurant for food and ragchewing.

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE /LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND AUGUST 21-22, 1999

This years International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend is scheduled from 0001 UTC on Saturday, August 21 until 2359 on Sunday August 22, 1999. This event is not a contest, but an event to promote an interest in both amateur radio and lighthouses and lightships. It is strictly a FUN event.



The event shall take place on the "classic" bands of 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Stations located at lighthouses and lightships are requested to add the suffix LIGHT, LGT, LIGHTHOUSE, or LIGHTSHIP to their call. Participants in the event can choose the band they want to work as well as the mode of operation. Please take time to work the slow CW operators as well as any QRP stations. Remember, this is a FUN event!

Last years event saw over 150 stations operating from lighthouses and lightships in 38 countries around

the world. Stations were QRV from Europe, North and South America, Africa, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. Club member **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**, worked several lighthouses during last years event.

Listed below are some of the lighthouse and lightship locations scheduled to be on the air during this years event. A complete updated list can be found on the Internet at:

[Http://www.waterw.com/~weidner/ld.htm](http://www.waterw.com/~weidner/ld.htm)

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE/LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND CONFIRMED PARTICIPANTS

OJ0AA	Market Reef
VE3JW	Ottawa
GB0SBL	Sutton Bridge
GB2BTL	Belle Tout
GB2GMM	The Needles
GB2HL	Happisburgh
GB3PB	Portland Bill
GB2SLS	Spurn Lightship
GB2SCA	Scarborough
G0IBN	Tollesbury Lightship
F6KUM	Ailly
ZB2LGT	Europa
J47LHA	Alexandroupolis
EJ/GI3VFW	Tory Island
IQ1L	Genoa
ZL1AB	Tiritiri Matangi Island
ZL2AS	Cape Kidnappers
KP4ES	Puerto Rico
GB2KHL	Kinnard Head
GB2LBN	Barns Ness
GB2LO	Orkney Island
GB2LT	Turnberry
KA4VVC	Cape San Blas
W2AMC	Horton's Point
W2GSB	Fire Island
K2L	Buffalo
W7L	Heceta Head
VP8NO	Cape Pembroke
EO1GLH	Genichesk
OZ7DAL	Lightship Fyrskib XXI

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE/LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND OPERATING FREQUENCIES

CW Operations:

- 80 meters – 3.510-3.540 (3.521±)
- 40 meters – 7.005-7.035 (7.021±)
- 20 meters – 14.010-14.040 (14.021±)
- 15 meters – 21.010-21.040 (21.021±)
- 10 meters – 28.010-28.040 (28.021±)

Phone Operations:

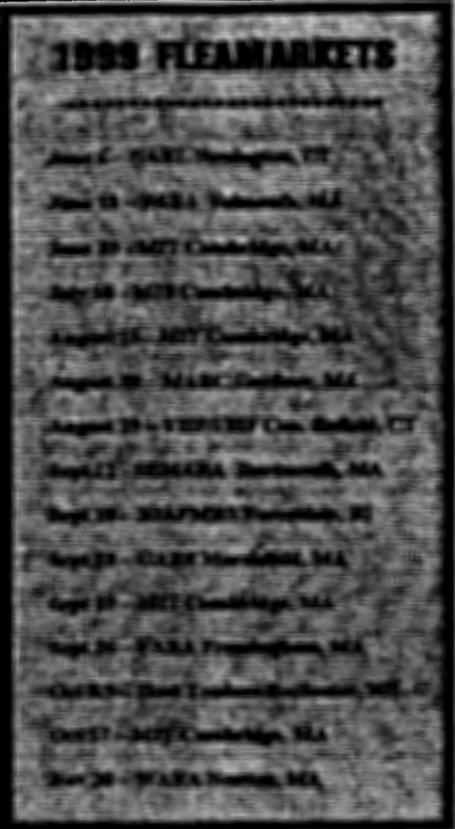
- 80 meters – 3.650-3.750 (3.721±)
- 40 meters – 7.040-7.100 (7.221±)
- 20 meters – 14.125-14.275 (14.221±)
- 15 meters – 21.150-21.250 (21.321±)
- 10 meters – 28.300-28.400 (28.351±)

Please note that the 80 and 40 meter frequencies are for European stations. All others can use any authorized frequencies.

TECHNICAL TIPS

If you're like most hams, you have several boxes of spare parts lying around the shack. Every time you need a part, you "dig" through the various boxes until you find it. Or, if in a hurry, you scoot over to Radio Shack and avoid "digging" through the junk boxes.

Why not organize your spare parts? If you have a small amount of parts, you can get by with one of those cabinets with about 36 small drawers. However, if you are an incurable junk collector (like me) you need larger holders for each type of part. My solution was to use plastic shoe boxes that come with different colored covers. Red covers might indicate resistors - 1 watt, 2 watt, etc. The best part is they are stackable. (Use an old bookcase to hold your sorted "goodies".)



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	SEMARA - FL
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

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

Trustees:

William M. Miller Jr., K1IBR- Chairman
 Norman Riley, W1ATI
 Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD
 Martin F. Jordan, KA1YFV
 William Vincent, N1LTY

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

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
- 20-27 - Amateur Radio Week
- 26/27 - Field Day

JULY 1999

- 1 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 3 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 8 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ Clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 15 - Tech-Talk, 7:00 pm - "555 Timers" by Bill Miller, K1IBR
- 22 - Board of Directors @ Clubhouse, 7 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	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
146.950 -	88.5	K1PDO	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: <small>5. Voltage Multiplier</small>			

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FIRST CLASS

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January 2011