



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 67TH YEAR

Volume 35, Issue 11

SEMARA

November 1999

## LOWER DUES PROPOSED

The following By-Law amendment to the club's Constitution was submitted at the October 7, 1999 business meeting in accordance with the procedure specified in the club's Constitution. The membership will vote upon it during the November 4, 1999 business meeting. All members are urged to attend the meeting and vote on this proposed amendment to the club's constitution.

### By-Law Amendment

We, the undersigned, request that Section 2 of By-Law Article II be deleted and replaced with the following:

Section 2 - All members, except those specified in Section 1 of By-Law Article II, shall pay dues of ten dollars (\$10) per calendar year. Members joining the Association in the last 6 months of a calendar year shall pay five dollars (\$5) for that year only.

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. William M. Miller Jr. | 4. Henry R. Blanchett Jr. |
| 2. Alan Dulong           | 5. Chris J. Smith         |
| 3. Scott Szala           | 6. Janice G. Smith        |



### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The October business meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President Chris Smith. Twenty-five members were present. Following the salute to the flag and roll call, the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

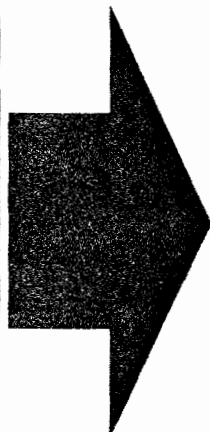
Committee reports followed: *Technical* - The control cable from the club to the tower site was pulled in on October 7th. The repeater will be installed at the new site the week of October 10th. *Activities* - No report. *Buildings and Grounds* - Andy Reuter reported the grass has been cut. *Ham Class* - No report. *Scholarship* - No report. *Constitution* - Work is progressing steadily. Draft copies will be available for review Sunday mornings at the club. *Tower* - Chain link fence about 75% complete. It is anticipated that the first cellular customer will be on the tower by December 1st. *Fleamarket* - Ed Blouin, KAI1AW, thanked all that helped make the fleamarket a success. *Communications* - None.

*Ratifications* - Eleven new and reinstated members were voted

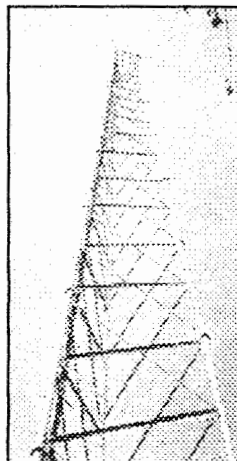
1997- N1RFI speaks out ...



"I'll believe it when I see it"



1999 - SEE IT!



# ZERO BEAT

Published monthly by the  
**Southeastern Massachusetts  
 Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**  
 54 Donald Street,  
 South Dartmouth, MA 02748

\*\*\*\*\*  
**EDITOR**

William M. Miller Jr. K1IBR  
 Phone: (508) 996-2969  
 E-Mail: k1ibr@lrh.net

\*\*\*\*\*  
**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.**

**MEETING-** continued from page one

into the club:  
 George Belford, N1TNQ  
 Henry Brown, K1WCC  
 David Dean, K1JGV  
 Anthony Gomes, N1JXZ  
 Dennis Hebert, AF1C  
 Robert Koczera, W1BN  
 Joseph Krisnosky, N1IXC  
 Jeffery Lehmann, N1ZZN  
 Sonny Mello, KA1ESG  
 Nixon Pendergrass, KB1WB  
 Richard Robinson, N1YZG

*Old Business - None*

*New Business -* A motion to provide free spaces to vendors at next years Fleamarket was approved, with the Fleamarket set for September 10, 2000.

A motion to reimburse **Bill Field, WA1FYF**, for a Mass card sent to **Rocky Pimentel, K1VJZ**, was approved.

A petition to change the club's Constitution was presented to the membership. (See page one for details.)

*For the Good of the Club -* Board of Director's meeting October 28th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Following the meeting, a "Mystery Box" donated by **Ed Baker, K1BKR**, was auctioned off. The high bidder was **Chris Smith, K1CJS**, who paid \$6.50 for the box of goodies.

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

November 6, 1999  
 10:30 am  
**SEMARA Clubhouse**

## LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN NOVEMBER

**08 Brookline, MA**  
 Bob Wondolowski  
 508-865-5822

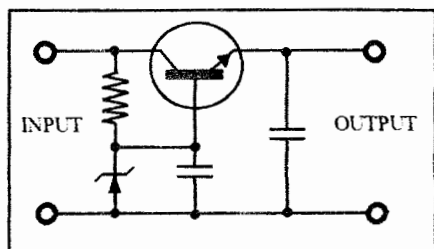
**11 Providence, RI**  
 Judy Nelson  
 401-231-9156

**13 Falmouth, MA**  
 Ben Fleck  
 508-540-2583

**17 Cambridge, MA**  
 Nick Alterndbernd  
 617-253-3776

**20 Marlborough, MA**  
 William Wade  
 781-891-9079

### NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Regulated Power Supply
- 2.) Emitter Follower Amplifier
- 3.) Ratio Detector
- 4.) Window Comparator
- 5.) Motor Drive Controller

ANSWER - See Last Page

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*"Man's mind stretched by a  
 new idea never goes back to its  
 original dimensions."*

Oliver Wendell Holmes



# CLUB NOTES

Here it is November already! Where did summer and fall go? Veterans Day is on the 11th, and the BIG ONE (Turkey Day) comes on Thursday the 25th.



Wow! Eleven new or reinstated members joined the club during the Fleamarket held in September. All were voted into membership during the October business meeting. *Welcome to the club!*

**WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS**

The final figures are in on the Fleamarket. We ended up making a net profit of \$605.71 in addition to \$110.00 from new members that joined during the event. However, the money we made is secondary to the great time had by all!



Members are cautioned to PLEASE unplug the coffee maker when leaving the club. The coffee maker was accidentally left on last month for several days. We are fortunate that it didn't burn up or start a fire.



Are you curious about how things work? Then check out this nifty Internet site. It is absolutely fascinating!

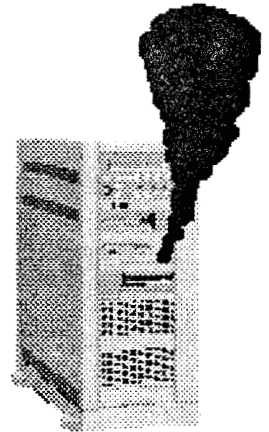
[www.howstuffworks.com](http://www.howstuffworks.com)



It is with deep regret that we report the passing of former member **Kenneth Pickering, K1MTK**, at age 77. Ken lived in Homestead, Florida the last six years and was a minister in the Church of Gospel Ministry for 21 years. *Rest in peace, Ken.*



On October 6th the 145.49 repeater in Fairhaven got stuck on transmit for several hours and suffered considerable damage. For the duration of the outage, the Fairhaven Weather Net was granted permission to use our repeater. We wish **Mark Jodoin, KA1WBF**, good luck with the repairs.



Club member **Marino Coppellotti, N1PVP**, was slightly embarrassed during the Horsetraders Fleamarket in New Hampshire. During the door prize drawings he thought they drew his call, so he tried to claim the prize. It turns out that they announced N1PVB, not N1PVP!

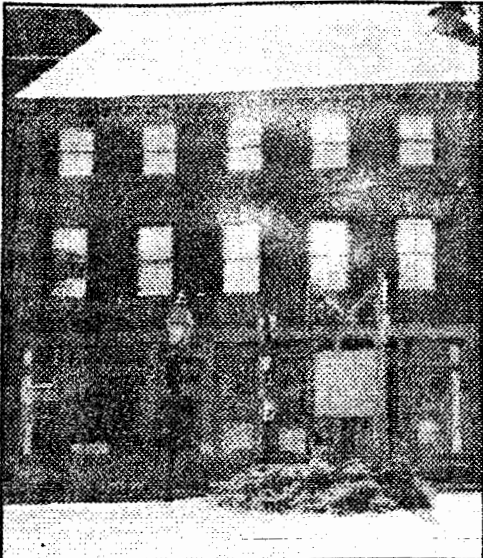


Due to member's requests, complete information on the phasing out of FCC Form 610 and the implementation of the new electronic filing system using the universal Form 605 will be covered in next month's issue of *ZERO BEAT*.



## THE EARLY YEARS OF COMMERCIAL RADIO IN OUR AREA

Commercial radio in the New Bedford area officially kicked off during the last week of May in 1922 when WDAU went on the air from the Slocum & Kilburn "Mill Store". The store (today we would call it a hardware store) was located at 23-27 North Water Street in lower downtown New Bedford. The building still stands to this day.



**SLOCUM & KILBURN SITE - 1999**  
(Part of the Whaling Museum Complex)

The 500 watt station was built by Irving Vermyla, IZE, who was manager of the radio department in the store. Irving actually did the "first" radio broadcasting in this area

from his amateur radio station IZE located at his home in Mattapoisett. However, in 1922 amateur radio broadcasting to the public was prohibited by law, leaving only commercial stations to entertain the public.

1923 didn't bode well for Slocum & Kilburn. Financial problems beset the concern and in late 1923 it sold the radio station transmitter and equipment to Irving. WDAU was off the air after less than two years of broadcasting.

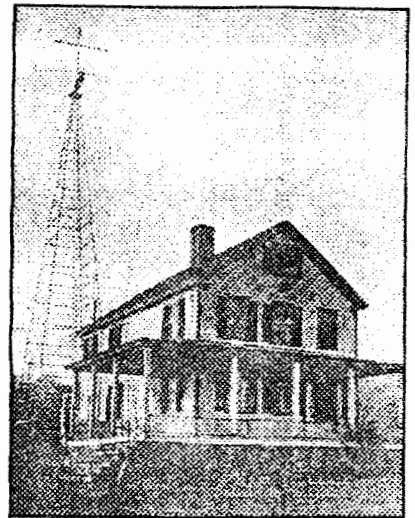
Irving installed the equipment from WDAU in his Mattapoisett home at 9 Atkinson Way. On January 9, 1924, he obtained a commercial license and went on the air as WBBG. He called the station "The Voice of Cape Cod", and transmitted once a week each Wednesday evening. The station transmitted on 248 meters, or 1210 KHz on today's radio dial. The antenna was supported by a 125 foot four-legged tower adjacent to his home. Stations as far away as Florida and Wyoming reported hearing WBBG!

In mid-1925 WBBG went off the air. Just like WDAU, it lasted less than two years. And in a way it was financial problems that caused its demise too. All radio stations, large or small, had to pay ASCAP a large fee to play ASCAP music. Irving knew he couldn't afford to pay ASCAP for the music he

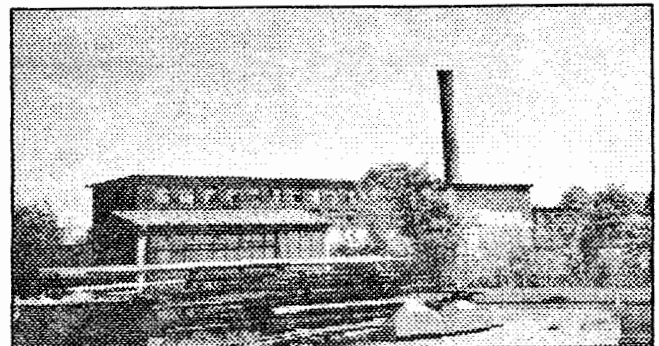
wanted to play on the station. He needed some financial backing to keep the station on the air.

He solved the problem by joining forces with Armand J. Lopez as a partner, and moving the station back to New Bedford. In November 1925 the new venture licensed the station as WNBH since the main studios would be located in the New Bedford Hotel. Operating radio stations out of hotels was common in the 1920s as most hotels had a house band (music!) and the community image was enhanced by having a radio station in the hotel. It is interesting to note that a remote studio was located in the home of Lester Jenkins on Palmer Street in the west end of the city. Lester was also an amateur radio operator with the call letters 1FR.

The actual transmitter for WNBH was located at the Atlas Tack factory in Fairhaven. The station's antenna was attached to the tall smoke-



**RADIO STATION WBBG**  
**MATTAPOISETT, MA**  
1925



**ATLAS TACK FACTORY - 1999**

stack on the property. Electrical power was provided by a steam generator maintained by steam engineer Burt Hill. (Burt also ran the steam generator at Colonel Green's radio station in South Dartmouth.)

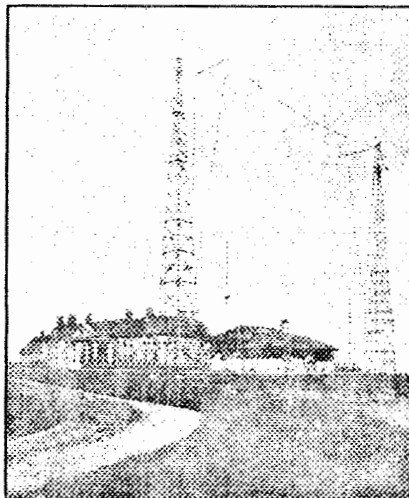
Irving was the General Manager of WNBH for many years, remaining with the station even after he and his partner sold it (May 1934) to E. A. Anthony & Sons, owners of the Standard-Times newspaper. Irving retired from WNBH as Chief Engineer in 1955.



On July 1, 1923, radio station WMAF went on the air from Colonel Edward H. R. Green's 300 acre estate "Round Hills" in South Dartmouth. Colonel Green contracted with the Western Electric Company (Bell Telephone) to design, build, and install the 500 watt station. Two 100 foot high four-legged towers supported the transmitting antenna. No expense was spared in constructing WMAF. In fact, the station cost \$500,000. That's in 1923 dollars! Not to worry, the Colonel inherited \$175 million when his mother Hetty Green, the "Amazon of Finance", died. (Locally, Hetty Green was known as the "Witch of Wall Street")



COLONEL E. H. R. GREEN

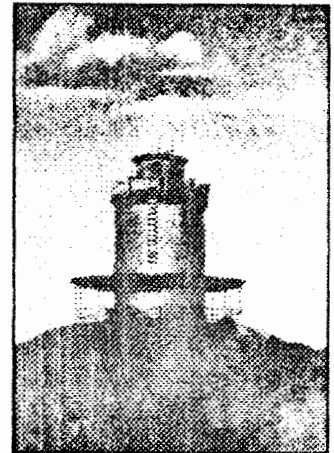


**WMAF TOWERS  
1923**

The twin 100 foot transmitting towers dwarf the transmitter building below. In the background is Colonel Green's estate house which stands to this day as a condominium overlooking Buzzard's Bay.

WMAF was quite the station. Not only did it transmit programs originating from its own elaborately appointed studios, but it also transmitted programs from the Capitol Theater and other locations in New York City. Colonel Green made arrangements with AT&T to relay the programs over telephone lines from New York to South Dartmouth.

Another feature of WMAF was its outdoor loudspeaker system. All of the programs transmitted on WMAF were also broadcast over loudspeakers installed around the top of a water tower at Round Hills. Parking spaces for automobiles were situated around the water tower so the Colonel's neighbors could drop by and listen to the programs.



LOUDSPEAKER TOWER  
AT ROUND HILLS  
1923

Less known was the "Radio Automobile" that Colonel Green had specially built. It was a car outfitted with a radio receiver and loudspeakers. The "Radio Automobile" toured the local countryside stopping at fields and farmhouses to entertain the farmer or housewife with music, news, and weather reports.

Colonel Green's fascination with radio didn't stop after he built radio station WMAF, the loudspeaker tower, or the "radio automobile". He also set up a \$200,000 radio laboratory at Round Hills where experiments were conducted under the guidance of Dr. Samuel W. Stratton, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The Colonel felt that one day motion pictures would be transmitted by radio and his laboratory's work would help speed up the process. Although the Colonel never lived to see it, we now call it television!

About 1931 WMAF ceased transmissions after 8 years "on the air". Of the four area radio stations started in the 1920s, only WNBH is on the air to this day.

*(Thanks to radio historian and author Donna Halper of Quincy, MA for background information used in this article, and Dr. Norman Riley of New Bedford, MA for the details about Burt Hill and the WNBH transmitter located at Atlas Tack.)*

# BOB & HENRY WIN FOXHUNT



It was a hunt to remember! Brian Parent and Bill Miller, KIIBR, parked on a dead end street and the hunt was on. Then Bill realized they were not in New Bedford as the rules require! So Brian and Bill moved two blocks and into New Bedford - just over the line so to speak. Although they were parked out in the open on a well lit street, and only six blocks from the club, it took 18 minutes for the first hunter to find them. Bob & Henry did it again! It took them over a year to get their first win, but they have won the last three times they were hunters. Congratulations! - that is a new record for consecutive wins. Immediately after Bob & Henry found the fox, Tim Smith, NIBTQ, was successful. Next was Chris Smith, KICJS, followed by Rick Cabral, N1RFH. In fact, Rick raced by the fox THREE times before he slowed down and bagged him. The last hunter was Steve Saunders, N1ZGX, who had to leave for a prior appointment and couldn't finish the hunt. (He was about two blocks away from the fox at the time.) Following the hunt, everyone went to Burger King down at the cove for the usual "pig-out" and ragchewing session. Bob & Henry once again told all hunters to "Pack a lunch!" for the next hunt. They truly plan to elude capture on the next hunt. (It must be something in the food at Burger King that causes these illusions of grander and invincibility...) See you next hunt!

## Emergency Communications Workshop

There will be an Emergency Communications Workshop on Saturday November 13th from 9 AM-4:00 PM at the SEMARA, Southeast Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association Amateur Radio Clubhouse in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

This Emergency Communications Workshop will provide the background and information to serve Amateur Radio Operators when they need to respond to a communications emergency. It will feature an Introduction and Conclusion to Emergency Communications, and five 1-hour training sessions on topics including:

- Tactical Message Handling for ARES/RACES/SKYWARN
- NTS Traffic Message Handling
- Net Operations I and II
- Basic Red Cross Operations
- Go Kits

This training will also feature a 1 hour lunch that will be provided at no coerced cost to any Amateur who attends the session. The presentations will be given by other Amateur Operators well versed in the topics listed above. The training will be a worthwhile endeavor not just for emergency communicators but for anyone who is an amateur radio operator, and wants to learn more about the hobby.

Preregistration is requested but is not required in case anyone would like to attend at the last minute. If you preregister, please try to do so by Saturday November 6th, 1999 so that we can get an approximate head count. We will, however, accept any preregistrations after that day or any walk-ins as long as space permits.

For any additional information and to preregister for the workshop, please contact: KDICY, Rob Macedo by email at:

[rmacedo@pop.ma.ultranet.com](mailto:rmacedo@pop.ma.ultranet.com)



## SEMARA CHRISTMAS PARTY

The club's annual Christmas Party will be held on December 11, 1999 at Thad's Steakhouse in New Bedford. The cocktail hour starts at 6 pm, with dinner scheduled for 7 pm. Three meal choices are available:

1. Roast Prime Rib of Beef, au jus.
2. Baked Stuffed Jumbo Shrimp, drawn butter.
3. Whole Stuffed Boneless Breast of Chicken.

The price is \$16.00 per person. There is a limit of 48 tickets, and full payment along with meal selections is required by the November 4th business meeting. Contact Janice or Chris Smith to reserve your place at this annual gala event.

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### TECHNICAL TIPS

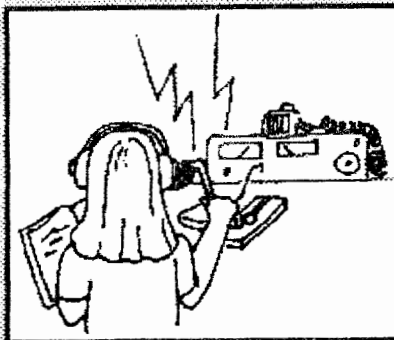
Homebrewers often need to mount high power transistors and diodes on heat sinks. This is typically done using mica insulators and heat sink grease. However, an alternate method does exist. Simply mount the high power components DIRECTLY on the heat sink (using heat sink grease) and then mount the heat sink assembly on the chassis using insulated standoffs. This method works well for series regulated power supplies where all the pass transistors have their collectors connected together. Do not use this method if the circuitry would be shorted out by such common mounting!

### 1999 FLEAMARKETS

Nov 6 - IRS  
Manchester, NH

Nov 20 - WARA Auction  
Newton, MA

Nov 23 - NE Antique RC  
Nashua, NH



### NET DIRECTORY

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

### 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)

### 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, W1ASD  
 Martin F. Jordan, KA1YFV  
 William Vincent, W1POW

### SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER 1999

- 4 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 6 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 11 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 13 - SEMCARES "Emergency Communications Workshop" 9 am to 4 pm
- 15 - SEMCARES "Strategy Meeting" 7:30 pm
- 18 - Tech-Talk, "Internet Hacking A-Z" by Tim Smith, N1BTQ - 7:00 pm

#### DECEMBER 1999

- 2 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 4 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 9 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 11 - SEMARA Christmas Party, 6 pm, Thad's Steakhouse

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

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
<b>144</b>				<b>440</b>			
145.150 -		WA1DGW	Fall River	441.400 +	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
145.490 -		KAIWBF	Fairhaven	442.200 +		NINRL	Fall River
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth	442.350 +	141.3	NIOFD	Acushnet
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth	442.600 +	100.0	KILIQ	Tiverton, RI
146.685 -		N1OEG	Plymouth	443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
146.955 -	88.5	K1PDO	Dennis	443.600 +		NSIN	Norwell
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth	443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
147.045 +		W1UMG	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
<b>220</b>							
224.340 -		N1SGK	Dennis	447.075 -		N1DZD	Kingston

NAME THAT CIRCUIT ANSWER: 1. Regulated Power Supply

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SEMARA

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54 Donald Street, South Dartmouth, MA 02748

*FIRST CLASS*

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January 2011