



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 68th YEAR

Volume 36, Issue 4

SEMARA W1AEC

April 2000

## NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Effective with this issue of ZERO BEAT, new mailing labels are in use. The new labels show your member status or year you are paid thru on the top line just above your name.

Life members are marked "LIFE", and honorary members are marked "HONORARY." Labels for all other members show the year they are paid thru. For example, if "2000" appears on the top line your dues are paid thru December 31, 2000.

This system is similar to the label markings for magazine subscriptions. A quick glance and you know whether or not your dues are up to date. This system will prove handy at the beginning of each year when dues payments must be made. Since the club allows a two month "grace" period, during January and February as dues are paid the mailing list shall be updated.

Any member with dues in arrears come March shall be dropped from the club's membership roster and his subscription to ZERO BEAT terminated.

Please check your label and verify that it is correct. Notify Bill Miller at (508) 996-2969 or by E-Mail at: [billmiller@netzero.net](mailto:billmiller@netzero.net) if you find any errors anywhere on the label.

For the record, the top line of each label shall contain one of the following:

**2000** (Dues paying member - year paid through)

**LIFE** (Life member)

**HONORARY** (Honorary member)

**ADVERTISER** (Advertiser in ZERO BEAT)

**ARRL** (ARRL official)

**CLUB** (Club newsletter exchange participant)

2000  
 John Q. Hamm WIHAM  
 73 Radio Drive  
 So. Dartmouth, MA 02748



## MEETING HIGHLITES

The March business meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Chris Smith. Twenty-three 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* - Transmitter exciter board in repeater resoldered to fix an intermittent problem. Power amplifier repaired, but not put on-line because of desense problems. Swipe Card lock system on door should be operational by next month. *Activities* - No report. *Buildings and Grounds* - First Aid kit mounted between rest room doors. Oil tank filled. *Ham Class* - No report. *Scholarship* - No report. *Constitution* - Draft copies in club for review and comment. Members are urged to carefully read the draft and notify the President of any items that need changing or modification. Was anything overlooked? Make your ideas known so this revision of the Constitution can be completed. *Tower* - Omni-point cellular antennas mounted on the tower this week.

*Communications* - None.

*Ratifications* - Seven new and reinstated members voted into club: James Powell, N1ALW; John Rogers Sr., K1SLI; John Rogers Jr., N1GXU; Kenneth Lent, KA1YDH; Charles Gaspar, N1LIW; Darryl Breffe, and Norman Mello Jr.

# 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: billmiller@netzero.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

*Old Business* - Motion made and approved to increase fire insurance on building up to \$50,000. This amount will adequately cover our clubhouse in the event we experience a fire.

*New Business* - The following motions were made and approved:

- 1) **Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD** voted a life member of the association, having met the age and years of membership requirement.
- 2) The ARRL sponsored liability insurance was renewed with no changes.
- 3) **Doctor A. William Mercier, WB1ERS**, was voted a life member of the association in appreciation of the copier he recently donated to the club.

For the good of the club: New member **Darryl Breffe** passed his Technician license exam just before tonight's meeting. Darryl, who is totally blind, was "Elmered" by club member **Ken Howland, N1AVA**, in preparation for the test. Congratulations Darryl on becoming an amateur radio operator, and thanks Ken for the great "Elmering" you performed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm and several members headed to "Me & Ed's" for a bite to eat (steak sandwiches!) and some ragchewing.

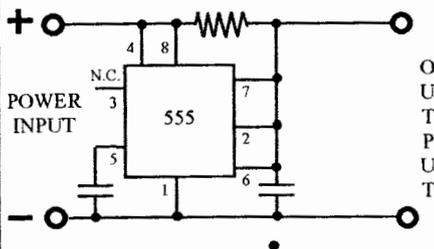
## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

**April 1, 2000  
 10:30 am  
 SEMARA Clubhouse**

## LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN APRIL

- 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 Alterndbernd  
617-253-3776

### NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Square Wave Oscillator
- 2.) Sine Wave Oscillator
- 3.) Triangular Wave Oscillator
- 4.) Pulse Oscillator
- 5.) Wien Bridge Oscillator

ANSWER - See page 7

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*"People are like stained glass windows  
 They sparkle and shine when the sun is out  
 But when the darkness sets in  
 Their true beauty is revealed only if there  
 is light from within"*

**Elizabeth Kübler-Ross**



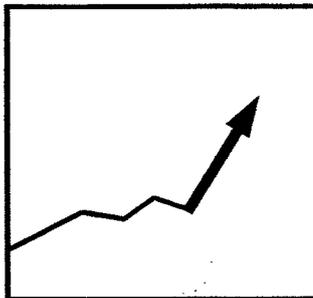
# CLUB NOTES

April showers will bring May flowers. Or so the saying goes... Bear in mind that April opens with "All Fools Day." Be sure to turn all your clocks AHEAD one hour that night as Daylight Saving Time kicks in. (No, that is not an April fools joke!) Palm Sunday falls on the 16th, Passover at sundown on the 19th, and Easter Sunday on the 23rd.



The following persons were voted into membership during the March business meeting:

- Darryl Breffe**
  - Charles Gaspar, N1LIW**
  - Kenneth Lent, KA1YDH**
  - Norman Mello Jr.**
  - James Powell, N1ALW**
  - John Rogers Sr., K1SLI**
  - John Rogers Jr., N1GXU**
- Welcome to the club!*



**MEMBERSHIP ON THE RISE!**

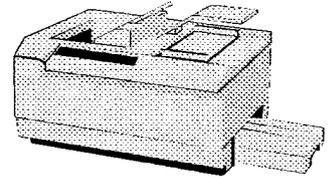
Boston Coffee & Bagel donated a commercial Bunn coffee maker to the club. This donation allows us to make pots of coffee as needed, whereas in the past we used a big 42 cup percolator and often threw coffee away. *Thank You, Boston Coffee & Bagel for your generous donation!*



A big "THANK YOU!" goes out to **Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**, who cleaned the club's rest rooms.

**MR. CLEAN!**

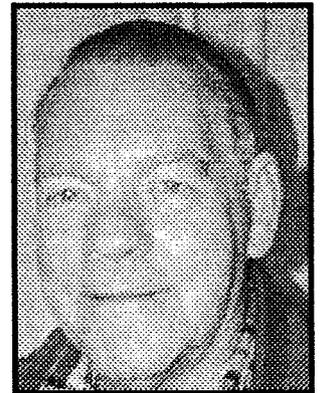
Club member **Dr. William Mercier, WB1ERS**, donated a used office copier to the club. In appreciation of the donation, the membership voted Bill a life member of the association. *Thanks, Bill!*



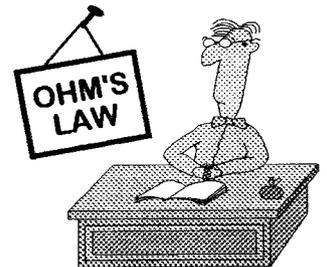
The club added two more newsletters to our exchange program. Check the bulletin board for the "HARC Spark" from Philadelphia, and "The Framingham Circuit" from the Framingham Amateur Radio Association.



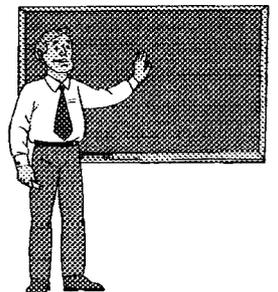
**Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA**, had a minor stroke in mid-March. He spent several days at St. Lukes Hospital in New Bedford, and is now at home recuperating. We wish Dick a speedy recovery, and hope to hear him soon on the air and see him once again at the meetings.



On March 2, 2000, new club member **Darryl Breffe** passed his Technician class examination. Congratulations Darryl, and welcome to the wonderful world of amateur radio!



**Brad Anselmo's** Tech-Talk on presentations was fantastic! Attendees learned all the tricks of the trade that make for super presentations. Brad distilled years of experience into a 1½ hour presentation.





# MARCH 9TH FOXHUNT DECLARED INVALID!



The March 9th foxhunt will be long remembered by all that took part in it. In particular, Bob & Henry (Bob Metivier, N1XZJ, and Henry Blanchett, W1GYL) will **NEVER FORGET** that night. For that was the night they were **PADLOCKED** in the sewage treatment plant at Fort Rodman!

It started out as a normal hunt. But as time went by it took a strange turn. You see, Bob & Henry decided to hide in the sewage treatment facility at Fort Rodman. However, in their haste to hide, they failed to notice several signs on a gate

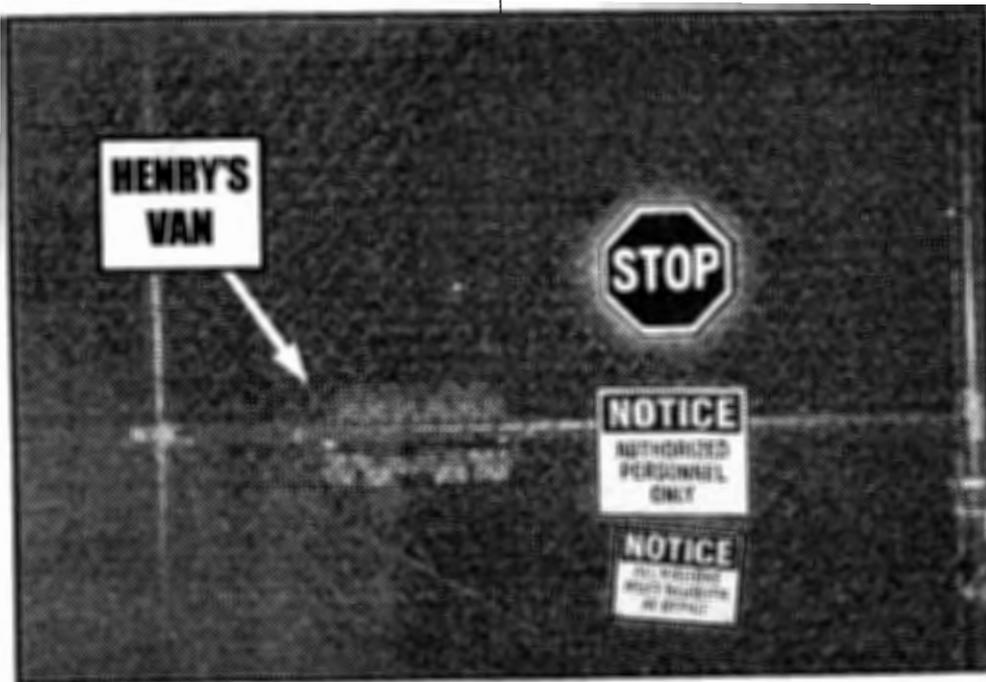
they went through. *Signs that clearly indicated the area beyond that gate was not a public access area as the foxhunt rules require.*

That error would cause the hunters no end of frustration and Bob & Henry a major embarrassment! The gate is padlocked shut at about 8 pm each night. So the fox ends up snuggly settled in his den bragging that no one can find him - only he doesn't realize that he is **TRAPPED!**

Before too long all the hunters are roaming around the Sewage Treatment Plant looking for the fox. All readings indicate the fox is in the immediate area.

By now the fox is so confident no one will find him that he taunts the hunters. He chides them when they go away from his location, and mentions when they stop or turn. The hunters are frustrated because they know the fox can see them but they can't seem to locate the fox. At least not in the part of the facility open to the public!

In due time it becomes obvious that the fox is locked in the main part of the plant where only authorized vehicles are allowed. The hunters inform the fox he is locked in!



**SIGNS ON GATE THAT BOB & HENRY  
CLAIM THEY DIDN'T SEE!!!  
THAT IS HENRY'S VAN BEHIND  
THE LOCKED GATE...**

## SELECTED COMMENTS BY THE WILY FOX DURING THE HUNT

"Locked gate? Ha! We didn't go through any gateway."

"HEY! The %#\$@&\*! gate is padlocked! Help!"

"We never saw any signs indicating this was a restricted area. The open gate hid the signs..."

"I think I'll have to slide under the fence and leave my van here for the night."

"Please, can't you hunters find someone with a key?"

"Boy-oh-boy are we going to eat crow!" (RIGHT!)

"Do you have to write this up in ZERO BEAT?" (YES!)

# WILD FOXHUNT ENDS IN DISBELIEF WHEN FOX FINDS HIMSELF LOCKED INSIDE SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT PROPERTY

Trapped! The fox doesn't believe it at first.

When reality finally sets in, it is quickly followed by sheer PANIC. The fox is now a whimpering ball of fur. "HELP ME!" he implores. The hunters laugh.

After letting the fox get his due (profuse sweating!), the hunters finally get the night shift workers to open the gate and free the quivering ball of fur that once was a proud fox. The hunters cheer!

When the workers mention they called the police because of all the suspicious activity, the fox and hunters quickly depart the area! The hunt is over.

Everyone went to Friendly's restaurant at Bliss Corner to review the evening's events, and for a bite to eat. The fox, of course, ate crow!

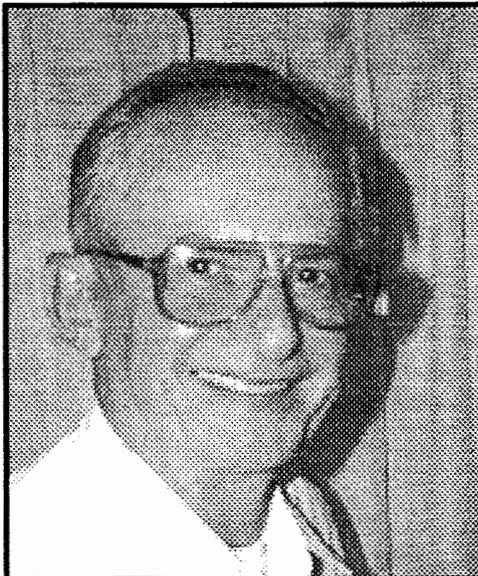
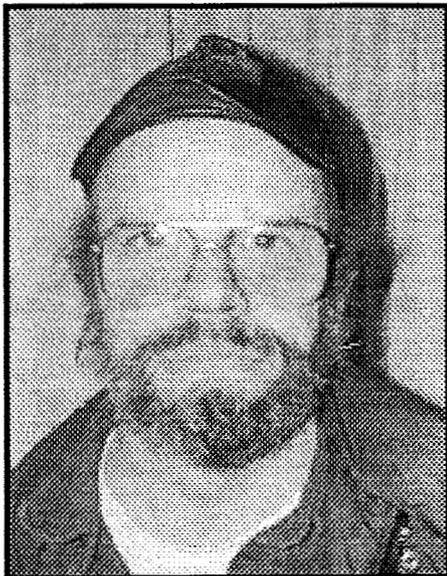
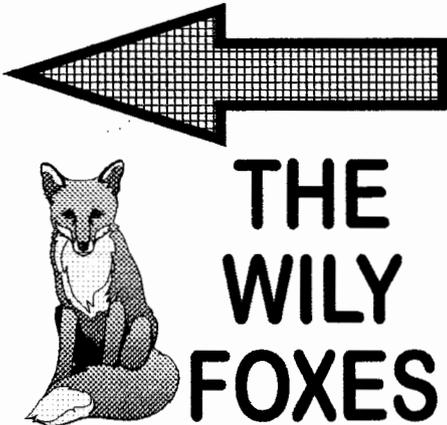
The general consensus of the hunters was to declare the hunt *invalid*, and draw straws next month to determine who shall be the fox. Hopefully, the next fox won't be blind as a bat!



**GET OUT OF JAIL FREE**

↑ **The fox came close to needing a card like this!** ↑

"We didn't go through any gate..."  
(Sure, and the moon is Swiss cheese!)

**THE WILY FOXES**

Better their pictures here, than in the Post Office!

Bob Metivier, N1XZJ

Henry Blanchett, W1GYL

## EXCERPT FROM FOXHUNT RULES

4.) The fox shall park on a public way, or on public access property. (Supermarkets, shopping centers, etc.)

# 12 CLUB MEMBERS UPGRADE DURING CLUB'S VE SESSIONS

During the February and March VE Sessions held at the club, 12 members either upgraded or secured the No-Code Technician Class license.

Two members got their No-Code Technician Class license:

**Raymond Arruda** (Issued call KB1EVX)

**Darryl Breffe** (No call as we go to press.)

Five members received Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for the General Class theory test, and can upgrade to General Class after April 15th:

**Edward Baker, K1BKR**

**Marty Jordan, KA1YFV**

**Manual Jorge, KA1ZYT**

**Kenneth Lent, KA1YDH**

**Robert Ambroult, N1VUG**

Five members also received a CSCE for the Extra Class theory test, and can upgrade to Extra Class after April 15th:

**John C. Amaral, W1VRP**

**Edward Blouin, KA1AW**

**William Miller Jr., K1IBR**

**Richard Simpkin, WA1CRA**

**Timothy Smith, N1BTQ**

It is anticipated that several other members shall take the required tests at the next club VE test session on April 1st, so they can upgrade after April 15th. The first club VE session scheduled after April 15th is on Saturday, May 6th. On that day several members will "officially" upgrade to a higher license.

*Congratulations to all members that successfully passed the examinations.*

# Why Engineer's Don't Write Cookbooks!

## Chocolate Chip Cookies

### INGREDIENTS

- 1.) 532.35 cm<sup>3</sup> gluten
- 2.) 4.9 cm<sup>3</sup> NaHCO<sub>3</sub>
- 3.) 4.9 cm<sup>3</sup> refined halite
- 4.) 236 cm<sup>3</sup> partially hydrogenated tallow triglyceride
- 5.) 177.45 cm<sup>3</sup> pure crystalline C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>11</sub>
- 6.) 177.45 cm<sup>3</sup> unrefined C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>11</sub>
- 7.) 4.9 cm<sup>3</sup> methyl ether of protocatechuic aldehyde
- 8.) Two calcium carbonate-encapsulated avian albumen-coated protein ovoids
- 9.) 473.2 cm<sup>3</sup> theobroma cacao
- 10.) 236 cm<sup>3</sup> de-encapsulated legume meats (sieve size #10)

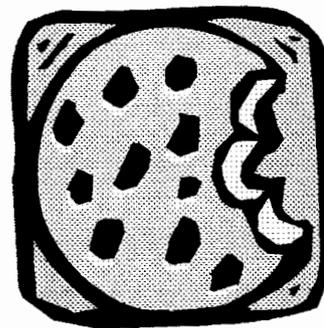
### PROCEDURE

To a 2-L jacketed round reactor vessel (reactor #1) with an overall heat transfer coefficient of about 100 Btu/F-ft<sup>2</sup>-hr, add ingredients one, two, and three with constant agitation.

In a second 2-L reactor vessel with a radial flow impeller operating at 100 rpm, add ingredients four, five, six, and seven until the mixture is homogenous.

To reactor #2, add ingredient eight, followed by three equal volumes of the homogenous mixture in reactor #1.

Additionally, add ingredient nine and ten slowly, with constant agitation. Care must be taken at this point in the reaction to control any temperature rise that may be the result of an exothermic reaction.



Using a screw extruder attached to a #4 nodulizer, place the mixture piece-meal on a 316SS sheet (300 x 600 mm).

Heat in a 460K oven for a period of time that is in agreement with Frank & Johnston's first order rate expression (see JACOS, 21, 55), or until golden brown.

Once the reaction is complete, place the sheet on a 25C heat-transfer table, allowing the product to come to equilibrium. Enjoy!

### TECHNICAL TIPS

Springtime is traditionally antenna fix-up time. Here are two ideas:

Longwire antennas can be kept taut by terminating the far end with a pulley and window weight arrangement. This method is particularly effective if the antenna terminates at a tree. Movement of the tree by strong winds is compensated for by this arrangement.

Dipole antennas can be dressed up with a homemade center insulator. Mount an SO-239 socket on a 2 to 3" PVC end-cap, then install two brass eyebolts (or bolts) on the side walls to attach the antenna to. Connect and solder the SO-239 to the eyebolts with 1/4" brass strips (from a hobby shop) and pot the completed assembly with epoxy to weatherproof it.

### 2000 FLEAMARKETS

- April 1 - Waterford, CT (Auction)
- April 2 - Southington, CT
- April 16 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 12, 13 - Rochester, NH
- May 20 - Forestdale, RI
- May 21 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- June 10 - FARA Falmouth, MA
- June 18 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- July 16 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Aug 20 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Aug 26, 27 - Boxboro, MA
- Sept 10 - SEMARA!
- Sept 16 - Forrestdale, RI
- Sept 17 - MIT Cambridge, MA

### NET DIRECTORY

— Sunday —

8 am 28.375 SEMARA NET  
 9:30 am 50.225 Yankee SSB  
 7 pm 147.000+ Swap Net

— 4th Sunday —

9 pm 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  
 7 pm 146.550 SEMARA NET  
 8 pm 145.230- EM-NTS

— Monday to Friday —

8 am 14.262 SEMARA NET  
 8 pm 145.490- Weather

— Thursday —

8 pm 147.180+ Trivia

— Saturday —

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)

[WWW.RADIOHZ.COM/SEMARA](http://WWW.RADIOHZ.COM/SEMARA)

SEND E-MAIL TO: [W1AEC@ARRL.NET](mailto:W1AEC@ARRL.NET)

### "NAME THAT CIRCUIT" ANSWER

3.) Triangular Wave Oscillator

### SEMARA OFFICERS

2000



**President** Chris J. Smith, K1CJS  
**Vice-President** Robert Metivier, N1XZJ  
**Secretary** Henry Blanchett, W1GYL  
**Treasurer** John Carreiro, W1ZYV

**Board of Directors:**

Martin Jordan, K1YFV  
 William Miller Jr., K1IBR  
 Scott Szala, W1EV

**Trustees:**

Norman Riley, W1ATI - Chairman  
 Frank Fonseca, W1ASD  
 Martin Jordan, K1YFV  
 William Vincent, W1POW  
 Edward Blouin, K1AW

### SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

#### APRIL 2000

- 1 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 6 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 12 - Board of Director's Meeting, 7 pm
- 13 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm

#### MAY 2000

- 4 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 6 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 11 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 18 - Tech-Talk, "The Weather and You" by Bob Metivier, N1XZJ

# SEMARA



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 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River	441.400 +	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
145.490 -		KA1WBF	Fairhaven	442.200 +	88.5	N1NRL	Fall River
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth	442.350 +		N1OFD	Acushnet
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth	442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
146.685 -		W1LM	Plymouth	443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis	443.500 +	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth	443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
147.045 +		WA1AIC	Dennis	443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton	444.200 +	118.8	N1YHM	Bourne
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater	443.850 +	131.8	W1ARM	Chatham
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham	444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
<b>220</b>				444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
224.340 -		K1KEK	Dennis	444.550 +	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
224.840 -	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI	447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston

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*January 2011*