



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 68th YEAR

Volume 36, Issue 12

SEMARA W1AEC

December 2000

## CANDIDATES NOMINATED FOR 2001

For the first time in recent memory, every office in the club has several candidates running for the position. In past years it was a struggle just to get a member to run for each office. Times have changed. Not one office has an unopposed candidate running. Talk about choice!

Be sure to attend the next business meeting on December 7, 2000 to cast your votes in this important election. The future of our club is determined to a large extent by the officers you choose.

Would you like to run for office? It's not too late, as nominations are opened up just prior to the election for last minute write-in candidates. If you aspire to any club office make your wishes known and be nominated as a write-in candidate. Go for it!

### 2001 NOMINATIONS

(Candidates Listed In Alphabetical Order)

#### PRESIDENT

Bill Miller, K1IBR  
Andy Reuter, WA1FNM  
Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA  
Chris Smith, K1CJS

#### TREASURER

Larry Houbre, AA1FS  
Chris Smith, K1CJS  
Scott Szala, W1EV

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Ray Arruda, KB1EVX  
Andy Reuter, WA1FNM  
Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA  
Chris Smith, K1CJS

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray Arruda, KB1EVX  
Ed Blouin, KA1AW  
Marty Jordan, KA1YFV  
Bob Metivier, N1XZJ  
Bill Miller, K1IBR

#### SECRETARY

Henry Blanchett, W1GYL  
Sonny Mello, KA1ESG

#### TRUSTEE

Bill Miller, K1IBR  
Andy Reuter, WA1FNM  
Norm Riley, W1ATI

## MEMBERSHIP HITS AN ALL-TIME HIGH!



Club membership hit a new peak at the November business meeting when one former member was reinstated and two new members were voted into membership. The previous peak was 143 members set in the year 1978. Membership now stands at 145 members!

John Maguire, W1CDO, tied the record when he became member 143. Jack Harris (no call) of Warren, RI broke the record when he became member 144. The third member voted in at the business meeting was John Sylvia Jr. (no call) of Swansea, MA. Both Jack Harris and John Sylvia Jr. plan to attend the upcoming amateur radio licensing class.



# ZERO BEAT

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

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

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 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.

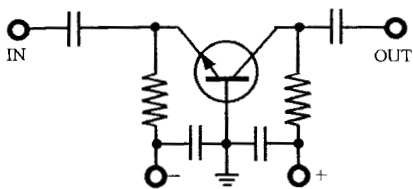
**Non-commercial ads** up to forty words in length will be accepted. Rate is \$3.00 for one or \$12.00 for six insertions. Club members have one free non-commercial ad per month.

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

# REMEMBER WHEN?



## NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Darlington Amplifier
- 2.) Transconductance Amplifier
- 3.) High-Gain DC Amplifier
- 4.) Zero-Crossing Detector
- 5.) Grounded Base Amplifier

ANSWER - See page 7

## DeMello School Students Visit Club

This month's picture was taken only 6 months ago. The occasion was Barbara Young's DeMello School fifth grade class visiting the clubhouse. The picture shows students sending Morse code with a tone oscillator and an old Morse "clacker." In the lower right one student tunes in a radio station on an old crystal radio set.

The visit was planned and arranged by DeMello School student Brian Parent. The students walked the mile from the school to the club to learn about amateur radio and electronics. The highlight of the visit was a dramatic demonstration of a 14 KV Jacob's Ladder and a 200 KV Tesla coil. You might say those demonstrations "sparked" their interest in electronics!

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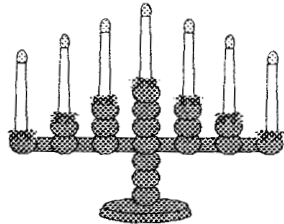
**"Anger is never without reason,  
 but seldom with a good one."**

*Benjamin Franklin*

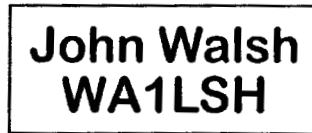
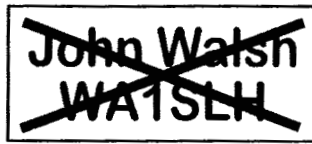


# CLUB NOTES

Well, the first year of this century is soon coming to an end. The two major holidays this month are both steeped in religious tradition - Hanukkah on the 21/22nd and Christmas on the 25th.



Your editor did it again! He screwed up a members call letters royally. And this time there is no excuse, as his call letters spell his last name. Funny thing, when I sent John a letter of apology, he replied he hadn't noticed! *Please accept my apology, John.*



No name mentioned here, but one member made a pot of hot coffee on a recent Sunday morning and forgot to turn on the heating element under the pot. The excrement hit the fan about 7 minutes later when another member came in from the cold and poured a cup of ICE COLD coffee!



Changed your E-Mail address lately? Did you remember to notify the club (billmiller@netzero.net) of your new E-Mail address? Fact is, several members change their E-Mail address each month and never notify the club. This leads to problems. When members were recently notified by E-Mail of the nominations, eight addresses bounced! They were then notified by "snail mail" at added expense to the club. You can check your E-Mail address on the latest copy of the club roster. **Please keep your E-Mail address current.**

550 - user unknown.

#4.4.1 - unable to establish SMTP connection.

MAILBOX FULL TRY AGAIN LATER

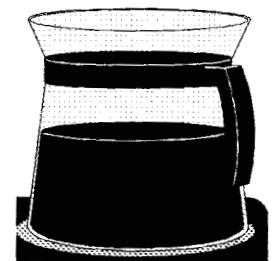
In late October, long-time member **Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA**, spent 12 days in St. Luke's Hospital fighting pneumonia. Dick is back to normal now and raising the usual hell around the club with all the other members. *Nice to see you back to normal Dick! We missed you.*



Members are reminded that a motion was passed during the November business meeting reserving the parking lot in front of the club for Handicap Parking. This applies only to meeting nights, and Sunday mornings (coffee hour). However, during such times it is OK to park on the grass area south of the driveway. The two marked handicap parking spots are adequate except during the above times.



The club now has a coffee pot with the orange markings that signify decaffeinated coffee. The special pot was donated by **Marty Jordan, KA1YFV**. *Thanks Marty for the useful donation!*



A hearty "Welcome" goes out to **John Maguire, W1CDO**, who rejoined the club, and new members **Jack Harris** and **John Sylvia Jr.** As reported on page one, our membership reached an all-time high with the acceptance of these new members.

**WELCOME TO THE CLUB**

Did you know that the letters in "The Morse code" can be rearranged to form the sentence "Here come dots"...



# SCOTT SZALA WINS THE FOXHUNT



The November foxhunt kicked off when Tim Smith, NITI, (ex—NIBTQ) went into hiding. Once snuggled comfortably in his lair, he announced the hunt was on.

A mad rush ensued as the hunters hit the road from the clubhouse. The hunters fanned out from the clubhouse like bees from a hive. Finding the fox was the thought foremost in their minds.

Tim was driving a white SUV. When Bob Metivier & Henry Blanchett saw such a vehicle, Bob went over to investigate, thinking they had found the fox. (Tim was known to lie down when in hiding

to throw the hunters off.) Bob looked into the SUV and startled a couple in what is charitably described as a "compromising position!"

In the meantime, Scott Szala and his driver Bill Miller zeroed in on the real fox. They found Tim hiding behind the Superior Court house in New Bedford. A real nifty spot as a narrow lane led to the hiding spot.

In fact, the second place winner, Chris Smith, drove by the narrow lane several times before finally finding the fox! It's a good thing Tim's SUV was white as a black SUV would've blended into the background and made detection nearly impossible!

Third place went to the "dream team" of Bob & Henry. It took several "clues" to guide them to the spot. Typical clues - "A superior attitude will help you find me," "You're courting disaster if you don't get here soon," etc.... Somehow Bob & Henry felt the clues indicated Tim was on the waterfront docks! It appears the run-in with the lovers clouded their thinking... After more revealing clues, Bob & Henry met with success and found the wily fox.

After the hunt, everyone headed to Me & Ed's Restaurant in the south end of New Bedford for a bite to eat and the usual ragchewing.

## 2001 DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW

Members are notified that club dues for the year 2001 are payable now. Dues are only \$10 per year and checks may be sent to:

SEMARA Treasurer  
54 Donald Street  
South Dartmouth, MA  
02748

If you are not sure what year you are paid through, check the mailing label on this issue of ZERO BEAT. The first line of the label is coded as follows:

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

## ALTERNATE SEMARA E-MAILER

You're invited to join an alternative email list dedicated to the SEMARA membership. This is an experiment to test reliability, performance and ease of use.

Attractive features of the list are the ability to switch your subscription off and on, view or post messages from anyone's web browser and receive notification of news and events in the club calendar.

The subscription process is moderated in order to restrict access to members only. The site also features pictures from our recent hamfest. Please join in and enjoy more of our club fellowship.

To subscribe to the group send an email to:  
semarasubscribe@egroups.com

To register visit:  
www.egroups.com/group/semara

73, Tim Smith, NIBTQ  
n1btq@ne.mediaone.net



# MEETING MINUTES

The November business meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Chris Smith, KICJS. Thirty-nine 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* – New power supply is on-line. The battery will run the repeater for 6 to 8 hours of continuous use. The cavities are not in yet. *Buildings and Grounds* – Back room cleaned up. It was noted that someone broke the metal caps off all the spare 8 foot fluorescent bulbs except for two. *Activities* – No report. *Ham Class* – Instructors needed! *Scholarship* - No report. *Constitution* – Work ongoing. *Christmas Party* - Tickets must be paid for by the November 16th deadline.

*Communications* - None.

*Ratifications* - The following new and reinstated members were voted into the club: John Maguire,

WICDO; Jack Harris; and John Sylvia Jr.

*Old Business* - The following motions were made and passed:

Motion confirming next Flea-market on September 9, 2001.

Motion to buy two steel trash cans for club use.

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

Motion that front parking lot to be for handicap parking only on all club meeting nights, and Sunday mornings.

Motion to reimburse Bill Miller \$100 to cover ink cartridges and supplies used to produce ZERO BEAT this year.

Purchasing of a new fire extinguisher for the club shall be investigated and reported at the next meeting. It was noted the present carbon dioxide unit is over 25 years old

*Nominations* - A motion to open nominations was made and the following candidates nominated for office:

**PRESIDENT** - Bill Miller, Andy Reuter, Dick Simpkin, and Chris Smith.

**VICE PRESIDENT** - Ray Arruda, Andy Reuter, Dick Simpkin, and Chris Smith.

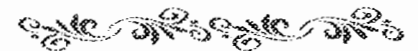
**SECRETARY** - Henry R. Blanchett, and Sonny Mello.

**TREASURER** - Larry Houbre, Chris Smith, and Scott Szala.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** - Ray Arruda, Ed Blouin, Marty Jordan Bob Metivier, and Bill Miller.

**TRUSTEE** - Bill Miller, Andy Reuter, and Doc Riley.

Nominations were then closed and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. Several members headed out to Bickford's Restaurant for a "second meeting" and good old rag-chewing!



## 10 - 10 INTERNATIONAL

Ten-Ten International Net, or 10-10 for short, is an organization of amateur radio operators dedicated to maintaining high levels of amateur radio communications on the 10-meter amateur band (28.0-29.7 MHz). Established in 1962, 10-10 has grown continuously since that day, with some ups and downs according to the numbers of sunspots and the openness of the band. As you read this, the number of 10-10 numbers issued to members is over 70,000. 10-10 would welcome your membership in the organization if you have an amateur radio license with 10-meter privileges.

10-10 is a volunteer organization with no paid officers. Although 10-10 does contract for certain services to ensure that each member receives his or her quarterly issue of *10-10 News*, the 30+ page journal of 10-10 activities, the real work of providing services for members falls on the shoulders of dedicated volunteers.

For more information about 10-10 International check out: <http://listserv.lehigh.edu/lists/tenten-l/> or get your own informational packet by sending \$2.00 and a return address label to: Data Manager, 10-10 International Net, Inc., PMB 142, 643 North 98th Street, Omaha, NE 68114-2342.

## BENEFIT LUNCHEON

A FUND RAISER LUNCHEON TO BENEFIT CINDY VIEIRA IS PLANNED. CINDY WAS DIAGNOSED WITH LEUKEMIA IN JUNE AND IS PRESENTLY UNDERGOING TREATMENTS. HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ORGANIZING A LUNCHEON TO BE HELD AT:

**THE MOOSE LODGE #914  
ROCKDALE AVE, NEW BEDFORD  
2:00 PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2000**

TICKETS ARE \$10.00 PER PERSON (DONATIONS WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED). CONTACT PAUL OR SHARON ROCHA (508-994-9477), PAT DUVAL (508-994-3494), OR LARRY TEIXEIRA WB1GJU (508-994-7125) OR E-MAIL LATEIX@AOL.COM.

THANK YOU! *Larry Teixeira*, WB1GJU

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

**December 2, 2000  
10:30 am  
SEMARA Clubhouse**

## LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN DECEMBER

- 09 Falmouth, MA**  
Joanne Reid  
508-548-1121
- 11 Brookline, MA**  
Bob Wondolowski  
508-865-5822
- 14 Providence, RI**  
Judy Nelson  
401-231-9156
- 16 Marlborough, MA**  
William Wade  
781-891-9079
- 20 Cambridge, MA**  
Nick Alterndbernd  
617-253-3776

## FOR SALE

**HyGain crank-up tower, Model HGX52SS (50+ ft. extended)**  
Located in Mashpee. Requires a base.  
Asking \$500, cash and carry.

**Dentron GLA 1 000 Amplifier.**  
Asking \$300.

**Kenwood TS-830 Transceiver**  
Has 2 new tubes. In good condition.  
Asking \$300.

These 3 items are for sale by the Falmouth Amateur Radio Association. If interested, contact Henry Brown, KIWCC at:

508-540-0753, or [klwcc@amsat.org](mailto:klwcc@amsat.org)

## INTERNET TIME IS HERE!

**H**ead of Internet Time yet? If not, you probably will soon. Internet Time is a new way of keeping time on a global scale. It replaces the common seconds, minutes, and hours with "beats," 1,000 in a 24-hour day, as measured from midnight in Switzerland. Why Switzerland? It's the home of Swatch, the folks who devised Internet Time. Internet time does away with time zones, so it's easy to stay synched with the world. Web surfers at every corner of the globe can meet at exactly the right time. It's easy to schedule cybermeetings, webcasts, and other events -- no one has to convert to local time. Millions of people are already using it, and millions more will be soon. It really could become a chronological "lingua franca." There are lots of free Internet Time programs out there. A good place to start is at the source, the Swatch.com site.

### TECHNICAL TIPS

If you are into home-brewing equipment, you often need enameled wire (magnet wire) to wind coils. Problem is, a typical VHF coil requires only a few inches of wire, yet you must buy at least 25 feet in a roll. Ouch!

All is not lost. The new motors used in clocks, knife sharpeners, can openers, blenders, and the like are made with a nylon bobbin chock full of enameled wire. Better yet, the new type motors have a field assembly that splits in two allowing you to easily slide the bobbin of wire off the laminations.

Keep your eyes open for discarded kitchen appliances! Then, in no time flat you will have several bobbins of various sized enameled wire for all your home-brew projects.

## 2001 FLEAMARKETS

- March 25 - Framingham, MA
- April 1 - Southington, CT
- April 15 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 19 - Foxscliffe, RI
- May 20 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 26 - Vernon, CT
- June 17 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- July 15 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Aug 19 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Sept 9 - SEMARA FLEA!
- Sept 15 - Foxscliffe, RI
- Sept 16 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- Oct 21 - MIT Cambridge, MA

## NET DIRECTORY

— Sunday —  
 8 am 28.375 SEMARA NET  
 9:30 am 50.225 Yankee SSB

— 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 —  
 7:30 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.EGROUPS.COM/GROUP/SEMARA](http://WWW.EGROUPS.COM/GROUP/SEMARA)

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

### "NAME THAT CIRCUIT" ANSWER

5.) Grounded Base Amplifier

## 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, KAIYFV  
 William Miller Jr., KIIBR  
 Scott Szala, W1EV

**Trustees:**

Norman Riley, W1ATI - Chairman  
 Frank Fonseca, WBIASD  
 Martin Jordan, KAIYFV  
 William Vincent, W1POW  
 Edward Blouin, KA1AW

## SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

### DECEMBER 2000

- 2 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 7 - Business Meeting & Election, 7:00 pm
- 9 - SEMARA Christmas Party  
Thad's Steakhouse, 6 pm
- 14 - 2 Meter Foxhunt  
SEMARA Clubhouse, 7:00 pm
- 21 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "Digipeaters"  
by Tim Smith, N1BTQ

### JANUARY 2001

- 4 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 6 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 11 - 2 Meter Foxhunt @ clubhouse,  
7:00 pm
- 18 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "???"  
by ???
- 25 - Board of Director's meeting, 7:00 pm

Coffee Hour at the clubhouse every Sunday at 9:00 am. Drop by and ragchew!

## LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>144</b>			
145.150 -	123.0	WAIDGW	Fall River
145.490 -		KA1WBF	Fairhaven
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		WILM	Plymouth
146.955 -	88.5	KIPBO	Dennis
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.045 +		WA1AIC	Dennis
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham
<b>220</b>			
224.340 -		K1KEK	Dennis
224.840 -	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>440</b>			
441.400 +	192.8	WGIU	Assonet
442.200 +	88.5	N1NRL	Fall River
442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.500 +	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
444.200 +	118.8	N1YHS	Bourne
443.850 +	131.8	W1ARM	Chatham
444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
444.550 +	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston

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**FIRST CLASS**

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*January 2011*