

ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 69th YEAR

Volume 37, Issue 3

SEMARA W1AEC

March 2001

CARD-KEY SYSTEM SLATED TO GO ONLINE MARCH 1ST

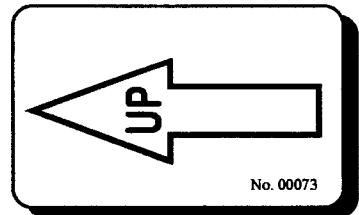
The SEMARA card-key system shall go online following the March 1st business meeting. All members shall receive a new card-key to replace the key they presently use to access the clubhouse.

To gain access to the clubhouse with the new card-key, simply place the card-key on the card reader to the right of the entrance door. The door latch will be released and you can push the door open. It is not necessary to turn the door handle.

On meeting nights and other times functions are held at the club, the door handle will be unlocked by a club officer permitting unrestricted access to the club without use of the card-key. During such times, the door handle must be turned to gain access.

The initial card-keys shall be issued to members free of charge, and you must sign a register acknowledging receipt of your card. Replacement cards shall cost \$10.00 each as approved at the February business meeting. Card-keys will be available for issue beginning in mid February on Sunday mornings at the club.

In an emergency, members can contact any repeater controller and request the door be opened by remote control. Any member calling for such assistance must identify him/herself, and state the reason for the emergency door opening.



BILL ORR, W6SAI, DEAD AT 81

Bill Orr, W6SAI, died in his sleep on January 24, 2001. Bill was a giant among amateur radio enthusiasts. He was a prolific writer and is best known as the author of "The Radio Handbook."

Bill grew up in New York where he held the license W2HCE from 1934 onward. After earning his degree in electrical engineering from the University of California, Bill worked for tube manufacturer Eitel-McCullough (EIMAC) as an engineer. He lived in Menlo Park, CA.

Bill published several books on antenna designs and also penned columns for CQ and Ham Radio magazines. His application notes for EIMAC tubes were favorite reading for amateur radio homebrewers worldwide.

Bill was a "Ham's ham." He was active in virtually all aspects of amateur radio. In addition to his prolific writing, he designed and built several amplifiers - including some used several years ago at the ARRL Maxim Memorial Station W1AW.

Bill not only was a well known DXer and DXCC Honor Roll member, but he also conducted a few DX expeditions of his own! Most of his DX operations were from exotic locations like Monaco, St. Pierre, and Miquelon.

Bill Orr was called "one of the technical giants in Amateur Radio" by Chip Margelli, K7JA, of Yaesu. Chip added, "He also was a true gentleman, and I shall miss him greatly."

Bill is survived by four daughters and one son.

ZERO BEAT

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

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.

REMEMBER WHEN?



25 WEEK CLUBS DURING THE 1980s

Shown above is Wayne Kingsley, WA1CCM, master of ceremonies during a 25 Week Club Banquet held at Thad's Steakhouse in the 1980s. Behind Wayne is \$1,000 in cold cash that was distributed to the lucky members that had their names drawn that evening.

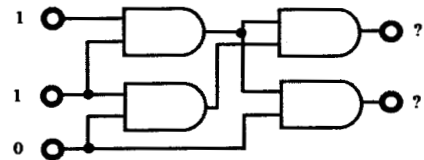
The affairs were very popular and loads of fun. For example, one year the 25 Week Club Committee taped envelopes containing \$25 under several chairs in the hall. During the evening it was announced that everyone should check under their chair and see if they won \$25. Since you paid \$1 each week for 25 weeks to be in the club, if you were lucky enough to get an envelope you broke even and got a Prime Rib dinner for free!

Another popular event during the evening was the distribution of "fun" awards to those members that deserved them. Typical awards were: "The Golden Screwdriver Award," and "Worked All Neighbor's TVs" Is it time to once again hold a 25 Week Club?

NAME THAT CIRCUIT

IN = 110

OUT = ??



- 1.) 00
- 2.) 01
- 3.) 10
- 4.) 11
- 5.) ?? (1/2 credit!)

ANSWER - See page 7

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*"A government that is big enough
 to give you all you want
 is big enough to take it all away."*

Senator Barry Goldwater



CLUB NOTES

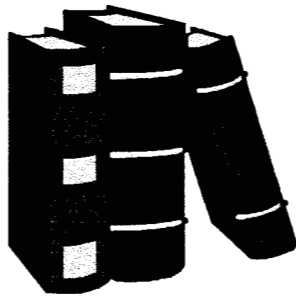
March is the bridge between winter and spring. Weatherwise you can only be sure of windy days. St. Patrick's Day falls on Saturday, the 17th. Celebrate!



Norman "Doc" Riley, W1ATI, donated a VCR to the club for use with the TV previously donated by Ted Przymierski, N1XXQ. The VCR will prove handy during radio classes and Tech-Talks. Thanks Doc, for the VCR.



Gene Demers, GNIMVY, was appointed Club Librarian and is responsible for maintaining the club's "books." All books and magazines are available for loan to club members. Since we use the "honor" system, please make every effort to return the books in a timely fashion.

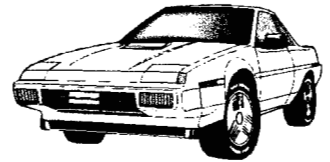


Rick Cabral, W1RJC, has informed us that the autopatch access code on the 440 repeater is now the same as the one on the 2 meter repeater. This will make it easier for members to remember the access code. However, the 440 autopatch clears the way it always did. Since the two repeaters share the same phone line - if one is busy, forget using the other!



**AUTOPATCH
CODES**

Members are requested to drive slowly in the club's driveway and when parking on the grass. During the Spring thaw considerable damage is done to either when cars accelerate or brake suddenly.



The SEMARA Sunday morning 10 meter net is moving to 28.7 MHz effective February 11, 2001. The old frequency has become a favorite with other hams and the QRM is a bit too much! Things have a way of coming full circle as 28.7 MHz was the 10 meter net frequency approved by members back in March 1968!




Members are urged to notify the editor of ZERO BEAT if you get a new license or upgrade an existing one. We try to recognize all members that upgrade in this section of the newsletter, but our source of information is strictly word of mouth.



SEMARA MEMBERS LICENSED/UPGRADED JUNE 2000 TO DATE

George Belford, N1TNQ, passed General
William Hargreaves, N1QMU, passed Extra
John Walsh, WA1LSH, credit upgrade to General
Manuel Jorge, KA1ZYT, credit upgrade to General
Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL, passed Technician
Timothy Smith, N1TI, credit upgrade to Extra
Carl Bredberg, K1KID, passed Extra
Raymond Arruda, KB1EXV, passed Extra
Jean Jason, KB1GGM, passed Technician

Your name missing? Please notify Bill Miller, ZERO BEAT Editor.



CLUB NOTES

Jean Jason passed the exam for the Technician Class license on February 3rd and was issued the call **KB1GGM**. Jean is now studying Morse code and plans to upgrade his license in the near future. *Congratulations Jean!*



Scott Szala, **W1EV**, recently donated a used file cabinet to the club. It will be put to good use storing old files and records that are infrequently used. *Thanks Scott for the valuable donation.*



The Foxhunts held every second Thursday have been cancelled temporarily due to low participation by members. The foxhunters are formulating a new set of rules to level the playing field between the members using doppler sets and the members just using signal strength readings. The possibility of conducting quarterly hunts with prizes is being considered.



FREE TOWER!


A 40 foot Rohn tower is available for free. The tower is currently atop a one story business in Somerset, MA. The tower, antenna (frequency band unknown), and guys are available for free provided you dismantle it and cart it away. For details, contact:

George Souza, N1MWB
(508) 679-3276


HOSSTRADERS FLEAMARKET MOVES TO HOPKINGTON, NH

The Hosstraders Fleamarket is leaving Rochester, NH, and moving to the Hopkington, NH fairgrounds. The spring fleamarket will be held May 4 and 5, 2001. This is one week earlier than the traditional Mother's Day weekend it is held on.

Hopkington, NH, is located west of Concord, NH, off Interstate 89. To get to the fairgrounds take I-89 west from Concord and ignore all exits that say Hopkington, NH, until you get to exit 7. (SEVEN!) Take a right at the bottom of the exit ramp and 300 feet away take another right onto Kersarge Avenue. Travel about 1-1/2 miles and the B GATE to the Fairgrounds will be on your left. It is reported that this is a change for the better in all respects.



Ham News



JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1993 SPECIAL DX LOG ISSUE VOL. 9-NO. 1

DX LOG

REVISED JAN. 15, 1993
Official Countries—Check Lists for States, Call Areas, Zones & Continents

STATE CHECK LIST

State	Stations Worked	Date	Band	A1 A3	QSL	
					Sent	Rec'd
Alabama						
Arizona						
Arkansas						
California						
Colorado						
Connecticut						
Delaware						
Florida						
Georgia						
Idaho						
Illinois						
Indiana						
Iowa						
Kansas						
Kentucky						
Louisiana						
Maine						
Maryland						
Massachusetts						
Michigan						
Minnesota						
Mississippi						
Missouri						
Montana						
Nebraska						
Nevada						
New Hampshire						
New Jersey						
New Mexico						
New York						
N. Carolina						
N. Dakota						
Ohio						
Oklahoma						
Oregon						
Pennsylvania						
Rhode Island						
S. Carolina						
S. Dakota						
Tennessee						
Texas						
Utah						
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington						
West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						

Old timers will recognize this 1953 issue of GE's Ham News. The bi-monthly publication was produced by GE's tube department in Schenectady, NY, and was distributed by GE tube distributors in an effort to stimulate sales of GE tubes to hams. The newsletter was edited by S. E. McCallum, W2ZBY.



MEETING MINUTES

The February business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bill Miller, KIIBR. Thirty-two members were present. Following the salute to the flag and roll call, the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted with corrections to the Secretary's report.

Committee reports followed:
Technical - The repeater's main transmitter failed and the standby is now on-line. The extensive damage to the main transmitter shall be repaired as soon as parts can be obtained.
Buildings and Grounds - Card-key system implementation delayed until the March business meeting as the cards are late in shipping. Chairman Andy Reuter reminded members to please shut off the club lights when leaving the building.
Ham Class - Classes started January 14th and are progressing fine.
Scholarship - No report.
Constitution - Work ongoing.
Field Day - No report.
Fleamarket - No report.

Communications - The new card-lock system shall go on-line during the March business meeting. It was planned to go on-line this month but the cards have been delayed for two weeks by the manufacturer.

Ratifications - The following applicants were voted into the club: **Luis Rodriguez, KB1BUN, Charles Bresnahan, K1CB, Jeffrey Szala, and Robert Simcik, WX1MAN.**

Old Business - Andy Reuter and Pete Carreiro reported that three ABC fire extinguishers for the club would cost about \$139 the first year, and \$15 each following year for an inspection. The members approved the purchase of the fire extinguishers.

Rick Cabral and Bill Hargreaves reported that insurance for the repeater site equipment excluding the antenna would cost \$250

per year. The members voted against such insurance.

New Business - The Board of Directors report with 11 recommendations for club approval was read with the following 9 motions approved:

1. Purchase of a 19-year wall plaque listing officers from 2000 forward at a cost of \$250.
2. Installation of cabinet doors under kitchen counter at a cost of \$150.
3. Retaining of Milt Johnson as the club tax accountant at a cost of \$300 per year.
4. Ruffling of the Hallicrafters station donated by E. K. Rogers at a member's only event to be conducted following the March business meeting. Tickets shall be \$5 each with no limit on how many you may purchase.
5. Acceptance of the Fal-mouth Radio club's offer to give our club \$5 for each weekend radio class graduate that would rather join our club than theirs because of where they live.
6. Appointment of a club "Greeter" to welcome guests to the club. Andy Reuter volunteered for the position.
7. Acceptance of Brad Anselmo's offer to conduct a family CPR class at the club. Attendees would pay \$5 each to cover course expenses. Time and date to be announced.
8. Approval of mailing a "Special" edition of ZERO BEAT to 200 local hams at a cost of \$120.
9. Approval of a \$10 fee for a replacement card-key

should a member lose the original free one.

Two recommendations by the Board of Directors were not approved by the membership pending further study:

- 1) The installation of plywood flooring in the meeting hall.
- 2) The purchase of a TV/VCR combination for Tech-Talk and radio class use.

The members were asked to vote on 14 activities proposed by the Board of Directors for the coming year:

1. **A trip to ARRL headquarters.**
2. **A trip the Steam and Wireless Radio museum in Rhode Island.**
3. **A cookout on Field Day.**
4. A spring auction.
5. A trip to the Marconi Museum in NH with a stop at HRO.
6. A mystery ride.
7. **A 25 week club.**
8. A club construction project.
9. **A dinner meeting.**
10. A Q&A contest for members only.
11. **A dual-band walkie raffle.**
12. A Bar-B-Cue.
13. A Sunday morning swapfest every other month.
14. An occasional meeting night gift swap.

The members cast over 10 votes for the following (in order of votes): 3, 1, 11, 9, 2, and 7. The Board of Directors will address planning of these events in the coming months. 7 & 9 may be melded into one event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm. (Finally!)

Get your Technician Class Amateur Radio License

In one weekend!

The Falmouth Amateur Radio Association

****License in a weekend class****

Pre-registration required, no walk-ins, 1 CEU credit

Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 22, 2001

Location

Barnstable County Fairgrounds Classroom
Route 151 Falmouth Ma.

Text

ARRL's Technician Q & A Book, 3rd Edition

Schedule

Fri. 77-9pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun 9am-2pm
(ARRL VEC exams 2pm Sunday)

Course Fee

\$45.00

Includes lunch Sat & Sun, exam fee
and 1 year membership in FARA

To register and for more info

Call Bob, NIWAT @ 508-477-0771 or e-mail,

bodot@gis.net

Or register on the web at **WWW.FALARA.ORG**

Note

*No prior experience required-no age limit-all
are welcome. Class size limited so register early
to assure placement. Registration closed
7 days prior to start of session.*

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

March 3, 2001

10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN MARCH

08 Providence, RI

Judy Nelson
401-231-9156

10 Falmouth, MA

Ben Fleck
508-540-2583

12 Brookline, MA

Bob Wondolowski
508-865-5822

17 Marlborough, MA

William Wade
781-891-9079

21 Cambridge, MA

Nick Alterndbernd
617-253-3776

PHIL TEMPLES TO GIVE TALK ON ARRL MARCH 8TH



Phil Temples, K9HI, will present an update on the ARRL Thursday night, March 8, 2001. Phil is the ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Manager. Joining Phil will be Assistant SM Stan Laine, WA1ECF. This event promises to be an interesting evening.

Please note that this Tech-Talk is being held one week earlier than the normal Thursday for talks. Mark your calendar - don't miss this one.



TECHNICAL TIPS

Did you ever come across a volume control that was worn and noisy and the standard spray cleaner/lubricant wouldn't fix it? This is a disaster if the equipment is old and the control is of a unique or unusual design.

In the good old days a fix was made using a soft lead pencil to bridge the worn out section of the control. At best, such a fix was temporary. A better method is to coat the worn out section with a 50/50 paste formulated from powdered graphite and silica gel. Most hardware stores stock both ingredients - the graphite for use in locks, and silica gel for waterproofing connections. The gel often comes in a syringe for easy application.

2001 FLEAMARKETS

- March 17 - Pomfret, CT
- March 25 - Framingham, MA
- April 1 - Southington, CT
- April 15 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 4-5 - FISHTRADERS
- May 19 - Foxondale, RI
- May 28 - 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 - Foxondale, RI
- Sept 16 - MIT Cambridge, MA

NET DIRECTORY

- Sunday —
- 8 am 28.700 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
GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/SEMARA
SEND E-MAIL TO: W1AEC@ARRL.NET

"NAME THAT CIRCUIT" ANSWER

00 (1

SEMARA OFFICERS

2001

President William Miller Jr., K1IBR
Vice-President Raymond Arruda, KB1EVX
Secretary Henry Blanchett, W1GYL
Treasurer Scott Szala, W1EV

Board of Directors:

Edward Blouin, KA1AW
Martin Jordan, KA1YFV
Robert Metivier, N1XZJ

Trustees:

Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD - Chairman
Martin Jordan, KA1YFV
William Vincent, W1POW
Edward Blouin, KA1AW
Norman Riley, W1ATI

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

MARCH 2001

- 1 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 3 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 8 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "ARRL UPDATE" by SM Phil Temples, K9HL, and Assistant SM Stan Laine, WA1ECF.

APRIL 2001

- 5 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 7 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 19 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "Basic Stamp Microprocessor Applications" by Larry Houbre, AA1FS

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

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.150 -	123.0	WAIDGW	Fall River
145.490 -		KDICY	Fairhaven
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		WILM	Plymouth
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
147.315 +	156.7	N1BBT	Wareham
220			
224.340 -		K1KEK	Dennis
224.840 -	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
440			
441.400 +	192.8	WG1U	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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