



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 69th YEAR

Volume 37, Issue 4

SEMARA W1AEC

April 2001

PHIL TEMPLES, K9HI, AND STAN LAINE, WA1ECF, GIVE INTERESTING, INFORMATIVE ARRL UPDATE

On March 8th, Phil Temples, K9HI, ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Manager, gave an interesting overview of ARRL operations. Phil stressed that WE are the ARRL, not the staff ARRL Headquarters in Newington, CT and commonly referred to as THEY. He suggested that if WE are not happy with how THEY are conducting business in Newington, then WE should vote different Directors into office to effect the change WE desire. That being said, Phil also mentioned that we should never refer to the ARRL as THEY for in reality the ARRL is US.

Then Phil outlined the structure of his section in eastern Massachusetts and named the various Assistant Managers he has appointed to create a smooth running organization. The design was well thought out and is a credit to Phil's talent as a Section Manager.

Finally, Assistant Manager for Southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the Islands Stan Laine, WA1ECF, presented a rundown of the various ARRL awards available to amateur radio operators. It was an interesting speech and most revealing in the number and type of awards available. Stan also touched on the handling of QSL cards and how they are sorted for eventual mailing to the proper recipients.

Thanks, Phil and Stan, for the great presentation. It was enjoyed by all.



PHIL TEMPLES AND STAN LAINE

LARRY HOUBRE, AA1FS, TO GIVE TECH-TALK ON BASIC STAMP

For the April Tech Talk I will be presenting the topic "BASIC STAMP Microprocessor 101". With this article in ZEROBEAT, I intend to whet your appetite, stir up your interest, and entice you into attending the talk.

The BASIC STAMP is a microprocessor made by Parallax. The "Rev D" style is the version I'll be covering. (I'll review the others during the talk.) This version has 8 general-purpose I/O pins which can handle 20mA. The chip requires 5-volts DC, and is easily programmed from the parallel port of your PC!

The programming is done by a simple language called PBASIC. The programming commands allow you to: 1- read any of the I/O pins, 2- do simple calculations, and 3- write to any of the I/O pins. This

allows the STAMP to "see" the outside world, make decisions, then "manipulate" the outside world.

There are many and various applications possible with the STAMP. From controlling motors on a robot, sensing light and dark, determining the temperature, making noise (Morse code), measuring resistance (like the position of a potentiometer), to even controlling the thermostat. A stamp can even be used to control a repeater or remote base!

During the Tech-Talk, I will describe a simple two-player game I built with the STAMP. Each player has a switch. When signaled, the players each push their switch, and the STAMP determines who was first. The LED for the winning player will light. The game also makes sounds. More about what it does and how it works at the tech talk!

Larry, AA1FS

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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?



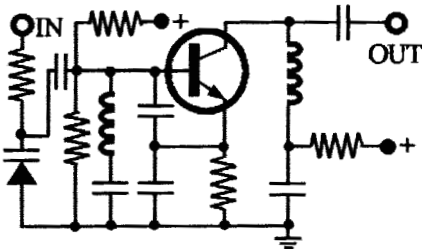
DECEMBER 1998 GET-TOGETHER

In December 1998 club member Bill Rovas, WA1APX/8, was in town from his home in Michigan to visit his folks. Several club members got together with Bill and his dad Ed, WA1VXY, at the Weathervane Restaurant in North Dartmouth for lunch.

Shown in the picture above from left to right clockwise around the table are Ed Blouin, KA1AW; Scott Szala, W1EV; Bill Miller, K1IBR; Frank Fonseca, WB1ASD; Bill Vincent, W1POW; Andy Reuter, WA1FNM; Ed Rovas, WA1VXY; and Bill Rovas, WA1APX/8. Not shown is Bill Field, WA1FYF, who took the picture.

Do you have a favorite old picture of a club related activity? Such pictures are always sought for use in this section of the newsletter. Contact the editor, Bill Miller, to get your picture published.

NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Varactor Tuned Hartley Osc.
- 2.) Varactor AM Modulator
- 3.) Varactor Tuned TPTG Osc.
- 4.) Varactor RF Amplifier
- 5.) Varactor Tuned Colpitts Osc.

ANSWER - See page 7

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*"If you tell the truth you don't
 have to remember anything."*

Mark Twain

MEETING MINUTES



The February business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bill Miller, K1IBR. Twenty-eight 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 -

Technical - Committee will try to pick up another Micor transmitter or two at the upcoming spring fleamarkets.

Buildings and Grounds - Chairman Andy Reuter reminded members to *please* shut off the club lights when leaving the building. Members leaving the lights "on" when leaving the clubhouse is an ongoing problem.

Ham Class - Progressing fine.

Scholarship - No report.

Constitution - Work ongoing. A review of the draft copy to be conducted on March 15th at 7 pm in the clubhouse. Members interested in reviewing the Constitution and Bylaws are invited to attend.

Field Day - No report.

Fleamarket - No report.

Communications - Club received a "Thank You" card from **John Braz, N1IQU**, for the sympathy card recently sent. A flyer describing the SETI program was posted on the bulletin board.

Ratifications - The following applicant was voted into the club: **Bonnie Dehner, KB1GEY**.

Old Business - Members were requested to please notify the club Secretary when you get a new E-Mail address.

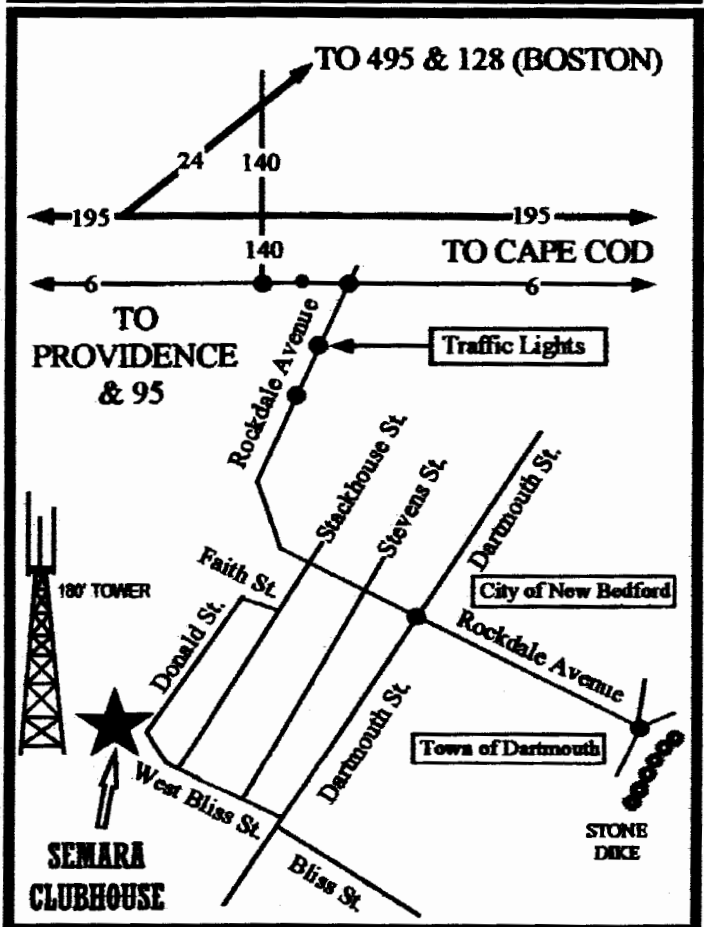
New Business - The following motions were passed. The members:

1. Conferred a life membership on Louis Whitlow, WA1GDE.
2. Extended the membership of Jeff Lehmann, N1ZZN, for one year.
3. Granted a life membership to Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA.
4. Authorized the club officers to take any security steps necessary to protect club assets.
5. Authorized printing of 500 Fleamarket flyers at a cost of approximately \$30.

For the Good of The Club - A Hallicrafters Radio setup will be raffled off to the members following the meeting. Members were informed that when using the new cardkeys to gain access to the clubhouse, they need only push the entry door open. The outside handle is locked and attempting to turn it might damage it. The members extended their thanks to **Brad Anselmo, N1VUF**, for his efforts regarding the cardkey door lock system. They also thanked **Norman Riley, W1ATI**, for his donation of a VCR to the club. It was mentioned that Dave Dean would be willing to cut the club grass again this year, but was unable to attend the meeting and discuss it with the members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm and several members headed off to Me & Ed's Restaurant in New Bedford for a "Second Meeting" with plenty of plain old ragchewing.

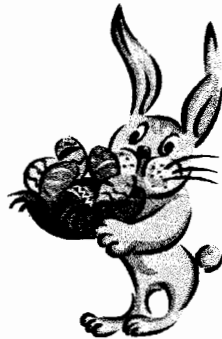
DIRECTIONS TO CLUB





CLUB NOTES

April is often portrayed as a rainy month. "April showers bring May flowers." I look at April as the month of flowers - daffodils, crocuses, and various other bulbs blooming in celebration of spring. Remember that daylight savings time starts on "April Fools Day," the 1st. "Spring ahead!" Passover begins at sundown on the 7th, Palm Sunday falls on the 8th, then Good Friday on the 13th, and Easter on the 15th.



Members are urged to survey the clubhouse for any theft, damage, or other problems each time they enter the building. Any discrepancies discovered should be reported immediately to any club officer. A list of club officers and their phone numbers is posted above the club's telephone.



Tim Smith, N1TI, was the winner of the "members only" raffle held following the March 1st business meeting. Tim won the Hallicrafters station donated by E. K. Rogers, W1EB, to the club. The setup consisted of an HT-44 transmitter, a SX-117 receiver, and a power supply/speaker unit. Also included were 50+ tubes used in the equipment. The club realized a nice profit of \$215.00 from the sale of the raffle tickets. *Congratulations, Tim!*



JAMES POWELL, N1ALW, (ex W1GGR) SILENT KEY AT AGE 57

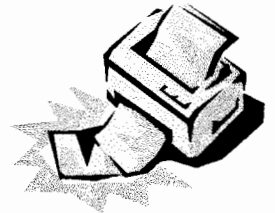
James H. Powell, N1ALW, died Monday evening March 19, 2001, while awaiting a liver transplant. Jim was a Charter member of the Association (1958). Jim worked as a photographer most of his life until his recent illness forced him to retire. Jim will be remembered by all as a quiet, unassuming person with a quick smile. *Rest in peace, Jim.*

Bonnie Dehner, KB1GEY, was voted into membership at the March business meeting. Bonnie accomplished the amazing feat of studying the theory and code required for a General Class license and passing the test in a two week period! *Congratulations, Bonnie, and welcome to the club.*

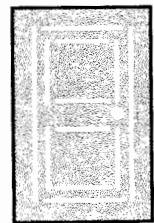
KB1GEY

GENERAL CLASS
AMATEUR RADIO
OPERATOR

Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA, donated a Cannon printer model BJC-6000 for use with the club's computer. Slowly but surely the club's computer is being upgraded! *Thanks Dick for the nifty donation.*



Members are reminded to please check that the door is securely latched when leaving the clubhouse. Simply push hard on the door to verify the latch is securely engaged before leaving the porch.



Dick Simpkin, WA1CRA, ended up in St. Luke's hospital for a week following a mild stroke on Friday, March 16, 2001. We trust Dick will have a speedy recovery and be back to normal soon.



A meeting will be held at 7 pm Thursday, April 12th, to develop a set of Foxhunt rules that will be fair to all hunters. Presently, hunters using "Doppler" systems win every hunt! All members interested in formulating the new rules are invited to attend.



THE NEW CARDKEY SYSTEM

You can no longer get into the club using your key! The new cardkey entry system is now in operation. The new system brings additional security to the club by recording the time and card number any-time someone enters the clubhouse. Club access using the new system is simple:

- ◆ Place your cardkey on the metal reader plate to the right of the entrance door. Be sure the arrow on the card points up.
- ◆ If a valid cardkey is used, a buzzer will sound and the door latch will be released for 5 seconds.
- ◆ Simply push the entry door *inward* to gain access to the club. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TURN THE LOCKED OUTSIDE DOOR HANDLE.**

When your business in the clubhouse is completed, simply leave the club and shut the door behind you. Since the door to the clubhouse is always locked, you must use the cardkey each time you enter the club.

On meeting nights and Sunday mornings, the handle on the entry door will be unlocked by a club officer. This will permit unlimited access to the clubhouse without the necessity of using your card. On such occasions simply turn the door handle to enter.

If you want a free cardkey, contact the club Treasurer Scott Szala. Cards are available at business meetings and Sunday mornings at the clubhouse. (Replacement cardkeys are \$10.00 each.)



THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB



The Old Old Timers Club was founded in 1947 by a group of amateurs who had played a part in laying the foundations of electronic communications. The requirement for membership was 2-way communication by wireless 40 or more years prior to 1947. At that time the members were "spark" operators in 1907 or earlier when there was no licensing authority. The requirements have continued to this day - two-way wireless communication by amateur, military or commercial means 40 or more years ago.

Since 1947 and today, to be a full member you must have a amateur license at the time of the application. Associate membership is available to anyone who does not have a amateur license but qualifies otherwise. The initiation fee is \$5 and dues are \$10 a year. When you join you will have membership for life. Continued payment of dues is not mandatory but the member will not receive publications such as Spark Gap Times and will not receive a ballot.

OOTC is a growing international organization, having issued over 3,915 memberships, each is assigned a dedicated membership number in our records. We publish a journal 4 times a year carrying information on OOTC activities, historical information and data, information on the lives and activities of OOTC members, and a listing of OOTC birthdays to facilitate greetings among members.

For more information, or to join, contact:

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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, N1WAT @ 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

April 7, 2001

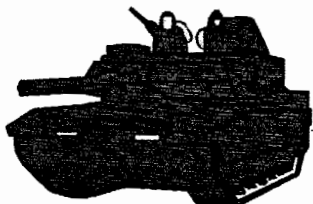
10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN APRIL

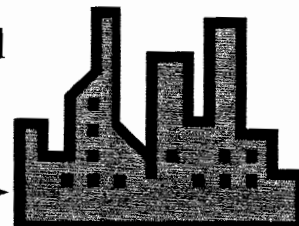
- 09 Brookline, MA
Bob Wondolowski
508-865-5822
- 12 Providence, RI
Judy Nelson
401-231-9156
- 14 Falmouth, MA
Ben Fleck
508-540-2583
- 18 Cambridge, MA
Nick Alterndbernd
617-253-3776
- 21 Marlborough, MA
William Wade
781-891-9079

COMPREHENDING ENGINEERS



What is the difference between Mechanical
Engineers and Civil Engineers?

← Mechanical Engineers build weapons,
Civil Engineers build targets. →



TECHNICAL TIPS

Did you know you can make your own coiled cords? Such cords are commonly found on telephones and microphones. However, sometimes you need a special coiled cord - in that case just "roll your own!"

Take the cable you wish to convert into a coiled cord and tightly wrap it around a wooden dowel of the diameter you desire. Be sure to "upset" the wires inside the cable jacket as you wrap it tightly about the dowel, then use plastic ties to secure the cable ends in place on the dowel.

Next carefully heat the assembly with a heat gun until the cable jacket "flows" about the internal wires. Let the assembly cool to room temperature and then remove your own "special" coiled cord from the dowel.

2001 FLEAMARKETS

- April 1 - Southington, CT
- April 7 - Londonderry, NH
- April 15 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 4 - HONTRADERS
- May 19 - Foxondale, RI
- May 28 - MIT Cambridge, MA
- May 26 - Yreass, CT
- June 9 - FARA, Barnstable, MA
- 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
 (S.) Varactor Tuned Colpitts Osc.

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

APRIL 2001

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

MAY 2001

- 3 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 5 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 17 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "The Red Cross and Amateur Radio" by Richard F. Buckley, N1KMM, and Larry O. Warner.

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	KBIBWN	Dartmouth
146.655 -	88.5	WAIGPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		WILM	Plymouth
146.955 -	88.5	KIPBO	Dennis
147.000 +	67.0	WIAEC	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	NDIN	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	WIMV	Bridgewater
147.315 +	156.7	NIBBT	Wareham
220			
224.340 -		KIKEK	Dennis
224.840 -	100.0	KILIQ	Tiverton, RI

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
440			
441.400 +	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
442.200 +	88.5	NINRL	Fall River
442.600 +	100.0	KILIQ	Tiverton, RI
443.450 +	88.5	KIMYL	Westport
443.500 +	141.3	KIPBO	Barnstable
443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
443.800 +	88.5	NIRFH	Dartmouth
444.200 +	118.8	N1YHS	Bourne
443.850 +	131.8	WIARM	Chatham
444.250 +	141.3	WAIGPO	Falmouth
444.350 +	88.5	WIACT	Fall River
444.550 +	88.5	WIMV	Bridgewater
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston

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