



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 69th YEAR

Volume 37, Issue 8

SEMARA W1AEC

August 2001

## FIELD DAY A FUN DAY

**F**ield Day kicked off early Saturday morning with the erection of various antennas around the clubhouse. Four operating positions were setup in different locations. The radio room ran 10-15-20 meters using the permanent all-band vertical, the boiler room concentrated on 40-80 meters using a trap dipole. The main meeting hall ran QRP on 10-15-20 meters into the permanent tri-band beam, with 6 meter AM operations working out of the shed using a 3 element beam.

Saturday afternoon, after the food tent was erected, **Ed Blouin, KA1AW**, and his crew fired up the gas grill and served hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, and linguica dogs. Potato salad, chips, pretzels, garden salad, and a tub of ice-cold soda was available for the chow hounds. **Bob Ambroult, N1VUG**, brought a pot of steak & pepper chili. It was a big hit enjoyed by all! Six or seven XYLs also showed up for the main cookout held from 4 to 6 pm.

**Bill Miller, K1IBR**, twice got to climb the 40 foot tower the tri-band beam is mounted atop. Once to install a balun on the driven element, and then again to retrieve the pliers he absentmindedly left on the rotator plate. Way to go, Bill!

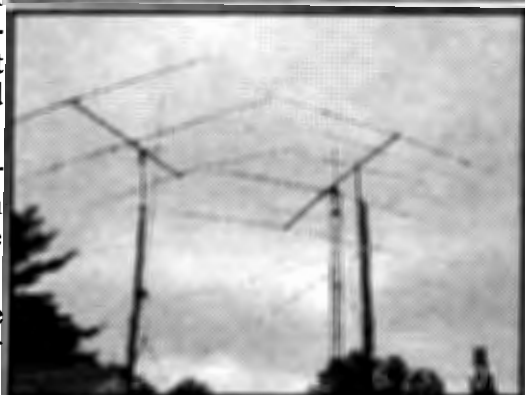
There were plans to run 2 meter SSB at the repeater site using the spare antenna, but interference with the repeater dashed all hope of such operation. Shucks!

A big "Thank You" goes out to the following members who loaned their rigs for the Field Day event: **Carl Bredberg, K1KID**, who brought his QRP rig, **Charlie Days, WA1JFD**, who brought his 6 meter AM rig, and **Scott Szala, W1EV**, who brought his new ICOM IC-756PRO rig. The 756PRO spectrum display was a big hit with the operators.

The clubhouse was humming all the time. It also was a learning experience. The lesson learned - don't set up a station in the meeting hall. There is too much noise in the hall from the ragchewers. Next time the fourth station might be placed in the old meeting room in the Quonset hut. Now that would truly be nostalgic for the "Old Timers" that operated there in years past. All in all, it was a fun time. Although few contacts were logged, the camaraderie was priceless.



PETE SZALA, N1VUG, RACKING UP CONTACTS



FIELD DAY ANTENNAS GALORE!



SATURDAY AFTERNOON COOKOUT

# ZERO BEAT

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

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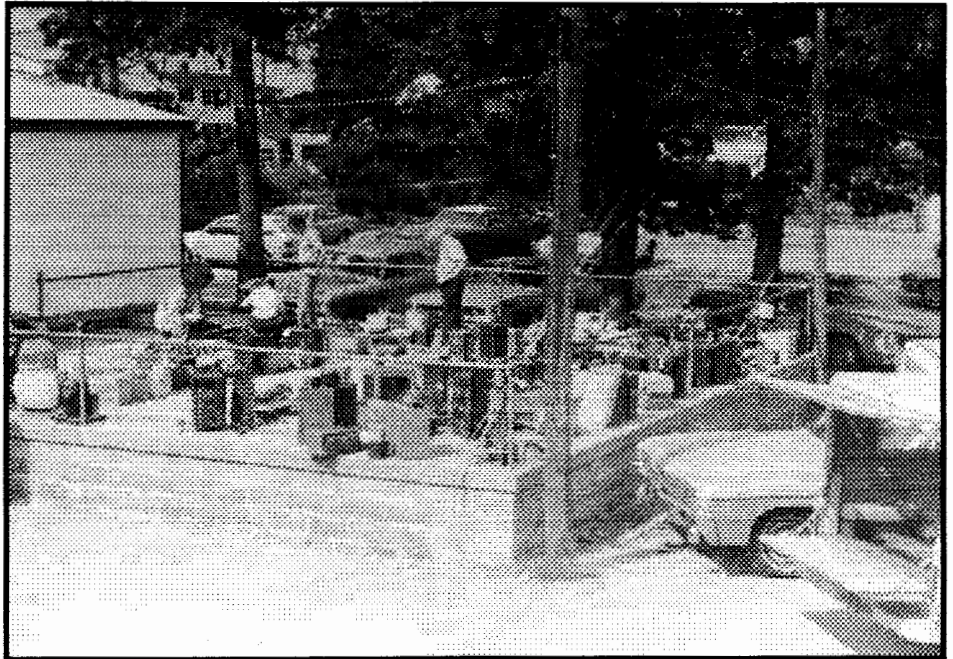
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**ADVERTISING**

**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?

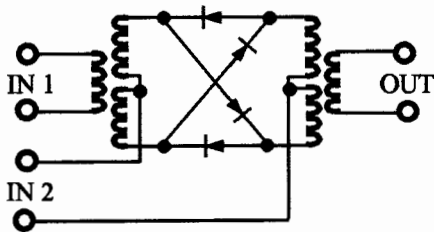


## 1977 FLEAMARKET AUCTION ITEMS

**T**his month's picture was taken 24 years ago at the Stackhouse Street Fairgrounds where the club used to hold the annual Fleamarket. Four prospective bidders are seen checking out the goodies slated for the auction block later that day.

The Fleamarkets held in the late 1970s had an almost carnival atmosphere to them. In addition to the fleamarket sales area under the trees, there were dog obedience shows, magic shows, tug-'o-wars, K-9 dog demonstrations, auctions, movies for the kids, cake sales, folk dancing, and raffles. However, the most popular event was the food concession. Hamburgers, hot dogs, linguica, and cheeseburgers sold like hotcakes. Only one thing was more popular - SODA!

### NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) HV Rectifier
- 2.) Inverted Pulse Detector
- 3.) Telephone Ring Generator
- 4.) Superregenerative Detector
- 5.) Balanced Mixer

ANSWER - See page 7

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*"Government cannot make a man richer, but it can make him poorer."*

*Ludwig von Mises*

# MEETING MINUTES

The July business meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Bill Miller, K1IBR. Twenty-six members were present. Following the salute to the flag, the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

*Committee reports -*

Technical - Spare antenna at tower site can't be used for 2 meter SSB as it interferes with the repeater.

Buildings and Grounds - Members were reminded to please clean up the rest rooms after use. No janitor is available to clean the rooms.

Scholarship - No report.

Constitution - Fall completion anticipated.

Field Day - A great time was had by all. The cook-out Saturday night was a hit! The 40/80 meter trap dipole used for field day was donated to the club by Bill Miller, K1IBR. It will be permanently erected for use by all members.

Fleamarket - No report.

Communications - The renewal form for the SEMARA.ORG site was received.

Ratifications - Seven applicants approved:

New members:

**Richard F. Buckley, N1KMM**

**Scott Jenney, KB1FBP**

**Lazar K. Lazarov III, KB1GSK**

**Roy Rehbein, AD1M**

**Roland D. Rissane, KV4EZ**

Renewals:

**George R. Burke Jr., N1RSP**

**Mathew Vangel, KA1THM**

Old Business - None.

New Business - The following motions were made and passed:

1. Motion to renew SEMARA.ORG domain name for 9 years. (\$180)
2. Motion to purchase Polyphasor phone line protector for repeater site. (\$150)
3. Motion to buy two ladders, a 7 foot step ladder and a 32 foot extension ladder, both to be of industrial quality. (\$500)
4. Motion to throw out all food left over from Field Day.

For the good of the club - None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

# ESTATE SALE

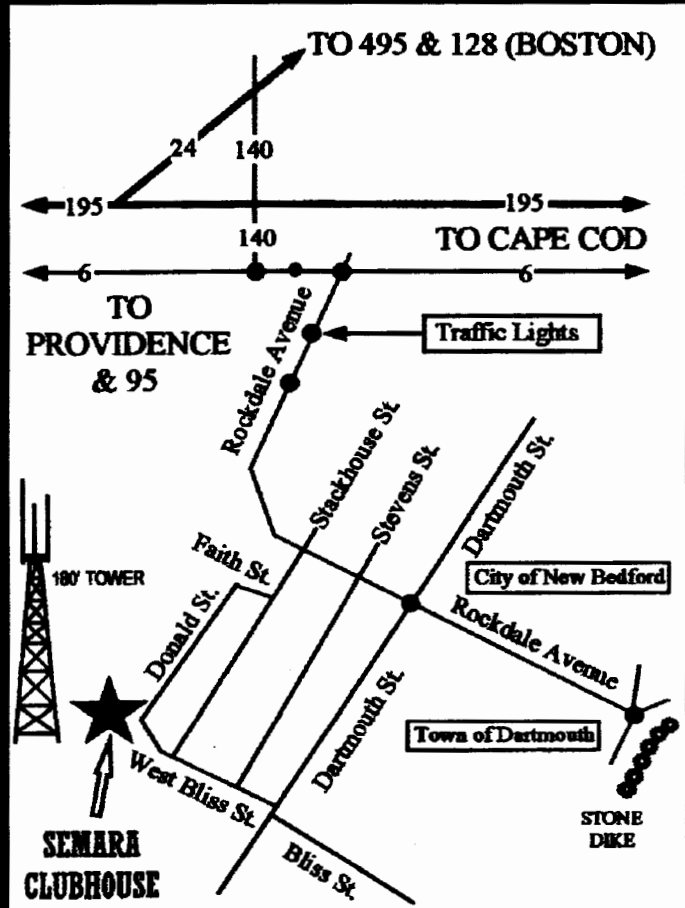
**YAESU FT980 - HIGH FREQUENCY XCVR**  
Works fine, but one meter has a sticky needle.  
\$600 or best offer.

**55 FOOT CRANK-UP TOWER PACKAGE DEAL**  
Includes a 4 element 10 meter beam and rotor.  
Can be seen at 22 Pinehurst Street, North Dartmouth,  
One street south of Route 6,  
southwest of the North Dartmouth Mall.  
\$800 or best offer.

The above items are part of the estate of  
John Rogers, K1SLI.

For further information, please contact:  
**John Rogers Jr., N1GXU:**  
\*82-508-748-1425 or jrogers2@mediaone.net

# DIRECTIONS TO CLUB





## CLUB NOTES

**A**ugust. Hot humid days. Beach weather for sure. August is the only month without a major holiday. Just as well, the heat is enough to deal with!



**A** big "Thank You" goes out to Andy Reuter's, WA1FNM, wife Dot who cleaned up the clubhouse prior to the Field Day activities. Dot is an unsung hero of the association.



**L**ately it seems like more and more "tail biters" are on the air. In fact, one operator keys his mike so fast that sometimes you hear a hetrodyne on the tail end of the previous transmission! When using the repeater, PLEASE wait for the courtesy tone.



**T**hanks to the efforts of Ray Arruda, KB1EVX, and Andy Reuter, WA1FNM, the club porches are sealed with wood preservative. Ray donated the sealer used on the front porch, while a gallon of sealer left over from last year was used on the side porch. *Thanks, fellows!*



**S**peaking of dynamic duos, Ray Arruda & Dave Dean moved the pile of dirt from the north side of the club to the area between the two new telephone poles. *Thanks, fellows!*



**H**enry Blanchett, HW1GYL, is in his fourth year as club Secretary! This is a record of sorts as no one has held the office continuously for such a length of time. It also signals that the club members must like the job he is doing as they keep electing him year after year. *Congratulations, Henry!*



**M**orris Forgaren, MW1GJO, donated QSTs covering several years to the club along with a Heathkit HD-16 code practice oscillator and a Lafayette 99-2502 external BFO unit. *Thanks, Morris!*



**R**ay Arruda, KB1EVX, loaned two videos to the club for the club's Tech-Talks during May and June. "The Big Dig" was shown in May, and "KMOX Radio, 75 Years As The Voice Of St. Louis" was shown in June. *Thanks, Ray.*



**A** listing of all repeaters in New England is found on the Internet at: [www.qsl.net/n1zzn/nerep](http://www.qsl.net/n1zzn/nerep)

NEW ENGLAND  
REPEATER DIRECTORY

**S**peaking of the Internet, the site listing the most amateur radio related information is:

<http://www.ac6v.com/>

AC6V

**O**n July 14th a heavy cable with guys was strung between the two telephone poles behind the clubhouse. The affair will be used to support the big Fleamarket tent this fall.



# PARTY HELD FOR JOE FORTIN, K4KTZ

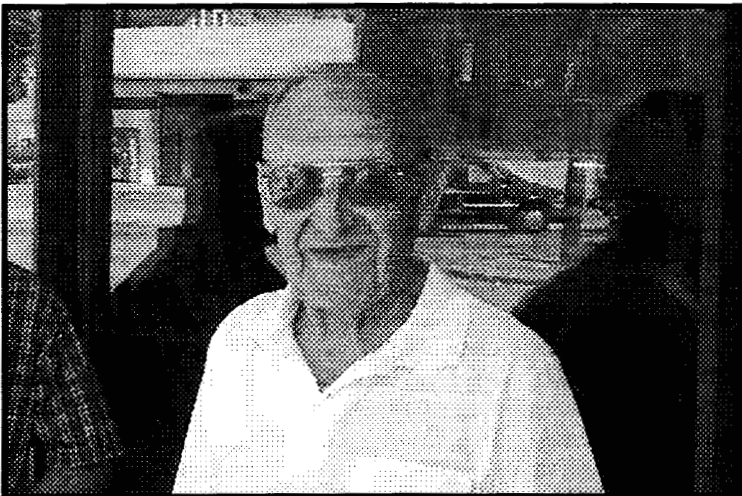
**O**n Wednesday, June 27, 2001, several members of the club met for lunch at Danny's Tavern in the north end of New Bedford. The occasion was the annual party held for Joe Fortin when he comes up from Florida. Several attendees had clamboils, while others went for the carne espito (barbecued beef) and other fare. A total of eleven people partook of the festivities.

It was a fun time for all, complete with the usual rag-chewing, nostalgic stories, and joke telling. Of course that all came to a halt once the food was served. Then the scene reminded one of raw meat being thrown into a tank filled with piranhas! Boy could this crowd eat. And eat...

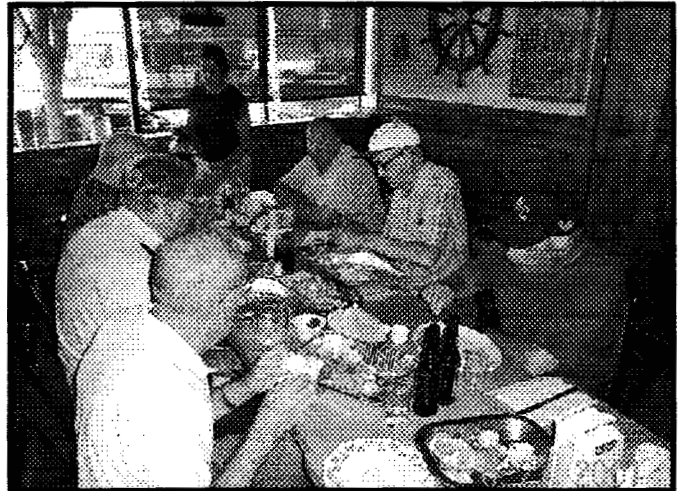
Have a great visit Joe. You earned it!



JOE, K4KTZ, AND SON GERRY, N1RXZ



K4KTZ - THE OLD MAN HIMSELF



CHOWTIME! BRING ON THE FOOD

# ROY REHBEIN, AD1M, DEMONSTRATES ROBOT

**D**uring the July 1st Sunday morning coffee & donut hour, Roy Rehbein, AD1M, demonstrated a robot he is currently designing and building.

At the current stage of its evolution, the robot scurries along the floor according to a preprogrammed route plan. Roy commented that in a week or two he plans to have sensors integrated into the robot's system so the robot can roam freely without smashing into objects.

Drive for the robot is via two stepper motors. Three plastic disks mounted above the motors hold the various sub-assemblies and battery packs that make up the robot. The top array even sports an LCD display where messages are read out.

It was a very interesting and informative session as Roy showed off his robot and answered questions.



## CLUB LIBRARY NEEDS MAGAZINES

Club Librarian Joe Demers, N1MVY, reports he is trying to complete our QST, CQ, and 73 magazine collections. However, several issues are missing from our collections. A full list of all magazines sought is posted in the clubhouse. Listed below are the issues required to bring certain portions of our collections up to date:

**QST** - Issues required to complete our collection for the last 50 years.

- 1953 - All issues
- 1961 - April, July, August, September, November, December
- 1980 - March
- 1984 - July
- 1986 - July, September
- 1988 - October
- 1999 - June, November
- 2000 - December

**CQ** - Issues required to complete our collection for the last 15 years.

- 1986 - December
- 1995 - January
- 2000 - September, November

**73** - Issues required to complete our collection for the last 5 years.

- 1995 - need all but September
- 1996 - January, February, April, May, June
- 1997 - April, November
- 1999 - April, December

We have QST issues as old as 1925 in the club's library. CQ and 73 magazines in the collection go back about 40 years. However, several complete years of all magazines are missing along with monthly issues of some years.

If you have just one issue or even a barn full, the club would appreciate any magazines you would donate to the club. Please help complete the club's magazine collection. NOTE: Duplicate issues donated to the club shall be sold at the annual Fleamarket this fall.

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

August 3, 2001  
10:30 am  
SEMARA Clubhouse



## LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN AUGUST

- 09 Providence, RI**  
Judy Nelson  
401-231-9156
- 11 Falmouth, MA**  
Ben Fleck  
508-540-2583
- 13 Brookline, MA**  
Bob Wondolowski  
508-865-5822
- 22 Cambridge, MA**  
Nick Alterndbernd  
617-253-3776

## UNDERSTANDING ENGINEERS



Two engineering students were biking across campus.

One said to the other, "Where did you get such a great bike?"

The second engineer replied, "Well, I was walking along yesterday minding my own business when a beautiful woman rode up on this bike. She threw the bike to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, 'Take what you want.'"

The second engineer nodded approvingly, "Good choice; the clothes probably wouldn't have fit."

### TECHNICAL TIPS

- 1) Good soldering requires immobilization of the parts being soldered together. Handy items to accomplish this are spring type clothes pins, "Bulldog" type paper clips, "alligator" clips, and women's hair clips. Mount any two on a small length of 2X4 wood to make a soldering jig.
- 2) Need a short length of thin copper wire? An often overlooked source is a single strand from standard stranded wire. Such wire also can be used as a fuse. Check a chart listing the fusing current of various wire sizes to find the gauge wire you need. Bear in mind that such a fuse is of the "brute force" type and will open only under a severe overload such as a dead short.
- 3) "Armor-All" spray is great for bringing old radio and test equipment enclosures back to "like new" condition.

## 2001 FLEAMARKETS

Aug 19 - MIT Cambridge, MA  
 Sept 8 - Ballston Spa, NY  
 Sept 9 - SEMARA FLEA!  
 Sept 15 - Forrestdale, RI  
 Sept 16 - MIT Cambridge, MA  
 Sept 16 - Newtown, CT  
 Oct 5,6 - HOSSTRADERS,  
 Hopkington, NH  
 Oct 7 - Wallingford, CT  
 Oct 21 - MIT Cambridge, MA  
 Nov 4 - Framingham, MA  
 Nov 17 - Newton, MA (auction)

## 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](http://WWW.LRH.NET/SEMARA/SEMARA.HTM)  
[GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/SEMARA](http://GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/SEMARA)  
 SEND E-MAIL TO: [W1AEC@ARRL.NET](mailto:W1AEC@ARRL.NET)

"NAME THAT CIRCUIT" ANSWER  
 (S) Balanced Mixer

## 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

### AUGUST 2001

- 2 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 4 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 9 - Foxhunt Workshop, 7:00 pm
- 16 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm,  
 "All About Thermometers," by Richard Porter, the "Thermometer Man"



### SEPTEMBER 2001

- 6 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 8 - SEMARA FLEAMARKET!  
 VE Session, 10:30 am
- 13 - Foxhunt Workshop, 7:00 pm
- 20 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm,  
 "EOC and Communications"  
 by Richard Buckley, N1KMM,  
 Training Coordinator,  
 Neponset Valley Emergency Group

Coffee Hour at the clubhouse every Sunday at 7 - 11 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 -		KD1CY	Fairhaven	442.200 +	88.5	N1NRL	Fall River
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth	442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth	443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
146.685 -		W1LM	Plymouth	443.500 +	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis	443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth	443.800 +	88.5	N1RFH	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton	444.200 +	118.8	N1YHS	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
146.730 -		W1SGL	Sandwich	444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
<b>220</b>				444.550 +	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
224.340 -		K1KEK	Dennis	447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston
224.840 -	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI				

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**FIRST CLASS**

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