



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 69th YEAR

Volume 37, Issue 10

SEMARA W1AEC

October 2001

## FLEAMARKET A SUCCESS!



**DENNIS BOLLEA, N1WJI, (LEFT)  
WINNER OF ICOM W32A DOOR PRIZE,  
BEING CONGRATULATED BY SEMARA  
PRESIDENT BILL MILLER, K1IBR (RIGHT)**

Once again the annual SEMARA Fleamarket was a resounding success. Two factors contributed to the success: (1) the hard work put forward by the Fleamarket crew, and (2) the great weather over the weekend. The festive atmosphere of the event was enhanced by the colorful flag pennants erected on the club grounds. As usual, the food tent was a favorite spot for hungry buyers and sellers.

One surprise was the preference of the vendors to set up outside the large tent provided in case of rain. On a sunny day (like we enjoyed) the tent was a great sun screen, but few vendors took advantage of the shade inside the tent.

The winner of the ICOM W32A grand door prize, was Dennis Bollea, N1WJI, of Fairhaven. During the course of the day, three amateurs applied for membership in the association, including Dennis.

A preliminary accounting indicates our profit was down as compared with the record receipts set last year, but still quite healthy and in the \$1,500 range. A full accounting will be presented by the club treasurer at the October business meeting.

## ROGER RIOUX, KA1EYS, DONATES KENWOOD TS-180S TO CLUB

Roger Rioux, KA1EYS, donated a Kenwood TS-180S transceiver to the club along with a Heathkit HD1410 keyer, an MFJ 949 antenna tuner, a Drake TV-3300-LP low pass filter, and related items.

The Board of Directors recommended replacing the club's Ten-Tec Triton IV (540) with the Kenwood TS-180S, and selling all the other items at the upcoming Fleamarket. The membership approved such action at the September business meeting, and also conferred an Honorary club membership upon Roger.

*Thank you, Roger, for this most generous donation and upgrade to our station.*



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Published monthly by the  
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54 Donald Street,  
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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.

# ANNOUNCING!



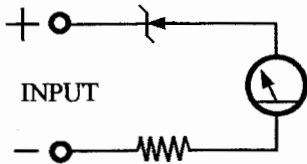
## SEMARA CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE



SATURDAY OCTOBER 20, 2001  
12 NOON \$5 PER TICKET

SEMARA CLUBHOUSE  
54 Donald Street  
So. Dartmouth, MA

### NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Field Strength Meter
- 2.) AC Ampmeter
- 3.) Remote Tuning Indicator
- 4.) Expanded Scale Voltmeter
- 5.) FM Deviation Meter

ANSWER - See page 7

## SEMARA CHRISTMAS PARTY



Thursday, December 13, 2001  
Cocktails: 6 - 7 pm  
SUPER DELUXE Buffet Dinner: 7 pm  
Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Etc.

\$20 per person!

\$5 GIFT EXCHANGE  
Red wrapping paper—Gal  
Green wrapping paper—Guy

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*"Liberty means responsibility.  
That is why most men dread it."*

*George Bernard Shaw*

# MEETING MINUTES

The July business meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Bill Miller, K1IBR. Thirty-five members and one guest, Elaine Lazarov, were present. Following the salute to the flag, the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

*Committee reports -*

**Technical** - Polyphasor lightening protectors placed on coaxial, phone, and data lines. Repeater experiencing QRM from a paging transmitter in the area. Antenna selector switch installed in radio room. Club needs a 1KW dummy load.

**Buildings and Grounds** - Grass was cut today.

**Activities** - Chicken Bar-B-Que planned for October 20th at the clubhouse. \$5 per person. Scott outlined other events planned such as the Field Trip to the Wireless & Steam museum in RI, and a spring clambake.

**Scholarship** - No report.

**Constitution** - Should be placed before members at October meeting.

**Web Page** - First committee meeting to be held soon, and goals set.

**Fleamarket** - Tent to be erected Saturday. All systems go!

**Christmas Party** - Tickets available for sale. \$20 per person. Treasurer Scott Szala is selling the tickets.

*Communications -*

ARRL offer to reimburse club \$15 for new members referred to ARRL tabled to October meeting.

Falmouth Radio Club offering a "Tech in a Weekend" class on October 19, 20, and 21, 2001.

**Ratifications** - Three applicants voted into club:

- Richard Coulombe, KA1KLA
- Robert Methia, N1HCW
- George Kirkwood, no call (yet).

*Welcome to the club!*

**Old Business** - Gene Demers, N1MVY, commended for the great job he's doing as club librarian. (Gene was not present.)

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

1. Motion to keep Kenwood TS-180S recently given to club and sell the two Ten-Tec Triton IVs (540) at the Fleamarket.
2. Motion to limit hall use to members only. No more hall rentals.
3. Motion to buy large wet/dry vacuum, polyphasors for repeater control lines, factory made

coaxial jumper for top of tower, heavy duty patches, cords, and pulleys for tent, a 10 X 20 carport type canopy, flag and rope, and pennants for fleamarket.

4. Motion to make Roger Rioux, KA1EYS, an honorary member of the club.

The following motion did not pass:

Motion to conduct a monthly drawing for a door prize at each business meeting.

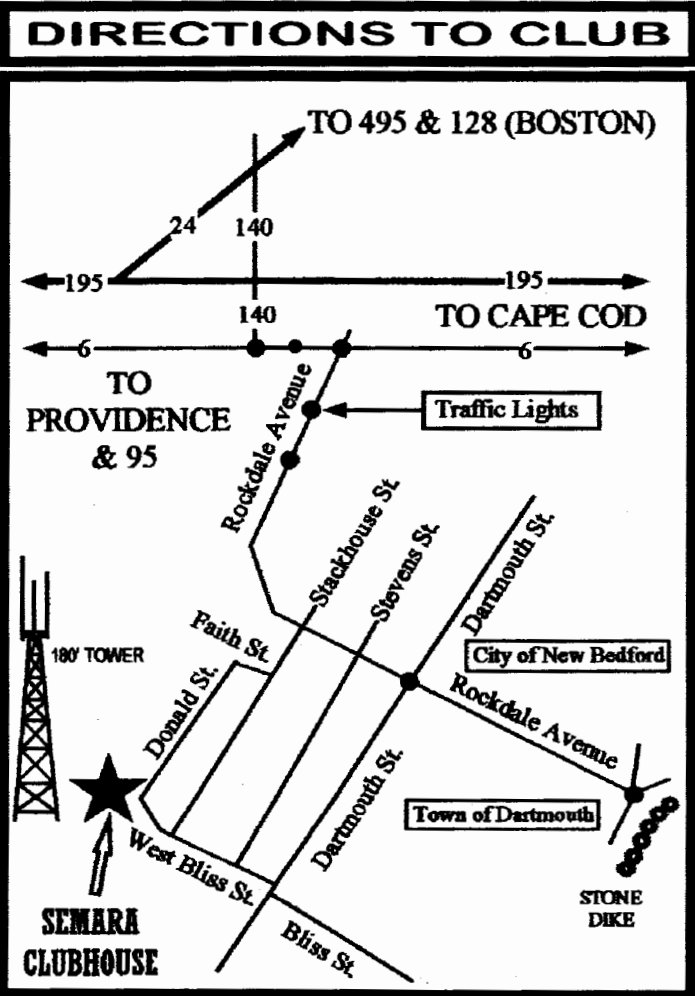
The following "sense of the membership" vote was taken and a majority voted yea: Should the club offer a "dues free" membership following the payment of a \$20 application fee and membership approval of the applicant?

*For the good of the club* - Photo album on big table in club should be reviewed by all members and any information recorded as noted on the first page of the album.

The Rumford Radio Club, W1AQ, is holding a 75 year anniversary September 15 & 16th. A contingent of club officers and members shall attend on the 15th.

Tim Smith, N1TI, to talk about a club Tesla coil at the October business meeting.

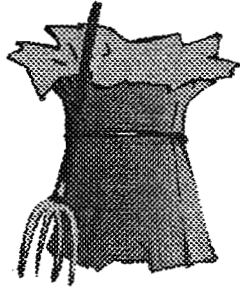
The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.





# CLUB NOTES

October brings the brilliant colors of fall leaves and the cool nights that are the harbinger of winter. You feel alive in October! Columbus Day is Monday the 8th. Don't forget to turn the clocks back an hour on Saturday night, the 27th.



**R**oger Rioux, KA1EYS, was voted an honorary member of the association during the September business meeting. Roger donated his complete radio station to the club, including a Kenwood TS-180S transceiver. *Congratulations, Roger!*



**T**wo former members, **Richard Coulombe, KA1KLA**, and **Robert Methia, N1HCW**, and one new member, **George Kirkwood**, (no call), were voted into the club during the September business meeting. *Welcome to the club!*



**D**ave Dean, K1JGV, donated eight Rubbermaid trash barrels to the club for Fleamarket use. They were placed about the Fleamarket area and helped keep the area clean. *Thanks, Dave!*



**T**wo members reported call sign changes:

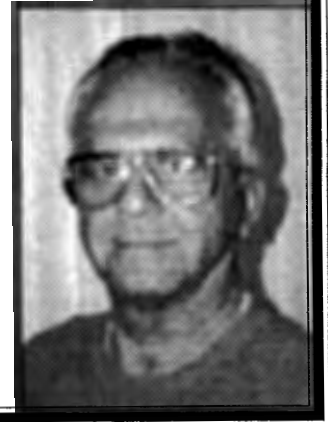
**Larry Lygren, W1DBX**  
(ex - WB1DBX)

**Jim Lopes, W1AQX**  
(ex - WB1AQX)

**CALL SIGN CHANGE!**

## FRANK FONSECA, WB1ASD, SK

**F**rank Fonseca, WB1ASD, died Thursday afternoon, October 13, 2001. Frank was a long-time life member of the association and a tireless worker until his illness. He is best remembered for his resolve and determination in overcoming the burdens he encountered in life. Frank, above all, was a fighter. *Rest in peace, Frank.*



**R**eminder: It takes *two seconds* for the repeater to come online after it is not transmitting for awhile. Quite often, the first part of a call is missing because the operator was unaware of the time delay. Play it safe: Key up the repeater first, and then after it IDs send your message.



**M**embers are urged to please update your E-Mail addresses in the club database by notifying Bill Miller at:

billmiller@netzero.net

Over 12 members are not getting club E-Mails sent to them because their E-Mail address is no longer valid. If you are not sure you notified the club, do it again.



**HELP KEEP THE CLUB DATABASE CURRENT**

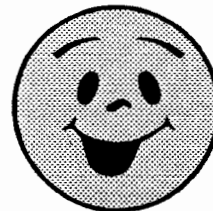
### NOQUOCHOKE ORCHARDS

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Apples - Pears - Peaches  
Sweet Apple Cider - Squash  
Westport Macomber Turnips  
Hay & Custom Work

# QRP LITTLE RADIOS BIG FUN



*By Carl Bredberg, K1KID*

Perhaps ham radio has lost its thrill for you over the years. Has it become same-old, same-old? Recall then the excitement of making your first novice contacts. Like most of us, you probably used a bit of military surplus, a Heathkit, or even a homebrew rig that you built yourself. Perhaps you made an antenna that was little more than whatever scrap of wire was in the basement or garage. And boy didn't we have fun! Well folks, I am here to tell you, the thrill is back, and it's called QRP.

Imagine a HF radio station that you can carry in a lunch box. Some QRP rigs really are small enough to do this. And when I say station, I mean the **WHOLE** station - radio, paddle, antenna and power supply (you may even be able to squeeze a sandwich in too.)

Now please don't get the idea that these small radios are small on performance. Many have receivers that are the equal of the best Yaocomwood rigs. They do have, however, much smaller and much less power hungry transmitters, so power requirements are minimal. This makes them very portable. One of my radios operates on a pack of 8 AA NiMH batteries. They provide about 10 hours service at 3.5 watts output with typical 80% receive / 20% transmit duty cycle.

You might justifiably ask then "How far am I going to get with a tiny 5 watt or less signal?" You would be very surprised. The secret is using CW as the mode of choice. CW has about a 12db advantage over SSB.

That means that a 5 watt CW signal is about as easy to copy as an 80 watt SSB signal over the same path. It is likely that your current sideband rig puts out around 100 watts maximum. (The difference between 80 and 100 watts is less than 1/2 of an s-unit.) So you will be about as effective with 5 watts CW as you currently are running SSB at your rig's full power. It is not unusual at all for me to get 569 to 599 signal reports from the US west coast and Europe running just 5 watts.

Hopefully, this has lit a small spark in some of you folks. Maybe given some of you ideas about how you can operate HF from anywhere - perhaps from a vacation spot, a hotel room on a business trip, on a picnic, or even in your own back yard on a nice warm summer day. The only thing left to do is select the rig that suits your needs and wallet, and warm up your soldering iron - if you have the inclination to delve into a homebrew project. You may even try to remember where you buried your key in your yard the day after you got your General license.

Listed below are resources that anyone with a PC should find interesting. There are many, many more sites than what is listed here, but these pages will give you a start.

I shall be presenting a QRP "Tech Talk" at the club on November 15th. Come on over for a live demo of some neat gear.

#### MANUFACTURERS:

<http://www.elecraft.com>  
<http://www.fix.net/~jparker/wild.html>  
<http://www.ohr.com/index.htm>  
<http://www.tentec.com/Ttqrpcw.htm>  
<http://www.sgcworld.com/2020/index.htm>  
<http://www.mfjenterprises.com/products.php?catid=17>  
<http://www.morsex.com>

#### QRP CLUBS:

<http://www.qrparci.org/>  
<http://www.natworld.com/ars/>  
<http://www.njqrp.org/>  
<http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>  
<http://www.qsl.net/wq1lrp/>  
<http://fpqrp.com/>

#### GENERAL INFORMATION:

<http://www.alltel.net/~johnshan/>  
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/bl/5watts/5wattshome.htm>  
<http://www.arl.org/catalog/?category=Low+Power%2FQRP&words=#top>



# 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, Oct 19 through Sunday, Oct 21, 2001

Location

Barnstable County Fairgrounds Classroom  
Route 151 Falmouth Ma.

Required Text (\$12.95 through FARA)

ARRL's Technician Q & A Book, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

Schedule

Fri. 7-9 pm, Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Sun 9 am-2 pm  
(ARRL VEC exams 2 pm Sunday)

Course Fee

\$33.00

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

October 6, 2001

10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

## LOCAL VE SESSIONS IN OCTOBER

- 08 Brookline, MA  
Bob Wondolowski  
508-865-5822
- 11 Providence, RI  
Judy Nelson  
401-231-9156
- 13 Falmouth, MA  
Ben Fleck  
508-540-2583
- 20 Marlborough, MA  
William Wade  
781-891-9079
- 24 Cambridge, MA  
Nick Alterndbernd  
617-253-3776

# UNDERSTANDING ENGINEERS



What college graduates ask...

Science Degree - "Why does it work?"

Engineering Degree - "How does it work?"

Accounting Degree - "How much will it cost?"

Liberal Arts Degree - "Do you want fries with that?"



### TECHNICAL TIPS

Copper water pipe (heavy walled) makes a great ground bus for your station. Use a section of 1" pipe for low inductance. When buying the pipe be sure to get several copper pipe mounting jigs. Use them to mount the pipe on the wall or on the rear of the desk in the radio room. Copper ground wires from your equipment can be secured to the pipe with copper bolts and nuts. Flatten one end of the pipe in a large vise, and attach wide tinned copper braid to the pipe with two or more bolts and nuts. Run the braid to a good ground rod or as an alternate to a cold water pipe. Make the pipe the single point for all grounds in your station.

## 2001 FLEAMARKETS

Oct 5-6 - HOSSTRADERS,

Hopkinton, 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

4.) Expanded Scale Voltmeter

### 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

#### OCTOBER 2001

- 4 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 6 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 11 - FOXHUNT, 7:00 pm
- 18 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm,  
"Submarine Radio Communications"  
by Peter S. Grinnell Jr., W1IAZ
- 25 - Board of Director's meeting, 7 pm

#### NOVEMBER 2001

- 1 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 3 - VE Session, 10:30 am
- 8 - Foxhunt Workshop, 7:00 pm
- 15 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm,  
"QRP - Little Radios, Big Fun"  
by Carl Bredberg, K1KID



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	WAIDGW	Fall River	441.400 +	192.8	WGIU	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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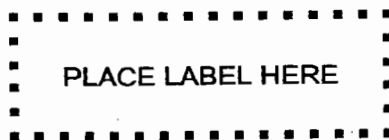
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**SEMARA**

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**FIRST CLASS**

*Scanned by N1TI  
January 2011*