



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 70th YEAR

Volume 38, Issue 8

SEMARA W1AEC

August 2002

"TUNE-UP" DAY FIELD TRIP A BLAST

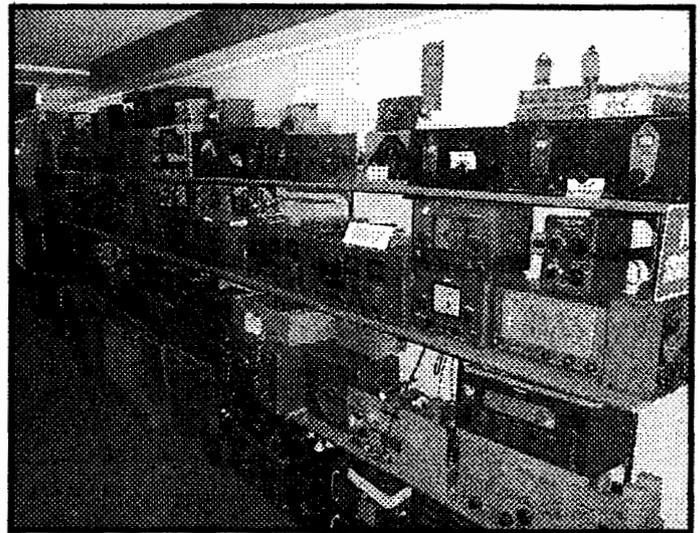
Five SEMARA members went on the field trip to the New England Wireless & Steam Museum in East Greenwich, Rhode Island on Saturday, July 13th. It was a picture perfect day with nary a cloud in the sky. Al Dulong, WB1FQP, provided the transportation in his large "air conditioned" van. Other members attending were Ray Arruda, KB1EVX, Bill Miller, K1IBR, Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL, and Bill Vincent, W1POW.

Not only were all the radio related buildings at the museum open, but also the steam related buildings. In fact, they fired up a boiler and ran several of the large steam engines in the steam engine hall. This was an unexpected treat!

Also in operation was the spark transmitter in the Massey Wireless Station located at the museum. The Massey station was originally at Point Judith, RI, and was moved to the museum's property. When in operation at Point Judith it used the call letters "PJ." The loud roar of the spark was heard across the museum property every time it was keyed.

The flea market section offered old radios, tubes, and parts as well as vintage amateur radios too. One vender had a large box of telegraph keys including units that clamped on your leg. Another offered ARC-5 transmitters and receivers.

On the way back from the museum, a pit stop was made at Miller's Roast Beef in East Providence for a few large roast beef sandwiches. To say the trip was very enjoyable would be an big understatement!



AMATEUR RADIO DISPLAY IN THE RADIO MUSEUM BUILDING



CHARLES MOSZCZENSKI, KB1FRL, AT THE SHIPBOARD KEY

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

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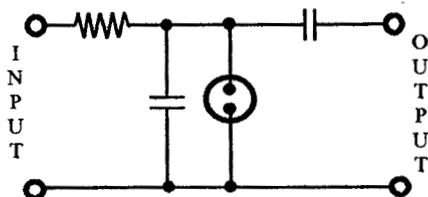
ADVERTISING

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
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 OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.

NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Lightning Arrestor
- 2.) Relaxation Oscillator
- 3.) Electronic Low Pass Filter
- 4.) Dynamic Pulse Amplifier
- 5.) Window Comparator

ANSWER - See page 7

K1BOC ANTENNA PARTY

By Dave Dean, K1JGV

Ray Arruda, KB1EVX, and Dave Dean, K1JGV, took it upon themselves to remove Milton Francis', K1BOC, old verticals for him and assemble and erect a brand spanking new Cushcraft Multi-band R8 Vertical in their place.

Removal of the old stuff was a cakewalk compared to the assembly and erecting of the new R8. George Kirkwood, WB1HJL, and his daughter Jessica, were on hand to assist in the operation. Bill Vincent, W1POW, was the "gopher" who helped by going for parts when needed. Finally, the unit was tuned by Bill Miller, K1IBR, and after several "rain checks" Ray, Dave and George finally erected the new R8 on Milt's back porch.

Dave made the comment that it had umpteen gazillion parts and after all the effort he would be very disappointed in Milt if he does less than "work the world" with it. *Anyway, Happy DXing, Milt!*



BILL MILLER, K1IBR, TUNING ANTENNA

2002 SEMARA OFFICERS

President
 Raymond Arruda, KB1EVX

Vice President
 William Miller Jr., K1IBR

Secretary
 Henry Blanchett, W1GYL

Treasurer
 Scott Szala, W1EV

Trustees:

Martin Jordan, KA1YFV - Chairman
 William Vincent, W1POW Edward Blouin, KA1AW
 Norman Riley, W1ATI Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM

Board of Directors:

Edward Blouin, KA1AW
 Martin Jordan, KA1YFV
 Richard Simpkin, WA1CRA

MEETING MINUTES

The July business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Ray Arruda, KB1EVX. Thirty members were present. The Secretary's report was read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was not given in Scott's absence, but V.P. Bill Miller gave a summary of our financial condition.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds - Chairman Andy Reuter thanked all members that are helping with the rebuild of the outside club wall.

Technical - Bill Miller reported that we are waiting for the crane to erect our new 2 meter antenna array. (The crane is scheduled to erect the AT&T cellular antennas.)

Members were also cautioned to use care when using the linear amplifier. **DIP THE PLATE!** We don't want the tubes to be soft from improper tuning. A copy of instructions for tuning the amplifier are in the manual atop the radio desk.

Activities - No report.

Scholarship - No Report.

Internet - Web page automatically updating each night.

Fleamarket - No Report.

Communications -

Ratifications - Four new members voted into club. See "CLUB NOTES" for list of new members voted into the association. (Page 4)

President's Comments - Ray thanked all who donated equipment to the club for club use and fleamarket sales. He also thanked the members working on the clubhouse wall on the south side. It was reported that George Kirkwood broke several ribs when he fell off the staging while shingling his shed. Don Mara mentioned that another member, Bill Pierce, K1LP, was in the hospital for a few days recently. (See CLUB NOTES) Finally, Ray announced that the chicken BAR-B-QUE is set for August 31.

Old Business - None.

New Business - The following motions passed:

- 1) A motion banning the playing of Internet games on the club computer as it can screw up the computer. The motion was amended to include all computer games.
- 2) A motion to go 50/50 with Rick Cabral, W1RJC, on the rental of a cable Internet connection. This will be on the club computer and also on the 440 repeater to permit IRLP operation.

For the good of the club - The club is looking for a CW keyer for club use in the radio shack. Any member wishing to donate one should contact Bill Miller, K1IBR. (Even a broken unit will be accepted!)

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

TELEVISION'S INVENTOR

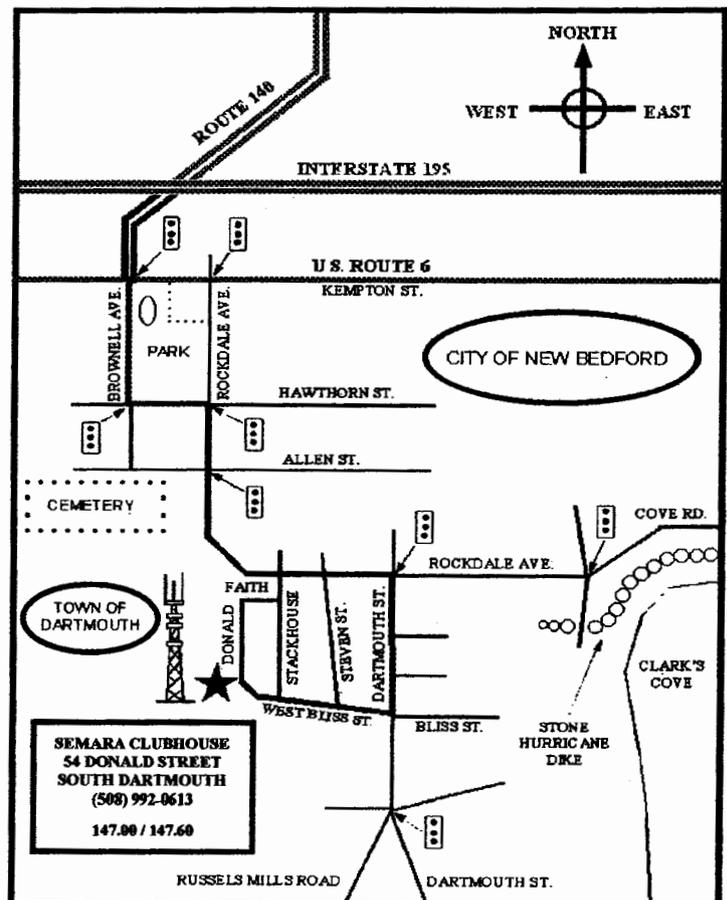
Philo T. Farnsworth was the inventor of modern day television. Legend has it that he conceived the idea of making a picture by scanning back and forth, and top to bottom, across a screen while tilling a potato field in Idaho at age 13!

In 1927, while a student at Brigham Young University, he transmitted a television image using the scanning method he conceived years before. The image was produced on an oscilloscope screen by the scanning electron beam within the tube. 60 horizontal lines were used to make the image. Allegedly a dollar sign was the first image transmitted.



Farnsworth became disenchanted when his invention was used commercially and told his son, "There's nothing on it worthwhile, and we're not going to watch it in this household, and I don't want it in your intellectual diet."

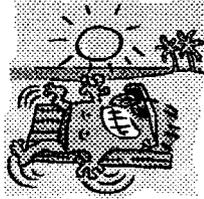
DIRECTIONS TO CLUB





CLUB NOTES

Here it is August already! Boy does time fly... There are no major holidays to celebrate this month. Maybe that's just as well, as most people are at the beach!



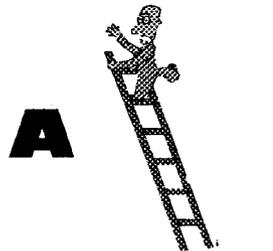
Four applicants were voted life members of the club during the July 11th business meeting:

- Joao Camara, KK1JC
- Joaquim Simoês, N1WNI
- John O'Brien, N1NJI
- John Serpa, KA1YZM



Welcome to the club!

George Kirkwood, KB1HJL, had a bad experience in early July when he fell off his staging while fixing the roof on his shed. He also had the misfortune to land on a lolly column (a big pipe) laying on the ground. George said he thought he broke his back, but a visit to the hospital revealed he actually broke two ribs. George was given pain killers as there isn't much more you can do except let the broken ribs heal. *Wishing you a speedy recovery, George!*



B Ooops!



Bill Pierce, K1LP, spent several days in the hospital the second week of July for an intestinal complaint. He ended up back in the hospital the following week for some previously scheduled surgery. Some days you just can't win!



Wishing you a speedy recovery, Bill!

RICHARD ROBINSON DEAD AT 61

Former club member Richard G. Robinson, AA1UX (ex - N1YZG), of Little Compton, R.I., passed away suddenly on Sunday, June 30th. Richard was a retired airline pilot having worked 34 years for Delta Airlines.

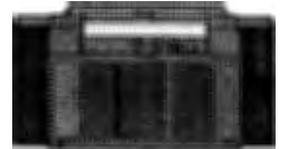


Rest in peace, Richard.

Joe Frois has a new call - W1JPF. His old call letters were N1YAL. He was lucky and secured his initials as his vanity call letters!

W1JPF

The radio room is now air conditioned! Al Du-long, WB1FQP, donated an air conditioner for use in the radio room. *Thanks, Al!*



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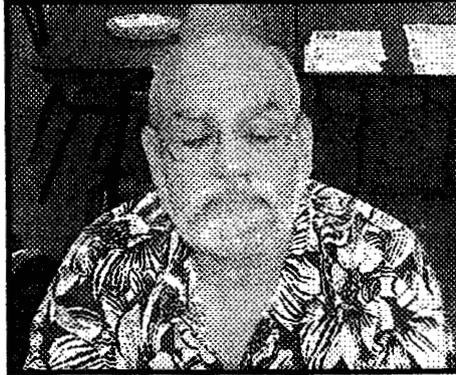
W1FJI AND WA1APX VISIT CLUB

Art Marshall, W1FJI, flew up from Tallahassee, FL, to visit friends and family in the area. He dropped by the clubhouse Sunday morning June 30th. The visit was expected as Art E-Mailed ahead alerting members to his plans.

The same morning however, **Bill Rovas, WA1APX/8**, paid the club a surprise visit with his dad, **Ed, WA1VXY**. It was like "Old Home" week at the club with the two out-of-town long-time members visiting.

It was observed that they both bypassed the boxes of donuts and went straight for the malasadas! That's one delicacy you don't find in Florida or Michigan. (Coffee milk and linguica are other local "goodies.")

It was great to reminisce about the "good old days" and the fun times we all enjoyed. Art said he will make a return visit in two years, while Bill might show up any day the spirit moves!



ART, W1FJI, CHECKING HIS EYELIDS FOR HOLES...



BILL, WA1APX/8, SNAPS A PICTURE OF YOURS TRULY...

2002 FLEAMARKETS

- August 18 - MIT
- August 24,25 - Boxboro
- Sept 8 - SEMARA!
- Sept 15 - MIT
- Sept 21 - Forrestdale RI
- Sept 22 - Newtown, CT
- Oct 4,5 - Hoosstraders (NH)
- Oct 6 - Wallingford, Ct
- Oct 12 - Nashua, NH
- Oct 13 - Wallingford, CT
- Oct 20 - MIT
- Oct 27 - VHF/UHF Esfeld, CT
- Nov 1 - Feeding Hills, MA
- Nov 16 - Newtonville, MA
- Nov 30 - Windsor, CT

FULL DETAILS AT:
mit.edu/w1fj1/Public/oc-fleas

BUILDING REPAIR PROGRESS REPORT

On July 17th the final plywood was screwed in place to complete the replacement of the sheathing on the south side of the clubhouse. Only the cedar shingles need to be installed to complete the work. Any member wishing to help out can drop by the club on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings. (7 am start time.) Plans call for a few hours work each morning, weather permitting.

Overall, this work project is moving along fine. All the rotten sheathing on the south side of the clubhouse building has been replaced and the shingling is underway. Rotten framework around the old window was replaced. A new window was installed in the kitchen area. A new outside light was installed next to the entrance door. White cedar grade A "extra" shingles are being installed. The trim was finished with an oil-based exterior paint.

The new exterior should last in excess of 50 years, requiring only the trim to be painted every few years.



RAY ARRUDA, KB1EVX, AT WORK

BOB AMBROULT, N1VUG, DECLARED "CHILI KING"

Bob Ambroult, N1VUG, is the official SEMARA "Chili King." Bob whipped up a batch of his world-famous mild chili for Field Day and before you could say "Jack Sprat could eat no fat..." it was gone.

Bob's flavorful mild chili was made with steak and beans. None of that hamburger-style chili for him. For those that wanted a more formidable chili flavor, Bob brought along 4 different hot spices. Just about everyone liked the chili as made. I don't believe anyone went to the 5 -Alarm Fire level using the extra spices!

Thanks, Bob, for the great chili treat on Field Day!



NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

August 3, 2002
10:30 am
SEMARA Clubhouse

VE SESSIONS IN AUGUST

- 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 Melrose, MA
Scott Kingsley
781-665-7654
- 21 Cambridge, MA
Nick Alterndbernd
617-253-3776

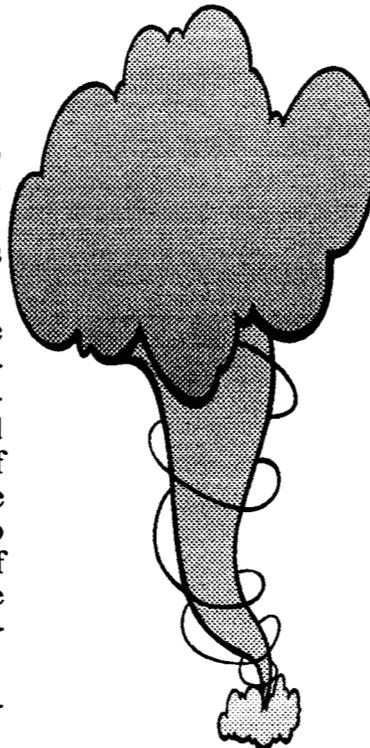
JULY TECH TALK

The scheduled speaker for the July Tech-Talk, John Walsh, was in Africa on business and unable to present the talk. John was negotiating an increase in the size of the game reserve where white rhinoceros roam as the present reserve is too small and the rhinos are fighting each other for territory.

In lieu of John's talk, a video on tornados was shown. The video was titled "Tornadoes—The Entity." It had incredible footage of tornados from the past 50 years. Virtually every form of tornado was depicted from huge mile wide monsters to tornados with multiple funnels. One tornado even had small tornados within the main funnel!

An interesting comparison was made between tornados and hurricanes. Tornados are usually one mile or less in diameter whereas hurricanes are a hundred miles or more in diameter. The "eye" of a hurricane is a dead calm, whereas the "eye" (funnel) of a tornado is an inferno with winds measured in hundreds of miles per hour. Both storms have one thing in common - they spread destruction and death.

The video was loaned by Ray Aruda, KB1EVX. *Thanks, Ray.*



POINT TO PONDER

"It's amazing what ordinary people can do if they set out without preconceived notions."

Charles F. Kettering

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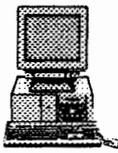


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SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

<p>AUGUST 2002</p> <p>1 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>3 - VE Session, 10:30 am.</p> <p>8 - FOXHUNT, 7 pm.</p> <p>15 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "Shrine Club Projects" by Shriner Ralph Hall</p> <p>31 - 12 Noon, Chicken Bar-B-Que @ Clubhouse</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 2002</p> <p>5 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>8 - SEMARA FLEAMARKET 9 am to 1 pm</p> <p>12 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, WAYNE GREEN, W2NSD, 73 Publisher, via speaker-phone.</p> <p>19 - FOXHUNT, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>26 - BOD meeting, 7 pm.</p>
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Coffee Hour at the clubhouse every Sunday at 7 - 11 am. Drop by and ragchew!

CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE AUGUST 31st



The annual SEMARA Chicken Barbeque is set for Saturday, August 31, 2002, at 12 noon. Seating is limited to 50. Club treasurer Scott Szala, W1EV, will handle **ALL** ticket sales on a *first come, first serve* basis. Tickets can be picked up at business meetings or Sunday mornings. They can also be ordered by mail sent to the clubhouse address.

ONLY \$5 PER TICKET!

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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
146.805	136.5	K1RFI	Fall River	443.500+	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
146.685 -		W1LWM	Plymouth	443.600 +		N1SIN	Norwell
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147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth	444.200 +	118.8	N1YHS	Bourne
147.120 +	100.0	KB1QL	Vineyard	444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton	444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater	444.550 +	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
146.730 -		W1SGL	Sandwich	447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston

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