



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 70th YEAR

Volume 38, Issue 11

SEMARA W1AEC

November 2002

## MEMBERS VISIT WIRELESS & STEAM MUSEUM



On Saturday, October 5, 2002, several members left the clubhouse to visit the New England Wireless and Steam Museum in East Greenwich, RI. The event was the annual "Steam-Up Day" held at the museum. The group consisted of club president **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**; **Carl Bredberg, K1KID**; **Al Dulong, WB1FQP**, and his grandson **Adam**; **Mike Laronda, WA1OMI**; **Bill Miller, K1IBR**; and **Bill Vincent, W1POW**.

Following a hardy breakfast at the Willow Tree diner, the group headed for the museum in Al Dulong's deluxe touring van. It was raining when we left the diner, but upon arrival at the museum the rain had stopped.

All buildings at the museum were open and several large steam engines were operating in the steam hall. A live steam table outside allowed visitors to demonstrate the operation of a steam engine. Also available

was a "compressed air" table where several model engines were in operation. A 1902 Stanley Steamer toured about the museum's grounds. Another Stanley Steamer of later vintage sported a brass plaque announcing it had climbed Mt. Washington in 1999. Of particular interest to club members was the Massey spark transmitter which was operational. (It was connected to a dummy load.) Several members got to "key it" and heard the roar of the rotary spark gap. One can only wonder if several neighbors also got to "see it" on their TV screens!

On the way back from the museum, a stop for lunch was made at Miller's Roast Beef in East Providence, RI. "Yum, yum" was the only way to describe the stop!

All that attended "Steam-up Day" enjoyed it immensely. It was like stepping back in time to an era when the pace of everything moved slower. The good old days...



STEAM ENGINE HALL

# 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.

## FALL DINNER HELD AT CENTURY HOUSE

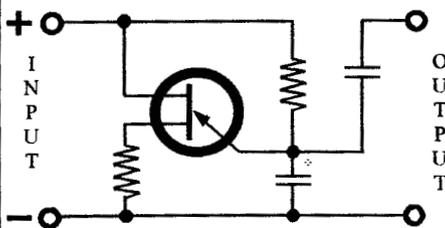


On Thursday, October 17th, several club members met at the Century House in Acushnet for a "Fall Dinner." Original plans called for a Turkey Dinner, but we couldn't get the 30 person minimum the restaurant required for such a meal. As an alternative, Activities Chairman **Scott Szala, W1EV**, arranged for the 16 members to enjoy a sit-down "meal off the menu."

Everyone enjoyed the arrangement and meals from Roast Pork to Broiled Sirloin Tips were served up to the hungry crowd. The meal was served "Family Style" starting off with a delicious chicken and rice soup. Following the main courses, grape-nut-custard pudding was the most often ordered dessert with others favoring a scrumptious chocolate cake.

Following the meal, club president **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**, presented **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, with an engraved plaque honoring him for six decades of work on behalf of the club. The award was a total surprise to Bill. Bill thanked the members for the kind gesture of appreciation and stated it meant a lot to him to receive such an honor.

### NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Audio Level Limiter
- 2.) Missing Pulse Detector
- 3.) Sine Wave Generator
- 4.) Positive Peak Clipper
- 5.) Unijunction Oscillator

ANSWER - See page 7

## 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, WIPOW    Edward Blouin, KA1AW  
 Norman Riley, W1ATI       Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM

**Board of Directors:**

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

# MEETING MINUTES

The October business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**. Thirty-five members were present. The Secretary's report was read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Buildings and Grounds* - None.

*Technical* - Chairman **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, reported that the finals in the exciter blew out and were replaced the last week of September. Repeater is back to normal.

*Scholarship* - None.

*Internet* - None.

*Communications* - None.

*Ratifications* - Ten new/reinstated members were voted into club. See "CLUB NOTES" for the list of new members voted into the association. (Page 4)

*President's Comments* - President **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**, thanked all members for the work they did to make the various club projects a success. He mentioned there will be a work party to shingle the front of the clubhouse on Saturday, October 19th from 8 am to 4 pm.

*Old Business* - None

*New Business* - The following motions passed:

- 1) A motion to lower the price of the turkey dinner to \$10.
- 2) A motion to hold next years Fleamarket on September 14, 2003 from 7 am to noon.
- 3) A motion to buy a 12 volt, 45 ampere MFJ-4245MV power supply for the grand door prize at next year's Fleamarket.
- 4) A motion to provide a small buffet for all that participate in the April and October foxhunts.
- 5) A motion to purchase a hot dog steamer.

Carl Bredberg was appointed nominating committee chairman.

*For the good of the club* - Carl Bredberg suggested members leave ham magazines in waiting rooms at doctors and dentists. A club brochure could also be inserted in the magazines.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

# Board of Directors Meeting

The September Board of Directors meeting was held on September 26 from 7 to 9 pm. The board recommended the following major projects for 2003:

- 1.) Erection of an 80 foot self-standing tower.
- 2.) Installation of a new floor in the meeting hall.

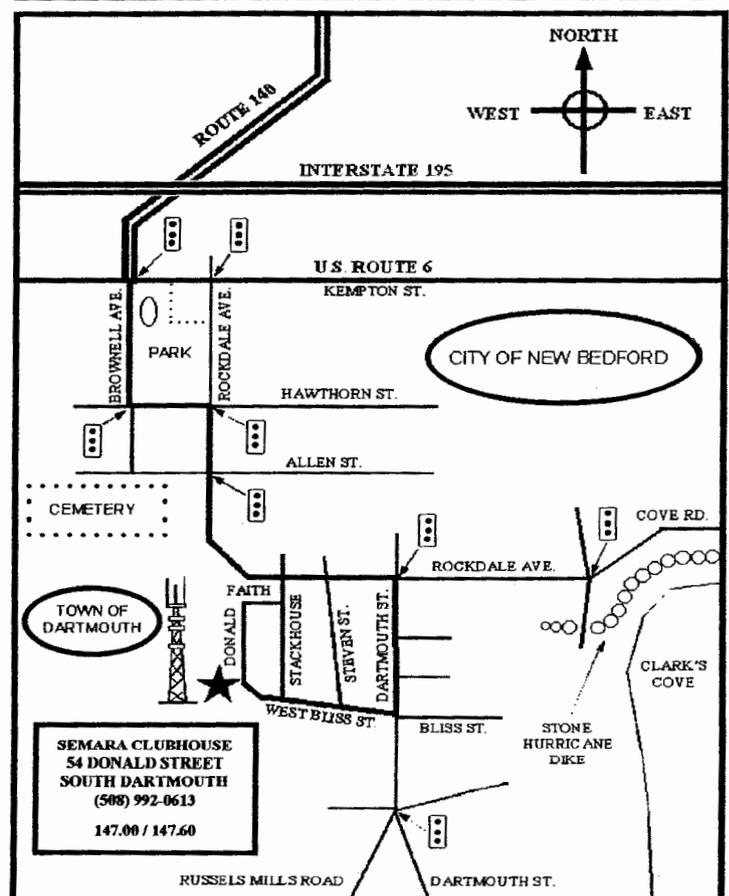
The board reviewed the recent Fleamarket operations and recommends the following changes for 2003:

- 1.) Change the basic time of operation to 7 am to 12 noon.
- 2.) Sales of equipment to start as soon as any vendor is ready. This includes the club table.
- 3.) Club members running the club's table cannot buy any items off the table. They must turn sales over to another member and then approach the table as a buyer.
- 4.) A list was prepared outlining various jobs that members can do to help make the Fleamarket a success.
- 5.) Club members acting as sellers shall wear an apron marked to designate them as official club equipment sellers.

The board also recommends buying a hot dog steamer, a 12V, 45A power supply for a grand door prize, and the use of fresh 85% hamburger at the Fleamarket.

Finally, the board suggested providing a small buffet meal for the benefit of all participants in the Spring and Fall foxhunts.

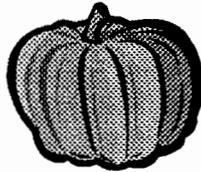
# DIRECTIONS TO CLUB





# CLUB NOTES

November already! The holiday season is upon us. Veteran's Day falls on the 11th, and Thanksgiving on the 28th. Hanukkah begins at sundown on the 29th. Get your Christmas shopping done!



Ten applicants were voted life members of the club during the October 3rd business meeting:

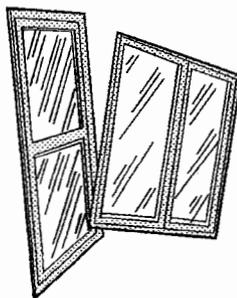
Armand Augustine, WB1BUG \*  
 Craig Derewiany, WB3IJO  
 Edmond Duclos, WA1ZCB  
 Antonio Ferreira, KD1VU  
 John Hadfield, KA1TP \*  
 Arthur Irwin, KB1IWC  
 Donald Manley, N1PMB  
 John Pavao, WA1LPM  
 Nick Pendergrass, KB1WB \*  
 Jim Valdes, WA1GPO

\* = reinstated member

Thanks to the generosity of Norman "Doc" Riley, W1ATI, the club now has a steel frame staging assembly for use about the club when a ladder just won't cut the mustard. When not in use, the staging assembly folds up for easy storage. The staging will be pressed into immediate service as members shingle the clubhouse. *Thanks, Doc!*



A big *THANK YOU* goes out to Andy Reuter, WA1FNM, and his wife Dot. Andy made all the arrangements to get new thermo glass panes installed in the club's front windows, then he took two windows at a time to the glass shop for the actual work. This was done over a two week period. In the meantime, his wife Dot washed all the curtains before installing them back on the windows.



## GLEN SILVERBERG, WA1OAJ, SK

Glen M. Silverberg Sr., WA1OAJ, died at age 60 on Wednesday, October 2, 2002. Glen fought a courageous battle with cancer.

Glen was a long time member of the club, having first joined in 1970.

*Rest in peace, Glen.*



## H-F SHACK SALE

Item	Cost	Discounted 10%
G5RV 102'	\$25	\$23
Ropes	\$29	\$26
Magnet Roof 4-Pad	\$50	\$45

**WANTED:** Tiny 2M handheld with CTCSS tone.

### CONTACT:

Wayne Sellin, KG4FRL  
 24 Tabor Road  
 Forestdale, MA 02644  
 508 539-4882  
[SELLINWG@EROLS.COM](mailto:SELLINWG@EROLS.COM)

## 2002 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tickets for the SEMARA 2002 Christmas Party are on sale. As usual, we will have a Deluxe Buffet with Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Baked Ham, Chicken, etc.

### \$20 PER TICKET

A gift exchange will be conducted. To join in the gift exchange bring a gift valued at about \$5 and mark it MAN or WOMAN. (Men bring gifts for men, and women bring gifts for women.)

## SEMARA CHRISTMAS PARTY 2002



Thursday, December 12, 2002  
 Cocktails: 6 - 7 pm  
 Deluxe Buffet Dinner: 7 pm

CENTURY HOUSE  
 107 South Main Street  
 Acushnet, MA 02743

## HOT DOG STEAMER INSTALLED IN CLUB'S KITCHEN

On Saturday, October 12th, **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, and **Bill Vincent, W1POW**, installed a hot dog steamer in the club's kitchen.

The first order of business was to "test it" and make sure it worked. ;-) Several hot dogs and buns were placed in the cooker and in short order it was party time! Bill & Bill sat down and enjoyed a few "steamers." Yep, the hot dog steamer works fine.

Sunday morning, October 13th, was nothing short of a "foodfest" at the clubhouse. The new hot dog steamer served up 3 dozen dogs. Hot dogs on a Sunday morning? Hams will down a dog anytime! **Laz Lazarov, KB1GSK**, whipped up a crock pot of mild chili which the members blew away in short order. Hot peppers, okra, and other condiments were also available. And to top it off we had the usual two dozen doughnuts and one dozen malasadas!

Plans call for having the steamer "fired up" at all business meetings, work parties, and Tech-Talks, as well as other times as the spirit moves...



## FRONT OF CLUB SHINGLED

On Saturday, October 19th, a shingling party was held at the clubhouse. About ten members worked from 8 am to 1 pm shingling the front of the clubhouse. About 1/3 of the shingling required was completed that day.

Steamed hot dogs were available all day for the workers. Several coffee, donut, and hot dog breaks were taken throughout the day.

The following week members worked Tuesday and Wednesday to complete one half the remaining work. The work went faster after the first day since the fitting work around the door was out of the way. Stainless steel nails (#5) were used under the windows to prevent staining of the shingles.

Hopefully, by the time you read this the work shall be completed. However, the rainy days lately have slowed down the work progress a bit! A big "THANK YOU" goes out to all the members that helped in the shingling work.



## 24 REELS OF HARDLINE DONATED TO CLUB

On Thursday, October 10th, Ray Arruda, WB1EVX; Bill Miller, K1IBR; Pete Ryder, KB1GPL; and Scott Szala, W1EV, picked up 24 reels of hardline coax from a business site in Raynham, MA. The coax ranged in size from 7/8 to 2-1/4 in diameter. The club was also given a box of 16 new 7/8 hardline connectors.

Two flat-bed trailers were used to transport the coax to the club. One trailer had to make a 2nd run to get all the coax. The three men that came with the tractor-trailers helped load the cable, and for that we are very grateful. Scott Szala, W1EV, made the arrangements for the use of the trailers.

On Monday, October 14th, Bill Miller, K1IBR, and Scott Szala, W1EV, marked each reel with an identification number within a circle, and then took inventory of all the reels. Three diameters of cable were identified - 7/8, 1-1/2, 1-5/8, and 2-1/4 inches. The majority of the cable is 1-5/8 diameter. The smallest reel held 144 feet of hardline, and the biggest reel held 750 feet. The total footage of hardline cable added up to 7,324 feet. (That's over a mile!) The value of the hardline was calculated as \$84,371. Not bad for a long days work, even if all four members went home with aches and pains...

This hardline coaxial cable will come in handy when the 80 foot tower is erected next year. Excess coax will probably be sold at the club's Fleamarket next fall if the members so vote.



Club members Scott Szala, W1EV, and Al Costello, KB1EAG, pose with the 24 reels of cable donated to the club.

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

November 2, 2002

10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

## NOVEMBER VE SESSIONS

09 Falmouth, MA

Ben Fleck

508-540-2583

11 Brookline, MA

Mike Ardai

781-321-7939

14 Providence, RI

Judy Nelson

401-231-9156

16 Marlborough, MA

Bill Wade

617-699-3670

20 Cambridge, MA

Nick Alterndbernd

617-253-3776

## POINT TO PONDER

*"Success is the ability to go from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm."*

*Sir Winston Churchill*

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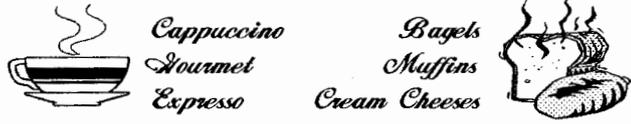
BERNIE PEABODY N1M0  
DICK WILBORG W1ZC

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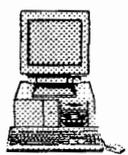


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**SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR**

<p><b>NOVEMBER 2002</b></p> <p>2 - VE Session, 10:30 am.</p> <p>7 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>14 - Card Game, 6:30 pm., Eat Out 8:00 pm.</p> <p>21 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "Resources for Blind and Handicapped Hams" by Bob Zeida, N1BLF</p>	<p><b>DECEMBER 2002</b></p> <p>5 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>7 - VE Session, 10:30 am.</p> <p>12 - CHRISTMAS PARTY, 6 PM Century House, South Main Street, Acushnet</p> <p>19 - Card Game, 6:30 pm., Eat Out 8:00 pm.</p>
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*Coffee Hour at the clubhouse every Sunday at 7 - 11 am. Drop by and ragchew!*

# SEMARA NET DIRECTORY

—Sunday—

8 am 28.700

—Daily—

7 pm 146.550

—Monday to Friday—

7:30 am 3.872 MHz

— SEMCARES NET —

1st Sunday each month at 7:30 pm  
145.490- (Fairhaven Repeater)

**FAIRHAVEN WEATHER NET**

8 p.m. Monday - Friday 145.49

# 2002 FLEAMARKETS

Nov 1 - Feeding Hills, MA

Nov 3 - Framingham, MA

Nov 16 - Newtonville, MA

Nov 30 - Windsor, CT



BE THERE!

## LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>144</b>			
145.150 -	123.0	WAIDGW	Fall River
145.490 -		KD1CY	Fairhaven
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth
146.655 -	88.5	WAIGPO	Falmouth
146.805	136.5	KIRFI	Fall River
146.685 -		WILM	Plymouth
146.955 -	88.5	KIPBO	Dennis
147.000 +	67.0	WIAEC	Dartmouth
147.345 +	88.5	KB1QL	Vineyard
147.135 +	67.0	NDIN	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	WIMV	Bridgewater
146.730 -		WISGL	Sandwich

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>440</b>			
441.400 +	192.8	WGIU	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	WIRJC	Dartmouth
444.200 +	118.8	NIYHS	Bourne
444.250 +	141.3	WAIGPO	Falmouth
444.350 +	88.5	WIACT	Fall River
444.550 +	88.5	WIMV	Bridgewater
447.075 -	88.5	NIDZD	Kingston

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