



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 71st YEAR

Volume 39, Issue 3

SEMARA W1AEC

March 2003

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE HELD FEBRUARY 8TH



Carl, K1KID, and Jerry, KB1JGA, operating the HF station

On Saturday, February 8, 2003, an ARES Emergency Communications Exercise was held from 10 am to 1 pm throughout Southeastern Massachusetts. The exercise was held to check the operational status and ability of amateurs to hold effective communications during a disaster.

In addition to the local SEMARA/SEMCARES Team, participants in the event included the National Weather Service in Taunton, Greater New Bedford Red Cross, Marshfield EOC and Civil Air Patrol (CAP), Sturdy Memorial EMCOMM Team, Bridgewater EOC/Massasoit ARA Emergency Response Team, and the Fall River BCRA Emergency Response Team.

Communications in the New Bedford area were established on both high frequency (HF) and very-high frequency (VHF) bands. The HF communications were on 40 meters, while VHF operations were held on 6 and 2 meters. The exercise revealed several deficiencies in the local system that will be corrected ASAP. One of the findings was the requirement for a 2 meter base station with CTCSS tone capability. The lack of such capability prevented communications via the Taunton 2 meter repeater. Also, the lack of a 6 meter antenna at the club prevented use of that frequency.

The following members staffed the club during the exercise: Scott, W1EV; Bill, W1POW; Carl, K1KID; Jerry, KB1JGA; Bill, K1IBR; Andy, WA1FNM; Pete, KB1GPL; Ray, KB1EVX. Checking into the exercise from their home stations were John, W1ZYV; Arthur, W1TGA; Al, WB1FQP; Dick, K1AHA; Mike, KB1NB, and Bob, N1BLF.

The exercise was a great learning experience for all, and we look forward to the next emergency communications test. By the way, kale soup and steamers were served during the exercise at the club in addition to the usual coffee and donuts!



Bill, W1POW, and Scott, W1EV, operating the VHF station

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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
 SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR
 PUBLICATION IS THE 15TH
 OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.**

THE EARLY DAYS OF RADIO

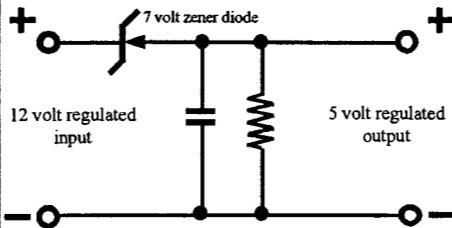


Here is another picture of an early amateur radio station in New Bedford sent in by Art Marshall, W1FJI. This is the station of Milton Baylies, 1ZN, of 111 Grinnell street. The picture was taken in September of 1915 by photographer Everett L. Weeden of 64 Bay Street, New Bedford.

On the left side of the table is the 750 watt, 20,000 volt spark transmitter used by Milt. The motor driven rotary spark gap in front of the 20,000 volt transformer appears to be set on a towel to dampen vibrations. In the center of the table is the receiver with the headphones lying in front of it. Prominently displayed above the table is Milt's First Grade wireless radio operators license. Note the picture of a lighthouse to the lower left of the license.

In 1912 Milt was a local celebrity when he copied messages from the Cunard Lines ship S.S. Carpithia documenting the rescue efforts at sea following the sinking of the Titanic. The local newspaper, the Evening Standard, stationed a reporter at Milt's house to relay the rescue reports to the newspaper as fast as Milt received them.

NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Zener R/C Oscillator
- 2.) Zener Diode Series Regulator
- 3.) Zener Diode Tunnel Oscillator
- 4.) Zener Diode Shunt Regulator
- 5.) Zener Overvoltage Protector

ANSWER - See page 7

2003 SEMARA OFFICERS

President
 Raymond Arruda, KB1EVX

Vice President
 Carl Bredberg, K1KID

Secretary
 Henry Blanchett, W1GYL

Treasurer
 Scott Szala, W1EV

Trustees:

William Vincent, W1POW - Chairman
 Edward Blouin, KA1AW Norman Riley, W1ATI
 Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM William Miller, K1IBR

Board of Directors:

Martin Jordan, KA1YFV
 Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM
 Bill Vincent, W1POW

MEETING MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds – Andy Reuter requested that members be sure to close any windows they open when smokers are enjoying a puff or two.

Technical – Bill Miller reported the new 2 meter receiver is on order and should arrive within the coming month.

Activities - Scott Szala stated the annual clam-bake is set for April 13th this year. Tickets go on sale at the March business meeting.

Scholarship - None.

Internet - None.

Communications - Scott Szala reported on the upcoming ARES emergency radio test on Saturday, February 8th. Members are requested to drop by the clubhouse and lend a hand, or check in from their home or mobile stations.

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

President's Comments - President **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**, wished Marino Coppellotti, N1PVP, a speedy recovery from his recent fall. He also thanked Carl Bredberg, K1KID, for the donation of a tape player to the VE team. Ray reminded members of the new swap net held Monday nights on the 147.000 repeater.

Old Business - A motion to buy a CD set of QST, QEX, and Ham Radio magazines for \$600 was approved.

New Business - Two motions were approved:

- 1) Buy a 2KW, 220 volt wall heater for the basement to protect the pipes from freezing.
- 2) Buy a 600 foot roll of 3/8 poly rope for club use in ducts, etc..

For the good of the club - The upcoming ARES emergency communications test this Saturday was outlined.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

IRLP SWAP NET Channel 9255

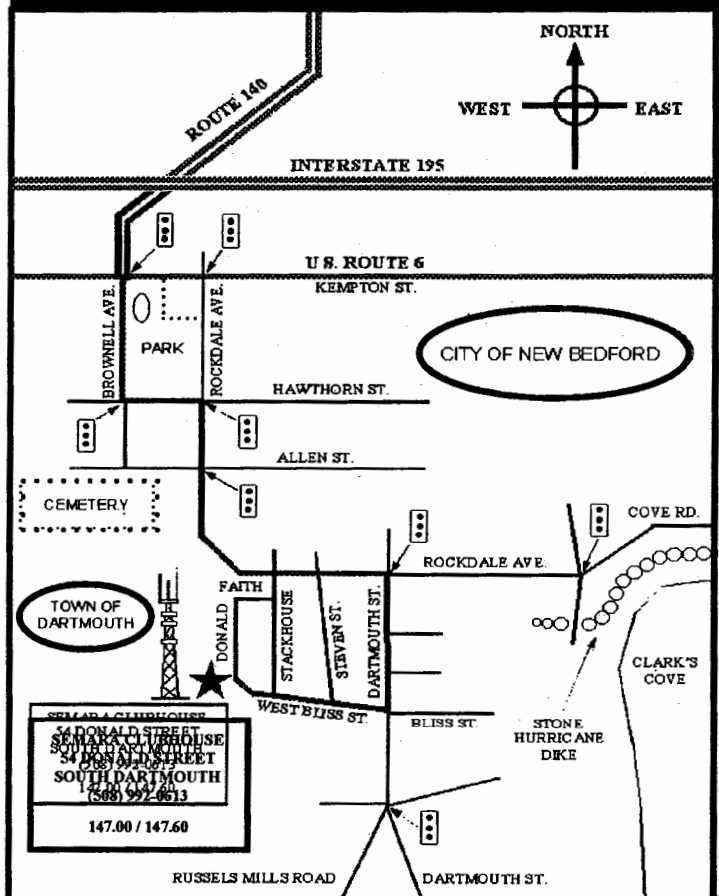
The Western Reflector on the IRLP system conducts a swap net every Thursday evening (except US holidays) at 2100 Eastern Standard time.

Only posting is allowed on the net - no discussing of trades or purchase arrangements. Interested parties should check off the net and establish contact direct or on an unused node to make any arrangements relative to the equipment listed on the swap net.

No commercial postings are permitted, this is an "amateurs only" swap net.

Please list only amateur radio items - no cars, dining room tables, computers, rubber chickens, firearms, paint by number sets, and similar items are permitted.

DIRECTIONS TO CLUB





CLUB NOTES

March is upon us with the blowing winds of change. Can spring not be just around the corner? Get your green outfit ready for St. Patrick's Day on Monday, the 17th!



Two applicants were voted life members of the club during the February 6th business meeting:

Robert Bairos, WA1FAR

Hugh Murray, KB1JGB

Welcome to the club!



Hugh Murray has a new call. He is now **K1HJM**. This is the year of new calls! It seems one or two members get a new call each month. *Best of QSOs with your new call, Hugh.*

~~KB1JGB~~
K1HJM

Bob, KA1YON writes: "Rebecca Rose Kish, daughter of Bob KA1YON and Grace Kish, at 21 months will be our Flower Girl at our wedding in Las Vegas on March 21st (Bob's 51st birthday)."

Congratulations, Bob and Grace.



The club has purchased CD-ROM sets of the following magazines:

QST - 1915 - 1999
QEX - 1981 - 1998
HAM Radio - 1968-1990



Contact any club officer to get access to the CDs for review on the club's computer only. (The special reading program needed for the CDs is installed on the club's computer.)

Member **John C. Amaral, W1VVRP**, underwent surgery in early February. Cards may be sent to him at home:

7 Cypress Way
Niantic, CT 06357



Member **Jessica A. Kirkwood** was named to the honor roll at Westport High School. Jessica is a junior at the school and the daughter of **George Kirkwood**.

Congratulations, Jessica!



Amateur Radio Communications at the Boston Marathon

Radio operators are making preparations to support the 107th running of the Boston Athletic Association Boston Marathon on April 21, 2002. Amateur Radio plays a vital part in supporting runners before, during, and after the marathon. This year we have a combined organization handling all phases of radio support; start area, length of the course, and finish line.

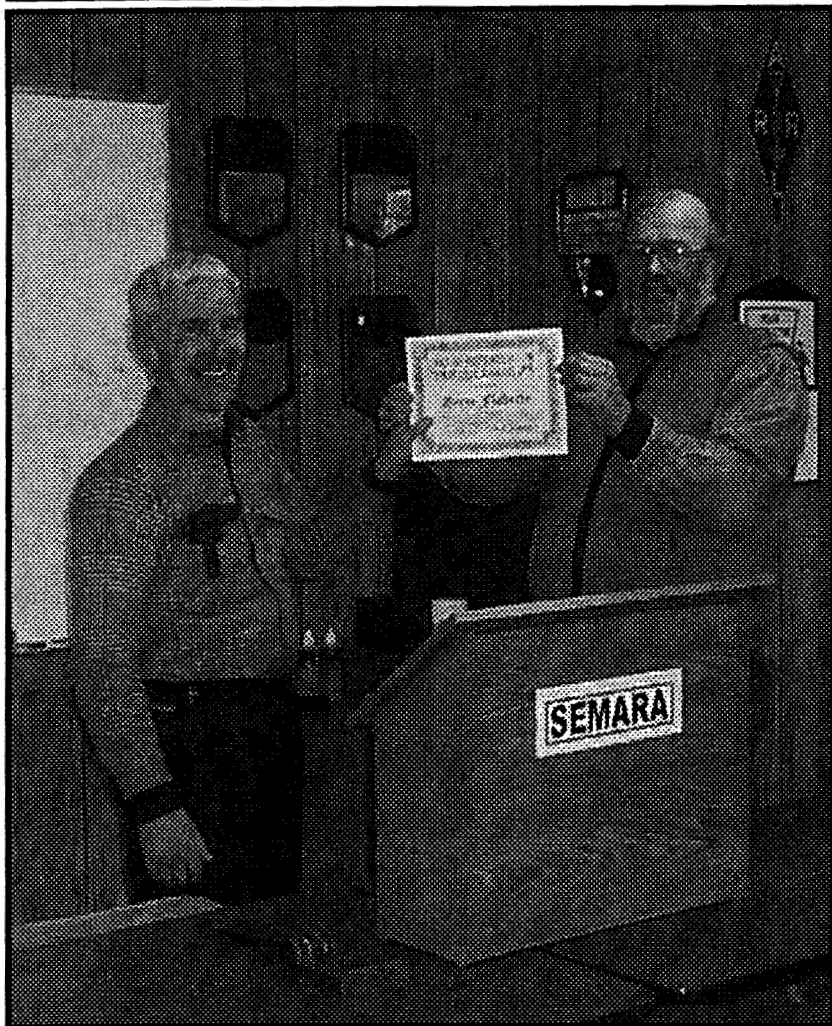
Positions are available starting early in the day in Hopkinton, along the route at aid and water stations, and at finish line operations in Boston. You can choose which activity you will be involved with, or work multiple locations. In Hopkinton, we will assist with coordinating the multiple parking areas and providing for start line safety. Along the 26 mile route, assisting the Red Cross at aid stations with supply requirements and ambulance dispatch. Runner pick up busses traveling the route will have hams on board. At the finish line, working with the medical teams and shadowing officials. You will need a two meter or dual band HT, extended antenna, and extra batteries for participation. Procedure sheets will be available before the event. We will try to accommodate your needs within the confines of the event set up.

To signup mail in the BAA volunteer form available at the baa web site (<http://www.baa.org>). You can find the volunteer form by clicking B.A.A Marathon under B.A.A. Volunteering then click GENERAL VOLUNTEER APPLICATION. Fill it out and mail it in as instructed. Check in the Race Day section: if you want to work the start check radio team; if you want to work the finish check ham radio (finish only); and if you want to work the course check ham radio (course only). We will be doing a mailing at the end of Feb. with more details. You will be able to change your mind at that time as well. Or feel free to contact Steve Schwarm, W3EVE at (508)384-7697, w3eve@arrl.net. Please no calls after 9PM or before 8AM.

HAM RADIO CLASSES

The Falmouth Radio Club is conducting a "license in a weekend" class April 11-13, 2003. Check their website for full details: www.falara.org/classes.html

KB1JGA TIMES OUT THE REPEATER



Jerry Flaherty, KB1JGA, timed out the repeater in early February. Accordingly, and in concert with past tradition, he was given an award certificate in recognition of the event. The formal award ceremony took place on Thursday night, February 13th.

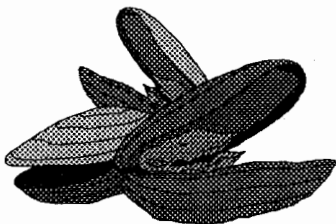
Bill Miller, K1IBR, Chairman of the Repeater Committee, officiated at the brief award ceremony held that evening. After Bill gaveled the room to attention, Jerry was called forward to accept his certificate of dishonor. The certificate notes that the award was given for "hogging the airways, ignoring the courtesy tone, filling the air with hot air, and in general boring all listeners with repeated stories and obscure trivia."

Jerry quietly accepted the award to the accompaniment of catcalls, hoots, and subdued applause. It was rumored that Jerry was "setup" to timeout the repeater by other operators that purposely kept their transmissions short and knowingly overrode the courtesy tone. Poppycock! Jerry earned his award the "old fashioned way!"

The word on the street is that Jerry plans to frame his certificate and place it on the wall of his ham shack. Of course, a small lamp will properly illuminate the award whenever he keys his transmitter...

Jerry, KB1JGA, accepts his award from Bill, K1IBR

ANNUAL SEMARA CLAMBAKE



**TICKETS
\$20 EACH**

Saturday, April 12, 2003
Clam chowder at 12 noon, bake to follow.
SEMARA CLIUBHOUSE, 54 Donald Street, S.D., MA

IMPORTANT NOTICE - TICKETS GO ON SALE AT THE MARCH BUSINESS MEETING. *SEATING IS LIMITED*, SO ONLY 50 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD ON A STRICTLY "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE" BASIS. THE TICKETS SELL FAST, SO TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT BE SURE TO ATTEND THE MARCH BUSINESS MEETING AND SECURE YOUR TICKET!

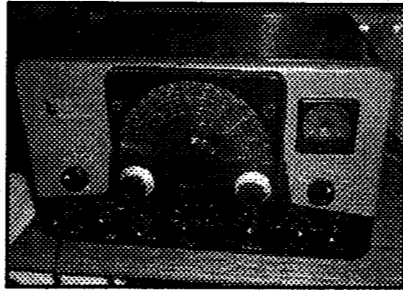
ESTATE SALE

The following equipment from the estate of Octavio "Rocky" Pimental, K1VJZ, is for sale by his widow:

DRAKE TR4 transceiver
 DRAKE MS4 antenna tuner
 DRAKE 7075 microphone

 CDE rotator control box only

 JOHNSON Viking Ranger II



If interested in any of the above items, please contact:
 Mrs. Lillian Pimental at 508-992-5402.

NOTICE - Please call after March 18th.

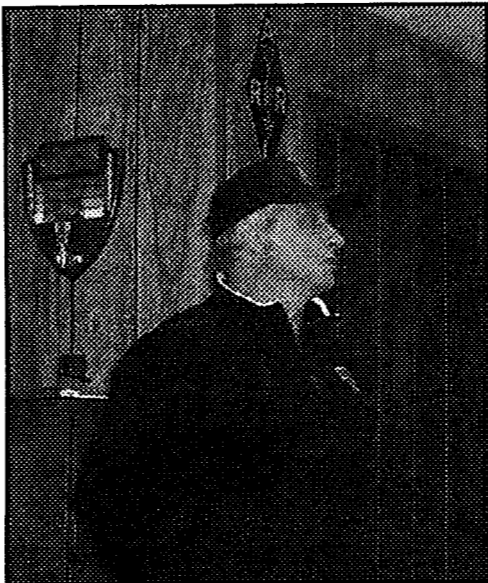
RAY ARRUDA GIVES TALK ON MW DXING

Ray Arruda, KB1EVX, gave a very interesting Tech-Talk on medium wave (MW) Dxing. MW Dxing refers to logging broadcast band stations. Ray has heard stations from all states except Alaska, Hawaii, and Oregon. Additionally, he has logged many broadcast stations in Europe and South America.

Ray had several three-ring binders that contained his confirmation letters from stations all over the world. He mentioned that one station also sent him a baseball type cap with the station's call letters on it! Ray stressed the need to include a self-addressed, self-stamped envelope when requesting confirmation reports.

Ray revealed several "secrets" that he used to snag stations far away. One mentioned was that stations periodically go off the air for maintenance and this allows you to hear other stations far away. (Years ago most stations shut down at midnight Sunday evening for maintenance.)

It was a great talk and the 20 members in attendance truly enjoyed it. *Thanks, Ray!*



NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

March 1, 2003
 10:30 am
 SEMARA Clubhouse

MARCH VE SESSIONS

08 Falmouth, MA
 Joanne Reid
 508-548-1121

10 Brookline, MA
 Mike Ardai
 781-321-7939

13 Providence, RI
 Judy Nelson
 401-231-9156

15 Marlborough, MA
 Bill Wade
 617-699-3670

POINT TO PONDER

"For what is liberty but the unhampered translation of will into act?"

*Alighieri Dante
 (1265 - 1321)*

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SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

<p>MARCH 2003</p> <p>1 - VE Session, 10:30 am.</p> <p>6 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>13 - Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.</p> <p>20 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "All about IRLP" by Larry Lygren, W1DBX</p> <p>27 - Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.</p>	<p>APRIL 2003</p> <p>3 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.</p> <p>5 - VE Session, 10:30 am.</p> <p>10 - Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.</p> <p>12 - CLAMBAKE! 12 noon at clubhouse.</p> <p>17 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "The Nightly Stars" by Jerry Flaherty, KBIJGA</p> <p>24 - Ragchewing, 6:30 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

SEMARA SWAP NET Every Monday at 7:30 pm on 147.00/.60

2003 FLEAMARKETS

- March 9 - Amherst, MA
- March 15 - Pomfret, CT
- March 30 - Framingham, MA
- April 6 - Southington, CT
- April 20 - MIT

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.150 -	123.0	WAIDGW	Fall River
145.490 -		KDICY	Fairhaven
146.445 +1Mhz	91.5	KB1BWN	Dartmouth
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.805	136.5	K1RFI	Fall River
146.685 -		WILM	Plymouth
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000 +	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.345 +	88.5	KB1QL	Vineyard
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
146.730 -		W1SGL	Sandwich

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
440			
441.400 +	192.8	WGIU	Assonet
442.200 +	88.5	N1NRL	Fall River
442.600 +	100.0	K1LIQ	Tiverton, RI
443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.500 +	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
443.800 +	88.5	W1RJC	Dartmouth
444.200 +	118.8	N1YHS	Bourne
444.250 +	141.3	WA1GPO	Falmouth
444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
444.550 +	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston

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

SEMARA

FIRST CLASS

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