



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 71st YEAR

Volume 39, Issue 4

SEMARA W1AEC

April 2003

## TECH-TALK ON IRLP A BIG HIT!

Larry Lygren, W1DBX, was the guest speaker for the March Tech-Talk. Larry's presentation was on IRLP - "Internet Radio Linking Project." IRLP is a system that connects repeaters and simplex stations all around the world together over the Internet. For example, via IRLP you can sit in New Bedford and using a handheld radio talk to stations in Japan. There is even an IRLP node in Antarctica!

Stations that are IRLP capable are called "nodes." All nodes have a four digit identifier. Larry's 2 meter node number is 4617. (Larry presently operates 2 meter and 440 IRLP nodes.) To bring up a node, you enter the four digit node number. To terminate the connection you simply send "73."

IRLP was designed by Dave Cameron, VE7LTD, a Canadian amateur. The system runs on LINUX using a 133 MHz or higher speed computer. A special board designed to plug into the computer's printer port is used to interconnect the amateur radio and the world-wide IRLP system.

In addition to linking two nodes together, the IRLP system can also link up to 40 or more nodes together via a "reflector." This allows several hams to conduct a big roundtable - world wide if necessary!

After covering the technical and operational aspects of the IRLP system, Larry demonstrated "how it works" by bringing up a few nodes across the country. It was a most impressive demonstration!

Over 25 members enjoyed Larry's Tech-Talk on IRLP. It certainly was an eye opener! Thanks, Larry' for the informative and interesting presentation.



**LARRY, W1DBX, DEMONSTRATING  
IRLP "ON THE AIR"**

### IRLP RESOURCE

For more information on IRLP including lists of stations, which nodes are presently active, and just about anything else you want to know, go to the official IRLP website:

**WWW.IRLP.NET**

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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.

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

## THE EARLY DAYS OF RADIO

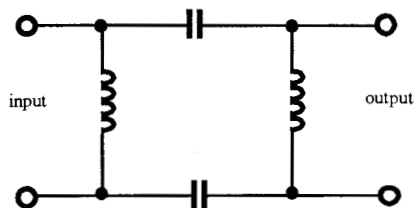


Here is yet another picture of an early ham shack in New Bedford, MA sent in by **Art Marshall, W1FJL**. This is a picture of the radio shack owned by one L. Perry. Unfortunately, no call is available. Like others sent in by Art, this one was taken in September 1915, by photographer Everett L. Weeden. Evidently Mr. Weeden of 64 Bay Street went about the city taking pictures of amateur radio shacks and thereby preserving a bit of amateur radio history. He stamped his name and address on the back of each photograph.

Note the gas light fixture to the right of the window. Under the window is a sheet with the Morse code on it, while to the left of the window above the picture of the women is a copy of the "Navy" code. These items were spotted by enlarging the picture in an attempt to find the call letters of the station.

If you can shed any light on L. Perry and/or his call letters, please send an Email to [billmiller@netzero.net](mailto:billmiller@netzero.net).

### NAME THAT CIRCUIT



- 1.) Ring Oscillator
- 2.) Hi-Pass Filter
- 3.) Low-Pass Filter
- 4.) Band-Pass Filter
- 5.) DC Surge Filter

ANSWER - See page 7

## 2003 SEMARA OFFICERS

**President**

Raymond Arruda, KB1EVX

**Vice President**

Carl Bredberg, K1KID

**Secretary**

Henry Blanchett, W1GYL

**Treasurer**

Scott Szala, W1EV

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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 March business meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**. Twelve members were present. The Secretary's report was read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds □ Electric heater in cellar installed and operational. It will turn on if temperature goes below 40 degrees to prevent pipes from freezing.

Technical □ The new repeater receiver has arrived and will be setup for use on our system soon. This will be a backup to the existing unit.

Plans for new 80 foot tower taken to town hall for review. Several changes must be made before we submit them formally.

The radio used by Star Cab for dispatching burnt up. Hopefully this is the end to the interference it was causing everyone!

Activities - Clambake to be held Saturday, April 12th at the clubhouse. First come, first serve on the 50 tickets.

Scholarship - None.

Internet - None.

ARES Coordinator - Rob Macedo gave a report and noted that Tony Duarte is his assistant. Their will be an ARES drill held on April 26th.

Communications - None.

Ratifications - Three 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**, held a moment of silence for departed member Earl Rogers, W1EB. Ray also noted that Andy Reuter's wife Dot underwent a quad heart bypass and is recovering well. Ray thanked all members that took part in the last ARES Emergency Preparedness Drill. QST, QEX, and HAM RADIO magazines on CD ROMs are in the club's file cabinet. Members can review them on the club's computer. Finally, Ray asked for a volunteer to chair the Fleamarket Committee.

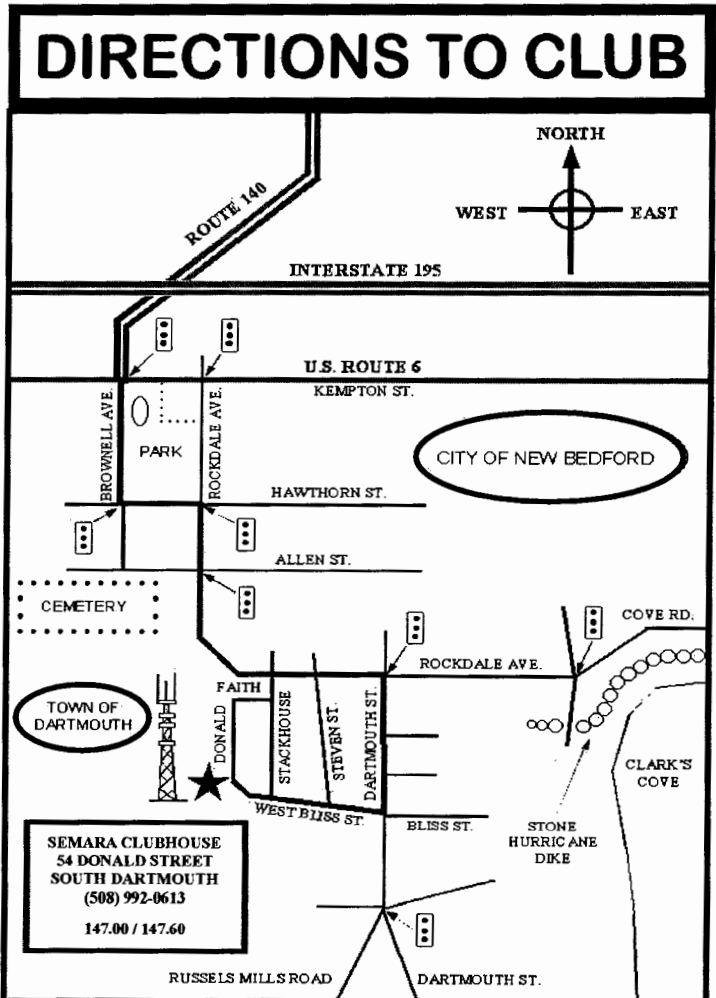
Old Business - None.

New Business - Several motions were approved:

- 1) ARES appointments sanctioned by the members. Rob Macedo, KD1CY, as Coordinator and Tony Duarte, N1XRS, as his assistant.
- 2) \$4,000 authorized for a tower foundation, fence, forms, and town permits.
- 3) \$1,000 authorized for an 80 foot tower and Sommers model 807 - 40 to 10 meter beam.
- 4) \$540 appropriated for a Yeasu FT-8900R quad-band radio (10 to 440) complete with power supply.
- 5) \$300 appropriated to retain Dave Dean, K1JGV, as our landscaper.
- 6) The donation of a reel of 1-5/8 hardline to the Providence Radio Club for use on an ATV repeater was approved.

*For the good of the club* - Check the bulletin board for upcoming field trips to an aeroplane museum and an antique radio museum and fleamarket. Both are in New York. (Overnight stay?)

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.





## CLUB NOTES

**A**pril already! What a winter this last one was. So much for global warming! Remember to turn your clocks **AHEAD** on the night of the 5th. Good Friday is on the 18th and Easter Sunday on the 20th.



**T**hree applicants were voted life members of the club during the March 6th business meeting:

**Kathryn Aisenberg, KB1JNI**

**Robert Lincoln, N1OMB**

**Joseph Luiz, (no call)**

Welcome to the club!



**M**ember **Dick Simpkin, WVAICRA**, had a fainting spell and spent three days in Tobey Hospital. A head to toe examination and multiple tests uncovered no cause for the spell. He was advised to go to Boston if it occurs again.



**A**ndy Reuter's, **WA1FNM**, wife Dot underwent quad bypass surgery the first week of March and is recovering fine. Dot has a "heart of gold." Every year Dot cleans the drapes on the club's windows. *We wish you a speedy recovery Dot.*



**O**n Saturday, March 15th, **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX**, and **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, drove to Middleboro to pick up a truckload of **FREE** soda. Hopefully the members enjoy Pepsi products because that is the company that donated the soda! Full details will be presented at the next business meeting.



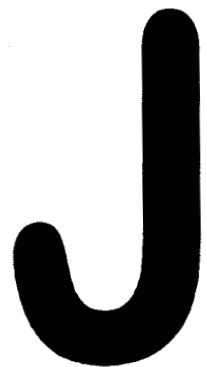
## EARL ROGERS, W1EB, SK

Long time member Earl K. Rogers, W1EB, passed away on March 3, 2003. Earl was the club's Vice-President in 1967 when his call was WA1AIF. He is remembered for his engaging smile, quick wit, and zest for life.

*Rest in peace, Earl.*



**T**he month of March was J-Pole antenna month at the club. Several members threw together various types of J-Pole antennas from those made with 300 ohm TV line to 3/4 inch copper pipe monsters! **Henry Blanchett, W1GYL**, made one from 1/2 inch copper tubing that came apart for portability.



**REMINDER** - Free hot dogs are available at every business meeting. Donuts are available at all other meetings and on Sunday morning look for malasadas (Fried Dough) too. Like popcorn? Check out the cabinet over the microwave...



## ARES EMERGENCY DRILL

An ARES emergency preparedness drill is slated for **Saturday, April 26, 2003**, approximately 10 am until 1 pm. We will be operating from the clubhouse as we did during the last drill. A new Yeasu FT-8900R has been purchased to give us 6 meter capability during ARES operations. Members are urged to help staff the club for this event. As usual, steamers and donuts will be available for the participants.

## 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](http://www.falara.org/classes.html)

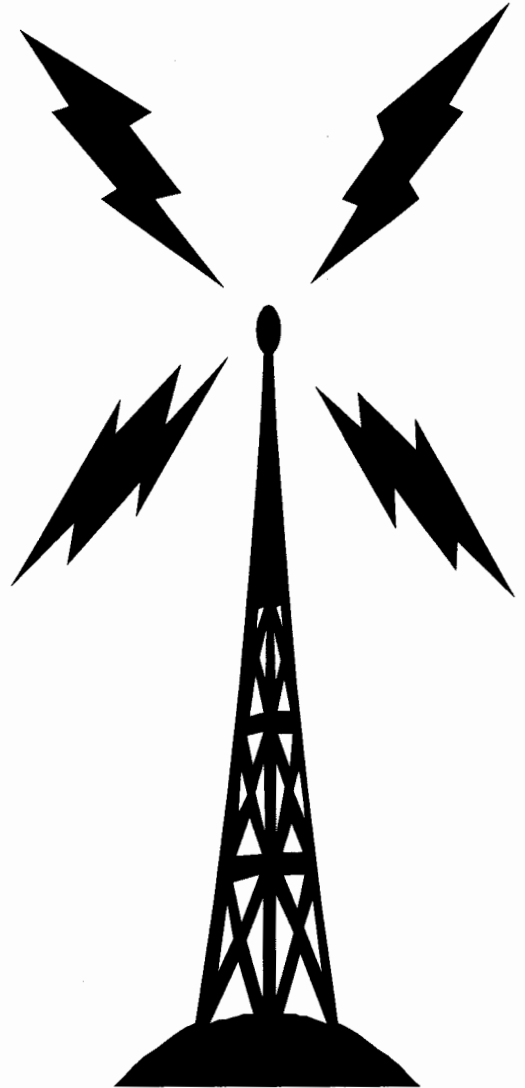
## 80 FOOT TOWER TO BE ERECTED BEHIND CLUBHOUSE

At the March 6th business meeting, the members approved the erection of an 80 foot tower behind the clubhouse. The tower will be a U.S. Tower model AT-1. The tower is a self-standing unit and will have three antennas mounted at the top covering from 40 meters to 440.

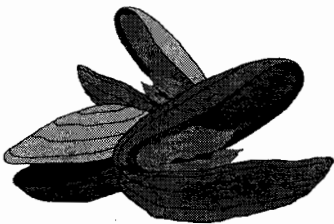
Forty meters to ten meters will be handled by a Sommers model XP807 Log-Yagi array. A five element M2 model 6M-5X Yagi antenna will cover 6 meters, with a Diamond X500HNA covering 2 meters and 440. An inverted "V" will take care of 80 meters. 7/8 and 1-5/8 hardline will feed the antennas from the radio room in the clubhouse. The antennas will be rotated by a BIG BOY model PST71 dual worm-gear driven rotator driving a 2 inch stainless steel shaft. The rotator will be mounted inside the tower about four feet from the top on a special platform made by U. S. Tower for such use.

Members wishing to see the powerful rotator and bearing assembly before it is up in the air 80 feet can check it out in the Quonset hut where it is presently being assembled and tested.

Nothing but the best of material has gone into this major undertaking by the club. The tower and antennas will serve the club for many decades. As soon as we secure a building permit, construction of the massive concrete support base will begin. Hopefully the project will be completed in a few months.



## ANNUAL SEMARA CLAMBAKE



**TICKETS  
\$20 EACH**

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE - 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 APRIL BUSINESS MEETING AND SECURE YOUR TICKET! (AS WE GO TO PRESS THERE ARE ABOUT 12 TICKETS LEFT.)**

## ROGER QUINTIN, KA1FAT, DONATES RADIO EQUIPMENT TO CLUB

Member Roger Quintin, KA1FAT, of New Bedford, recently donated several pieces of valuable radio equipment to the club. Roger plans to operate mostly on 2 meters in the future. Previously he operated on the low bands using an antenna strung into a neighbor's yard. Times have changed and he can no longer use the neighbor's yard to support a low band antenna.

The club's Technical Committee will review the donation to determine what items the club can use. All other items shall be sold at the annual fall Fleamarket in September. The donation consists of the following items:



- Pace 2 Meter Transceiver
- GSC Model 10R 12 Volt Power Supply
- Ten-Tec Model 544 Transceiver
- Ten-Tec Model 252 Power Supply
- Ten-Tec Model 247 Antenna Tuner
- Ten-Tec Model 215 Microphone
- GLC Model 1091 SWR Bridge
- Astatic D-104 Microphone
- Drake Model TV-3300 Low Pass Filter
- One box of assorted cables and connectors
- One box of miscellaneous radio parts

*Thank You, Roger, for this most generous donation.*

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

April 5, 2003

10:30 am

SEMARA Clubhouse

## APRIL VE SESSIONS

- 10 Providence, RI  
Judy Nelson  
401-231-9156
- 12 Falmouth, MA  
Joanne Reid  
508-548-1121
- 14 Brookline, MA  
Mike Ardai  
781-321-7939
- 19 Marlborough, MA  
Bill Wade  
617-699-3670

## STOP TELEPHONE TELEMARETERS

Massachusetts residents can be placed on a telemarketer "DO NOT CALL" list. Such a list was mandated by state law starting on January 1, 2003. To register your phone number go to:

[Http://www.mass.gov/portal/includes/donotcall.doc](http://www.mass.gov/portal/includes/donotcall.doc)


## POINT TO PONDER

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

*Ludwig Von Mises*

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2.) Hi-Pass Filter

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**SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR**

APRIL 2003	MAY 2003
3 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.	1 - Business Meeting, 7:00 pm.
5 - VE Session, 10:30 am.	3 - VE Session, 10:30 am.
10 - Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.	8 - Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.
12 - ANNUAL CLAMBAKE!	15 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "WTC Emergency Comm u- nications" by Steve Schwarm, W3EVE
17 - Tech-Talk, 7 pm, "The Nightly Stars" by Jerry Flaherty, KB1JGA	22 - Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.
24 - ZERO BEAT Party, Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.	29 - ZERO BEAT Party, Ragchewing, 6:30 pm.
26 - ARES Emergency Drill @ clubhouse, 10 am	

**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

April 6 - Southington, CT

April 12 - Waterford, CT

April 19 - Portland, ME

April 20 - MIT

May 2,3 - HOSSTRADERS

## LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location	Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ 144 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □				□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ 440 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □			
145.150 -	123.0	WAIDGW	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
146.805	136.5	K1RFI	Fall River	443.500+	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
146.685 -		W1LM	Plymouth	443.600 +		NS1N	Norwell
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis	443.800 +	88.5	W1RJC	Dartmouth
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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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# SEMARA

**FIRST CLASS**

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