



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 72nd YEAR

Volume 40, Issue 5

SEMARA W1AEC

May 2004

Dick Porter - The Thermometer Man

A lucky dozen members were treated to a fascinating presentation by Dick Porter, the Thermometer Man. He runs the *Porter Thermometer Museum* in Onset, MA. He began the museum as the suggestion of his daughter since he had such a huge collection. That was years ago.

Because of his thermometer collection, he is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as well as Ripley's Believe It or Not! Presently, his collection is approaching 5000 thermometers!

He has made over 40 television appearances including the Jerry Lewis Telethon for the MDA. And he has traveled to all fifty states, about twenty countries and four continents speaking about his famous collection.

The first thermometers he showed us were *bathythermographs*, which are one-time use devices used to measure the temperature in a water column. He tells us that there are thousands resting on the ocean floor—at \$900 a piece! Someone know how to make money.

Related to this is the *reversible* thermometer that is placed at intervals along a cable. When it is in place, a messenger is sent down the cable to trip the thermometers and freeze the readings. He also displayed the *pill* RF thermometer such as swallowed by John Glenn. These were originally designed to measure the temperature inside grain silos.



Dick Porter, The Thermometer Man

The world's tallest thermometer was 218 ft at the 1933 Chicago Worlds Fair. Today the tallest is 134 ft in Baker CA. -Bob, K1KVV

STEVE SPULOCK, N1DSN, SK

Steve Spulock, N1DSN, of South Dartmouth, first joined SEMARA in 1947. He died at age 90 on Thursday, April 22, 2004 in St. Luke's Hospital.



Rest in peace.



Different Types of Thermometers

ZERO BEAT

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**Southeastern Massachusetts
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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.

HAMMING AROUND

E1F06* What organization coordinates the preparing and administration of amateur license examinations?

- A. The FCC
- B. A VEC
- C. A group of three or more volunteers
- D. A local radio club

* From the Amateur Extra Class (Element 4B) Question Pool ANSWER - See page 7

IT SEEMS TO ME ...

That the Radio Amateur community is over-reacting to the Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) situation. Why? Because both sides are jumping to conclusions based on *theoretical* ideas. The hams are up in arms because they contend that BPL will create *RF smog* that will eliminate all weak signal work. On the other hand, the proponents seem to be blissfully ignorant of the laws of physics as well as unversed in issues of bandwidth and spectral content of signals.

What I do not know is whether all types of BPL are equally harmful to the Radio Amateur community or equally can be harmed by hams merely operating in the pursuit of the hobby. Since there have been disasters in other parts of the world—BPL is outlawed in some places—perhaps the latest BPL schemes have learned from these experiences. If not, they are extremely naïve—but I doubt it. That's why I am willing to take a wait-and-see approach. Remember, we are not in this alone—there are lots of other services that are just as jealous of their ability to operate as we are. *Am I off base on this?*

In the name of improving homeland security, the FCC has adopted a somewhat limited version of its earlier proposal to permit deployment of RF Identification (RFID) tags in a segment of the 70-cm band at much greater duty cycles than current Part 15 rules permit for such devices and at higher field strengths. The FCC has approved RFID tags in the **433.5 to 434.5 MHz** band.

RFID tags are designed to increase homeland security at ports, rail yards and warehouses. It can foster the development of more powerful and advanced RFID systems that can identify the contents of shipping containers and determine whether tampering has occurred during shipment. It is expected that such devices also would increase efficiency in shipping operations and inventory control.

Take advantage of the ISS! There now are five ham radio operators aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Expedition 9 ISS crew members **Gennady Padalka, RN3DT**, and **Mike Fincke, KE5AIT**, accompanied by European Space Agency astronaut **André Kuipers, PI9ISS**, arrived at the ISS right on schedule April 21 aboard a Russian Soyuz vehicle. They joined Expedition 8 crew members **Mike Foale, KB5UAC**, and **Sasha Kaleri, U8MIR**, whom Padalka and Fincke will relieve.

2004 SEMARA OFFICERS

President

Donald Manley, N1PMB

Vice President

Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL

Secretary

Ronald Silvia, WB1HGA

Treasurer

Scott Szala, W1EV

Trustees: (year term is up)

Edward Blouin, KA1AW (2004) - Chairman	
Norman Riley, W1ATI (2005)	Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM (2006)
William Miller, Jr., K1IBR (2007)	Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS (2008)

Board of Directors:

Ray Arruda, KB1EVX
David Dean, K1JGV
Marty Jordon, KA1YFV

MEETING MINUTES

The Business Meeting was called to order April 1, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. by **Donald Manley, N1PMB**. Forty members were present.

The Secretary's report (**Ron Silvia, WB1HGA**) was accepted. The Treasurer's report (**Scott Szala, W1EV**) was absent tonight.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds (Andy Reuter, WA1FNM)—Members Should not be parking in Handicap spaces unless they have a handicap tag.

Technical (Tony Duarte, K1XRS)—Reports on research and information for a new repeater system .

Activities (Scott Szala, W1EV)—No report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship (Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS)—No report.
Internet (Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS)—No report.

Fleamarket (Donald Manley, N1PMB)—the President reports that posters have been sent to QST and CQ magazines. Also announces looking for a volunteer to organize the flea market.

Building (Scott, W1EV)—No report.

ARES (Rob Macedo, KD1CY; Tony, N1XRS)—If anyone interested in becoming involved in the up coming races or marathons please see **Tony, N1XRS**.

Anyone interested in Boston Marathon please see **Rob, KD1CY** who also reminds us about the upcoming workshop for emergency this Saturday, April 3.

Both announced a coming ARES meet scheduled for June.

Communications (Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL)—Nothing to report.

Ratifications—Five applications for membership were voted life members (see page 4 for details).

President's Comments (Donald Manley, N1PMB)—Suggested need for storage of donated items for flea market and other items for storage during construction of new club house.

Old Business—None.

New Business—

Passed:* Motion to donate \$1000 per sale on Collins to Carolyn Correia, widow of **Ron Correia, N1DXD**.

Tabled* Motion to purchase 220 radio and antenna for club.

Defeated* Motion to purchase new repeater.

Passed:* Motion to purchase storage disposal (40').

Passed:* Motion to purchase 2 new transmitters so as to have both repeaters operational.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB—still looking for volunteer for swap meets, **Chris, W1EAV**.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

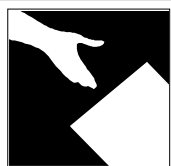
Submitted by Ron Silvia, WB1HGA, Secretary

** All motions accepted and passed by the members present.*



DIRECTIONS TO CLUB

SEMARA CLUBHOUSE
 54 DONALD STREET
 SOUTH DARTMOUTH
 (508) 992-0613
 147.00 / 147.60



CLUB NOTES

May brings us the New England QSO Party and lots of other events. Did you know there is a group going to Gays Head Lighthouse for the event? They will also be participating in Islands on the Air (IOTA) and Lighthouses on the Air (LHOA)!



Five applicants were voted life members of the club during the April 1, 2004 business meeting:

Paul Mello, W1PJM;

Herbert Eddleston, KB1KXX;

James Bardwell, KB1KVM;

Ernest Brea Jr., KB1KZZ;
and

John Nery, WA1ESO.



On March 6, **Herbert Eddleston, KB1KXX** passed his Technician Exam and **Lloyd B. Sanborn, N1SRV**, passed his General Exam. On April 3, **George W. Gillot, KB1IMC** passed his General Exam.

A copy of the free Windows Security Update CD, which was obtained from Microsoft for Windows 98, 98SE, 2000, ME, and XP is available in the clubhouse. Check this site for details:

<<http://www.microsoft.com/security/protect/cd/order.asp>>

Bob Kelley, K1KVV

Marty Jordan, KA1YFV, donated a dozen computer related books to the club.

THANKS MARTY!

Congratulations!



Thanks!

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

MAY 2004

- 1—VE Session, 10:30 a.m.
- 6—Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 13—Ragchewing, 6:30 p.m.
- 20—Tech Talk, 7:00 p.m. **VOIP and Internet Linking**, Tony Duarte, N1XRS
- 27—ZERO BEAT folding party, 4:30 p.m.



Ragchew at the clubhouse every Sunday at 7 - 11 a.m.
Drop by and enjoy a cup of coffee and donuts!

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

MAY 1, 2004

10:30 A.M. @ CLUBHOUSE
LARRY HOUBRE, JR., AA1FS
508-991-6055

May VE SESSIONS

- 3 **N. Smithfield, RI, 7:00 p.m.**
Robert E. Jones, WB1P
401-333-4787
- 8 **Falmouth, MA, 9:00 a.m.**
Joanne Reid, N1LNE
508-548-1121
- 13 **Providence, RI, 7:00 p.m.**
Judy Nelson, KC1RI
401-231-9156
- 17 **Fall River, MA, 7:00 p.m.**
Skip Denault, KB1CNB
774-644-3469
- 20 **Norwood, MA, 7:30 p.m.**
Richard Cantin, AA1TI
508-339-1089
- 22 **Slatersville, RI, 9:00 a.m.**
Robert E. Jones, WB1P
401-333-4787

SEMARA News & Notes

THE "GROUNDS"

As most members may have noticed, considerable work has been done on the driveway and surrounding areas, the large spools have been stored in designated areas and some general cleanup is being performed by a limited number of club members.

Able-bodied members are asked to park as far to the rear of the club grounds as possible in the area that is soon to be opened up. Please respect the work that has been done by this group in an effort to improve the club grounds for the benefit of all.

The area closest to the street (across from handicapped) will remain cordoned off for some time until the grade is raised in that area to prevent the yearly problem of a soft and mushy area which is in constant need of repair. Parking in this area is also discouraged in the winter and spring months. This area is primarily to give the club `curb appeal` and is not intended as a parking lot.

Constructive suggestions are welcome at the business meetings and I will be happy to answer any questions and concerns.

73 de **Dave Dean, K1JGV**

FISTS CW CLUB #10555

Thanks to **Ed Duclos, WA1ZCB**, who applied to FISTS for club membership for SEMARA, we are now a FISTS CW club. Our number is #10555. This will help other FISTS members to get additional points when contacting operators at our club as well as permitting SEMARA members to operate as a "FISTS CW club" in the Fists events.

The organization has many fun events through out the year. You can check out what FISTS is all about as well as the schedule of FISTS activities and events at <http://www.fists.org>.

The FISTS Spring Sprint is May 8.

73 de **Carl, K1KID**

FLEAMARKET CHAIR NEEDED

At this point we are still in need of a fleamarket chairman. With the fleamarket only a few short months away, we need to get the planning into place. If *anyone* is interested in being the chairperson, please contact any Board Member.

73 de **Don Manley, N1PMB**, President SEMARA

EMA ARES MONTHLY NET

Sunday May 16, 2004 : 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

The Eastern Mass. ARES Monthly Net is held on the MMRA linked repeater system. Please visit <http://www.mmra.org> for information on repeater locations, and frequency/PL's.

This event repeats on the third Sunday of every month, until Saturday July 31, 2004.

73 de **Tony, N1XRS**

RECOVERING NICELY

Two of our longtime members have been recently hospitalized for various ailments and are both recovering nicely at home: **Joseph Rodriques, N1BZZ** and **Louis Whitlow, WA1GDE**.

Joe is Notary for SEMARA, and **Louie** is quite active on *The Fairhaven Repeater Weather Net*.

Why not give them a call, e mail or send along a note or card letting them know that they are missed and are in our thoughts?

Joseph Rodriques, 624 Maxfield Street, New Bedford, MA 02740.

Louis Whitlow, 373 Cedar Street, New Bedford, MA 02740.

73 de **Ray, KB1EVX**

SEMARA ARES PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT

May 15, 2004 : 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Westport Elementary School

4-7 operators needed

Amateur Radio Operators will be placed at water stops for communications of supplies as well as to report any medical situations that may occur. Operators will also travel the course to check on the status of the walkers and also provide transports back to the school if needed. One operator will standby and act as net control at the school to notify MS Staff of the status of the operation. Maps of the area will be provided at the school at 9am. Anyone wishing to help out for this event is asked to call Tony N1XRS at 508-993-4696 x12.

SWAP NET CONTROL OPERATOR

(Continued on page 6)

More News & Notes

A reminder, we need someone to be net control for the swap net on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on the SEMARA repeater.

You don't have to do it every week. You can pass it along to other hams as well. Anyone interested can take it. If you need the preamble, I can send it to you. Thank you for helping out.

73 de Chris Washburn, W1EAV

RED CROSS COMMUNICATION TEST

The April Red Cross Communication Test was held on 7 April 2004 with W1AEC serving as the net control station. The purpose of the monthly test is to provide training for net control operators and to establish contact with as many Red Cross Chapters as possible.

Since HF is being used, 3943 kHz LSB, at least one amateur present needs to have General class or higher privileges to serve as the control operator for auxiliary operators.

The monthly test started at 7 p.m. local time. For this test, **Tony, N1XRS** served as net control operator, **Bob, K1KVV** was the recorder, and **Rob, KD1CY** acted as an Observer.

The April test 'netted' five check-ins: **Joe, K1LBG**; **Byron, K1YCQ**; **Tom, N1MUV**, Pioneer Valley Chapter; **Tom, WA1NRQ**, Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter, and **Carl, K1KID**.

Plan on taking part next month. You will discover that HF SSB is not as quiet as 2-m FM.

73 de Bob, K1KVV

ARMAD

MEMBERS' ECHOLINK NODES

WB1HGA	147.440 simplex	67.0	2061
KB1HGJ	145.520 simplex	123.0	4722
N1XRS	146.595 simplex	141.3	8998
W1DBX-L			63494
KD1CY	145.490-		142790
W1RJG	443.800+	88.5	4259

Send updates to: editor@semara.org

AMATEUR RADIO MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

Hello, and best wishes from Ft. Wayne, Indiana. May has been named Military Appreciation Month by the U.S. Congress.

We are going to hold a special event this year on May 29, 2004 that will involve all Hams who would like to contact troops and others involved in Military Service, and to show our support once again.

What we would like to do is have all Amateur Radio Clubs and operators in the United States and around the world set up stations in a shopping mall or public park or other public area where many people may gather, and contact military members and veterans world wide for approx 4 to 6 hours.

We would also encourage the general public gathered at these locations express appreciation to military people worldwide using HF, VHF, UHF and EchoLink and IRLP. Please get the word out to as many military bases and personnel as possible so that they can participate.

We would like to have Amateur Radio bulletin boards, publications, and internet sites post this information and provide feedback.

We could have family members of military personnel speak third party via Ham Radio to our troops along with anyone wishing to talk that may be at the location where a radio station is set up. This would be a great morale booster for us at home, and for our military personnel.

Please join us in this activity and submit any ideas to **KB9IBW** / Emery McClendon; Special Event Manager, email at **kb9ibw@netzero.com**.


Thank you in advance and let's show the world what Amateur Radio can do on this Special day.

73 de Bill, K1IBR



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A POINT TO PONDER

"I have not failed. I've just found
10,000 ways that won't work."

Thomas Alva Edison
(1847-1931)



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B. A VEC

SEMARA NET DIRECTORY

— **RAGCHEW** —
Sat - 8 p.m. & **Sun** - 8 a.m.
 28.700 USB
Daily - 7 p.m. 147.000+
Mon--Fri 7:30 a.m. 3.872

— **SEMCARES NET** —
 1st Sunday each month at 7:30 p.m.
 145.490- (Fairhaven Repeater)
FAIRHAVEN WEATHER NET
Mon--Fri 8:00 p.m. 145.490-

SWAP NET — Mondays at 7:30 p.m. on 147.000+

2004 FLEAMARKETS

16 May—Cambridge MA
 FLEA at MIT—Nick 617 253 3776
12-13 June—Newington CT
 NARL—Dan 860 206 3379

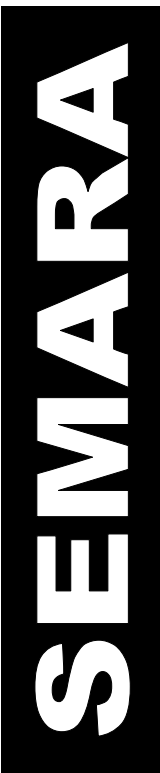
WEBSITE: <http://www.semara.org>
 E-MAIL: clubinfo@semara.org
 FISTS CW club no.: 10555

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.490 -		KD1CY*	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		W1LM	Plymouth
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI
146.730 -		W1SGL	Sandwich
146.760 -		W1HQV	Scituate, RI
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000 + SEMARA	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	ND1N	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
147.345 +	88.5	KB1QL	Vineyard
* Nodes: IRLP=4617, EchoLink=142790			

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
440			
441.400 +	100.0	WG1U	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
* Nodes: IRLP =4259, EchoLink=4259			

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



FIRST

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