



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 72nd YEAR

Volume 40, Issue 8

SEMARA W1AEC

August 2004

Field Day Picnic / Contest



RAY ARRUDA, KB1EVX OPERATES THE GRILL

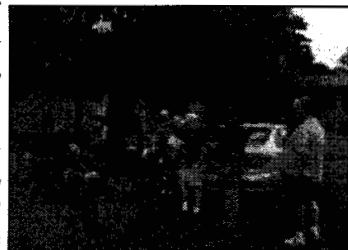
SEMARA's 2004 Field Day activities revolved around the grill and some causal operating.

There were two QRP rigs setup in the field behind the W1AEC clubhouse. Several contacts were made on both 15- and 20-meter CW by Carl Bredberg, K1KID and Ed Duclos, WA1ZCB.

On Sunday, Don Manley, N1PMB, made about 200 FD contacts using the club equipment in the radio room.



PHIL TEMPLES, K9HI, EMA SECTION MANAGER, OPERATES A QRP RIG



QRP FIELD DAY SETUP BEHIND THE CLUBHOUSE

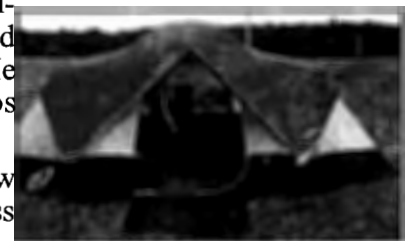
I wonder, how many FD points we could have gotten this year if we wanted to try? We would need to start planning earlier next time to make a creditable showing — what say?

Ed Mello, KB1HJG, participated in the Falmouth ARA Field Day operation. He sent us these photos of his setup there.

He didn't say how well he did — guess he didn't want to make us feel too envious.



ED MELLO, KB1HJG CHECKS THE TIME - FALMOUTH ARA FIELD DAY



ED MELLO'S TENT FOR FALMOUTH ARA FIELD DAY



ED MELLO'S VHF-UHF ANTENNA SETUP FOR FALMOUTH ARA FIELD DAY OPERATION

ZERO BEAT

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**Southeastern Massachusetts
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 54 Donald Street,
 South Dartmouth, MA 02748

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ADVERTISING

Club members have one free non-
 commercial ad per month.

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

2004 SEMARA OFFICERS

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Donald Manley, N1PMB

Vice President

Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL

Secretary

Ronald Silvia, WB1HGA

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Scott Szala, W1EV

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Ray Arruda, KB1EVX

David Dean, K1JGV

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Edward Blouin, KA1AW (2004) - Ch.

Norman Riley, W1ATI (2005)

Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM (2006)

William Miller, Jr., K1IBR (2007)

Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS (2008)

WEBSITE: <http://www.semara.org>

E-MAIL: clubinfo@semara.org

FISTS CW club no. is 10555

IT SEEMS TO ME ...

August marks the beginning of the end of summer. It also signifies the beginning of all those things we are planning to do in the fall. So what might be on our agenda this month?

- A. Help with the SEMARA FLEAMARKET 2004, September 12
- B. The Advanced Emergency Communications Workshop, August 28
 Pre-register and bring your HT — you wouldn't want to miss that world famous honey glazed BBQ chicken, would you?
- C. The ARRL Boxboro Convention, August 14 and 15
 Flea market, FCC Exams, Ham radio programs, Major manufacturers and dealers, etc.
- D. The long awaited Tech Talk by **Matt Vangel, KA1THM** on *GPS Devices*, August 19

Don't you want to build a good fox hunt setup to give **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, some competition? The Fox Hunt on July 15 attracted 11 hunters to find the fox. The fox team took off a little before 7 p.m. They setup on 146.46 simplex. They were ready at about 7:03 p.m. and the hunt started. Not unexpectedly, the first team to find the fox was Bill Miller's using his Doppler Direction Finder. What was unexpected was it took his team only 11 minutes to do it!



Following the hunt every one enjoyed an ice cream cone at the Dairy Maid on Cove Rd, next to the hurricane dike, the foxes' den.

FOXES
JASON (ED'S GRANDSON),
ED DUCLOS,
WA1ZCB,
CARL
BREDBERG,
K1KID



WINNERS
RAY
ARRUDA,
KB1EVX,
BILL
MILLER,
K1IBR,
DON
MANLEY,
N1PMB

HAMMING AROUND

E2A01* What is the direction of an ascending pass for an amateur satellite?

- A. From west to east
- B. From east to west
- C. From south to north
- D. From north to south

* From the Amateur Extra Class (Element 4) Question Pool

ANSWER - See page 7



MEETING MINUTES

The Business Meeting was called to order July 1, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. by the President, **Donald Manley, N1PMB**. A quorum was present.

The Secretary's report (**Ron Silvia, WB1HGA**) as it appeared in the June issue of *Zero Beat* accepted.

The Treasurer's report (**Scott Szala, W1EV absent**)—None.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds (**Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**)—People should not use the chairs as ladders. Do not stand on them.

Communications (**Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL**)—None.

Technical (**Tony Duarte, N1XRS**)—Repeater is done; the amplifier is done. Just waiting for the antenna to be put up.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship (**Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS**)—None.

Internet (**Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS**)—None.

Fleamarket (**Ray Arruda, KB1EVX & Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**)—Volunteered to chair the fleamarket this year. Asks anyone interested in learning how to run it next year to approach them.

ARES (**Rob Macedo, KD1CY & Tony Duarte, N1XRS**)—looking for volunteers to assist Red Cross during the DNC in Boston between July 26 and 29.

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

President's Comments (**Donald Manley, N1PMB**)—Thanks to **Ray Arruda, KB1EVX, Bill Miller, KIIBR** and **Henry Blanchette, W1GYL** for cleaning out the Quonset hut. Remind members to please

shut off the computer, push chairs back in place, and to shut off lights when leaving.

Old Business—None.

New Business—

Passed: * Motion carried that Secretary write a letter requesting our club antenna be installed atop the cell tower for normal use.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB—

Rick Cabral, W1RJC, donated a tri-band (2-220-440) antenna for back-up for club station use.

Rob Macedo, KD1CY, requests we become more involved in next year field day.

Bob Kelley, K1KVV, was complimented on good work as editor, running *Zero Beat* newsletter for club members.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by Ron Silvia, WB1HGA, Secretary

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

PULL TABS & SOUP LABELS

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHILDREN

Members are reminded to save the aluminum pull tabs from soda cans and labels from Campbell products to help support the Shriner Children's Hospitals and the Schwartz Rehabilitation Center for Children. There is a large plastic bottle just inside the club entrance for the tabs and labels.

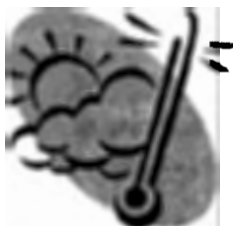
The pull tabs are sold as scrap aluminum and the money placed in a fund to buy toys and other items requested by children at the Shriner Hospitals. Massachusetts has two Shrine Hospitals, the world famous burn center in Boston and an orthopedic hospital in Springfield. There is no charge for treatment at a Shrine Hospital.

Campbell soup labels, as well as labels from any other Campbell products, are redeemed by the Schwartz Center for equipment and other items used by the center under a special program administered by the Campbell Soup Company.



CLUB NOTES

August is usually hot, humid and hazy. This might be a good time to start planning for those *cool weather* projects like building your own *Doppler fox hunt outfit*. Of course, you might want to take advantage of the lull before the World Series captures your attention. Study to pass the 5 wpm Morse code test and upgrade to General!



Two applicants were voted life members of the club during the July 1, 2004 business meeting:

Robert Novak, W1RMN,

Raymond Dickinson, N1BBJ.

At the VE Exam on July 10, **Peter L. Piana** passed his Technician written exam.



Way to go!

Jerry Fortin, N1RXZ, donated a truck load of his late father's (**Joe Fortin, K4KTZ**) radio equipment to the club. Among the items were:

Cushcraft ARX-2B Ringo-Ranger

(3) 2 meter J-pole antennas

Hy-Gain TH3-MK3 and TH3JR tri-bander beams

Cornell Dubilier Heavy Duty (Ham-M?) rotor and control box

Mirage B23G 30W 2 meter mobile amplifier

Nye Viking 2000W low pass filter

(2) 12V P/S: 5A & 10A

Siltronix FS-30 1000W SWR/Power meter

Kenwood TR-2500 2 meter synthesized handi-talkie

**T
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SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

August 2004

5—**Business Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.

7—*VE Session*, 10:30 a.m.

12—Ragchewing, 6:30 p.m.

19—Tech Talk, "*GPS Devices*,"

Matt Vangel, KA1THM 7:00 p.m.

26—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!

Kenwood PC-1 phone patch

Realistic PRO-39 programmable scanner

ICOM IC-27A 2 meter mobile rig

Cobra 20-PLUS mobile CB radio

Box of assorted wall warts

Box of assorted small radio parts

Box of assorted radio tubes

The club thanks Jerry for this most generous donation of his late dad's equipment.

Irving Snyder, WA1ETG, donated the following items to the club for the upcoming Flea-market:

Drake ML-2 two meter transceiver

Pyramid PS-12 power supply: 12V, 10 A

Clegg FM-DX two meter transceiver

Small electronic organ

Thanks Irving for the nifty donation.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

Rick, W1RJG, provided the following information that is listed on the back cover:

147.135+, Taunton, changed call to KA1GG.

Added **443.800 Sunday Activity** list:

New England Net — 7 p.m.

ARRL Audio News — 9.p.m.

Amateur Radio Newslines — 9:15 p.m.

Please give me updates, corrections, and additions as you notice them.

Bob, K1KVV—editor@semara.org

SEMARA News & Notes

Behind the Call Sign

Armand Augustine, W1BUG
armand.augustine@verizon.net

Walking up to the large house in the historic district of downtown New Bedford, I noticed the detail of this 1822 circa home in a way that I had never before, even though I've passed by it so many times in my lifetime. It truly must have been beautiful in its heyday, and the current owner seems to be concerned with keeping it in decent repair within the historical commission guidelines.

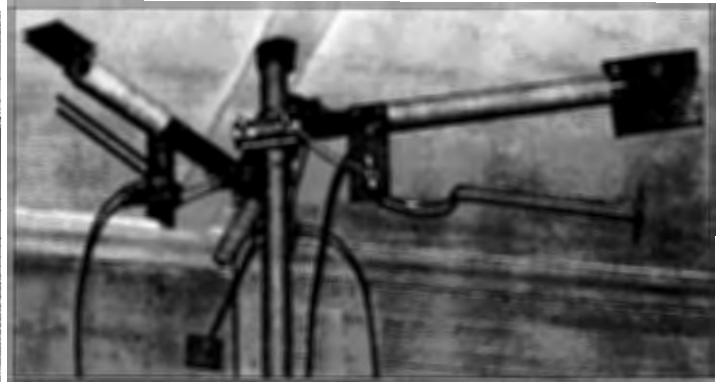


JIM LOPES,
W1AQX

This becomes the beginning of Jim's dilemma, and how he solved it. He lives on the second floor of this old building with few amenities. His whole adobe is in one room with one electrical outlet on the 'wrong' side of the room. The room measures about 13 by 13 feet. This room is where our story will end.

Jim lived in the north end of the city when he first heard about amateur radio around 1954. He soon discovered that a neighbor up the street had some antennas out, and his curiosity about radio got to him. So he knocked at the door and met Henry, WIYEG. He and Henry struck up a conversation about radio and didn't take too long to become fast friends, with Henry teaching him what he needed to know about radio theory and Morse Code to obtain his own novice call. He proudly became W1HQL, and started his own projects. He got his first station together, a Viking-2 and an NC98 transmitter, with a wire antenna strung up in the yard. That started his career in ham radio. While in Europe in 1959, he let his call drop. In 1975, he passed the general license exam and got WB1AQX as his call. He kept it until he changed it recently to a vanity call, dropping the "B."

He also pursued a music career which became successful. It sent him to all parts of the world for many years until he found himself in Las Vegas, where he worked the lounges and also worked for the casinos in machine maintenance. He was in Vegas for about 10 years before he left and returned to New Bedford. This is where we find Jim now. We will continue with the story of his unusual surroundings.

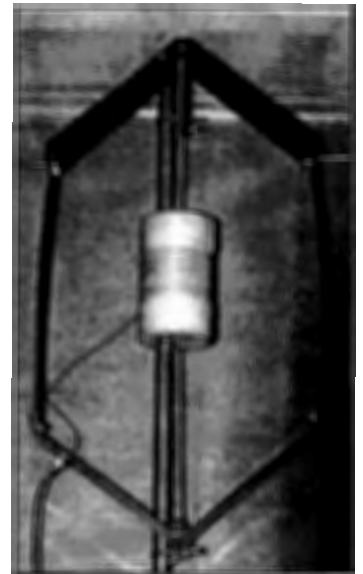


SEPARATE 10-, 15-, AND 20-M ANTENNAS

Jim had sold all his radios in the west and came home with an Alinco 2 meter radio that he used cross country. About a year after arriving back home, he moved into his present room which is now about 5 years. He soon started to get the urge for some HF radios and went about acquiring some.

The landlord allows no outside wires, no cable wires, and nothing hanging or defacing the building. This meant that, if he wanted to transmit, he had to have antennas strung inside. He tried many configurations and finally settled on his present antenna configuration: three separate Isotron antennas, for 10-, 15-, 20-meters, mounted on top of a 9-foot TV mast in the corner of the shack area. He acquired another Isotron antenna to operate on 75- and 80-meters.

He can transmit at 100 watts output without any RFI problems in his shack. He observes quiet hours when the business offices downstairs are open. (The whole building has old two-wire wiring and has not been upgraded.) He checks in on many nets and has many friends all over the US and Europe.



75- & 80-M ANTENNA

Thanks again to Jim for his cooperation and candidness in providing the information in this article, and for the permission of the photography associated with it. This is certainly a unique way to begin this series.

More News & Notes

POSTCARD FROM BERMUDA

Hello Bob,

I think we have some interesting stories for Zero Beat. Dick Halliwell K1AHA and myself W1GYL, made another trip to Bermuda. We have some interesting radio stories to tell, and many pictures to show. In a few more days we will have more pictures to show. Maybe some time in a week or so, could we all get together for a good article for Zero Beat.

Henry



W1GYL AND K1AHA USING A COLLAPSIBLE J-POLE ON BOARD THE CRUISE SHIP. THEY SAID THEY SET SOME DX RECORDS WHILE AT SEA.

FISTS SUMMER SPRINT

The object was to make CW contact with as many FISTS members as possible from 1700 to 2100 UTC on July 10, 2004. We had great band conditions. 20-meters was red hot! 39 of our QSOs were on 20-meters and 7 QSOs on 40-meters. This gave us 230 QSO points. We worked 21 states, for a final score of 4,830 points. In the FISTS Spring Sprint we got 2,945 points.

The help and support of Carl-K1KID, Ron-WBIHGA, Chuck-KB1FRL, Mike-KB1NB, and Henry-W1GYL was there. (And I think Dick-WA1CRA was there also.). The new key and CW filter also made things better. *A spell checker for the new paddle would be helpful.* HI HI As for the Sommers Log Yagi, if anything, it was too good. We did not have any QSOs with the 1, 2, or 3 call areas at all. Maybe we need to put up a portable antenna up for the contest?

The results of the Spring Sprint are not out yet, but I'll let you all know when they come out how we made out.

By the way, I took first place in 2003 ARRL November Sweepstakes single operator QRP CW Eastern Mass. Section. Hey guys, I'm not that good! It was just that I was the only one that entered from this section. How about some competition!

73 de Ed, WA1ZCB

AMATEUR RADIO ADVANCED

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP

The Workshop will take place on Saturday, August 28th, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the SEMARA Clubhouse. This session is being put on by the ARES Section Staff, the SEMARA Club, and SEMARA Club Emergency Coordinator and Assistant Emergency Coordinator, **KD1CY-Rob Macedo** and **N1XRS-Tony Duarte**. **W1EV-Scott Szala**, from the SEMARA Activities Committee will be providing support for this workshop.

This Workshop will provide additional background in advanced emergency communication topics that build on the general level emergency communications workshop course. Those who have not attended our general level emergency communications workshop course may attend this advanced workshop but must understand that many of the basic topics that are covered in our general level course will not be covered in this specific workshop.

Please bring an HT to the workshop as it may be utilized during the workshop.

Preregistration is required for this workshop so that the club can assure enough food is provided so please decide as soon as possible if you would like to attend this workshop.

For any additional information and to preregister for the workshop, please contact:

N1XRS, Tony Duarte: TDDuarte@comcast.net

KD1CY, Rob Macedo: rmacedo@rcn.com

W1MPN, Mike Nielsen: w1mpn@ema.arrl.org



Regarding editing mistakes, we put at least one error in every issue — just to see if you are paying attention.

Bob-K1KVV, Editor

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KB1HGJ	SIMPLEX	145.520	123.0	4722
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Send updates to: editor@semara.org

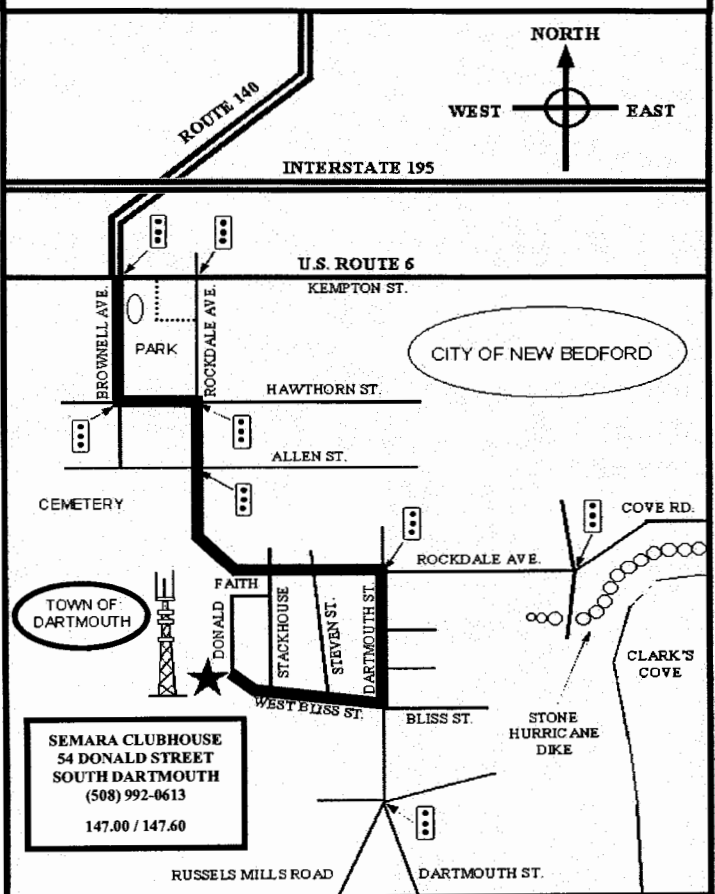
*Repeater nodes: see page 8.

August
VE SESSIONS

- 12 Providence, RI, 7:00 p.m.**
Judy Nelson, KC1RI
401-231-9156
- 14 Falmouth, MA, 9:00 a.m.**
Joanne Reid, N1LNE
508-548-1121
- 15 Walpole, MA, 7:30 p.m.**
Richard Cantin, AA1TI
508-339-1089
- 16 Fall River, MA, 7:00 p.m.**
Skip Denault, KB1CNB
774-644-3469
- 28 Slatersville, RI, 9:00 a.m.**
Robert E Jones, WB1P
401-333-4787

C. From south to north

Directions to SEMARA



POINT TO PONDER

Don't let yesterday take up too much of today.

— Will Rogers

SEMARA NET DIRECTORY

— RAGCHEW —

Sat - 8 p.m. 28.700 USB
 Sun - 8 a.m. 28.700 USB
 Daily - 7 p.m. 147.000+
 M-F 7:30 a.m. 3.872 LSB

443.800+ Sunday Activities

7 p.m. - New England Net
 9 p.m. - ARRL News + Newslite
FAIRHAVEN WEATHER NET
 Mon--Fri 8:00 p.m. 145.490-

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

AUGUST 7, 2004
 10:30 A.M. @ CLUBHOUSE
 LARRY HOUBRE, JR., AA1FS
 508-991-6055

9/12 - SEMARA FLEAMARKET -7 a.m. to noon

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.490 -	82.5	KD1CY*	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		WILM	Plymouth
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI
146.730 -	67.0	W1SGL	Sandwich
146.760 -		WIHQV	Scituate, RI
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000 + SEMARA	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	KA1GG	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	Plymouth
443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.500 +	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
443.600 +	88.5	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
447.025 -	77.0	N1JBC	Johnston, RI
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston
* Nodes: IRLP =4259, EchoLink=4259			

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

SEMARA

FIRST CLASS

LIFE MEMBER
 William Miller Jr. K1IBR
 49 Old Westport Rd.
 No. Dartmouth, MA 02747-2513

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 January 2011