



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 72nd YEAR

Volume 40, Issue 11

SEMARA W1AEC

November 2004

NEW RADIO ROOM LAYOUT

The club's radio room underwent a major rearrangement during the last week of September.

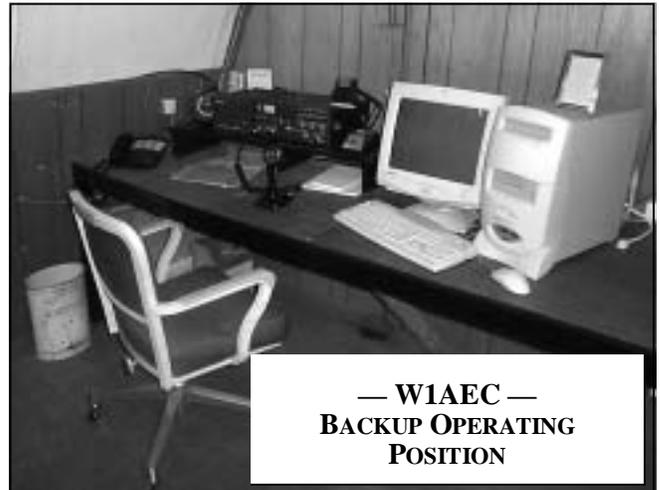
A heavy duty shelf assembly with a polyethylene finish was made to fit atop the main, wooden operating desk. This position covers 160 meters to 440 MHz using a Kenwood TS-570S (160 to 6 meters) and a Yaesu FT-8900R (10, 6, and 2 meters as well as 440 MHz). A Yaesu FT-2100B linear is inline for HF operation. The system also supports PSK-31. A Heil boom mike rounds out the installation.



W1AEC — MAIN OPERATING POSITION

A backup operating position was installed on the fixed desk on the south side of the radio room. This position uses a Kenwood TS-180 to cover 160 to 10 meters.

Both radio setups have computers for operations and logging use, with cable internet modems on each. The computer on the main desk also supports the PSK-31 transceiver which is located in the large storage area on the left side of the desk under the table top.



— W1AEC —
BACKUP OPERATING
POSITION

Each radio system has a power distribution panel. This allows members to simply plug in one cable and "fire up" the whole operating position, radios and computer.

Members are asked to unplug the power as well as any antenna cables whenever operations are complete and the radio room is being secured.



W1AEC — MAIN EQUIPMENT ENSEMBLE

ZERO BEAT

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**Southeastern Massachusetts
 Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**
 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

President

Donald Manley, N1PMB

Vice President

Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL

Secretary

Ronald Silvia, WB1HGA

Treasurer

Scott Szala, W1EV

Board of Directors:

Ray Arruda, KB1EVX

David Dean, K1JGV

Marty Jordon, KA1YFV

Trustees: (year term is up)

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

GPS Coordinates:

Lat. N 41° 36.795'

Long. W 070° 56.590'

IT SEEMS TO ME ...

Since September 11, 2001, we have been told what is or isn't patriotic behavior. Let me suggest some things that we can do without fear of being labeled "unpatriotic." First of all, support all our armed forces everywhere. Don't forget those who are in other places as well as those in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have our people world wide.

Secondly, I urge you to be sure to cast your ballot on November 2, 2004. I cannot think of anything more patriotic to do—and to say "Thank you" to all of servicemen and women who have been put in harms way just so we can vote. Urge everyone you meet to do the same. Your individual vote does matter! It is what politicians use to justify their own performance.



Let your vote be counted on Election Day 2004!

In one short month SEMARA will be holding the annual election of Officers, Board of Directors, and Trustee. If you don't want an elected office, how about an appointed one, such as Tech Talk Coordinator, or any of the other similar positions?

Step right up and show your colors. It is the patriotic thing to do. **DO IT NOW!**

Could SEMARA do something like this? "BCRA KIDS NET STARTING: Bristol County RA members KB1CNA and KB1CNB will be starting up a new net designed just for kids. The net will be held on Thursdays from 2:45 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. on the BCRA Fall River 145.150- repeater, PL of 123.0 Hz. BCRA has been supporting three schools with Amateur Radio in the classroom and has had tremendous success in getting students on the air.: What say? Can we get youngsters on the air? Do we have another approach?

Let me hear your thoughts about ways to attract and serve young people. Don't forget, we need to do something to encourage more younger members to become involved in the club. Refer to last month's (partial) list of things that are currently being done—mostly by the "older" members.

73 de Bob, K1KVV editor@semara.org

FOOLIN' AROUND

QUESTION: A recipe calls for cooking a sauce exactly 2 minutes. The only things I have available to measure elapsed time are two sand-filled hourglass timers, one that measures 5 minutes and the other 3 minutes.

How can I cook my sauce for exactly 2 minutes?

ANSWER - See page 7



MEETING MINUTES

The October 7, 2004 Business Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by the President, **Donald Manley, N1PMB**. A quorum of 29 members was present.

The Secretary's report (**Ron Silvia, WB1HGA**) as it appeared in the previous issue of *Zero Beat* was accepted. (Minutes taken by **Henry Blanchett, W1GYL** as Ron was recovering from surgery and could not attend.)

The Treasurer's report (**Scott Szala, W1EV**)—Accepted as read.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds (**Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**)—Andy asks the members not to bring junk to the club for the flea market. Just marketable stuff.

When ever anyone is in the club from now on, keep the door closed as the heat is on. When you open the door, the furnace comes on.

Communications (**Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL**)—**Ron, WB1HGA** is heading up a RTTY contest. See Chuck for details.

Technical (**Rick Cabral, W1RJC & Tony Duarte, N1XRS**)—Grounding straps were put on the equipment at the repeater site. A big "THANK YOU" to **Bill Miller, K1IBR** for his work done at the site.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

Activities (**Scott Szala, W1EV**)—We have to start planning now for our Christmas Party.

ARES (**Rob Macedo, KD1CY & Tony Duarte, N1XRS**)—Rob Macedo's work with The National Weather will be published in *CQ Magazine* and *The S.E. Repeater Group*.

Sky Warn Recognition Day will be held Dec. 4,

00:00-24:00 UTC [12/03 8:00 p.m. to 12/04 8:00 p.m.].

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

President's Comments (**Donald Manley, N1PMB**)—President Don Manley gives a "BIG THANK YOU" to all those people who helped with the fleamarket, and all those that helped with the clean up.
We also need a nominating committee for our next election.

Old Business—None.

New Business—

*Motion** to procure \$67.00 from the club to buy memory chips for the club's backup computer.

*Motion** to put the PL Tone on the 147.00 repeater permanently.

For the Good of the Club—From now on, the *Zero Beat* newsletter will be folded starting at 3:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by **Henry R. Blanchett, Jr., W1GYK**, sitting in for **Ron Silvia, WB1HGA**, Secretary

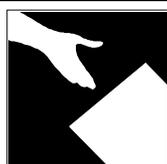
* *All motions accepted and passed by the members present.*



We put at least one error in every issue — just to see if you are paying attention.



Bob-K1KVV, Editor



CLUB NOTES

November is a month filled with many special events! This year, we vote for the president of the United States!

We pause on Veterans' Day to remember those who have gone before us to win our freedoms as well as those who are doing so at this very moment in foreign lands and at home.

It is also the month to think about how incredibly fortunate we are to have so much that we can enjoy a feast on Thanksgiving Day. That should bring a smile to your face. So try it out and see what happens when you greet everyone with a smile and a joyful word.

Three applicants were voted life members of the club during the October 7, 2004 business meeting:

Eric V. Pierce, N1WCO

David A. McCarthy, N1MCP

Bob Doherty, K1VV.

The club membership is now 279.

SEMARA member **Joe Frois, SW1VRP**, appeared on Channel 36 on October 6, 2004 on the *Unusual Building* show.

He was interviewed at the *Frates Bottle* summer of 2003.

Be sure to tell him how nice he looked on camera.



**JOE FROIS,
SW1VRP**



TV STAR

BOB METIVIER OK

Bob Metivier, N1XZJ had a heart attack Saturday morning on September 25. He spent about 6 days in the hospital.

He wrote "My SINCERE THANKS to all SEMARA members for their best wishes, thoughts and cards...SINCERELY APPRECIATED!!"

73 de N1XZJ, Bob Metivier"



**BOB METIVIER
N1XZJ**

EQUIPMENT DONATIONS

Paul Ciaburri, WA1ZDQ, donated a Harris Kilowatt station to the club. The transceiver is a RF3200M covering 1.8 to 30 MHz at 150 watts output. The 1 kilowatt SSB linear is Harris type RF3200-10M. The unit is presently mounted in a relay rack on a shipping pallet. This unit will make a great addition to the club's radio room.

A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Paul for this major donation to the club.

Douglas Cotter, W4CBC, donated a complete Swan radio station to the club. The station is comprised of a Swan 350 transceiver, a 117XC 120 volt power supply, 14-117 12 volt DC power supply, VX-11 VOX unit, crystal calibrator, and manuals for all items.

A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Doug and also to **Chris, W1EAV**, who directed Doug to the club.

CQ ARTICLE



See this photo of **Rick, W1RJ** and **Rob, KD1CY** in color on page 14 in the November 2004 issue of *CQ*. The article by Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO is entitled *Here Comes Another One! Hams*

and the Hurricanes of 2004—Part I, pp.11-14.

SEMARA News & Notes

NEW 6-METER RAGCHEW NET



This net is for friendly discussion of the topic of the day or anything else of interest to the net members. The side benefit of this net is to get more folks 6-meter capable and to introduce Technician licensees (as well as other grades) to the "magic band" and the

great potential of VHF DXing.

Thanks to everyone who have participated in the 6-meter net at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in October. This event is great fun and seems to create lots of interest. While there are a few start-up bugs to be ironed out, it only gets better from there.

The objective is also to introduce the "magic band" to those who have not experienced VHF DX. Sporadic E openings, tropospheric ducting and aurora continue, despite the state of the sunspot cycle, creating exciting DX opportunities.

Folks that are not licensed for the HF bands can get some great DX here, as openings can occur unexpectedly any time of the day or night. Huge antennas and high power NOT required!

Here is a sample of the stations that have checked into the net: **W2DAN, Dave**, Tiverton, RI; **N1PMB, Don**, New Bedford; **W1JCC, Joe**, Mashpee; **KB1GKH, Glen**, Lakeville; **KB1GSK, Laz**, Plymouth; **KB1HJG, Ed**, South Plymouth; **KA1BXB, Don**, Mashpee; **K1YCO, Byron**, Somerset; **N1SXX, Wally**, Warren, RI; **WA1LSH, John**, Westport; **KB1IQR, Brad**, East Freetown; **K1AHA, Dick**, North Dartmouth; **W1GYL, Henry**, New Bedford.

I would also like to thank **Don, KA1BXB** for suggesting that 6-meters would be a great band for a net. Since many radios now come complete with VHF/UHF as well as HF, this is an opportunity to put this under-utilized band to good use.

We are looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. on 50.130 MHz USB. Until then, monitor the 6-meter DX window at 50.125 MHz for openings while you are in the shack. You never know when the band will open!

Let's get radio-active!

73 de Carl, K1KID

TRACKING ED, WA1ZCB

Boy! The summer really went fast and it was a great one at that. But it's that time of year to head out again. Our plans are to head west this year to visit a lot of interesting places.

I rigged up the RV with APRS so now you will know where we are and have been. To track us, go to <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/track.cgi?call=wa1zcb-8>. For my location, use <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=wa1zcb-8>. For the weather (WX) at our location, use <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxpage.cgi?call=wa1zcb-8&last=24>.

I'll also try to be on 14.065 MHz at 00:00Z. When I am setup for PSK31, look for me at 14.072 MHz each night. Have a good winter.

73 de Ed, WA1ZCB

FRONT LAWN PARKING

It has been brought to my attention recently that there have been complaints about the front portion of the club property being blocked off from parking. The issues are quite simple. To maintain an attractive frontage (curb appeal), it is necessary to do this to prevent constant abuse by vehicles on the grass which I maintain. There is adequate parking throughout the club grounds for over 50 vehicles.



An exception is made during the Fleamarket because of the large volume of vehicles at that time. Another exception is made in winter for convenience when the ground is frozen. In the spring when the ground is soft, the traffic destroys the grass, especially in the front area.

I see no problem allowing vehicles to park in the front area if the following conditions are met:

1. A work party consisting of several able-bodied members of the club is assured and
2. The repairs are performed to the grounds on a regular basis.

Then I am willing to remove the blocks.

Dave Dean, K1JGV

More News & Notes

THE FARNSWORTH SYSTEM

Donald R. (Russ) Farnsworth, a blind amateur, was first licensed in the 1930's as W9SUV and also held W6TTB and W0JYC. A code instructor during WWII, Russ's method of telegraphy instruction was to maintain a constant 13 word per minute spacing throughout his Epsilon 33-1/2rpm code training record albums. He gradually decreased the time between the characters as code proficiency increased. The Farnsworth system is recognized as the best way to learn the code.

Donald is not to be confused with television pioneer Philo Farnsworth.

— The Handiham World Weekly E-Letter
October 20, 2004

REPEATER TONES ISSUE

The SouthEastern Repeater Association (SERA) Board of Directors has rescinded a controversial policy that would have amended SERA's coordination policy and guidelines to require CTCSS or DCS receive and transmit tones on all new FM voice repeaters. Existing voice repeaters would have had to comply by July 1, 2006. The Board adopted the "all tone, all the time" policy during its summer meeting in June. SERA President Roger Gregory, W4RWG, said the SERA Board repealed the policy "after much discussion" on October 4.

"Some [repeaters] had been untuned for years without any interference issues," he said. "They did not wish to tone. North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee seemed to have more concerned repeater owners." Gregory called the tone requirement "just another tool we thought was needed to help us to continue to do our job." He noted that SERA has been requiring tones on 10-meter, 6-meter and 70-cm repeaters "for years."

FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth said requiring tones is a good idea.

— The ARRL Letter, Vol 23, No 41

NEW EMA SECTION MANAGER

EMA getting a new Section Manager **Mike Neilsen, W1MPN**, who will take over January 1, 2005 as ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Manager. He'll succeed current SM **Phil Temples, K9HI**, who decided not to run for another term.

Upcoming Fleamarkets

- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| Nov. | 7 | Framingham, MA
<i>Framingham ARA</i>
Bev N1LOO
508-626-2012 |
| Nov. | 13 | E. Falmouth, MA
<i>Falmouth ARA</i>
Jim WA1GPO
508-840-3021 |

MEMBER AD

WANTED an inexpensive, good used TNC. I wish to donate it to the club, to be used for digital modes on the Kenwood 520, especially the capability of sending CW via the computer keyboard now along side the rig. If you have an extra TNC you would like to unload, please e-mail me directly, **John Nery, WA1ESO—waleso@juno.com**

UPDATES

Please help me keep the information given in *ZERO BEAT* as up-to-date and accurate as possible

Send me updates, corrections, and additions as you notice them.

Bob, K1KVV

editor@semara.org

ERRATA



W1EAV

If you could read the call-sign on his hat, you might have noticed that **Chris Washburn, W1EAV** was erroneously given a different call-sign in the October *ZERO BEAT*.

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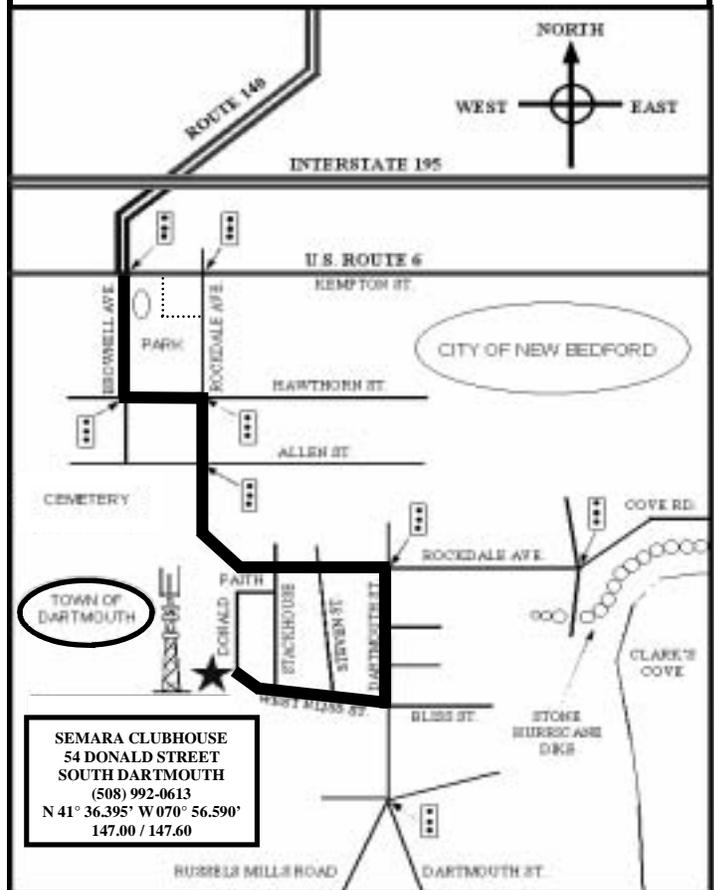
Mathew Vangel
KA1THM

North Dartmouth, MA
www.ka1thm.com
ka1thm@ka1thm.com
(508) 998-6990

NOVEMBER VE SESSIONS

- 11 Providence, RI, 7:00 p.m.**
Judy Nelson, KC1RI
401-231-9156
- 13 Falmouth, MA, 9:00 a.m.**
Joanne Reid, N1LNE
508-548-1121
- 13 Braintree, MA, 8:45 a.m.**
William Needham, K1WN
781-843-4400
- 15 Fall River, MA, 7:00 p.m.**
Skip Denault, KB1CNB
774-644-3469
- 18 Norwood, MA, 7:30 p.m.**
Richard J Cantin, AA1TI
508-339-1089
- 20 W. Warwick, RI, 9:00 a.m.**
Tom Senerchia, WA1VAY
401-822-2592

Directions to SEMARA



SEMARA CLUBHOUSE
54 DONALD STREET
SOUTH DARTMOUTH
(508) 992-0613
N 41° 36.395' W 070° 56.590'
147.00 / 147.60

SEMARA EVENT CALENDAR

November 2004

- 4—**Business Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 6—VE Session, 10:30 a.m.
- 11—Ragchewing, 6:30 p.m.
- 18—Tech Talk—*Surprise Program*,
7:00 p.m.
- 25—ZERO BEAT **folding party**, 3:00 p.m.

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

POINT TO PONDER

Act as though it were impossible to fail. (Anon.)

Answer: Start both timers at the same time. Begin cooking the sauce when 3 minutes elapses. Stop cooking when the 5 minute timer is done.

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.490 -	67.0	KD1CY*	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		W1LM	Plymouth
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI
146.730 -	67.0	W1SGL	Sandwich
146.760 -		W1HQV	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

* IRLP=4617 & EchoLink=4611 nodes

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

** IRLP =4259 & EchoLink=4259 nodes

SEMARA ACTIVITY DIRECTORY

--- RAGCHEW ---

Sat - 8 p.m. 28.700 MHz USB

Sun - 8 a.m. 28.700 MHz USB

Wed - 8 p.m. 50.130 MHz USB

Daily - 7 p.m. 147.000+

M-F - 7:30 a.m. 3.872 MHz LSB

--- KD1CY WEATHER NET ---

Mon--Fri 8:00 p.m. 145.490-

--- W1RJC 443.800+ Sunday Activities ---

7 p.m. - New England Net

9 p.m. - ARRL News followed by Amateur Audio News

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

NOVEMBER 6, 2004

10:30 A.M. @ CLUBHOUSE

LARRY HOUBRE, JR., AA1FS

508-991-6055

Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

54 Donald Street, South Dartmouth, MA 02748

SEMARA

FIRST

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