



ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 73rd YEAR

Volume 41, Issue 5

SEMARA W1AEC

May 2005

Homeland Security TOPOFF 3 Exercise

SEMARA ARES / SEMARA MEMBERS SUPPORT TOPOFF 3 IN CONNECTICUT

Rob Macedo, KD1CY

Scenario for the Department of Homeland Security's TOPOFF 3 Exercise that occurred in Connecticut and also in New Jersey: "A mass casualty incident occurred and is an act of terrorism." Similar national exercises have been conducted in several parts of the US over the past several years.



**ROB MACEDO
KD1CY**

Eastern Massachusetts responded with an ARESMAT (Mobile Activation Team) to the affected area of Connecticut and in that ARESMAT were largely Amateurs from SEMARA ARES as well as a SEMARA member from Cape Cod ARES.

Dan Howard, K1DYO (SEMARA member from the Cape Cod ARES team), **Arthur Irwin, W1AEI**, and **Brad Anselmo, N1VUF**, comprised a 4-man team that was led by Eastern Massachusetts ARRL Section Manager **Mike Neilsen, W1MPN**, to the New London, CT area. Communications support for the Red Cross was completed in this area to support Connecticut ARES. The request for support from Eastern Massachusetts ARES came from ARES Section Emergency Coordinator for Connecticut, **Chuck Rexroad, AB1CR**.

The team performed communications in and around a secure area of New London Connecticut when an act of terrorism occurred. Tactical and formal message traffic was handled to support Red Cross. The amateurs from the ARESMAT reported that the event went very well from a communications perspective

and they all felt they were integrated into operations. **Betsey Doane, K1EIC**, Connecticut ARES Section Manager and **Chuck Rexroad** commended and thanked **Mike Neilsen, W1MPN**, for leading the team to Connecticut and **Rob Macedo, KD1CY** for organizing the team and providing logistical support.

Bob Kelley, K1KVV, and **Byron Piette, K1YCQ**, offered their support for handling communications from Southeastern Massachusetts into the state of Connecticut. While their support was not utilized because the Connecticut section was busy handling the incident locally, they were prepared to offer critical relay support into and out of the affected area either from the SEMARA club station or as home relay stations.

The SEMARA Club is establishing itself as a hub for emergency and public service communications. For more information on how to become involved in ARES and public service communications, please contact **Rob Macedo, KD1CY**, Eastern Massachusetts ARES Section Emergency Coordinator at kd1cy@comcast.net for further information.



APRIL TECH TALK

Our scheduled speaker **Laz Lazarov, KB1GSK**, had to be rescheduled as he was called out of town for Thursday evening.

Thanks to the donation of **Bob "Whitey" Doherty, K1VV**, we were able to enjoy one of the DVDs he produced, "Museum Ships Event—USS Salem Quincy, MA." The FISTS contest and the sound of "vintage" CW from WW II rigs is especially impressive. It sure makes me glad I learned the code.

ZERO BEAT

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 54 Donald Street,
 South Dartmouth, MA 02748

EDITOR

Robert B. Kelley, K1KVV
 Phone: (508) 758-6311
 E-Mail: editor@semara.org

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.

2005 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
 Marty Jordon, KA1YFV
 Rob Macedo, KD1CY

Trustees: (year term is up)

Norman Riley, W1ATI (2005)-Ch.
 Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM (2006)
 William Miller, Jr., K1IBR (2007)
 Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS (2008)
 Bill Vincent, W1POW (2009)

Website:

<http://www.semara.org>

E-mail:

clubinfo@semara.org

FISTS CW Club no.

10555

GPS Coordinates:

Lat. N 41° 36.795'

Long. W 070° 56.590'

IT SEEMS TO ME ...

That attendance at our Tech Talks have been found wanting. So, to make it easy for you to make the decision to come out:

Presenting **Tim Smith, N1TI's** "digital video editing workshop" with the possible assistance of **Ken Howland, N1AVA**. The rough outline is:

- Digital Video Camera Overview (formats including Digital-8, Mini-DV, Mini-DVD)
- Digital Video Editing Applications (Adobe / Pinnacle)
- Getting Digital Video from the Camera to the PC
- Basic Editing Techniques
- Titling and Special Effects
- Overview of Storage Formats (Video CD, Super Video CD, DVD)
- Outputting your production to disc or web



**TIM SMITH
 N1TI**

At SEMARA's April Business meeting, the membership voted to become a *HandiHam Affiliated Club*. This means is the club has made a commitment to make amateur radio as accessible as possible for people with disabilities. Whenever we have a course, we can help them avail themselves of what HandiHam has to offer in the way of study materials. For our VE exams, we can "think outside the box" to find valid alternative ways of testing. The best part of becoming an Affiliated Club is that we all become more aware of the issues faced by disabled people.

With the advent of VoIP (IRLP and especially EchoLink) many hams who never had to think about contact with foreign stations (DX) now have to be more aware of the hazards of third-party traffic. That is, US hams pass along messages for other people *only if* these messages are permitted through international treaties or agreements. See article on page 5 with a table on page 6 for more details about third-party traffic and messages. See **HAMMING AROUND** below for what type of messages we are allowed to transmit to *any* DX station. Let's all stay on the right side of these regulations!

73 de Bob, K1KVV <editor@semara.org>

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* G2E01 What type of messages may be transmitted to an amateur station in a foreign country?

- A. Messages of any type
- B. Messages that are not religious, political, or patriotic in nature
- C. Messages of a technical nature or personal remarks of relative unimportance
- D. Messages of any type, but only if the foreign country has a third-party communications agreement with the US

* 2004 General (Element 3) question pool

ANS. on page 7



MEETING MINUTES

The April 7, 2005 Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President, **Donald Manley, N1PMB**. A quorum of 33 members was present.

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

The Treasurer's report (**Scott Szala, W1EV**) was accepted as read without correction.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds (**Andy Reuter, WA1FNM**)—

Heater will be off for summer. Antenna control box is removed and locked, until the cabling is fixed.

Scholarship (**Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS**)—Absent.

Technical (**Rick Cabral, W1RJG & Tony Duarte, N1XRS**)—Nothing to report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Internet (**Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS**)—Absent.

Activities (**Scott Szala, W1EV**)—announces not many clam bake tickets left.

ARES (**Rob Macedo, KD1CY & Tony Duarte, N1XRS**)—Nothing to report

Contests (**Ron Silvia, WB1HGA**)—announces new club number #71 for Bumblebee contests for any interested in field QRP work. Recommends we begin dialogue on setting up Field Day. Announces W1ACT to activate light house number US 319 on May 6th only.

COMMUNICATIONS (**Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL**)—Announces the NEQSO party date as the first weekend in May.

RATIFICATIONS—Two applications for life membership were received this month (see page 4).

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS (**Donald Manley, N1PMB**)—Requests all members keep kitchen clean. Please clean up and put back your coffee mugs and trays. Reminds anyone using the computer, please push the power switch near your knee to shut down system after use. When you make coffee, please clean machine of grounds. Please clean up after yourself, and reposition chairs.

OLD BUSINESS—None.

NEW BUSINESS—

*Motion**—SEMARA to become a HandiHams Affiliated Club.

*Motion**—SEMARA to buy pair of power pole crimpers;

*Motion**—SEMARA to buy basic 2-m HT for interfacing to club repeater.

*Motion**—SEMARA to purchase replaced items stolen from recent break.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB:

Presentation of the 147.00 Time-Out Award this month to **David Dean, K1JGV**.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Auction (**Dave Dean, K1JGV**)—Club made \$34.00 from tonight's auction. Thank you to all who contributed items and bidding.

Submitted by Ron Silvia, WB1HGA, Secretary

* All motions accepted and passed by the members present.



RHYTHM & THE NY6Q BLUES

For the ultimate in Morse rhythm, go to
<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2005/01/15/1/>

Click on the "NY6Q Blues" link.

Warning, you will need to listen on a good speaker system to hear both the high and low notes. *Can you read what's being sent?*

See box on page 5 for the answer.



CLUB NOTES

May is known for the May-pole, Mothers Day and lots of other holidays, including my mother-in-law's birthday.

Perhaps the best thing is the bright and sunny, warmer weather. It might even be nice enough to have a cookout and do a little picnic table operating.



Two applicants were voted life members of the club at the April 7, 2005 business meeting:

Earle Looper (no call)

Douglas Johnson (no call)

April 2, 2005 VE Session results:

Lawrence R. Houbre III
and **Douglas E. Johnson**
both passed their Technician
Class written exam.

Congratulations for a job well done! Welcome radio amateurs!

Dave Dean, **K1JGV**, our "official" club auctioneer, held the monthly auction after the April business meeting. .

The club made \$34 this month!



SEMARA COOKOUTS

What do we do best? *EAT* and *EAT* and *EAT!* First we had the fabulous Steer Roast in March. Then we followed this with our world renowned Clam Bake in April. You would think we might have had enough.

Wrong! We will have a family picnic on Field Day weekend, the fourth full weekend of June 25-26. Informal operation from 1800 UTC (12 noon) Saturday and to 2100 UTC (3 p.m.) Sunday.

SOMETHING IN COMMON?

Is your name here? Did you know your email address does not work?

THANK YOU

for contacting *Larry Houbre, AA1FS*, at

<LRHguy@earthlink.net>

with your update.

1. Augustine, Paul **W1BMQ** paugust@gis.net
2. Bissonnette, Carl **WA1AKR**
barlb235@netzero.net
(or is it carlb235@gis.net?)
3. Bredberg, Glen **KB1GKH**
geleepak@comcast.net
4. Bresnahan, Charles **K1CB**
cbresnahan@capecod.net
5. Brocklehurst, Robert **KB3SM**
kb3sm@yifan.net
6. Brown, Henry **K1WCC** k1wcc@amsat.org
7. Fogaren, Morris **WB1GJO** mrfog73@aol.com
8. Forde, Marcia K. **KW1U** mforde@tiac.net
9. Forde, Terence **N1MLO** mforde@tiac.net
10. Hiller, Morgan C. **KB1IYM** mh9801@aol.com
11. Houghton, Richard **WA1CXG**
telcopots@hotmail.com
12. Kelley, Wheat **N1YCQ** n1ycq@juno.com
13. Laronda, Mike **WA1OMI**
omi314159@aol.com
14. Majkut, John **W1HIQ** johmmajkut@cs.com
15. Marceau, Lucien **KA1RSF**
grampa1607@wmconnect.com
16. Mello, Richard [no call] 18279vett@aol.com
17. Meyn, Gary **K1YAN** gary73@aol.com
18. Molander, John F. **N1ZKU**
molander@comcast.net
19. Northup, Shelley **N1VJE** n1vje@arrl.net
20. Perron, Andrew **KB1DOZ**
andrewperron@yahoo.com
21. Ravens, Fred J. **K1QLG** fravens@capecod.net
22. Reale, Michael **KB1CHQ**
sareale@worldnet.att.net
23. Silvia, Matthew **KB1ISK**
bombadill10@yahoo.com
24. Sturgeon Jr., Glenn **K1GHS**
captainlenn@comcast.net
25. Szala, Peter **N1NDJ** ptsala@worldnet.att.net
26. Whitlow, Louis **WA1GDE** sgtlouie@rcn.com

Amateur Radio Today

GERMANY & SPAIN CHANGE AMATEUR REGULATIONS

The ARRL Letter
Vol. 24, No. 10—March 11, 2005

Germany and Spain have recently announced changes in their Amateur Radio regulations. Some revisions stem from the outcome of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, which essentially left it up to individual countries to decide if they wanted to continue to impose a Morse code requirement for HF access.

In Germany, the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) reports that, effective February 19, there now are only two classes of Amateur Radio license: Class A (formerly Class B and C) and Class E (formerly Class D). The new Class A works in accordance with the Harmonized Amateur Radio Examination Certificate (HAREC), T/R 61-02. It permits radio amateurs in participating European countries to go from one European nation to another and obtain a full license. (Note: The US does not participate in HAREC.)

Longtime visitors or foreign residents with a CEPT license in Germany will be issued a German Class A license. The Class E license remains limited to VHF/UHF frequencies only, with the addition of 10 GHz, output limited to 10 W EIRP. There also have been some changes to the spectrum allocation at 1.8 MHz. The text of the new regulations, *in German*, is available on the DARC Web site <<http://www.darc.de/aktuell/afuv.pdf>>.

In Spain, the Unión De Radioaficionados Españoles (URE) reports two significant changes in that country's Amateur Radio regulations, effective March 3: Spain has deleted the Morse code requirement to obtain a Class A (General) or Class C (Novice) license. Also, Class A (General) and Class B (Restricted) licensees now are allowed to use the band 50.0 to 51.0 MHz "under special and particular authorization."

There's information on reciprocal licensing on the ARRL International Operating Web page, <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/recip-country.html>>.

Answer: Bass plays DE, repeats the NY6Q call sign in a blues progression and ends the tune with the prosign SK. Trumpets play QRL, ?, V, R, HI HI, and 73. The bell ostinato plays CQ.

INTERNATIONAL THIRD-PARTY TRAFFIC

Abstracted from the ARRL webpage
<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html>>

Occasionally, DX stations may ask you to pass a third-party message to a friend or relative in the States. This is all right as long as the US has signed an official third-party traffic agreement with that particular country (see table on page 6), or the third party is a licensed amateur. The traffic must be noncommercial and of a personal, unimportant nature.

During an emergency, the US State Department will often work out a special temporary agreement with the country involved. But in normal times, never handle traffic without first making sure it is legally permitted.

The list of Third-Party Traffic Countries is in the right column on page 6.

US licensed amateurs may operate in the following US territories under their FCC license:

Northern Marianas Islands, Guam,
Johnston Island, Midway Island,
Kure Island, American Samoa,
Wake Island, Wilkes Island, Peale Island,
The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and
US Virgin Islands.

Note that the Region 2 Division of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has recommended that international traffic on the 20 and 15-meter bands be conducted on the following frequencies:

14.100-14.150 MHz
14.250-14.350 MHz
21.150-21.200 MHz
21.300-21.450 MHz

The IARU is the alliance of Amateur Radio societies from around the world; Region 2 comprises member-societies in North, South and Central America, and the Caribbean.

Note: At the end of an exchange of third-party traffic with a station located in a foreign country, an FCC-licensed amateur must *transmit the call sign of the foreign station* as well as his own call sign.

AMATEUR RADIO: OLD TECHNOLOGY?

Inspired by Avery, KOHLA, in HandiHam eLetter

Recently Avery paid a visit to a clinic. They asked him many questions about why he was there and other things trying to get to know something about him. Of course the subject of Amateur Radio came up. Someone remarked asked, "with the Internet are more people going into that than Amateur Radio?" "Isn't that *old technology*?"

Oh boy! He quickly responded with a stories about when the hurricanes hit Florida and the tidal waves hit in India and Asia. he pointed out it was **Amateur Radio** that was the only communications available. The cells were either overloaded or down. The wires were also down and out. So the Internet was of no use. "That *old technology* certainly came through!"

Is that what the public thinks of Amateur Radio? Are they not aware of the many new technologies that amateurs use? Has anyone of them ever checked out any of the high-tech articles in *CQ*, *QST*, or *WorldRadio*? Are they not are aware that many of today's new technologies were developed by amateurs working for major companies. Are they not aware that almost all the astronauts are licensed amateurs?

Fellow amateurs and amateurs-to-be, we need to do some *educating*! The general public needs to be shown what Amateur Radio is all about!

Next time you are operating at a public event, think about showing them how a GPS unit connected to your rig works. Show them how Echo-Link works. Show them every chance you get that we are on the cutting edge of technology.

CUT NUMBERS

It is common for operators, in an effort to minimize ANY unnecessary effort, to use "cut numbers." *Cut numbers* are abbreviated forms of *numbers*, expressed as *letters*:

0 = T, A = 1, U = 2, ... , 9 = N

Generally the other numbers are send as numbers, but "5NN T4" means "599 04". The cut numbers for zero and 9 are the most frequently used. However, in contests where the exchange is RST and POWER, you will often hear a station

US AMATEURS MAY HANDLE THIRD-PARTY TRAFFIC WITH:

V2 Antigua/Barbuda	6Y Jamaica
LU Argentina	JY Jordan
VK Australia	EL Liberia
V3 Belize	V7 Marshall Islands
CP Bolivia	XE Mexico
T9 Bosnia-Herzegovina	V6 Micronesia, Federated States of
PY Brazil	YN Nicaragua
VE Canada	HP Panama
CE Chile	ZP Paraguay
HK Colombia	OA Peru
D6 Comoros (Federal Islamic Republic of)	DU Philippines
TI Costa Rica	VR6 Pitcairn Island*
CO Cuba	V4 St. Christopher/Nevis
HI Dominican Republic	J6 St. Lucia
J7 Dominica	J8 St. Vincent and the Grenadines
HC Ecuador	9L Sierra Leone
YS El Salvador	ZS South Africa
C5 Gambia, The	3DA Swaziland
9G Ghana	9Y Trinidad/Tobago
J3 Grenada	TA Turkey
TG Guatemala	GB United Kingdom
8R Guyana	CX Uruguay
HH Haiti	YV Venezuela 4U1ITU
HR Honduras	ITU - Geneva
4X Israel	4U1VIC VIC - Vienna

Notes:

* Since 1970, there has been an informal agreement between the United Kingdom and the US, permitting Pitcairn and US amateurs to exchange messages concerning medical emergencies, urgent need for equipment or supplies, and private or personal matters of island residents.

send "5NN ATT" for "599 100", or even "5NN TTT" or "5NN K" for "599 1000."

Ron, WBIHGA

MAY VE SESSIONS

- 7 SEMARA Clubhouse 10:30 a.m.**
Larry Houbre, AA1FS
508-991-6055
- 14 Falmouth, MA, 9:00 a.m.**
Joanne Reid, N1LNE
508-548-1121
- 16 Nantucket, MA, 9:00 a.m.**
George Allen, **No Walk-ins!**
508-228-2065 **Please call ahead**
- 16 Fall River, MA, 7:00 p.m.**
Skip Denault, KB1CNB
774-644-3469
- 19 Norwood, MA, 7:30 p.m.**
Richard Cantin, AA1TI
508-339-1089
- 21 Slatersville, RI, 9:00 a.m.**
Robert Jones, WB1P
401-333-4787

MAY SEMARA EVENTS

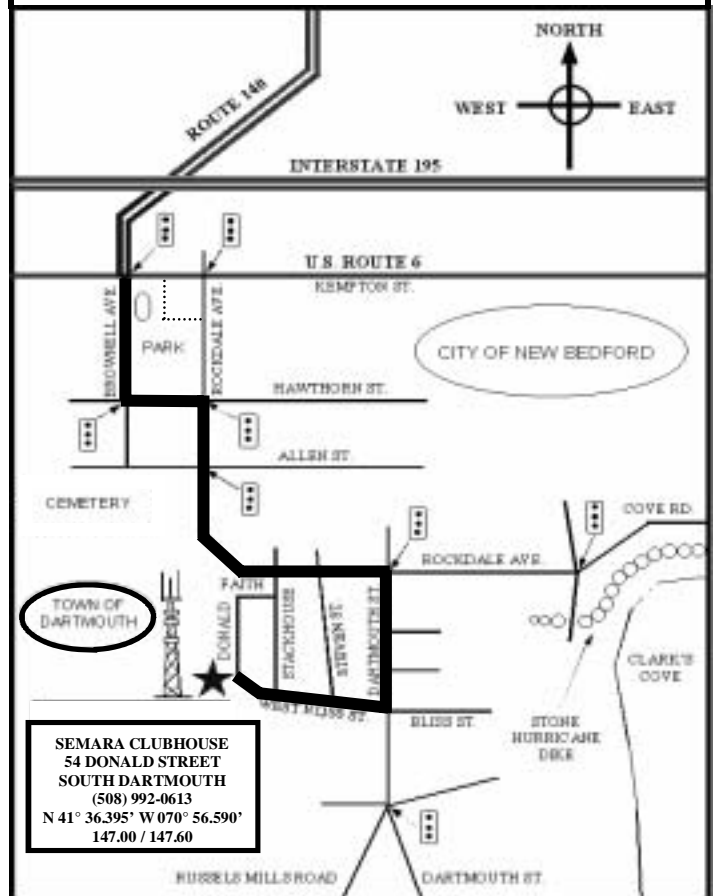
- 5—**Business Meeting**, 7 p.m.
- 7—**VE Session**, 10:30 a.m.
- 12—Ragchew, 6:30 p.m.
- 19—**Tech Talk** —*Digital Video Editing Workshop*—Tim Smith, N1TI, 7 p.m.
- 26—**ZERO BEAT** folding party, 2 p.m.

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

MAY FLEAMARKETS

- 6-7 May Hopkinton, NH**
HOSSTRADERS — Joe 207-469-3492
- 9 May Whately, MA**
FCARC — Walt 413 498 2729
- 14 May Goshen, CT**
SoBARC — Lee 860 435 0051
- 15 May Cambridge, MA**
FLEA at MIT — Nick 617-253-3776
- 20-22 May Dayton, OH**
<WWW.HAMVENTION.ORG>
- 21 May E Greenbush, NY**
EGARA — Betty 518 785 0727
- 28 May Vernon, CT**
NARC — Wayne 860 487 1921
- 28 May Washington Township, NJ**
BARA — Jim 201-664-6725

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

POINT TO PONDER

“Think about your ancestors, think about your posterity.”

—Mahatma Gandhi

C. Messages of a technical nature or personal remarks of relative unimportance



FIRST

PLACE LABEL HERE

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.490 -	67.0	KD1CY ¹	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		N1ZIZ	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
147.315 +	67.0	KB1HJG ²	Plymouth
147.345 +	88.5	KB1QL	Vineyard
¹ Node #s: IRLP-4617 & EchoLink-4611 ² Node #s: IRLP-4722 & EchoLink-4721			
440			
441.400 +	100.0	WG1U	Plymouth
442.200 +	88.5	N1NRL	Fall River
443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.500 +	141.3	K1PBO	Barnstable
443.600 +	88.5	NS1N	Norwell
443.800 +	88.5	W1RJC ³	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 ⁴	Johnston, RI
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston
³ Node #s: IRLP-4259 & EchoLink-4259 ⁴ Node #s: IRLP-5920 & EchoLink-55920			

SEMARA ACTIVITY DIRECTORY

— RAGCHEW —
Sat - 8 p.m. 28.700 MHz USB
Sun - 8 a.m. 28.700 MHz USB
Wed - 8:30 p.m. **50.200** MHz USB
Daily - 7 p.m. 147.000+
Mon-Fri - 7:30 a.m. 3.872 MHz LSB

— KD1CY WEATHER NET —
Mon--Fri 8:00 p.m. 145.490-

— W1RJC Sunday Activities 443.800+ —
 7 p.m. - New England Net
 9 p.m. - ARRL News followed by Amateur Audio News

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

MAY 7, 2005
10:30 A.M. @ CLUBHOUSE
LARRY HOUBRE, JR., AA1FS
508-991-6055