



ZERO BEAT

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



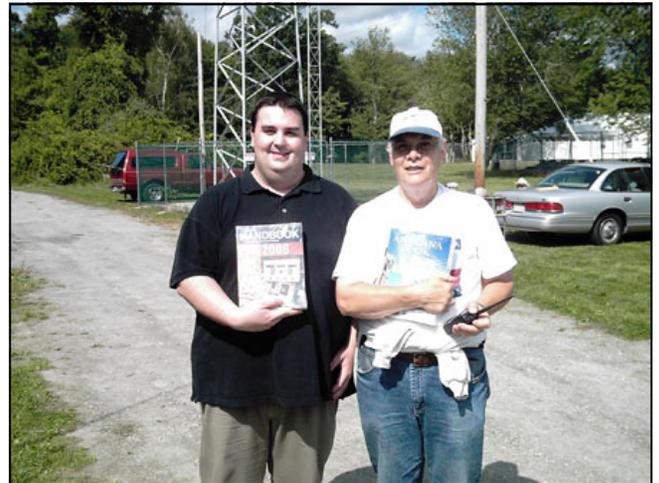
OUR 74th YEAR

Volume 42, Issue 10

SEMARA W1AEC

October 2006

Tailgate 2006



RICK, W1RJ and DICK, K1AHA

I would like to thank all of the members for attending the recent tailgate. It was a relatively small affair but buying and selling was brisk according to several reports.

I think Ed, WA1ZCB discovered the most successful way to empty a truck...pay people to take your stuff! Good to see attendees from as far away as the Cape and RI.



STAN, KB1KSF AND ED, WA1ZCB

Congratulations to **Dick, K1AHA** for winning the 2006 ARRL *Antenna Handbook*, right up his alley for his activity in antenna building. Once he reads this, I'm afraid the local hardware stores will soon empty out of supplies!

Rick, W1RJ won the ARRL *Amateur Radio Handbook*, a great publication that keeps getting better with each year. I'm sure Rick will make use of the wide cross-section of amateur radio materials this handbook offers.

Both publications included CD-ROM with software utilities and the complete publication in electronic form. Thanks again to the ARRL for this generous donation.

Thanks again for support. All indications so far that it's thumbs up for doing it again, possibly on a more frequent basis.



N1TI

73 de *Tim Smith, N1TI*

ZERO BEAT

<http://zerobeat.semara.org>

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**Southeastern Massachusetts
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 54 Donald Street,
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2006 SEMARA OFFICERS

President

Rick Cabral, W1RJC

Vice President

Dave Goldstein, W1DJG

Secretary

Ronald Silvia, WB1HGA

Treasurer

Scott Szala, W1EV

Board of Directors:

Bill Miller, K1IBR
 Carl Bredberg, K1KID
 Tim Smith, N1TI

Trustees: (year term is up)

Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM (2006)-Ch
 William Miller, Jr., K1IBR (2007)
 Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS (2008)
 Bill Vincent, W1POW (2009)
 Don Manley, N1PMB (2010)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds

Mike Miller, N1ITQ

Scholarship

Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS

Technical

Rick Cabral, W1RJC

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Website

Rick Cabral, W1RJC

ARES

Rob Macedo, KD1CY

Radio Events

Ron Silvia, WB1HGA

New Building

Chris Smith, K1CJS



It seems to me ...

de Bob, K1KVV <editor@semara.org>

That we sometimes work overtime to do things the hard way. For example, I built this full-wave 6-m rectangular loop. The vertical spacing is $1/3\lambda$, the horizontal width is $1/6\lambda$ and the feedpoint impedance is about 50Ω resistive. I used 12 gauge wire with electrical conduit for stiffness. How does it work? Well, my best answer is to get on the Wednesday evening Southeastern New England 6-meter net. **Bob, N1HCW**, in Acushnet, MA is net control and he opens the net at 8:30 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz (USB). Stick your two cents in and enjoy the fun. I hear tell that the group might even hold an eyeball breakfast net this month. Tune in for details.

Are we lucky or what? **Chris J. Smith, K1CJS** accepted the appointment as chair of the New Building committee. And **Bob, KA1YON** donated a 'new' refrigerator to the club. **Larry, W1DBX** donated his simplex *EchoIRLP* node to the club for use on the repeater. A show of hands revealed that mostly all of the members present agreed to give it a shot. It is now fully operational. Give it a try! If you are on the 147.000 repeater and wish to use the link:

Connect to IRLP = [4 digit node number directly]

Connect to EchoLink = Star (*) + [node number]

Disconnect from either = Pound [#] or 73

If you are using EchoLink or a repeater that has IRLP and wish to connect back to 147.000:

W1AEC-R IRLP Node Number = 4347

W1AEC-R EchoLink Node Number = 44347

POINT TO PONDER

"We don't see things as they are, we see them as we are."

~Anias Nin

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* G4C05 Which of the following is NOT an important reason to have a good station ground?

- A. To reduce the cost of operating a station
- B. To reduce electrical noise
- C. To reduce interference
- D. To reduce the possibility of electrical shock

* 2004 General Class (Element 3) Question Pool (good thru 2008-06-30)

Answer on page 7



MEETING MINUTES



The September 7, 2006 Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President, **Rick Cabral, W1RJJC**, with the salute to the flag and a roll call of 53 members. A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report (Ron Silva, WB1HGA)– The minutes of the previous business meeting is accepted as printed in the current issue of Zero Beat.

Reading of the Board of Directors June 2006 minutes:

*Motion** to carry out recommendations that the copier remain locked, and that a portion of the hut roof be tarred to protect radio equipment.

Treasurer's Report (Scott Szala, W1EV)– Accepted as read.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds (Mike Miller, N1ITQ)–

Replaced the old refrigerator with a newer donated by **Bob, KA1YON**, then had old one delivered to dump. Oil tank is filled with stabilizer added.

Scholarship (Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS)– Absent.

Technical (Rick Cabral, W1RJJC)–

The repeater now has male and female voiceovers. The female voice is *Mary Knight* of 104.5 WXLO in Worcester, MA. Our latest addition male voiceover is *Greg Jenson* of WBZ 1030 in Boston. Greg is thrilled to do the voiceovers and has donated his time and talent to SEMARA. Reorganized all control operator and user commands, as well as added informative new top of hour announcements and activity messages about SEMARA information and events. Repeater Control operators **K1KID**, **W1GYL**, **W1VRP**, **AA1FS** and **N1JOY** were emailed all of the new Control Op commands yesterday. Finally, next weekend, **Dave Goldstein, W1DJG** and **Rick, W1RJJC**, will be completing the run of new 8-conductor CAT-6 underground cable. This cable replaces the old cable that was removed 2 months ago. This cable will carry the repeaters autopatch, club low temperature alarm, and club power fail alarm. User codes for the repeater will also be represented in the upcoming weeks, and pending jammer activity, the autopatch, user speed dial and emergency speed dial will all be functional.

In the Spring of 2005, a motion was made to expend up to \$150 on an HT to replace the repeater remote radio on the clubhouse wall. You may recall that

this radio has a PL problem, thus the need to replace it. For the past year and a half, this has been on hold as other technical items have taken priority and the money has NOT been used. Other plans had also been made to wire a remote head directly to the repeater; however this idea has been discarded for various reasons. a recommendation to the membership to revise the original motion to expend up to \$200 to purchase a commercial mobile radio, such as the Kenwood TK-760. This radio will be programmed to be on 147.000 and the head and microphone will be mounted on the wall to replace the current radio. A motion would need to be made under new business by any member to approve this.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Website (Rick Cabral, W1ARJC)– The President announces that **Larry, AA1FS**, has resigned. This result in re-organization of the committee: **Rick, W1RJJC**, chairperson, **Tim Smith, N1TI**, and **Bob Kelley, K1KVV**. The President wishes to thank Larry for his efforts and dedication over the years. Larry remains active as SEMARA's VE Team Leader and Liaison, as well as the trustee of our club call sign, W1AEC. Between now and the October business meeting, we will be working together to develop a new SEMARA.org web portal that all members can easily navigate and enjoy, with no outdated information. The new site will feature a brand new member services area, a message board system, easy access to club events and the latest newsletter, online ordering of SEMARA branded merchandise such as hats and T-shirts, an online application to join SEMARA and pay via PayPal, and lots more. Any member with suggestions on what they wish to see in our SEMARA website is encouraged to email webmaster@semara.org with their suggestions.

Activities (Scott Szala, W1EV)– Looking for help with this Saturday's BBQ; 20 tickets are available.

ARES (Rob Macedo, KD1CY)– Reminds all to keep eye for tropical depression in Atlantic; suggests you take IS-100, -700, and -800 courses to qualify for different levels of emergency communications support; Reminds all about the nets on Mondays for ARES and RACES.

Radio Events (Ron Silva, WB1HGA)– The only scheduled event of W1AEC is the club contest, Coast 2 Coast on Last Saturday of September. Doors open at 11AM everyone is invited.



CLUB NOTES

October is the time to take advantage of the falling leaves. Just check out those trees and their limbs. Do any need to be trimmed? And while you're at it, can any be used to support a long wire for 160- or 80-meters?



One application was voted life membership at the September 7, 2006 business meeting:
Michael Correia, W1MWC
 (last a member in 1981).
Welcome back to the club!



SEMARA VE SESSION

Saturday, October 7, 2006
 10:30 a.m.
 Contact: Larry, AA1FS
LRHguy@earthlink.net
 508-991-6055



LOCAL NET ACTIVITY

Please support these local nets by checking in!

2-m Roundtable Net held every evening at 7 p.m. All are welcome to join in on the SEMARA Repeater, W1AEC, 147.000+ with a PL of 67.0 Hz..

6-m Net held Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. on 50.200 MHz USB. **Bob, N1HCW** is net control. This informal net discusses everything from antennas to the weather as well as the recent band openings. Check us out.

3868 kHz SEMARA Morning Net held weekdays from 7:30 - 8 a.m. All are welcome.

SEMARA FISH & CHIPS FRY

Saturday
November 4, 2006
 12 noon @ clubhouse



50 tickets go on sale
before the October 5 business meeting
 -- only \$5 / ticket --

LAKEVILLE EVENT

I would like to thank the following people for their support of the Lakeville Event. We had a good turn out even with it being the same day as Boxboro. Again thanks for your support!

Chris, W1EAV
Doug, W1RDJ
Don, N1DT
Bob, K1VV
Ted, N1OHV
Margaret, KA1BZE
Jerry, N1OFD

73 de Tony, N1XRS
 SEMARA ARES Team

SUDOKU

Here's something to keep you occupied while listening for that rare one. Solution is on page 5.

8	6	9			2			
5					8	9	2	1
2				7	3			5
4	5	8	6				9	
		2	8			1	5	
			2	4	5	6	7	
	8		7	2	4			
3	2	1		8				9
	4			9		5	8	2

LEARN CW OR IMPROVE YOUR SPEED

It has been brought to my attention that some want to improve their skills in CW. Click on this link for slow-speed nets where you may get some practice.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/skcc/>

Google the FISTS website for their link to setting up a "code buddy". It's another great way to find some slow speed QSOs. who knows, maybe you'll join us next time around and have fun too!

73 de Ron, WB1HGA

Amateur Radio News

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Wow! Did you know we are almost 75 years old? The club's roots date way back to 1932! We are very fortunate to be one of the very few amateur radio clubs in the country to own a sizable property, have a steady income and own two commercial radio towers (180 feet and 80 feet). We are over 300 life members strong!

Since becoming your President in January 2006, I have learned a lot. Last year, I walked into SEMARA one morning to find that someone had wrote "W1RJ" under "President" on the whiteboard nominations for officers. I had a chuckle out of it, but then seriously decided that I was up for the challenge.

This year has been a great experience despite the bumpy road we have been traveling down (and it's not over just yet). I have put a lot of effort into being my best in running business meetings with the intention to grow my leadership skills. My main concern so far is overcoming my non-aggressive personality. As the months have gone by, I have tried to become more aggressive in order to uphold the integrity of the meetings.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every one of you for helping to make SEMARA the great club that it is. I would be very pleased to see members continuously share ideas and opinions openly (especially at business meetings). Remember... this is YOUR club. Each and every member should let their voice be heard.

*73 de Richard J. Cabral, W1RJ
SEMARA President*

I almost forgot! The new SEMARA Member Services site (www.semara.net) along with the SEMARA main site (www.semara.org) are coming

2	8	5	1	9	3	6	4	7
6	4	7	6	8	5	1	2	3
9	1	3	4	2	7	5	8	9
8	7	6	5	4	2	3	9	1
4	5	1	9	3	8	2	7	6
3	6	2	7	1	6	8	5	4
5	6	8	3	7	9	4	1	2
1	2	9	8	6	4	7	3	5
7	3	4	2	1	5	9	6	8

along nicely. You will soon see some real stellar enhancements to the Member Services site, followed by the much anticipated new SEMARA web site sometime in October. More details on their progress in next month's Zero Beat!

NOT SEEKING A SECOND TERM*

It is mixed emotions that I have decided not to continue in office past December 31, 2006, the last regular day of my term. It has truly been an honor to serve you. After much reflection, I now believe that my work is finished and I can move on to other pursuits. It is my understanding that ARRL Headquarters will identify other candidates for you to consider and vote on this fall. The new SM will then assume the office on January 1, 2007.

Much has been accomplished since I assumed duties as the Section Emergency Coordinator in May 2001. That effort continued after I assumed office as SM on January 1, 2004. We have instituted improvements in our communications suite with digital modes. Productive relationships continued with RACES and MARS. New life was breathed into our now robust relationship with the American Red Cross. Much work was done with Major Will Leslie of the Salvation Army to reestablish the Massachusetts Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (MVOAD). Moreover, we improved our information sharing with members through our website, as well as creating a robust internet-based emergency response database.

Each important part of the hobby was represented by very talented individuals. I would like to specifically thank **Rob, KD1CY**, SEC, for a truly extraordinary job. I cannot begin to describe here the monumental contribution he has made to our section. He, in turn, is supported by the most professional volunteers I have been privileged to serve with. Much sage advice and friendship was provided by **Carl, N1FY**, my ASM and Chief of Staff. He also established our Incident Command Post, significantly enhancing our readiness. A well done to **Phil, N1XTB**, for his efforts in bringing our emergency database to life. **Phil, K9HI**, added a special measure to our information exchange with our members through his timely and interesting upkeep of our website. I am indebted to **Mike, K1LJN**, for staying on in my administration as our OOC even though he wanted to retire. Many thanks to **Jim, N1LKJ**, as our steadfast STM, **Ron, W1PLW**, our PIC and **Shawn, K3HI**, for his government relation work for both the EMA and WMA sections. Many others, too numerous to mention here, have also contributed to the betterment of our section during my term.

73 de Mike, W1MPN

EMA Section Manager: Michael P. Neilsen

** Edited for length - editor*

More SEMARA Stuff

(Meeting Minutes – Continued from page 3)

New Building (Roland Daignault, N1JOY)– Reports good email feedback from club members; continuing work on gathering prices for materials we need; Also reports the New Building committee may not be ready for discussion on September 28, but will keep that date until further notice.

COMMUNICATIONS (Dave Goldstein, W1DJG)– I have three certificates of appreciation to present tonight for individuals that have gone above and beyond to make contributions to SEMARA. Their efforts have not gone un-noticed.

The first certificate goes to **WILLIAM K. HARGREAVES, N1QMU** in recognition of his ongoing contributions to the Buildings & Grounds Committee for resealing the front and side decks of the clubhouse as needed.

The second certificate goes to **JOHN G. CARREIRO, W1ZYV** in recognition of his ongoing contributions to the Buildings & Grounds Committee in painting and upkeep of the clubhouse doors and trim.

Finally, the third certificate goes to **GREG GENSON, WBZ RADIO** in recognition of his contribution of professional voiceovers for use on the club's amateur repeater.

RATIFICATIONS*– One application for life membership was received from

Michael Correia, W1MWC
(was a member in 1981).

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS (Rick Cabral, W1RJC)– In order to maintain peace among members and dispel rumors, incorrect statements/claims, he explains the reason for the September special meeting is about information gathering; also, when a decision comes to fruition, to decide which way to go, he assures the membership that notice will go out when the time comes for such a meeting and/or vote. Until then, he explains we are only in talk stages.

OLD BUSINESS– None.

NEW BUSINESS–

*Motion** to amend the monetary figure of the original motion “to purchase a new radio” to read \$300.

*Motion** to accept this amended motion: to purchase a new radio to mount on the clubhouse club wall for up to \$300.

Motion withdrawn “Proxy voting of any kind will

not be allowed in any SEMARA meeting.”
(This requires a By-Law change.)

Motion withdrawn “Remove William Miller from the Board of Directors.”

*Motion** to have information packet send out to all members when time comes to vote on new building.

Reading of Proposed By-Law change:

PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT SEPTEMBER 2006

Add a new section to By-Law

Article IV Board of Directors:

Section 4 - Charge and Authority

- A. Main function and charge of the Board of Directors is to review plans and items of interest to the Association and then make recommendations to the membership. The membership by vote shall accept or reject such plans or items of interest at a regularly scheduled or special business meeting. The membership shall reserve the right to modify, amend, limit or expand or impose sanctions or conditions upon the scope of such plans or items of interests prior to a vote.
- B. The Board of Directors shall have no authority to approve, sanction or authorize the expenditure of funds for anything on behalf of the association, excepting emergency work as delineated in paragraph “C” below.
- C. In the case of bona fide emergencies, the Board of Directors may authorize temporary minimalist measures, including the expenditure of club funds, to protect club property and equipment. The membership, at the next business meeting, shall make the final determination relative to what final measures shall be authorized to address said emergency condition.

[Signed by 5 members in good standing.]

This will be voted at the next business meeting.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB–

Larry, W1DBX, has donated an interface to enable VOIP on 147.00 repeater. Because of this, members have expressed their agreement to have EchoLink and IRLP setup on the repeater on a trial basis.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Submitted by
Ron Silvia, W1IHGA,
Secretary



* Motions are voted, and

W1IHGA

OCTOBER VE SESSIONS

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

SEMARA Clubhouse — 10:30 a.m. 7 Oct

Larry Houbre, AA1FS

LRHguv@earthlink.net

508-991-6055

*Exams are available at other times
by appointment only*

Canton, MA — 7:30 p.m. 19 Oct

Lou Harris, N1UEC

N1UEC@Norwood-ARC.org

508-668-0858

Fall River, MA — 7:00 p.m. 16 Oct

Skip Denault, KB1CNB

skip@NewTestamentSchool.org

774-644-3469

Falmouth, MA — 9:00 a.m. 14 Oct

Ben Fleck, W2LYE

BenFleck@cape.com

508-540-2583

Providence, RI — 7:00 p.m. 12 Oct

Louis Mester, W1CH

W1CH@cox.net

401-263-6045

Slatersville, RI — 9:00 a.m. 28 Oct

Robert Jones, WB1P

WB1P@arrl.net

401-333-4787

OCT. SEMARA EVENTS

5—Business Meeting – 7 p.m.

7—**VE session** – 10:30 a.m.

12—*Ragchew* – 6:30 p.m.

19—Tech Talk – 7 p.m. TBA

26—*Ragchew* – 6:30 p.m.

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

NE DIVISION FLEA MARKETS

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

6-7 Oct HOSSTRADERS Hopkinton, NH

207-469-3492

8 Oct Nutmeg Hamfest Wallingford, CT

John 203-440-4468

15 Oct Flea @ MIT Cambridge, MA

Nick 617-253-3776

SOME OCT. CONTESTS

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/oct.html>

Classic Exchange – CW, from 1300Z Oct 1-0700Z Oct 2. Frequencies: 1.815, 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.135, 28.050, 50.100, 144.100. See <http://qsl.asti.com/CX>.

EU Autumn Sprint – SSB, sponsored by the EU Sprint Gang, 1600Z-1959Z Oct 7 (CW is 1600Z-1959Z Oct 14). Frequencies: 80-20 meters. See <http://www.eusprint.com>.

PSK Rumble (The Fall Classic) – sponsored by Troy ARA, 0000Z-2400Z Oct 7. 160-6 meters. See: http://www.n2tv.org/seasons/tara_rumble_rules.html.

FISTS Fall Sprint – CW, sponsored by FISTS CW Club from 1700Z-2100Z Oct 14. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. For more information: <http://www.fists.org>.

QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party – CW, sponsored by QRP ARC International, 1200Z Oct 21-2400Z Oct 22, operate 24 hrs max. Frequencies: 1.810, 3.560, 3.710, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060. See <http://www.qrparci.org>.

A. The purpose of a ground wire is to short any undesired RF radiation, electrical noise, or even electrical power, to ground, and to prevent electrical shock. A ground wire will *not* reduce the cost of operating your station.

SEMARA HandiHam Affiliate

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

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.130 -	151.4	WF1A	Cranston, RI
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.450 -	100.0	W1SYE	Portsmouth, RI
145.490 -	67.0 ¹	KD1CY	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
146.805 -	67.0	NN1D	Fall River
146.835 -	192.8	WA1QCA	Johnston, RI
146.880 -	100.0	WC1R	Newport, RI
146.940 -		K1KYI	Lincoln, RI
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000+ SEMARA	67.0*	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.045+	141.3	W1HDN	W Warwick, RI
147.135+	67.0	KA1GG	Taunton
147.165+	67.0	WA1HAH	Exeter, RI
147.180+	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
147.195+	127.3	K1SMH	Attleboro
147.330+	173.8 ²	W1AQ	E. Prov., RI
147.345+	88.5	KB1QL	Vineyard

* IRLP-4347 & E-Link-44347

¹IRLP-4617 & E-Link-4611; ²required for use of IRLP-4907

440			
441.400+	100.0	WG1U	Plymouth
442.200+	88.5	KE1AK	Fall River
442.950+	82.5 ⁵	K1RK	Barnstable
443.450+	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.500+	141.3 ⁵	K1PBO	Dennis
443.800+	88.5 ³	W1RJC	Dartmouth
443.850+	141.3	AA1PL	Exeter, RI
444.200+	118.8	N1YHS	Bourne
444.250+	141.3 ⁵	WA1GPO	Falmouth
444.350+	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
444.550+	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
447.025 -	77.0 ⁴	N1JBC	Johnston, RI
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston
449.275 -	DPL 244	W1WNS	W. Bridgewater

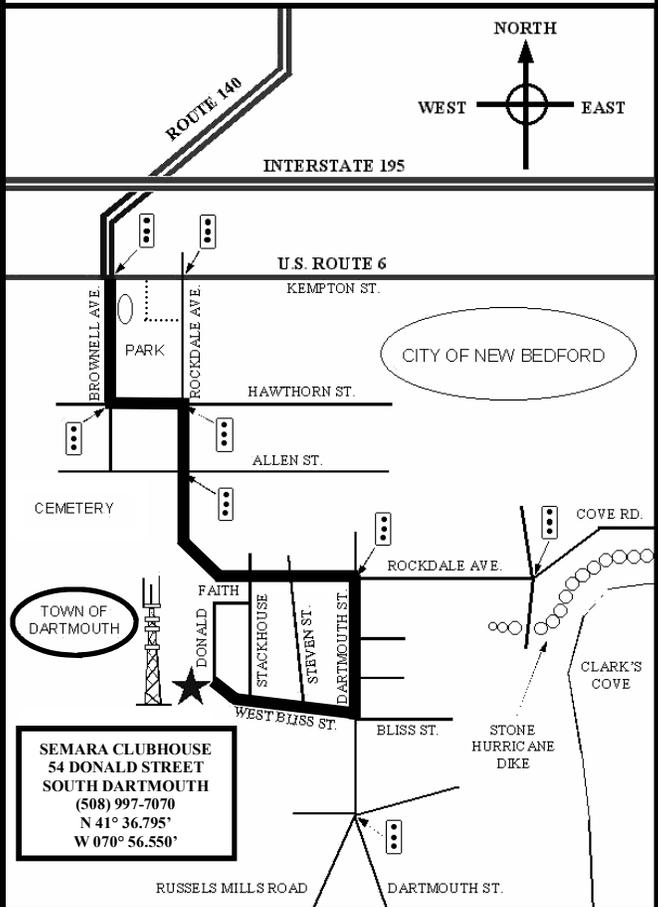
³IRLP-4259 & E-Link-4259; ⁴IRLP-5920 & E-Link-55920; ⁵ Cape Net

FISTS CW no.10555

Grid Coordinates:
FN41mo

GPS Coordinates:
Lat. N 41° 36.795'
Long. W 070° 56.550'

Directions to SEMARA



SEMARA ACTIVITY DIRECTORY

— RAGCHEW —

Wed - 8:30 p.m. 50.200 MHz USB
Daily - 7 p.m. 147.000+ SEMARA
Mon-Fri - 7:30 a.m. 3.868 MHz LSB

— WEATHER NET —

Mon-Fri - 8:00 p.m. 145.490- [alt. 146.655-]

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

— Lowfers QRP Group —

Sun - 11 a.m. - meet at clubhouse - TBA