



ZERO BEAT

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



Since 1932

Volume 44 Issue 10

SEMARA-W1AEC

October 2008

EMA 2008 SM Candidate's Statements

ARTHUR S. GREENBERG, K1GBX



Hello fellow Amateurs

Art Greenberg, K1GBX is a member in standing of ARRL for many years. I became an active ham in late 1957 as KN1GBX and 1958, K1GBX. I was active in NTS at regional areas, also a relay traffic operator.

I have been a DXer and contester, and an elmer to other young people into our hobby. Bringing operators, emergency preparedness and always developing new technology. My shack is covered with certificates, RAG CHEWERS, Contesting awards, also ARRL awards. My shack is neatly packed with transceivers, with three towers.

At Revere High School, I started the RHS Am. Radio Club, also a president. I also started the

(Continued on page 5)

MICHAEL "MIKE" NEILSEN, W1MPN



My Platform:

- Appoint a Technical Coordinator who would work closely with the Official Observer Coordinator on interference issues, and identify technically savvy individuals in the various affiliated clubs;
- Appoint a qualified Official Observer Coordinator with the best technical credentials, and who has absolutely unassailable personal integrity;
- Ensure that all section staff appointees reside in Eastern Massachusetts;
- Ensure that all section staff appointees have a sense of service and personal integrity;
- Appoint an Affiliated Club Coordinator who is knowledgeable of the local club scene—but more importantly, has earned the respect and

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Published online monthly
 ©2008 Southeastern Massachusetts
 Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
 54 Donald Street,
 South Dartmouth, MA 02748
 (508) 997-7070

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SEMARA: <http://www.semara.org>
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2008 SEMARA OFFICERS

President

Louis Mester - W1CH

Vice President

Bob Kelley - K1KVV

Secretary

Tim Smith - N1TI

Treasurer

Mike McDonald - KB1NB

Board of Directors:

Gerry Bergeron - W1AFD

Dave Dean - K1JGV

Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

Trustees: (year term is up)

Larry Houbre, Jr. - AA1FS (2008)-Ch

Mike Miller - N1ITQ (2009)

Charlie Days - WA1JFD (2010)

Tim Smith - N1TI (2011)

Henry Blanchett - W1GYL (2012)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds

Marty Jordan - KA1YFV

Scholarship

Larry Houbre, Jr. - AA1FS

Technical

Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Activities

Scott Szala - W1EV

ARES/SKYWARN

Rob Macedo - KD1CY

Building Renovation

Dave Dean - K1JGV

QSL Manager

John Nery - WA1ESO

Radio Events

Bob Kelley - K1KVV

Repeater

Rick Cabral- W1RJC,

Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

Website

Tim Smith - N1TI



It seems to me ...

de Bob - K1KVV <editor@semara.org>

... that the death of Morse code is premature. Checkout the BBC article: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/7544147.stm. Morse code has been proving popular with a group in the North West, showing it still has a future despite the mobile phone. And if you would like to take a free course in the privacy of your own home, just go to this site: <http://w9pe.us/>, and download *CWtype* for your PC.

I recently received an email from **Dan Romanchik, KB6NU** with an offer to receive his articles on ham radio. That's where I got the information cited above. Another thing he mentioned is the idea of a **Ham Cram** licensing course – similar to the Falmouth ARA's Tech in a weekend. He reports about a 90% success rate for the Tech course.

I have been suggesting that SEMARA should offer licensing courses and I think I'll take a look at what he has to offer. The most attractive thing about such a cram course is the modest time commitment. If I do succeed in getting the Tech course worked out, I might consider doing something similar for the General and Extra upgrades.

So, is it only me, or are there others who think that the amateur radio is not dead – like Morse is supposed to be? If so, we all need to be ready to share whatever we find attracts us with others. Personally, I'd love to have some young hams around.

SEMARA does have a nice club house and working radio and antennas. (Just ask **Matt, KB1OSV** - see page 6.) Let's think about participating in a SPRINT - a short 2 to 4 hour contest. See the ARRL Contest Corral <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> for details (some examples are on page 6 in this issue).

I'd rather osculate than oscillate.

POINT TO PONDER

“May you live all the days of your life.”

~Jonathan Swift

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* G2A06 Which of the following is an advantage when using single sideband as compared to other voice modes on the HF amateur bands?

- A. Very high fidelity voice modulation
- B. Less bandwidth used and high power efficiency
- C. Ease of tuning on receive
- D. Less subject to static crashes (atmospherics)

*2007 Element 3 General Class Question Pool (good thru 2011-06-30) Answer on page 6



CLUB NOTES

October is a transition month. We are supposed to enjoy some warm weather - Indian Summer - after experiencing a frost. My guess is that it will be coming late this year just because I'm ready for some cool, crisp days. Right now, my trees are still fully leafed out and, except for a few wimpy vines, everything else is still green.



Well, eventually the leaves will turn and fall and have to be cleaned up. But look at the bright side - now you will be able to string that long wire antenna through the trees. Dormant trees do make good insulators.



SEMARA starts its VE sessions again this month. Be sure to stop by and take one of the tests. After all, you've had all summer to study - right? I hope to see a few of our members upgrade.



With all this exciting weather we've been having, maybe it would be a good time to check out the NVIS mode of communication. It is interesting that an inverted vee antenna with a shallow bend angle can have an almost circular pattern when it is mounted close to the ground. This performance is enhanced with a counterpoise just below it by a few feet. I wonder what it would take to try one out at the clubhouse? I think I've seen an unused antenna support that might just do the job. Oh yes, we can become radio active!



LOCAL NET ACTIVITY

Everyone is welcome to check in!

147.000+ (PL 67.0 Hz) (FM) — Roundtable "Camel" Net is held *every evening* at 7 p.m. on the SEMARA Repeater, WIAEC.

50.200 MHz (USB) — Net is held *Wednesdays* at 8:30 p.m. **Bob, N1HCW** (Acushnet) is net control.

28.490 MHz (USB) — Net is held *Tuesdays* at 8:30 p.m. **Bob, N1HCW** (Acushnet) is net control.

3868 kHz (LSB) — SEMARA Morning Net is held *weekdays* from 7:30-8 a.m. ET.

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

Saturday, Oct 4, 2008
10:30 a.m.

Contact: Larry, AA1FS
LRHguy@earthlink.net
508-991-6055



SUDOKU

Here's a challenging puzzle to attack while waiting for the net to start. **Solution is on page 6.**

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

Meeting Minutes

SEPTEMBER 4, 2008

The business meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Vice President **Bob, K1KVV**. The salute to the flag was followed by a roll call. A quorum of 19 members and one guest was present.

Secretary's Report was **accepted** as published in the September 2008 *Zero Beat* newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Mike, KB1NB reports that the club treasury balance is \$17,429 (combined checking and savings). July and August Netcom checks cleared. Mike gave update regarding status with insurance claim, cleanup costs and attorney's activities. Attorney requested updated replacement costs for the hut including finish work. **Dave, K1JGV** stepped up to the plate and supplied estimate in short order. Motion to replenish the attorney retainer by \$3k passed unanimously.

Mike, as liaison to Netcom, reported discussions with Netcom regarding clarifications to lease as to definition of right-of-way, storage of materials and property use.

Motion to reimburse **Tim, N1TI** \$52.39, for soda and water for the recent BBQ passed unanimously.

Motion to reimburse **Eric, N1WCO** \$7.34 for soda.

Motion to reimburse *JCM Contractors* \$117.80 for repairing the electrical service cable feeding the club.

A **motion** to refer to audit passed.

Standing Committee Reports

Building and Grounds (Marty, WA1YFV): Marty solicited volunteers to help maintain the grounds grass cutting or to employ contractors at \$40 per cut. He reported that the shingling project led by **Dave, K1JGV** was almost done.

Dave, K1JGV reported that he donated a lawnmower.

Repeater/Technical Committee: Tim, N1TI reported that the repeater noise issue will be addressed as soon as we can secure borrowed test equipment.

Special Committee Reports

Skywarn: Rob, KD1CY thanked those that attended the Skywarn training back in July.

Thanks to those that participated in the activations during the recent severe weather events. The Hurricane Drill in August went well and was the first time that *Winlink* was used extensively (over 300 messages passed). **Rob, KD1CY** reminded members of the upcoming EMA Section Manager election and to please return the ballots. (SEMARA has officially endorsed **Mike, W1MPN** as the most viable candidate).

Renovations: Dave, K1JGV said that with the shingling nearing completion, his focus will be on grading and landscaping efforts. With a bobcat, 18 yards of soil and gravel, he can improve drainage, usability and curb appeal. He also said that he will be moving the BBQ pit to a better location. **Bob, K1KVV** suggested that Dave present a motion for funding at the next meeting.

Website (Tim, N1TI): Routine updates. **Bob, N1BLF** continuing his efforts to update the Courage Handiham System with audio readings. Tim mentioned a new page that is on experimentally to view the cameras from a mobile device at <http://semara.org/mobile>. Changes to the cameras to do motion detection frame capture on both cameras. See the camera page and visit the archive. Members asked about additional outdoor cameras. Tim is waiting for bargains. **Mike, W1BZJ** inquired about the member directory that was removed from the web site. Tim reminded a membership committee was formed about six months ago headed up by **Charlie, WA1JFD**.

A **motion** to adjourn passed unanimously at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Smith, N1TI
Secretary



Rob, KD1CY served as the 50/50 raffle chairman and sold a total of \$41 worth.

Continuation of Candidate's Statements

(K1GBX: Continued from page 1)

Shore Line Am. Radio Assoc. While in Viet Nam, serving my Country, I received a message that a group of Hams wanted to change the name to "North Shore Amateur Radio Assoc., I gave permission.

As a candidate who has served one term already as Section Manager, it is hard to get everything completed in such a short time. There are Many issues done well and with "DISTINCTION." It is time that controversy is stopped, and my staff and I give back E.MA to you, the operators. All accusations investigated by the FCC, my staff and myself have been unfounded!

The purpose of Section Manager, is to bring in new volunteers, new Affiliated clubs, into this hobby. We have with the best suitable individuals available, creating a new "THANK YOU" program to acknowledge those that have given to our hobby. My Asst. SMs write reports to the section mostly on Emergency preparedness, and technology.

I visit radio clubs, and Field day sites, also supported the ARRL Convention in Huntsville, AL. Building a stronger membership growth, being very successful. The highest in years.

Please vote!! Art Greenberg, K1GBX for your Section Manager.



JUST GO VOTE

Of course you do have to be an ARRL member!

The ballots should be in the mail and may have been delivered already. Just mark the oval next to the name of the candidate of your choice. Put the ballot into the smaller envelop and seal it. Then put that one in the mailing envelop with your name on the back. This voting procedure uses two envelops to keep your vote confidential while allowing the ARRL to validate that you voted only once!

(W1MPN: Continued from page 1)

trust of all club leaders, as it was in my last administration;

- Re-establish the robust website in existence during my last administration;
- Re-establish the club presenter's list;
- Establish a public speakers list of qualified amateurs who can promote Amateur Radio to external organizations (e.g. Rotary Club);
- Appoint an Assistant SM for Operating Activities; someone active with DXing, contesting, and other on-air activities with the skill to promote local and section operating activities;
- Appoint an Assistant SM for Youth Activities who will encourage young people to find the same joy in the hobby as we do, and to inspire young amateurs;
- Coordinate proper staff meetings held 3-4 times each year reviewing the progress of all facets of the hobby—not just as a pulpit for items which are of personal interest to the SM
- EMCOMM continues to be in great demand by our government and non-government served agencies. Emphasis on readiness and training excellence will resume in my administration. Most importantly: *ARES and EMCOMM activities will never receive preferential treatment in my administration*

Please review what people are saying about my candidacy at www.w1mpn.org Thank you for your vote and support!

Yes, democracy is not free. You have to put your own first-class stamp on the mailing envelop. But then again, your vote is important.

Please do vote for the candidate of your choice.



73 de Bob, K1KVV

SEMARA News



BUILDING RENOVATIONS

1. Proper orientation of lead - ins and hardline behind the club has been dressed up somewhat, but more needs to be done
2. The north wall shingling is done, the 200A service has been secured and the trim is being completed along with a few minor carpentry repairs
3. A routine has been worked out for the grass cutting and garden maintenance in front of the club for next year
4. The painting project is underway
5. The BBQ pit has been relocated
6. Grading in anticipation of installing a handicap ramp at a future date and enhancing the proper drainage outside the club along with improved parking should be underway next month.

Note: as always weather, available funds and unforeseen circumstances play a strong role in completing these projects. I am confident, however, that all of the above will be completed this year.

73 de Dave, K1JGV

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

B. Less bandwidth used and high power efficiency. SSB can use a minimum bandwidth of less than 3K Hz. A receiver with a 2.8 kHz filter provides a high SNR.

CQ CQ CQ DE W1AEC

Well, I finally got a free Sunday to go down to the club and give the club station equipment a test drive. When I arrived around 10:30AM **Dave, K1JGV, Marty, KA1YFV** and a few others were just finishing up and heading out. I put my equipment on the table and all of a sudden Dave and Marty did a u-turn back to the table to check out my Yaesu 897D to-go kit. After the guys checked everything out, Dave and Marty seemed particularly impressed at the level of my equipment and how I operate portable and from my apartment in Mansfield. Now, the good stuff...

I sat down at the W1AEC station desk to familiarize myself with the layout and equipment at the the W1AEC station. I turned the Kenwood and Yeasu radios on, and the rotor control interface. After running through each piece of station equipment I powered down everything and decided to use my own radio with the log-Yagi antenna. I am obviously more comfortable using my own radio and, I just got it back from Yaesu after repairing the HF finals and stuff. I used the club's spare 213 coax jumper cable, manually tuned the antenna using my antenna analyzer and MFJ Tuner, and away I went on 20 meters for the next three or so hours.

I was able to contact a total of five stations: N4ZKT - a Sunday 20 meter net and W4EEH, K4DZR and KJ4BIX (operating mobile from his Suburban running 1 kilowatt) - all with the Tennessee QSO Party. The last QSO I made was tough but I managed some how to pull this guy out of the muck and noise on the band. I worked on this QSO 20 minutes through a quasi-pile up this guy had going, I finally broke through. I made the QSO with GB2CI (on Caldney or Cordney Island)-not sure if I got the spelling right because of his hard accent-South Wales U.K. I think I got through because I was using SEMARA's big antenna. In addition, the band suddenly opened and his signal went from garbage to 55-59. He reported my signal as 45 and we said our 73 to each other. Overall the general band conditions on 20 meters went from OK to marginal when I packed up around three. Considering the conditions on the band, I think I did OK for my first run on the club station.

73 de Matt, KB1OSV

P.S. Bob, I logged all the contact's in the club station log with the *DATE and TIME* of the QSO ☺

VE SESSIONS

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

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

SEMARA – 10:30AM Oct 4th

Larry Houbre-AA1FS
LRHguy@earthlink.net
 508-991-6055

Braintree, MA – 8:45AM Nov 8th

William Needham-K1WN
K1WN@aol.com
 781-843-4000

Canton, MA – 7:30PM Oct 16th

Lou Harris-N1UEC
N1UEC@Norwood-ARC.org
 508-668-0858

Cranston, RI – 9:00AM Nov 22nd

Ken Carr-KB1AWV
KB1AWV@arrl.net
 401-828-1665

Fall River, MA – 7:00PM Oct 20th

Skip Denault-KB1CNB
skip@NewTestamentSchool.org
 774-644-3469

Falmouth, MA – 9:00AM Oct 11th

Ben Fleck-W2LYE
BenFleck@cape.com
 508-540-2583

Middletown, RI – 9:00AM Dec 13

Jack Garforth-K1IG
K1IG@verizon.net
 401-683-2250

Providence, RI – 7:00PM Oct 9th

Lou Mester-W1CH
W1CH@cox.net
 401-263-6045

Slatersville, RI – 9:00AM Oct 18th

Robert Jones-WB1P
WB1P@arrl.net
 401-333-4787

OCT. FLEAS & FESTS

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

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10-11 | Near-Fest IV | Deerfield, NH |
| | Mike | info@near-fest.com |
| 12 | Conn. State Conv. | Wallingford, CT |
| | Nutmeg Hamfest | John – 860-443-7799 |
| 19 | Flea @ MIT | Cambridge, MA |
| | | Nick – 617-253-3776 |
| 25 | Tri-City Annual Auction | Waterford, CT |
| | Tri-City ARC | Darryl – 860-443-7799 |

SOME OCT. ACTIVITIES

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

PARTIES/CONTESTS

- 3 Oct 1400Z - 5 Oct 0200Z : YLRL Anniversary Party: CW : www.ylrl.org
- 4 Oct 0000Z - 4 Oct 2400Z : PSK Rumble - The Fall Classic : www.n2tv.org
- 10 Oct 1400Z - 12 Oct 0200Z : YLRL Anniversary Party: SSB : www.ylrl.org
- 20 Oct 1300Z - 24 Oct 2400Z : School Club Roundup : www.arrl.org/SCR
- 25 Oct 0000Z - 26 Oct 2359Z : CQ WW SSB Contest : www.cqww.com
- 25 Oct 0001Z - 25 Oct 2359Z : 10-10 Fall Digital QSO Party : www.ten-ten.org
- 25 Oct 0001Z - 25 Oct 2359Z : 10-10 Fall CW QSO Party : www.ten-ten.org

SPRINTS (2-4 HR)

- 4 Oct 1600Z - 4 Oct 1959Z : EU Autumn Sprint : SSB : www.eusprint.com
- 11 Oct 1600Z - 11 Oct 1959Z : EU Autumn Sprint : CW : www.eusprint.com
- 11 Oct 1700Z - 11 Oct 2100Z : FISTS Fall Sprint : CW : www.fists.org
- 12 Oct 0000Z - 12 Oct 0400Z : North American RTTY Sprint: RTTY : www.ncjweb.com
- 19 Oct 0000Z - 19 Oct 0200Z : Asia-Pacific Sprint : CW : www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt
- 22 Oct 0000Z - 22 Oct 0200Z : SKCC Straiht Key Sprint : CW : www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks

SEMARA HandiHam Affiliate

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

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

See <http://www.semara.org/repeaters.htm>

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
144			
145.110 -	67.0	KB1BWN	New Bedford
145.130 -	151.4	WF1A	W Greenwich, RI
145.150 -	123.0	WA1DGW	Fall River
145.450 -	100.0	W1SYE	Portsmouth, RI
145.490 -	67.0 ¹	W1SMA	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WA1GPO	Falmouth
146.685 -	82.5	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 -	67.0 [†]	K1KYI	Cumberland, RI
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000+ SEMARA	67.0*	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.045+	141.3	W1HDN	W Warwick, RI
147.120+	173.8	K1WEW	Portsmouth, 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
147.315+	67.0	WG1U	Plymouth
147.330+	131.8 ²	W1AQ	E Prov., RI
147.345+	88.5	KB1QL	W Tisbury
147.375+	110.9	N1YHS	Falmouth

* IRLP-4347 & EchoLink-44347 † PL now required

¹IRLP-4617 & EchoLink-4611; ²173.8 required to use IRLP-4907

222			
223.760 -		K1KYI	Scituate, RI
223.780 -	88.5	N1PYN	Brockton
223.820 -	67.0	N1JBC	Newport, RI
223.900 -		KA1ABI	Coventry, RI
223.920 -		KA1LMX	Warwick, RI
223.960 -	127.3	KA1RCI	Johnston, RI
223.980 -		W1OP	Johnston, RI
224.040 -	67.0	KA1RCI	Lincoln, RI
224.060 -	103.5	N1ZZN	Norwell
224.200 -	100.0	KA1MYV	Lincoln, RI
224.320 -	118.8	W1ZSA	Walpole
224.400 -	103.5	N1KUG	Quincy
224.560 -	100.0	KA1NXS	Exeter, RI
224.620 -	88.5	N1TVZ	Attleboro
224.660 -		W1KG	Medway
224.760 -		KA1SOO	W Warwick, RI
224.920 -	67.0	N1JBC	N Prov., RI
224.960 -	88.5	W1VET	Warwick, RI

440 (within 25 miles of SEMARA)			
441.400+	192.8	WG1U	Assonet
441.750+	192.8	W1AQ	E Prov., RI
442.550+	67.0	WG1U	Assonet
443.150+	94.8	K1CW	Bristol, RI
444.350+	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
446.375 -	67.0	KA1RCI	Little Compton, RI
447.225 -	88.5	WP4US	Taunton
447.525 -	88.5	WA1TAQ	Portsmouth, RI
448.325 -	186.2	KC2GDF	Newport, RI
449.525 -		NN1D	Fall River

Check <http://www.nerepeaters.com/se.htm#440>

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

Grid Coordinates: FN41mo



FISTS CW no.10555

MOST-OF-THE-TIME ACITIVITIES

BUSINESS MEETING: 7 PM FIRST THURSDAYS

RAGCHEW AT THE CLUBHOUSE: 7-11 AM SUN

***EARLY BIRD BREAKFAST: 6 AM TU & TH**

West End Grill

1000 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford

***CLUB COFFEE MEET: 1 PM WEEKDAYS**

Boston Coffee & Bagel

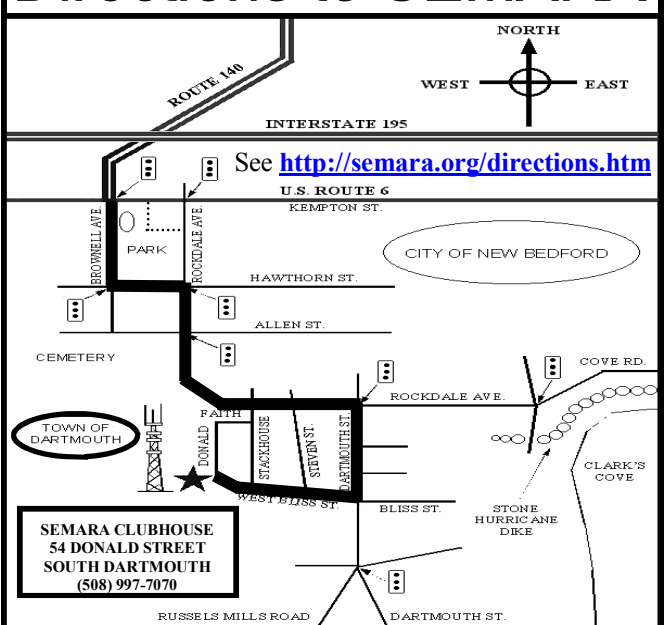
122 Allen Street (corner of Dartmouth Street)
New Bedford

LUNCHEON: 11:30 AM FRIDAYS

Meet at the clubhouse at 11:15 AM to decide which local restaurant is to have the honor of our presence that week.

* Call first on repeater to see who's coming

Directions to SEMARA



SEMARA CLUBHOUSE
54 DONALD STREET
SOUTH DARTMOUTH
(508) 997-7070