



# ZERO BEAT

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



Since 1932

Volume 45 Issue 1

SEMARA-W1AEC

January 2009

## Kid's Day Alternate Operation



**BEN-N1WBV CHECKING OUT W1AEC**

**Kid's Day, January 4, 2009** — I had the station all setup and a live Kid's frequency all tuned in. The only problem was – no kids came to the clubhouse.

When **Ben, N1WBV** asked if he could come down and be checked out on the club station, I said "Sure!" He arrived about 20 minutes later and I introduced him to the mysteries of the various pieces that need to be integrated into putting **W1AEC** on the air.

After twirling the dial on the **TS 570**, Ben came across a small pile up and discovered it was a station in South Africa. After we figured out what direction to point the log-yagi beam, Ben gave a short call. Surprisingly, he made contact with **ZR2CR**, Collette in Port Elizabeth on the SE coast of South Africa, between Cape Town and Durban. She is in the process of studying code so she can upgrade to a full ZS call. (ZR calls are restricted to 20 meters and can operate only from 14.225 to 14.250 MHz.)

Next Ben punched through another pile up to contact **ZD8UW**, a DX expedition of the Cambridge

(UK) University Wireless Society on Ascension Island. Ben was one out of 17,900 QSOs made by the seven member team.

Then he switched to 17 meters and contacted **PJ2/N9JZ**, Jim, an American on vacation in Curacao, Netherland Antilles.

Changing to the **TS-940** on 20 meters, Ben came across a special event station, **4A1DXXE**, since it was out of band for Ben (he holds a General class license), he turned the mike over to me to make the contact with **4A1DXXE**, Grupo DXXE - 4th Anniversary Special Event Station (QSL manager **N7RO LoTW**). (W1AEC was one of 15,580 contacts.)

Just before we got ready to go, I made contact with **HK1NK**, Salim (QSL manager **EA5KB**). Then Ben and I went through the shut-down routine, checked the heat, and put out the lights. We had a fine time - so could you. When was the last time you used **W1AEC**?

~**Bob-K1KVV**

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**ZERO BEAT**

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**2009 SEMARA OFFICERS**

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 Dave Goldstein - W1DJG  
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 Henry Blanchett - W1GYL (2012)  
 John Walsh, WA1LSH (2013)

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*Repeater*  
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 Dave Goldstein - W1DJG  
*Website*  
 Tim Smith - N1TI

**It seems to me ...**

de Bob - K1KVV <[editor@semara.org](mailto:editor@semara.org)>



...You can't have a new year without a resolution, so resolve to make 2009 the year in which you learn a new trick—operating or technical. I'll bet you're already on the way to making that happen!

This issue has a few tidbits for the aware ham—including a snap quiz (p5).

**A MESSAGE TO SEMARA: FROM THE EMA ACC**

“I am sending this message to all those clubs listed as ARRL affiliated clubs in Eastern Massachusetts. I would like to introduce myself. I am Bo Budinger (WA1QYM). Our newly elected Section Manager, Mike Neilsen (W1MPN), has recently appointed me Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC). I take this appointment very seriously and would like to establish a dialogue with each and every club in Eastern Massachusetts.

The job of ACC includes getting to know the Amateur Radio clubs' members and officers on a person-to-person basis. Learn their strengths and interests and to work with them to make clubs effective resources in their communities and more enjoyable for their members. To this end, I would like to be placed on your e-mail list for monthly newsletters and notifications of meetings. I hope to be able to attend many of these meetings and possibly even contribute.

I have been president of PART, the Police Amateur Radio Team of Westford Massachusetts, for four years now and have acquired a great deal of knowledge on ham radio club operation. Each and every club has its individual character and make up. There are, though, some general guidelines that are common to every ham radio club. If you feel that your club is floundering a bit maybe I can help. If you have some issues with ARRL or EM maybe I can help. In any case, please keep me informed and please let me know if I can be of any help.”

73 de **Bo Budinger-WA1QYM**  
 EMA ACC = [wa1qym@arrl.net](mailto:wa1qym@arrl.net)

**POINT TO PONDER**

**“Taking the line of least resistance  
 is what makes rivers—and some people—so crooked”**

~HENRY H. SAUNDERSON

**HAMMIN' AROUND**

**Question\* G0B14** What is the maximum amount of electrical current flow through the human body that can be tolerated safely?

- A. 5 microamperes
- B. 50 microamperes
- C. 500 milliamperes
- D. 5 amperes

\* 2007 Element 3 General Class Question Pool (good thru 2011-06-30) **Answer on page 8**

# Club Notes

## SEMARA 900 MHZ FREQ. PAIR

927.8375 MHz (repeater output)

902.8375 MHz (repeater input)

Details about the new repeater coming soon.

## 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.

**3862 kHz (LSB)** — SEMARA Morning Net is held *weekdays* from 7:30-8 a.m. ET

**3545± kHz CW** — SEMARA CW Net meets every Monday at 8:00 p.m. **Don, WA1BXY** is net control.

## REMINDER

**Every member assessment of \$10.**

The assessment is being collected during the first quarter of 2009, beginning with the January business meeting and ending with the April business meeting.

Members will be notified via email using the SEMARA announcement email list. Members without an active email account will be notified via first-class US mail at their FCC address. Members who cannot be reached or have not paid the assessment will be marked in arrears after the April 2009 business meeting.

The Vice-President serves as the collector for the assessment. The Treasurer accepts cash – only at the business meetings, please.

~Editor

## NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

Feb 7, 2009

SEMARA – 10:30AM

Larry Houbre-AA1FS

[LRHguy@earthlink.net](mailto:LRHguy@earthlink.net)

508-991-6055

## CALCULATOR\*

A calculator to figure "Miles (or Km) / Watt" for QRP operators. You just enter your power level and the calls of each station, press locate beneath each--and--bingo!

<http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2008/12/new-qs1-mapper.html>

\* from *The ARRL Contest Update*, January 7, 2009

## CLUB DETAILS

GPS Coordinates:

Lat. N 41° 36.795' Long. W 070° 56.550'

Maidenhead Grid Coordinates: **FN41mo**

— 0 —

For FISTS Sprints: **FISTS #10555**

Here's a challenging Sudoku puzzle to attack while waiting for the net to start. This one uses the letters **A, B, C, E, N, P, R, S, W**. The main diagonal spells a 9-letter word. **Solution is on page 8**

		S			W			
		A		N			P	
R				S	P			N
			S			W		E
				P				
E		N			A			
W			E	R				A
	B			W		C		
			C			N		

# Business Meeting Minutes

**January 1, 2009**

After a slight delay to obtain a quorum, the Vice-President **Bob (K1KVV)** called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM with the Salute to the Flag.

Roll was called with 11 members present and no guests.

## Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report from December was not available and was postponed till the next monthly meeting.

## Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for December was not available and was postponed till the next monthly meeting.

## **Committee Reports**

### Technical Committee

**Dave (W1DJG)** All is fine and running well. Trying new camera and seems to be working well.

Looking at putting one outside to cover entire south side of property.

### Radio Events

**Bob (K1KVV)** reported that this coming Saturday will be kids day here at the Club and anyone is welcome to come and bring kids so they may learn about Amateur Radio.

### Repeater

**Dave (W1DJG)** is working on the 900Mhz repeater. Looking for a reasonably priced repeater. Already has an antenna stored in container. Will keep everyone informed.

There is a new 900MHz repeater in Dartmouth and is an open repeater. The output frequency is 927.650MHz (W1SMA).

### Good of the Club

When DTV becomes effective on February 17, some of the analog Channel 2 antenna's will be switched to amateur 6 meters. This should prove to be interesting to Amateurs.

### Adjournment

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Voted.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marcel, W1MLD*



## **W1AW WINTER OPERATING SCHEDULE**

### **MORNING SCHEDULE:**

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

### **AFTERNOON/EVENING SCHEDULE:**

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

### **FREQUENCIES (MHZ)**

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975  
21.0675 28.0675 147.555  
RTTY: 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095  
28.095 147.555  
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160  
21.390 28.590 147.555

### **NOTES:**

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 100 in the January 2009 issue of QST or on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.



# SEMARA News

## VHF SWEEPSTAKES

I just want to add my voice to the chorus of people on the list saying what an awesome station is available at SEMARA. I've been a club member for about a year, but recently was shown how to use the club station by **Bob, K1KVV** and I recently received a key fob. So, I popped in the club this afternoon to play on 6 meters since the VHF sweepstakes was going on.

It was a good afternoon. Although the band was rather flat, in about 3 hours I worked 12 stations in 4 grids (FN31, FN41, FN42, and FN43). The farthest contact being N1JHJ in Concord, NH (~115 mi.). I was disappointed that conditions didn't allow for more contacts, but I was happy with what mother radio provided. I'm not a contender, but if I read the rules right, I think W1AEC had a whopping 48 points in the contest.

*Ben Jackson - N1WBV*  
Sun 1/18/2009

## SATELLITE SAVVY?

1. Perigee
  - a) Closest approach of a satellite to Earth
  - b) Farthest distance of a satellite from Earth
  - c) Average distance of a satellite from Earth
  - d) A failed launch
2. Mode
  - a) Orientation of orbit with respect to Earth's orbit
  - b) Angle between the satellite and the Sun
  - c) Uplink-Downlink frequencies
  - d) Relative angular difference between ground station's and satellite's polarization
3. Bird
  - a) Protective shroud jettisoned by the vehicle once in orbit
  - b) Refers to any space-borne instrument used to monitor weather
  - c) A satellite
  - d) Signals from a satellite
4. Acquisition
  - a) Notification of "space-available" by launching agency
  - b) Completion of fund-raising
  - c) Phase-lock to satellite telemetry signals

## CANADIAN SPECIAL EVENT PREFIX CALLSIGNS

Can be used by all Canadian Amateurs, it commemorates Galileo's first use of an optical telescope and the subsequent discoveries he made in his lifetime. Runs from January 1st until February 28th 2009, All Canadian amateur radio operators may use the special prefix.

VE changes to CG  
VA changes to CF  
VO changes to CH  
VY changes to CI

For example, VE7DAO → CG7DAO, etc.

## BERMUDA SPECIAL CALLSIGNS

2009 is the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Bermuda by Sir George Somers. The Radio Society of Bermuda has been issued with a special call sign that can be used all year, it is **VP9400/xx**. The xx suffix is the operator's call sign, i.e. VP9400/LP.

There are a few novice licence holders who have a 3 digit suffix, i.e. VP9400/NMT

- d) Reception of signals from satellite
5. Keplerian
  - a) Refers to early orbital theory
  - b) Anything in the shape of an ellipse
  - c) Coefficients describing a satellite's orbit
  - d) Acceleration from a planet's gravitational field
6. Alligator
  - a) Sensitive satellite receiver
  - b) Ground station with better transmit than receive capability
  - c) Control station in charge of cutting off over-powered users
  - d) Nickname for the container in which a satellite is launched
7. Mean Motion
  - a) A fast az-el rotator
  - b) Number of satellite rotations in a solar day
  - c) Relative velocity of satellite to the Earth's surface
  - d) Relative velocity of satellite to a geosynchronous orbit

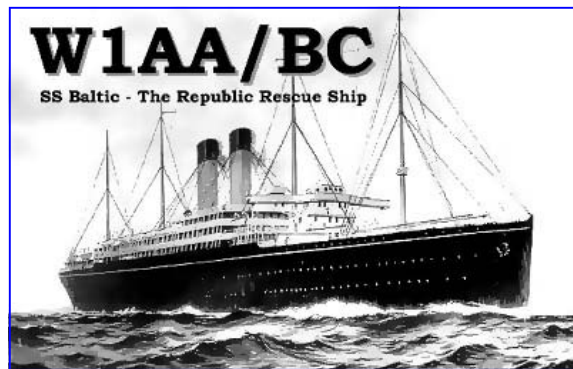
Answers

1. a 2. c 3. c 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. b

# More SEMARA News



**JACK BINNS 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST WIRELESS RESCUE AT SEA IN 1909**



## W1AA/MKC & W1AA/BC

**RECAP FROM W1AA, THE MARCONI RADIO CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS USA .**

We used two call signs, **W1AA/MKC** for the SS Republic and **W1AA/BC** for the SS Baltic. Two stations were in operation from 0000Z to 0300z and 1200z to 2000Z.

The KW station, beam at 70 ft., was on 20 meter phone during the complete period. The 100 watt station, 33 ft. vertical wire antenna. was on 30 meters on CW and 40 phone and CW.

The stations changed the call signs at the top of the hour so both calls signs would have the benefit of the KW station.

If stations contacted both W1AA/MKC and W1AA/BC, they qualified to receive a Jack Binns certificate from the Marconi Radio Club.

Our 20 meter SSB station had contacts with GB2IWM, GB5CQD, GX0MWT, KM1CC.

KW station QSOs

20 SSB	751	33 countries
--------	-----	--------------

100 watt station QSOs

40 CW	130	10 countries
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40 SSB	61	
--------	----	--

30 CW	76	3 countries
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A TOTAL of 1018 QSOs were attained for the Jack Binns event.



**OPERATORS AT W1AA/MKC AND W1AA/BC WERE PI-K1RV, HENRY-K1WCC AND WHITEY-K1VV.**

I wish thank our Operators K1RV and K1WCC, those who battled the pile up to work us, and everyone else who worked so hard to make the celebration of this historic wireless milestone a success.

**Bob "Whitey" Doherty K1VV**  
 W1AA Marconi Radio Club  
 PO Box 1193  
 Lakeville, MA 02347

## VE SESSIONS

*Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.*

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

**SEMARA** – 10:30AM **Feb 7th**

Larry Houbre-AA1FS  
[LRHguy@earthlink.net](mailto:LRHguy@earthlink.net)  
 508-991-6055

**Canton, MA** – 7:30PM **Feb 19**

Louis D Harris-N1UEC  
[N1UEC@n1uec.org](mailto:N1UEC@n1uec.org)  
 508-668-0858

**Cranston RI** – 9:00AM **Feb 28th**

Kenneth Carr-KB1AWV  
[KB1AWV@yahoo.com](mailto:KB1AWV@yahoo.com)  
 401-828-1665

**Falmouth, MA** – 9:00AM **Feb 14th**

W. Ben Fleck-K2LYE  
[BenFleck@cape.com](mailto:BenFleck@cape.com)  
 508-540-2583

**Middletown, RI** – 9:00AM **Feb 14th**

Jack Garforth-K1IG  
[K1IG@verizon.net](mailto:K1IG@verizon.net)  
 401-683-2250

**Providence, RI** – 7:00PM **Feb 12th**

Louis Mester-W1CH  
[W1CH@arrl.net](mailto:W1CH@arrl.net)  
 401-263-6045

## SOME CONTESTS

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

Feb 7 0000Z - Feb 8 2400Z **Vermont QSO Party** *all mode* [www.w1bd.org](http://www.w1bd.org)

Feb 7 0001Z - Feb 8 2359Z **Ten-Ten Winter Phone QSO Party** *phone* [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)

Feb 7 1400Z - Feb 7 2359Z in multiple periods  
**Minnesota QSO Party** *all mode*  
[www.w0aa.org](http://www.w0aa.org)

Feb 7 1600Z - Feb 8 0359Z **British Columbia QSO Challenge** *all mode*  
[www.deltaamateurradio.com](http://www.deltaamateurradio.com)

Feb 7 1700Z - Feb 9 0100Z **Delaware QSO Party** *all mode* [www.fsarc.org](http://www.fsarc.org)

Feb 7 1700Z - Feb 8 2359Z **New Mexico QSO Party** *all mode* [www.swcp.com/~n5zgt](http://www.swcp.com/~n5zgt)

Feb 8 1 PM - Feb 8 3:30PM **FM Simplex Contest** *50-440 FM* [www.w9rh.org](http://www.w9rh.org)

Feb 9 1300Z - Feb 13 2400Z **School Club Roundup** *all mode* [www.arrl.org/scr](http://www.arrl.org/scr)

Feb 13 1400Z - Feb 15 0200Z **YL-OM Contest** *phone* [www.ylrl.org/ylcontests.html](http://www.ylrl.org/ylcontests.html)

Feb 14 0000Z - Feb 15 2359Z **Northern New York QSO Party** *all mode*  
[www.nnyara.org](http://www.nnyara.org)

Feb 14 0001Z - Feb 15 0001Z **New Hampshire QSO Party** *all mode* [www.w1fz.org](http://www.w1fz.org)

Feb 14 1500Z - Feb 15 0300Z **Louisiana QSO Party** *all mode* [laqso.w5yl.org](http://laqso.w5yl.org)

Feb 14 1500Z - Feb 15 1500Z **OMISS QSO Party** *phone* [www.omiss.info](http://www.omiss.info)

Feb 21 0000Z - Feb 22 0000Z **AM QSO Party** *AM phone* [www.antiquewireless.org](http://www.antiquewireless.org)

Feb 27 2100Z - Feb 28 2100Z **Russian WW PSK Contest** *bpsk31* <http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/384.html>

## COMING FLEAS & FESTS

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

7 Feb	Windsor CT
John	860 673 0518
14 Feb	Marlboro MA
Tim KA1OS	978 333 1715
15 Feb	Westford MA
Cindie	866 371 0512
21 Feb	Chelsea ME
Bill K1NIT	207 623 9075
28 Feb	Colchester VT
Mitch W1SJ	802 879 6589

## LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

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

Frequency CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>144</b>		
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 - 67.01	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
<b>147.000+ SEMARA 67.0* WIAEC Dartmouth</b>		
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+ 131.82	W1AQ	E Prov., RI
147.345+ 88.5	KB1QL	W Tisbury
147.375+ 110.9	N1YHS	Falmouth

\* IRLP-4347 & EchoLink-44347 † PL now required  
 †IRLP-4617 & EchoLink-4611; 2173.8 required to use IRLP-4907

Frequency CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>222</b>		
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

<b>440 (within 25 miles of SEMARA)</b>		
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>

### ALL-OF-THE-TIME ACITIVITIES

#### BUSINESS MEETING:

7 PM FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

#### SUNDAY RAGCHEW

AT THE CLUBHOUSE:

7-11 AM SUN

### MOST-OF-THE-TIME ACTIVITIES

\*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

\* Call first on repeater to see who's coming

LUNCHEON: 11:30 AM FRIDAYS

Meet at the clubhouse at 11:15 AM

Each week we decide which local restaurant is to have the honor of our presence.

### ANSWER: HAMMIN' AROUND

What is the maximum amount of electrical current flow through the human body that can be tolerated safely?  
 B. 50 microamperes [keep one hand behind you when working around hi-voltage. Ed.]

### ANSWER: SUDOKU

Word: Newspaper

R	W	N	B	A	C	E	S	V
S	E	C	N	W	P	R	B	A
A	B	P	S	R	E	C	N	W
P	S	B	A	C	W	N	R	E
C	R	A	E	P	N	B	W	S
E	N	W	R	B	S	P	A	C
N	A	E	P	S	B	W	C	R
W	P	S	C	N	R	A	E	B
B	C	R	W	A	E	S	P	N